



Tri-Adventure Race Report

Shere 18 September 2016

Having been kept awake by all the thunder, lightning, and rain for most of Thursday night, I was a bit apprehensive about what we would be facing on Friday, as we set out the course for the event. In the end, it wasn't too bad, and I managed to stay reasonably dry for most of the day. Quite a contrast to the heat we endured during the week.

Sunday was the start of the Autumn Series, with the additional excitement of putting on a MTB only event for the first time. The forecasters' promise of no rain turned out to be accurate, and the runners and riders were even able to enjoy some warm sunshine for most of the event. The course provided a variety of conditions, with some muddy bits, sticky chalk surfaces and some really dry and fast bits – just the sort of challenge Tri-Adventurers enjoy. Seeing the results in retrospect, I wonder whether anyone would have maxed out on the CPs in any of the events, had we not had the downpours on Thursday and Friday. As it is, we'll never know!

We were back at Shere for the second time since I took over the business, and it's a really great venue. We've got loads of parking, the Village Hall is an excellent venue, and the transition area is really first class. The feedback about this venue is really positive, and we'll be back there in the future, with a different course to test people with.



Shere also demonstrated what is so great about our events – we had families taking part, youngsters on the MTBO course, first timers, and seasoned, elite athletes. All were challenged, and all thoroughly enjoyed themselves, whether bagging all but one of the 30 CPs in the MTBO event (well done Stephen Dadswell!), or coming back with just a handful of CPs.

There was a great atmosphere all the way through the event and, as the start horn went off at 10am, people set off in different directions, following their various strategies. Tracey Blandford, our Marketing Adviser, was there again, and posted [a live stream of the Start](#) on FB and Twitter just moments after the start of the race. Such is the power and immediacy of Social Media!



Tracey was also busy getting reactions from participants, and two quotes – one from someone new to Tri-Adventure, and one from one of our regulars – sums up what we are trying to achieve:

"I love the navigation; it means it's not just the fastest ones who come first but if you have a good race and get check points you can win, or if you have a bad day, you just learn lots!" Simon Holroyd (a regular)

"I've been watching the event a long time but finally got to take part! It's so much more fun than just a normal run and ride. Using your mind, your navigation skills ... You think you know where you are but then perhaps not ... And then you have to work out where you are! I'll definitely be back soon!" Darryn Laphan (a first timer)



We want to see more youngsters coming with their parents and taking part, as they'll grow into our next generation of Tri-Adventurers. We don't charge for youngsters and, if they want their own map and dibber, we just make a £5 administration charge. So, do please spread the word around.



All the events were keenly contested, and there were some outstanding performances. I've already mentioned Stephen Dadswell, and Carol Yarrow also deserves a special mention. In collecting 25 of

the 30 CPs in the **Female Experience** event, she equalled Ross Remnant's number of points (and he's no slouch himself in this category!). Rob Smart, a Tri-Adventurer through and through, who proudly wears the T-A shirt whenever he competes, was an excellent winner of the **Men's Experience**, coming in with 27 CPs, and 19 seconds over the time limit. Our commiserations to Kim Hooijmans, whose chain broke after two CPs on the bike, and who ended up returning to the finish at walking pace. Despite her bad luck, she still managed a big smile as she arrived back.

Just a point on this – if anyone does have a problem like Kim's, please call us on the number you're given, and we'll do all we can to come out and help you.



The 2 hour **Sprint** was primarily notable for the battle between the various pairs, with the eventual winners, by just one solitary point, being the international team of Michelle Baeten and Iva Kalášková. Can these two ever be beaten? They seem to be able to pull it off every time they enter! Mike Petty achieved 80 points to finish first in the Male category. A word of congratulation, too, to Cat and Kay who were on the Navigation Course the day before, as well as to Molly Baker who had a great event with her Dad, John.



Robert Broad just managed to hold off Mark Glaister in the **Men's 2 hour Trail**, with both collecting the same number of CPs within the time limit. However, Robert had slightly the better time. Stuart Faulkner came third, kicking himself for mismanaging his time, and realising that he could have collected at least 2 more CPs and still been back in time! That's why planning your route and strategy beforehand is so important in Adventure Racing.

In the **Ladies' 2 hour Trail**, Ashley Mayr put in a first class performance, collecting the same number of CPs as Robert, and finishing just 5 seconds behind him.

For the first time in Tri-Adventure's history, we introduced a new event at Shere. Quite a number of people had told us that they'd love to take part in one of our events, but that they don't particularly like running. Enter the MTBO only event! This attracted a really good number of entrants, both regulars and first-timers, and the formula seems to be a winner. We had pairs, singles, and family pairings of parent and child, all taking part. We set the course out so that all 30 CPs were available to the MTBs; because of this, we gave the riders the option of taking 2 or 3 hours. The effort to finish within the time frame needed to be seen to be believed, especially among the youngsters.



The 2 hour race proved quite a battle in the **Men's MTBO**, with Mark Hendrick and his son Zack collecting 9 CPs, one more than Matthew Slaughter. 2 guys decided to go for the 3 hour option and, as I said earlier in this report, Stephen Dadswell did really well to bag 29 of the 30 CPs. However, he went well over his time limit, and was beaten to first place by Julian Hemsted, who managed 27 CPs, but who collected far fewer late arrival penalty points. In the 2 hour option, a handful of seconds separated the top three, all of whom flew up the finishing hill, with 40 seconds separating first from third. What a close race it was!



Rachel Clay and her son William put in a great performance, collecting 11 CPs in slightly more than 2 hours.

This event is clearly a popular addition to our suite, and we'll be continuing with it every month.

We now have an official mascot, called Chili. He comes along with his owners, Chris and Clare Gibson and, after he'd taken them round the run part of the Sprint, he stayed and enthusiastically welcomed back the finishers. He seemed to really take to the Tri-Adventure buff around his neck, and we loved having him with us.



Experience (4 hour event)

Male		Points/Time	
1 st	Rob Smart	269	04:00:19
2 nd	Ross Remnant	250	03:54:43
3 rd	Sid Hardy	230	03:50:28
Female		Points/Time	
1 st	Carol Yarrow	249	04:00:27
2 nd	Laura Ashfield	167	04:01:18
3 rd	Kim Hooijmans	60	03:32:53

Sprint (2 hour event)

Male	Points/Time
1 st Mike Petty	80 01:52:46
Female	Points/Time
1 st Mirella Genziani	-135 03:27:29
Pairs	Points/Time
1st Michelle Baeten/ Iva Kalášková	81 02:04:17
2nd Chris Gibson/Clare Gibson	80 01:57:14
3rd Kay Duffy/Kat Riley	60 01:58:10

Trail (2 hour event)

Male	Points/Time
1 st Robert Broad	110 01:53:19
2 nd Mark Glaister	110 01:57:10
3 rd Stuart Faulkner	90 01:29:21
Female	Points/Time
1 st Ashley Mayr	110 01:53:24
2 nd Natasha Trasi	74 02:07:40
3 rd Emma Edwards	15 02.17.16

MTBO

Male – 3hr and 2hr	Points/Time
*3 hour 1 st Julian Hemsted	264 03:03:00
*3 hour 2 nd Stephen Dadswell	245 03:22:25
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2 hour 1 st Mark/Zack Hendrick	90 01:55:09
2 hour 2 nd Matthew Slaughter	80 01:55:44
2 hour 3 rd Andrew Beattie	80 01:55:49
Female led Pair	Points/Time
2 hour 1 st Rachel and William Clay	98 02:05:45
2 hour 2 nd Octavia and Sebastian Abbott	70 02:29:15

Congratulations to all our worthy winners!

The full race results, with splits and transition times, are available on the Tri-Adventure website [here](#).

Thanks to Jakob Winterborne who took the photos on the day. They can be found and tagged/shared in our Facebook album [here](#).

If you have photos to add from events, please do [email](#) them, tweet them to [@tri_adventure](#), or post them on [Facebook](#).

As usual, thanks to those who shared their thoughts and made suggestions on the day. I am always open to suggestions to improve and expand the Tri-Adventure experience for more and more people. If you have had a thought to add since Sunday, please pop it in an [email](#) now!

NEXT EVENTS

Our next event is at **Tilford Institute** on **Sunday, 9 October**. Online entry is already [open](#).

PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF DATE AND LOCATION FOR THE NOVEMBER EVENT. We're racing on **Saturday 12 November** (not Sunday), and the venue is a new one for us at **Bentley**

Copse, and on line entry is already [open](#). This is due to it being my Mum's Aunt's 90th birthday celebration on the Sunday; Oops!

The dates and locations through to February next year are now confirmed, and can be found on our website [here](#), so please put them in your diaries. There will be trophies and prizes at the end of each series.

Once again, thanks for coming along to Shere on Sunday. I know I say this in every Report but, quite simply, without you, there would be no Tri-Adventure. Please help us to spread the word about these great weekend events so that we can get the numbers up, and I look forward to seeing you again in October.

Finally, please use Social Media to tell others about Tri-Adventure – Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc. We want to keep putting on fantastic events, which challenge people whilst making them feel good (as those of you who take part will confirm), and we need to keep increasing our numbers to make this happen.

Yours in Adventure,

Adam