



## **Tri-Adventure Race Report**

### **Tilford 14 October 2018**

All the gloomy weather predictions earlier in the week turned out pretty accurate, with bouts of rain and cloud throughout the day. The course was, nevertheless, not too bad under foot, as the water hadn't had time to soak into the ground, leaving the racers with loads of puddles to negotiate. We experienced the puddles first hand when we collected the CPs in during the afternoon/evening!

This is the fourth year in a row that we've held our October event here, and this is the first time we've not enjoyed good weather. We really enjoy putting on events in the Surrey Hills and, even though we may return to certain venues, we guarantee that the course and Check Point location will be different every time. This time, we found an area we'd never been to before, around Frensham, which offers fabulous views on a clear day and some relentless sand to negotiate.

The course provided a variety of conditions, with some muddy bits, some sandy bits (the bane of a MTB rider's life), and some really dry and fast bits – just the sort of challenge Tri-Adventurers enjoy. The results would suggest that the layout, and location of the CPs was just about right.

With nearly 80 participants last year, we were disappointed to see that the numbers were significantly down this year, with just over half that number taking part. I'm really puzzled to understand why the numbers are down generally, especially after the great start we had to the year. Any feedback or advice would be extremely welcome.

There was also quite a number of people who entered on the day; despite waking up to a dismal day, they decided it was worth getting up early and having a go, and I'm so glad they did.. All in all, despite the lower numbers in the different categories, there was some keen competition during the race, and some great banter afterwards.

We love seeing dogs taking their owners for a run in the Trail event, so it was good to see Chilli back with Clare and Chris Gibson. He thoroughly enjoyed his run, returning wet through and still full of beans. Do, please, spread the word that our events are Canicross friendly, as we'd like to see many more dogs taking part.



Out of all the many strong performances, I want to single out two in particular – Hannah Cooke scored an impressive 230 points in the **4 hour Experience**, and James Turner, who collected 13 out of the 15 CPs in the **Men's Trail**, in a very tightly fought race.

The Hall was buzzing as people studied their maps and planned their routes, and there was a great atmosphere all the way through the event. When the start horn went off at 10am, people set off in different directions, following their various strategies, and I was on top of my van, filming and taking pictures, which I posted [a video of the Start](#) on FB just after the race.



Last year, we had a number of youngsters taking part, but we seem to be seeing fewer and fewer of them at every event. On Sunday, we only had two, Ellie Hardy in the MTBO, and Jacob Norwood in the Sprint, which is a great shame. 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.

The flexible start time for the **Experience** event has taken off well, with almost all the participants setting off before 10am.

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.

### **On to our winners**

All the events were keenly contested, and there were some outstanding performances, as I have mentioned above. The **Female Experience** was won by Hannah Cooke, with an excellent 230 points, and she was followed in by her sister Sarah.



The tightest finish was in the Men's Trail, where third place was decided on time penalties between three runners. First place was taken by James Turner, who timed his race superbly, finishing with an excellent 130 points, and with 47 seconds to go. Second was Tom Frost, who continues improving his performance with every race.



The Sprint winners



The Hardys in the MTBO



### Experience (4 hour event)

Male	Points/Time
1 <sup>st</sup> Alberto Campora	90 03:19:49
Female	Points/Time
1 <sup>st</sup> Hannah Cooke	230 03:59:50
Pairs	Points/Time
1 <sup>st</sup> Bob Smith/Jenny Allen	190 03:55:39

### Sprint (2 hour event)

Male	Points/Time
1 <sup>st</sup> Andy Jones	110 01:58:41
Female	Points/Time
1 <sup>st</sup> Karen Jones	98 02:00:39
Pairs	Points/Time
1 <sup>st</sup> Heather Keenan/Steve Fuller	98 02:00:43

### MTBO (2 hour event)

Female	Points/Time
1 <sup>st</sup> Wendy Hardy	63 02:03:10

### Trail (2 hour event)

Male	Points/Time
1 <sup>st</sup> James Turner	130 01:59:13
Female	Points/Time
1 <sup>st</sup> Caroline Wharton	80 01:51:53

Congratulations to all our worthy winners!

The full race results, with splits and transition times, 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! Thanks, also, to by band of volunteers who, this month, included Leszek, Ed, and Tracey.

## NEXT EVENTS

Our next event is at **Tyler Hill (Canterbury) in Kent** on **Sunday, 25 November**. Online entry is already [open](#). **PLEASE NOTE THE LOCATION FOR THE NOVEMBER EVENT**, which takes us away from the Surrey Hills and into another AONB – the Kent Downs. Don't miss this opportunity to experience Adventure Racing in another part of the country.

The dates and locations for December (**Mickleham**) and January (**Shere**) next year are now confirmed, and can be found on our website [here](#), so please put them in your diaries. Entries are already coming in for these three events.

Once again, thanks for coming along to Tilford 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 because we do need to get the numbers up, and I look forward to seeing you again in November.

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