



Tri-Adventure Race Report

Thursley 5th February 2017

We were back at Thursley for our second event of the year, and the last one in our Autumn/Winter Series. Race HQ was in the Village Hall this time, as the Cricket Club is now a bit too small for our growing number of adventurers. The venue is at the far end of the Surrey Hills, which may be why the numbers were a bit down on January's, but this did not prevent some really great and competitive racing. It's also good to see the number of entrants for the MTBO steadily increasing each month.

Although we'd had a lot of rain leading up to this event, the course was in pretty good condition. The weather was cold but dry, and I had planned out a course which included some local landmarks. So, there was one CP at the Atlantic wall, which had been used during the second world war, and another on a beautiful sandy beach at Frensham Pond. I reckon if the sun had been out, one or two of you may have just stopped for a bit of sunbathing in this idyllic spot!

Checkpoint 19 caused some banter and discussion, with one racer describing its location as a "swamp". The nature of Adventure Racing is just that – checkpoints in interesting locations which create a challenge. All I can say is that I managed to stay dry when setting out this CP on Friday, and then collecting it in on Monday!

We love having youngsters taking part along with their parents, so it's a real shame that one of our regulars, twin Isla Hauxwell, took a tumble with her bike on the hill coming up to the finish. Although in some pain from her wrist, she still managed to dib in at the finish! She was very well cared for by a couple of doctors who were taking part in the Experience event, and who just happened to be in transition when Isla arrived. After a quick visit to the local A&E confirmed nothing was broken, Isla and her sister were so upset that they'd missed out on the cakes that they persuaded their Dad to drive back to Thursley! Mission accomplished! Thank you, Sally and Tess, for tending to Isla when she arrived in transition.



There were some real tussles in the various categories, especially in the Male and female Experience, the MTBO, and both the Male and Female Trail.



Ross Remnant followed up his win at Mickleham with another one here in the **Male Experience**, collecting 23 CPs along the way. He clearly maxed out his time getting that CP 19, and still won. This time, he came in 12 minutes late, losing two and a half CP values, yet still managed to keep out the rest of the field. The scrap behind him was immense – 2nd, 3rd, and 4th all collected 21 CPs; bad luck to Andrew Woodhouse, who did significantly better than in January, yet who was beaten into 2nd place by Kim Travis by all of **13 seconds**, with Daniel Murphy coming in 2 minutes later. Such a close race, yet each followed a very different route around the course.

Natalie Creswick, taking part in her first Tri-Adventure race, won the **Female Experience** with an impressive 18 CPs. Shame on Hannah Cooke, returning to take on the 4 hour experience this time, collected one CP more than Natalie, but whose time of 04:11:37 relegated her to second place with a -24 point penalty.



The **MTBO** event saw another good turnout, with racers setting off singly or in small groups. The **Male** section was won by Mark Henrick, who won this section on time difference from Tom Valente. In the **Ladies'** event, Rachel Clay got her revenge over Claire Liggins this time, coming in a clear winner with 13 CPs. The closest race of the day was in this category, where Alice Astbury dibbed in at the finish just one second ahead of Claire Liggins. The dash to the line had to be seen to be believed! Even though it was tough and hilly, the design of the MTBO course was very well received and we hope that word will spread about this new addition to our portfolio.



Congratulations to Andy Jones, for winning the **Male Sprint** for the second month running. Chrissie Glew, one of our regular racers, won the **Female Sprint**. The **Pairs Sprint** was won by Richard Grime and Andy Allan, who collected 10 CPs, but who were penalised for coming in over their time limit.



There was a very large turnout in the **Trail** – both the **Men's** and the **Ladies'** event. The **Men's Trail** was won by Tom Frost for the second time running. This time, he was pushed all the way by Ian Duxbury who finished within the time limit and with the same number of CPs, only to find that Tom had dibbed in a few minutes earlier! Regular Ashley Mayr came first by one point in the **Ladies Trail**, having learnt from her mistake last month, when she collected the most CPs, and only lost out on time penalties. This time, she timed her finish to perfection, coming in with just over a minute to spare, with Lettie King finishing in second place. Sibling rivalry is always good to see, and the Sandham brothers put up a good fight, with Daniel taking the honours from Richard this time. There was just one CP in it, and I reckon it was the lack of familiarity with the bike, Richard. Make sure you get your revenge next time!

At Tri-Adventure, we care greatly that people of all ages and abilities should be able to turn up and have a fun, yet challenging day out. So, at one end of the spectrum, we have the hard core Experience, Sprint, MTBO, and Trail racers, all doing their best to bag the maximum number of CPs. At the other end, we have families taking part, with the youngsters often exhorting their parents to go faster!

I'm really encouraged to see so many first timers trying out our events each month. We hope all you "newbies" enjoyed your experience, and that you'll spread the word to your friends and family. You've got your first Tri Point, and you're on your way to getting a discount.

Please also remember that, every time you recommend someone who comes along and takes part, you also receive a Tri Point.

Experience (4 hour event)

Male		Points/Time	
1 st	Ross Remnant	226	04:12:00
2 nd	Kim Travis	210	03:57:45
3 rd	Andrew Woodhouse	210	03:57:58
Female		Points/Time	
1 st	Natalie Creswick	180	03:54:13
2 nd	Hannah Cooke	166	04:11:37
3 rd	Jane White	130	03:52:48
Pairs		Points/Time	
1 st	Sally Simpson/Tess Waldron	110	03:59:05

Sprint (2 hour event)

Male		Points/Time	
1 st	Andy Jones	110	01:57:42
2 nd	Rob Smart	95	02:02:19
3 rd	Jonathan Hauxwell + twins	50	02:00:00
Female		Points/Time	
1 st	Chris Glew	60	01:53:22
Pairs		Points/Time	
1 st	Richard Grime/Andy Allan	96	02:01:59
2 nd	Phil Gubby/Steve Nash	61	02:09:18
3 rd	Stephen Dadswell/Caitlin Dadswell	50	01:54:47

Trail (2 hour event)

Male		Points/Time	
1 st	Tom Frost	120	01:56:23
2 nd	Ian Duxbury	120	02:00:00
3 rd	Barry Watts	105	02:02:20
Female		Points/Time	
1 st	Ashley Mayr	90	01:58:57
2 nd	Lettie King	89	02:00:05
3 rd	Natasha Trasi	71	02:09:11

MTBO (2 hour event)

Male		Points/Time	
1 st	Mark Henrick	130	01:56:28
2 nd	Tom Valente	128	02:00:39
3 rd	Julian Hemsted	120	01:55:43
Female		Points/Time	
1 st	Rachel Clay	130	01:56:34
2 nd	Alice Astbury	100	01:55:57
3 rd	Claire Liggins	100	01:55:58

Congratulations to all our worthy winners!

Series Results

Thursley marked the end of the six part **Autumn/Winter Series**, and I was delighted to present the winners with their Certificates and prizes. Adventure Racing is a tough sport, and we really appreciate people coming back each month and being part of our AR community. So, many congratulations to the following worthy winners:

Experience



Sprint



MTBO



Trail



Category	Winner
Experience Male	Ross Remnant
Experience Female	Laura Ashfield
Sprint Male	Andy Jones
Sprint Female	Chrissie Glew
Sprint Pair	Michelle Baeten/Iva Kalášková
MTBO Male	Mark Henrick
MTBO Female	Rachel Clay
Trail Male	Simon Holroyd
Trail Female	Ashley Mayr

A special word of thanks to our Volunteers, especially to Leona, whose injury prevented her from racing, but who came along anyway and showed what a quick learner she is. A lot of work goes on behind the scenes, and the smooth running of this event wouldn't have been possible without Leona, and the help of Tracey Blandford (who's helping me with marketing Tri-Adventure) and, of course, Chris and her Tri-Bites (back after her leg injury), Liz, and Leszek on Transition.

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

The days are getting longer, and our next event, the first in our **Spring Series**, is at **Cranleigh** on **Sunday, 12 March**. Online entry is already [open](#), so do take advantage of the Early Bird rates.

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. The venues through to September are now confirmed, and we will add other venues as soon as we finalise them.

Once again, thanks for coming along to Thursley on Sunday, and making it such a great event. It's clearly a very popular spot in the Surrey Hills, and we'll be back there again, with another exciting course some time in the future. 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 March.

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. So, share your comments, your tweets, and your photos, and please keep liking our posts.

Yours in Adventure,

Adam

