

NEWSTRACK

JANUARY 2003



Great Moments from the Orienteering Archives:

No. 7: The Ancient Egyptians were the first to use I.O.F. symbols

NEWSTRACK is the magazine of Derwent Valley Orienteers

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Thoughts from the Chair

I have a startling revelation. The club's accounts presented at the AGM ignore an invisible resource worth about £38,170 each year. But before you call the Serious Fraud Squad, I'll try to explain how I came to this dramatic conclusion.

In the middle of last year I was asked by BOF if I would contribute to the second national study of volunteering in sport. I was duly contacted by Matt James from the Leisure Industries Research Centre at Sheffield University's Leisure Management Division who explained that they had been commissioned to carry out the survey on behalf of Sport England. The first survey was undertaken in 1996 which indicated that there were nearly 1.5 million volunteers in UK sport, each putting in an average of 125 voluntary hours per year and that the total annual value of the UK sports volunteer market was estimated to be over £1.5 billion. The survey hopes to establish trends in volunteering but more importantly identify the challenges faced by both clubs and volunteers. There is even a hint that it will be used to identify ways in which Sport England may provide assistance to help clubs manage their volunteers better.

Now my first reaction was there are only two challenges with volunteers; first finding them and secondly keeping them! But when you think about it there is a lot more to this volunteering lark, with one of the first questions being - **how** people volunteer in the first place? In my experience there are three possibilities

1. Often this happens because they have been asked by a friend in the club.
2. Sometimes they get asked by a stranger desperate for help and simply working their way through the club membership list. In this case the organiser has discovered Shooter's first rule of organising - your number of friends is inversely proportional to the size of the event.
3. Occasionally someone just asks if there's anything they can do.

Then there is the question as to **why** people volunteer? I believe there are three main reasons: First because they believe they make a contribution to the sport, secondly because they enjoy helping and thirdly because they enjoy meeting people and making new friends. Now don't get me wrong at this point. Lots of people help within DVO but I suspect that there are potential volunteers who are not aware that the club needs them. We must do all we can to find these members as it is not good for the club to become too reliant upon a limited number of helpers who, given time, could become tired, stale and disenchanted!

But back to the survey. A key question in the survey was "How many volunteers are involved in the organisation of the sport at your club, what do they do and how much time is spent doing it?"

As you know DVO tries to support orienteering at all levels and the club has several activities involving volunteers namely:-

- Club Committee
- Officials nominated for individual orienteering events
- On the day helpers for orienteering events

- Club members who are members of regional and national committees
- Other "off-line" yet essential activities such as mapping event areas, access negotiators, etc.

Obviously estimating the number of hours can be very subjective, so I went around and asked several people in the club how much time we spend doing what we do. Here is a summary of the answers;

Club Activities	Hours per Year
The committee Treasurer, development, social, equipment, publicity, NEWSTRACK, etc.	1500
Event officials Planner, Organiser, Controller, on the day help, etc.	1617
Other activities Mapping, access negation, web site, etc.	700
Total	3817

The event hours can be broken down to type and number of events.

	Event Standard							
	Major (National)		Large (Badge)		Small (Club)		Informal	
Events / year	0.3		1		6		13	
Event Officials	No	Hours each	No	Hours each	No	Hours each	No	Hours each
Organiser	1	200	1	50	1	30	1	10
Planner	2	200	2	50	1	30	-	-
Controller	2	100	1	50	1	30	-	-
Event Committee	5	100	-	-	-	-	-	-
On the Day Helpers	24	4	24	2	20	2	1	3
Total Hours per Event Type	420		248		780		169	
Total Hours per year	1617							

Now in 1996 Sport England reckoned that volunteers were worth at least £8/hour (1.5 million volunteers doing 125 hours per year at £8 per hour = £1.5 billion per year). So allowing for inflation (and a bit of rounding) I reckon that volunteering in 2002 was worth a convenient £10/h. Which means that if DVO had to pay for it's volunteer helpers we would require an additional £38170 income per year.

It's a good job that this hidden resource is not taxed

... John please tell me that it's not taxed !!

Rob Shooter, Chair, Derwent Valley Orienteers

Back to (the) Fewston: Timble – 15th December 2003

A free Sunday and a newly arrived nephew south-east of Harrogate. What better opportunity to re-visit a much-loved area south-west of Harrogate (and west of Fewston, in case you were wondering)?

Perhaps people do not realise that I have a guilty secret – no, not that one – I did once have a former life as a member of Airienteers, from '76 - '80, and it came of something of a shock when I delved into the Johnsonian archives to extract the last Timble map I'd run on: 23rd January 1983, just a few short weeks of 20 years ago! In those days, it was known as Timble lngs. I never found out what an 'Ing' was, nor why this particular area apparently boasted at least two of them, but now they've gone, to a safe home I hope, and I can't say that I missed them.

I had also saved the results from that happy time when the Thatcher government was still in its infancy, the Iron Curtain and the Berlin Wall were intact and Shakin' Stevens was in his prime, perhaps it wasn't so happy after all, and these too contained some shocks. Not my position of course, languishing in an undistinguished 49th place as ever, but the sheer numbers attending: 128 on the Brown alone!, 97 on the Blue, 73 on the Green, and even 73 on Red; no-one runs on Red these days, so why and when did it run out of popularity? Compare this with 2002's measly 27 on the Brown. It's only when you compare what were two more or less identical events – same area, same C4, same time of year – that you realise how sharply orienteering has declined in popularity. Another change is the spread across the courses, nowadays the numbers decline from Green onwards, the exact opposite to 20 years ago, but I suppose that is a symptom of the aging nature of the sport.

I gazed down the names of those competing a couple of decades previously, and was also surprised to see how few I recognised as competing today. Where are they all and what do they do with their Sunday mornings now? One or two names still inhabit today's results booklets, Adrian Pickles was third on Brown, Derek Allison eighth, and one P. Addison running for SPOC (the short-lived and exotically named Sunderland Polytechnic O Club I'm reliably informed by the man himself) came 24th, beating me comfortably by 6 minutes. Plus ca change....

This was no longer an Aire airea, but claimed by CLARO. I was pleasantly surprised, on logging on to their web site before the event that the pre-event details included a list of all the course details, including lengths and heights. (Warning: hobby horse alert). At the risk of re-visiting the rather hazardous terrain of my last Newstrack piece, it has long niggled me that too little information about actual courses is included in pre-event details. Why shouldn't we know in advance how long we are going to be expected to run and how many contours to climb? This particularly applies to Badge event courses, where course lengths can vary by up to 50% between different events. By the time event details are circulated, chances are that the courses have been planned and the control sites tagged. There are the very odd occasions when I've been out on an M45 Badge course for less than an hour, and have left regretting not entering M40; I want to be running for 70 minutes at least, even on a good run, to justify the expense and effort, but without the necessary advance info, I can't make these sorts of choices. It's rather like ordering a dog from a catalogue, not that you can. You'd know you were going to get one which barks, cr*ps (asterisk inserted for the benefit of the 1% of the population that doesn't watch the Simpsons) on

the carpet and chews your furniture, but until it arrives, you don't know whether it's an alsaion or a shiatsu. (And how often have we ended up with the orienteering equivalent of a shiatsu?) No-one would mind if the advance info were provisional, subject to final tweaking, a general indication would suffice. If nothing else, an idea of M21, the longest, most arduous course, should be given; at least you'd be able to have a good guess at where your course would end up on a proportionate scale. (Hobby horse dismounted).

And while we're on the subject of improvements to websites, I would like to point out that the NOC website has a neat link from their pre-event details pages to multimap.com so you can locate the whereabouts of their areas and car parks, and there's also a downloadable registration form so you can roll up to their events having completed this already in the comfort of your own home.

Another innovation at Timble, so far I am concerned, was pre-marked maps. Let me say that again, pre-marked maps at a colour-coded event. Wow. If you had to imagine the perfect C4, it would certainly have pre-marked maps. And this made so much difference to registration. No need to have a separate car for map sales, 'cause you didn't pick your map up till after the Start. In fact there was no need for any cars at all. You were given the usual form to fill in, then you changed and marched up to the start area where, in a large tent, you handed over your form and your dosh in return for your control descriptions, before wandering over to the adjacent start and setting off when convenient. What could be simpler?

I don't know why I expected the area to have remained unchanged, frozen in time over 20 years like a Damien Hirst shark, but, comparing the maps now, it is amazing how parts of the map previously mapped as semi- or rough open have been transformed into dark green as if by magic. Inevitably map techniques have changed over the years but where do a rocky pit and two crags disappear to in the meantime?

Timble is a smashing little area, perfect for a C4, even if a bit far from DVOLand. It has the rare combination of bracken growing in the woods and being physical and runnable at the same time. It's quite compact but the advantages of electronic punching enabled the planner to get the most out of it.

Somewhere in the Human Rights Act there is enshrined my right to the most trivial quibble at even the best event (i.e. I'm never happy). This week's grouse centred on one particular control which entailed a trip up to your thighs through an icy stream, engorged by recent rain, to visit a ruined wall on the far side, only for the same displeasurable experience to have to be repeated a few seconds later on the return journey - or three further times in my case since I found my way to the wall blocked on the first visit by an uncrossable fallen tree. I don't mind fording raging torrents in themselves and risking perma-frost to some of the more sensitive regions of the body but there should be a better reason than just one control. This was the second event in three weeks where this had happened, the previous one being Bradfield.

Things were going reasonably well for me until three controls from the end. The rain had made the paths very muddy, and as I rounded a corner, I lost my footing and was thrown forward and down a slope. As my momentum carried me down to the bottom of this incline, a tsunami of mud engulfed me so I emerged at the bottom looking like Oliver Reed in Women in Love, though fortunately there was no Alan Bates to wrestle with. I was

drenched in filth. My first thought was to clean my specs but there wasn't a square inch of clothing not saturated in sludge, and I had to abandon them. The next control was a ditch junction in a network of such channels, and deprived of ophthalmic assistance, I might as well have been night orienteering without a torch.

Anyhow, impressed by the availability of the pre-marked maps, I e-mailed the controller to find out how it was done, and this is an edited version of the inestimable Andy Kelly's response (the reference to 'sizing' in the reply means that the area covered by your map is tailored to the ground covered by your course, you could have six different map areas for six different courses, which is not practical for orthodox maps):

"1.Q. Is this CLARO policy at all C4s or just a one off?

It has been done before (I did it as planner a year or so ago), but this was a try-out for future events. The committee will be reviewing the idea at its next meeting, but the general feeling appears to be that it was a success, and I sincerely hope and expect the club to adopt this as policy. We are not the only ones - Aire did the same at their colour coded at Temple Newsam earlier this month, and I understand EPOC were going to do the same at Newmillerdam.

2. Q. How was it done, the map quality was very good?

On Harry (Dowdell, the planner)'s printer. When I did it, we used Roger Jackson up in Keswick, at 55p per A3 sheet. I sized the maps as well, so that for instance, White and Yellow got smaller maps. In fact they also got 1:5000 scale to help them (as they did at Guisecliff badge in March). This meant they weren't struggling with over-large sheets of paper, and could 'spot' their courses more easily, as well as coming in seriously cheaper. Airienteers sized their maps at Temple Newsam (I ran Green, and got a neat map of approximately half the size that Brown got), and used a printer in Leeds (you can contact Chris Burden for more info at chris.burden@btinternet.com).

3. Q. Isn't it wasteful of unused maps/uneconomic?

No, and no. Compared with the old system of using offset printed maps, the wastage levels on blank maps that grew out of date was just as high in those days. If you size the maps, then wastage is kept to a minimum, and in fact meant at the colour-coded event I did that we had less paper wastage than we would otherwise have had, compared with printing blank maps to order.

Even if not sizing - there is some wastage, but printing costs are so much lower, that it certainly does not prove uneconomic. The club made a healthy surplus on this event, with just 240 entries and some 400 maps printed off. In fact, we don't know how some clubs justify the prices they do for events, particularly badge events.

What wastage there is, is more than made up for by the quality of experience for each competitor. Clubs all too often focus on cost, rather than value (which is partly why the sport is in the mess it is in in some areas).

The big issue that everybody comes up against is what to do if the maps run out? My attitude to this is somewhat more cavalier than most, but for what it's worth here it is:

I'd suggest (a) running off a substantial number of one or two key courses, e.g. Green, Orange, Yellow (b) having a single backup master map of each course.

Then, if the maps run out on one course, just suggest to the competitors that they can choose: either select another course which still has maps, or use master maps. These could either be copied up in race time, or copied up at the start immediately before starting (with either a time allowance, or just a case of when you've copied up, you must start immediately).

By having the above selection, one will cater for most competitors' standards. I'm sure that the system could be tweaked, but I think in outline it caters for every eventuality. What we probably need is some consistency of what clubs do.

The other alternative we discussed, is that the pre-marked maps were of sufficient quality that we could have just recycled finisher's maps, just as sometimes happens if an event runs out of blank maps. Not ideal, but do-able."

I also received the following additional info., via Andy, from Harry Dowdell:

"Maps printed on Epson Photo Quality Ink Jet Paper. Cost 10p + VAT per A4 sheet. Ink cost ~ 6p + VAT per map. Total cost 16p each. May be cheaper paper than the Epson. Printed on an Epson C80 at 720 dpi. Print time 1 min 50 sec per map. The ink is waterproof! Maps tested at Scott Gate (June) & Harlow (Sept) without bags and stood up better than laser printed maps. We printed 520 maps including 40 blanks."

What about it DVO?

Captain's Jog

The CompassSport Cup will be held on Sunday, 16th March. DVO has been allocated the event at Blidworth Woods, near Mansfield. We need a good turnout here to challenge NOC on their home ground.

(Editor's note: as well as NOC, we are drawn against the East Anglian clubs of WAOC and NOR, so presumably LEI have not entered this year).

The major relays in 2003 are:

JK Relays	Monday 21 st April	Bloom And Horton Woods, Chilterns
British Relay Champs	Sunday, 18 th May	Greno Wood, Sheffield

As agreed at the 2002 AGM, club relay entries at these events will be subsidised by 50%.

Please let me know if you wish to run in either at both these relays. I can be contacted at:

- Club training evenings (usually)
- On 01332 553561, best times 2000 – 2200 or 0700 – 0730 (weekdays!)
- By Royal Mail (not e-mail)

John Hurley, Club Captain

DVO Annual Awards

The Awards will be presented at the DVO Annual Dinner on Saturday 15th February 2003, which is publicised elsewhere in this month's Newstrack. There are six awards and last year's winners were:

Orienteer of the Year	John Duckworth
Junior Orienteer of the Year	Matthew Dickinson
Most Improved Orienteer	Paul Robinson
Most Enthusiastic Newcomer	Dave Vincent
Journalist of the Year	John Hurley
Sports Personality of the Year	Rex Bleakman

Four of the six awards, namely Orienteer of the Year, Junior Orienteer of the Year, Most Improved Orienteer and Most Enthusiastic Newcomer have in the past been nominated and chosen by the Committee. But at our last meeting it was decided that it would be more appropriate to allow nominations from any member with the winner being selected by the Chair / Vice Chair. This we believe will allow the widest opportunity for the Club to recognise member's individual contributions to the sport.

The four categories are largely self-explanatory with the Senior and Junior Orienteer of the Year Awards inviting nomination of members who have made a significant contribution to the Club, for example, best Club placing at a major event, consistent high event results throughout the year or any other activity that has raised profile and reputation of the Club (that's my chances blown then - ed). The Most Improved Orienteer Award is open to nomination of either senior or junior members who have improved their orienteering skills and event results over the last year. Whilst the Most Enthusiastic Newcomer Award invites nomination of new members who have thrown themselves into to the Club's activities such as competing and helping at events.

Please let me have your nominations for these four awards by Monday 10th February, together with a brief sentence outlining the reason for your nomination. You can phone me on 0115 9322945, e-mail me at shooterfamily@hotmail.com or see me at an event.

The other two award winners are chosen differently. The Journalist of the Year is chosen by Graham Johnson and is based upon articles published within Newstrack. The Sports Personality of the Year is awarded to a member who, not so much through their orienteering success, but rather through their sportsmanship has enriched the lives of either the club, orienteering or sport as a whole. Nominations for this award are taken up to the point of voting and the winner is selected by the members at the Club Dinner. Again please let me have your nominations by phone, e-mail or in person.

Robert Shooter DVO Chair

Congratulations to DVO Social Secretary Andy Maddison and fellow DVO member Robert Smith who tied the knot in Eskdale on 11th January.

Apologies for the late cancellation of the Open Meeting at short notice in December. Next one will be on Wednesday, 12th March, venue to be announced in EMEWS and on the website.

BOF Rules 2003

John Hurley, DVO's resident constitutional expert, sifts through the new BOF Rules so you don't have to.

As the sole DVO representative at the EMOA Controllers' Conference on 26th October 2002, where Simon Errington explained the new BOF Rules, I have been asked to report on the highlights. This report supplements that written by Ernie Williams in the Dec/Jan 2002 EMEWS (now out).

BOF wishes to encourage more level 4 and 5 events and the Rule have been simplified to remove obstacles to holding events at this level. Rule 1.3.7 now allows the Organiser of a Level 4 or 5 event to vary or supplement another Rule, subject to approval from the Controller. I think a good example of this would be a variation of Rule 1.5.8: "Race officials shall not help a competitor in any way" to allow officials to help beginners at a level 5 come-and-try-it event.

The only new Rule is Rule 5.1.3: 2: "Any map used for an event shall be registered under the BOF Map Registration system". This Rule is needed to ensure that insurance cover is in place for mapping activity.

In general, controversial changes have not been made compulsory. For example Rule 5.4.1 states that "competitors may copy their course from master maps either before or after they have been timed as having started". This allows clubs which feel strongly that either method is better to use their preferred method, whilst other clubs may use the other method.

Rules 6.2.3 and 6.2.4 have changed. Controls should not be sited within 30 metres of any other control or within 60 metres of another control on a similar feature. Since these are 'should' rules, they are only recommendations.

The most controversial rule in my opinion is now Rule 6.5.2 which deals with the situation where an e-card download shows a control missing. The competitor shall be disqualified unless it can be established that the missing punch is not his fault e.g. if several competitors have the same control missing and it is then found that the SI control unit was faulty. If the competitor is the only one who has that control missing, then he shall be disqualified, even if there is evidence from other competitors or officials that he has visited the control, and it is not necessary to double-check by downloading from the SI control unit. The intention here is to put the onus on the competitors, and particularly the elite runners, to use the e-punching system correctly and not to gamble on saving a fraction of a second by early withdrawal of their e-cards.

If anyone has any queries about the 2003 Rules and Guidelines, please ask me.

John Hurley

Letters to the Editor

Not one but two contributions this month (thinks: have I done anything to upset anyone lately?).

First up is from outside DVO, from our friends at HOC:

Dear Sir

News of your article about the Titterstone Clee event has spread like wildfire through Harlequins and members are feeling very discouraged and disappointed. There were many problems both before and during the event and explanations and apologies for these are contained in the results booklet (incidentally, have you ever seen a better results booklet?). But we never dreamt that these problems could have so materially affected anyone's enjoyment of the event except possibly our own.

Some of the problems were caused by the fact that we were the only club in the whole country willing to take on the CompassSport Cup Final at short notice, something BOF and the participating clubs were very grateful for and appreciative of. You may be pleased to hear that much of the revenue from the event will be spent on new equipment to prevent some of the more minor but nonetheless frustrating problems on the day.

The cagoule rule was imposed when the weather was appalling and the forecast even worse. It was enforced to make it FAIR to all competitors, as many had started before the sun won the day – I almost get the impression you would have been happier if the bad weather had persisted.

We cannot legislate for your getting lost on the way or for someone walking off with the control descriptions – more than enough were printed – and if you control No. 5 was the same as last time then that was pure co-incidence – Did it help you get to it quicker?

I must however take issue with your statement that no start lists were published on the internet – they certainly were because I accessed them myself prior to the event. I am also puzzled by your comment: 'Most people will put up with unexpected change and inconvenience if they are warned in advance'. Surely, the very nature of the unexpected makes it impossible to warn people in advance!

However, unlike your good self, we at Harlequins do not harbour grudges and are very much looking forward to the DVO badge event at Chatsworth in April which I'm sure will be a masterclass on how an event should be run. I wish I could say that I have enjoyed DVO efficiency at work in the past but unfortunately the only two badge events I've entered in my short orienteering career have both been cancelled – perhaps that was an option we should have explored ourselves rather than expose our hard-pressed volunteers to such criticism.

May I take this opportunity of wishing yourself and your fellow club members a happier and more successful orienteering NewYear.

Lester Hartmann, Chairman, Harlequins Orienteering Club

The editor says:

Whoa there, boy. I have sent a reply to Mr Hartmann, and in fact we had a lively exchange of e-mails till I got a bit bored of it. I won't inflict the full text on you, but you don't escape entirely. The gist of my response is as follows:

1. The views expressed are entirely my own, not DVO's. I can't see any logical connection between my opinions and the organisation of a badge event at Chatsworth by the club of which I happen to be a member.
2. Such criticism as there was of the event was restricted to the absence of advance information about, in particular, the non-standard map scale for M45s. There was specifically no criticism of the following:
 - the decision to insist on the wearing of cagoules (which I supported)
 - the use of the same No. 5 control at two events 3½ years apart; this was simply an amazing coincidence, the sole reason for remarking upon it
 - the directions to the event
 - the absence of M45 control descriptions
 - any individual volunteer
4. I tried to find the Start List on the internet, unsuccessfully, both before the event and after, just to check my facts.
5. I do not hold grudges - except against certain members of DVO; the article made clear that it was partly to lay the ghost of my previous less than pleasant experience at Titterstone that I went in the first place.
6. 'Unexpected' does not mean 'impossible to warn'.
7. There is no point putting information/explanation in the results book, it's too late then and the damage is done. I did not mention the results booklet in the article because I received it after Newstrack went to press. I am happy to record that it is probably the best results booklet I have ever seen, featuring as it does numerous photos in glorious technicolour.
8. Lighten up, man.

(Footnote: Springtime in Shropshire Day 1, 24th May, is, you guessed it, Titterstone Clee. They have got to be kidding).

So we move rapidly on to a letter from a DVO member. At least Mike Godfree won't be moaning about something I've written in Newstrack.

Letter to the Editor 2

I am impressed that you follow our wanderings to obscure badge events. Do you have nothing better to do on dark winter evenings than trawl the internet? Drumlanrig Castle (think Glenbogle without Richard Briers, Susan Hampshire and the mountain scenery) is north of Dumfries not far from Ae Forest. I am sure the Duke of Buccleuch would not think much of your "where?". However you fail to mention that M21L was also a Godfree win.

You have also failed to notice an even more obscure event with an even less competitive field on M50. At Gwydyr Forest in the Conwy Valley, North Wales, so obscure that even Dai Brodie failed to show, I didn't think 106 minutes was a particularly good time on M50L. But it was sufficient to lead a field of 4 by 28 minutes! Now that's the way to get ranking points.

Mike Godfree

(I understand Mike has already pencilled in the Badge event at Leachdann Tom NaCroich on 9th March)

Stop Press

Now, by way of a change, we have a late News Flash from Dave Brodie. Surely he has something of importance to say about orienteering, not vaguely connected with the barely coherent ramblings found in some sad parochial rag.

Sports Club Newsletter Editor in Scandal Shock Nightmare Scenario Shame Siege Incident

From our correspondent on the scene,
David Brodie

"News has just come in of a nightmare scenario developing, right here in the Midlands. Apparently a local sports club newsletter has gone wild, and as I write word-police marksmen are surrounding his home, fully armed with dictionaries, pencils and MS Word. 'We hope to talk him out,' said Chief Inspector Hallen of the local word-police force, 'so that nobody gets hurt. But he's a dangerous man, and he's in a corner. We know he's got a computer in there. It could be a long vigil.'

The trapped man has a long record of verbal assault, and other serious crimes such as wilful (sic) misspelling of Pwllheli be-smirching the proud national identity of fellow club members, and blatant fabrication of stories in foul attempts to belittle competitive achievement of his rivals.

(Has anyone else noticed the delicious irony of the misspelling of 'wilful' in this report; how can a man who cannot even spell his native language criticise another for his spelling of a foreign one? He who lives by the dictionary must die by it too – Gleeful Ed).

At this stage, little is known about his motives. It could be insanity, one neighbour told me, brought on by the failure of ever more desperate attempts to make, at least once, a decent competitive achievement. Or perhaps it was the frustrations of coping with personal hygiene matters following a nasty bicycle fall which broke both arms, and the reactions of his club-mates who fell about in cruel hilarity at his misfortune.

But one club member, who has understandably asked to remain anonymous, given the danger this man now presents, has another theory. 'He's been Newstrack editor for longer than anybody can remember,' she whispered nervously to me. 'He's desperate. It seems he just wants to get rid of the job. So he has a plan. He's been writing ever more

outrageous stories about other people in the club so that they'll do anything to replace him. The whole club lives in fear. Anybody half-literate is in real danger. We just don't know who'll be next.'

So, a drama unfolds here amongst quiet Midlands towns and fields, a drama involving barbed words and sharp quips, brief but deadly. It could yet end in hideous sound of the rat-tat-tat of keyboards echoing long into the nights to come. We'll be there to bring you news of the latest events, as they happen.

(Can anyone explain what this one's all about? - Ed)

DVO Development Plan 2003

You will find the latest version of the Club's Development Plan as an insert in this copy of Newstrack.

It has been considered by the Club Development Group and the Club Committee and we think it represents a challenging yet achievable set of activities for the Club to engage in.

We review the Development Plan every couple of years to ensure that it is still relevant. It is essential for us when we make bids for Awards for All lottery or other funding as funding bodies need to see that we are an active club that knows where it is going.

If you have any comments on the current version of the Development Plan or would like to contribute to a particular aspect, please let us know. In particular, we are always keen to see new Club Coaches and Instructors or people enthusiastic to help us in promoting our sport.

DVO is a relatively healthy Club and we are not seeing the serious decline in membership that some clubs are experiencing. However, we must never be complacent as there are many alternative attractions (or is it distractions?) that can draw people away, as we found during Foot and Mouth Disease in 2001. We are all volunteers and that is one of our strengths. However, it is also a weakness in that the main responsibilities in the Club fall on the same relatively small group.

So, if you are keen to be more involved in your Club – as an organiser, planner, instructor, helper or member of the Committee – please speak to one of us or to the Club Chair (Robert) or Vice-Chair (Derek).

Happy and healthy orienteering!

Ranald Macdonald
DVO Development Officer

and

Val Johnson
DVO Junior Development Officer



Derwent Valley Orienteers Badge Event & Midland Championships

Chatsworth Estate

near Bakewell, Derbyshire

Sunday 13th April 2003

Midland Championships are open to East Midlands, West Midlands and East Anglian Clubs

- Location:** Use the main Chatsworth House entrance at SK 254697 on B6012 between the A6 at Rowsley and A619 at Baslow. There are brown Tourist Signs from the M1 at Junction 29. Parking fee £1. Nearest buses are to Baslow, 1½ miles from the event.
- Terrain:** Steep hillsides of mixed woodland plus woods and moorland above.
- Map:** 1:10000 for all courses, produced for the 1997 British Relays, updated 2002.
- Courses:** Senior Badge Courses M/W21L/S – M/W75L/S plus Junior Badge Courses JM/W1 – JM/W5 (see below). Also white, yellow, orange, light green EOD only, and string.
- Start times:** 10:30 – 12:30
- Entries:** Sal Chaffey, 6 Snowberry Avenue, off Mill Lane, Belper DE56 1RE, sal.chaffey@zetnet.co.uk 01773 825418 (not between 5 - 8 p.m.). Use Standard Entry Form. Juniors must include year of birth to be competitive. Closing date 24/03/03. Limited late entry, £1 extra. EOD only if maps available.
- Fees:** Seniors £8.00, juniors £3.00, family £19.00. Electronic Punching (SportIdent) will be used. E-card hire 75p. Cheques: DVO.
- Dogs:** In parking area only. Must be kept on a lead.
- Organisers:** Brian & Pauline Ward (01773 850272) brian@bp-ward.freeserve.co.uk
- Planner:** Ted Smith **Controller:** Andrew Gregory MDOC
- For Final Details, Start Lists, Results and DVO club information go to www.dvo.org.uk

Classes	Closest current match	Closest colour equivalent
JM1, JW1	M/W10B	White
JM2, JW2	M/W10A, M/W12B	Yellow
JM3, JW3	M/W12A, M/W14B	Orange
JM4, JW4	M/W14A, M/W16B	Light Green
JM5S, JW5S	W16A, W18B, W20S, M18B	Green
JM5M, JW5L	M16A, M20S, W18A, W20L	Blue
JM5L	M18A, M20L	Brown

Midland Championship junior trophies will be awarded as follows:

Championship Trophy	Awarded to the First	On Course
M10	M10 or under	JM2
W10	W10 or under	JW2
M12	M12 or under	JM3
W12	W12 or under	JW3
M14	M14 or under	JM4
W14	W14 or under	JW4
M16	M16 or under	JM5M
W16	W16 or under	JW5S
M18	M18 or under	JM5L
W18	W18 or under	JW5L
M20	M20 or under	JM5L
W20	W20 or under	JW5L

John Hurley
6 Darley Park House
New Road
Darley Abbey, Derby
DE22 1DR

DVO DINNER (inc. Annual Awards)

Saturday 15th February 2003

Wirksworth Town Hall

6.30 for 7pm

Seniors £6 Juniors £4
plus a salad or a pudding

Names to Val Johnson by 8th February.



Local Orienteering Event
Black Rocks Picnic Site
(between Cromford and Wirksworth)

Saturday 29th March 2003

Start Times 10.30 - 11.30

Entry fees £2 adults, £1 junior

White, Yellow, Orange, Light Green and
Challenge Courses

A low key event ideal for beginners, novices,
families, school and youth groups with courses for
the more experienced. Help available if needed.



Derwent Valley Orienteers

DVO Development Plan 2003

Overview

This plan is intended to prioritise development work for Derwent Valley Orienteers (DVO). Many of the objectives set out in the plan are long-term and will require work during future years.

This plan has been based upon previous plans which have drawn on the development plans of the East Midlands Orienteering Association (EMOA) and the British Orienteering Federation (BOF).

Progress of the Development Plan will be reviewed periodically by the Committee and reported to the AGM. Responsibility for each section of the plan is indicated in brackets. The Club Development Officer and Junior Development Officer will arrange for the Club Development group to meet, as necessary.

This plan will operate in the context of BOF policies which the Club will seek to carry out, including equity, child protection, the environment and risk assessment, as well as our own code of ethics/conduct.

1. Role of Derwent Valley Orienteers

The role of DVO is to provide orienteering opportunities within the County of Derbyshire (excluding the High Peak District), through the provision of orienteering fixtures, permanent courses, training and coaching.

The DVO Committee is elected to provide the driving force necessary to ensure that orienteering is made available to as many individuals and groups as possible within the catchment area. A member of the Club also acts as a representative within the EMOA and through this association to the British Orienteering Federation.

The Committee will seek to ensure that sufficient funding is obtained to carry out the Club's objectives.

numbers of club members are likely to be interested) and advertise alternative means of transport to events, where available.

- 7.4 Landowners considering orienteering access to be invited to visit an event in order to see the extent of 'disturbance' and 'damage' incurred by orienteering and to be sent a copy of the BOF Orienteering and the Environment leaflet. Such invitations to be organised by the relevant land access negotiators and the Fixtures Sub-Committee.

8. Improve Club identity (Committee)

- 8.1 Through Newstrack and Emews
- 8.2 Through use of the club noticeboard. This needs to go to as many events as possible.
- 8.3 By provision of a club tent (with banner) at appropriate National events.
- 8.4 Promote Club colours through the sale of 'O' tops, other garments and equipment
- 8.5 Through the use of a 'new member mentoring' scheme.
- 8.6 Through the organisation of, and arrangements at, Club events such as the summer evening events, a local relay/competition, the Club championships, the autumn long run, mountain bike 'O', with the aim of making club events more inclusive. Social activities to be included as appropriate, e.g. picnics
- 8.7 Through the Club Web site and discussion list.
- 8.8 To include a social programme/element as appropriate e.g. Club dinner, weekends away, activity evenings.
- 8.9 Display Club promotional boards at appropriate events.

9. To publicise orienteering to attract new members and inform others of our activities (Committee)

- 9.1 Through the preparation of an Introductory Pack and New Member Pack
- 9.2 Through the Club Web site and email
- 9.3 By developing and implementing the Club's publicity strategy, including through regular press releases about events, our activities such as permanent courses and achievements of club members
- 9.4 Publicity at Tourist Information Centres, through council Sports Development Officers, schools and other public places such as libraries, youth hostels, sports/outdoor shops and local health authorities
- 9.5 Target novice adults as well as schools and other organisations
- 9.6 Participate in any regional/national initiatives to promote orienteering.
- 9.7 Develop initiatives to introduce new members as a way of progressing to Club/BOF membership.

2. DVO Objectives

The major objectives are:

- 2.1 Provision of an appropriate coaching and training programme
- 2.2 Provision of local orienteering
- 2.3 Provision of support for young people in orienteering
- 2.4 Provision of regional/national orienteering
- 2.5 Make arrangements for land access and protection of the environment
- 2.6 Improve Club identity
- 2.7 To publicise orienteering to attract new members and inform others of our activities

3. Provision of an appropriate coaching and training programme

(Fixtures Sub-Committee and Club Committee, as appropriate)

- 3.1 Provide annual coaching sessions for both adult and junior orienteers, at novice, intermediate and advanced level. At least one event at each level to be arranged each year by the Club Coaching Co-ordinator; where appropriate these will be linked into national coaching days organised by BOF.
- 3.2 The 'Club Coaching Co-ordinator' to act as a co-ordinator for the provision of a full coaching programme.
- 3.3 Provide opportunities for debriefing after events.
- 3.4 Use some Wednesday nights as training opportunities. Promote Monday night as an alternative training night in North Derbyshire. Organise circuit training sessions.
- 3.5 Provide training and updating opportunities for event and other officials e.g. organisers, planners, instructors, coaches, first aid
- 3.6 The Club will consider paying the fee for participants in approved coaching activities, support the development of potential and excellence through grants, and support the expenses of those providing Club coaching and training, etc.
- 3.7 Appropriate Club officials will obtain Criminal Records Bureau clearance

4. Provision of local orienteering

(Fixtures Sub-Committee)

- 4.1 Continue to provide a regular programme of Level 4 orienteering events approximately every 6 weeks from September to June, with a full range of courses, as appropriate and provide a String Course wherever possible.
- 4.2 Put on a regular programme of Level 5 events, mainly on Saturdays and in urban park areas.
- 4.3 Maintain the summer evening programme from May to July, with a Junior beginners (equivalent to White/Yellow), novice adults (Orange), Light

- Green to provide a longer run and a 'challenge' course (based on a proper course of Light Green length and standard). The challenge course should involve aspects of training, coaching and/or novelty, as appropriate.
- 4.4 Continue to manage and increase the number of permanent courses in the area.
 - 4.5 Investigate providing events for special needs participants, perhaps in conjunction with centres or other organisations.
5. Provision of support for young people in orienteering
(Club Committee and Fixtures Sub-Committee)
- 5.1 To investigate setting up a DVO Junior Squad, with a range of associated sporting and social activities
 - 5.2 Provide mapping support for schools throughout the area. Make use of external funding whenever possible and provide surveyors/cartographers to assist schools in mapping of grounds, local parks and woods.
 - 5.3 Encourage schools to include Orienteering within their curriculum and as part of after school activities and encourage parents to take their children orienteering.
 - 5.4 Encourage uniformed and other organisations to take part in our local events and to take out group membership.
 - 5.5 Run a Derbyshire schools championship as part of our Level 5 events.
 - 5.6 Liaise with the Derbyshire and Peak Park Sports and Recreation Forum and Sports Development Officers to promote orienteering county wide e.g. TOP Outdoors and local council initiatives such as the Derbyshire Adventure Youth Games.
6. Provision of regional/national orienteering
(Fixtures Sub-Committee)
- 6.1 Aim to provide three Level 3 (Badge) events every two years
 - 6.2 Participate in the National Event Scheme and running JK, BOC the Harvester as requested by EMOA.
 - 6.3 Enter teams in relay events at subsidised entry fees and participate in the Compass Sport Cup.
 - 6.4 All competitive events should make provision for junior orienteers through suitable courses including, where possible, a string course.
7. Make arrangements for land access and protection of the environment
(Committee)
- 7.1 Each area to have a land access negotiator.
 - 7.2 A booklet of sensitive land area information to be compiled for planners and controllers and a risk assessment to be prepared for all areas.
 - 7.3 Bussing of club members to events to be organised where appropriate (Particularly for Compass Sport Cup and National Events where large