

CLENT HILLS JUNE JAUNTER - Thursday June 21st 2012

Well, that was quite a memorable June Jaunter, with the unfortunate timing of the rainfall. It was cold hanging around (sympathy for Peter Langmaid doing the long shift marshalling the Four Stones), but I didn't find it too bad when running. I don't recall ever running through the clouds on the summits before: the light up there was quite surreal and ethereal. David Williams captured the atmosphere in some pictures which he has posted on his blog – do have a look.

Was it because of the conditions that most people ran slower than last time? Some however achieved personal bests: Peter Langmaid, Andy Plante and Richard Pay. Richard last ran the JJ in 1990! Also much improved was John Bennison, having shaken off the problems which had slowed him in recent years.

Nice to see Steve Bramwell making his JJ debut with a creditable 32.22. Young Alex and Toby maintained their record of supporting HOC events with their enthusiasm, making a spirited ascent to the Four Stones and back – I hope they were not too disappointed with the rules that we now have to apply, which prevent unaccompanied youngsters running the road sections which would have been necessary for them to go further.

Andy Plante proudly brandished a swish new Si8 dibber. Unfortunately, nobody had realised that our SEE download kit could not recognise this version; happily we were able to retrieve his times subsequently from the Si units. Sorry, Andy, that we gave you an anxious time waiting to discover if that would be possible.

Charlie Nelson was away, but reports that he ran earlier in the day at 32.42.

My thanks go to Peter Langmaid, David Williams and John Bennison for their help, enabling me to go for my own run.

Robert Vickers