



We have just learned of the death of Bill Smith of Clayton-le-Moors Harriers he was 75. His body was found by a walker on the Lancashire fells near Bowland on the 1st October. It is thought he may have lain undiscovered for a number of weeks.

Bill wrote the classic history of British Armature Fell running entitled 'Studmarks on the Summit' which was published in 1986. This book has long been a collector's item with copies changing hands at well over £100.

Bill was a native of Liverpool, not the natural habitat one might think for a man was to become so associated with Fell Running. He lived in the shadows of Goodison Park; he would commute the three miles to and from his work in Liverpool City everyday by walking in every type of weather until his retirement. The late Kenny Peeny a Liverpool bus driver and member of Pembroke AC once recounted how he saw Bill walking into work early one winters morning with the rain driving down and the wind blowing a gale, Kenny stopped his bus and offered him a lift, Bill just smiled thanked Kenny but said it was too good a day to miss.

The weekend was always Bill's favourite time when he could escape to his beloved fells and undertake his epic long runs which lasted for as long as he had the energy and daylight. I remember Bill explaining some of his routes which to me seemed mind boggling.

Bill was a lovely man who lived a meaningful life, he loved the fells and perhaps in a strange way I suspect he might not have changed anything about his demise.

Robbie Wood

An appreciation of Bill's life can be found on the [Clayton-le-Moors website](#) & [Fellrunners website](#)

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## Comments

- Added: 07/10/2011 12:52:03

I hope that when my time comes, that I am as close to "home" as Bill was. RIP

By **Graham Hall**

## Bill Smith Obituary 17 October 2011

- Added: 07/10/2011 15:17:15

I met Bill several times when he was living in Liverpool and must admit I found it odd that he was so enthusiastic about Fell running. It was only when I started to take athletes to Fell races that I realised it wasn't Bill who was odd it was me. Fell running and the fell running fraternity were so different from some other parts of the sport. They were like a family, welcoming, encouraging and Bill always took the time to say "hello". I can only echo everything that's already been said in tribute to Bill. He was a lovely person and I consider it a pleasure to have met him.

By **Phil Thomas**