

On Saturday 9th May Ripon Runner Pete Wright showed his continued strength in distance running by completing the Fellsman race of 62 miles. An achievement made all the more impressive coming just two weeks after spending a week running 270 miles from York Minster to Westminster and then completing the London Marathon. Despite having completed the full course last year Martin Gabriel was forced to retire at the 46 mile mark this year.

The Harrogate District Summer Road Race League started on Thursday 9th May with a 5 mile race around Thirsk. The weather was fine and warm for this flat race giving the runners the opportunity to gain some fast times. Bill Forman was the first Ripon Runner to finish in a time of 29.00 followed by Pete Chapman 29.09, James Raper 29.12, Ben Imeson 30.02, David Jelley 30.11, Mike Appleton 30.14, Johnny Lacken 30.44, Gary Wilks 30.59, Andrew Turner 31.06, Richard Timms 31.18, Ray Raper 31.45, Michael Hall 34.24, Ray Johnstone 34.45, Ian Walker 35.01, John Rowley 35.15, Lisa Quinn 35.16, Scott Wray 37.09, Mike Pennock 37.12, Suzanne Rickard 37.24, John Grundy 37.33, Steve Parkinson 37.45, Michelle Needham 37.47, Jo Wallace 37.57, Matthew Holt 38.19, Claire Mumford 38.20, Simon Merrin 38.53, Mel Dutka 39.39, Andy Matheson 39.51, Penny l'Anson 40.01, Marie Marston 40.08, Lester Pickard 40.38, Anneke Imeson 41.13, Helen Pickard 42.07, John Stead 44.17, Karen Cooper 44.29, John Welch 44.49, Helena Conlin 46.05, Victoria Clayton 46.14, Tim Tribe 48.59, Doug Tooth 55.12, Eleanor Hartas 56.14.

Ripon Runners hosted the second race in the Black Sheep Series on Sunday with the Ripon 10 mile. This hilly course took the runners up Whitcliffe Lane before heading to Mackershaw Lodge, down into Studley Park and along the Seven Bridges then back up the drive at Studley around to Fountains Hall before going up How Hill and being given the reward of a downhill run back along Whitcliffe Lane and to the finish at Hell Wath playing fields. The weather was absolutely ideal for the event with the majority of runners avoiding the downpour which brought the runners inside for the presentation of prizes. First runner was Gary Dunn of Thirsk and Sowerby Harriers in a time of 55.35, the first female runner was Dawn Richardson of Quakers Running Club in a time of 1.05.55. A few Ripon Runners also participated in the race, Ray Johnstone finished in 1.16.01 followed by Michael Hall 1.16.14, John Ward 1.17.12, Scott Wray 1.20.42, Martin Hope 1.25.20, Robin Kehoe 1.26.51, Mel Dutka 1.28.29, Graham Green 1.36.12, Fiona Prestwich 1.36.43, Victoria Clayton 1.43.06, Helena Conlin 1.43.18, Caroline Bentham 1.48.07, Eleanor Hartas 2.06.09.