

# DEVON ORIENTEER

No 154

March 2013.



*Graham Dugdale at the Compass Sport Cup at Haytor in 2012*



## CLUB OFFICIALS

Patron  
President

Sir John Cave Bt, DL  
Major General N. F. Vaux CB DSO

### Committee

Chairman	John Dyson	
Secretary	Nick Hockey	
Treasurer	Andy Reynolds	
Club Captain	Tessa Stone	
Development	Alan Simpson	
Committee Members	Graham Dugdale	Membership Secretary
	Roger Green	Mapping
	Nicholas Maxwell	Fixtures, Access & Permissions
	Steve Perrelle	
	Wilf Taylor	Coaching

### Other officials

Child Welfare	Helen Taylor
Club Clothing	Vivienne Maxwell
Equipment & SI	Alan Simpson
Newsletter Editor	Susan Hateley ( <a href="mailto:susan@susanhateley.wanadoo.co.uk">susan@susanhateley.wanadoo.co.uk</a> )
SWOA Representative	John Dyson
Web Manager	Lew Bean

## CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

February 2013 will be remembered by many of us for the avalanche tragedy near Glencoe, with the loss of Tom Chesters and his partner Rachel Majumdar. Newer members – like me – never really knew Tom, as he had moved to University in Leeds. However we felt the loss just as much, and our hearts went out to John, Ruth and Ben. A posse of senior club members attended the funeral, and Ben has kindly provided an account of Tom's life elsewhere in this issue.

On behalf of the Club, I am particularly grateful to the family for continuing to fulfil their roles for the Mutter's Moor event, which was a great success. Ben's courses showed why he is in demand as a planner for major events, and the additional area to the coastline added extra challenges for us all.

Our juniors continue to make waves at national level – and perhaps, beyond. As most of you are aware, a team from Torquay Boys Grammar School are to represent Britain at the World Schools Orienteering Championships in Portugal next month. This is the culmination of consistent work by Steve Perrelle in weaving orienteering into the school's curriculum, and creating opportunities of a lifetime for the successful pupils. Both the Club and the Regional Association have contributed towards their travel expenses. Good luck!

Development of juniors is also coming on apace in East Devon, thanks to Tessa Stone's unflagging enthusiasm. Junior entrants for club events continue to rise, a coaching course is being arranged, and weekly training sessions are now a regular feature. Tessa is also developing links with Active Devon to work towards a county-wide competition for juniors.

Best wishes to all members taking part in the JK and other major events, not forgetting the Southern Championships at Penhale – have you entered yet?

John Dyson

## WELCOME

Welcome to all those who have recently joined the club. We hope that you will enjoy your orienteering in Devon and the wider South West.

Harry Jamieson(M14) Torquay.

James Condon (M14) Totnes

Oscar Devine-Wright (M14) Alfie Devine-Wright (M18)

Patrick Devine-Wright (M40) Hannah Devine-Wright (W45) Cullompton

Sarah Foulkes (W35) Richard Foulkes (M45) Sidford

Nick Townley (M21) Plymouth

Dominic Robinson (M40) Plymouth

Isabelle Perren Smart (W10) Francesca Perren Smart (W14)

Paul Rutherford (M50) Julie Perren (W45) Newton Abbot

Sam Kneath (M12) Torquay

James Nicholson (M16) Woodbury

Hugo Twigger (M12) Newton Abbot

Peter Grierson (M50) Ottery

Ben Stevens (M12) Newton Abbot

David Fallshaw (M14) Bovey Tracey

## TOM CHESTERS

**4<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 1984 TO 19<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2013.**

Tom Chesters was one of four friends tragically killed by an avalanche in the Glen Coe area of Scotland on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2013. Although, in later life, Tom competed less frequently in orienteering events, he had enjoyed a successful career as a junior athlete and, even when competing less himself, always showed an interest in the sport, participating when time, and injuries, allowed.

Tom was involved in orienteering from a young age. So young that, inevitably, his first courses were string courses which he ran with his Mum. He quickly grew in confidence and soon progressed to running string courses on his own, and then made the progression to the off-string course. Before long, Tom was competing on 'proper' courses and, by the time he was an M10, he was challenging for a top position at most races. Over the next few years, he took the south-west galopen series by storm, and won the Yellow, Orange and Light Green leagues in quick succession. By the time Tom was 13, he was a member of the South West Junior Squad, and became an ever-present fixture in their team for the JIRC's.

However, Tom was not content with that, and was determined to progress further. Much hard work was rewarded when he was selected to represent England at the Junior Home International and, shortly after that, was selected for the BOF 'Start Squad' (similar to the current 'Talent Development Squad'). Through the Start Squad, Tom attended many training camps, including those held in Scandinavia, and continued to progress further. It was surely only a matter of time until he was selected to represent Britain at an international competition.

Unfortunately, at the age of 17, Tom's progression through the ranks of junior orienteering was halted suddenly by a serious knee injury sustained during a school football match. This required an operation, and meant that Tom's knee would never again be strong enough to sustain the level of training required for international orienteering, and so Tom became a 'recreational' orienteer, rather than a 'serious' orienteer. Consequently, Tom found time for other activities to keep him fit and quickly became proficient at mountain biking. Not only was Tom good at riding bikes, but he also developed an extensive knowledge of bike maintenance and construction.

After successfully completing his A-Levels, Tom left home in Devon to study 'Sports Science and Bio-mechanics' at Leeds University. He continued orienteering here, joining Airienteers and representing the university at the British University Orienteering Championships. It was at Leeds University, that Tom first met his girlfriend, Rachel Majumdar.

Following the completion of his degree, Tom worked as a mountain bike guide for a summer season at a Greek resort near Sivota. This was followed by an attempt to find work in his native Devon. However, Tom was unable to find a job which suited him, and soon got itchy feet again. So he embarked on several summer seasons working as a mountain bike guide near Bourg Saint Maurice in the French Alps, for a company called Bike Village. Towards the end of this period, Tom also turned his hand to cooking at Bike Village and, on my last visit to see Tom there, I saw more of him in the kitchen than on bike rides. He was, undoubtedly, also a very skilled chef, and Tom also made use of these skills during a couple of winter seasons where he worked in a chalet in the French Alps. During these winter seasons, Tom also developed an interest in skiing and mountaineering.

Eventually, Tom decided that he needed to undertake a Masters degree, and enrolled on a Bio-Mechanics course at Kings College in London. This made it easier for me to visit Tom, and I did so on a number of occasions – with us both making sure that my visits fitted in with an opportunity to go to White Hart Lane to watch Tottenham Hotspur play, as we've both supported them all our lives. I will never forget those matches, nor will I ever forget the run Tom took me on around the edge of the then under construction Olympic Park.

Although Tom had taken part in a couple of Mountain Marathons when he was younger, his time working in the Alps had fuelled his love of the mountains and wild open spaces, and my visits to see him in the Alps had done much the same for me. As a result of this, Tom and I embarked on our first Mountain Marathon together – the 2010 LAMM. We loved it, and went back for the next two years. We ran the B course and our results gradually improved over the years from 21<sup>st</sup> in our first year, to 17<sup>th</sup> in 2011, to 7<sup>th</sup> in what, tragically, was to be our last LAMM together, in 2012. In 2010, Tom and I also competed in the OMM on Dartmoor as, both being Devon lads, it seemed rude to miss the chance to run in a 'home' OMM. We finished 4<sup>th</sup> on the C course. Quite impressive Mountain Marathon results for two people who did no specific training for that kind of event – at least, that's what we thought anyway!

After completing his Masters, Tom went to the University of Hull, to work towards a PhD. During the early stages of his PhD, Tom lived in Hull. He joined the local orienteering club, HALO, and was a running as a member of HALO at the last orienteering events we attended as a family – the 2011 Scottish 6 Days. In the latter stages of his PhD, Tom moved to Leeds as he had many more friends there from his 'original' university days, and decided to join Airienteers. Tom's research at the University of Hull was related to Osteoporosis and its impact on the gait of elderly sufferers. It is tragic to think that this work may never be completed as the accident at Glen Coe took place while Tom was in the final year of this research. However, what is now very evident to us, on the basis of the vast number of messages we have received from his colleagues and patients at Hull, is that Tom's work was excellent and very highly regarded. In some ways, I guess this makes the tragedy even more horrendous.

Before Tom left Devon for Leeds, and whenever he visited Devon after that, Tom also enjoyed hashing. In fact, his very last run with me and my parents was a hash on Boxing Day. This was on a part of Woodbury Common which, fittingly, is very close to where the wake was held after his funeral.

Tom's funeral was held at the East Devon Crematorium, close to his childhood home in Ottery St. Mary, on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2013. It was attended by nearly 200 mourners, representing all elements of Tom's life, who had travelled from many parts of the country, as well as from abroad. There were also many others, unable to make the trip to East Devon, who watched a web-cast of the service (an advantage of using a new, state-of-the-art facility, such as that provided at the East Devon Crematorium!). The ceremony was a celebration of everything Tom achieved in his all too short life, and the numbers that attended are a tribute to him.

As a family, we have been overwhelmed by the amount of cards and support we have received, and we know that Tom would be humbled, perhaps even a little embarrassed, by this. However, we also regard this as a fantastic tribute to Tom who, as well as being a wonderful, caring and loving son to my parents and brother to myself, was also a fantastic cousin, nephew, friend and colleague to so many people. At just 28 years old, Tom's life was cut tragically short by a horrendous accident but, by all those who knew him, Tom will never be forgotten and he will continue to inspire us all in many ways. The world is a much poorer place without him.

Ben Chesters – 6<sup>th</sup> February 2013.

## **GOOD LUCK**

We wish the following all the best for the World Schools Orienteering Championships where they will be representing England in the M14 class:

James Dean    Sam Peat    Dom Clarke    Oscar Stubbs    Harry Jamieson.

Remember to know where you are all the time, keep concentrating and avoid distractions.

Accompanying them will be Steve Perrelle and Ben Chesters.

For older members, Gerald Woodley's grandson, Joe is in the select M16 England team.

## **REPORTS**

### **Compass Sport Cup**

It was a first for me in both area and course; as I had never before attempted a blue course. In hindsight I am glad that I did do my first blue at Poole, because it was some of the best terrain I have run on and with the beach just walking distance away from the car park for both before and after the runs was enjoyable too. At the first look of the start, I



thought the majority of the run would be in forest. However, once we started, we immediately went out onto a large expanse of open land, marshes and hills. I found the area quite flat but this was made up for by the planner by a very long and exhausting course for a debut blue runner. Other than a lot of sticky mud and deep marshes the land was very good for running which made it a very enjoyable course. With the nice back setting for when you finished the run and the lovely running terrain during, I can happily say it was a great orienteering day for me and I'm sure it was for others too.

James Dean (M14)

## Kerno Galoppen

Living in North Devon we usually have to travel many miles to attend any event and have become very familiar with all the routes to South Devon, Cornwall and to the M5. Our nearest venue is Braunton Burrows; however, since the Christie Estate has priced it out of the range of the club, Cookworthy Forest becomes our "home" area. It was with great anticipation that we drove to Cookworthy on 24th February for the Kerno Galoppen.



Assembly was at the Deer Meadow and the start and finish within a couple of hundred metres. I ran the short green course and from the start it was across a clean runnable piece of forest over a steep bank and straight onto the control. Like a foll, I opted to fight my way through the slow run forest to reach the track and had to fight my way across a deep ditch. Once on the track it was a brisk walk to the forest at the edge of the open and up between the wind blow to the ditches. Arrived too far east and made my way around the wind blow to my control. Then west to the main track and to the track bend and down the ditch to the control. The ground had had two weeks to dry, but even so it was rather muddy in places, especially where there are marshes mapped. After control 3 I headed straight into the mire! Typical! Across the track north of the house into the area where the deer gather which increased the mud. I lost a bit of height here and had to go up to control 4. I dropped down to the track and then across a lovely beech wood before going back into the plantation and to number 5. From here to the next control allowed my to visit the eucalyptus trees with their peeling bark, across the banks, trying to maximize the gaps created by the deer and then into the open to the control. To reach number 7 I made use of the runnable forest and open areas to guide me onto the control, then through the slow run, across the track and keeping close to the edge of the open, onto number 8. I used



the ditches and rides to get to number 9, although I had a headless chicken moment in finding it. Skirting the open area, number 10 was easily reached and it was just a walk to the track and to the last control and the finish. Although muddy in places as Cookworthy is planted on top of Culm measures, an impermeable type of rock, I felt the planner had made excellent use of the forest, taking the short green course, at least, into the better more runnable areas of the forest.

Susan Hateley

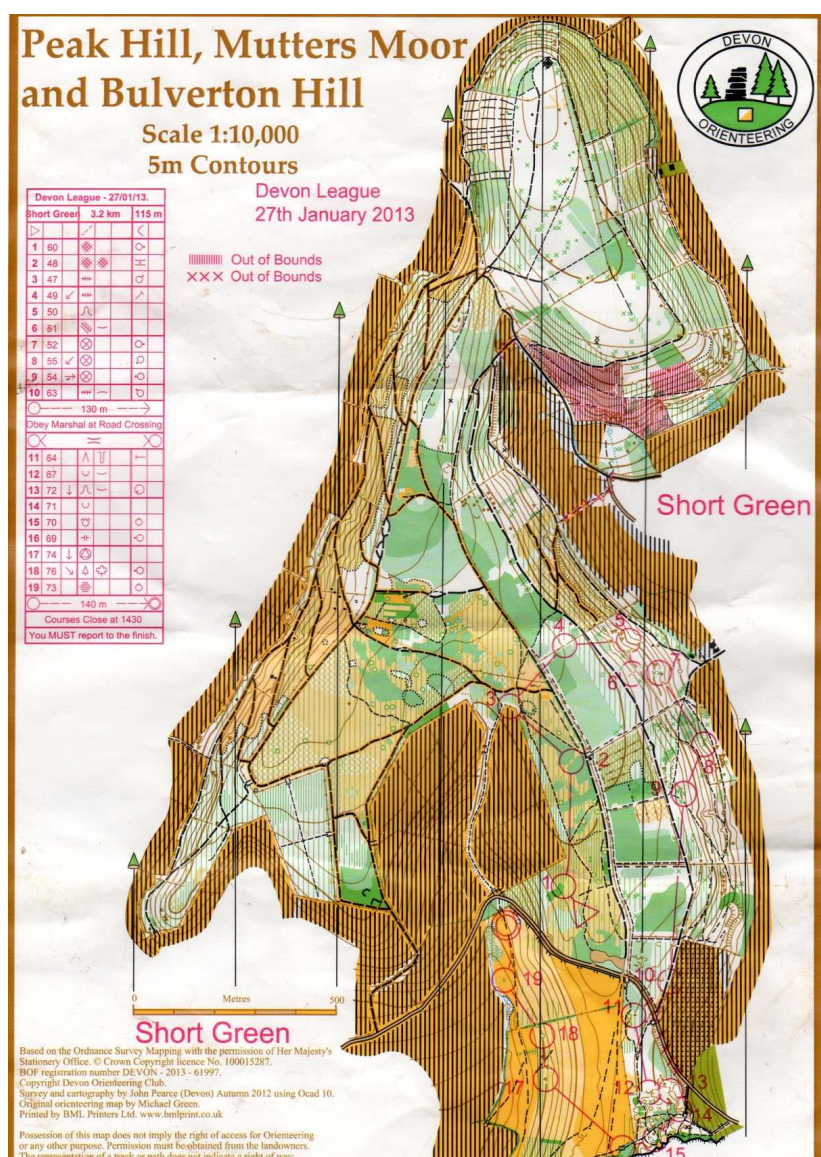
## PLYMOUTH SCHOOLS ORIENTEERING LEAGUE

Alan Simpson is busy organising a series of events for the schools of Plymouth. He has organised this league for several years. This year there are to be three events held on a Wednesday afternoon in parks around the city. The first will be in Devonport Park on 17<sup>th</sup> April, then on 24<sup>th</sup> April at Marjon University and finally in Central Park on 1<sup>st</sup> May.

Winners will qualify to take part in the Level 3 Devon Schools Orienteering Final at Exeter Arena on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2013, organised by Tessa Stone of Devon Orienteering Club, and Kevin Moran of the East Devon School Sport Partnership,

## DOGGY TAILS CONTINUED

My first event of 2013! What a beautiful day, wall to wall sunshine and some beautiful views. We went to Mutters Moor and were able to do a short green course – slowly, of course, to allow for Susan's arthritic knee.



We squelched down the track for a few metres after the start triangle, looking for a way in towards the gorse thicket where the control was situated. I had to pick my way carefully over all the gorse prickles, and refused to go through a particularly thick patch, I sensed mistress was calling me a coward, but she had shoes on and I was bare pawed!, so we went back and in a different way. Back onto the track and through all the mud. Just in time I remembered it is good for my complexion. In through the gorse to number 2 and then out along a ride at a brisk walk to the track junction and into the bank. There I met a black Labrador and his family. I wanted to greet them all properly, but Susan was her usual mean self and stopped me. We hurried back onto the track and then made our way across some open ground into the woods on the eastern side of the hill. Along the bank to the control and then down onto another track before Susan went slithering down the hill whilst I easily kept my footing and tried to hurry her along. We went into a re-entrant before I had to pull Susan up the hill as she was so slow! We went to the ditch before going back down the hill, via another control that I hit spot on as I guided us to it. We had a short walk along the bottom track by the golf course, before we headed up the hill to control 8 and even higher up to number 9. We met the black Labrador and his party again at the control. I thought that they were doing very well. We then took our time along a track to the final control over on the north side of the road before a kind gentleman helped us across it.

We went in through the gate onto Peak Hill. This was a very nice area, once we had met up with Roger and he helped us into our control. I wanted us to stay with him, but “she who must be obeyed” insisted that we went to a different control. We had a good trip through the next three controls and then headed out to the open area by the cliffs for number 15. The views were fantastic, looking right down to the sea and the beach at Sidmouth. I asked Susan why the sea was red, she explained that there were red cliffs and so the sand was red, and there had been several rock falls which when the waves stirred it all up gave the sea its red colour. I think I must have put her off as she had difficulty finding the next control; we found it in the end and then joined the people heading to the gate into the open area on the top of Peak Hill. We had a lovely downhill walk to the final controls and then a gentle walk to the finish. I was so pleased, my friends Carol and Val were at the flag and I was able to greet them properly by jumping all over them, especially Carol, who was sitting down, helping finishers find their way back to download.

I thoroughly enjoyed my first visit to Mutters Moor and would like to thank everyone who put the event on and allowed me to take Susan around the course.

I've been on my first planning expedition! On a fine day with no orienteering at the weekend we went to an area that was new to me in East Devon. Roger and Susan are putting on an event at Core Copse in June and they went armed with a map marked with potential control sites. I went with them, of course, and we went around the area at a slow pace, especially near possible control sites. When we were safely away from the road, I was allowed to go free range off the lead. The freedom was marvellous, I was able to go to all these fabulous control sites, I wanted to show them off, but my bosses ignored them! Their sites are so boring compared to mine. Mine were at places with lovely smells, like badger scrapes and fox lairs, not vegetation boundaries and rootstocks. Everyone uses those as control sites! I am convinced you would prefer my control sites. Susan and Roger asked me how I would map them, I was a little lost for ideas.

Birch Hateley

## **MINUTES OF THE DEVON ORIENTEERING CLUB COMMITTEE MEETING 17<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2013**

### **Fixtures**

#### **Caddihoe Chase 2013 :**

Permissions have been granted for Virtuous Lady. Buckland Monachorum hall booked and available for overnight stays. An advert to go in Compass Sport, hopefully together with an article on LIDAR technology that is awaited from Erik Peckett.

27<sup>th</sup> Jan: Mutters Moor hit with late changes due to Phytophthora, but Planners had made necessary changes.

13<sup>th</sup> October Galoppen – problem with permission for Holne Moor that will mean a change of venue or date.

#### **Tamar Triple 2014 :**

Alan Simpson. circulated minutes of joint meeting with KERNO.

The format of the event: Day 1 Sprint, Day 2 Middle Distance, Day 3 Classic proposed as for 2012. The venues need to be confirmed first.

New area of Blanchdown in Tamar Valley had failed due to access problems and an alternative area sought.

Inny Foot is the 3<sup>rd</sup> venue. The Committee favoured level B events if possible.

The Committee favoured technical events rather than priority to a social event like the White Rose.

### **Website**

The options still being considered and help is wanted with site map structure.

There was a request for the new site to have member contact facility, or use of a Facebook group.

Renewal of domain name for Orienteering in Devon website by Lew Bean was authorised.

### **Coaching Update**

A team of juniors had competed in Yvette Baker competition against BOK, with the team limited because of bad weather and flooding. They lost by just a 4 points to BOK who then won the final. Many SW clubs did not participate and this meant only 1 team went through to the final. Tess Stone requested that the Club lobby for changes to the rules.

Tess Stone had seen good attendance at training sessions in E. Devon with a total of 50+ individuals at all sessions. BOF funding will finish later this year. Funding may be available from Sportivate (via Active Devon). A session is to be held with Bickton College and a session planned for E. Devon/West Dorset with Woodruff School.

Escot is being mapped by John Pearce for a first Active Villages programme. Others to follow, e.g Beer, subject to permissions and funding.

There were 6 or 7 names for a Level 1 Coaching course at Killerton at the end-Feb or early March with a tutor to be found by BOF. Tess Stone is to determine cost and the Club would consider financial support, possibly to £50 pp subject to knowledge being used for the Club's benefit. Funding could be available for Sportivate

Wilf Taylor reported that an event is planned with Steve Perelle for TBGS on Woodbury with a morning coaching session followed by an afternoon selection race for the TBGS World Schools Champs team.

### **Finances**

The Club currently has £12,300 in the bank with £3k committed for Virtuous Lady map.

It was confirmed that 2013 club event entry fees will change to £6 senior/£1.50 junior and + £1/ 50p for the Galoppen. There will be a charge of £1 for each extra map.

The cost of night events to stay at £5. Nicholas Maxwell or Andy Reynolds are to circulate event organisers.

Buckland Abbey – Nicholas Maxwell to pursue Active Villages as a source of funding, which would be matched by the Club (to c. £150). The National Trust would print maps and install posts.

### **Other Matters**

**a) Financial support for TBGS at World Schools Champs** – formal request had been received from TBGS OC secretary Sean Rowe. They expected a cost of £3000 and fundraising was taking place. The committee agreed to a grant of £250. Another source was possible funding from SWOA that John Dyson as Chairman would support.

**b) Spare Kit for Dartmoor Search & Rescue** – request received from Alan Pewsey. Roger Green had a number of old kites surplus to requirements. Tess Stone could make use of these for training. Alan Simpson would respond that the Club had no spare kit available.

**c) Request from Erik Peckett. re. Virtuous Lady map** – to use Rob Postlethwaite to help survey. There was no problem with this, but would cost be within the £2000 so far agreed ? Andy Reynolds would phone Erik to clarify likely costs. There was a need for an article on LIDAR for publicity for the event. There was an offer of accommodation for Rob from Alan Simpson subject to his house move. Was there a contribution from BOF for assessing LIDAR benefits?

**d) Erik Peckett email re. contact with Cadets** – Erik was working with West Buckland School in N. Devon and there was a possibility of a map of the Filleigh estate. Contact with the cadets who were numerous across Devon, could be beneficial to the Club. Club events could be promoted to the Cadets – Andy Reynolds is to obtain contact from Erik.

**e) Publicity** – John Dyson will see how TBGS could be used to help with the club publicity. Nicholas Maxwell will contact DNP and Active Devon to get our fixture list in their newsletters.

**f) Club Clothing** – Vivienne Maxwell had had a design from Trintex that was circulated in Devon Orienteer. Feedback was that 1) "Devon" should be "Devon Orienteering Club" and 2) lighter green colour would be actioned. Discount of £10 for juniors.

It was queried if a competitive quote could be obtained from other clothing manufacturers eg. NoName – someone else would need to do this if required.

**g) Request from Exeter Univ. for use of campus map** – copyright of latest map appeared to be with Erik Peckett. Nick Hockey would request Erik to respond to University contact.

Nick Hockey Secretary



## EDITORIAL

Spring appears to be coming, if somewhat slowly. It is great to welcome so many newcomers to the club. I hope you will enjoy the challenge of navigating around some wonderful places.

Good Luck to all those involved in the JK, Southern Championships, British Championships and especially to those intrepid young men heading to Portugal for the World Schools.

I would be grateful for reports on all your orienteering events. Please contact me by email at [susan@susanhateley.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:susan@susanhateley.wanadoo.co.uk) or at 35, Daneshay, Northam, Bideford. EX39 1DG. Many thanks.

I hope that the sun will shine so that you may all orienteer in sunlight forests

Susan Hateley

## IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

29<sup>th</sup> March – 1<sup>st</sup> April **JK** in the Chilterns

14<sup>th</sup> April **Southern Champs.** KERNO at Penhale

4<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> May **British Championships** in Surrey Hills

## DEVON EVENTS

April  
21<sup>st</sup> League Fire Beacon Hill SY116924

May  
12<sup>th</sup> Haldon Forest, Exeter SX864847

June  
12<sup>th</sup> East Hill and Core Copse SY125946

July  
21<sup>st</sup> Whitchurch Common (Devon Relays) SX534751

September  
1<sup>st</sup> Provisional  
Small Hanger Waste (Devon Championships) SX563593

14<sup>th</sup> Caddihoe Chase. Virtuous Lady SX684691  
15<sup>th</sup> Caddihoe Chase Virtuous Lady SX684691

## KERNO EVENTS

March  
16<sup>th</sup> Forest League no.6 Polly Joke SW783603  
24<sup>th</sup> Forest League no.7 Dunmere Wood SX041689

April  
13<sup>th</sup> **Southern Champs Weekend.** Training Hayle Towans  
13<sup>th</sup> **Southern Champs Weekend.** St Ives Urban Event  
14<sup>th</sup> **Southern Champs Weekend. Southern Champs Penhale**

May  
19<sup>th</sup> Summer Series no.1 Ethy SX128574

June  
2<sup>nd</sup> Summer Series no.2 Davidstow SX153853  
16<sup>th</sup> Summer Series no.3 Coldrenick SX299613

July  
7<sup>th</sup> Summer Series no.4 Pencarrow Head SX149518  
14<sup>th</sup> Summer Series no.5 Duchy College SX356747

### **QO EVENTS**

April  
7<sup>th</sup> Galoppen Rectory Wood/Ashley Combe/Great Bear/Bin Combe  
ST181379

May  
5<sup>th</sup> QOFL Ham Hill ST478168

July  
5<sup>th</sup> Dave Holmes Taunton O St235239