



Chairman's Chat

It has been a busy couple of months.

As Sat 13th January, the date of the Compass Sport competition, approached, our Club Captain, Wilf Taylor, intensified his efforts to mobilise a goodly representation from DEVON OC. It was great to see a buzz of activity in the club tent at Sallowvallets in the Forest of Dean, and not least the significant presence of our youth contingent from Torbay Scouts.

The event is described elsewhere. Suffice to say that the club performance was a big improvement on our efforts last October. Well done Wilf.

The night event series came to a close with its final event on 16th February on the Exeter University campus. This is the joint league with KERNO in which each club stages three events during the darkest months. Nigel Bateman is the enthusiastic co-ordinator from our end. After a number of years "level pegging", a number of new runners have joined the group, and the series in a healthy state. All are welcome. You need a good head torch. It really does extend your navigational skills.

This venue, the Exeter University campus, is scheduled for Day 1 of JK 2010. It will be Good Friday of that year, as the JK now has grown to a four-day event. Erik Peckett of DEVON OC already has venues and planners in place. If you would like to try your hand at SprintO round this park, which is extensive and a beautiful university campus, put June 22nd 2008 in your diary.

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HARCOMBE GALLOPEN – GREEN COURSE

by Matt Ryder (M16)

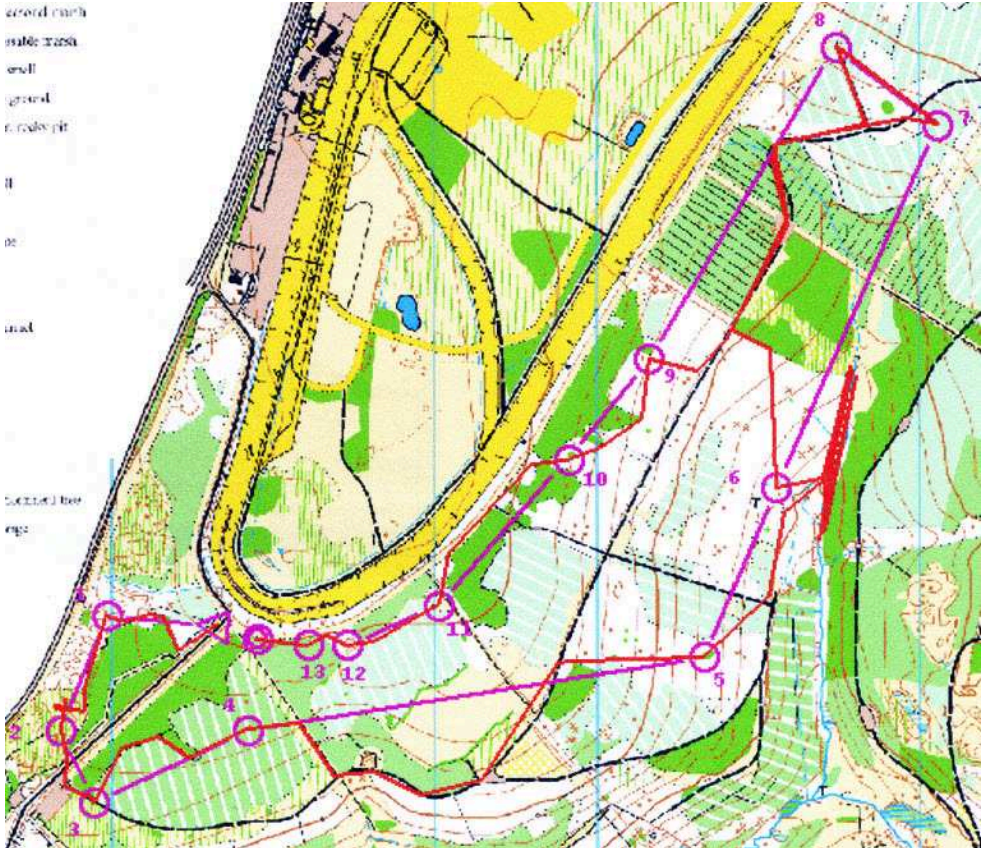
I have only been orienteering for just over a year now and had never done a Gallopen event before; there were more people than at a usual event in Devon.

It was a very cold and windy day at Harcombe, but the race was inside the forest so we didn't feel the wrath of the weather. I ran to the start of the Green course but had to wait for a while for others to start before me. I started the race with a little mistake by going down a different path to the one I would have liked to go down. I realised this when a dense forest area appeared to the right of me; this resulted in a longer route to the first checkpoint than usual. After this small mistake I started to pick up the pace to make up for lost time.

The next few checkpoints were relatively easy to find as they were all on paths or vegetation changes. About half way into the course I made an error that would turn out to be fatal; I took a bearing from a corner of a vegetation change to a stream and accidentally ran over the stream and past the checkpoint. I got to the point where I thought I was but I must have run too far when a stream appeared. I had taken the bearing slightly down the stream so that I could run up to checkpoint, so I did. After running up the stream for a while I caught up with someone on my course who appeared to be looking for the same checkpoint as me. I decided I must have turned the wrong way when I hit the river so I ran down the other way until I met a fallen tree over the stream. I checked the map to see if there was one on the stream where I thought I was, and there wasn't. I took a bearing to work out which river I had been running up and down for the past 10 minutes. After I had found out my correct location on the map I turned around and saw the checkpoint.

The rest of the checkpoints were very straight forward, and I caught up a lot of time on the second half of the course as I spent more time on paths or in open forest where I could open my legs. I finished strongly and overall I had a good run, despite losing a lot of time on one checkpoint. Next time I am going to be much more careful when taking bearings to streams, making sure I don't run over them.

ground marsh
stable grass
swell
ground
c. roads pit
if
ne
road
located here
rps



The map scale has been reduced to 1:15 000 in order to fit on the page



Matt Ryder

Devon Galloppen 3rd Feb 2008, Harcombe Forest

Brown Course

by Anthony Dew (M21)

I have been orienteering for 4 years and have worked my way, slowly, up the colour coded events. Harcombe was my second run on a Brown, the previous occasion being at a Compass sports cup where nerves and confusion over control descriptions got the better of me. Having had a few good runs on Blue this year and an excellent run on Green at Mt Edgumbe, I decided to enter a Brown course to find out if I was up to the challenge.

Conditions on the day were challenging with a cold wind and rain, but once running it was easy to forget the cold. The course was very well set up and the event well organised; Damian Wilson and Bryan Smith did an excellent job. Overall my run was ok; I progressed well round the course and found all the controls. Splitsbrowser reveals where I lost time and after analysing my course I think I lost time for three reasons – route choice, lack of confidence and one moment of madness. I will discuss the significant mistakes and also what I felt were achievements. I find orienteering a lonely sport when running because I never know how well I'm doing or who is on my course. However, I met Stuart Robertson in the start box, also running a Brown, so at a couple of controls I could gauge for how quickly I was progressing. Later I was able to realise some of my mistakes, particularly in route choice.

My first error was at control 7 where I picked the wrong vegetation boundary and ended up looping round to find the control. A fleeting glance of Stuart through the trees, whom I had passed earlier, let me know I had lost time. I caught Stuart up again at control 8 which we found together then took off ahead of him. Splitsbrowser demonstrates that my choice of route to find 14 – following the vegetation boundary instead of picking the path through the trees, lost time. This mistake was repeated at control 18 where I chose to follow a path instead of using my compass through the woods from the stream at 17. Again, after control 19 I chose to leave the forest and run up a path towards control 20. This seemed ridiculous when I explained it to Stuart later, especially as the direct route would have passed control 6 and therefore familiar ground. The basis of all these mistakes is a lack of confidence in my ability to follow a compass through woods, made worse by the knowledge I was competing on a Brown for the first time. I often find at woodland events I am lured back onto solid paths where navigation and running are easier when a dash through the trees would be quicker.

After control 22 I had a moment of madness, glancing at my map and compass when approaching the control and leaving it 180° in the wrong direction. Once the map stopped making sense I looped back and made it to control 23, but lost a lot of time. I have made bizarre mistakes like this at the end of courses and am sure that it is from a combination of fatigue and lack of concentration as the finish is in sight.

My greatest fear in orienteering is navigating by contours (Wheal Franco for instance) but on this course I found controls 1, 2, 10 and 11 relatively easy. In woodland there were extra clues and navigation wasn't entirely by contour but I was pleased that I could follow the map to the control. I was also pleased with my pacing and speed over the ground, a few longer runs over Christmas meant I felt fitter and able to run and navigate at a controlled pace.

Back at Download I met up with Stuart again, a few places in front of me in the queue and I realised the cost of my mistakes; Splitsbrowser confirms that had I not made the mistake after 22 I would have beaten him.

From this run I have learnt to be bolder with my route choice and trust my compass through woodland whilst maintaining concentration right to the end of the course.

source, footbridge
seasonal marsh
stable marsh
small
ground
r, rocky pit



The map has been reduced to 1:15 000 in order to fit on the page



Anthony Dew

MELDON HILL RACE – 10 FEBRUARY 2008 by Andy Reynolds (M40)

I approached this event with some trepidation having failed to finish on the only attempt I had made at the race before – 2 years ago when Alison and I were reduced to crawling through knee high snow in a blizzard.

This year the weather could not have been more different. After so many grey skies of late, it was great to be running across some of the best terrain on the moor, on one of the warmest and sunniest days imaginable for February. . Having come prepared for the worst that Dartmoor could throw at me, I knew I was overdressed, , but still had memories of how different it could be.

A mass start is a novelty for us orienteers, and adds extra excitement to an event. The short, medium and long courses all shared the first control, but with plenty of route choice, everyone spread out quickly as they took every conceivable route to get there. I struggled to keep up with the faster runners early on, especially on the climb up to the highest point at High Willhays. After that I got into my stride, especially on the downhill stretches.

This year the courses went eastwards, rather than south, thus avoiding the need for a river-crossing, as well as having the advantage of never being too far from civilisation, especially with the network of army roads. The medium course runners turned off at control 3 (East Mill Tor), and missed the extra loop that we had on the long course.

As we turned from the 5th control and headed back in the direction of the finish, we had another big haul up to Belstone Tor, so I myself to eat an energy bar. At the top I stopped to chat to a walker out with his dog, relieved that I was heading back towards the finish, with the worst of the climb behind me. Due to this thought, or perhaps from the extra energy from the food that I had just consumed, I managed to push on strongly from there onwards, and overtook several people over the last controls.

This race is not meant to be a technical orienteering event, so the controls were not too difficult to find, but could still catch you out if not careful. I enjoy these kind of events where your route choice is the most important, and you have time to relax and enjoy the scenery, without having your head stuck in the map all the way round. The only part I found difficult was the route to the last control, below the dam, by which time I was too tired to think straight.

Congratulations to Nigel for another great event, and for Steve for his help. The event attracts many non- orienteers, who might hopefully try other O events. I would recommend it to anyone who hasn't tried it before, but don't expect such gentle conditions as this year.

Andy ran the long course of 20 km length and 800 m climb



Andy Reynolds (M40)



Robin Carter (W45)



Alan Simpson (M65)



Noel Gould (M70)



Nick Maxwell (M55)

Meldon Hill Race by Noel Gould (M70)

It was a well-nigh perfect event, which needs someone to sing its praises.

Firstly, it was a real challenge, with 2 to 3 involving a climb over the highest point in Southern England. The scenery in this year's sun was breathtaking, with some runners even pausing to take a photo – you don't get that at Great Plantation! The runnability was fine, particularly for those with enough energy, and the run **down** to the final control was particularly memorable, though a little worrying when it sank below the height of the cars one could see in the car park. There was a good route choice with the 80 or so 'runners' (it was uphill) spreading out in a fan on the way to the first control. The length of the courses, 16 km for my middle course, justified getting up early and the carbon footprint getting there. This year's weather was almost summer like, a complete contrast to the deep snow of two years ago.

So, what was missing? There was no large number of helpers, just Nigel and Steve, with the aid of a sedentary Biggles to look after the keys, and of course Roger's fine waterproof map – no chance to test that this year, but last year my faulty crossing of the East Okement tested its underwater durability; no start team there for several hours, with its 'One, two, three, on the long beep', just a simple 'Off you all go' from Nigel; no searching for that elusive mini-pit hidden in bracken, nearly all the controls being on tors, not even any number to check, all controls being at least 800 m apart. And there were even prizes for those faster than me!

A well-nigh perfect **orienteering** event.

Meldon Hill Race 10th Feb By Tim Gent (M40)

On the way down the A30 to the event we were covered in Hill fog. I busily made plans for a low vis run like many a run on Dartmoor, but at Meldon the skies were blue and the sun shone, so no problem .

In fact it was an unbelievable day, almost spring like. A mass start and plenty of people to follow up to the first check then the masses draw out as the quick ones get away and the rest struggle on. The run was very straight forward , easy nav and totally open skies . Getting to the third check I really wanted to continue on the long but I went with my plan and shot off point three to point eight missing the long detour and an almost straight forward run home .

Beautiful open moors and easy to find checks made a great day out. Much like many runs on Dartmoor but unusual for orienteers to be not stuck in the woods looking under the gorse bushes! Thanks to the organisers for such a good event.



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Tim ran the Medium course of 14 km length with 550

OXFORD CITY RACE 2007
by James Head (M35)
Devon OC & Thames Valley OC

I'd missed the Oxford City Race last year due to a clashing event that was taking place near the home of some friends of mine from university. From what I learnt afterward, it'd been a great success and I therefore made a point of entering this year's event. Since this would be mostly road running I even purchased a new pair of running shoes from Ultrasport the week before.

Parking in Oxford is difficult at the best of times, let alone on a Saturday morning, so competitors were advised to use the Water Eaton park-&-ride, normally one of the quieter park-&-rides, except on city race day when the bus was packed with "O" folk, sporting Kim Sacs and VJ o-shoes. The start, finish and assembly area were in the Oxford University Parks: a decent sized park with many different sports pitches dotted around as well as a number of copses, flower beds and the ilk.

The weather was overcast and not particularly warm, but at least it wasn't raining as there weren't many club shelters put up except for download and registration. It seemed to warm up considerably by the start time though. The map was A3 sized at 1:5000, covering the north of Oxford city centre, and the course consisted of a good mix of park and street running. The previous year's event had covered the area south of the park. The controls were the emit flat board type where you touch your emit brick to centre of the board, and as I was to discover sometimes hidden well! My tactics were to run more on the open streets where the public see you, and slow down going through the quieter streets, colleges and alleyways where there was no-one watching!

From the start I had a nice open run across the park, in clear view of everybody: so-much for my planning then! Control 1 proved to be a tease. I found what I thought was the correct alleyway but no control so I ran a little further and discovered my second control, so back to the first alleyway where I found the control hiding behind a large bin. Legs 2, 3, and 4 had a nice little run along some first-story walkways and then it was back across the University parks and north into Park End and a nice little loop around St Hugh's college before running down towards Jericho. There was a nice little leg here where I opted for the run along the canal, with the small foot-bridge at the end near control 13. I had thought that this cunning route choice wasn't obvious and I didn't notice anyone else on it, but the routegadget entries show some others noticed it as well.

Passing through Jericho I intended to take a small alley way opposite the Oxford University Press building into Somerville College, but found the gate closed so had to go around the block to the other entrance, which was marshalled. I suspect this was a late change. The course then ran north past the Radcliffe hospital and into Green college, before crossing the road to St Anne's college, where I had a little entertainment in trying to find my way out again, before going back in into the park for the finish.

All in all it was a very enjoyable run, and yes, I did run all of it, which surprised even me! The new shoes were great, like running on a bed of jelly!

Those interested in the map and routes can view the routegadget for this event at:
<http://www.ouoc.routegadget.co.uk/cgi-bin/reitti.cgi?act=map&id=1&kiel=>

USING GPS IN ORIENTEERING

by James Head (M35)
Devon OC & Thames Valley OC

A few months ago I acquired a Garmin Forerunner 301 GPS unit from a friend, and I've been using quite regularly since, hashing, cycling, hiking and other things. I'd not considered wearing it during an orienteering competition, despite seeing a few other people using them, as I'd thought that it would be inconsistent with the rule that disallows any electronic aid to navigation. That's changed now though, as BO have stated in a recent copy of Focus that a GPS device can be taken on a course, just so long as its not used as a navigational aid. With that in mind I've written this piece here to show you how I've been using it.

The 301 is part of a family of Forerunner branded receivers from Garmin, intended for sports use, and has a USB cable connection to a computer so you can download run histories from the device to your computer, and upload courses to the device.

To be honest I prefer the 301 to the newer, and more accurate, 305 since I like the Velcro strap compared to the rubber watch strap the 305 uses. The rubber straps on watches that I've owned have always been weak, and broken after a couple of year's of use. This isn't something that you'd want happening to a GPS unit costing around £130.

I've been using mine primarily to keep a record of where I've been running, just out of interest, but it's been nice to see how well I've been doing as well.

The Forerunner came with its own software for downloading and recording run histories although I needed to download the updated version from the Garmin website to get the UK mapping. Even then the UK mapping can only be described as sparse and inaccurate: one track-log showed me crossing a busy dual-carriageway where in reality I'd remained on one side. The latest version (November 2007) does have the facility to export runs to Google Earth, although the other two methods I'm covering here do this a lot better in my opinion.

The first is a Garmin sponsored website: motionbased: <http://www.motionbased.com/>. This site lets you sign up for free and then upload up to ten activities from your device to the site. If you add more than ten then your older activities aren't accessible until you start paying, although only I expect only serious athletes get the full benefit of a subscription. The free-subscription is good enough for you to see your route superimposed on a Google map or satellite view. There's a link here for you to download your track into Google Earth where you can store it permanently on your own computer.

The second alternative is an open-source program called Sporttracks: <http://www.zonefivesoftware.com/SportTracks/>. This is free, though can pay a voluntary donation of your choosing if you find the program useful. Whereas the Garmin Training Centre software only works with Garmin USB receivers, Sporttracks has the facility to import data from a variety of different receivers, serial and USB.

Sporttracks has a facility for recording the equipment used on an activity which is useful for seeing if those "1000mile" items of clothing really live up to the claims of the brand name, or for comparing brands of o-shoes. Funny how I always seem to wear out the right shoe and end up with loads of wearable left shoes – but that's another story!

Sporttracks also gives you a view of your route in a Google map or satellite image which can again export to Google Earth.

Lastly, the popular "routegadget" service has the ability to upload a GPS file that's been exported from either the Garmin Training Centre program, or Sporttracks. This doesn't come in automatically at the correct scale or position over the O-map though, and, even when scaling and moving the route to fit the o-map isn't too difficult, it does take longer than it would be to simply click your route, from scratch, using your mouse.

Carrying a GPS unit around a course has been very interesting. It's encouraged me to run more and been useful to keep a record of where I've been and how well I've doing.

A friend recently asked me if all Orienteers were compulsive collectors, citing her husband's pile of old O-maps. I think the answer is, yes; and carrying around a GPS is only going to make it worst: but at least it doesn't take up as much space!



James's route at Killerton during Santa's Grotto on Sunday 30 December 2007
(Google Earth representation)

TAMAR LEAGUE 2007-2008

This is the second report from the league compiler for this season.

To keep the report to manageable proportions the table below has been compiled from 5 events from September 2007 up to the only December event and for scores of 1000 points or over. The number of events entered is also shown along with the average score for all events. To appear in the final tables competitors from one club must complete at least three events from their neighbouring club.

Club	Class	Raw Total	Devon Events	Kerno Events	Average Score	
Brown						
Chris Moncaster	KERNO	M50	2699		3	900
Phil Newall	KERNO	M40	2491		3	830
Will Hancock	KERNO	M21	2486	1	2	829
Emmit Andrews	DEVON	M35	1981	2		991
Gavin Henderson	KERNO	M21	1830		2	915
Peter Morton	KERNO	M55	1748		2	874
Graham Pring	KERNO	M50	1660		2	830
Barry Olds	KERNO	M50	1495		2	747
Steve Beech	KERNO	M50	1476		2	738
William Ames	DEVON	M16	1368	1	1	684
Arthur Boyt	KERNO	M65	1350		2	675
Andrew Ranson	KERNO	M16	1229		2	615
Ian Hargreaves	KERNO	M21	1000		1	1000
Steve Edmonds	DEVON	M45	1000	1		1000
Blue						
Gary Ratcliffe	DEVON	M40	3340	2	2	835
Alan Simpson	DEVON	M60	2746	1	2	915
Rob Sneyd	KERNO	M45	2534		3	845
Ivor Marshall	KERNO	M35	2384		3	795
Alan Peters	KERNO	M50	2090		3	697
Ella Bowles	DEVON	W45	1956	1	1	978
Roger Hargreaves	KERNO	M60	1873		2	936
Tim Andrews	KERNO	M45	1753		2	877
Peter Heywood	KERNO	M60	1615		2	808
Ken George	KERNO	M55	1604		2	802
Nicholas Maxwell	DEVON	M50	1514	1	1	757
Adele Newall	KERNO	W45	1425	2		712
Phil Gordon	DEVON		1374	1	1	687
Sarah Middleton	KERNO	W50	1142		2	571
Nick Hockey	DEVON	M40	1000	1		1000

Green

Lesley Ratcliffe	DEVON	W35	3078	2	2	770
Nellie Clothier	KERNO	W35	2650		3	883
Ann Hughes	DEVON	W60	2563	2	1	854
Roger Venn	KERNO	M65	2457		3	819
Rod Allday	KERNO	M60	2455		3	818
Jenny Pring	KERNO	W14	2309		3	770
Ann Martin	KERNO	W21	2007		3	669
Annabel Pring	KERNO	W45	1943		3	648
Pete Clothier	KERNO	M35	1927		2	963
Elsie Hargreaves	KERNO	W60	1736		2	868
Jock Turnham	KERNO	M60	1557		2	779
Sue Boyt	KERNO	W50	1244	2	622	
Chris Miller	DEVON	M45	1181	1	1	590
Sarah Dowler	KERNO	W21	1158		2	579
Sandy Cowan	KERNO	M65	1012	1	1	506
Michael Smith	DEVON		1000	1		1000
Olivier Boucher	DEVON	M35	1000	1		1000

Light Green

Susan Morton	KERNO	W55	2000		2	1000
Edward Ames	DEVON	M12	1655		2	827
Elaine Binmore	KERNO	W60	1471		2	735
Susan Hateley	DEVON	W60	1248	1	1	624
Robert Smith	DEVON	M55	1188	2		594
Yvonne Stephens	KERNO	W50	1013		2	506
Ian Bowles	DEVON	M45	1000	1		1000
Duncan Taylor	DEVON	M14	1000	1		1000

Orange

Chris Ranson	KERNO	W50	2000		2	1000
Jason Power	DEVON		1000	1		1000
Harriet Ames	DEVON	W8	1000		1	1000

Yellow

Cameron Robertson	DEVON	M10	1000			1	1000
Alice Kelly	DEVON	W12	1000	1			1000
Harriet Ames	DEVON	W9	1000		1		1000

Red

Chris Ranson	KERNO	M55	1000		1		1000
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2007/8 NIGHT LEAGUE - FINAL RESULTS

				1	2	3	4	5	6	Total	Best 4
1	Paul Gianville	M50	Devon	961	987	1000	1000	537	911	5396	3948
2	Phil Newall	M45	Kerno	983	958		687	1000	867	4495	3808
3	Mark Lockett	M35	Kerno	801	791		785	879	884	4141	3356
4	Graham Pring	M50	Kerno	754		960		861	872	3446	3446
5	Andrew Ranson	M18	Kerno	773	650	926	752	616		3718	3102
6	Nigel Bateman	M50	Devon	0	663		768	809	831	3071	3071
7	Will Ames	M16	Devon	802	589	913	493			2798	2798
8	Steve Beech	M55	Kerno	681		740		798		2219	2219
9	Steve Edmonds	M50	Devon		588		840	724		2152	2152
10	Chris Moncaster	M50	Kerno			799	613	573		1986	1986
11	Phil Way	M45	Devon	917					917	1834	1834
12	James Timmis	M21	Kerno	1000		914				1914	1914
13	Brian Parker	M70	Devon	466		415		497	486	1864	1864
14	Alan Simpson	M60	Devon	627			605		554	1786	1786
15	Mike Wimpenny	M55	Devon		1000		646			1646	1646
16	Arthur Boyt	M65	Kerno	743	743					1486	1486
17	Nick Maxwell	M50	Devon		521			943		1464	1464
18	Simon Freer	M35	Kerno					513	873	1386	1386
19	Dave Livesey	M65	Devon		0		398	423	411	1232	1232
20	Sarah Middleton & Bernard Pullen	W50 /M60	Kerno	488		559				1047	1047
21	Andy Reynolds	M40	Devon						1000	1000	1000
22	Scott Collier	M21	Kerno			897				897	897
23	Adrian Taylor	M50	Devon						852	852	852
24	Chris Virgo	M55	Devon						799	799	799
25	Tim Andrews	M45	Kerno	519	279					798	798
26	Seline Staldr	W21	Devon		787					787	3774
27	Peter Morton	M60	Kerno					770		770	770
28	Gavin Henderson	M21	Kerno			728				728	728
29	Will Hancock	M21	Kerno		668					668	668
30	Rob Sneyd	M50	Kerno					586		586	586
31	Liz Tier & Jez Ralph	M35 /W35		516						516	516
32	Bernard Pullen	M65	Kerno					443		443	443

Jade			1	2	3	4	5	6	Total	Best 4	
1	Roger Hargreaves	M55	Kerno	905	1000		1000	1000	3905	3905	
2	Adele Newall	W45	Kerno	735	1000		933	823	658	4148	3490
3	Ella Bowles	W45	Devon	1000	0	827	822	581	727	3957	3376
4	Barry Olds	M50	Kerno		904	769	1000	675		3348	3348
5	Donna Timmis	W21	Kerno	813		803		907		2523	2523
6	Sue Boyt	W50	Kerno	574	532	587	466	520	603	3283	2296
7	Erik Peckett	M70	Kerno			430		539	603	1573	1573
8	Richard Smith	M60	Kerno				0	691	671	1362	1362
9	Ivor Marshall	M40	Kerno			936				936	936
10	Ian Bowles	M55	Kerno	894	0		0	0		894	894
11	Alison Reynolds	W40	Devon						817	817	817
12	Rob & Rosie Sneyd	M50/W15	Devon	709						709	709
13	Ben Edmonds	M21	Devon				700			700	700
14	Alan Peters	M50	Kerno	640						640	640
15	Shotton Family		Ind			444				444	444
16	Andy Barclay	M50	Ind			361				361	361

Orange			1	2	3	4	5	6	Total	Best 4	
1	Robertson Family		Devon	703	749	746	1000	695	799	4691	3294
2	Roger Hateley	M60	Devon			999	967	620	687	3274	3274
3	Sue Hateley	W60	Devon			1000	865	681	700	3245	3245
4	Mike Hughes	M60	Devon				883	754		1636	1636
5	Humphrey Shutton & Dad	M12		1000						1000	1000
5	Lea Boucher	W12	Devon		1000					1000	1000
5	Tristan Freer	M14	Kerno				1000			1000	1000
5	Tracey Freer	W35	Kerno					1000		1000	1000
9	Sara Dowler	W21	Kerno			877				877	877
10	Fynn & Timmis	Rosie M5/W	Kerno			736				736	736
11	A & J Pring	W50 /W16						726		726	726
12	John Croombe	M40	Devon					656		656	656
13	J&G Power & Hawkins		Devon		390					390	390
14	Helen Taylor	W45	Devon					363		363	363

Ranking List for Members of DEVON in class order

class				
Class	pos	Name	points	events
M21L	126	Andy Brett	4024	4
M21L	223	Steve Edmonds (M50)	1769	2
M35L	56	Mark Bagley	3489	4
M35L	62	Emmit Andrews	3025	3
M35L	91	Jonathan Hurrell (M40)	1220	2
M35L	100	Damian Wilson	1074	1
M35S	27	James Head	5315	20
M35S	31	Olivier Boucher	4794	4
M40L	74	Andrew Reynolds	5526	6
M40L	184	Stuart Robertson	746	2
M40L	203	Jonathan Croome	480	1
M40S	50	Stuart Robertson	5735	7
M40S	160	Gary Ratcliffe	689	1
M45L	26	Kevin Hagley	7344	11
M45L	280	Steve Rose (M50)	676	1
M45S	100	Kevin Hazell	3261	4
M50L	60	Adrian Taylor	6633	9
M50L	130	Rob Kohler	5467	5
M50L	149	Nicholas Maxwell (M55)	4985	15
M50L	199	Ian Bowles	2919	4
M50L	264	Rob Parkinson	1197	1
M50L	276	Mike Steward	1091	1
M50L	315	Nigel Bateman	810	1
M55L	11	Mike Wimpenny (M60)	7530	16
M55L	72	Christopher Virgo	6489	11
M55L	124	Wilfrid Taylor	5491	5
M55L	176	Peter Brett (M60)	3487	4
M55L	183	Bryan Smith	3186	3
M55L	188	Michael Cullen	2833	3
M55L	251	Nick Hockey (M60)	1021	1
M55L	267	Graham Dugdale	926	1
M55S	53	Graham Dugdale	5771	9
M60L	21	Tom Lillicrap	7288	9
M60L	46	Roger Hargreaves	6785	24
M60L	66	Alan Simpson (M65)	6493	11
M60L	107	Lew Bean	5882	7
M60L	135	Roger Hateley (M65)	5017	14
M60L	193	Peter Brett	1911	2
M60S	37	Michael Hughes	5766	8
M60S	44	Roger Green (M65)	4646	6
M65L	3	Arthur Boyt	7715	20
M65L	73	John Dyson	5708	5
M65L	85	David Livsey	5329	7
M65S	49	Roger Green	964	1
M70L	77	Erik Peckett	2723	3
W21L	112	Seline Stadler	2681	2
W35S	38	Marie Boucher	1949	4
W40L	58	Alison Reynolds	5037	6
W40L	117	Lorraine Croome	758	1
W40L	129	Lynda Robertson	261	1

Class	pos	Name	points	events
W40S	44	Deb Hazell	5557	7
W40S	61	Alison Kohler (W45)	4472	4
W40S	74	Lynda Robertson	3163	8
W40S	111	Lesley Ratcliffe	1010	1
W45L	10	Ella Bowles (W50)	7250	10
W45L	81	Eleanor Taylor	3454	5
W45S	52	Helen Taylor	4027	6
W50S	97	Victoria Martin	891	1
W55L	102	Vivienne Maxwell	2228	4
W55S	35	Vivienne Maxwell	4748	7
W60L	16	Elsie Hargreaves	7097	22
W60L	18	Jill Green	7084	12
W60L	29	Ann Hughes (W65)	6786	9
W60L	42	Susan Hateley	6343	9
W60S	41	Susan Hateley	3671	3
W65L	21	Valerie Livsey	6440	7



The three witches of Santa's Grotto on Sunday 30 December 2007

Rosemary Roach

Jill Green

Helen Taylor

Club Meeting held on Friday 7 December 2007 at Bishop Lacy, Chudleigh

Present

John Dyson, Alan Simpson, Roger Green, Jill Green, Anthony Dew, Graham Dugdale.

Apologies

Damian Wilson, Phil Way, Wilf Taylor, Ella Bowles, Lew Bean, and Adrian Taylor.

Matters arising from previous minutes

Alan Simpson has agreed the format of three regional events in three days with Devon and Kernow organising one each and the third to alternate between the two clubs. Devon will therefore be organising two regional events in 2008. Profits will be split on a 50:50 basis. Lew Bean will be overall event co-ordinator.

Whole Sport Plan

Jill Green has filled in the Whole Sport Plan questionnaire. She explained that this is not really a plan, but is a number crunching exercise. Numbers of club members and participation in events in Devon have remained fairly constant over the last five years and realistically that is what could be expected in the next five years. The committee felt that the Devon's geography and demographics needed to be explained. Jill will submit an amended document to the committee.

Publicity

Anthony Dew has contacted the Plymouth Sports Development Officer and we will now be included on their website. He has contacted scout groups in the area and written an article for the Herald. He distributed posters and handouts that can be obtained through the BO website.

Fixtures

Jill Green has filled in the Whole Sport Plan questionnaire. This is not really a plan, but is a number crunching exercise. Numbers of club members and participation in events in Devon have remained fairly constant over the last five years and realistically that is what could be expected in the next five years. The committee felt that the Devon's geography and demographics needed to be explained. Jill will submit an amended document to the committee.

Alan Simpson circulated a document outlining Erik Peckett's plans for JK2010 to be held in Devon. The event will be held on 2-5 April 2010 with events: day 1 Sprint at Exeter University, day 2 Middle distance at Cookworthy Forest, day 3 Classic at Braunton Burrows, Day 4 Relay at Braunton Sands.

Alan Simpson has been setting up a fixtures spreadsheet to show the Planner, Controller, Organiser, IT lead, Access status. This would be available to the committee to view with update facilities limited to the Access Officer and Fixtures Secretary.

Risk Assessments are prepared for each event by the organiser. Alan asked Roger Green if he could publish on the internet all Risk Assessments that we have made, in order to help organisers of future events.

Fixtures need to be set up earlier, preferably a year in advance. Jill Green offered to approach Helen Taylor to see if she could assist Adrian.

Mapping

Discussions with Allan Farrington about mapping in the North Dartmoor area are ongoing, but no progress is likely until funding changes have been completed in February.

Roger Green has written to Sue Bishop of the DNPA re mapping on Hound Tor. So far there has been no response.

Alan Simpson has prepared a draft Terms of reference for the mapping group to consider.

SWOA

Money is available for members to attend appropriate courses. For juniors this may be full funding, although for seniors it may be one half or one third (if national funding also available). BO has money to help finance training courses.

The SWOA development plan is now available. Committee members are asked to submit their comments to Alan, who will co-ordinate the club's response.

Equipment

SI dibbers have gone up in price to £23. This charge should apply to any that are lost. In order to encourage personal ownership the price to buy will remain at £20 for the present

Phil Way has hired our equipment for Source to Sea in recent years at a price well below the rate of other clubs. It was agreed that £360 for a 3-day hire should be the rate in 2008. James Barclay also wishes to hire all control boxes for 15th May. In principle we are not seeking to increase revenue by leasing out our equipment; however it was agreed, subject to satisfactory insurance cover. Alan Simpson has also agreed to 5 controls being made available to a club in North Wales on New Years Day, so that they can add radio controls.

Review of Event Structures

BO has put forward a Consultation document on Review of Event Structure, which was passed to the committee. BOK have accepted all proposals bar the key recommendation that the structure should be reduced to three levels: National, Standard and Local.

West Exe Technology College

Celia Watkinson, the Regional Development Officer for BO, has forwarded email correspondence with Anthony Veever, head of PE at West Exe Technology College, who is endeavouring to include orienteering in their syllabus. Jill Green offered to contact him to see if we can assist.

Club Meeting held on Friday 4 January 2008 at Wilf & Eleanor's, Chudleigh

Present

Alan Simpson, Roger Green, Graham Dugdale, Sue & Roger Hateley, Wilf Taylor, Ella Bowles, Lew Bean, and Adrian Taylor.

Apologies

Apologies were received from John Dyson, Peter Flick, Kevin Hazell, Anthony Dew, Mike Hosford and Phil Way.

Matters Arising from previous minutes

Whole Sport Plan

The club has submitted its plan. We may wish to review the data at a later date.

Risk Assessments (and other forms) for Events

Roger Green has Risk assessments for all venues used previously. He also has a document outlining a "Missing Persons Procedure" which should be kept the First aid kit. It should fall to the Fixtures Officer to provide event organisers with the forms and check lists needed to organise an event. For less experienced organisers some further help may be needed and Roger will make previous risk assessments available on the web.

The competitor numbers and finance details for each event should be the responsibility of the IT team leader.

Contacting DNPA

There has been no response from Sue Bishop of the DNPA on our requests to hold events on Hound Tor in future. Alan Simpson will attempt to arrange a meeting.

Chairman's Preamble

Alan outlined his vision for the club. New club members should be made to feel welcome, existing members should have the means to find out what is going on and to receive encouragement and assistance in taking on new roles, whilst committee members should be enabled by the structures in place. Acknowledging the excellent work carried out by Mike Hosford and Lew Bean in keeping the club members informed, Alan proposed a survey to find out proportion of members use the website as their main source of information.

Alan listed other criteria by which the success of the club should be measured: a high quality map library, a fixture list mapped out well into the future, quality events with a good balance, gentle upward trend in membership and event participation, coaching programs and training courses. Notwithstanding several recent BO announcements and the SWOA development plan, the view within the club seems to be that we should be driven by our own agenda.

Report from the Mapping Group

Roger Green presented the report to the committee. The committee agreed with the proposal that mappers are paid £12 per hour for the surveying component of updating existing maps up to a limit of £300. Above this the decision to proceed should go to committee.

Roger Green has a lot of information on Parking, Toilets, Risk Assessments which he will put on Googledocs with restricted access.

Lew Bean, who is attending a mapping course in 2 weeks time, will enquire how much it would cost to arrange a training course for mappers in Devon. Fernworthy was suggested as a possible site.

We need to decide whether to commission mapping of Fernworthy, probably at the next committee meeting. Committee members should take a look at Fernworthy before then.

It was suggested that Burrator was capable of supporting Level 3 events and that the Long O should not use the area. Roger Green is to consider the implications.

The mappers' view, supported by the committee, was that all fixtures should be arranged 6-12 months in advance, although in order to register with BO an organiser needed to be found.

Event planners can use the OCAD9 demo version. Another license is needed, but this should be left until the planning version of OCAD9 is released in February.

Fixtures

Kerno have agreed that they should organise Day 1, and Devon days 2 & 3 of the Tamar Triple. Although DNPA have not denied us permission to use Virtuous Lady and Wheal Franco for the Tamar Triple, they have referred us to English Nature. Jonathon Weall has confirmed that our unwritten agreement with DNPA was that there would be no orienteering on Dartmoor

between 1st March and 15th July. In view of this it was decided to switch the Devon events to Plym Forest (Day2) and Smallhanger Waste/Newnham Park (Day3). Lew Bean has spoken to David Cobbold, although a formal approach by Phil will still be needed for Plym Forest.

Nicholas Maxwell will organise both days, with Nigel Bateman planning Smallhanger Waste/Newnham and Alan Simpson planning Plym Forest.

Both venues require a small amount of re-mapping (2 to 3 days each) which Lew Bean has undertaken to do.

Coaching

It was noted that Phil Way and Stu Robertson have coaching qualifications. When confirmed these should be listed on the club membership list.

Adrian Taylor was hoping, as a long term objective, to set up an orienteering league for schools in Exeter, possibly based upon the three permanent courses at Killerton, Haldon and Exeter Riverside Valley. He asked for the committee's assistance in finding someone who can take this on.

Access

John Dyson has met with Phil Way and has agreed to take on responsibility for obtaining access for events in East Devon. He has already taken steps to ensure that permissions are granted for the events at Woodbury Common and Mutters Moor

Equipment

Alan Simpson demonstrated Radio Controls as used at major events. There is no plan to purchase these at the moment, although they might be useful at events such as Meldon.

SWOA Controller Grade 3 Training Questionnaire

SWOA have sent us a questionnaire asking for details about current Grade 3 Controllers, and whether there were any possible candidates for a training course. We have 9 currently and identified 5 candidates. Lew Bean agreed to act as a contact for future correspondence.

CompassSport Cup qualifier

Sallowvallets 13th Jan 2008

by Wilf Taylor (Club Captain)



DEVON mustered a competitive army to venture across the grey foam flecked waves, to battle in the western forests of Dean. A few stars demurred as the day of destiny dawned but we still fielded 37 berserkers ready to take on the dark blue horde of BOK. Indeed BOK outnumbered us 3:1. and we were smaller than HOC, who wanted to qualify for the final which they were going to host in October, and NGOC who were hosting this event. The rain was horizontal as advance guard, Stu planted the pale blue banner in the assembly, but this was replaced as when it was decided to anchor the club tent to a solid tree by the run-in. Our gallant force advanced into the howling forest, with Steve Perrelle holding on to our pack and slipping their leads as they hurtled, fangs slavering off to hunt BOK blood. Sallowvallets was an excellent venue, with brambles still in their winter slothe.

Lacking in numbers we must rely on style, elegance and downright brilliance. None shone more brightly than Seline Stalder, our Pocahontas of the Forest. She was a class apart in the women's open race, all but flat lining the leg splits. She is easily the best woman orienteer in the country and we are privileged that we have her running for us. Seli was supported by Alison Reynolds and Lorraine Croome, both scoring points.

Duncan Taylor, thought Orange somewhat infra dig but a botched first control made him realise he needed to work for his points and a strong finish saw him dominate his junior race. He was well backed up by Josh Stone for 90pts and Will Fordyce.

Ann Hughes won her veterans race, with another strong finish edging out BOK. Again she was well supported by Jill Green (3rd) and Susan Hateley, who again came back from a poor opening leg to claim 90pts.

Tom Lillicrap won his race but was pushed all the way by Mike Wimpenny, with Chairman Alan supporting well.

Thus we claimed 4 victories in the 8 races; would class tell after all.

Another distinguished performance came from Ella Bowles, Up against a fearsome BOK squad, she was only bested by the British number one. This was despite making a complete pig's ear of her first leg. L Taylor backed up as our only spoiler on the day, not scoring points but taking points from other clubs.

Matt Ryder is new to our sport and showing tremendous promise, his natural athleticism is matched by fine intelligence, as he gorged on BOK blood. He was backed by Luke Hayward, Jack Baker and Jacob Shah, also scoring on the day.

Our young warriors in the Brown and Blue skirmishes were always up against the wall, as HOC matched BOK in numbers and skill. Andy Reynolds, Jon Croome and Stu Robertson were backed by that wizened cripple Wilf Taylor to score what points we could in the Brown, While Adrian Taylor led Bryan Smith, Mike Cullen and Ian Bowles to points in the Blue.

The rest of our team backed up our stars well, lacking only in numbers on the day, as BOK managed top spoilers in every race.

We returned home, across the swaying bridge over the Severn and into the teeth of the winter storm. Bloodied but satisfied that we had taken scalps and let it be known that we are not to be rolled over as of the past. We are a force to be feared from NOW!

CAPTAINS NOTE

Please can everybody check their contact details on membership list as I have no chance of chasing you up if they are wrong.

Next team event up are the JK relays: Easter in SE of England in Pooh Bear Forest. Hephallump hunting, in Ashdown Forest. I have high hopes of podium finishes. Contact me as soon as possible if you want a run. I will be posting team entries by 21st Feb. Already I have some 20 names, you could make the difference between a good team and a great one!

Then BOC is early this year, 20th April, on Culbin Forest near Forres on Moray Firth coast. Flights, go to both Inverness and Aberdeen, as well as Edinburgh. It is the venue of the world championship relays in 1976. Again contact me as soon as possible. Let us see if we cannot get as many junior relay teams as we fielded last year. How about more? I have 2 junior teams and 9 more senior names already, and will be posting our teams by 30th March.

Then, we also have an early Harvester this year, 17/18th May, near Henley, just off the M4. We would be favourite to win one of the classes here, with our night talent.

Contact Wilf Taylor:

Either email <mailto:wilf.taylor@metoffice.gov.uk>

Or 01626 859365. ASAP for all above events. And don't forget that the club pays all team entries!

Adobe Acrobat Newsletter

The Editor will ask Lew Bean to publish the newsletter in this format, with all photographs in fine colour, on the club website

He will also send it as an attachment with an email to all but one member of the club who have email addresses. That one member does not have broadband and has requested not to receive the acrobat version. Other members who do not wish to receive the newsletter by email should notify the editor.

Next issue of Devon Orienteer

Late April together with the 2008 membership list

Press deadline Thursday 17 April

(British Championships results will be accepted after 21 April)

Editor: Mike Hosford, Rossett, Higher Broad Park, Dartmouth TQ6 9HA

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**Updated fixture information and results always available on our Club website
www.devonorienteering.co.uk**

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

date	rgstn times	event	venue	grid ref.	information
Saturday 1 March	1000 1230	Devon League 4	Woodbury nr Exmouth	SY 032 864	Adrian Taylor 01395 274152
<i>21 - 24 March</i>		<i>JK</i>	<i>South East England</i>		
Sunday 6 April	1000 1230	Devon League 5	Mutters Moor	SY 109 872	Adrian Taylor 01395 274152
<i>Sunday 20 April</i>		<i>British Championships</i>	<i>Forres, Scotland</i>		

Tamar Triple Information sheet and entry form enclosed with this newsletter

Saturday 24 May	Pre- entry	Tamar Triple Regional	Inny Foot Nr Launceston	SX 380 780	KERNO
Sunday 25 May	Pre- entry	Tamar Triple Regional	Plym Forest	SX 530 595	Nicholas Maxwell 01752 739040
Monday 26 May	<i>Pre- entry</i>	Tamar Triple Regional	Newnham Park/ Smallhanger	SX 555595	Nicholas Maxwell 01752 739040
Sunday 8 June	1000 1230	Devon League 6	Great Plantation	SX 814 752	Ella Bowles 01803 732241 07969 904993
Sunday 22 June	tbc	Sprint 'O'	Exeter University	SX 917 942	Adrian Taylor 01395 274152
Sunday 29 June	1000 1300	KERNO District	Coldrenick Menheniot	<i>tbc</i>	<i>tbc</i>
Sunday 6 July	1000 1230	Devon League 7	Ashclyst Forest	<i>tbc</i>	<i>Susan Hateley tbc</i>
Sunday 20 July	<i>tbc</i>	Devon Relays	<i>Bullers Hill tbc</i>	SY 884 848	<i>tbc</i>

Orienteering takes place over terrain that is sometimes rough and may be overgrown with vegetation. Weather conditions may be adverse. Competitors take part at their own risk.

All Devon League events have courses suitable for novices: most have string courses.