

Bella's parkrun by Bella Bennett *(possibly with a little assistance!)*

Saturday is my favourite day - WOOF- it's parkrun day. I have a busy job trying to round up my owners, Simon and Gill, so that we get there on time and they #DNFYBC. When we get to Nostell there is lots of faffing about with car keys, tickets and so on: DON'T FORGET MY POO BAGS!! - where would they be without me?

At the race briefing I keep WOOFING because I am very excited but EVERYONE IS CHATTING!!! At the start I prefer being in front with Simon just to make sure all the other dogs realise it is MY PARKRUN. Sometimes I have to WOOF to keep them in order and it did once cause a bit of a trip incident - NOT MY FAULT OF COURSE. That nice lady Pat Wood sorted it out. I like to race ahead until that nice man Terry Forrest runs past - we haven't seen him for a while - perhaps he has moved house. It's a bit awkward being at the back when I am with Gill because SHE CHATS A LOT and OFTEN MISSES THE START!!! I have to WOOF loudly and give her a good tug!!

Luckily there are lots of LOVELY VOLUNTEERS to cheer me on and the Run Directors are very good at PICKING UP POOS especially that nice lady Emma Bird. I enjoy having a DIP IN THE LAKE halfway round except Gill isn't so keen - but it's always worth a try. At the obelisk there is usually a very nice man Andy Barr, but really I don't see why we have to go all the way up round the bollard - I try to TAKE THE SHORTCUT but neither Gill nor Simon seem to understand it would take SECONDS OFF THEIR TIME - only trying to help!!

At the finish I do my best to do a bit of a sprint although GILL SEEMS TO BE BREATHING VERY LOUDLY. There are lots of nice people cheering me on at the funnel where I can meet up with some of my friends. MAX is often there with that nice man Ian Hookham and recently they have walked around the course too: I KEEP EXPECTING THEM TO BREAK INTO A RUN. I think Max comes along MAINLY FOR THE CRISPS and to support that nice lady Janice Hookham. I do like to meet up with Martha, and her owner Sarah Turner, except SHE INSISTS ON LICKING MY FACE, but I do understand she is quite a young dog. After the run it's my favourite time in the courtyard trying to EAT AS MUCH CAKE AS POSSIBLE without Simon or Gill noticing, luckily Gill is USUALLY TOO BUSY CHATTING. Simon and I have a terrible job trying to get her home.

When we do get home, eventually, it's a lovely RELAXING SNOOZE for me on a comfy sofa whilst Gill and Simon read the newspapers and DRINK MORE COFFEE!

HAPPY PARKRUN – CAN'T WAIT UNTIL IT STARTS AGAIN

Bella, May 2020