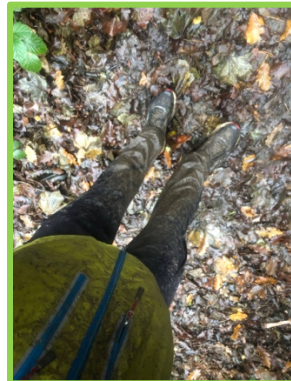




Tri-Adventure Race Report

Tyler Hill (Canterbury) 25 November 2018

Our second event in Kent this year didn't have the sunshine we experienced last year, although the rain did keep away, and everyone managed to get round the course, which was pretty muddy in places, without too much trouble. We weren't so lucky when collecting the Checkpoints in on Monday, as it rained throughout and I got completely soaked and covered in mud!



Some of you did have one or two issues with finding certain Checkpoints, especially No 22, but I can assure you they were all there when I collected them in. A bonus this year is that, unlike last year, none of the Checkpoints had been removed or damaged.

Although overall numbers were lower this year, it was good to see so many athletes from last year returning to take part. Also, welcome to those of you who were entering a Tri-Adventure event for the first time. I hope you enjoyed the experience and will be back with us in the Surrey Hills.

Research indicates that a system of post event reviews helps to boost participation numbers, so we've teamed up with [RaceCheck](#) to manage our event review process on our behalf. As I write this Race Report, I know that two of you have already submitted your reviews, so thank you for doing that. I will respond to every review, so please do take a few minutes to post your comments. Don't forget that Reviewers' names will be put in a draw on 3 December, and the winner will receive a free entry to one of our events in 2019 (excluding the Night & Day).

Despite the rain over the last few weeks, the course was firm and fast in many places, although there were some muddy bits as well, and this mix of conditions produced some great results. There are many trails in this area that aren't marked on the OS Maps, which caused some unexpected difficulties for some, although the experienced navigators among you told me you enjoyed this added complication.

All in all, the large number of entries in the different categories ensured 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 Flora, Harley, Charlie, and Phoenix taking part this time. (Jessica, I hope Flora's lameness was just a temporary thing, and that she's fit and well again.) Do, please, spread the word that our events are Canicross friendly, as we'd like to see many more dogs taking part.

Leading up to the Start, the Hall was full with people studying their maps and planning their routes, and there was a great atmosphere all the way through the event. The flexible start time for the **Experience** racers seems to be growing in popularity, with all but two setting off before 10am. The earliest start was 8.30am, and there were 10 Experience athletes racing by 9am. Quite a number of the 2 hour **Sprint** racers also set off early, which meant that there were fewer than would have been the case who set off in the 10am Mass Start.

We were pleased to see Scott Smith taking part in the MTB event with his Dad this time, and he told me he loved the experience, and that he and his Dad would be back again. 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.



I'm really encouraged to see so many first timers trying out our events each month. We continue to list our events on various race listing sites, and it seems that the wider publicity is having a positive impact on the numbers. Yesterday was no exception, and the new Kent location resulted in a significant number of first timers at a Tri-Adventure event. We hope all you "newbies" enjoyed the kind of events we put on throughout the year, 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.

Some of the participants realised during their race that their navigation skills weren't quite as good as they had initially thought, and this slowed them down considerably, even though they still enjoyed their race. I run one day Navigation Courses for groups of any size (up to 8), and more details can be found [here](#).



All the events were keenly contested, and there were some outstanding performances. Robert Broad was a clear winner in the **Men's Trail**, but there was a very close fight between several runners for the remaining podium places.



The **Men's Experience** was hotly contested between Stuart Colvin and Pieter de Koenig, with both collecting 180 points, and Stuart took the honours with a faster finishing time.

Tom Iwasyszyn and Rob Huish had a great **Pairs Experience** race, finishing with an excellent 210 points and nearly 15 minutes to spare. I reckon you could have collected at least one more checkpoint, but great navigating and timing, guys! Bob Smith and Jenny Allen were a very creditable runners up.

Dave Pickup was a clear winner in the **Men's Solo Sprint**, collecting 13 CPs, and timing his race perfectly, by coming in with 29 seconds to spare. The **Ladies' Sprint** was won by Charlotte McAlindon, and the **Sprint Pairs** saw Maria and Peter Hartley-Oinn just pip the pairing of Simon Chapman and Nicola Ellingham by one CP.



As mentioned earlier, Rob Broad ran away with the **Men's 2 hour Trail**, with Nick Whaites just holding off a determined challenge from Kevin Murphy, Alistair Huggett, and Adam Sewell, all of whom finished with the same number of points, with finishing times determining their final positions.

The **Ladies' 2 hour Trail** was well won by Lisa Blair who went one better than last year, collecting an extra 2 CPs in the process. Kathrin Hartmann pushed her hard, but had to settle for second place with one fewer CP.



Ken Jones rode a canny race in the **MTBO** category, collecting 17 of the 21 CPs and finishing without a second to spare in exactly 2 hours. The ride of the day came from Phil Burrowes, who flew round the course, collecting all 21 CPs available. However, he mismanaged his time by finishing just over 20 minutes after the deadline, which gave him a net score of 169 points – one behind Ken! Had he finished 48 seconds earlier, he would have won the race by one point! This is a great example of how important navigation strategy and time management are in our type of event.

Experience (4 hour event)

Male	Points/Time
1 st Stuart Colvin	180 03:38:57
Pairs	Points/Time
1 st Tom Iwasyszyn/Rob Huish	210 03:45:43

Sprint (2 hour event)

Male	Points/Time
1 st Dave Pickup	130 01:59.31
Female	Points/Time
1 st Charlotte McAlindon	83 02:03.02
Pairs	Points/Time
1 st Maria Hartley Oinn/Peter Hartley-Oinn	90 01:55:31

MTBO (2 hour event)

Male	Points/Time
1 st Ken Jones	170 02:00:00

Trail (2 hour event)

Male	Points/Time
1 st Robert Broad	109 02:00:18
Female	Points/Time
1 st Lisa Blair	89 02:00:06

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 my crew who, this month, included Ed and Ileszek.

A special thank you to Simon Chapman for helping me turn the idea of an event in Kent into reality. Simon is based locally, and often comes along to our events in the Surrey Hills. This year, he helped with promoting the event around the various clubs and bike shops in the area.

NEXT EVENTS

Our next event is at **Mickleham in the Surrey Hills** on **Sunday, 9 December**. Online entry is already [open](#).

Once again, thanks for coming along to Tyler Hill 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 December.

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