

22nd January 2016

Border Liners 2016 season got underway last weekend with a runout in Miltonrigg Woods near Brampton.

The usually damp and boggy woods were transformed into a crisp winter-wonderland and runners were treated to some great conditions underfoot with occasional sightings of deer darting amongst the trees. With the usual selection of courses on offer it was visiting athlete Francis Shillitoe of the Newcastle and Tyneside Orienteers (NATO) who was fastest around the 3.8km Green course. His time of 33.00 was almost three minutes clear of host club runner Andy Lewsley who recorded 35.48. Stuart Parker of the Lake District Warrior Orienteering Club took third place in 40.06 with Border Liner Raymond Wren clocking 46.10 for an excellent fifth. In the women's category Jenny Wren made the trip from Bothel doubly worthwhile with a first place and overall top fifteen finish with a time of 58.36.

Only a handful of runners completed the 2.5km Short Green course, with top honours going to W16 athlete Zoe Graham of the SOLWAY Club. Her time was 35.59. NATO junior Benedict Sanderson meanwhile was top runner on the 2.2km Orange course with a time of 30.57. Two Border Liners made up the podium places with Dougal Kyle taking second place with 33.12 and Alison Rawle finishing third in 33.56. Border Liner junior Isabel Gaines recorded 37.06 for a superb fifth.

Border Liners next event promises to be a cracker as they host an early round of the 2016 Cumbria Galoppen League at Penrith Beacon on Sunday 7th February. Parking and facilities for this event will be based at Penrith Golf Club by kind permission of the club and local landowners. No muddy running shoes in the clubhouse please!

Finally, we are very saddened by the news of the death of long time Border Liner and gentle man, Clyde Mitchell. Our thoughts are with his family at this time.

David Rawle

8th February 2016

With staff in the warm clubhouse serving hot drinks, bacon butties and flapjack to weather-beaten competitors and event-helpers alike, Penrith Golf Club was an ideal headquarters for the opening round of the Cumbria Galoppen League on Sunday. Just a short walk from the clubhouse, event planner Andrew Bell had laid out eight superb courses for the Border Liners Club in Beacon Woods and by the time the competition closed in the middle of the afternoon, more than 170 athletes had enjoyed the tricky woodland terrain.

Taking top honours around the 7.5km (215m climbing) Brown course, Quentin Harding of the South Ribble Orienteering Club was more than five minutes clear of local runner Ian Cumpstey. Their times were 61.52 and 66.59 respectively with Alan Hartley of the host club claiming an excellent fourth place in a time of 69.28. Teenager Harry Scott of the Lakeland Club was quickest around the 5.3km (135m) Blue course with a time of 45.06. With West Cumberland Orienteers claiming the next four places it was Border Liner Emily Brown who restored some East Cumbrian pride in sixth place (58.27), quickly followed by clubmate Christine Goulding in ninth with 63.03. These were two great results for the Liners pair as the next highest women finishers on the tough Blue course were outside the top twenty.

Simon Hunt of the host club was the man to beat on the 3.7km (85m) Green course. His time of 40.58 was a little short of three minutes clear of runners up Chris Mitchell (43.31- Independent) and Howard Leslie (43.40 - WCOC) with Liner Robin Thomas fourth in 44.03. West Cumberland runner David Spencer took 'Gold' around the Short Green course (2.8km/60m) with a time of 27.01 followed by Border Liner Paul Gaines (36.25). Moving up the ranks meanwhile West Cumberland teenager Henry Teasdale was quickest around the 3.4km (70m) Light Green course with a time 40.46.

Despite a minibus troop of keen, young Lakeland Orienteers taking top places on the 3km (65m) Orange course, Rosalind Weir demonstrated the quick progress she has made in the sport in the past year to claim an excellent seventh place. Taking runners almost to each corner of the extensive Beacon woods, Sunday's Orange course was a tough test for the juniors. In one of the closer fought categories of the day Maisy Yates was just over five minutes behind winner Charli Smith of the Lakeland Club around the Yellow course (2.9km/50m) with Maria Gaines picking up a well deserved fourth place on the 1.8km(45m) White course.

Border Liners next fixture is a club evening at Lowry Hill on Monday 22nd February followed by one of their popular 'Come on Try It' events at Aughetree near Caldbeck on Saturday 5th March.

David Rawle

7th March 2016

Snow on the tops and a fresh Northerly breeze greeted competitors at Aughtertree near Caldbeck at the weekend as Border Liners promoted their second club-level event of the year. Organisers Raymond and Jenny Wren had laid out three excellent courses on the tricky fellside terrain and a good number of local runners turned out to enjoy them.

Visiting athletes Alastair Thomas and Daniel Spencer of the West Cumberland Orienteering Club showed why they are potential stars of the future with an excellent one-two on the 4.7km (140m climbing) Green course. Their times were 24.33 and 26.24 respectively ahead of third placed Ian Cumpstey (JOK) (30.17). Jeff Powell Davies was the fastest Border Liner around the course in a very respectable 32.02. Daniel's sister Rosie continued the Spencer household's run of results on the 2.8km Short Green course with a first place time of 26.46. Border Liner Andy Lewsley was second home in 30.19 with fellow club runner Alison Stewart claiming an excellent third with 35.35. Around the 2.5km Orange course Border Liners packed the podium with a great run from Maisy Yates to take top spot ahead of Alison Rawle and James Weir. Their times were 21.06, 27.26 and 31.15 respectively.

The Lakeland Orienteering Club hosted the second round of the Cumbrian Galoppen League recently and it proved a suitably challenging test of navigation and physical ability. With the event headquarters at the Lakeside and Haverthwaite Railway, the competitive terrain was in the primeval-looking crag-strewn woodlands to the North and West of the picturesque railway line. Once again it was Alistair Thomas who was the athlete to beat with an outstanding time on the 5.7km (320m) Brown course of 55.32, just over four minutes clear of clubmate Richard Wren with a time of 59.39. Dan Parker was Border Liner's top finisher in ninth place with a time of 74.13. Other Border Liners to have good results on the day were Christine Goulding (23rd overall on the Blue course) and Stella Lewsley who picked up tenth overall on the Green course.

This weekend, Border Liners field a full team of runners in the Compass Sport Trophy qualifying round near Stirling. All fingers and toes are crossed for another run of results like last year. Finally, Border Liners next club event is a club night at Penrith next Monday evening 14th March. All are welcome and full details of the evening are on the club website.

David Rawle

18th April 2016

Local orienteers were spoilt for choice at the weekend with big competitions in North East England and Southern Scotland. With the Scottish event providing the shorter travelling distance, only a handful of Border Liners made the journey across to Whitby for the Northern Championship weekend. Emily Brown made the trip worthwhile however with an excellent fifth place in the W18 category on Saturday's Urban event, just 14 seconds off a podium place. Unfortunately the weather failed to live up to expectations and runners spent the afternoon sprinting around the soggy seaside-streets rather than dashing around in the sunshine! Other Border Liners having good results on the coast were Paul Johnson who finished sixth in the mens ultra veterans category whilst Judith Johnson and Karen Blackburn finished eighth and tenth respectively in the women's super veteran and ultra veteran categories.

Drumlanrig Castle was Sunday's venue for the South of Scotland Orienteering League and competitors travelled from far and wide to run around the spectacular parkland setting. The Solway Club were event hosts on this occasion and they put on a superb set of colour-coded courses from 1.6km to 8.8km in length. North Cumbrian orienteer Ian Cumpstey, who runs for the Jesus Orienteering Klub as an ex Oxford University Orienteering Club member took top honours around the tough Brown course with a time of 75.03, less than half a minute clear of runner-up Barry Veitch of the Roxburgh Reivers Club. On the 6.6km Blue course, Blair Young of the TINTO Club was fastest with a time of 56.01, whilst BL runner Raymond Wren took an excellent eighth place in 76.02. Martin Dean of the Forth Valley Orienteers was quickest around the 4.2km Green course with Mike Cumpstey making a solid top twenty finish and Jenny Wren finishing 24th and top W65 competitor. The times of the Border Liners duo were 55.47 and 62.24 respectively. Forth Valley junior James Hammond took top podium place around the Orange course in a time of 34.41, with BL runner Tom Rawle making the top ten with an eighth place time of 57.04.

David Rawle

23rd May 2016

Orienteering Report (photo shows Emily Brown (left) and Laura Hazelhurst (right) on the podium at Muncaster. Parental permission obtained.)

Sunshine, ice creams and great scenery brought orienteers out in their droves recently as Border Liners held their latest 'Come on Try It' event at Talkin Tarn Country Park near Brampton. Two courses were on offer for new and experienced runners, both taking in a full circuit of the Tarn. After making the fastest time around the 4.2km Green course, Border Liner James Daplyn was quick to admit that Talkin Tarn was one of his regular training venues. Second placed Francis Shillitoe, one of a number of runners who made the journey across from the Newcastle and Tyneside Orienteers was just under a minute behind James with Ian Cumpstey (JOK) another handful of seconds adrift. Their times were 24.43, 25.41 and 25.53 respectively. Thirty-six competitors completed the 2.8km Green course, many with friends and parents in tow, making it an excellent morning's exercise for the whole family. At the sharp end of the results, Laura Hazelhurst demonstrated her recent top form with a clear win ahead of James Bell and Ewan Simpson. Laura's time of 22.47 was just under a minute clear of James (23.40) and a further few seconds ahead of Ewan (23.54).

The Border Liners School League is running for its sixteenth year in succession at the moment and organiser John Roelich has once again done a fantastic job of introducing hundreds of young runners to orienteering. Keeping children active and enjoying sport is a major achievement these days and John and his team deserve massive credit for the schools league and for bringing on some potential stars of the future. Staying with the junior theme, the West Cumberland Orienteering Club recently promoted the Cumbria Schools (Secondary) Championships at Muncaster on the West coast. Border Liners were well represented in the results with Laura Hazelhurst and Emily Brown taking the Year 7 and Year 12/13 Girls titles respectively on behalf of their school the Queen Elizabeth Grammar School of Penrith.

Border Liners next 'Come on Try It' event is being held in Alston on Saturday June 18th. Full details will be on the Border Liners website nearer the time but it promises to be another great morning out, with opportunity for exploring the highest market town in England in the afternoon.



David Rawle

12th June 2016

Local orienteers took advantage of the recent fine spell of weather to enjoy competitions in North Cumbria and around the Duddon Estuary. Mell Fell in the Eastern Lake District was the venue for one of West Cumberland Orienteering Club's (WCOC) recent Thursday evening club events and a rash of Border Liners made the short trip down the A66 to compete. With convex slopes on most elevations of the fell, good navigation and effective contouring skills were vital. Interchangeable leg extensions to counter the almost constant side-slope running would also have been of benefit too. Matthew Vokes, running for the DRONGO (Ex Cambridge University Orienteers) club was quickest around the longer (5.1km) course which criss-crossed the fell a number of times. His time of 42.56 was just under four minutes clear of host-club athlete Alistair Thomas, with Border Liners top duo of Jeff Powell Davies and Alan Hartley coming home fifth and sixth respectively. The times of the trio were 46.52, 54.28 and 54.43. WCOC runner David Spencer took first place around the 3.4km short course with a time of 39.07. Phil Nichols was Border Liners' top finisher on the short course with a time of 65.06 in 11th place.

The Lakeland Orienteering Club were hosts for the latest round of the Cumbria Galoppen League with an event in the dunes and coastal plain just west of Haverigg. Sand dunes and marram grass are unfamiliar terrain for most Cumbrian orienteers but the detailed map and warm sunshine made for an excellent competition for all the runners. Edinburgh University orienteer William Rigg was quickest on the 8.8km Brown course with West Cumbrian Alistair Thomas second once again. The time margin between first and second place was more marked on this occasion however with William's 51.31 being more than ten minutes clear of Alistair's time of 61.10. Dan Parker was top Border Liner on the Brown course with an excellent ninth place overall and a time of 73.11. Lakeland orienteer Harry Scott won the 6.6km Blue course in 42.57 ahead of Daniel Spencer (43.44) with Karen Parker taking Border Liners' top honours in 13th (61.45) and Raymond Wren having an excellent run (68.06) to be top of the V70 class and 22nd overall. Richard Moss claimed Border Liners' top placing of the day with sixth overall (and first M70) on the 3.6km Short Green course with his wife Shirley coming home as first W70 and 16th overall. Their times were 46.46 and 63.56 respectively.

Border Liners next event is a 'Come On Try It' club event around the streets and alleyways of Alston this Saturday 18th June. Newcomers and experienced orienteers are all welcome and final details of the fixture will be found on Border Liners website

David Rawle

11th July 2016

Several Border Liners took part in Manchester and District Orienteering Club's two day twin Peaks Challenge last weekend. Both days comprised fast, urban races with the crowning of the North West Sprint Champions on Saturday evening and the overall Twin Peaks Champions running for their titles on Sunday afternoon. Saturday's two sprint events were centred around the Offerton Estate, South East of Manchester, with a detailed complex of housing areas, open spaces and a network of minor roads. Urban events combine the challenge of intricate navigation with the opportunity to explore lesser-known city streets and for this competition runners were given the opportunity to try the newest, state-of-the-art, electronic control punching system to make times even quicker.

At the end of an afternoon of white-hot competition, Border Liners were the proud holders of three North West Sprint titles. Competing in the M65 class, Paul Johnson was held to third place in both sprint races behind double winner Martin Wilson of the Berkshire Orienteers. Their times for the 1.8km and 1.9km courses were 12.27 and 11.36 and 13.09 and 13.01 respectively, but with Martin being from out of the area it was Paul who was crowned champion. Not to be outdone, Paul's wife Judy had even closer races with rival Christine Kiddier of Guildford Orienteers in the two W60 competitions. Finishing runner-up to Christine by 41 seconds in the 1.6km first race, Christine's winning margin was cut to two seconds in the second heat but Judy was crowned North West Champion as Christine lives in the South East. Finally, Emily Brown took two convincing class wins over higher-ranked rival Ella Gilbert of the Norfolk Orienteering Club to be crowned the W18 North West Sprint Champion.

Sunday's competition was based at the Manchester University Campus with the terrain comprising Hulme Park, the Manchester Metropolitan Campus and the Southern parts of Manchester city centre. As a longer-course urban event, athletes were taken around many of the historical, industrial and residential hubs of the city. Refreshed and raring to go for a second day, Paul Johnson took a convincing first place in the 4.2km M65 event coming home 30 seconds clear of Mike Smith of the Hertfordshire Orienteers. More importantly he was more than six minutes clear of Saturday's rival Martin Wilson and was duly crowned M65 Twin Peaks Champion over the two days. Emily Brown meanwhile took a very respectable fifth place on the 6.9km Women's Open course with a time of 64.37. As top placed W18 for the weekend she was also crowned Twin Peaks Champion for her class.

Border Liners next event is a family-friendly 'Come on Try It' event in Rickerby Park on Saturday 16th July

David Rawle

18th July 2016

Fast thinking as well as fast running were the order of the day as Border Liners promoted a Score orienteering event as part of their 'Come on Try It' series in Rickerby Park, Carlisle last Saturday. The format was simple; visit as many controls as possible within a 45 minute time limit. The tricky part however was thinking on the hoof as the controls had different values depending on the order they were visited and flat-out running speed alone wasn't sufficient to guarantee success. Jeff Powell Davies was the athlete with the clearest head and fastest legs on the day as his score of 405 was more than 40 points clear of runner-up Ian Cumpstey (360). Howard Leslie of the West Cumberland Orienteering Club took the third step on the podium with 350 points, just 30 clear of Border Liners super veteran Raymond Wren and 35 points clear of Christine Goulding.

As well as the score event for seasoned orienteers there were two traditional orange and yellow courses on offer through the park. Showing the form that brought her the Year 7 Cumbrian Schoolgirl title, Laura Hazelhurst was quickest around the 2.7km Orange course with a time of 17.32 - more than three minutes clear of rival (and mum) Karen whose time was 20.50. Bagging third and fourth places meanwhile were another family pairing of Tom and Alison Rawle with times of 20.59 and 22.53 respectively. Around the 1.8km Yellow course, youngster Andrew Thompson made himself a name to watch for the future with an excellent time of 17.10, with West Cumbria junior Isaac Hunter in second with 21.05.

The West Cumberland Orienteering Club ran their traditional long course Allerdale Challenge on Sunday with courses ranging from 4.5km to 16km around the fells and woods of the Wythop valley near Embleton. Matthew Vokes took the honours on the Long course having covered the 16+km of ground with 720m metres of climbing and 28 controls to locate in under two hours. His time of 108.55 was nearly 20 minutes clear of runner-up Simon Hunter 126.05. Paul Gaines and Raymond Wren both flew the Border Liners flag in the 12km Medium Course coming home in sixth and ninth places respectively with times of 125.45 and 134.05. Debbie Thompson meanwhile managed an excellent top ten finish on the 8km Short Course with seventh place and a time of 85.42.

Border Liners club events take a break for a few weeks now with the next event at Eycott Hill near Berrier on Saturday September 10th.

Andrew Thompson at the finish after his great run in Rickerby Park



David Rawle

Border Liners Orienteering Club, Orienteering Reports 2016

8th August 2016

Border Liners top veterans were out in force recently at the Welsh 5 Day championships which were based in the south of the principality this year. With multiple age categories and courses, the North Cumbrians returned some top results in most of the veteran competitions. Most prominently, Shirley Moss won the W70S (Short Course) competition with Karen Blackburn taking second overall in the W70L (Long Course) event picking up an excellent first place on day five and beating former 800m world record holder and Olympian Sheila Carey in the process. Judy Johnson took third place in the W65L event with four measured runs whilst Joan Cumpstey and Di Mitchell both figured in the final top twenty after five days of competition.

Despite having two 'nightmare days' in the sand dunes of Kenfig Burrows, Christine Goulding returned a very respectable seventh overall in the W50(L) class after recovering well later in the week with a fourth and two third places. Having a mixed week by his own high standards, Chris Lates still managed second overall in the M75(L) competition, with Dick Whitworth collecting ninth overall which included an excellent fourth place on day five. Paul Johnson finished fifth overall in the M65(L) events with a win on day four. As one of the oldest competitors in the event, Stan Johnston proved he still has a good turn of speed as an octogenarian with a gold medal winning performance against 17 other runners in the M80 class. As a principal Lakeland Orienteering Club member, Stan is also a member of Border Liners but the Liners are more than happy to count him as one of their own with results like that! Completing the Border Liners results board, Richard Moss took fifth overall in the M70(S) category, Mike Cumpstey 34th at M70(L) and Angela Whitworth 17th in the W70(S)'s.

A handful of Liners made the short trip to Threlkeld last week to compete in the West Cumberland Orienteering Club Evening League. With three courses on offer on the rough and boulder-strewn 'Knotts' terrain it was those with tough ankles and knees who made the top results. EBOR orienteer Jonny Malley was quickest around the 4.49km (300m climbing) long course with a time of 34.41. West Cumberland runner Steve Birkinshaw was second in 38.42, with Alan Hartley the best top Border Liner with 48.01. With a shortage of long course maps, Border Liner Jeff Powell Davies opted for the short course and ran home a clear winner with a time of 24.50. John Noblett was the best of the rest in 31.30, with Richard Evans having a good run for the Border Liners to finish with a time of 48.02. In the novice category NATO youngster Oscar Mitchell was fastest in 23.39, with Border Liners sisters Isabel and Maria Gaines coming home third and fourth with times of 27.56 and 29.33 respectively.

Border Liners next event is a 'Come on Try It' fixture at Eycott Hill on Saturday September 10th. All are welcome.

David Rawle

12th September 2016

Bothel runner Jenny Wren has just completed a fabulous fortnight of orienteering with success in the Veteran Home Internationals in Northern Ireland and a top ten overall in Border Liners Eycott Hill club event on her return. Jenny's selection for the W65 English team at the Veteran Home Internationals marked another highpoint in the Wren orienteering palmares with most of the family having enjoyed success at a high level in recent decades. The weekend fixture, promoted by the Lagan Valley Orienteers, comprised two days of competition with Individual and Relay races. Jenny's Gold Medal Moment came in the Individual event in Rostrevor Forest with controls on the open hillsides as well as in the woods. Her time of 45.06 for the women's course was just over 40 seconds clear of runner-up Joan Noble of the Inverness Orienteering Club (45.47) and almost five minutes clear of bronze medalist Teresa Finlay of the Fermanagh Orienteers (49.52).

Back on Cumbrian soil last weekend the Wrens joined other club members for the latest 'Come on Try It' event at Eycott Hill near Mungrisdale. Now owned by the Cumbria Wildlife Trust, Eycott Hill is a fantastic location to enjoy the outdoors and Border Liners are delighted that the Trust welcome orienteering on the reserve. Border Liner Daniel Parker was quickest around the 4.9km (185m climbing) Green course with a time of 47 minutes exactly. Colin Valentine of the West Cumberland Orienteering Club was a little over two minutes behind in second place (49.01) with fellow WCOC runner Steve Breeze third in 50.48. Completing her fortnight of racing, Jenny Wren was the next Border Liner home in eighth overall with a time of 64.51, whilst club mate Paul Williams had a good race to finish ninth in 71.57. Around the 3.3km (125m) Short Green course Raymond Wren took top honours with a time of 40.33. Visiting Nottinghamshire Orienteer Janet Evans was second with 44.58 and Chris Lates third in 46.48. Mother and daughter Laura and Karen Hazelhurst were first and second around the 2.3km (35m) Orange course with times of 26.43 and 30.03 respectively with a troop of Lake District Warrior youngsters filling the remaining top ten places.

Border Liners next event is another 'Come on Try It' fixture at Askham Fell near Lowther on Saturday 15th October followed by one of the remaining Cumbria Galloper League events of the season at Burnbanks near Haweswater on Sunday November 6th

David Rawle

24th October 2016

Last Sunday's round of the Cumbrian Galoppen League was almost a home fixture for Border Liners with a sizeable squad of local athletes travelling to Dockray near Ullswater for the West Cumberland Orienteering Club promoted event. With the relatively benign autumn weather to date, conditions underfoot, even on the open fell, were good and the race times across the board reflected that. Simon Hunter's 58.11 on the 8.2km (250 m climbing) Brown course ensured that the winning times of every category were sub one-hour with Lakeland orienteer Matthew Rooke finishing a couple of minutes behind in 60.27 and Simon's West Cumberland team mate Steve Birkinshaw taking third with 60.49. Border Liner Alan Hartley finished a creditable eighth with 69.17 and Karen Parker had an excellent race to finish tenth, and only woman finisher.

M16 Lakeland youngster Harry Scott was an easy victor on the 6.27km (210m) Blue course. His time of 44.02 was more than seven minutes clear of runner-up and teammate Same Yates, with Border Liner Paul Gaines having a fabulous run to finish fifth with 53.26. Andy and Stella Lewlsey were Border Liner's next finishers around the Blue course in 10th and 22nd places with both of them finishing top of their respective age categories.

Joe Hurd of the Bristol Orienteering Klub was fastest on the 3.85km (140m) Green course in 35.11 with most of the Border Liner finishers outside the top twenty in this hotly contested category. M70 Border Liner Richard Moss finished in a strong fifth place on the Short Green course exactly eight minutes behind winner Gill Browne of the Lakeland Club. Their times were 36.22 and 44.22 respectively. Janice Nichols and Charlotte Gaines meanwhile finished third and sixth respectively around the 2.28km (80m) Orange course with times of 31.46 and 37.36.

Fast finisher Richard Moss donned his organiser's hat the previous weekend to coordinate the latest round of Border Liner's 'Come and Try It' series. More than 65 runners took part in the event on Askham Fell near Helton with three courses to choose from. Conditions again lent themselves to fast times with Ian Cumpstey and James Daplyn only separated by seconds around the 4.85km Long Course with times of 31.12 and 31.40 respectively. Wilf Teasdale of the West Cumberland Club was fastest around the Short Course with Tom Rawle the quickest Border Liner in fifth. Mother and daughter Laura and Karen Hazelhurst picked up the Gold and Bronze medals on the easy course meanwhile with W12 runner Laura getting the better of her mother on this occasion with times of 17.19 and 19.31.

Border Liners next event is a round of the Cumbrian Galoppen League at Burnbanks near Haweswater on Sunday November 6th. The final 'Come On Try It' event of 2016 is at Hackthorpe near Penrith on Saturday 3rd December.

David Rawle

15th November 2016

It has been a busy fortnight for Border Liners, with the club hosting a round of the Cumbrian Galloper League and several members competing in a prestigious weekend of the UK Orienteering League in South Cumbria. The Cumbrian Galloper event coincided with the first wintry weather of the autumn but the undeterred organisers put on a first class fixture in the foothills of the High Street range in the Eastern Lake District.

Alistair Thomas of the West Cumberland Orienteering Club was quickest around the 8.4km (380m climbing) Brown course in a time just over the hour (60.16). Fellow West Cumbrian Michael Billingham took top honours around the 5.7km (325m) Blue course with Andy Lewsley and Emily Brown both making the top ten in 7th (62.14) and 9th (63.40) places respectively. Border Liners youngster Sam Hunt took the top club placing of the day with a win around the 2.8km (130m) Orange course in a time of 46.23 just nine seconds clear of runner-up Christopher Wilson of the Lakeland Orienteering Club.

Last weekend, with the weather having turned milder again, a good contingent of Liners headed to the South Lakes to compete in a weekend of events as part of the UK Orienteering League. Saturday's event was promoted by the Lakeland Club and took place on the National Trust's Sandscales reserve near Barrow in Furness. With fast running on the undulating dunes, Border Liners top athletes failed to break into the top placings on the day but there were good runs from Jenny Wren (1st W65 Green) and Alan Hartley (2nd V40 Black).

Sunday's event meanwhile was inland on the little-used wild terrain of Torver High Common between Coniston and Broughton in Furness. With a long walk to the start nobody had any excuses for a poor warm-up and on this occasion, Border Liners took several top ten placings. Around the 9.5km (365m) Brown course, Dan Parker had an excellent run to finish second overall behind winner Peter Tryner with wife Karen coming home in fifth place. Their times were: 81.09, 83.33 and 97.36 respectively. Emily Brown took a great eighth place on the Short Blue course in a time of 49.24 whilst Tom Rawle finished just outside the top ten around the Orange course exactly seven minutes behind the winner.

Border Liners next event is a 'Come and Try It' fixture at Hackthorpe New Woods on Saturday 3rd December

David Rawle

28th November 2016

A large team of Border Liners converged on Borrowdale last Sunday for the final round of the 2016 Cumbria Galoppen League. Promoted by the West Cumberland Orienteering Club, the event centered on the Manesty camping and caravan park near Grange and took in the technical lakeside woods and hillsides as far North as Hawse End.

Aidan Rigby of the Cleveland Orienteering Klub took first place on the Brown course. His time of 56.01 for the 8.9km (390m climbing) event was more than a minute and a half clear of runner-up Matthew Vokes of the promoting club. Dan Parker was top Border Liner in 16th place with a time of 76.06. Roxburgh Reiver Ian Maxwell took top honours around the 6.6km (330m) Blue course with Andy Lewsley flying the Border Liners flag in tenth place, Emily Brown in 14th and Paul Gaines and David Mainwaring having good runs to finish in 18th and 24th places respectively. Back from a fortnight's cycle touring, Debbie Thompson had a great run to finish 1st W60. Border Liner Heather Prince had an excellent run to finish second overall around the 2.75km (110m) Short Green course, just a minute and a half behind winner Philip Gager of the South Ribble Club. Their times were 40.05 and 38.31 respectively. Maria Gaines meanwhile had another good run to finish in sixth place on the Yellow course.

Queen Elizabeth Grammar School students Emily Brown and Laura Hazlehurst took part in the British Schools Orienteering Championships at Sutton Park in the Midlands recently and both came away with medals for their efforts. The urban park setting presented competitors with a complex area of path networks and undergrowth, with some very wet and muddy sections thrown in for good measure. Emily ran the 5.3km Green course and is the BSO Year 13 Girls Champion for 2016 whilst Laura ran the 2.2km Yellow course and was third in the Year 8 Girls class. Well done to both of them!

Border Liners next event is a 'Come on Try It' fixture this Saturday (3rd December) at Hackthorpe New Woods just South of Penrith. New and experienced orienteers will be made very welcome.

David Rawle