

35th Sandstone Trail Races 2011 – Organiser's Comments

“What a fantastic race and so enjoyable”.... not my comments but a sample of the feedback from you the most important people, the runners. So it is a big thank you from us the organisers to you all for your participation in the Sandstone Trail races.

As predicted in my last year's comments we were due good weather, and we certainly had a clear week of no rain which meant that the course was generally dry and the weather on the day was ideal for running, so plenty of dry and smiling faces at the finish this year. For some reason the trail through the eight foot high maize field received several comments of enjoyment but not the sandy trail between Rock Farm and Summertrees café, which I was informed as being tough.

This booklet provides full details of the results for both races with prize winners to, so I will not go through those in detail. However may I say congratulations to the race and prize winners, especially: Steve Cale Race A winner; George Thompson Race B winner; Alison Drasdo Race A lady winner; Alison Cole Race B lady winner, and of course congratulations to all runners wherever you finished.

As runners you will be oblivious to the behind the scenes preparatory work including the “Caution Runners Signs” and “Police Slow” signs at each road crossing as erected by the marshals and kindly loaned from Helsby Running Club and Cheshire Police respectively, so it is a big thanks to them too.

In addition to those above we owe special thanks to the Forestry Commission, the National Trust, St John's ambulance service Beeston Castle personnel and our friends Mr P Latham and Mr P Bull for allowing the use of the fields at the B race start and for the diversion across the fields to the Farmers Arms to avoid the otherwise busy main road crossing at Gresty's Waste, without which we would not be able to run the races.

Particular thanks to Jill and Barry Barnes, Bob Elmes and Steve Ingleby for all of the pre race day preparation and on the day event activities along with all marshals and Gwyn for the van and the lengthy day of transporting equipment, and whilst on transport to Mark and his team at Carvers Coaches for getting the runners very efficiently to the start.

In addition to this booklet all results and prize winners are on the Deeside Orienteering web site, well done to all.

We have provisionally planned for next year's race to be held **14th October** 2012; this will be confirmed in due course and we are considering having some additional age related prizes which is something you have asked for.

With best regards and thank you again

Geoff Shaw