

RAYNET

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Radio Operators
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Risk Assessments

Name, Callsign and telephone number of Risk Assessor	Michael Priestley, G7HEN
Date of risk assessment	25 May 2025
Event title and location	Event description
Etape du Dales HQ/Start/Finish Horton-in-Ribblesdale	<p>112 mile sportive in the Yorkshire Dales starting and finishing in Horton-in-Ribblesdale The Etape du Dales route is an extremely difficult 112 mile ride and requires an excellent level of fitness. It takes in the major climbs in the Yorkshire Dales and that means steep and technical descents as well. The course has good signage but you should be aware of the route and terrain.</p> <p>Make sure you have adequate clothing and your equipment is in perfect order, a bottom gear of 39 x 25 minimum is recommended. Safety approved cycling helmets are compulsory for all participants, no helmet, no start.</p> <p>Entry Limit: 970</p> <p>Certificates to be awarded; Gold inside 7 hours, Silver inside 8 hours, Bronze - all finishers</p>
Date:	Sunday 8 th June 2025
Time from	06:00
Time to	19:00
Number of participants	Entry Limit: 970
Number of spectators	Unknown
Other agencies involved	Unknown

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Minimum number of OPERATORS REQUIRED 22/23					
Job Description	No	Job Description	No	Job Description	No
Control Note	3	Organiser's Vehicle Note	1?	Checkpoints with Repeater Note	0
Checkpoints Note	4	First aid Note	3	Stand alone Repeater Note	5
Hill-top Checkpoints Note	0	Safety Points Note	5	Note	
Sweeps Note	0	Note		Note	
RAYNET Support Note	1	Note		Note	

Notes and OTHER COMMENTS:

1. A shift system should be used in bad weather or if the hill-top checkpoints request it.
2. If RAYNET sweeps are used, then one RAYNET sweep and one organiser's sweep is the minimum. It is preferable to have at least two of each.
3. When possible, the radio operator should not be the driver of the vehicle. One driver and one radio operator is the preferred option.

- RAYNET members should not be allocated duties beyond their physical capabilities. When assigning duties, controllers should take into account the age, state of health and any other factor, which might affect the member's capability to discharge that duty in a safe manner.
- Individual members should decline a duty, which they feel is beyond their capabilities.

Organiser's name and contact details

Martyn Bolt
martyn.bolt@btconnect.com
01924 496129 or 0752 898 8817
112 LEEDS ROAD, MIRFIELD
WEST YORKSHIRE WF14 0JE
England

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LIKELIHOOD AND SEVERITY RATING

Risk Level = Likelihood against Severity

SEVERITY can be assessed on a scale of one to five:	
5 - Death	Causing death
4 - Major Injury	Unconsciousness, Fracture, Amputation or penetrating eye injury. Permanent or long term disabling injury (or disease)
3 - Extremely Harmful	Serious injury but not meeting the description contained in "major injury"
2 - Harmful	Slight injury or ill-health
1 - Minor Injury	First Aid only. Minor injury which would allow the individual to continue after first aid treatment on site
LIKELIHOOD OF OCCURRENCE can be similarly assessed on a one to five scale:	
5 - Certain	Inadequate Health and Safety controls.
4 - Very likely	Inadequate Health and Safety controls. If conditions remain unchanged, there is a high probability of an incident occurring.
3 - Likely	If the situation is not well managed, an incident could occur.
2 - Unlikely	The situation is well controlled, but occasional lapses could occur. Personnel are well trained.
1 - Rare	Events could only happen under exceptional conditions. The situation is well controlled and reasonable precautions have been taken.

RISK LEVEL MATRIX		RARE	UNLIKELY	LIKELY	VERY LIKELY	CERTAIN
		1	2	3	4	5
MINOR INJURY	1	2	3	4	5	6
HARMFUL	2	3	4	5	6	7
EXTREMELY HARMFUL	3	4	5	6	7	8
MAJOR INJURY	4	5	6	7	8	9
DEATH	5	6	7	8	9	10

INTERPRETATION	
HIGH	Unacceptable risks introduce further controls measures. Risk is severe and unacceptable. Priority action to be taken to reduce risk level.
MEDIUM	Risks may not be "as low as reasonably practicable". Attempt to introduce additional or improved control measures.
LOW	Monitor - No further action normally required - control measures considered suitable and sufficient.

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Risk	Before Control measure	Control measure	After Control measure
Access to casualties	Medium	Approach with caution. Each operator should be prepared with correct footwear and clothing. If in doubt ask	Low
Slipping/tripping	Medium	Approach with caution. Each operator should be prepared with correct footwear and clothing. If in doubt ask	Low
Refreshments, hot drinks	Medium	Each operator should be prepared with food and drink for the length of the event	Low
Manual handling of equipment to/from site	Medium	All masts and heavy equipment should be handled by two trained operators (PPE should be used). If assistance is required to complete the task, it should be requested. Safety helmet, safety boots and gloves should be worn. If in doubt ask.	Low
The erection and de-rigging of masts	Medium	All masts should be handled by two trained operators (PPE should be used). If assistance is required in completing the task, it should be requested. Safety helmet, safety boots and gloves should be worn. Mast should not be erected near overhead cables. If in doubt ask.	Low
Manual handling of casualties	Medium	Casualty handling should be left to St John Ambulance/Red Cross and/or the emergency services. Our role is to maintain a safe environment for the casualty and provide communications until trained First Aid arrives. If assistance is required to complete the task please ask.	Low
Child protection	Low	NO RAYNET member will transport or supervise any person under-18 unless accompanied by a member of the organiser's team. If a RAYNET member is left alone with anyone who may be under the age of 18, the code word to use to inform Control is Mr or Miss SCARGILL	Low
Transport of non-RAYNET personnel	Low	RAYNET members should not transport non-RAYNET personnel.	Low
Rubbish (waste)	Low	All RAYNET rubbish/waste must be removed.	Low
Stress	Medium	RAYNET members should not be allocated duties beyond their capabilities. When assigning duties, controllers should take into account the age, state of health and any other factor that might affect the member's capability to discharge that duty in a safe manner. Members should be briefed. Individual members should decline a duty which they feel is beyond their capabilities.	Low

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Risk	Before Control measure	Control measure	After Control measure
Weather	High	Each operator should carry suitable waterproof and windproof clothing and have adequate footwear for the terrain. Clothing should include hats and gloves. Do not under-estimate the effect of altitude on weather and temperature. Hi-visibility coats or tabards should be used outside if necessary. Sun protection cream should be used if necessary.	Medium
Communication	Low	Radios will be used. Spare batteries will be carried for handhelds. Mobile phones will be used as backup.	Low
Traffic	High	Hi-visibility coats or tabards to be worn at all times. RAYNET members will not direct road traffic unless asked by a member of the emergency services. Ensure all vehicles are parked in a secure location, not causing obstruction, and are displaying RAYNET signage.	Medium
RAYNET members getting lost	Medium	Maps, compass, radio and spare batteries to be carried. GPS with spare batteries can be useful. Welfare calls to be made at 30 minute periods or a shorter time if this is deemed necessary.	Low
Accidents and incidents	Medium	If any RAYNET operator has an accident or is involved in an incident a record will be kept in the radio log. All accidents will be recorded in the radio log book	Low
Operating a radio in a moving vehicle	High	No member should operate any radio or mobile phone equipment when they are driving a vehicle unless the equipment has a hands- free microphone. When possible, the radio operator should not be the driver of the vehicle. One driver and one radio operator is the preferred way to work	Low
Incidents taking place during an event	Medium	In the event of any incident, safety will take priority over any routine message.	Low
Disputes or public order incidents	High	The operator's first duty is to ensure his/her own safety. Secondly RAYNET should support event staff by calling for assistance as requested. RAYNET controller will withdraw personnel in any threatening situation. RAYNET operators may leave the incident if they feel threatened in any way and report the circumstances to control as soon as practicable. RAYNET operations should not get involved with the incident, but stand back and report to control.	Low
Lone working	Medium	Welfare call at 30 minute intervals or a shorter time if this is necessary. At night double manning is preferred.	Low
There is a risk of injury or collision whilst driving vehicles	Medium	There is a risk, particularly when driving in adverse road or weather conditions, of colliding with people, vehicles or other property. Speed not to exceed 5mph on event or camp sites	Low
Heat exhaustion, sunburn, sunstroke	High	All members to pay due caution to the risks of heat exhaustion by drinking plenty of water and regularly taking time out of the sun in shade. All members to avoid sunburn via appropriate precautions including sun block and clothing	Low

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Risk	Before Control measure	Control measure	After Control measure
RAYNET operators with First aid ambulance	High	The ambulance and the RAYNET operator should remain together at all time and will attend the incident. Where there is a clinical need for driving under emergency conditions with blue lights and audible warnings, the ambulance should drive in front with the RAYNET vehicle behind. The ambulance should remain with the RAYNET operator otherwise you will loose communications with Control. Please remember that the RAYNET operator is unable to take Highway Code exemptions. Due to the nature of the roads and terrain, care should be taken at all times. RAYNET operator must obey the law of the road at all times. At arrival of the incident, the RAYNET operator will report this fact to RAYNET control for documentation.	Low

Health & Safety is a shared responsibility. Although every care is taken in the preparation and execution of this risk assessment, situations may present themselves to RAYNET members, which could not have been envisaged or foreseen.

Where such situations occur, the RAYNET member should: STOP - THINK and ACT in a manner which does not place anyone in a position by which their Health & Safety may be at risk. This process is known as Dynamic Risk Assessment. If there is any doubt on the correct course of action, the RAYNET member should contact the Senior RAYNET Officer present for advice.

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NGR	Checkpoint Name and Number	Note First aid, overhead power lines, toilets, drinking water, Mains Power, roadside, etc
	CONTROL Horton-in-Ribblesdale	First aid, toilets, drinking water, Mains Power
SD875900	HAWES CP1	Roadside
SD878967	Buttertubs Pass Safety. Near TAN HILL INN CP2	Roadside
NY885014	Keld junction Safety Nateby in Cumbria	Roadside
SD797926	MOORCOCK INN CP3.	Roadside
SD783886	Coal Road Safety and Cow Gill Local Talkthrough	Roadside
SD820672	STAINFORTH CAR PARK CP4. Talk-through Fleet Moss	Roadside
SD964941	TT2 Talk-through The Fleak	Roadside
	Ambulance 1	Mobile
	Ambulance 2	Mobile
	Ambulance 3	Mobile

Key for Notes

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. RAYNET Relay only 2. 4X4 only 3. Emergency evacuation only 4. 4X4 recommended 5. Potable Water on site 6. Toilets within 200m 7. First Aid 8. Road Side Checkpoint | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10. Mains Power. |
|--|--|

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- All RAYNET vehicles will have signage
- Communications/radio log, copy to be retained by RAYNET Control and a copy sent to Organiser on request.
- PPE - Personal Protective Equipment (Safety helmet, safety boots, gloves etc)
- Police, Fire or Ambulance Service. If a situation arises when you need the Police, Fire or Ambulance Service and you have a phone on site or a mobile phone that works, call the emergency service and then inform control. Consider using 112 rather than 999 to call emergency services – this can highlight the location of the caller. If you have an unlicensed person with you get them to use the phone while you use the radio. You are on site and can give more information than the people at control. It will be quicker when time counts. Please keep control informed about the incident so they can keep a log. Emergency services control rooms – particularly ambulance – will probably ask for a postcode. If this is not available, explain that the incident is at a remote location and give an accurate grid reference.
- In Yorkshire the NON-EMERGENCY contact number for the Police is 101. This connects you with a police call centre, which may pass you to Police Control. Remember that a mobile phone call may connect you with an emergency services control outside the county in which the call is made.

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EVENT HISTORY

NOTE FROM RISK ASSESSOR

There is always the possibility of adverse weather conditions before or during the event. All operators must take reasonable steps to keep themselves safe and warm whilst carrying out there duties. Operators on hill top and exposed checkpoints will be required to take shelter etc with them. All operators should be suitably equipped and physically able to perform the duty they have agreed to.

All operators have been advised that they should be in possession of suitable clothing, food and drinks for the prevailing weather conditions.

It will be the responsibility of the Duty Event Controller to monitor Health & Safety issues on the event, and will take all steps possible to ensure all operators are safe and well throughout the event.

I hereby confirm that the above Risk Assessment has been completed and information contained within is correct and current.

Signature: *Michael B Priestley* (Risk Assessor)

Name: Michael Priestley Call-sign: G7HEN

Date: 25/04/2025