



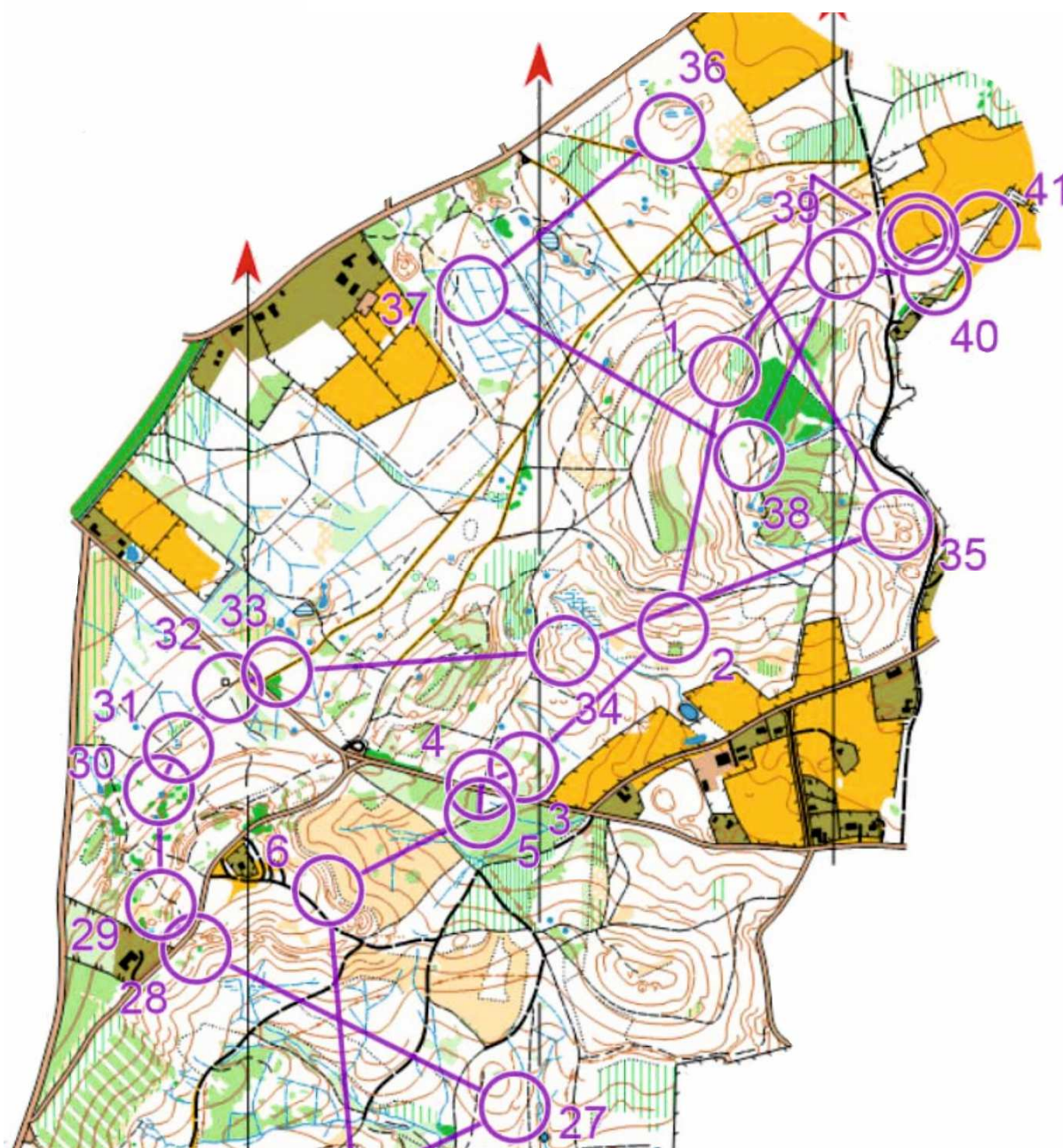
West Anglian
Orienteering Club



JABBERWAOC

Vol.47 No 2

June 2019



Section of M21E course JK Day 3 Long at Cold Ash where WAOC Duncan Coombs came 4th overall but had the fastest times between controls 27 to 28 and 34 to 35.

Editorial:

*Next copy date Monday 2nd September 2019 **Maps and photos in colour on website.***

Most orienteers run or walk courses for enjoyment and satisfaction so congratulations to all who have taken part in orienteering events so far this year. The personal goals achieved for all levels; be that completing a ParkO, taking a time quicker than usual or cleanly following your chosen route exactly to the next control, should be celebrated. Many articles in this edition give the major wins at further away events so all WAOC members can enjoy the reflected glory (and dream?). Do consider taking part in the up-coming events – there are many advertised in this issue – and don't miss the armchair training, Bruce's puzzle and enjoy some reminiscences of past O events.

Wishing you and your family good times orienteering over the summer,
Hazel Bickle editor@waoc.org.uk

2019 WAOC Committee

Chair:	Helen Hague chair@waoc.org.uk	Secretary:	Jenny Hunt secretary@waoc.org.uk
Treasurer:	Noreen Ives treasurer@waoc.org.uk	Captain:	Janet Cronk captain@waoc.org.uk
Junior Captain:	Alex Wetherill juniorcaptain@waoc.org.uk	Fixtures Secretary:	Bob Hill fixtures@waoc.org.uk
Convenor:	Helen Hague convenor@waoc.org.uk	Mapping Secretary:	Stephen Borrill mapping@waoc.org.uk
Membership Secretary:	Anne Duncumb memsec@waoc.org.uk	Equipment Officer:	Caroline Louth equipment@waoc.org.uk
Website Maintainer:	Rakesh Chandraker webmaster@waoc.org.uk	Development Officer:	Andrew Henderson development@waoc.org.uk
Traning Coordinator:	Helen Bickle training@waoc.org.uk	Welfare Officer:	Peter Allen welfare@waoc.org.uk
Jabberwaoc Editor:	Hazel Bickle editor@waoc.org.uk	Awards Coordinator:	Ian Smith awards@waoc.org.uk

Welcome to new members - Anne Duncumb (membership secretary)

Owen Han and family from Cambridge
Conor O'Donovan from Cambridge
Tiago Pereira from Cambridge
Mark and Elizabeth Pilling and family from Harston

We hope you will all enjoy Orienteering with us.
Anne Duncumb (membership secretary)

Colour Coded Badges & BOF Incentive Awards - Ian Smith

Louis Peters : Racing Challenge : Gold & Silver @ TD2
Eleanor Kerswell : Racing Challenge Silver & Bronze @ TD2

Persephone Peters : Navigation Challenge @ TD2

Chair's Report - Helen Hague

Orienteering is winding down for the summer although the delights of the Scottish six days await for those of you fortunate enough to be going. Before that we have our last two events- St Neots on 9th June and a new foray into a Snooker-O at Wimpole on 15th June (Saturday afternoon) when there will also be a Park-O taking place at the same time. I'm looking forward to the Snooker-O which is a twist on a normal score course and operates along general snooker rules- will be interesting to see if anybody makes the maximum break! And of course, the Punt-O, unique to WAOC as far as I am aware, will be making its annual appearance on Wednesday 19th June for those of you who fancy giving it a go: orienteering, punting and a bit of a picnic- what's not to like...

Since the last Jabberwaoc, I have been learning to coach which is rather a more cerebral activity than I had realised. This may perhaps be a result of my wish to set out the controls in as little time as possible which means I have to think carefully about how I am going to structure the activities but makes a change from doing Sudoku to try and keep my brain well oiled. I have been running junior coaching before Park-Os to try and ensure a good set of white/yellow skills amongst our newer juniors and to gain an esprit de corps amongst the youngsters. So far highlights have involved William's bull running addition to the warm up, playdough modelling, orientating the map being done excellently by Millie at the Park-O just after she had been taught, and me understanding the point of some of the things that have been suggested to me in the past! I'm looking forward to learning more with the juniors as we progress up through the skill levels.

It has been a busy last season for WAOC with running our normal events and the new Park-O series so I think we're all ready for a rest over July and August before beginning refreshed in September. I hope you all have an enjoyable time over the summer doing whatever it is you like to do other than orienteering- me, I've got a lot of gardening to do. I look forward to catching up with you all again in September.

Captains Corner - Janet Cronk

I know that quite a few WAOC members have a subscription to the quarterly CompassSport magazine but for those that do not (see www.compasssport.co.uk) there are a couple of items that I would like to share with you from the 'News' section of the latest issue:

(i) An excerpt from the report on 'The Compass Sport Cup Qualifying Rounds 2019

' the perhaps shock result of the day was WAOC beating EPOC by 2 points to reach the Final, WAOC having not made the Final since 2012' !!!

(ii) Event-O App

This is quite a neat Orienteering Events Calendar App which is worth having a look at. Available for both IOS and Android devices.

Turning to the Events of the last couple of months:

1. Yvette Baker Trophy - Qualifying Heat on 31 March

I am delighted to report that the WAOC Juniors have qualified for the Final of the Yvette Baker Trophy which is going to be held at Sandringham on Sunday 7 July.

(There will be spectator courses from White to Blue so please do go and support the Juniors on the day.)

The Heat was won by Happy Herts with the WAOC Juniors coming second, beating the EA favourites NOR into 3rd place by 4 points. The WAOC Juniors win their place in the Final by being the top scoring EA club in the Trophy Competition.

There were 18 WAOC Juniors, together with their parents, who made the trip to Hockley Woods near Southend on 31 March. The 4 youngest Juniors are still being shadowed so only 14 results actually counted, but there were some excellent runs by the WAOC 14 with the full 100 points being won by Eleanor Kerswell on Yellow and Hebe Darwin on Orange.

The team of 14 comprised:

Girls: Sophie Kerswell, Eleanor Kerswell, Jemina Borrill and Hebe Darwin

Boys: Alex Wetherill, Sam Hague, Edward Low, Daniel Hague, Jack Dunning, David Low, Alexander Helme, Louis Peters, Alex Darwin and William Reavell.

SOS won the heat for the new Yvette Baker Shield competition so the SOS Juniors will also be at Sandringham on 7 July.

[Congratulations to our club Juniors, who have made it to the final of the Yvette Baker Trophy competition. This event is being organised by EAOA, and we will need lots of help on the day from club members. Thank you to all who have already offered to help, but I am still looking for more volunteers. So please come to Sandringham on 7th July, have a run if you want one (Courses up to Blue are on offer) support our juniors, and do a bit of helping. from Peter Woods EAOA Chairman]

2. JK

There was a great turnout from WAOC at the JK this year. A total of 47 WAOC members took part in at least one event over the Easter Weekend and 30 took part in the JK Relays on Easter Monday.

It was fantastic to have 10 WAOC relay teams and we all got a real buzz from seeing a WAOC O top (courtesy of Tessa Strain) coming down the run-in to handover, in 1st place on the first leg of the Women's JK Trophy Relay.

Overall, the best relay team performances were from our Women's JK Trophy Team (Tessa Strain, Fiona Llewelyn-Beard and Chloe Haines) who came 6th and our Junior Relay Team W40- (Hebe Darwin W12, Eleanor Kerswell W12, and Sophie Kerswell W14) who came 7th. I should also mention our Intermediate Men's Team M48- (Sam Hague M18, Oskar Farkas M14, Daniel Hague M16) who came a creditable 14th.

3. The British Long Championships

There was a smaller WAOC contingent for the British Long Championships in Kilnsey in the Yorkshire Dales 2 weeks later. Congratulations must be given to Duncan Coombs who achieved a Bronze Medal place in M21E with a time of 87:11 for the 16k course which also incorporated 655m of climb !

4. The Midland Championships

The Midland Championships this year was the middle event of the recent Spring Time in Shropshire Weekend. The location was Brown Clee Hill, the highest hill in Shropshire at 540m. This area was used for the British Long Championships in 2015 and has everything - crags and climb, marsh and moorland, pits and forest ! A area which provides challenging courses.

So congratulations to Alex Wetherill on M16 and Hebe Darwin on W12, WAOC's two Midland Champions. Hebe also won W12 for the Weekend by having the best combined results in her class over the 3 days.

5. Dates for the Diary

Peter Palmer & Daybreak Junior Relays - Saturday 7 & Sunday 8 September

Compass Sport Trophy Final - Sunday 20 October

I shall be emailing/telephoning round to organise the teams for these competitions very soon. If you already know that you are available and would like to run for the Club in either competition please let me know by dropping a line to captain@waoc.org.uk .

Sat 14 Sep - [British Sprint Orienteering Championship](#)

Members of British Orienteering and IOF affiliated Federations may take part in these Championships. To be eligible to be a British Champion you must also be a British Citizen, except in a few circumstances explained in the rules.

Sun 15 Sep - [British Middle Distance O Championships](#)

Mapped in 2015, the terrain is fast, runnable rough grassland, with areas of old quarry workings on the steeply contoured eastern slope. The area rises to 450m and offers sweeping views across the Peak District.



<https://www.scottish6days.com/2019>



Wednesday Summer Nights



Date	Location
3 rd Jul	Milton Urban (meet 6.30 p.m. at Country Park for 6.50 p.m. mass start)
17 th Jul	Fen Ditton (to be confirmed)
14 th Aug	Puckeridge (See flyer after the training tip)
TBC	Extra night at a new location.

Juniors: Older juniors are welcome to join in, if accompanied by an adult.

Timings: Starts are likely to be either 6.30 for a 6.45 p.m. mass start or 6.30 to 7.00 p.m. but again, please check the website.

Costs: Regular: £1 per adult, 50p per junior or student.

New to training: The first session is free!

Further details are put on the website and emailed to the training list before each session. If anyone would like to be added to (or dare I say it - taken off) the training email list, please email webmaster at cuoc.org.uk

Training tip: Please take a look at the Pippingford Park map on the next page and in particular:

- The contours – where's up, where's down, where's steep?
- Can you spot a cairn, good attack points, safe catching features?
- Do you think it would be faster to run around paths or across terrain?
- Imagine being the Planner – can you plan a few long control legs and then plan how you can navigate between them?

Lastly do you think you will be able to find your place on the map in the start lane? When you get to the Compass Trophy Final, enjoying being at the final but do also look about you and especially enroute to start.

The map and previous courses can be seen on RouteGadget at <https://www.mvoc.routegadget.co.uk/rg2/#29>

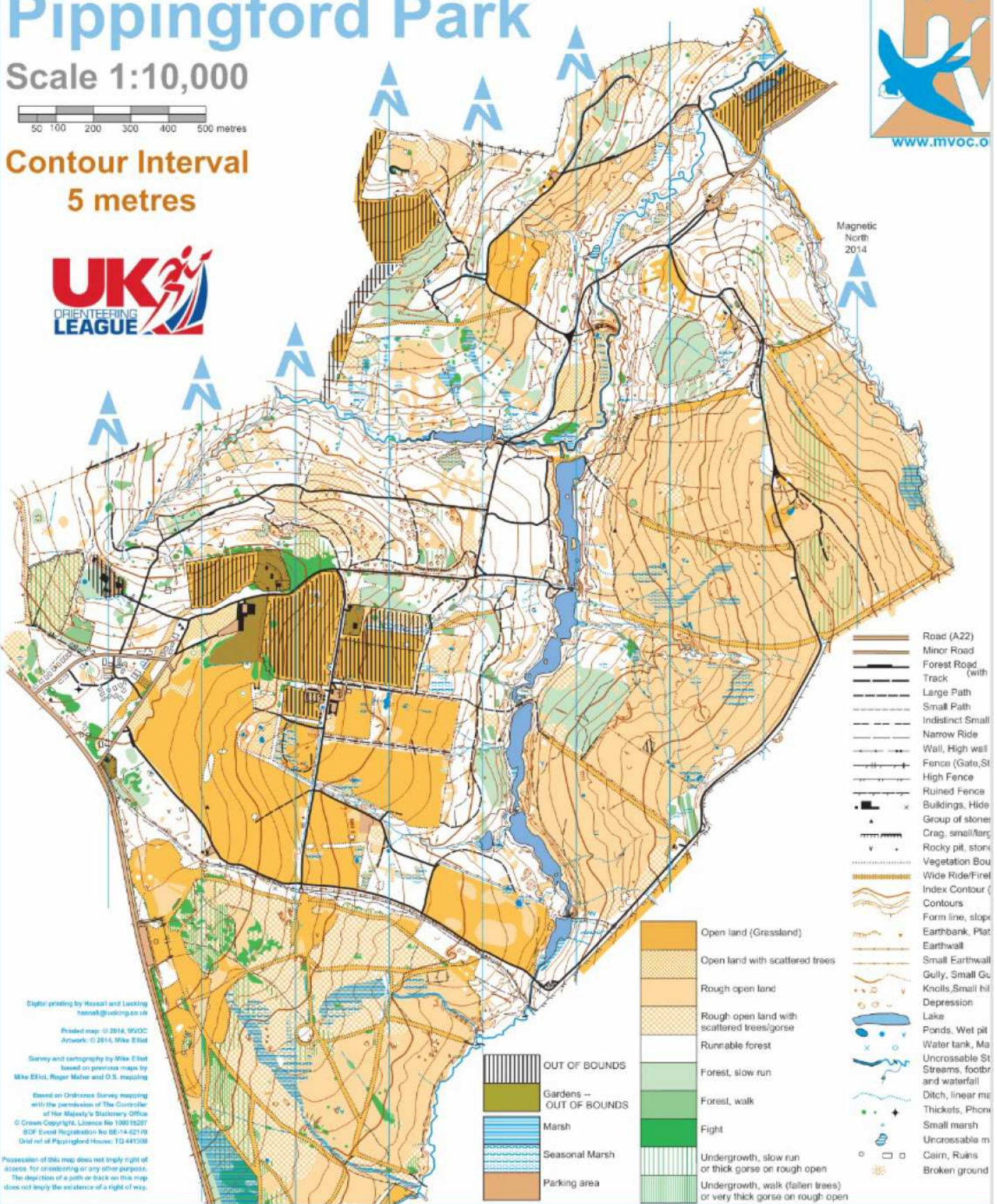
* 2014 map so 5 years out of date so do expect vegetation to have changed.

Pippingford Park

Scale 1:10,000

50 100 200 300 400 500 metres

Contour Interval
5 metres



Digital printing by Hassall and Locking
hassall@locking.co.uk

Printed map: © 2014, MVOC
Artwork: © 2014, Mike Elliot

Survey and cartography by Mike Elliot
based on previous maps by
Mike Elliot, Roger Maher and O.S. mapping

Based on Ordnance Survey mapping
with the permission of The Controller
of Her Majesty's Stationery Office
© Crown Copyright, Licence No 100015287
SOF Event Registration No SE-14-62179
Grid ref of Pippingford House: TD 447508

Possession of this map does not imply right of
access, for orienteering or any other purpose.
The depiction of a path or track on this map
does not imply the existence of a right of way.



Puckeridge Urban Score Event

A 60 minute score event on a brand new 1:4000 A3 urban map of the village of Puckeridge. Come and explore some of the nooks and crannies of the old village as well as the newer estates with their interlinking pathways.

Date Wednesday 14th August

Start times 18:30 to 19:30

Event Centre Standon & Puckeridge Community Centre car park.
Station Road
Puckeridge
Herts
SG11 1TF
OS TL392228
www.standonandpuckeridgecc.co.uk

Parking Community Centre car park, otherwise on surrounding roads; there are no parking restrictions. Entrance is almost opposite Meadow Walk which may show up on sat-nav displays.

Cost £1 per adult, 50p per junior or student.

Directions The car park is on the west side of Station Road roughly 400m north of its junction with the A120. This junction is 1.6km East of the A10 and 13km West of the M11 junction 8.

From the north the cunning route is SW along the A505 to Flint Cross, down the B1368 and through Puckeridge village. From the south and east plot a route along the A10 or A120.

Notes The main roads through the village have sporadic traffic and must be crossed without the aid of controlled crossings.

There are 'brown lines' on the map as this part of Hertfordshire is NOT flat !





CHIGWELL & EPPING FOREST ORIENTEERING CLUB



Birchanger Wood, Bishop's Stortford Wednesday 24th July 2019 'Gooseberry Fool' Hybrid Score Event and Social

- Venue:** Lea Grove, Bishop's Stortford CM23 5EB
5 mins drive from Junc 8 of M11;
1.6km walk from Bishop's Stortford Station
Bus 509 from Riverside (a short walk from the station) to
Stansted Airport goes along Heath Row, alight at Snowley Parade
stop. Last bus 7pm on this route.
- Parking:** along Heath Row, please ask for directions if necessary.
- Map:** Birchanger Wood 1:5,000 ; drawn for Sprint 'O' and includes
urban areas; Tom Edelsten 2017
- Course:** 60 minute event with a twist, using the 'Stortford variant'
- Time:** Starts: from 6.30pm – 7.30pm
- Cost:** Event free, but if participating in the social, £5.00 (£2.50 juniors)
to cover pizza (+bbq if weather fine), salad, pudding (not just
gooseberry fool) and drink (alcoholic and non-alcoholic).
- Organisers:** The Allens and the Pribuls

**You are all welcome to come along to the Social,
even if you can't get there for the Orienteering and vice versa**

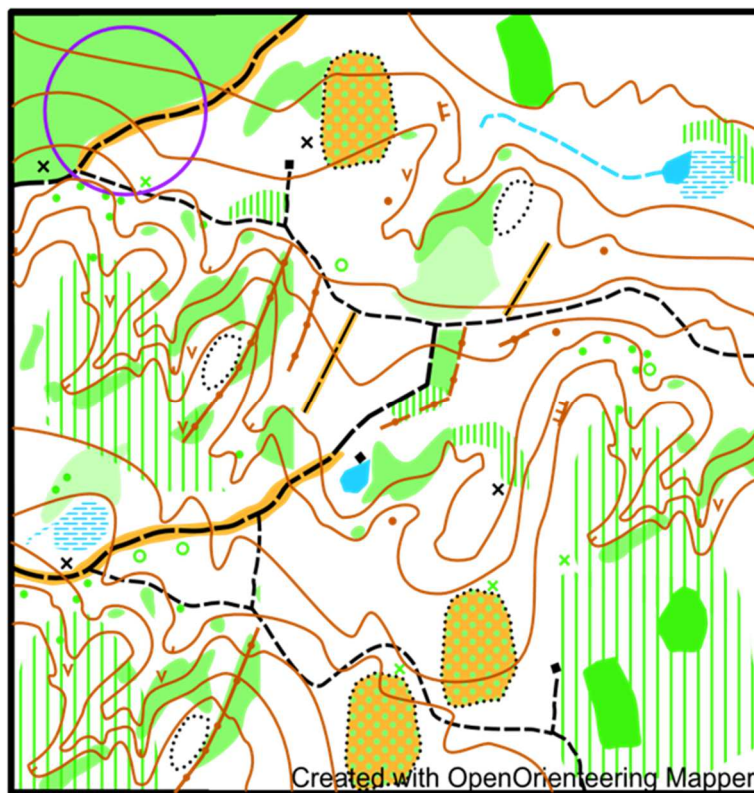
Please could you let Sally know
by Friday 19th July 2019 if you will be coming to eat.
We can accommodate a few last-minuters, but would appreciate advance notice on
the day if possible. www.chig.org.uk

Spot the Similarity - Bruce Marshall

For this puzzle I'm getting you to look closely at a fictional map again. This time I decided to create the map using OpenOrienteering Mapper which is an open source tool for drawing orienteering maps which is now giving OCAD a run for its money. It gives me a chance to become familiar with this tool.

There's a purple circle on the map. The only important bit of this circle is its diameter. Find **2** separate circular "areas" **elsewhere** on the map which are identical. The areas are the same size as the purple circle. Within the circles all the objects are absolutely identical – there is no sneaky rotation – (that would be difficult!!)

[Colour version on web edition – solution on page 22]



Minutes of the WAOC AGM held on Saturday 30th March 2019 at the Fulbourn Centre - Jenny Hunt - WAOC Secretary

WAOC AGM Orienteering Games

Club members participated in some orienteering themed games involving map puzzles, a quiz and the juniors enjoyed making 3D models of orienteering map sections using play-doh and other materials.

Awards & Presentations

Club chairman presented the awards (and chocolate to the winning Juniors!):

Owl - Andrew Stemp - good results & great work with orienteering club at Durham University

Tortoise - Andrew Henderson - Park O & development work

Chairman's cup - Hebe - consistently improving in orienteering & helping out at Park O, getting new members and being cheerful

Hallie Hardie mapping trophy - Ian Smith for mapping his local area. Ian has developed huge respect for people who map large forests

Jabberwaoc award - for contributions to the Jabberwaoc magazine awarded to Stephen Borrill

WAGAL Champions 2018 / EAOA awards – results and winners on the website

Colour coded badges – well done to the juniors who received some new colour coded badges this year

Minutes from the 2018 AGM

The minutes from the last meeting were approved

Chairman's report – Helen Hague

The club chairperson presented her annual report – the full report will be in Jabberwaoc. [Vol 47/4 April 2019]

Highlights included:

- Thank you to the club and committee for making her first year as Chair enjoyable
- Park O and the Development Grant
- Increase in club membership
- Thank you to members for volunteering and helping to run our events
- The new club website
- Good luck to the juniors in the YBT qualifier tomorrow

Captain's report – Janet Cronk

The club captain presented her first annual report. The full report will be in Jabberwaoc. [Vol 47/4 April 2019]

Highlights included:

- Welcoming new members this year including juniors and families as well as DRONGO members and Elite members who will be running for WAOC
- The success of the new Park O events
- Well done to WAOC members selected to run for England in the Interland Cup
- JK Results
- Achievements of WAOC members and teams in various Regional and British Championships
- UK Orienteering League

Acceptance of accounts – Noreen Ives

Thank you to Caroline Louth & Chris Morley for their assistance. There may be some money available for courses, etc. JC proposed acceptance of the accounts. CD seconded

Election of officers Officers to continue in current posts

Officer vacancies No current vacancies on the club committee

Amendment to club constitution

Proposed change to the club constitution in order to comply with conditions of our grant from Sport England. Motions to amend the constitution to state that the committee meets at least four times per year rather than two. The committee already meets at least that four times per year, this is just not written at present.

Motion was agreed by the club and motion was passed by a show of hands.

AOB No AOB

A Fun Volunteering Day with West Anglian Orienteering Club



Tim Herod Development Officer talks of his volunteering opportunity to help out at a local Park-O orienteering event at Impington Leisure Centre.

I was recently contacted by the club to see if I was available to come and help at a local Park - O orienteering event at Impington Leisure Centre. I thought it would be a great opportunity to help and see what volunteering for an event entailed. I replied 'yes' and within a few hours received an email from Andrew Henderson, the organiser of the event, thanking me for offering to help and then detailing the times and areas that he was hoping I could help with.

The day of the event arrived, and it was not raining so things were looking good, I was scheduled to arrive at 12.00 noon and help another volunteer Peter set out the signage and car parking routes for potential participants. Andrew met us both and then gave us the necessary resources and a briefing so that we could get things set up for a 1.00pm start. It was great to have a chat with another member of the club as we set out signs and directions. After we completed the task designated, I then went to registration which was inside the leisure centre reception area and was asked to help with the process of showing new participants the way to the start and giving them the basics of taking part at their first event. The registration team were excellent and very well organised ensuring people did not have to wait a long time but still ensuring they all understood the process of taking part.

It was at this point that I noted orienteering was the main sport taking over the grounds and facilities at this busy leisure centre and not the normal fitness/football/swimming activities, which was great to see. I proceeded to take my groups of families across to the start, for many this was their first experience of orienteering. When they arrived at the start, it was time for me to hand over to the start team who then gave a very professional briefing for all those going out onto the course. This back and forward from registration to the start continued for the next 2 hours and gave an opportunity to meet over 100 people taking part in the event and really seeing how much people were enjoying the experience.

After each family completed the course they returned to registration where they were getting the results from the recent run and being told about future events that they would be welcome to attend locally, all within 3-4 miles of the city of Cambridge. The final orienteers have returned and it's time to help clear away taking down banners, signs and other bits and pieces and finally off home after what has been 4 hours of really good fun helping with a really great group of people from the club, delivering an excellent event. It was great to receive an email thanking me for my help on the day, and it is something that I will most definitely do again, supporting the dedicated volunteers at the club, so my thanks go to the two Peters, Andrew, Hebe, Hazel, Helen, Fiona, Iain, and Stephen on the day but also the other

volunteers such as Caroline the planner, who all help with mapping, promotion and all the other key areas of running a successful orienteering club.

It was great to see the club was awarded a substantial Sport England Grant to ensure the club can continue to deliver excellent orienteering activities for the local area.

Memories, Maps, Mistakes and The Odd Good Run

- Ian Smith

I recently made the mistake of delving deep into a corner of a cupboard that had not seen the light of day for a long time and came across my old orienteering scrap books. Back in the day I must have been a bit OCD as each map was lovingly ironed smooth and pasted into a scrapbook with a full description of the day's run on the opposite page and even occasionally some photographs. As I sat and relived the memories of 40+ years ago I thought some of the stories I was reading might raise a chuckle among JabberWAOC readers, so here are a few of the more interesting recorded episodes in the life of this particular student orienteer in the late 1970s.

It all started in the autumn of 1975 when I arrived at Reading University intent on spending the next three years learning some of the physics and maths behind the dark art of meteorology. I had been a successful cross-country runner at school events and with the local athletic club but soon realised two things. Firstly, that the university cross-country club was a rather feeble affair and secondly that the various distractions of university life meant that I didn't have the willpower or commitment to continue the daily training routine that had been part of my life for the last four or five years.

Walking through the student union building one day I saw a notice about something called 'orienteering', apparently it was all about running through woods and open country with a map and compass. I'd always enjoyed looking at maps and I could certainly run so I joined up, went to a couple of events in the club mini-bus and have been doing it with varying levels of commitment ever since. During my first few events I redefined the term 'orienteering' like a headless chicken' but slowly, very slowly, the various skills we all strive to master began to make sense.

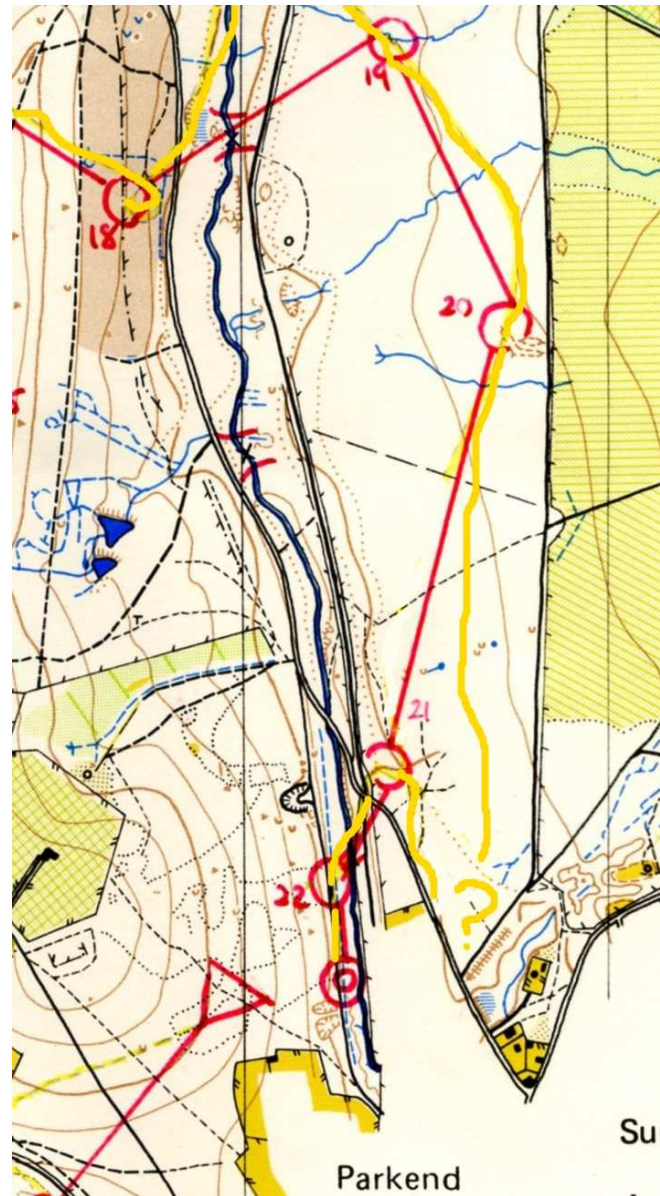
Melting Maps

The southern championships of 1976 at Parkend in the Forest of Dean were my first experience of a major event and my first experience of the new 'indestructible' Tyvek maps.

The run was going fine until the penultimate control which really should have been straightforward but I ended up back in the car park somewhere south of the map and was greeted by friends who assumed I had finished. I had to sheepishly admit I'd run off the map, pace counting was a skill I hadn't mastered yet ! I was given directions back towards the finish which got me back onto the map. This was long before GPS watches were even a twinkle in someone's eye so I have no idea where I actually went.

Things got worse that evening when I set to work adding the map to my scrapbook and duly borrowed a fashion conscious young lady's iron to smooth out the manhandled map only to discover to my horror that Tyvek melts. My map now had an 'iron shaped' hole in it and Carol's iron had a layer of Tyvek stuck to it !

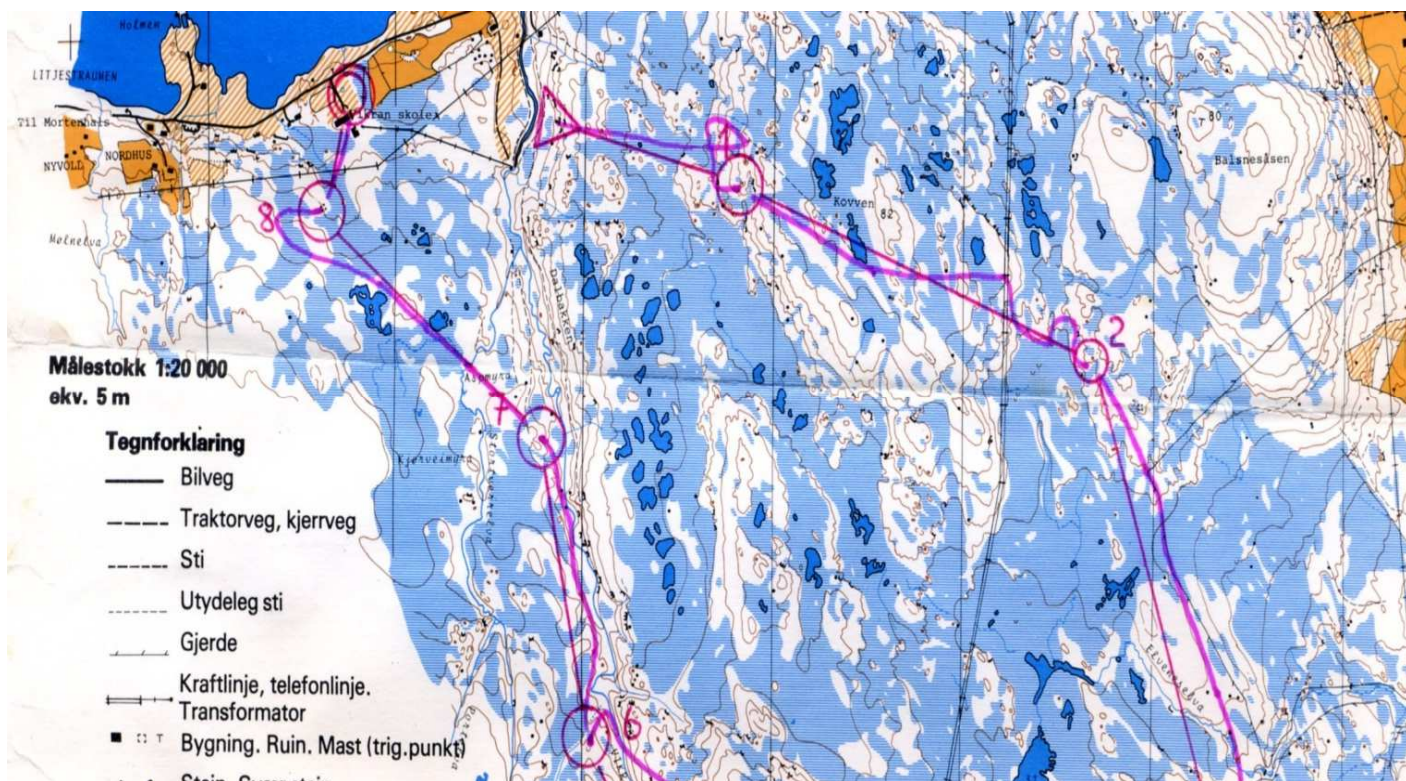
A begging letter to the event organisers got me a new map but cleaning the bottom of the iron was a long and slow process and I suspect some of the steam vents were never quite the same again.



Missing Colours

The summer of 1977 saw myself and two other intrepid orienteers set off on a month long trip around Europe courtesy of 'InterRail' tickets and lots of hitch-hiking. Our first event was the multiday Midnattsolgaloppen inside the Arctic circle in northern Norway. We arrived at the first event a little uncertain as to what we'd let ourselves in for. A first glance at the map made me think there must be something wrong, where were all the nice **black** paths, the **green** vegetation areas and the **yellow** clearings ? Nobody had told us this was a 'blue and brown' only map with a few boulders and crags marked for extra confusion.

The terrain was basically an exposed marshy plateau between two bodies of water. This was the moment it became clear that our Scandinavian friends were a lot better at this than we were and could navigate through terrain like this quite easily. I did begin to get the hang of it and although the marked route looks reasonably sensible it was done at a very slow speed which saw me finish last in the event. The following days were equally challenging but at least the maps looked a bit more familiar. By the time we got to the O-Ringen in southern Sweden I was at least running around most of the courses and the subsequent events in France and Switzerland were much more successful, all things being relative.



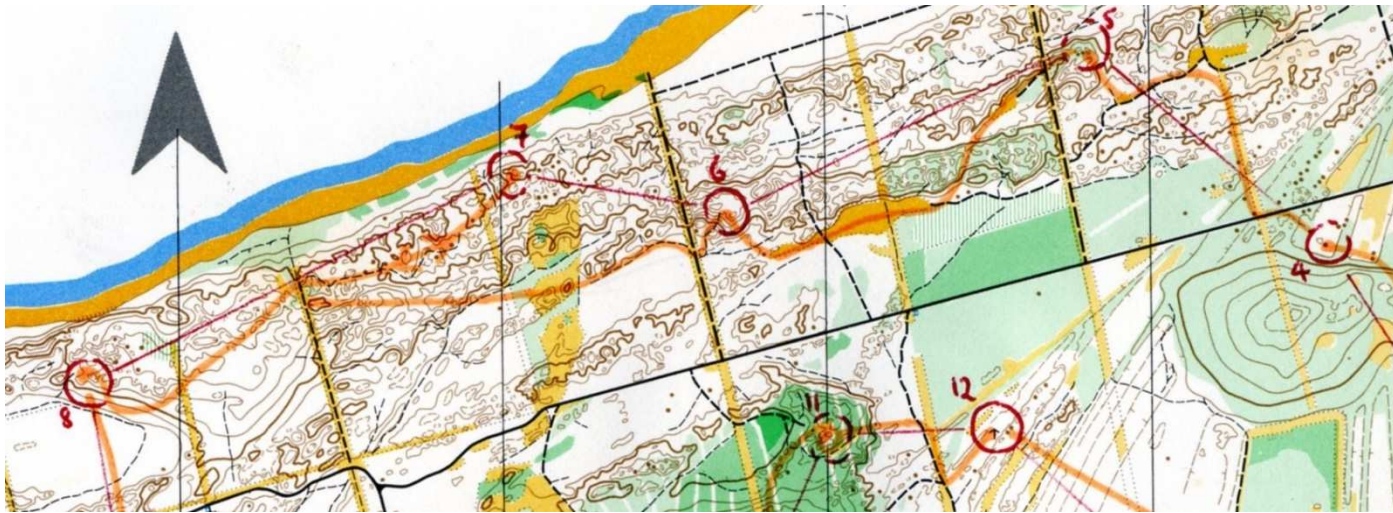
The event was held out on a headland and most people drove back to the main event campsite afterwards, but being young and carefree we decided to camp where we were, which provided a fabulous view of the midnight sun but made getting back to 'civilisation' the next morning much harder as there was very little traffic for us to try and get lifts from.



Magnificent Moray and the Secret Photos

The year after the World Championships were held in Scotland on the wonderful maps of Darnaway and Culbin the Scottish Champs were held on the same maps which saw another typical student adventure as one of the club members was able to borrow his parent's large estate car. By minimizing our luggage we could make use of the small seats in the rear of the car and six of us set off to drive from Reading to Findhorn on the Moray Firth. The individual races were held in Culbin forest which was at the time, and may still be, an absolutely fabulous area of grass covered sand dunes with a scattering of trees.

Back in the 1970s maps of this detail and quality were few and far between and although there is a network of paths to act as catching features it was a pleasure to run through trying hard to keep in touch with the contour detail. Something clearly went horribly wrong from 6 to 7 and I remember afterwards thinking I hadn't been brave or confident to make the most of the experience, I must go back there one day.



The story connected to this trip is what happened the morning after the event when we went for a gentle run before setting off for home. One of our group was interested in aircraft and as we had planned to run along some paths near RAF Lossiemouth he took his camera with him. We duly paused as he took some pictures through the perimeter fence and were met a few minutes later by a security guard who politely but firmly asked us to hand over the film we had. Having taken our cameraman's name and address he promised to return any pictures that the RAF allowed. Sure enough, a week or so later some pictures turned up in the post. The package included all the ones taken at Lossiemouth but none of the ones he had taken the day before in Culbin forest. Was this a simple

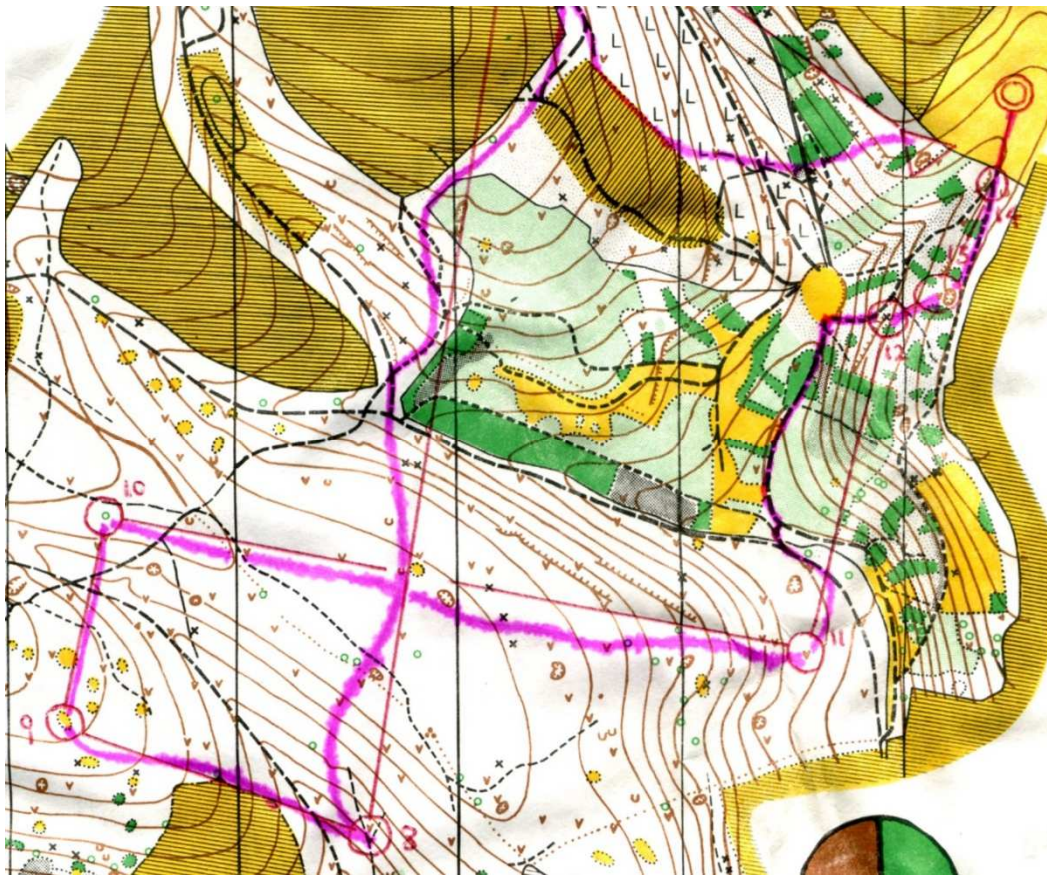
mistake or did the RAF spend the next few days scouring Culbin to see what the strange red and white things on the ground really were ?

Christmas Cheer and Dodgy Advertising

The national relay championships were held on Christmas Common during my time at Reading. Although the completely separate Reading OC were organising the event the university club was asked to help with the setup of the event arena. The finish was in an area that formed a nice amphitheatre for spectators. A

group of us were detailed to dig a trench to act as a latrine, in the days long before portable toilets at events. We decided to dig the trench high up on one of the valley sides. Youngers beers were the event sponsors and had provided us with long banners to act as advertising. We decided to use these to screen the latrine trench from general view. The day of the event dawned with bright sunshine and as people began to use our beautifully dug trench we realised to our horror that with the sun where it was in the sky that the Youngers banners were virtually transparent, which was not the type of advertising I expect they had in mind !

The scrapbook does not recall what we did to mitigate this rather unfortunate sight.



As for the race itself I was in the university B team and drew the straw that saw me run the first leg. I had one of those rare runs were

everything worked, some more by luck than skill but as I came to the changeover I was happy to see the second runner of the A team waiting there, meaning I had beaten the A team first leg runner which was a bit of a personal coup at the time. My euphoria turned to despair when I realised the second leg runner of my team **wasn't** there. He appeared a few minutes later and set off rather sheepishly. Afterwards he confessed he had been warming up in sight of the changeover area and was waiting to see the A team runner come in before going to the changeover line to wait for me and hadn't noticed me come in first !

I hope you managed a chuckle at some of these tales of my early orienteering adventures. Sadly the dedication to annotated scrapbooks didn't last long after university, subsequent maps are just stored in a set of lever arch files although they are in alphabetic order by year so I can lay my hands on a given map quite quickly but any associated stories have been lost.

Back in time for the Magazine - Peter Woods

The magazine in question being Volume 1 Issue No. 1 of "The Orienteer", published in 1968 with a purchase price of 2 shillings (That's 10p for those born after the magazine was published).

I was given an original of this magazine by Michael Dudley, to whom I am very grateful, as it provides a fascinating insight into the early days of Orienteering in the UK, and also how much life in general has changed since its publication.



For a start, in those days the British Orienteering Federation was sponsored nationally by Hovis and Guinness - an advert for the latter appearing in the magazine is reproduced here.

The advertisements for O equipment are also revealing. The hi-tech garments of the time were made not just from any old nylon but British ICI nylon. An ad for Ovaltine (ask your mum) takes up a whole page (and nowhere does it implore you to drink Ovaltine responsibly).

The fixtures list would have been the main reason to buy the magazine - how else could anyone find out what events were scheduled outside their own club? If you had a query you would need to write to the organiser (Postcodes were a novelty) or to phone when you would need to ask the operator to connect you - most numbers listed could not be directly dialled in 1968.

But personally speaking, what is to be savoured most about this vintage document is the names of the Chairman and Treasurer: Chris Brasher and John Disley respectively. Disley organised some of the first orienteering events in the UK, in Surrey in 1955, with track athletes Roger Bannister and Bruce Tulloch, as well as Brasher, an Olympic gold medallist, taking part. Brasher and Disley set up the sport of Orienteering in the UK and went on to create the London Marathon, which was an inspiration to me (and the odd few millions of others) to start running. I'm not sure what I'd be doing at the weekends if it was not for these two gentlemen!

For those who are interested, I have scanned the whole document. A couple of pages are reproduced on our website, and I can supply a copy of the entire document on request.

Ursula's (M)utterings.

For this edition the Editor said that she would like to concentrate on the JK where WAOC built on its massive triumph of beating EPOC to qualify for the Final of the CompassSport Trophy (described in CompassSport itself as the shock result of all the Qualifiers!) by then fielding 10 teams for the JK Relays – that is a magnificent total and I hope you all had fun.

Firstly, in the Trail-O results Andrew Stemp, probably entered as U Durham OC, came 6th and first Brit in the Temp O. There were just 3 GBR in the top 20 with Tom Dobra (formerly CUOC and a member of the GBR Trail O team) next at 12th. Fantastic, Andrew! As one who is still scrabbling through Temp O maps while others are ready to move on I am full of admiration.

Our new elite M/W21s had a great JK. Chloe Haines came 6th overall, Duncan Coombs was 8th overall, 4th on Day 3 (the Long race), and Tessa Strain, who did not run the individual races, came back first on the first leg of the Women's Premier Relay where we finished 6th.

My last JK Relay was in Yorkshire when everyone was bussed in. On a coldish day we had to park in a car park and queue for a very long time for the buses. The starts were delayed by 90 minutes. I was in distinguished company in our relay, sandwiched between the captain (before she was captain) and the editor (before she was editor). Janet went out first and came back in reasonable time and then I went out, on the 'short' middle leg to find that this short runner was unable to cope with the extremely rutted surface of the runnable wood and later the long grass impeding both progress and navigation on a featureless low hill. Life in the forest got pretty lonely before I finally arrived at the bottom of a substantial hill, with a control half way up and another on the edge of the wood and then a further run up to the Finish where Hazel was a lonely, I am sure perished, figure still waiting to go out on the long last leg but all she said as I handed over was 'well done"! We were naturally one of the last teams to finish and waited another 90 minutes for a bus back to the parking and then I, along with Penny and Helen Bickle, set off on the long drive back to Cambridge. That is when I decided that I was too slow for relays!

This year's JK had good weather, good areas with parking nearby, good planning, very good organisation with loads of helpers from the South Central region but 2 rather important drawbacks, the punching system and the results processing system.

South Central is the only English region to use EMIT punching as opposed to SI so most orienteers are much more familiar with SI and quite a lot have experience of SIAC, its contactless mode. EMIT has a contactless mode, called EMITag. Unlike SIAC, this cannot be used in mixed punching events as both the tags (that are strapped round the hand) and the controls are completely different from the regular EMIT bricks and controls. The tag has to be held within 30 cm of the dedicated control in a certain conformation: there is no beep (unlike SIAC) but the tag does flash and the instruction is that one needs to check that it is flashing before moving on.

I have used EMITags before: 5 years ago the British Sprint Champs were held at Aldershot and the Middle Champs the next day on a TVOC area with both using EMITags. At the Sprints there were massive problems. Many people who downloaded after the morning Heats found they had 'mispunched' a control and disputed it as they had seen the tag flashing so the afternoon starts were very considerably delayed. In the afternoon (not the best sprint course in the world!) I had 2 controls round the parade ground and then one at its exit where I waved my R hand across my body and checked

the flash on the way back. Unfortunately despite the flash the control did not register on the tag and I was robbed of my W80 gold medal. I was one of many people with mp against their name that day, including one Michael Bickle, I notice.

Despite this previous experience South Central OA pressed on regardless and the JK used EMITags for all 4 days with all the problems with apparent mispunches, most pronounced on Day 1 but persisting through all 4 days. Since the JK events count as World Ranking Events for the elites, the International Orienteering Federation has had to approve the EMITag system and has decreed that the elite need to have 2 tags, one the same as the hoi polloi and an additional yellow one. Even with 2 tags some elites had problems with no punch recorded on either tag though many were saved by a punch on the yellow tag when the regular one had failed to register. No such luck for those of us who only got one tag!

While the EMITag punching was really not fit for purpose, the results system was in a completely different league. There are a number of different systems for processing results, whether using SI or EMIT punching. At Aldershot in 2015 and presumably the Middle race the next day, the EMITag results were processed by MERCS (a system devised and operated by Michael Napier NOC) that coped, possibly rather slowly. At the EAOA British Sprints in Milton Keynes with SI/SIAC punching the organiser (Peter Woods) chose SPORTIdent processing who did a very competent job under the usual British Sprints time pressure. For the JK, our most important orienteering event of the year, a selection race for youngsters and elites and with lots of overseas competitors, BOF or SCOA seems to have managed to choose a results service that has turned out to be utterly incapable of producing a set of results! This comment from Neil Crickmore, formerly WAOC, now SO, gives us an extraordinary insight,

"During the hours I spent (as controller) checking times and splits for the Day2 results this week there was a common occurrence of 20 minutes being removed from a competitor's total time and no split times existing for the first 20 minutes of their race."

After a good week, with the Nopesport discussion forum in full flow, the results were finally published along with the following announcement from BOF.

"Please note that whilst the Controllers, Event Advisers, Organisers, Planners & Coordinators have spent many hours trying to check that the weekend's results are correct, they are aware there are probably still issues with some of them".

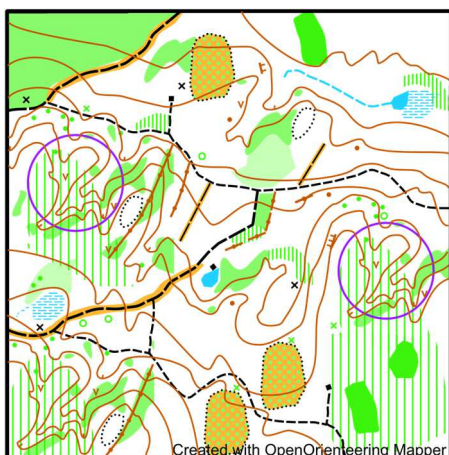
It beggars belief that in 2019 hours and hours of manual scrutiny was required to (partially) correct a results service for a punching system that has been around for some 25 years! I am sure, however, that we shall all feel comforted by BOF's final comment,

"Rest assured that British Orienteering has already started to investigate what went wrong and how we might prevent these issues from happening again".

That's easy, use SPORTIdent both for your punching system and for your results processing! Job done.

That's really enough from me – I'll save the rant about my Shrewsbury course for next time.

Solution to Spot the Similarity



The **British Orienteering Rankings** can be seen at <http://www.britishorienteering.org.uk/page/rankings>.

WAGAL – The following six events will give WAGAL points for 2019 League:

Bush Heath Woods - 3rd February 2019

Royston Urban – 10th March 2019

CompassSport Cup and Trophy Qualifier, Sherwood Pines -17th March 2019

Bury St Edmunds Urban – 6th October 2019

Ferry Meadows – 27th October 2019

Malden Woods – 17th November 2019 Best 4 scores to count.

East Anglian Urban League - Reminder

EAOA have agreed to pilot an East Anglian Urban League this year as there are a number of urban events in the calendar. The proposed events are as follows:

WAOC	Royston	10/3/19
SOS	Maldon	12/5/19
NOR	Kings Lynn	19/5/19
SMOC	Buckingham	11/8/19
SUFFOC/WAOC	Bury St Edmunds	6/10/19
CUOC	Cambridge	26/10/19

Events mainly WAOC and EAOA events with a few nearby as given on 4/06/19. A full list of events is available on the British Orienteering web site where you can find more information on the events listed below, including any pre-entry on fabian4. **Always check** www.britishorienteering.org.uk **before travelling.**

Date	Event Name	Level	Club	Ass.	Venue	Nearest Town	Grid Ref.
Sat 15/06/19	ParkO-Wimpole Estate	Local	WAOC	EAOA	Wimpole Estate	Arrington	
Sat 15/06/19	SnookerO (score event with a twist) and Park-O-Wimpole Estate	Local	WAOC	EAOA	Wimpole Estate	Arrington	
Sun 16/06/19	SOS The Naze	Regional	SOS	EAOA	The Naze	Walton on the Naze	TM264234
Wed 19/06/19	PuntO: Punting orienteering course on River Cam	Activity	WAOC	EAOA	River Cam, Trinty Punts, Town Bridge	Cambridge	
Sun 23/06/19	Simon Peck Summer Series event 2	Local	SUFFOC	EAOA	Gunton Denes	Lowestoft	
Sun 23/06/19	CHIG GLOSS event	Local	CHIG	SEOA	Gunpowder Park	Waltham Abbey	TQ386995
Sun 30/06/19	Simon Peck Summer Series event 3	Local	SUFFOC	EAOA	Christchurch Park	Ipswich	
Sun 30/06/19	NOR summer series 3	Local	NOR	EAOA	Holt Hall	Holt	TG079398
Sun 07/07/19	Yvette Baker Trophy Final	National		EAOA	Sandringham	Kings Lynn	
Sun 21/07/19	SOS Maldon Urban	Regional	SOS	EAOA	Maldon Town & Prom Park	Maldon, Essex	TL860064
Sun 21/07/19	Keyne-O, Willen	Local	SMOC	EAOA	Peace Pagoda Car Park, Willen	Milton Keynes	
Sun 11/08/19	Buckingham Urban	Regional	SMOC	EAOA	Buckingham	Buckingham	SP698340
28 th July to	3 August	Scottish	6 Days		Strathearn	www.scottish6 days.com	
23 rd to 26 th	August	Race the	Castles	EBOR	White Rose	Scarborough	
Sun 08/09/19	Keyne-O, Campbell Park	Local	SMOC	EAOA	Campbell Park	Milton Keynes	
Sun 08/09/19	NOR colour coded	Local	NOR	EAOA	Horsford Heath	Norwich	TG184176
Sat 14/09/19	British Sprint Championships (UKOL)	Major	LEI	EMOA	Loughborough University	Loughborough	

Sun 15/09/19	British Middle Distance Championships (UKOL)	Major	DVO	EMOA	Chinley Churn	Chapel-en-le- Frith
Sun 22/09/19	SOS Colour Coded - Baddow Ridge	Regional	SOS	EAOA	TBD	Colchester
Sun 29/09/19	Thorndon South SWELL	Regional	HAVOC	EAOA	Thorndon Country Park (South)	Brentwood TQ634898
Sat 05/10/19	Autumn in Anglia Day 1: West Harling	Regional	SUFFOC	EAOA	West Harling	Thetford
Sun 06/10/19	Autumn in Anglia Day 2: Bury St Edmunds Urban	Regional	SUFFOC	EAOA	Bury St Edmunds	Bury St Edmunds TL856642
Sun 13/10/19	Keyne-O, Shenley Wood	Local	SMOC	EAOA	Shenley Wood	Milton Keynes
Sun 13/10/19	NOR Regional Event	Regional	NOR	EAOA		Norwich
Sat 26/10/19	Cambridge City Race 2019	National	CUOC	EAOA	Cambridge	Cambridge
Sun 27/10/19	Ferry Meadows Local Event	Local	WAOC	EAOA	Ferry Meadows	Peterborough
Sun 03/11/19	Langdon Hills	Regional	HAVOC	EAOA	Langdon Hills	Langdon TQ680865
Sun 10/11/19	East Anglian Schools Championships	Regional	NOR	EAOA	Hockham	Thetford TL937920
Sun 17/11/19	Maulden Woods event	Regional	WAOC	EAOA	Maulden Woods	Bedford
Sun 24/11/19	SOS Hylands Park	Regional	SOS	EAOA	Hylands Park	Chelmsford TL679048
Sun 08/12/19	Shouldham Warren EAL	Regional	NOR	EAOA	Shouldham Warren	Kings Lynn TF680104
Sun 16/02/20	Croxton Heath East Anglian League	Regional	WAOC	EAOA	Croxton Heath	Thetford
Sun 08/03/20	Rowney Warren YBT heat	Regional	WAOC	EAOA	Rowney Warren	Bedford