

## “Allerdale Chase” Report – June 2014

Firstly, well done to all the competitors who took part in the inaugural “Allerdale Chase” on the beautiful fells around Whinlatter yesterday. The courses offered a range of challenges including tough climbs, detailed navigation and tricky terrain, but with sections of fast open fell and path running. The weather was, I think, kind overall. The morning started off with blue skies promising very hot conditions, but as soon as the runners headed out onto the fells, a combination of some cloud cover and a steady breeze kept it cool, especially up high, while remaining clear and dry. Certainly it was great being able to watch the runners on the ridges and heading down towards the final controls from the start / finish area.

The complete results are listed elsewhere, but the Long course was won by Andrew Llewellyn of NOC who finished an impressive 16 minutes ahead of second placed Lewis Taylor (WCOC), who in turn was 15 minutes in front of Simon Hunter (WCOC – first Veteran). Ange Jackson (WCOC) was first lady.



Andrew (on the right) – Long Course Winner



Ange (on the left!) – Long Course First Lady

The Medium course was dominated by Mark Johnston of FVO, who raced around the 12km course in well under 2 hours – a winning margin of more than 30 minutes (he was also first Veteran). James Daplyn (BL) took second place, followed by Roger Thomas (WCOC) in third, who also won the Thomas’s Intra-Family Sauders Selection Race! First lady back was Hannah Bradley (WCOC) who finished in fourth place overall.



Mark – Medium Course winner



Hannah (on the right!) – First Lady on the Medium Course

The Short course was won by Roger's son, Alastair Thomas (WCOC), who finished with a 12 minute lead over England Orienteering team-mate Daniel Spencer (WCOC). Extremely close behind, in third place, was Sarah O'Neil, who was also first lady. First Veteran was Anne Burbidge of WCOC.



Alastair (left) – Short Course Winner



Sarah (right) – Short Course First Lady

If you enjoyed this event, or having read about it wish you had taken part, keep an eye on the WCOC Website for other events, and in particular the Copeland Chase (held each November in West Cumbria) another Long O.

Finally, thanks once again to the Forestry Commission for the use of their area, and to the following people who all helped in different ways with the planning, organisation and on the day help; Roger Jackson, Bob Barnby, Mike Harrison, Mike Pearson, John Slater, John Taylor, Ben Crowther, Rosie Spencer and Vanessa Brierley. A great team effort!

Hope to see you again same time next year!