

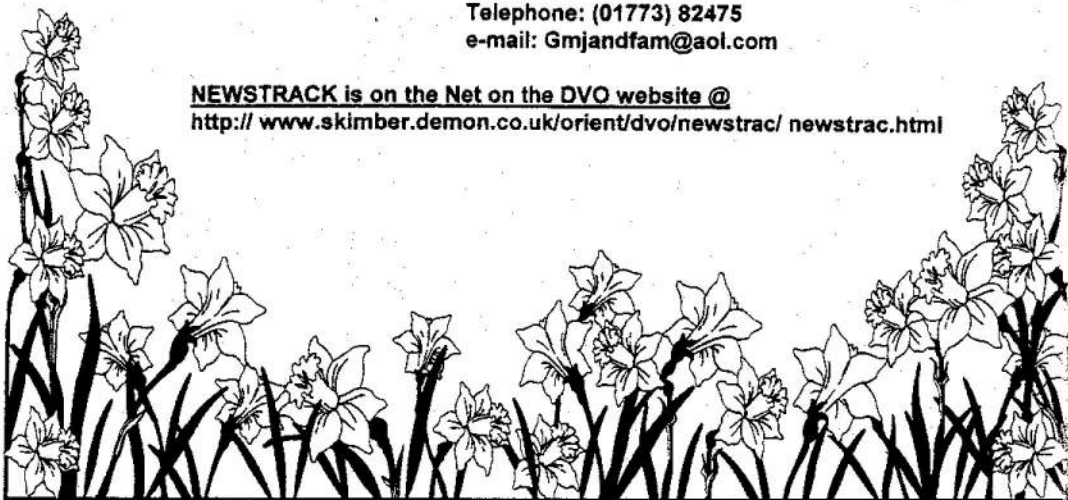
NEWSTRACK

FEBRUARY 1999

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NEWSTRACK is on the Net on the DVO website @
[http:// www.skimber.demon.co.uk/orient/dvo/newstrac/ newstrac.html](http://www.skimber.demon.co.uk/orient/dvo/newstrac/newstrac.html)



Thoughts from the Chair

Well there's certainly plenty of orienteering around now after the dearth in the autumn.

The National Event at Ash Ranges on 3 January saw an interesting phenomenon (well I thought it was) in that no one from DVO won a class but we had 5 2nd places – Alex Whitehead (M10B), Steve Buckley (M50L), Jessica Whitehead (W10B), Judy Buckley (W50L) and Liz Smith (W55S). I was unable to run on the day but enjoyed walking round a bit of the area. Viv is still trying to work out why she mispunched the last control!

The Compass Sport Cup match on 10 January at Sherbrook South saw us pushed into third place by Walton Chasers and Bristol Orienteers. No doubt it will be written up elsewhere in Newstrack but an analysis of the distribution of points says a lot about the health of DVO at the moment. We are fairly strong in the men's and women's 35, 40, 45 and 50 but have a real gap in the older teenagers. With a number of good juniors coming through (congratulations to Matthew Dickinson on winning the M14) that may rectify itself in the future but we really do need to attract more young people into the club and keep more at the college/university age.

I enjoyed the Crich Chase event. Good parking, nice courses and excellent weather. Thanks to all concerned and I'm sorry to hear Barry is giving up planning as I think his courses were enjoyed by all.

The East Midlands Champs at Hopwas on 24 January was another enjoyable event, even though the walk to the start was a very tight 30 minutes for most of us. Again the weather was kind and hard standing made parking easy. No results as I write though you may know them by the time you read this.

With the Club's Score Event on New Years Day, that's 5 events in 4 weeks – surely no one can complain about this – even if they had any energy left to do so!

I'm going to use the privilege of this column to have a moan. Just before Christmas I planned the Colour Coded event at Bottom Moor and was rather disappointed by the turn out on the day. I knew that there was a Badge Event at Hope Woodlands, which was not really a problem as we could have done with the pressure being taken off our limited parking space. However, I was a bit annoyed to discover that one East Midlands club had organised their own Christmas event for that day and another was holding their Club Championships at Hope Woodlands. Luckily Chesterfield Scouts decided to turn up in numbers or some courses would have been severely depleted. The usual band of helpers performed their tasks admirably but it is a bit disheartening when so few competitors take part. Perhaps the East Midlands should look at encouraging clubs not to clash events in this way.

The East Midlands is acting as a trial area for a new method of allocating lottery grants for local groups – "Awards for all". Mike Godfree and Val Johnson attended a briefing meeting at the Sports Council in Nottingham and we have put together a bid for monies to support our development activities. As I mentioned in this column in the last Newstrack, and alluded to above, we need to put a lot of energy into attracting young people into the sport and keeping them here. This is partly about having qualified Coaches and Instructors, together with other helpers, but also mapping smaller local parks and school fields so that they can take part without travelling a long way. Our bid is to make appropriate payments and buy some additional equipment to meet these requirements. The next challenge, once we have got the youngsters involved, is to provide the transport to take them to other events. Whilst we may not get the money, at least we are putting further thought into how we can achieve some of the aims of our development plan and keep club membership buoyant.

A final morbid suggestion from Viv is that, given that a number of the club's senior males have heart conditions of various sorts, "we should have a mobile coronary care unit at the start, rather than the Red Cross, for the DVO dicky hearts group"! You see the sympathy I get!

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Club Dinner and no doubt embarrassing some of you with the annual awards.

Ranald Macdonald
Chair, Derwent Valley Orienteers

Editorial Five-pennyworth. I gave Bottom Moor a miss for the Badge event at Hope Woodlands. DVO event or not, there was no contest between a local Badge event on a little-used, highly-runnable with extra never-before-used bit tagged-on area and a visit to the dentist's, sorry one of DVO's less runnable, featureless areas. The theory that you should try to organise several events at the same time to spread numbers needs to be judiciously applied because, unless care is exercised, the inevitable result is that the Ringo Starr event will suffer. The point is why did we have to have so many events on the same day when last autumn was the most abysmal orienteering season within living memory. Weeks passed with nothing worth hunting for a red biro for and then suddenly an event like Fair Oak and Brindley appeared out of nowhere and half the orienteers in the country descended upon it like grannies at a Tom Jones concert, creating almost intolerable pressures on the organisation of what should have been a modest colour-coded event.

Now I know that the clash of fixtures on 4th December wasn't DVO's fault because we had our event registered long before MDOC came along with theirs. It would be easy to dismiss this conflict as an unfortunate coincidence and

insufficient evidence of a serious problem except that, lo and behold, what do we have on 21st February when DVO organises a colour-coded event at Whitesprings, but not one but two Badge event within reasonable travelling distance: the POTOE event at Trentham Gardens and the AIRE event at Bingley St Ives. Once again DVO's event will suffer not so much from lack of DVO support but from other clubs in the surrounding area. If you lived in Sheffield or Coventry, would you bother to travel to a Whitesprings colour-coded event rather than a badge event? I think not. There does seem to me to be more scope for discussion at a national level to ensure events like Bottom Moor get the support that the effort put into them deserves.

(Coincidentally, the problem is the subject of a item in the latest CompassSport highlighting the clash between National 3 at Bewick and the Cannock Chase Badge event on 7th March. "There has clearly been a breakdown of communication....this is a crazy situation and must not happen again" Sound familiar?)

Bethecar Moor - 29th November"

"It's bound to be raining - it's near Coniston". I stayed in Coniston for the Lakeland 5 Days event in August, since when any mention of the Lake District has conjured up an image of incessant rain and raging torrents. But that was Summer, Winter's different. The day of Lakeland OC's Badge Event at Bethacar Moor was beautifully clear and sunny. Bethacar Moor is high open moorland with lots of contour features which are separated by flatter areas of marsh. And as soon as you lose contact with the map, you realise it all looks exactly the same.

Unfortunately I didn't think of that at the start, and set off putting too much effort into the running. I was halfway round before I got the right balance between running and checking every contour. The event details had said that a lot of the measured climb could be avoided with careful route choice, but the finish was about 25 metres higher than the last control, yet less than 100 metres away from it. There is a fine distinction between slowing runners on the way into the finish and preventing them getting there at all.

Sitting on top of the hill at the finish, taking in the sun and the views of fells and Morecambe Bay, it was only the cold water in the marshes and the low angle of the sun which had betrayed the time of year.

Dave Walker tells me that Bethacar Moor was a bit of a culture shock when first mapped, as no-one had equated open moorland with fine navigation. For me, more used to orienteering in the Midlands, it was almost a (pleasant) culture shock to complete an event without once becoming entangled in brambles!

Dave Bennett

One of Those Weekends (National Event 2 – 7th February 1999)

'The best laid schemes o' mice an' men
Gang aft a-gley.'

How often have you had one of those weekends when the world is determined to kick you when you are down?

Even though our sons have flown the nest, we still traipse the country in search of National Events. Forget about Ash Ranges (who wants results anyway?), National 2 should be good practice for J.K. Why travel down and back in one day when we can make a weekend of it?

Kick Number 1. Liz discovers that she has a compulsory Inset Day in Sheffield on the Saturday. Oh well, not so bad. There's a good rail link between Derby and Sheffield.

Kick Number 2. Except on Saturday, 6th February when Midlands Mainline have essential maintenance works between Derby and Chesterfield. Trains are diverted via Trent Junction; others go by 'bus' to Chesterfield! What's happening to Cross-country Virgin is a mystery to us all.

Plans are made and remade. Then, on Friday, comes Kick Number 3. 'Her' from the Council in Chesterfield (no, not Viv) informs me that the date so carefully selected for the School's event at Holmebrook Valley is.....wait for it.....Cup Final Day! So what, you may ask? (Editor's note: this is believed to be a deliberately inflammatory question to which I shall, with great self-control and dignity, decline to respond).

While I'm conveying this piece of info to my nearest and dearest, Kick Number 4 arrives in the form of a neighbour – did I know we had a loose coping stone on the roof? After the strong winds of the night before we'd both checked the fence – a somewhat elderly and frail part of our domain – which had survived, but hadn't thought to raise our eyes to the heavens.

Saturday arrives – safely! Mike drops me at the station (early!) before embarking on the day's chores. Metro is poorly and needs putting on charge. Then out with the ladder and up on the roof. How can one ridge tile move so far? And the tile underneath it is cracked! We have no spares, nor do the Seastons. Marion manfully (should that be womanfully or personfully?) ('The A-Z of Non-Sexist Language' – no Chesterfield Borough Council employee should be without it - suggests 'courageously' – helpful editorial interjection) stands at the foot of the ladder while Mike does the necessary on the roof.

By the evening Metro is feeling better and enjoys the run down to the station to pick up Liz. Bags are packed, sandwiches are made and kit is laid out ready for an 8 am departure.

Kick Number 5 kicks in at 7.45 on Sunday morning. The car is loaded and we're off to National 2 – aren't we? Vectra coughs and groans. Start again! How do you disconnect the automatic choke? The handbook is less than helpful. There's only one answer – push! Those of you who have run from Rangemore Close have perhaps encountered the ever-so-slightly uphill drive on the curve. Talk about warming up before the event!

Taking great care to avoid the icy puddle in the turning circle, we push Vectra, hiccupping and spluttering down the road - but to no avail. Eventually we reverse the procedure in the hope that Metro is up to a long trip. At this point, Number 28's curtains open and in a few minutes we have another pair of hands (feet destined for Shoal Hill) helping to push. Bags are transferred quickly from Vectra to Metro and by 8.20 we're on the road.

Luck is with us and we have a good trip south. What is on at the NEC? DVO car parking marshals are required - the tailback along the M40 is horrendous.

Parking for the National has been arranged in various car parks in Dorking town centre. After a quick bite to eat we set off in search of the main one which boasts 'heated' facilities as well as Ultasport, Compasspoint and Wilf's – we recognised the chocolate cake clutched in sticky paws on the High Street. The bussing is working efficiently (we queue for only a few minutes) and enjoy a pleasant 20 minute trip up on to the Downs. From drop-off point to Start is no more than five minutes walk.

General comments from early runners returning to the bus are favourable. Jenny Tennant comments on the "tablecloth" she's had to run with! Had it been a really windy day, we could have gone hang-gliding instead!

En route to the Start we pass not only Clothing Dump, Orange Squash and the Finish but also the uphill path to said Finish – this is proving to be a tough slog for many. Did we really want to know about it before we hit it?

The map when we pick it up is truly enormous (A2 for us oldies). Everyone seems to have problems with the faint overprint – where is the Start triangle? It takes a long time to work back from the first number which catches your eye. With several long legs, route choice becomes important. However some of the tracks are incredibly muddy, which

impedes progress and runnability is not always what it would seem -- holly is damned prickly stuff!!

Pressure is not on me today. After recent 'faux pas' I've decided that this is just a silly little C4 event (albeit with a pre-marked map) to be got round as quickly as possible. I am quite pleased to meet at my first control she who set off 5 minutes ahead of me - the look I got is not repeatable! Apart from a hiccough at Number 2 and problems with a holly thicket later on, I have a good run. And the uphill finish is not nearly as bad as at Blacka Moor the previous week. The iron pills are still working!

It is pleasant sitting in the sun at the clothing dump chatting to other competitors. What a shame that the only results are DIY to be displayed in the main car park! It's at the Finish that you want them, not an hour later.

The long queues for the bus back to Dorking move quite quickly and we are soon back in our Council car park, changed and fed. We have a good trip home up the M1. Metro says she's enjoyed her trip out -- the first real one since she'd been to Stansted for a week while someone went to the O'Ringen. Mike asks 'What's the name of the area we've just been to?' I don't know either. **

Kick Number 6 awaits us in Mickleover. Vectra still refuses to start. Mike's got to be at Crewe tomorrow morning to catch the 7.50 to Glasgow. Metro valiantly volunteers for duty again. Three days at Crewe -- what fun!

Monday dawns. Snow falls silently. AA breakdown crew appears. Vectra is towed away -- ignominiously.

The final kick -- the Glasgow train is terminated at Carlisle and the journey is completed by coach!!

** National Event 2 was run at 'White Downs, Netley Heath and Sheepleas'

Liz Godfree

ECKINGTON -- 28th March 1999

Until very recently there was a question mark over permissions for this event but I am happy to confirm that it is now definitely ON.

FIXTURES

The list below shows the more local events plus a few major events. For a more comprehensive list see EMEWS or BOF listing. If you are uncertain about an event, check with the organiser stated. The writer cannot accept responsibility for wasted journeys!

February

- 20th EM N5** **DVO Night Event, Whitesprings**, 3 miles North West of Matlock, Derbyshire
Signed from B5057 off A6 at SK 300647. Org: Sue Russell 01773-857318
East Midlands Night League Event. Registration 6pm to 7 pm.
- 21st EM C4** **DVO Colour Coded Event, Whitesprings**, near Matlock (SK 300647)
Signed off A6 at Darley Dale, 2 miles north of Matlock.
Organiser: Dave Bennett 01332-298959
- 21st WM C3** **POTOC Badge Event, Trentham Park**, 2 miles South of Stoke on Trent
SJ 862409, signed from junction of A34 and B5038. SEF, CD: 31 January
Entries: SafeStart (POTOC), 22 The Willows, Raglan, Gwent NP5 2HB
£7.00/2.50. Late entries to 14/2 (£1 surcharge). Chqs: POTOC. Lim EOD
Entry Enquiries **Only**: 01291-690702. Org: Brian Billington 01782- 321872
- 27th EM C5** **LEI Schools Event, Beaumanor Hall**, 2.5 miles south of Loughborough
Map Ref: 129/ 542156. Organiser: Jean Hall 0116-260 6704
- 27th EM** **LOG Night League Event, Bourne Woods**
PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS EVENT HAS BEEN CANCELLED
- 28th** **DVO Club Weekend and Dinner at Hartington**
Further details elsewhere in Newstrack or ring Val Johnson 01773-824754
- 28th EM C4** **LOG Colour Coded Event, Bourne Woods**, 10 miles NE of Stamford, Lincs
TF 079205. Signed from A151, 2km west of the centre of Bourne.
Organiser: Martin Wheeler 01522-883894. **East Midlands Galoppen**
- 28th WM C4** **HOC Colour Coded Event, Eymore Wood**, Kidderminster, SO 776792
Organiser: Paul Wilson 0121-414-1664

March

- 7th NE C2** **NN National Event, Bewick Moor, Alnwick, Northumberland** (NU100270)
Entries: Patrick Smyth, 31 South View, Hazelrigg, Newcastle-upon-Tyne,
NE13 7BS 0191-236-4152. CD 20/2/99. £8.00/£4.00, Fam £20. Chq: NN
Organiser: Rob McKenna 0191-421-9659
- 7th WM C3** **WCH Badge Event, Sherbrook North, Cannock Chase** SJ 995210
Signed from A513 Stafford to Rugeley road near Shugborough
Entries: David Schofield, 6 Elm Avenue, Walton-on-the-Hill, Stafford, ST17 0NA
01785-604472, CD: 14/2/99. £6.00/£2.50, Family £14. Lim EOD (surcharge)
Chq: Walton Chasers. Organiser: Mark Garside 01785-661992
- 14th EM C3** **LEI Badge Event, Belvoir West**, Belvoir, near Grantham. Map 130/816336
SEF to: Gerry Spalton, 31 The Burrows, Narborough, Leicester, LE9 5WS
0116-275-1255. CD: 29/2/9. £7/£3. Chq: Leicestershire Orienteering Club
Entry limit 500. No EOD. No Colour. Org: Gary Boothroyd 01572-756097

FIXTURES

- 21st YH EPOC NATIONAL EVENT, Yateholme, Holmfirth, Yorkshire. CD 1st Mar,**
C2 Entries: Mike Pownall, Rosslyn, Sowerby New Road, Sowerby Bridge, Halifax
 HX6 1LQ. SEF. £8/3. Lim late entry (£1 surcharge). No EOD except Colour.
- 21st WM OD Colour Coded Event, Oversley Wood, 5 miles West of Stratford on Avon**
C4 SP 111567. Signed from A422. Org: Trevor & Hilary Simpson 01789-266343
- 27th WM HOC Night Badge Event, Midland Night Championships, Kinver Million**
N3 Signed off A485, 5km W of Stourbridge. SO 837874. Pre entry £6/3, CD: 13/3
 Ltd EOD £7/3.50. Chq: Harlequins Orienteering Club. Organiser and Pre-entry:
 P. Manancourt, 4 Eachway, Rubery, Birmingham B45 9DQ (0121-453-9016)
- 28th EM DVO Colour Coded Event, Eckington, 7 miles NE of Chesterfield, Derbys**
C4 Signed from B6056/B6052 junction - SK419789.
 Organiser: Rex Bleakman 01283-733363.
- 28th WM HOC Colour Coded Event, Kinver Million, 5km west of Stourbridge.**
C4 Signed off A485, SO 837874. Organiser: Peter Manancourt 0121- 453- 9016

April

- 2-5 SE JK 99, South East England.**
 Event Centre at Leatherhead Leisure Centre, SW of London, near M25
 Fri 2nd, Training day at Redlands TQ 098432
 Sat 3rd, Individual Day 1 at Leith Hill TQ 135455
 Sun 4th, Individual Day 2 at Holmbury and Winterfold TQ 082445
 Mon 5th, Relay at Hawley & Hornley, SU 840575
 Special Entry Form, CD2: 19/2, £22.00/8.00 for two Individual Days,
 late entries (if available) £25.00/10.00. Relays- enter via Club
 Co-Ordinator: Roy Wood 01276-473579
- 11th EM NOC Colour Coded Event, Thieves Wood, 3 miles South of Mansfield.**
C4 SK 545575 (off A60). Organiser: Bob Hatfield 0115-981-4101
- 18th EM LEI Colour Coded Event, Rough Park & Rising Wood, SK 394 192**
C4 3 miles NE of Ashby de la Zouch. Org: Nick Cunningham 01509-506-228
East Midlands National Forest Trophy Event
- 18th WM WCH Colour Coded Event, Fair Oak and Tackeroo, Cannock Chase, Staffs**
C4 SK 019172. Signed from White House Hotel on Rugeley to Penkridge road.
 Organiser: Graham Reynolds. 01785 663834
- 25th EM DVO Colour Coded Event, Hardwick Park, 6 miles SE of Chesterfield.**
C4 From M1 junct 29, take A6175 (Clay Cross) for 0.5 miles. First left & continue
 for 2 miles & under motorway bridge, then immediately left. (SK 452637).
 Org: Stuart Swalwell 01335-300092

CompassSport Cup Results – Bronze for DVO

A big thank you to the 70 or so DVO members who went to Sherbrook South. I'm sure you all had an invigorating run in the frost. DVO came third out of the six clubs, which is pretty good considering that the winners were running on home ground. The scores were:

WCH 221
BOK 201
DVO 177
OD 150
DEE 144
HOC 118

<i>Courses</i>	<i>DVO total (winner's total)</i>	<i>Scorers</i>
A Open (Br)	29 (44)	A Jackson 13, A Buckley 9, J Duckworth 7
B M20-, M35+ (Lt Br)	20 (49)	S Kimberley 9, P Addison 6, J Malley 5
C M18-, M45+ (Bl)	41 (42)	P Armstrong 18, S Buckley 15, J Hopper 8
D W Open (Lt Bl)	39 (51)	V Johnson 15, K Jackson 14, M Mackervoy 10
E W45+, M60+ (Gr)	26 (47)	J Buckley 12, L Godfree 10, T Seaston 4
F W18-, M16- (Lt Gr)	3 (19)	H Johnson 2, M Ellison 1
G W14-, M14- (Or)	19 (21)	M Dickinson 12

On courses A-E, the top three runners from each club scored and points went from 18 to 1. On courses F and G, the top two runners scored and points went from 12 to 1. Our strong classes are C and G, in both of which we were second.

HARVESTER RELAYS 1999

This is a relay event of several lags taking place through the night and early morning. It will take place this year in the Forest of Dean over the weekend of 11th and 12th September. Any insomniacs should contact Sal Chaffey if they are interested in being part of a DVO team this year.

DVO 1999 EAST MIDLAND CHAMPIONS

Hopwas Hays - 17th January

W21L Sal Chaffey
W35L Val Johnson (5 out of 6 years)
W40L Judy Buckley (not bad for a W50)
M21L John Duckworth

Er, not a very good year. Perhaps we're saving ourselves for the Midland Champs at Budby.

JK Relays (April 5th at Hawley and Hornley, Aldershot)
British Relays (May 9th at Holker, Newby Bridge, S. Lake District)

Please contact Sal Chaffey if you wish to be entered for these on (01773) 825418 or email sal.chaffey@zetnet.co.uk. I need to know your age class in 1999 and whether you want to run in that class or would prefer to be in a (theoretically) less competitive ad hoc team. The classes for the British are age-class based whereas those for the JK are much more flexible:

<i>JK classes</i>	<i>Length and difficulty</i>
JK Trophy	L, S, S, L (45, 30, 30, 45 mins)
Women's Trophy	L, S, L (40, 30, 40 mins)
Men's Short	L, S, L (2/3 Trophy distance)
Women's Short	L, S, L (2/3 Women's Trophy distance)
Men total age 120+	L, S, L (40, 25, 40 mins for an M40)
Women total age 120+	L, S, L (40, 25, 40 mins for a W40)
Men total age 165+	L, S, L (40, 25, 40 mins for an M55)
Women total age 165+	L, S, L (40, 25, 40 mins for a W55)
Men total age 48- mins for an M16)	Technical difficulty of Green, Orange, Green (35, 20, 35)
Women total age 48- mins for a W16)	Technical difficulty of Green, Orange, Green (35, 20, 35)
M/W total age 40- mins for an M12)	Technical difficulty of Orange, Yellow, Orange (25, 15, 25)
Mini-relay, M/W12- each lap)	Technical difficulty of Yellow (all laps; target time 15 mins)
Mixed Ad-Hoc 4k, 3k)	Technical difficulty of Green, Light Green, Orange (5k, 4k, 3k)

Fees are £7 for Seniors and £4 for Juniors, but will be collected nearer the time. The closing date for entries is **Feb 15th** for the JK and **March 2nd** for the British.

Contour and Compass Training

Carsington, Saturday 17th April

Did you find Carsington Pastures difficult? Would you like to improve your compass or contour interpretation techniques? So long as an orange/light green course doesn't trouble you too much then here is an opportunity to brush up those techniques on one of our best areas. I am running a regional junior squad session so whilst the controls are out there will be a chance to try out the exercises afterwards. At the moment we are waiting permissions.

Names to me beforehand please, **Mike Godfree** 01332-515862

DVO e-mail Addresses

Name	e-Mail Addresses
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Stuart Swallow	stuart.swallow@virgin.net

These have been taken from the Secretary's BOF returns so if you've not been included, send your address on the information super highway for inclusion in the new DVO address book currently in preparation.

DVO GOES TEN PIN BOWLING

Two lanes have been reserved at Derby Superbowl on Friday 16th April at 7.15pm. Cost will be £7.35 each for two games. Afterwards we could go on somewhere for a bite to eat. Names as soon as possible to **Andrea** on **01773 520229** so that she can confirm or book extra lanes if the demand justifies it.

DVO JK ACCOMMODATION

During the Spring and Summer, DVO is as likely as the next club to find itself under canvass for multi-day events but in recent years it has become almost a tradition for the club to find a village hall for those without relatives to inflict themselves upon and who wish to take advantage of cheap floor space. This can be a bit of a lottery – memories come back of shoving 50p after 50p into the insatiable electricity meter in Herefordshire – but we have not done badly by and large. We will have to go some to beat last year's Welsh village hall which hit new heights of luxury, and no metered electricity either.

Well, thanks entirely to the efforts of Kath Whitehead's brother-in-law, Southdown's Barry Pearson, we have secured at an unbelievably cheap price the village hall at Loxwood which Barry has personally vetted. From his description of it, it seems to fulfil all the basic requirements DVO expects of Easter accommodation – a separate room and kitchen for cooking and conversing at night out of the way of sleeping children, cutlery, radiators, wash-basins, toilets – and non-metered electricity (except for cooking). There's also a play area for kids, about two acres of grounds and a choice of two pubs within walking distance either side. All this for £100 for three nights. Obviously the more people that come the thinner the cost can be spread.

Loxwood is within reasonable travelling distance of the events. To get there, you take the A3 off the M25, then on to the A281 south of Guildford. Loxwood is on the B2133 after 10 miles.

Names to me or Val – 01773 824754.

DVO WEEKEND AT HARTINGTON

It is still possible to book your place but you need to be quick and ring Val now.

You can arrive at any time on the Saturday and do anything, but for those who fancy a convivial sojourn through the Derbyshire countryside, there will be a party leaving the Youth Hostel at 11.00 am. Feel free to join us.

The evening will begin in the barn at around 7.00pm with sherry and nibbles and the annual awards ceremony. We will be eating at around 8.00pm in the main hostel, with coffee, cheese and biscuits served back in the barn. We can bring our own drinks.

There will be the option of several runs of differing lengths from the hostel starting mid morning on Sunday 28th. If you are intending to come for one of these and then stay for lunch, it would be a good idea to let me know so that we don't go without you.

Lunch can begin at any time as it will be organised by us as soon as we get back from the morning's exertions. Just bring your contribution(s) ready to put on the table.

Any questions? Then give me a ring. See you there.

Val Johnson 01773 824754

Final DVO Ranking Positions for 1998

W20

28 Katie Swalwell 2894

W21

3 Kim Buckley 3900

30 Sal Chaffey 3294

72 Ann Marie Priston 2846

W35

11 Val Johnson 3613

W40

47 Kath Whitehead 3022

56= Jayne Malley 2938

W45

74 Ann Armistead 2770

85 Viv Macdonald 2704

W50

4 Judy Buckley 3974

20 Liz Godfree 3652

39 Helen Finlayson 3365

58 Jennifer Gale 3030

69 Margaret Keeling 2902

W55

55 Liz Smith 2793

M21

14 Al Buckley 3878

38 John Duckworth 3591

M35

51 Dave Chaffey 3362

72= John Malley 3170

M40

33 Steve Kimberley 3585

40 Paul Addison 3521

59 Ian Whitehead 3353

73 John Hurley 3209

85 Graham Johnson 3140

134 Mike Gardner 2959

M45

7 Paul Armstrong 3857

53 John Hopper 3327

113= Mike Godfree 3006

190 Stuart Swalwell 2724

M50

6 Steve Buckley 4028

58 Doug Dickinson 3346

106 Rex Bleakman 3091

137 Andy Hawkins 2936

213 Derek Gale 2668

M55

28 Ted Smith 3525

51 Dave Walker 3293

94 Dave Tryner 2973

108 Barrie Stephens 2849

137 Terry Peach 2539

M60

87 Keith Langhorn 2740

103 Tony Seaston 2541

ODDS and SODS

Sports Personality of the Month

One of the Crich schoolchildren on Crich Chase was struggling more than most. When she asked for help it transpired that she had marked up her course on the outside of her map case so was having a bit of difficulty relating the controls to the features on the map!

Dave 'Confusius' Walker, he say: be careful, when pinning control card to 'O' suit, not to skewer knickers, or embarrassment may result when natures calls without warning. (Hilary Palmer, she say: serves you right for not having control card on piece of elastic attached to wrist).

Most Bizarre Sight of the Month was NOC's Steve Hodgkinson standing in the pouring rain outside the Budby Event car park, with a big notice proclaiming: 'THIS IS NOT A CAR BOOT SALE'. I never previously realised that there was a problem with people wandering round the M21 course looking for a cheap vacuum cleaner.

Daftest Suggestion of the Month

When Hilary spotted that this year is DVO's thirtieth anniversary and enquired whether we were going to commission another special mug to commemorate it, I pointed out that we haven't got rid of the 25th anniversary mugs yet!

Change of Address

John Duckworth and Ann-Marie Priston now live at The Homestead, Glen Road, Crich Carr, Whatstandwell, Matlock DE4 5EH TEL: 01773 856824

British Schools Success

Congratulations to Matthew Dickinson who came second in his class (that's age class, not his actual class, which wouldn't be worth mentioning really) – Year 9 – at the British School Champs held at Fairoak and Brindley last November.

New Permanent Courses Opening

Holmebrook – opening 22nd May – and Catton, which is one of the venues for the summer league this year.

The Summer League will this year be organised by Michelle Mackervoy who is even now taking names of volunteers for Friday evenings in June and July. Telephone (01773) 557892.

Dates for your Diary

Saturday, 19th June Footpath Relay – see details below.
Sunday, 20th June Club Champs at Longshaw.

Footpath Relay

Saturday, 19th June 1999.

- Organised by Hallamshire Harriers, Sheffield
- Location is the Northern Peak District
- Start and Finish is at Redmires, near Sheffield
- 20 legs of varying distances and difficulties
- Total distance Approx 120 kilometres
- Minimum 15 members per team
- Cost £20.00 per team

Entry forms from Ian Wainwright, 43a St Albans Road, Sheffield S10 4DN.
0114 2304187

(DVO will automatically be sent forms and normally enters two teams. Names to Sal Chaffey)

MARCH OPEN MEETING

This will take place on Wednesday, 10th March next at the Old King's Head, Days Lane, Belper (opposite side of the road to the Co-op). As per usual, there will be a run at 7.00 from the pub for those who want it, with the business meeting getting underway at around 8.15 pm. The format of the Summer League will be under discussion (but it's all right, we're going to gag Paul Wright for that bit).