

Nicola Dunn, neé Smithson

To cries of “she’s mad!” from her family, Nicola Dunn, neé Smithson (Longridge 1985-90), took part in the annual West Highland Way Race from Milngavie to Fort William last weekend. From the northern outskirts of Glasgow, via the shore of Loch Lomond, Strathfillan, Rannoch Moor, and Glencoe, to the shadow of Ben Nevis, this event covers 95 miles of some of Scotland’s most beautiful and spectacular scenery and entails over 14,000 feet of climbing: the start was at 1 a.m. on Saturday and to qualify for a final placing you must take no more than 35 hours, so it is most definitely not for the faint-hearted! (Note – this year’s top three finishers took under 17 hours...).

Nikki was accompanied for part of the race by a couple of “ultra”-running friends, and then for the last 25 miles by sister Becky (Longridge 1986-94); and was met at the various checkpoints en route through the day and night of Saturday by a support team led by husband Mark and daughter Ellie. She finished at 7 a.m. on Sunday, and is shown here with the presentation crystal goblet awarded to all finishers – there must, surely, be easier ways of acquiring attractive glassware!

