



# The Oxenhope Straw Race 2009

Sponsored by: Dog & Gun (Oxenhope)  
Hodgsons of Oxenhope Transport

This year's race will take place on:

## Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July

### The Challenge:

- Find yourself a partner
- Raise lots of money for local charities
- Run 3 miles
- Consume a pint of beer in each of five village pubs
- Carry a bale of straw up a hill
- Keep smiling!

If you're up to the challenge - join in.

If not – bring the family and enjoy the entertainment of this unique local event.

## What is the Straw Race?

Many years ago, a group of well meaning local villagers decided to race through Oxenhope village for charity – “why don't we stop for a beer in each of the pubs on the way?” said one; “let's make it more difficult by carrying a bale of straw?” replied another - and so the Oxenhope Straw Race was born.

Since then, the race has become an annual event and has got bigger but the aim has remained the same: to raise as much as possible for local charities and have fun in the process.

This is not just an event for the determined fun runner and the serious athlete; past years have seen colourful and imaginative entries in the fancy dress categories too. Even for those who do not compete this is a unique family day out with access by steam train, live bands at village pubs and a genuine carnival atmosphere.

Over the years the Straw Race has raised around £300,000 for local charities including Manorlands, The Keighley Resource Centre and many community and youth groups in and around Oxenhope village. On presentation evening each November the competitors and helpers can see how their hard earned cash is used to make a real difference to local people.

## Straw Race Entry Form

1<sup>st</sup> Competitor:

Name: .....

Address: .....

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Phone: .....

Email: .....

Running partner:

Name: .....

Address: .....

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Phone: .....

Email: .....

**Personal details will be used to contact you with Race information**

Please tick the category (male, female mixed) in which you wish to enter and indicate if athlete or veteran (both runners 40+):

Male

Female

Mixed

I wish to enter as an athlete:

I wish to enter as a veteran:

I enclose £25 entry fee (cheques payable to 'The Straw Race') (£25 per team of 2 competitors – any individuals wishing to enter will still be required to pay £25 entry)

I enclose an SAE for the fact pack and sponsor form (*tick if required*)

We agree to abide by the rules of the Oxenhope Straw Race, a copy of the rules is available on request

Competitors run at their own risk

Signature .....

Please return this form to:

Karen Denby  
Rose Lea  
36 Canberra Drive,  
Cross Roads, Keighley, BD22 9DG  
Or to a participating Oxenhope Pub

### **Race details**

The race is run in teams of two - the cost of entry is £25 per team - teams can be men, ladies or mixed (ladies may carry ½ bales and drink ½ pints).

Teams entered as “athletes” will be given early start times where possible but this cannot be guaranteed.

Teams may enter the veteran’s category if both competitors are over 40.

Registration will take place at the Bay Horse from noon on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July and at the start from 10.30am on Race day – due to possible limited supplies of straw etc., the organisers must reserve the right to refuse late entries submitted on Race day.

The Race starts at 12.00 at the Waggon & Horses, Hebden Bridge Road, Oxenhope.

A free bus service is available on the day from Oxenhope Station to the start and throughout the village during Race day, all kindly donated free of charge by Hodgson’s of Oxenhope.

All roads on the route from the Bay Horse to the Dog & Gun are closed to traffic during the Race.

### **Further information**

A fact pack is available with full details of the race, how to get there, car parking, road closures, free buses, etc.

Sponsorship forms are also available and all competitors are reminded that the main purpose of the Straw Race is to raise much needed funds for

some very worthwhile causes so start early and obtain as much sponsorship as possible.

You can obtain a fact pack and sponsor form by:

- Visiting the Oxenhope Web site on: [www.strawrace.co.uk](http://www.strawrace.co.uk);
- Emailing: [info@strawrace.co.uk](mailto:info@strawrace.co.uk);
- writing to Ian Barrett at 7, Lee Lane, Oxenhope, Keighley, West Yorks. BD22 9RB with an SAE;
- calling Ian or Jane on (01535) 644796;

### **We need your help!!**

The Straw Race is at risk! The organising committee are low on numbers which could mean that 2009 may be the final race. If you can help with planning, bailing straw, etc. or if you can help on the day or if you just want to meet local people and join the organisation of a fun day out - please call Ian on the above number - even if you can spare only 1 hour during the year, the Straw Race needs to hear from you.