

## **Boulsworth Bog - 13 April 2014**

**by  
Andy Berry**

The local hamlet of Wycoller hosted the annual Boulsworth Bog Fell Race (8.2 miles / 1324ft). Registration was held in the historic and picturesque Country Park Hall. A good mix of young, old, male and female lined up for the 1pm start (75 of us in total) and we were off! Winding up the track past Parsons Lea Farm. (my ancestral home for those that are interested), we then entered a firm runnable trail, climbing up to the moor bottom. As we hit the moor and hung onto a grassy trail, the going was pretty firm and fast. Then, as we started the climb onto the old flagged path, the sun broke through and I'd be confident to say we may have hit double-figure temperatures! At roughly 3 miles in, we hit the boggy climb to the trig point of Boulsworth. Every bog was a gamble with everyone thinking, "Am I going to sink to the ankle, knee or hip?" There was a good mix of varieties of bog - you could say a bog for every occasion! We then reached the trig and turned back to return on a very similar, but not the same, route back. Most of the runners at the post-race analysis (over a cup of tea and a chunk of cake) concurred that one of the highlights of the race had been the last mile (roughly) where runners had to weave through trees and over footbridges and stiles. It was varied, technical, fast & fun. All in all a 'Grand Day Out' and a nice runnable race route from a picturesque location with some good running buddies. The BFR contingent represented the club well and stayed on to applaud all of the runners home. One last note ... in spite of the bogs, Screw managed to complete the race and finish with two trainers still on his feet. Take a bow Mr Driver.