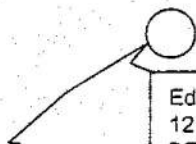
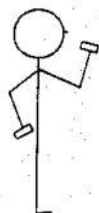
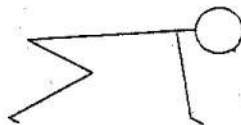
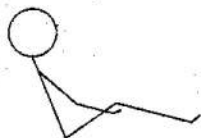


# Newstrack

April 2000



Editor: Graham Johnson  
12 Chevin Road  
BELPER  
Derbyshire DE56 2UW  
e-mail [gmjandfam@aol.com](mailto:gmjandfam@aol.com)



## Newstrack Competition

Thanks to all DVO members for their overwhelming response to Kate's competition in last Newstrack. We were inundated with both entries. This was, admittedly, two more than I was expecting, but the thought that I might actually win my bet with Kate was too much for both Mike Godfree and Andy Mackervoy. You might think from the cover that Mike's entry, inspired (or should that be perspired, or even expired) by DVO's secret winter workouts, was the winner, but, as a copout and as a means of not disappointing either, I have decided to use both entries. Look out for Andy's contribution next time.

## Thoughts from the Chair

Well we've had a couple of colour coded events recently – Whitesprings and Stanton Moor – as well as another local event at Bottom Moor. These low key events seem to attract newcomers and family groups. I missed Bottom Moor (working in Singapore, which also meant I missed the National at Brown Cleel!) (Are we supposed to feel sorry?—Ed) but the other two events were blessed with excellent weather. Everyone seemed to enjoy the courses and I think the Club has enhanced its reputation through the smooth organisation on the day. Thanks to all planners, controllers, organisers and helpers.

At Stanton Moor I had a very early start and for the first circuit on the Blue was more or less by myself. I unfortunately disturbed an owl, a hare and a herd of deer, which I suspect no one else saw during the day. I did have an email after the event from someone who, despite enjoying the event, was concerned that we were disturbing nesting birds on the moor. I share the concern and we always demur to land owners' requests not to orienteer at certain times of the year. This means that we can only use Eyam in mid winter or Whitesprings between October and mid March. We respect these requests but there is evidence to suggest that birds are not disturbed as much as we think. The Committee is putting together a directory of our areas at the moment, noting special aspects such as access, potential dangers and sensitive issues such as nesting or delicate vegetation.

The Club Dinner was again a great success – thanks to Val Johnson for organizing the dinner and Mike Godfree for the Bike O. As always a highlight of the evening was the presentation of the annual club awards as follows:

**Orienteer of the Year - Judy Buckley**

**Junior Orienteer of the Year - Matthew Dickinson**

**Most Improved Orienteer - James Allen**

**Most Enthusiastic Newcomer - Ian Hodgson**

**Newstrack Journalist of the year - Sal Chaffey**

## Sports Personality of the year - Graham Johnson

Congratulations to all on their awards.

At the Open Meeting in March we were delighted to install Roz and Andy Clayton as Life Members of the Club for their work and commitment over many years prior to their emigration to New Zealand. They still keep in contact and we welcome them at events – last year they took part in the Club Championships, with Andy coming first! He was declared non-competitive as he was no longer a Club member and could not organise the following year's event, though I'm sure some of it could be done 'virtually'. Having made the Clayton's Life Members may cause them problems in the future if they were to win again!

And as I've mentioned the Club Championships, elsewhere in Newstrack you will find an announcement of this year's event. It is open to everyone – both young and old, novice and expert, with courses to suit all. As well as the competition there will be a picnic afterwards. There is no other orienteering on in the area that day so come along and make a family day of it.

At the last Open Meeting a Development Plan Working Group was also formed. Committee meetings always seem rushed, not giving us time to discuss some things in details, so we decided to consider this issue separately. A draft will be considered by the group before we bring it to the next Open Meeting in June. The development plan is important to the Club as it is necessary when we make bids for funds such as from Awards for All. But it also gives us a focus for our ongoing development work. So, please come to the Open Meeting and help us take the Club forward by supporting the plan.

13 of us went to the Lake District for a coaching day prior to the Badge Event at Blakeholme. It was useful, though perhaps not structured or taxing enough for us, but we did have a good evening in the pub afterwards! We hope to have a more local coaching day on Cannock Chase in the near future and Val Johnson continues to put on pre-event sessions for Juniors. These are also important aspects of the development plan and the Club has made the commitment to pay associated entry costs. Circuit training has finished until the autumn – to the great relief of some!

By the time you read this the BOF AGM and the JK will be over. I was persuaded to stand as a BOF Councillor, to 'represent the ordinary orienteer', which will be confirmed at the meeting. However, a major issue will have been the proposals to restructure BOF into the four home nations, with consequent different forms of representation within the sport. I'll report back on this in the next Newstrack.

**Ronald Macdonald**, Chair, Derwent Valley Orienteers

## JK2000 A.K.A. J2K

It seems only an issue ago (it was) that I was bemoaning the lack of events, but no sooner do we hit April than we are bombarded with them. It becomes a question not of choosing events to go to but what to miss. The National at Brown Clee and a superb Badge event at Blakeholme have been consigned to the Johnson map archive (the latter event was far better attended than the former, or the National at Mulgrave for that matter, which rather begs the question of what National events are for) and in the next two months there still remain the plums of the British weekend and Twin Peaks in the Lakes.

I write this the day after a long weekend's orienteering in Scotland. It has to be a pretty special event to justify a round trip of 14-15 hours motoring, but this was worth every bit of the petrol duty that I've just contributed to Gordon Brown's war chest. Usually when I return from Scotland, it is following the Six-Day competition in August, the body exhausted from six days of summer orienteering, and scarred from six days of wrestling with Scottish flora and fauna. Three days at Easter is probably just enough to enable the organisers to select the choicest areas and for me fully to appreciate them.

Day 1. Drumbuie. This used to be known as Craig a'Barns, but like Windscale, has been renamed. To the disappointment of many there was still no glass of liqueur waiting at the finish (oh, that's Drambuie, is it?). I had only run once before on Craig a' Barns about fifteen years ago, on the very last day of a Scottish 6 Days. My memory was not a happy one, so I was dreading re-acquaintance with this area, described by some as the nearest thing to Scandanavian terrain in this country. High praise indeed.

At the end of Day 1, I again left with mixed feelings, but not for reasons connected with the terrain. For all of four controls, this was orienteering beyond your wildest dreams, the sort that makes up for week after week enduring East Midland colour-coded events (DVO excepted of course). There was a genuine sense of grappling mentally with both map and planner, a feeling of enormous satisfaction (not to mention relief) when the right control came into view.

But why only four controls? From 5 to 6 on M45L there was a 500 metre wall guiding the way, followed by a footpath leading from 6 to 7, then suddenly we dropped down to a road crossing, and spent the rest of the course dodging in and out of footpaths before the run-in. What? Having had the adrenalin pumped up for the first half of the course, I was left with an enormous sense of deflation when the course was over. It was like being invited round to Delia Smith's house for dinner and being served beans on toast.

I should add that the handrail from 5 to 6 had to be pointed out in retrospect because I actually selected this leg as the one to go on a 25 minute walkabout, exploring the intricacies of Craig a'Barns which others on my course sadly neglected. Having complained that we didn't get enough of Craig a'Barns on M45L, the sad truth is that I got rather more of it than I should have done.

I still don't know why we M45Ls were so badly served. I have only just gravitated up (or down, I'm still not sure which) to this class, but apart from the (welcome) change of a bigger map scale, I have a feeling that M45Ls are often subconsciously consigned by planners to the nether world of the old and grizzled – or grizzly in my case. As evidence of this, I point to the fact that M40L was allocated a different Start to us. Whereas they got to run from the eastern Start with the M21Ls and thus to enjoy the superior Drumbuie Wood, we were given the Blue Start along with, say, M75L (I know DVO has no M75s so no-one can take offence) being directed through the south-eastern Crieff Hill section of the map, which was ordinary in comparison. My theory is only slightly holed by the fact that M55L contradictorily ran from the Red Start, but the point is that as many people as possible, regardless of their class, should have given the opportunity of running for as long as possible through the good stuff. That's what we came here for.

Might as well get the moans out of the way. (I promise, this is all). Having enjoyed a morning of orienteering, we were then left to enjoy an afternoon of the orienteer's other favourite sport – Getting Out of the Car Park. I cannot believe that no-one out of the organising team foresaw the problems of trying to filter a few hundred cars through a quagmire and a narrow exit, but apparently not. There was no evidence of anyone willing to take charge, leaving orienteers to display the worst sides of their nature as selfishness, bad temper and deviousness combined to create chaos and confusion.

Day 2. Rannoch Forest. Although the best bits of Rannoch did not match the prime cuts of Drambuie, this was, I felt, overall a more enjoyable area, but my opinion is coloured by a better run and a clash with an old adversary. Yes, I was off only two minutes after John Hopper!

Hakkinen –v- Schumacher. McEnroe –v- Connors. Ovett –v- Coe. Bruno –v- Tyson. Great sporting clashes which echo down the years (apart obviously from the last one) but when they discuss, at the end of this century, those stirring contests which have caught the public's imagination, will they remember this one? Probably not, but it was jolly good fun anyway.

I caught the wily old fox up by number 1, and then spotted John Hopper. But was he coming out of the control or going into it? By the time I'd worked this out, he'd nipped in and out and disappeared, only to reappear with a bemused look on his face three controls later. From then on we dogged each other, the lead changing with almost every control. Despite both of us taking different routes in between (a sign of good planning, well done, sir) we still popped up in unison at the control, often from different directions. There was one point where we both appeared at the identical spot where we believed the control to be and stood scratching our heads before realising that we'd both made the same 100 metre error. Only towards the end did the Hopmeister get away, but not enough to shake me off completely as I scampered after him on the run-in. Thus were honours even as I wiped up most of the two minutes separating us at the start to finish ahead on the day, but was beaten (narrowly) overall. That's the great thing about orienteering, even down at the less competent end of M45L, you can still find someone as awful as you to battle against.

Day 3. Tullochroisk. The weather so far had been kind, kinder than we had any right to expect in Scotland in April. Why, as reports filtered through of abandoned cricket at Derby and car parks closed down at Silverstone, we could even contemplate shorts at one point on Day 2. It couldn't last of course and Day 3 was greeted with the sort of deluge in which Scotland rightly leads the world. As I watched bedraggled relay legs struggle in through the pelting rain, I anticipated with dread my forthcoming third leg. But all of a sudden, the skies cleared, the clouds parted and the mist lifted to reveal a spectacular panorama of hillsides and heather. They say that the sun shines on the righteous, and sometimes it shines on me too.

This may have been the least technical of the three days, but for me it was by far the most enjoyable. It had more in common with the Lake District than Scotland, being composed of mostly open fell, such trees as there were growing sparsely and not interfering with straight line, no nonsense running. Ideal for relays. One might quibble with the density of the heather at some points or the uphill slog to the change-over, but it would be churlish to do so, so I won't.

One notable feature of these relays, and indeed the whole weekend, was the use of e-punches. These are now such a regular feature of badge events that it will soon be unusual not to have them (so come on East Midlands, make that decision, you know it makes sense). I don't know why the Scots system was different, but they have adapted it so that receiving your split time printout was practically instantaneous, eradicating queues altogether. One quirk was that there was no start 'punch' so your printout time did not start until the first control, and your final printout time was not your actual time – apparently this made life easier for the organisers – but, this apart, the difference which e-punching has made to post-run analysis and comparison makes the case for them now overwhelming. Within a year we will be wondering why there was ever a need for an East Midland Working Party even to consider them.

### Odds and Sods at the JK

Mistake of the Weekend. Must go to Randal and Viv Macdonald (revenge is sweet) who found the mathematics of trying to work out their start times in minutes after 9 o'clock beyond them and turned up late, expecting to run an hour after their allocation.

Congratulations to the Women's Short Open Relay Team, consisting of Sal Chaffey, Ann-Marie Duckworth and Karen Jackson, who came in a highly creditable second to register DVO's only trophy of the weekend (I think – no results on the web still!)

Quote of the Weekend. I pointed out to the local newsagent, as I boosted the local economy by purchasing a newspaper, that his hoarding outside bore the headline 'Orienteers to Boost Local Economy'. The newsagent appeared not realise what was going on but suddenly the penny dropped. 'I wondered why I sold out of Guardians yesterday'.

## **Survey of DVO members**

You may be aware that the number of people in orienteering is falling throughout the UK. DVO is also seeing a decline in its membership and in the number of people at our events.

We recently carried out a survey of people who had not renewed their membership this year. We sent out 30 questionnaires and got 10 back – a good response rate!

Six have now renewed, together with another five I've seen from the membership list. Of the four others replying, one person had moved and joined another club and three no longer orienteer due to injury, age or the family now doing other things. Several people made nice comments about the Club – they thought Newstrack was very enjoyable (space here for comment from Editor.....) (No comment necessary, let us just bask for a moment in the warmth of gratuitous approbation - Ed) and that the Club was very friendly and well organised.

Now we know what some people think, it would be good to know how current members feel about the Club and the level of involvement they would like.

Please help us by filling in the questionnaire in this edition of Newstrack and either post it to me or hand it in at the shop at the next Club event.

Come on, it's your chance to tell us what you think!!

Viv Macdonald - 01629 734307

## **Summer Series 2000**

As Newstrack was going to press, this year's Friday evening summer programme was still in a state of flux (ie it hasn't been sorted out yet) but it is intended to run this from 2<sup>nd</sup> June to 21<sup>st</sup> July, with 28<sup>th</sup> July (Paul Wright, please take note) being allocated to a Booze O event. From the provisional list that I saw, four spaces have been filled so far so please feel free to volunteer your services to Michelle Mackervoy on 01332 557892. This year's programme should see the first use of West Park, Long Eaton too.

Each event will feature a Yellow course suitable for beginners and youngsters, a Light Green for improvers and a Long course for more seasoned orienteers, the format of which will be left to the organiser's discretion.

I will suggest that you look out for more details in EMEWS, which I would expect to come out in the middle of May, ring Michelle on the above number.



## Fixtures List

- May**
- 6th EM DVO Local Event. Poolsbrook, Chesterfield.  
C5 Val Johnson, 01773-824754. [Gmjandfam@aol.com](mailto:Gmjandfam@aol.com)  
See elsewhere in Newstrack for more details.
- 7th EM NOC Little John Relays. Thieves Wood, Mansfield. SK/545575.  
R5 Richard Beadle, 01636-830939. £5.00/£3.00 per team.  
String course, Lim CC - W, Y & O.
- 13th- WM BRITISH ORIENTEERING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2000  
14th C1 13th - Individual. Haugh Wood & Fownhope Park. Hereford.  
R1 SO/590365.  
14th - Relays. Penyard Hill, Hereford. SO/613225.
- 21st NW WCOC NATIONAL EVENT. Dalegarth, Egremont. NY/175000.  
C2 Organiser: Roger Jackson, 01900-602083.  
Entries: Annette Billingham, 80 West Street. Aspatria, Cumbria,  
CA5 3HH. 016973-22898. £7.50/£3.50. EPS-SI. CD: 2/5/00. Chq:  
WCOC. Late entries dependent on availability of overprinted  
maps. Lim CC - W, Y, O & R. Parking fee £1.00.  
Web site: <http://lakes-o.freeseerve.co.uk>
- 21st WM OD Colour Coded Event. Borough Hill, Daventry. SP/585622.  
C4 Martin Cross, 02476-542516. £4.00/£1.00. String course. CC -  
White to Blue only. No dogs allowed.
- 21st WM WRE Colour Coded Event. Cornden, Bishops Castle. SO/300959.  
C4 Andy Clough, 01743-246639. £3.50/£1.00. Dogs on lead in car  
park only. Further info – WRE web site.
- 21st EM LEI Colour Coded Event & Club Champs & Galoppen. Ratby  
C4 Woodlands & Martinshaw. Leicester. SK/519068. Andy  
Portsmouth, 0116-2301337. £2.50/£1.50, non BOF + £1.00. String  
course.
- 27th- SO Scottish Championships Weekend  
28th A 27th - FVO NATIONAL EVENT & Scottish Championships & UK  
C2 Cup. Touch Estate, Stirling.  
28th - KFO/TAY Scottish Relay Championships. Devilla,  
Kincardine.  
Telephone Liz Godfree if you want to be in a DVO team
- 27th- SW Tamar Triple Weekend, Devon  
29th



## June

- 3rd - NW MDOC Twin Peak Badge Events.  
4th C3 3rd – Day 1 Badge Event. High Dam, Newby Bridge. SD/368888.  
C3 4th – Day 2 Badge Event. High Dam, Newby Bridge. SD/368888.  
Entries: Twin Peak 2000, 31 Chatsworth Road, Hazel Grove,  
Stockport, SK7 6BJ. 0161-4834332. CD: 8/5/00. (or 31/5/00 only  
by internet at late entry fee)
- 11th EM **DVO Colour Coded Event. Caike Park, Caike. SK/356240.**  
C4 Doug Dickinson, 01509-265653.  
See elsewhere in Newstrack for more details.

### 18th DVO Club Champs

See elsewhere in Newstrack for details.

- 25<sup>th</sup> WM POTOC WM Relay Championships. Park Hall, Stoke-on-Trent.  
R4X SJ/930448.  
Robin Baker, 01260-274646. E-mail: [baker@bbb u-net.com](mailto:baker@bbb u-net.com)  
£9.00/£3.00 per team. CD: 10/6/00. Chq: Potteries OC. Closed  
event for WMOA clubs only. Pre-entry only via Club Secretaries to  
Organiser. No EOD.

## July

- 2nd **DVO Colour-Coded Event. Kedleston Park.**  
Organiser: Terry Peach 01332 511722
- 8th **DVO Local Event. Osmaston Park, Derby.**  
Organiser: Val Johnson. 01773 824754.  
This is organised in conjunction with Derbyshire's Millenium Youth  
Games and aims to introduce participants to the sport. Groups of  
children will take part between 12 and 4pm.
- 8/9th NW SELOC/MDOC Harvester Trophy Relays. Watergrove, Rochdale.  
R2N SD/912182.  
See Club Captain's Corner elsewhere in Newstrack if you want to  
be part of a DVO team
- 16th EM LEI Colour Coded Event. Burrough Hill, Melton Mowbray.  
C4 SK/766114.  
Maureen Wood, 0116-2671164.  
£2.50/£1.50. String course. Pay & display parking.
- 23rd WM OD Colour Coded Event. Burton Dassett Country Park, Northend.  
C4 SP/394520.  
Ailan Bartlett, 01926-855823. £4.00/£1.00. String course. Lim CC  
courses.

## CLUB CAPTAIN'S CORNER

A gold-plated thank you to all DVO members who came and ran at Compass Sport Cup at Wakerley on 19<sup>th</sup> March. We had some good runs, some "could have done better" (especially Club Captain!) but just couldn't catch NOC. Even WCH with star Steven Palmer flown in from Sweden for the event couldn't make it a win two year's running (as DVO did in the dim and distant past of 1986 and 1987). However following negotiation with LEI's Gerry Spalton (the finding of missing control cards and the reinstatement of others) we managed 3<sup>rd</sup> place, just ahead of OD.

### **Harvester Trophy Relays July 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> near Rochdale**

This year's venue is Watergrove Reservoir, "a huge, natural amphitheatre – with excellent spectator facilities in the later stages of the race."

I should like to enter at least two teams. Leg lengths are between 4 & 7 Km. with a 1:15 a.m. (yes!) start for the 5 man handicap teams and between 5 & 12 Km. with an 11:30 p.m. start for the 7 man open teams. As you can guess several of the legs are in the dark or the early morning half-light.

Names to me please by the end of May. First to enter choose their leg!

### **British Relays 14<sup>th</sup> May, Scottish Relays 28<sup>th</sup> May**

Ring me NOW if you want a run.

### **Subsidised entries to relays**

At the April meeting the club committee agreed to subsidise relay entries by £2 per head for all events in the UK Relay League (i.e. JK, British, Scottish and Harvester) so the cost for all of this year's events is only £6 for seniors and £2 for juniors. The club has also always subsidised juniors so that they only pay the junior rate even if running in an adult team.

Liz Godfree 01332 515862

We have been offered the chance to have a stall at Elvaston Castle's Countryside Event at Elvaston Castle on August Bank Holiday Sunday afternoon. What is envisaged is hanging controls at the permanent course posts, selling maps, giving people the chance to try the course out and promoting our events and other permanent course. Is there a club member out there who would be willing to take this on? If so contact Mike Godfree on 01332-515862.

## Summer Runs - Paul Wright

I have been asked by the Fixtures Sub-Committee Chair, Stuart Swalwell, to arrange the Summer Wednesday night runs.

The Wilkinsons will be away on various sojourns in the coming weeks so Rex Bleakman has offered the use of Duffield Meadows School (SK337434). From the A6 turn into Wirksworth Road in village centre. Take second right (Park Road) and the school entrance is the second left.

The programme to 5<sup>th</sup> July and the Summer runs are as follows:

### **Wednesday Night Runs**

3 <sup>rd</sup> , 17 <sup>th</sup> May	Duffield Meadows School
10 <sup>th</sup> , 24 <sup>th</sup> , 31 <sup>st</sup> May	Allestree (Buckleys)
7 <sup>th</sup> , 21 <sup>st</sup> June	Duffield Meadows School
28 <sup>th</sup> June	Allestree (Buckleys)
14 <sup>th</sup> June	Open Meeting – see separate announcement
5 <sup>th</sup> July	Duffield (Wilkinsons)

### **Wednesday Night Summer Programme**

12<sup>th</sup> July    Ilam            Chez Malley            SK135510    01335 350467

Take A515 north from Ashbourne. After 1 mile fork left following signs for Dovedale and Ilam. The Malley's house is in a field in the village. Turn left just before the school.

N.B. runs from 7.30pm

19<sup>th</sup> July    Wirksworth    Chez Ross            SK282537    Tel: BOF Office

Take B5023 to Wirksworth, left turn into Summer Lane, first right into Yorkcliffe Drive. Public Transport (so Dave Bennett doesn't feel left out!) Trent R61.

26<sup>th</sup> July    Belper            Chez Johnson            SK338473    01773 824754

12 Chevin Road. Take A517 from Belper Triangle to Blackbrook. Take first left and fork left again. The Johnson's house is on the right at top of hill. Public transport: rail to Belper or Trent R61.

2<sup>nd</sup> August Alderwasley Chez Keeling SK327539 01773 852991

Take A6 to west side of Whatstandwell Bridge. Turn left and sharp left up hill (New Road) to Alderwasley. The Keeling's house (New road Farm) is on left when hill levels off. Public transport: Rail to Whatstandwell, Trent TP, PS. (tickets are interchangeable).

9<sup>th</sup> August Carsington SK246498

Millfields Car Park. Signed from A517 and B5035.  
Take a bicycle for an alternative evening.

16<sup>th</sup> August High Peak Junction SK314561

Take A6 to Cromford crossroads. Turn into Mill Lane (Mill Road) and follow over river and under railway bridge. High Peak junction is about 1 mile further on right. Public transport: Rail to Cromford. Trent TP. Alight High Peak junction and follow public footpath over canal and railway (or await police patrol car! Stagecoach Service 140/1

23<sup>rd</sup> August West Hallam (South) Chez Shooter SK431403. 0115 932 2945

From A609 take Station Road south, at T junction turn left on to Cat and Fiddle Lane. From A6096 turn left on to Cat and Fiddle Lane near windmill.

30<sup>th</sup> August Crich Carr Chez Duckworth Sk337544 01773 856824

Take A6 to Whatstandwell Bridge. Turn uphill over canal and railway into Crich Carr. Turn left at Crich Carr school into Hinderstitch Lane. Glen Road is second on right. Limited parking. Park at station. Public transport: Rail to Whatstandwell, Bus 144, TP. (Tickets interchangeable)

6<sup>th</sup> September Etwall Scout Hut (courtesy of Rex Bleakman) SK273318

01283 733363. Take A516 from Derby to roundabout east of Etwall. Take old road into Etwall, then first left (Burnaston Lane), second right (Lawn Avenue). At end of road, turn left. Scout hut is on right.

## June Open Meeting - Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> June

(This time I have remembered to mention the date!). The venue is the National Stone Centre, Wirksworth, a stone's throw (sorry) from the High Peak trail and often used as the car park for Cromford Moor. Directions à la Paul Wright: Take the B5036 north out of Wirksworth, left on to the B5035 in the direction of Middleton, then left again at signs for the Centre. Haven't a clue about buses Dave. Runs will be from 7.00pm onwards as per usual, meeting from 8.15pm. All welcome. NB. no bar so those wanting liquid refreshment will have to bring their own.

## Derwent Valley Orienteers Local Event

### **Pools Brook**(near Chesterfield)

**Saturday 6th May 2000**

**By car:** Follow the brown tourist signs from the A619 in Staveley (SK435748), between M1 Junction 30 and Chesterfield. Or follow the brown tourist signs from the A632, near Duckmanton, 1km west of the bridge over the M1 (SK435713). Registration is at Pools Brook Country Park Visitor Centre.

**By public transport:** Bus Service 75 from Chesterfield and Staveley, alight at the entrance to Pools Brook Country Park. 200m walk from the entrance to Registration at the Visitor Centre. (Derbyshire Busline 01332 292200).

**Cost:** Juniors £1. (All the courses are aimed at juniors but adults wishing to take part may also do so for £1.)

If you are bringing a group please phone the Organiser before the event.

**Registration:** 1000 - 1200

**Start times:** 1030 - 1230

**Courses:** White, Yellow, Orange, Score.

**Terrain:** Open Parkland. Dogs welcome but must be kept on a lead.

**Organiser:** Val Johnson 01773 824754

**Planner:** Dave McGivern

**Controller:** Mike Godfree

## Derwent Valley Orienteers Colour Coded Event

### **Calke Park** (near Ticknall) - National Forest Trophy Event

All Proceeds from this event will go to the East Midlands Junior Squad.

**Sunday 11th June 2000**

**By car:** Follow brown tourist signs to Calke Abbey from the junction of A50/A514 south of Derby to enter the park in Ticknall (128/SK355240). Parking is in part of the National Trust Car Park. National Trust car park fee.

**By public transport:** Bus service 69A from Derby and Swadlincote. Alight at Calke Abbey Gates in Ticknall. 1 mile walk through park to Registration alongside National Trust Car Park. (Derbyshire Busline 01332 292200).

**Cost:** Seniors £3 (DVO or BOF members), £4 (non-members); Juniors/Students £1; Family £7 (DVO or BOF members), £9 (non-members).

**Registration:** 1000 - 1200

**Start times:** 1030 - 1230

**Courses:** String, White, Yellow, Orange, Light Green, Green, Blue, Brown

**Terrain:** Parkland with some wooded areas. Dogs not allowed on courses; must be kept on a lead in the car park.

**Organiser:** Doug Dickinson 01509 265653

**Planner:** Johnson family

**Controller:** Mike Godfree

## Letter to the Editor

So it seems I might have left some tapes at control sites whilst collecting controls after the last event at Black Rocks ("Mike Godfree's This and That" last issue). I'm not at all surprised. When I was collecting controls I had already helped put them out and then run in the event. And circuit training is nothing compared to the effort involved in carrying an armful of controls trestles and kites up steep and slippery slopes. By the end of the day I was more concerned about getting myself (and the controls) back to the car park in one piece than I was finding and removing every last piece of tape. And remember there was no band of helpers ready to form a search party if either I or Kathryn (who was collecting another bundle of controls) didn't get back safely.

I suggest that anyone still around at the end of an event who has time to help collect controls should offer to do so - don't assume that the planner will ask you if they need help - the planner may not know you, and may not realise you are willing to help. It would also help if the Organiser could enlist some help for control collecting before the event. I know this is extra work, but the Organiser is phoning round for helpers anyway - the planner isn't and already has enough to do. If there were more of us then hopefully we would all have the energy to collect the tapes as well the controls.

Also whilst mounting controls on metal trestles may have many advantages over the wooden canes used by some other clubs, the trestles are much heavier and more difficult to carry. Can whoever decided to buy them in the first place give us all a demonstration of how to carry a dozen through a typical DVO area?

**Dave Bennett**

Editor: The job of collecting controls does seem to be a bit of an afterthought. It's a job which the organiser usually leaves to the planner, on the basis that anything to do with controls is not his job, while the planner never thinks about it at all because he's got plenty to think of other things to worry about. The net result is that it gets done on an ad hoc basis on the day of the event, the planner asking anyone who's around at the time because otherwise he'll have to do it all himself. This is unsatisfactory, not the least because the unfortunate candidates will usually have spent half the morning helping in some other capacity before or after their run.

Should the role of finding control collectors be officially added to the jobs of the organiser? This will mean that they will have to find even more candidates for jobs, adding to their already difficult task. The sad fact is, Dave, that people do not generally volunteer but need to be asked/reminded.

**Camping at the BOC2000.** The events are south of Hereford. There are two commercial camp-sites recommended by the organisers. We have gone for the one closest to the Relays assuming people are unlikely to be camping Friday. This is Broadmeadow Caravan Park, Broadmeadow, Ross-on-Wye. Tel: 01989 768076. Map reference 162/607246. M50 J4 onto A449. At Rdabout take A40 for 1km. Site on right hand side. 150 pitches. Names to Val by 3/5/00 please.

## COACHING CORNER

### **BOF Personal Improvement Day.**

Twelve club members attended the BOF personal improvement day at Great Tower in the Lake District on 1<sup>st</sup> April, a day before the Blakeholme badge event.

Despite being publicly shamed by Derek Allison for not paying for the experience, we all agreed the day was extremely useful. We decided to split into smaller groups, with a coach assigned to each, and then planned sessions with a purpose, such as 'contour recognition' and 'relocation'. I think this was a good move and got the most out of the controls that had been put out. Without definite exercises the day would have become just another event.

Derek held a clinic dealing with common problems that participants had identified such as training, compass work, equipment in general and pre-event preparation. The day was rounded off with a hearty meal at the pub just down the road from the caravans we had hired for the weekend.

Unfortunately the next BOF day clashes with the DVO trip to Madrid. Instead we are planning our own day on Cannock Chase so watch this space.

### **Colour Coded Coaching**

Club coaches are always available at Colour Coded events, so please feel free to come along with your requests for help. One of us should be around the club shop - Randal and Viv's white camper van - which is usually at the registration area at DVO events.

### **June Open Meeting Coaching**

The next coaching session will be just before the June open meeting (details for the venue appear elsewhere in Newstrack). It will take place just before the business side of the meeting, after the run. It will not take long and is suitable, in fact aimed at all orienteers no matter what level.

### **Summer Series Coaching**

The Yellow Course will include an optional extra this year. Each event will have a different game aimed at younger competitors but not exclusive to them. Just turn up at the events and enter in the normal manner complete the game and hand in at the finish - sorry no prizes this time!

Val Johnson



## 2000 DVO Club Champs - Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> June 2000.

This year's lucky organiser is Stuart Swalwell. The venue is Carsington Pastures, the only time that this, one of DVO's best areas, will be used this year. As emphasised by Ranaid in his Thoughts, this is open to all members (that's why it's the DVO Champs), all of who have an equal chance of winning subject only to the vagaries of the handicap system.

There will be a Yellow course for Juniors, a Light Green Medium course and a Long Course for the rest. Since this will be in the middle of June and therefore in the heat (?) of an English summer (hah!), Stuart will aim to have the earliest start times at around 9.30 am (presumably aiming to have everyone back by 11).

Last time we had the club champs there, we had a very successful social after in Brassington Village Hall. We may be able to book this again, probably a wise move given last year's abortively wet picnic at Longshaw. More details at Calke.

Names please, with Age Class and Preferred Course to Stuart by Calke Park, the Sunday before at the very latest. Stuart's phone number is 01335 347814.

### Odds and Sods

**Sports Personality of the Month.** Once again I am indebted to one of my own family for filling this regular spot. Hilary was aware that the mapping symbol for a footpath is a broken black line. Hilary was not aware of the alternative mapping symbol for a crag, yes, you guessed it, a slightly thicker black line. At the Blakeholme event where the number of footpaths is somewhat outnumbered by the number of crags, it took Hilary nine foot of vertical plummet to find out what the distinction is, a lesson she is not likely to need to repeat.

**A special mention** must also be made of the population of **Pleasley Vale** who achieved the remarkable feat, during Val's half-term evangelistic mission to take orienteering to the people, of nicking firstly all the punches on her White course, then, if that were not enough, all the controls themselves too. By the end of the week all that there was to show for Bolsover District Council's laudable attempt to introduce a little variety to seven days of TV and Gameboy for its schoolkids was a sorry collection of bits of cardboard passing themselves off as controls - and they even half-inched some of those too!

**Orienteering in Popular Culture** (part 247 of a continuing series). Not unconnected to the last item, I am indebted to Andy Mackervoy for this contribution to another irregular series, an extract from the Sunday People, which his chips must have been wrapped in. This article tells us that young yobs who vandalised and terrorised a housing estate are to be given a free holiday rather than being punished. As an alternative to destroying the Bysing Wood estate in Faversham, Kent, they are to be sent to an outdoor activity centre to enjoy orienteering, presumably so they can indulge in vandalism and destruction of their natural surroundings instead. Bet you there aren't many punches left at the end of that event either.