



SANTA DASH: People ran in memory of Hana at Manvers last Saturday. Pictures: Charley Atkins.

People brave the cold in annual Santa Dash tribute to Hana

By Jack Tolson

STORM Darragh didn't stop more than 100 people turning out for the annual Santa Dash at Manvers Lake on Saturday.

The event is in honour of Hana Szczepkowski who tragically died after a courageous battle with cancer at just 31 years old.

The parkland surrounding the lake was transformed into a festive spectacle as the runners set off.

The event was a vibrant display with a parade of creative costumes that included numer-

ous Santas, several Grinches, a few Christmas trees, and even a herd of reindeer pulling a sleigh carrying Mrs Claus and a sack brimming with presents.

Hana's parents, Jean and Steve, said: "Our daughter Hana was a well known and loved person to many. Over the years she had represented England in rounders, worked as a ski guide, lived in Italy and taught PE at a couple of local schools as well as some further afield. She came into so many people's lives in one way or another.

"These friends come along to honour Hana's memory and even though the weather conditions were horrendous, plenty still showed their commitment and attended the Santa Dash.

"We had numerous donations of money, gifts for raffle and tombola from the kind and generous local people and friends.

"Balby Tesco donated raffle prizes and Wath Tesco donated water and sweets for the runners at the end of the dash.

"We cannot thank these people enough."