



NUMBER 136 JULY 2009

DEVON ORIENTEER

THE NEWSLETTER OF
DEVON ORIENTEERING CLUB

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

1500 Saturday 12 September 2009

Walkhampton Memorial Hall SX 532 697

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the previous AGM (attached)
3. Chairman's statement
4. Treasurer's statement
5. Membership Secretary's Statement
6. Other Officers' Statements
7. Setting of club membership fees for next year
Recommendations: Senior £4 - no change
Junior £2 - no change
Family increase from £4 to £6
8. Setting of guideline event fees: *to be discussed*
9. Amendments to Club Constitution
10. Election of Officers and Committee
11. Questions and Comments from the Floor

Officers elected at an AGM are:

Chairman Club Captain Secretary Treasurer Patron President

The Club Constitution requires that the above offices cannot be held for more than 3 consecutive years.

Up to 6 committee members may also be elected.

Continued over

| | | | |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|----|
| AGM, Social, Club Championships | 1 | Near disaster at Black Park | 10 |
| Chairman's chat; SW regional development conference | 3 | Devon Relay results | 11 |
| Regional events: new guidelines | 4 | Devon OC Communications | 12 |
| Clubmark; orienteering coaching | 5 | Minutes of June meeting | 13 |
| An der schönen blauen Donau (op 314) | 6 | SW sprint championships; next issue | 15 |
| JK 2009 | 8 | Forthcoming fixtures | 16 |

All other officers, listed below, are co-opted either at the AGM or at the first committee meeting that follows. All co-opted officers who have not been elected as committee members do not have a formal vote at a committee meeting (such votes are rarely called for), but they can certainly make their views known.

Co-opted officers are required for the following posts:

| | | |
|----------------|---------------|------------|
| Access Officer | Child Welfare | Clothing |
| Coaching | Equipment | Fixtures |
| League Table | Mapping | Membership |
| Newsletter | Publicity | Website |

Any club member who wishes to be considered for election to office or committee at the AGM should submit their nominations to the Club Secretary, Graham Dugdale. (see below).

Members attending the AGM who wish to be considered for election or nomination for office may submit themselves for election or nomination up to just before Item 9 on the Agenda.

As some offices are held by very senior members of the club (e.g. M80) I am sure no offence will be taken if younger members wish to help in the running of the club.

The club had a Junior Representative for a number of years, but the juniors then all became seniors and the office became redundant. However, we now have a number of very active juniors and it would be good for the club to have a Junior Representative once more. There is no need for this person to attend committee meetings. The views of the juniors can always be passed to the officers and committee by letter, email etc.

Graham Dugdale, 15 St Mary's Close, Chudleigh, Newton Abbot TQ13 0PL

Tel: 01626 852944

Email: graham210351@talktalk.net

Club Championships Social & Score Event followed by AGM

We are repeating the successful format from last year. The AGM will be preceded by a score event and free buffet lunch. The AGM is the one occasion in the year when the Chairman and Committee report back to members, and we want to encourage as many members as possible to participate. It is an opportunity to have a social get-together.

We are starting proceedings relatively late, as there is a market in the Walkhampton Memorial Hall until midday.

Whitchurch Common Score Event SX 524 729

Parking is on the roadside

| | | | |
|------------|---------------|------------|----|
| Organiser | Alan Simpson | Entry fees | |
| Planner | Ann Hughes | Senior | £5 |
| Controller | Nigel Bateman | Junior | £1 |

This is a one-hour score event using pin punches; mass start - 1200

There are 27/30 controls worth 10 points each. (Only 27 boxes on tyvek cards)

The boxes on the card must be punched correctly; i.e. box 5 for control 5.

Penalty for late return - 10 points per minute.

Totals will be enhanced by an age-handicap formula to determine the club champion

Social, Buffet Lunch & AGM SX 533 696

The venue is the Walkhampton Memorial Hall. This is situated on the east side of the road to Dousland. It is next to a football field and is the last building in the village. There is a reasonable sized car park.

Walkhampton is a ten minute drive from the Score Event venue.

| | |
|-------------|---------------------|
| 1400 | buffet lunch (free) |
| 1500 - 1630 | AGM |

Chairman's Chat July 2009

Eighteen months ago, we set up a Mapping Subcommittee in the club under the guidance of Roger Green, our Mapping Officer. There has been substantial activity on the mapping front, and significant expenditure, which I hope club members approve.

In the Chairman's report in September 2008 at the last AGM I set out my thoughts on improving and extending our map stock.



As well as keeping up with changes in paths and vegetation, new tools available to the mappers enable them to achieve greater precision in the location of features, with less effort. Nevertheless the effort is still considerable.

In March, the Devon League event at Core Copse took place on a map which had been completely checked and resurveyed by Simon Beck. You may not have noticed the difference. But it was better than the map it replaced. The season closed in July with the Devon Relay event at Five Tors. For this we purchased a high-definition aerial photograph, and Erik Peckett used this to update the depiction of rock features – a particular challenge to the mappers on Dartmoor. In September, the Whitchurch Common map for the Score Event preceding the AGM will have been extensively revised by Mike Wimpenny.

Finally the Caddihoe Chase the following weekend should be a real treat. The main Haytor section has been remapped by Rod Postlethwaite, and the Houndtor section is brand new – Erik Peckett's latest creation.

Don't miss it.

REGIONAL EVENTS: NEW GUIDELINES

| Course number | Course length ratio M21L=1.0 | Technical difficulty | M:L+M classes | M:S, V+N classes | W:L classes | W:S, V+N classes | colour coded courses |
|---------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 | 1.00 | 5 | M21L | | | | |
| 2 | 0.85 | 5 | M35L M40L | | | | |
| 3 | 0.69 | 5 | JM5L M45L M50L | M21S | W21L | | |
| 4 | 0.56 | 5 | M55L M60L | JM5M M35S M40S | JW5L W35L W40L | | (Blue) |
| 5 | 0.45 | 5 | M65L | M21V M45S M50S | W45L W50L | W21S | |
| 6 | 0.39 | 5 | M70L | JM5S M55S | W55L W60L | JW5S W35S W40S | (Green) |
| 7 | 0.33 | 5 | M75L | M60S M65S | W65L W70L | W21V W45S | |
| 8 | 0.28 | 5 | | M70S M75S | W75 | W50S W55S W60S W65S W70S | |
| 9 | 0.50 | 3 | | M21N | | | (Red) |
| 10 | 0.35 | 3 | | | | W21N | |

| | | | | | | |
|----|------|-----------|---|-----|-----|-------------|
| 11 | 0.30 | 3.0 - 4.0 | 4 | JM4 | JW4 | Light Green |
| 12 | 0.25 | 2.5 - 3.5 | 3 | JM3 | JW3 | Orange |
| 13 | 0.22 | 2.0 - 2.9 | 2 | JM2 | JW2 | Yellow |
| 14 | 0.14 | 1.0 - 1.9 | 1 | JM1 | JW1 | White |

CLUBMARK by John Dyson



Clubmark is a qualification for clubs, designed by British Orienteering to ensure that juniors in the sport are being introduced to the sport and coached in ways appropriate for today's child-friendly world. Many orienteering clubs have qualified, and the rest are being "encouraged" to do so. Substantial financial assistance from public coffers is given to British Orienteering, and Clubmark is designed to confirm that the sport is providing the appropriate environment for our future champions.

Your officers decided last year to defer applying for Clubmark in favour of the development of schools leagues and coaching within the Club. Since then the success of the Plymouth initiatives with schools, new activities in various other parts of our large county, and the achievements of our Torbay tigers in National competition have given new impetus to our efforts to introduce more juniors to our favourite sport. Over the same period our coaching has become more widespread under the leadership of Wilf Taylor. As a result the time now appears ripe for us to apply for Clubmark – a process which will cover months rather than weeks.

I have offered to coordinate the work, and a working party has been formed which includes Helen Taylor for child protection issues and Wilf Taylor for coaching – two important blocks of the work. A third section concerning "management" requires some amendments to our constitution, which will be proposed and circulated prior to our AGM in September.

If you are interested in this topic, then look at the Clubmark page on the British Orienteering website for further details. The page lists the 34 clubs already accredited, including BOK, SARUM, WSX and WIM.

UKCC Level 1 Certificate in Coaching Orienteering

17/18 and 24 October 2009

Venue: Kingston Maurwood College, Dorchester,

Cost: £200 (note grants may be available for BOF members)

Course information : Information pack and application form on the British Orienteering website www.britishorienteering.org.uk Click onto developing orienteering and then coaching.

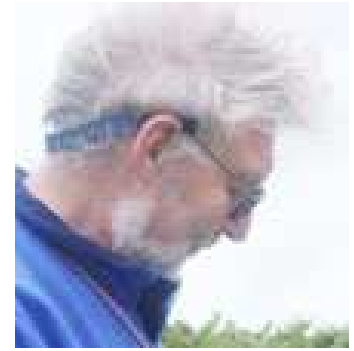
Course Tutor: John Tilsley

Contact for information: vicky@britishorienteering.org.uk

An der schönen blauen Donau (op 314) By Roger Green

Blue it was not – more a dirty brown colour when we were there.

For reasons to do with problems with knees and feet, instead of our usual holiday, walking or trekking in the mountains, Jill and I opted for a self-guided cycle tour.



The idea is the tour organisers, apart from hiring you some bikes, carry your main luggage from one hotel to the next while you cycle with just a few items for the day in a rucksack or pannier bags.

We chose a week long tour in Austria from Salzburg to Vienna via the Danube cycleway from Linz.

We flew from London to Munich and then took a train to Salzburg where at the first hotel we were given a parcel of maps and vouchers for hotels, train rides and boat trips.

The next morning, on our trusty steeds, using a tourist street map, we set out in the rain from the hotel to make for the Salzach river. I immediately made a 180 degree error – something to do with riding on the wrong side of the road was my excuse. We relocated at the mouth of a road tunnel. This was so obvious it must be on the map somewhere. It was, but miles from where I thought we were.

We headed up the cycleway alongside the large river until we came to the start of the ‘Salzkammergutradweg’. This followed the banks of a small but fairly steep stream but today the cycleway was under water.

You probably didn’t know it but during most of June Central and Eastern Europe suffered from prolonged and heavy rainfall. There was much flooding in Germany, Poland, Austria and Hungary and in particular the Danube basin. This was going to be a problem.

The first part of the tour followed the ‘Salzkammergutradweg’. The cycleway winds its way through the Salzkammergut which is a sort of Austrian version of the English Lake District but with trees all the way up the sides of the mountains, which are not particularly high by Alpine standards. We ascended gradually along a cycleway built on a disused railway line. From a summit we then descended past the Mondsee to our second hotel in a resort on the shore of the Attersee lake which was higher than normal with minor flooding around the edges.

The next day we set out, again in the rain, to climb up a minor pass and descend to another lake where we were to take a steamer to the next resort where our hotel was. The road was ominously empty of traffic and after about 5 km we came to a sign ‘Bahnweg überflutet’. Not in the dictionary but obvious so after flagging down a tipper truck and talking to the driver who naturally did not speak English, he said the German equivalent of “Don’t ask me mate, I am only going to the quarry 200 m up the road.

We turned around and had to reassess the whole route. We went round the Attersee and used another cycleway to cross over some hills to arrive at a place called Gmunden on the Traunsee where the next hotel was situated. It was on this stretch that we discovered that the green ‘Radweg’ signs did not entirely agree with the 1:75000 map we had been given and the map was not that comprehensive. The cycleways were marked in bright red which unfortunately obliterated underlying detail. It was difficult to tell whether you should be on a path reserved for cyclists or a minor

After this, we used the compass a lot. Some of the small hamlets and villages, although they had their name displayed as you entered them, were not on the map. They also had some roads within them which were too small to be mapped. When we identified a village and it was on the map we asked: On what bearing should we be leaving this village? On this basis we made progress and with a short train ride included we arrived at the city of Linz on the Danube.

For the trip from here to Vienna we were given a book of strip maps which showed the route at 1:50,000 along both sides of the Danube. The route mostly followed the edge of the river. From our hotel in Linz we set off down the north bank of the river. We decided to give the Mauthausen Concentration Camp Memorial a miss but stopped to go around an open air museum in which a Celtic village had been constructed. Towards the end of the day some of the cycleway was flooded and we rode through six inches of water and mud at times.

The next day we continued along the north bank using a medium size road with quite a bit of traffic. We crossed the Danube at one of several hydroelectric power stations which straddle and control the water levels, to some extent, of the river. In the centre of the river the water was a brown and white boiling hydraulic jump from the gated overflow weirs. We continued along the south bank to our next hotel but the cycleway was frequently flooded and we had to retreat on to the main road.

On the last day we were to ride to the town of Tulln and take a train to Vienna to save the tedium of riding through industrial and residential suburbs. Fortunately the town plan of Tulln we had been given, had, on the back, a map of the countryside surrounding Tulln and using this, we abandoned the cyclepath altogether and devised a route away from the river using minor roads and villages to get to Tulln.

The train deposited us at a station moderately close to the centre of Vienna. Using a 1:25000 tourist map of Vienna we rode to our final hotel, a distance of 7km. It took over an hour. This was the most difficult bit of navigation as we had to stop at very complicated traffic intersections and work out how to get round them. The best way was to become pedestrians and use zebra crossings, although we were nearly knocked down on one light controlled crossing when the 'green man light' was showing. I think the driver made an illegal turn across it.

The next day we took an early train from Vienna back to Munich and then flew back home to London and a coach to Exeter.

The riding worked out at about 60 km per day for 6 days of relatively level countryside. Coping with the floods and absolutely having to get to the next hotel, where your luggage was, made it a bit more stressful than I would have liked. There was a fair bit of rain and a few days of sunshine but not bad for cycling.

BOYS' MAP LESSONS HELP RESCUE AIR CRASH PAIR

From Daily Telegraph 29 May 2009

Two boys used an Ordnance Survey map to find the wreckage of a crashed microlight and help save the lives of the pilot and his passenger. Rory Bennett, 11, and Taran Goodband, 12, were playing in the garden when they saw the aircraft spiral out of control and crash into a dense forest.

The friends used skills learnt in a primary school orienteering lesson to find the microlight near the village of Brockweir, Glos, on Sunday. Rory's father, Steve, dialled 999 and the trio trekked for 15 minutes through thick woodland before finding two people crying for help at the crash site.

Mr Bennett stayed with the pilot, who had a broken leg, and the passenger, who had injured his back, while Rory and Taran guided paramedics to the scene. He said rescue workers believed the pilot and his passenger could have died if the boys had not found them as no one else saw the crash and emergency services were unable to locate the microlight.

JK2009

A story of success, disappointment, an eye injury and friendship by Adrian Taylor



On March 8th at a East Hill Devon O' event I experienced a scratched eye, nearing the final control, for the first time in about 500 events over the past 30 years. It took 3 hours for the brain chemicals to subside before the intense pain kicked in, confining me to bed and a dark room for 24 hours, with a work deadline looming.

All seemed fine after using eye drops for a few days and I was back cycling and picking up some points at the Compass Sport Cup event at Bullers Hill the following weekend. The nurse had not mentioned the continued use of an eye lubricant beyond 5 days and it was only after 2 weeks that I was reminded of the scratch. I was woken early in the morning with the same intense pain: apparently the eye lids may come apart while sleeping, the eye dries and sticks to the lids and the scratch opens again. During a routine eye appointment I was advised to take an eye ointment before sleeping, for up to 3 months, which I immediately began though didn't really know how much to use.

So, no eye problem for a week, and it was time to get away from an intense 3 months at work for a great long weekend in Northumberland at the JK 2009. My wife Helen was happy to stay at home, especially with the prospect of camping in April, with Duncan (M16) and 2 Torbay Grammar School boys (M18s, Matt Ryder and Jack Baker). With a car packed with O gear and camping stuff we reached a Travel Lodge, after 400 miles of early Easter weekend traffic, the night before the Sprint O in Newcastle, with some excitement. Just when things are going well I forgot to apply the ointment and woke up in the dry hotel room at 2am with a reminder of the seething eye pain and floods of tears. The next morning was fine and we got to a car park (ironically next to the eye dept of the hospital) in Newcastle city centre near the Assembly area. Having registered separately, we ended up with starts over a 4 hour period which brought the parking bill to over £7: Not as bad as one orienteer who acquired an £80 fine for returning to his car 10 mins late. The event, using a mix of university campus, local streets and park, was unusual but fun with courses between 2-3km, which were over in around 18-21 mins. Duncan would probably have had a top 5 position but the rapid decision making led to missing one control. Jack enjoyed his first Sprint O with a respectable time, and Matt also did well.

So, further north to near Bamburgh on the coast. In a Torbay scout tent we cooked a meal as it rained lightly then got to sleep early in anticipation of some enjoyable runs in the JK proper. My eye had other ideas. Despite using the lubrication cream I was up at 3am with intense pain which subsided after about an hour. Glorious sunshine the next morning was welcomed by all, except me, as my right eye was flooded with tears. We got to the event in good time and I decided that my eye would settle down eventually in the shade of the car, which it did. I was off first but it wasn't an area for the cautious. Surely there were nicer areas of Northumberland, with larger areas of open forest creating less fear of eye injury. I had no appetite for thrashing through fallen vegetation and walked/jogged around in 103 mins, in a similar time to Jack, on a slightly different course, who occasionally found the technical challenge of a national event just too much. Duncan had a disappointing start but came in the top 10 for the first year M16s, and Matt had a storming run, coming 2nd in M18. These events are big social occasion, for all ages, so after a few hours in the Assembly area we headed back to the campsite for more pasta, and Jack managed a quick sea swim off a beautiful beach overlooking Holy Island.

Once again, my eye flared up in the night and I only just managed to get everyone to the Day 3 car park, driving the 3 miles with one eye open, in the 'glorious' sunshine. It was a horrendous day for me, keeping out of the sunlight and breeze as best I could. The boys enjoyed their runs, and Matt came 2nd in the M18. My eye lids on the problematic eye were so swollen I couldn't drive, so a solution was needed. I am forever grateful to Olivier Boucher who came to the rescue. Olivier gave up his flight home that evening from Newcastle to Exeter with his family, to drive me to Berwick A & E in my car (after calling home to Helen to extend insurance to another driver). Alan Simpson drove the lads back to the campsite after the awards ceremony (see last issue of Devon Orienteer) where they stayed, while Olivier and I remained at a Travel Lodge in Berwick. The next day Olivier drove the car the 500 miles home, with a car full of luggage and 4 passengers, with a stop at Newcastle Hospital to have my eye checked; and thankfully a general doctor suggested no viral infection as suspected in Berwick. This forced us to miss the JK Relay event. The next day an eye specialist at the Exeter Hospital confirmed nothing too serious and the eye was clearing up quickly. So, three more months to keep the eye lubricated each night with Viscotears gel, and overcome the thought that every branch and twig is out to get me in the forest.

A JK to forget, and a story to be told about success, disappointment and friendships. If anyone has an eye injury, it may heal very quickly, but I recommend lubricating it for a few months to prevent a recurrence, even it feels fine.

Footnote: At the subsequent Devon galoppen, in conversation with Arthur Boyt about his most recent tv appearance about cooking road kill and his expertise in biochemistry, he highly recommended urine as a treatment for all cuts, even on the eye. Thanks Arthur, but I think I will stick with the gel for now.

Junior Inter Regionals Championships

Matt Ryder (M18) and Duncan Taylor (M16) have been selected to represent the South West in these championships in Northern Ireland in September.

Congratulations to both of them. And our best wishes for successful runs.

BRITISH ORIENTEERING SW REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE - SATURDAY 28TH NOVEMBER

This conference will provide an opportunity for club delegates to share and consider new ideas for club development. It will be held at The Holiday Inn, Taunton, Somerset, cost £10 per person including refreshments and lunch.

More information and booking forms will be available in September. Please email me to register your interest in receiving further information.

Celia Watkinson, SW Regional Development Officer

Email: celia@britishorienteering.org.uk

NEAR DISASTER AT BLACK PARK

John Last, Thames Valley OC

I was amused to hear that we didn't have the start and finish controls. A minor glitch I thought and nothing to do with me. Eventually Mark Thompson convinced me that I might have handled these controls (I thought that there were just 2 bags of stakes and 2 boxes of Emit things) and that they might be in my garage. I therefore sent a fast courier to my house to collect them. Unfortunately his horse went lame and he didn't get back until 11.45 so here was a potential disaster. People would have more to complain about than lack of publicity and road signs.

However, the EMIT controls are all basically the same. They are like bees, where some become workers and some are fed royal jelly and become queens. So our top alchemists fed royal jelly to a worker control and it became a finish.

Not so easy with the start controls as they have different DNA. DNA is the code that determines whether you will turn out to be a human, a bee or an Emit control. Its structure is like a corkscrew. To be more precise it's two corkscrews. Crick and Watson met over a bottle of wine to discuss the structure of DNA and the corkscrew gave them the idea. After a few bottles Crick told Watson he was seeing double. "That's it", cried Watson, "It's a double corkscrew" and they were so pleased that they jumped out of the bath and ran down the street shouting "Ulrika". Ulrika was a lady who helped them in their research and never got the credit she deserved. Later she helped SG Erikson develop the theory of how to gets loads of money for doing nothing.

Of course we should not take these coded corkscrews too literally. The DNA corkscrews are really small and quite flexible. When two corkscrews act on a cork they split it making two corks together with two new screws. Thus the mystery of life unfolds.

So we couldn't convert an ordinary control to a start without major surgery. Fortunately Fred Ashford had a spare start, which he had found somewhere or made in his garage, so all was well and the event started on time without a hitch.

Having explained EMIT controls and the meaning of life, it might be interesting to see how the whole system works. The controls are like flowers and the EMIT brick is like a bee. (This may seem confusing, the controls were bees in the previous analogy but we have to remember that bees and flowers have 89% the same DNA so they can be used interchangeably. It is called bee-flower duality). Anyway the bee travels to the different flowers picking up pollen and their different DNA or corkscrews. These are only tiny corkscrews but they do explain why the brick feels even heavier, as you get towards the finish. The finish control imparts its unique queenly corkscrew.

When the bees get back to the hive they have to download. They impart the information to the internal workers by an elaborate dance. Note that bees work in numbers to a base 6 (hexal?) because they have six legs. (Humans work in decimal, because they have 10 toes and computers work in binary because they are not very clever.) They then use two bees who have lost a leg to convert to decimal for output. These internal bees are called software. Note that, if you mess with the software, you will get stung. So that's how EMIT works. In the next issue – string theory.

DEVON RELAYS RESULTS

Five Tors Sunday 19 July 2009

Team Results

| Position | Team | Names | Time | Handicap | Penalty | Handicap Time |
|----------|---------------------|---|-------|----------|---------------|---------------|
| 1 | WESSEX Raiders | D Paget J Brook J Cook | 42.75 | 13.5 | 0 | 29.05 |
| 2 | QUANTOCK Crocksteps | M Crockett B Pearson R Sansbury | 49.17 | 15.5 | 0 | 33.47 |
| 3 | NGOC | P Taunton R Taunton J Taunton | 47.34 | 12 | 0 | 35.34 |
| 4 | KERNOlds | B Olds E Hargreaves S Beech | 53.44 | 18 | 0 | 35.44 |
| 5 | DEVON 1 | J Pearce C Pearce L Bean | 57.37 | 19.5 | 0 | 38.07 |
| 6 | KERNO 2 | C Moncaster W Hancock P Morton | 53.31 | 11.5 | 0 | 42.01 |
| 7 | KERNOWay | P Newall A Newall G Henderson | 43.05 | 10 | 10 Miss 20 | 43.05 |
| 8 | OLK Wiggertal | Lukas Gysin Nick Gerbert Alain Gafner | 60.48 | 16 | 0 | 44.48 |
| 9 | WESSEX | T Houlder T Stratford R Arman | 65.48 | 17.5 | 10 Miss 16 | 58.18 |
| 10 | KERNO 1 | M Lockett N Wondrausch | 64.02 | 3.5 | 0 | 61.32 |
| 11 | WESSEX Wizzers | R Hick B Brown C Brown | 85.12 | 19 | 0 | 66.12 |
| 12 | DEVON 2 | S Blackford J Blackford T Blackford | 84.29 | 17.5 | 10 Miss 11 | 87.59 |

Individual Scores

| | | | |
|--------------------|---------|-------|-------------|
| Phil Way | M45 | DEVON | 20 controls |
| Alex Way | W40 | DEVON | 17 controls |
| Erik Peckett | M75 | DEVON | 13 controls |
| Stephen Dunford | M70 | DEVON | 12 controls |
| Helen & Hugh Clark | W55/M14 | IND | 11 controls |
| Val Livsey | W70 | DEVON | 10 controls |

DEVON OC COMMUNICATIONS

Yesterday & Today; Tomorrow

by Mike Hosford



Having promised Alan I would be at the Devon Relays event site by 0900 I actually arrived at the published GR by 0830; no directions out at that hour. My concern increased after 0900 when no orienteer appeared, so I drove back to other possible car parks, to no avail. I had no idea where to look.

Later it was pointed out to me that Jill's fixture list, from which I obtain the data for the newsletter does state that one should look at the club website for any late changes. No help for the 20% of the club without internet access

As I only look at the events I insert in the newsletter my eye has no cause to move to the bottom of her page. I can recall only one instance in the last 20 years in which there has been a late change: 24 February 2001 when DNPA asked us to cancel a Haytor event I was organising because of the onset of Foot and Mouth. I drove to the site with large notices and remained there until after the time for last start.

Yesterday & Today

Soon after becoming club secretary in 1989 I invested in Office Professional so that I could set up a database of club members to address labels for John Searle, the then newsletter editor. In about 2000 I acquired internet access and set up a Devon OC group of email addresses so that I could send out bulk messages when needed. In effect I became the club's *Messenger Mike*.

A few months ago when for some reason I was not available Roger Green, clever chap, managed with little effort to copy all the addresses from one of my earlier messages into his address book and was able to send out a necessary message to all members with email access.

Tomorrow

In January this year I attended the funerals of three erstwhile colleagues, the last being my previous head of department who had died at the age of 97. Shortly after I met my successor as head of department who told me that it had been decided that all former heads of department will live to 97.

Yippee! Another 15 years; I could well become a proud great grandpa and great great uncle.

Unfortunately, I cannot guarantee to comply with that decision, and I think the club should consider possible consequences. Should I tumble down a mountain when on holiday in Italy or France (coming down is a lot more difficult than going up), or step in front of a bus because I had forgotten to put on my hearing aids, the club could be inconvenienced if appropriate precautions are not taken beforehand. Inability to produce sheets of address labels, and keep the database up to date would be a serious handicap, and disastrous for those without internet access. And Peter Flick, our membership secretary is not much younger than I. If a relatively young club member has Access or some other compatible database Peter or I could keep him/her up to date when needed. Roger has already shown that he is able to copy my Devon OC group .

Not so urgent, but worth considering - if there are latent Nick Barrables in the club who would like to edit Devon Orienteer, or a member who would like to look after the League Table, please do come forward. I enjoy the tasks, but as I am treasurer of Dartmouth Museum and the longest serving member of the Britannia Choral Society - over 50 years - I am more than busy. Indeed, I am confident no other octogenarian in Dartmouth puts in more time on honorary tasks than I, and I would enjoy more time with my children, grandchildren, nephew great nephews and great niece.

The AGM is in a few weeks. Give it a thought. All being well I shall be with friends in France that day, in which case I shall miss the AGM.

Club Meeting held on Friday 12 June 2009 at the Globe, Fore Street, Chudleigh

Present

Alan Simpson, Graham Dugdale, John Dyson, Lew Bean, Wilf Taylor, Tom Lillicrap, Jill and Roger Green.

Apologies

Peter Flick, Ella Bowles, Antony Dew and Mike Hosford.

Matters Arising from previous minutes (not elsewhere covered)

PLYMOUTH SCHOOLS ORIENTEERING LEAGUE

At a meeting on the 28th April 2009 it was agreed to repeat the Plymouth Schools Orienteering League next year. It was hoped now that the league was established more schools could be encouraged to participate.

SOUTH WEST SKILLS ACTIVE AGENCY

The SW Skills Activity agency is offering access to funds to pay for training in club management skills. So far there have been no requests from either club members or the committee.

Fixtures

Jill Green reported that most of the officials are now in place for the Caddihoe weekend in September, which will be the SWOA Long championship for 2009. Nick Barrable, editor of Compass Sport magazine, is to run a competition based on the Caddihoe event, and Erik Peckett will provide Nick a map segment of the area.

Subject to agreement with Kerno, planning for the Tamar triple is falling into place. Ben Chesters is interested in planning the "Devon event". With all three events being held at Penhale it seems sensible to set up activity teams to cover each function for all three days. It was proposed that Graham Pring act as event treasurer, Lew Bean sets up the website and Fabian 4 will be used for entries. Approaches are being made to a single controller for all three days.

It was agreed that the club will make a bid to hold the 2010 SWOA Sprint Championships at Exeter University early in September 2010.

Mapping

Simon Beck has completed the re-mapping of Dart Valley, which will now be renamed River Dart Country Park. Mike Wimpenny is updating the Whitchurch Common map.

Steve Perrelle is keen to use the Torbay maps which the club has. Roger Green said that the maps, which are in the possession of Lew Bean, needed to be updated and put into OCAD format. Tom Lillicrap volunteered to work on them and will be provided with OCAD7.

Secretary's Report

The club has received requests to publicise events staged by other orienteering clubs and other organisations. In recent times these have included SWOA relay events and an event to be staged by Marjons on 4th October 2009 (clashing with Quantock leg of the Long "O" week-end). It was agreed that the club would only publicise events in which we had no organisational input, in exceptional circumstances. SWOA already have Galoppen details on their website and have been asked to investigate whether the SWOA relays can be similarly publicised.

Editor's Footnote: Because of our close association with Kerno I have always published their events with ours in Devon Orienteer.

Treasurer's Report

The club is currently down £3,000 on last year and this figure could rise before the end of the budget year in July. The figure is slightly higher than expected, but reflects the high level of expenditure on mapping new areas or re-mapping where existing maps were out of date.

Coaching

Weekly coaching sessions under Wilf Taylor continue at Buller's Hill from 1700 to 1900 on Tuesdays. Although aimed at the Torbay Scouts, all club members are welcome to attend. Wilf has arranged to provide orienteering coaching to Teignbridge Trotters on the 29th June at Haldon. Training for Sidmouth Athletic Club juniors is scheduled for early July at Bicton. Jill Green offered to canvass Exeter Harriers to see if they would welcome orienteering coaching. A flier is to be prepared (by whom?).

Wilf's assessment for his UKCC level 2 coaching qualification will be undertaken by John Seers in late June/early July.

Alan Simpson reported from the SWOA committee meeting on 10th June 2009 that the push to produce more coaches is gathering momentum. Although the high cost of meeting the qualification requirements (typically course training for UKCC level 1 coach with first aid costs £300) may become a deterrent, there are currently funds available to offset the cost, so now is the time to get qualified.

Requests for orienteering coaching have been received from Uffculme School and from Tiverton Cadets. Jill Green undertook to contact Uffculme school. It was agreed that travel expenses of 25p/mile could be claimed by coaches operating for Devon OC.

Membership

Peter Flick reported that latest returns from BOF indicate that the club membership has fallen by 30% to 166. Analysis of club events show that the attendance figures for club members has remained much the same, so it may be inferred that many of the less active members have resigned. Perhaps more worrying is Peter's comment on the decline in the number of enquiries at events.

Sail Banners

Alan Simpson has been investigating the costs of replacing the club banner in our new club colours and in obtaining start and finish banners. It was agreed to purchase (at a cost of £121 + VAT + delivery) a 3.5m banner with club name and logo (at the bottom) on coloured background with 5m super pole from Banners-for-All (who supplied our previous club banner). A decision on start and finish banners was deferred so that Alan could investigate Atlas Flags, who according to Peter Flick, have provided generic start and finish banners in the past.

Ranking Lists

John Dyson reported that the plans for ranking lists under the new 3-level events system, would be based around a single ranking list for all competitors, which would be based on performance in all events. There would be a small premium for performances at national events. Competitors would be able to apply filters to get the age and sex classification they wanted.

Concern was expressed that if ranking points were available at level 3 events, there would not be a great incentive to travel to the level 2 events and that this could significantly affect the revenues that Devon OC obtain from the Tamar Triple and the Caddihoe Chase.

It was also noted that this may result in extra work if results need to be passed to the ranking team in a format which cannot be easily extracted.

WSX SPRINT RACE

Saturday 5th September 2009

PRELIMINARY INFORMATION

The 2009 South West Sprint Championships will take place at the University of Bournemouth on a new map drawn to ISSOM standards by Bill Brown. There will be a two-round competition with a prologue in late morning and a final, starting in reverse order of times (fastest from the prologue starts last) in the early afternoon. The combined times will be used to determine the overall winners. The races will take place through the University Campus, the Arts institute and a small housing estate. SI electronic will be used.

The following ten classes will be used.

Mini (M&W 10-12 -Yellow)

Junior (M&W14-16)

Open (M&W18-40)

Veteran (M&W45-55)

Super Veteran M&W60+)

| Course | Class | Distance | Technicality | Notes |
|--------|-----------|----------|--------------|------------------------------|
| 1 | M/W 10-12 | | easy | All on Campus/Arts Institute |
| 2 | M/W 14-16 | | medium | All on Campus/Arts Institute |
| 3 | M/W 45-55 | | High | |
| 4 | M/W 60 | | High | |
| 5 | Open | | High | |

Next issue of Devon Orienteer

Late September - Press deadline: 25 September

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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 |
|---------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|------------|------------------------------|
| Sunday 23 Aug | 1000 1300 | Local event NO DOGS | Coldrennick Liskeard | Sx 307 620 | KERNO |
| Saturday 12 Sept | 1100 Mass start | Score event | Whitchurch Common | SX 524 729 | Alan Simpson 01752 311367 |

See pages 2 & 3 for details of venue for free buffet lunch and social before the AGM

| | | | | | |
|---------------------|--------------|---|---------------------------------|------------|--------------------------------|
| Saturday 12 Sept | 1500 1630 | Annual General Meeting | Walkhampton-Memorial Hall | SX 534 696 | Graham Dugdale 01626 852944 |
| Saturday 19 Sept | Pre-entry | Caddihoe Chase Day 1 SWOA Long Championships | Haytor/Houndtor Bovey Tracey | SX 740 793 | Jill Green 01392 278512 |
| Sunday 20 Sept | Pre-entry | Caddihoe Chase Day 2 Chasing start | Haytor/Houndtor Bovey Tracey | SX 740 793 | Jill Green 01392 278512 |

Full details of the Caddihoe Chase and online entry forms are on the Club website
www.devonorienteeing.co.uk

Members without internet access should contact Jill Green

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------|--|--------------------------|------------|--------------------------------|
| Sunday 27 Sept | 1000 1300 | Gallopen Local event, Forest League | Craddock Moor Minions | SX 263 715 | KERNO |
| Saturday 3 Oct | 0900 1200 | Dartmoor Long O Devon OC | Meldon Reservoir | SX 561 917 | Roger Green 01392 279512 |
| Sunday 4 Oct | | Exmoor Long O Quantock OC | Exmoor Simonsbath | SS 774 395 | tba |
| Sunday 18 Oct | 1000 1300 | Local & Forest League | Hardhead Downs | No dogs | KERNO |
| Saturday 7 Nov | 1800 1900 | Night event | Norsworthy Bridge | SX 568 694 | Paul Glanville 01822 617713 |
| Sunday 22 Nov | 1000 1230 | Gallopen & League event 1 | Holne Moor | SX 694 703 | Gary Ratcliffe 01822 890347 |

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.