**Coppett Hill Race Report: Sat 21st March 26.**

74 Runners started the Coppett Hill race on a gloriously sunny day. This entry level Fell race was marked and held mainly on the Coppett Hill Common – about 5.5miles, with 1000' ascent.

This year we had the privilege of being the last race in the WFRA winter Series, as well as the first race of the South Wales series, meaning we had a good turnout. Extra parking was sorted out and we ended up with plenty of spaces left over – Thanks to all that car shared.

The warm weather made the beer garden of The Hostelrie a perfect place for the HQ. Everyone was content to sun themselves outside before and after the race. We made the finish at the pub entrance, meaning a good crowd of runners and locals to cheer the racers home.

The course had dried out in the last 2 weeks, resulting in a fast race on stable ground. The mile or so of flat riverbank fields, was quick and maybe didn't agree with some of the 'fell running purists'! Normally the cow dodging slows people down in the fields, but they were moved out prior to the race.

I added a new section this year – 'The Woody Woodland', climaxing down the 'Jaws of Doom', that got people chatting. I'll see if I can find some other exciting sections for next time, to try and reduce the flat section..

Thanks to the runners, helpers, Coppett Hill Common Trust, The Hostelrie, Goodrich Primary School and The Courtfield Estate.

Also, a very reluctant well done to Rhys, Tomas and Jonathan, who all managed to beat one of my long standing descent segments by 1 second! (Note to self – Don't put on races where I have a segment crown. 😉)