

Classic Quarter 2015

The Classic Quarter, 44.5 miles from the most southerly to the most westerly points of England. With innumerable steep climbs and descents over some of the most spectacular terrain of the south coast.

The day started early with the race brief at 5:45, we eventually got going at 6:30 under cool conditions. The terrain got progressively harder and the sun hotter until about mile 24 when we had a nice flat 7 mile section of tarmac (which just seemed to go on forever and ever).

The support from the locals was fantastic cheering us on our way, even though some of them didn't realise what we were doing they still cheered us on, even in the remote sections we (the solo runners) were cheered on by the relay runners who were making their way through the course (they had started later).

The best support of all was from my support crew who met me every six or so miles with refreshments, it was great to see a familiar face and helped the miles pass quickly.

Then the sting in the tail from mile 32 it was like having to climb mountains with boulders five foot high blocking the footpath, it was all hands on deck using hand and foot holds and trying not to break your ankles, and then a nice vertical (well that's what it felt like) climb up into the Minack Theatre.

With only four miles to go Lands End came into sight, there it was the finish but it never seemed to get any closer until suddenly, I was there. What a great feeling, although I was tired and sore I just couldn't keep the smile off my face. That was true until I got back to the hotel and the boiler had broken down, nice and icy.

Would I do this again? – yes most definitely, the scenery was fantastic from Lizard Point, St Michaels Mount, The Minack Theatre through to Lands End. It's not a PB course but one of the most fantastic runs I have ever done.