

NEWSTRACK

JUNE 1999



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

Thoughts from the Chair

It's been a busy few months since the last Newstrack. The British Championships will no doubt be reported on elsewhere (sorry, Ranald, half an issue on Springtime in Shropshire is enough for everyone- ed). The area was challenging, though I thought the map was excellent and I was one of those who started at the same time as the downpour! Not very pleasant. The relays also had some notable runs - it will be interesting to see if Graham reports the full story! (some stories are better left untold! - ed).

Saturday 22 May saw the opening of our new permanent course at Holmebrook Valley Park in Chesterfield. The press release issued by Chesterfield Borough Council was headed "World walker opens new orienteering course" and we welcomed John Merrill to a rather blustery event. Quite a good number turned up on the day, many having a couple of runs. I would like to thank Mike Godfree for all his work in negotiating with the council, mapping the park and planning the courses on the day. Thanks also to Val Johnson for the publicity before and on the day, and the many others who turned up to help. Val, Mike and I were also involved in putting on an introductory evening for teachers and youth leaders on Tuesday 15 June at the Stone Centre and then Black Rock. A poor response didn't dampen the enthusiasm of the few who turned up and we hope to continue these developments with the help of Pauline Olivant, the BOF School Development Officer for the area. For those who want to know, these are the sorts of events we are spending our Lottery Fund money on.

The Summer Evening Events are also well under way and attracting the usual band of stalwarts.

The Club Championships resulted in a new name on the trophy and, as a consequence, someone different to arrange and plan the event next year. Congratulations to Andy Clayton, as the first DVO finisher who, as a non UK resident from New Zealand, was only too happy to hand the trophy on to Stuart Swalwell. Congratulations also to Teige Malley as the Club Junior Champion. It was good to see some new faces there this year and perhaps next year we can convince a few more that it is meant as a bit of fun for everyone in the Club and not just the best orienteers - otherwise they wouldn't let me take part! Thanks once again to Liz and Mike Godfree for all their work in putting on such a successful event.

The next big event is Highland 99 (the Scottish 6-day to most of us) which is being held in conjunction with the World Orienteering Championships. Let's hope for the same sunny weather of two years ago so we can enjoy what will inevitably be high quality orienteering.

This is also the last Newstrack before the Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 29 September at Belper Sports Centre, notice of which appears elsewhere. This is the main event where you can find out what's been happening over the last year, question the various officials and, on this occasion, vote on proposed amendments to the constitution. I look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible and perhaps getting a few new faces to volunteer for the Committee.

Have a good summer, and happy and injury free orienteering!

Ronald Macdonald, Chair, Derwent Valley Orienteers

1999 DVO CLUB CHAMPS RESULTS

Thank you to all those who came. I hope you all enjoyed your courses in spite of the wet conditions underfoot; much wetter than we first reccied the courses at Easter! Handicapping is easier with hindsight but the assumed fastest runners on each course finished very close to the 12:30 (or 12:15 for the children) ideal time. I am sure that if you all set off again with handicaps based on this event results would differ just as much.

Congratulations to New Zealand based DVO member Andy Clayton (how do you handicap someone who hasn't run against the rest of us for ? years?) who gallantly handed over the trophy (and the planning of next year's event) to next DVO Stuart Swalwell.

Thanks to John Malley for controlling (and having a National Trust Landrover), to Mike for unlimited assistance especially overprinting the maps, to Ronald and Andy M for bringing in controls. I am sorry the weather was more suitable for orienteering than a picnic lunch, but would you have preferred to run in Friday's heat?

Liz Godfree

Children (2.7Km + 55m)		Finish time	Elapse time	Position on course
Teige Malley	S	12:00:31	32:31	2
Erin Malley	S	12:08:20	42:20	3
Fern Malley	S	12:09:15	45:15	4
Kate Johnson	S	12:15:40	30:40	1
Price family	S	12:27:00	39:00	
Daniel Kimberley	S	12:08:26	38:26	
		(miss 7)		

Adults (Long Course 7.2Km+255m, Medium 5.1Km+130m)

		Finish Time	Elapsed Time	Position on course
Peter Bourne	M	12:16:42	00:40:42	1
Andy Clayton	L	12:19:10	01:03:10	12
Stuart Swalwell	L	12:20:16	01:08:16	14
Claire Gale	M	12:21:30	00:49:30	4
Margaret Keeling	M	12:21:42	00:53:42	11
Roger Keeling	M	12:21:50	00:56:50	12
Robert Shooter	L	12:22:39	00:58:39	5
Mike Gardner	L	12:22:54	01:00:54	9
Helen Finlayson	M	12:23:06	00:50:06	6
Dave McGivern	L	12:23:28	01:13:28	19
Roz Clayton	L	12:24:59	00:54:59	4
Jennifer Gale	M	12:25:15	00:59:15	17
Roz Bourne	M	12:25:23	00:58:23	15
Michelle Mackervoy	L	12:25:35	01:07:35	13
Dave Clough	L	12:26:48	00:58:48	6
Ian Hodson	M	12:28:05	00:47:05	3
Ruth Johnson	M	12:28:15	00:59:15	18
Debbie Wilkinson	M	12:28:36	00:57:36	13
Kathryn Schofield	M	12:28:49	00:49:49	5
Judy Buckley	M	12:29:02	01:08:02	21
Hilary Johnson	M	12:29:04	00:51:04	7
Katie Swalwell	M	12:29:08	00:59:08	16
Ann Armistead	M	12:29:10	00:52:10	9
Karen Jackson	M	12:30:30	00:41:30	2
James Allen	L	12:30:58	01:10:58	17
Jayne Malley	M	12:31:04	00:51:04	8
Derek Gale	L	12:31:28	01:17:28	20
Steve Kimberley	L	12:31:32	00:47:32	2
Steve Buckley	L	12:31:38	00:51:38	3
Viv Macdonald	M	12:31:44	00:57:44	14
John Hawkins	L	12:31:50	00:46:50	1
Andy Mackervoy	L	12:34:57	01:00:57	10
Neil Forrest	M	12:36:24	00:52:24	10
Val Johnson	L	12:36:38	01:10:38	16
Simon Ford	L	12:36:39	01:00:39	8
Gary Simms	L	12:37:14	01:12:14	18
John Hopper	L	12:38:04	00:59:04	7
Graham Johnson	L	12:41:18	01:09:18	15
Paul Addison	L	12:43:26	01:01:26	11
Diane Ford	M	12:43:35	01:21:35	22

Janice Allen	M	12:43:45	01:24:45	23
Dave Dudley	M	12:44:11	01:01:11	20
David Hobbs	M	12:47:31	01:00:31	19
Joy Hopper	M	13:15:53	01:58:53	25
Andrea Simms	M	13:15:59	01:59:59	26
Mary Finlayson	M	12:57:35	01:39:35	
		(miss 13)		
Ronald Macdonald	M	retd		
Barbara Simms	L	retd		

DVO DECOYS ON THE FOOTPATH RELAY

It was an early start up above Sheffield - 8.30 on the dot the whistle blew and Astra charged into the lead (our first decoy to wrong foot the sprinters) while Sue made a steady start up to Redmires reservoirs. Steve Kimberley stepped up the pace over Stanage Edge and down into Hathersage leaving me as the chasing team captain, not enough time to reach checkpoint 2 and see John Hopper start. Legs 3 & 4 took the race along the edges then down into Grindleford where John reached the changeover minutes after the mass start for my leg. I tried my best to keep with the pace along the river before sweating up Froggatt Edge and along the top to hand over to John Duckworth at the Grouse Inn.

John had the longest leg to run bringing the loop back over Blacka and Burbage Moors towards Sheffield. He had a good run moving the team up a few places, yet as I stood watching him appear over the horizon my heart was in my mouth because there was no sign of Brian! John volunteered to carry on so after a quick look at the map he continued over the moors - on finding Brian receiving his route backwards (or was he another decoy trying to lead other runners astray?!); they both came over the finish line to end loop 1.

We had a strong team of runners for loop 2 with Rex striding out for the first two legs (or is that on two legs?!) up the Rivelin Valley, before handing on to Val who ran 5.9km over to Strines in 21minutes according to the official route - watch out for the talent scouts Val! Yet another fast leg which left me chasing after the race to see John Hurley finish at Bradfield Church (and in time to see the wedding party arrive). But where is Paul for the 2pm mass start? With 4 minutes to go and John on the start line, Paul arrived just in time to tie his laces before the uphill start for leg 12. With my heart in my mouth for a second time I decide that team captain is not a recommended occupation for anyone with a weak heart or those who panic in tight situations!

We were doing well as Steve Buckley took over for a strenuous leg across two valleys and south to Nethergate. Daniel and Hilary were our young contingent

who ran the next two legs. Daniel kept his place across the fields while Hilary had a tough climb up to the finish.

James Allen was our Decoy in the mass start for the 3rd loop but didn't like the fierce competition and vowed never again as he handed over to Ranald with Moss in tow - or was that the over way round, Ranald in tow?! Ranald, Viv and David McGivern continued the race back over Burbage Moor, and Val took over the support while Steve and Judy revived me with a mug of tea in Hathersage. Then as David appeared round the corner of the rocks at Upper Burbage Bridge, Graham set off into the wind to Stanage Pole before dropping down into Rivelin valley for the final climb back up to complete the loop .

It was a scenic but challenging race in which our team of DVO Decoys ran a total distance of 118km and climbed 3040metres (equivalent to climbing Mt Piton) in a respectable time of 10hrs 28mins 23secs, placing us 10th overall.

Thank you to all who took part including our small but loyal team of supporters - Joy, Anne & Amy, Judy and Janice - and of course our canine support from Astra and Moss.

Michelle Mackervoy

(Is this what they call a running commentary?)

Let He Who Is Without SinS Be Truly Thankful

Question: Why is Springtime in Shropshire only held every two years?

Answer: Because it takes that long for people to forget what the last one was like.

From this, you may have gathered that my experience at the Bank Holiday was a less than happy one. As to the reason, you don't have to look much further than the planning on the first two days and the organisation on the third.

Before the first two planners are allowed anywhere near a blank map again they should be locked in a room, like Michael Caine in the Ipress File, and subjected to prolonged repetition of the Two Golden Rules Of Planning, which are:

1. Orienteers do not enjoy excessive amounts of climb. Keep climb to a minimum.
2. Orienteers do not enjoy clawing their way through impenetrable vegetation and having their flesh ripped apart by brambles. Keep away from Green unless absolutely unavoidable. Ensure all courses spend as much time in runnable forest to the detriment of any shade of Green.

This would then be followed by the Golden Rule of Multi-Day Event Planning:

3. People get tired orienteering day after day. Adjust course lengths accordingly.

The planners on all three days broke one or more of these Golden Rules and, in the case of Day 1, all three.

Day 1 - Shobden – consisted of a single feature, a huge steep-sided humpback of a hill. I am considering reporting for trades misdescription the pre-event depiction of this area as 'predominantly runnable woodland with **some** steep slopes and intricate contour detail' – too much of the former and very little of the latter, I'm afraid. This presented the planner with something of a problem. Unless he was careful, competitors would simply spend their time going up and down the sides of this hill, getting increasingly frustrated and infuriated as they did. However, with a bit of thought and skilful manipulation of controls, decent courses restricting climb to a minimum and employing a judicious amount of contouring could have been constructed. I will leave you to draw your own conclusions as to whether the planner managed this delicate balancing act. I will just mention that my M40L course had 450 metres of climb in 7.7 km, went up and down the slopes of Shobden five, arguably six, times, at least two more than was necessary, and was won (**won** mind you) in 79 minutes. One leg alone, well past three-quarters of the course, forced weary competitors up an incline steeper than the decline of the euro for a full 90 metres – I've known whole courses with less climb than that! It was particularly annoying that good courses were possible on this area, and later that evening I planned one just to prove it. If the planner wishes to send me £2.00 (£2.00 ? – see later in this article, I haven't even started yet) I will gladly post my suggestion to him.

Another annoying feature of Day 1 was the idiosyncratic mapping for which the programme felt the need to half-apologise in advance. Yes, we were to become victims of Terry Foxtan's so-far-as-I-can-see one-man campaign to eradicate the use of the platform from O maps. The problem was that the chief feature of Shobden was the platform. Take away these and you would have very little to hang controls on. The solution in Terry Foxtan's parallel universe is to forsake the instantly recognisable brown triangle and to replace it with a kink in the contours as if the feature were a small reentrant. Thus the map takes on the appearance of some small rodent having taken sporadic nibbles out of the contours. If we have universally recognised control descriptions, surely it ought to be possible for universally recognised mapping standards to be adopted too ?

Day 2 – Bury Ditches. This was the least unsatisfactory of the three days – only 360 metres of climb in 6.5 km, which was about right for a three day event. There were still some strange, indeed perverse, examples of planning. My own view of the event was blighted by spending 20 minutes hunting through the same block of forest for a clearing. In theory the clearing should have been readily

identifiable as the second in a series of four clearings of similar dimensions set in a diagonal sequence halfway up the side of a hill. In practice, the sequence of clearings was largely a figment of the mapper's imagination as differently sized clearings littered the forest in a random pattern. The wasted 12 minutes in finding this control cost me 15-16 places – and I was only one of a number of hapless victims, in case you think that this is just another example of an admittedly long sequence of orienteering incompetence on my part.

Then there was the feature after which the area was named – Bury Ditches. This was an enclosed open area, presumably the site of former mining of some description because it was layered with reentrants and gullies. It was worth a couple of controls of anybody's course but, although we had one control next to it, our course - and everyone else's - completely ignored it. It couldn't have been out of bounds; it wasn't marked as such on the map, and at least one course was planned with controls outside either end of it so the only feasible route choice was to hop over the fence and run straight across it.

When an area is so short on runnable forest as Bury Ditches, it makes sense to use the best parts of it. Instead we were given a control atop a densely vegetated hill, the most obvious route to which involved ploughing through lethal man-eating brambles that would have made the Marquis de Sade quaver. It was only towards the end that the forest opened out and became runnable. What a joy it was actually to be able to do what we'd all come to Shropshire for, to run. What a shame that we had to wait the best part of two days to do it.

Day 3 - Titterstone Clee. No planner can reasonably fail to achieve fast and runnable courses on this tried and tested area, because there are absolutely no areas of Green on the map. Nothing but open fell, some of it quite intricate, but the planner was determined to disprove the adage that you can't have too much of a good thing. Sorry, but 9.5 km and 305 metres of climb on M40L on the third day of competition after the ravages of Shobden and Bury Ditches was at least 1.5 km and 100 metres too far.

Apart from this small gripe, this would have been an enjoyable event were it not for the heavy-handed organisation which completely ruined the day for me. Firstly car parking was idiosyncratic to say the least. Despite the fact that there was ample car parking on the top, the marshals were desperately searching for nooks and crannies on the lower slopes into which to prise later arrivals. The problem was exacerbated by the obstinate determination of a minority of orienteers to turn up as solitary individuals occupying vehicles which could easily fit three or four more. Do these people have no friends at all? Is it halitosis or pathological shyness that prevents them from picking up the phone and offering lifts to other individuals in similar positions? The best solution to this problem was offered at a BOK event a couple of years ago where single occupancy cars

were made to park some distance from the area and not allowed into the main car park except in vehicles shared with others.

Having parked we hauled ourselves up to the assembly area and then up on to the highest point of the area to the Start. As we waited for our Start Time, a Spanish M21 who had entered on the day came up to the start line and was asked to show his whistle. He looked uncomprehendingly. An explanation was given: He had never come across this rule before. 'Een Spine, we put our, our.....' 'FINGERS', we all chorused helpfully. 'our feengers een our leeps' (Actually his English was a lot better than this, but that would ruin an inexcusable attempt to ridicule a foreigner's mastery of a language better than my own). It was no good. This man might have made it across several countries, not to mention to the top of Titterstone Clee, but he wasn't going to get away with going out without his whistle. The poor man had to return to Registration to change his start and buy a whistle, his head shaking incredulously at the red tape which once made the British Empire so fearsome.

It was at this point that I realised that I too had not brought my whistle, no whistle check having been enforced on the previous two days (yes, I know it was in the details, but who reads these after three days? Well, not me, obviously). With some annoyance I faced the realisation that I too would have to follow my Spanish friend, and, with heavy heart, descend to Assembly and then to the car to retrieve my whistle.

I wonder how many others fell victim to the same error – and all for the sake of a notice on the way to the start saying 'No Whistle, No Go'. And what was the justification for this rule? Well, it certainly wasn't safety. The hypocrisy of implementing it was exposed by allowing people to run their course without a whistle – but non-competitively! So it was all right from the organisers' point of view, they didn't really care if someone bled to death in a muddy ditch without a whistle, so long as they could put 'Died non-competitively' in the results.

Rather than simply return to the Start with a whistle, I thought I would do things properly and I went to Enquiries to change my time officially.

The woman at the table looked up.

'And what are you doing?'

Somewhat taken aback at the sharpness of her tone, I replied with false joviality:

'I'm changing my Start Time'

Oh oh. Bad mistake. Humour, false or otherwise, rebounded like a stone off a dustbin lid. She drew in her breath and threw out her chest magisterially.

'You hope you're changing your time – if we've got one spare. That will be two pounds'

Two pounds ! What for? What possible justification could there be to demand two pounds for simply changing a start time by a few minutes? I checked but the biro did not write in gold ink. It was outrageous. And what was more I didn't have two pounds. It was back in the car many contours below. I put on my most pitiful look, but it was completely wasted on this jobsworth who would have sat through 'It's A Wonderful Life' with a dry Kleenex. No, she couldn't possibly let me off because it wouldn't be fair on all the others whom she had already extorted two pounds from for the privilege of having their time changed. Behind her, another unfortunate orienteer was arguing a point with her equally pitiless companion, who actually uttered the words 'well, we've been here since 9 o'clock', as if that gave him some superior moral justification for adopting the same high-handed, officious tone as his fellow bureaucrat. I was lucky – this man was demanding £5 from some unfortunate wretch who'd had the temerity to challenge some petty rule or other. 'Well, I didn't write the rules.....'

And BOF wonder why the numbers of orienteers are declining. Instead of establishing working parties and setting up recruitment initiatives, they should look no further than the attempts of clubs like HOC to extort two further quid off orienteers who've already paid good money to enter events and the attitude of tin-pot, pettifogging, despotic officials who delight in inflexible application of arbitrary and farcical rules as two good reasons why a sport which is after all supposed to be a bit of fun is not as healthy as it once was.

So, there must have been something good to say about the weekend. It certainly wasn't the weather which was as cold and inhospitable as an HOC official. Well, I can say that the camping arrangements worked fine. The organisers were friendly, pleasant and helpful. The showers were inexhaustible and hot. The entertainment was thoroughly enjoyable – and the Johnsons walked away with a bar of Galaxy each for winning the Saturday evening quiz. Maybe I should stick to quizzes in future.

Meanwhile a couple of hundred miles to the north.....

Scottish Champs 29th and 30th May 1999

A very small but select group of DVO Orienteers made its long way to these Championships in Galloway. Some of us certainly entered hoping that the areas would be a lot better than those at Springtime in Shropshire (hah! – ed) as well as looking for ranking points.

At times though I wondered whether we would have been better going to the SINS event!

Keir Hills Individual

Keir Hills has to be considered a disappointment. The best way to imagine the area is as follows: take Carsington Pastures area then remove the most intricate areas, multiply it by about three times, and then tag onto the end a steep-sided hill with the vegetation of some of the worst parts of Shining Cliff.

I started not liking the area when I found out the lack of controls on my course, just 10 controls in 9.7km (M40L). Given an entry fee of £10.00 that works out at £1.00 per control, perhaps the most expensive orienteering I have ever done. All courses as a consequence had some very long legs. My first leg was about 2km long. Through a wooded area, this would have meant that you would have to keep contact with the map all the time but on this moorland area you could switch off for some distance as you could see a long way on your leg or as in many cases your next crossing point. Someone later described it as a cross between a fell race and orienteering, still at least the weather was OK.

The problems though became worse after the event. Several courses including M50 had had a wrong control description. This had been changed, by hand, on competitors' personal maps but not on the control descriptions displayed in the assembly area. This led to the course being voided. On looking at the results the following day it transpired that my course M40L had also been voided. Now since I didn't have the problem of control numbering, it must have been another problem which led to my course being voided. It may possibly have been my control one. This was marked on the control description merely as a boulder 1m high, but unfortunately in the control circle on the map were two boulders, neither of which were in the centre of the circle.

All in all not a good end to an event which can't be classed as good.

KirkHill Relays

DVO entered two teams for the relays a W35 team and a M40 team, and hopes were high for top three finishes, but then there were less than four pre-entries in each class. Again the area was mainly moorland, though this time with quite a bit of open farmland.

Both first leg runners made mistakes; I on the M40 messed up a control in the one bit of wooded area (which was surrounded by windblown), and Liz did likewise on a hill in the farmland area. However both these mistakes were made out of sight of the assembly - not so for DVO's other runners. Judy Buckley was

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!

July

- 9th EM **DVO Summer Series, Elvaston Country Park**, 4 miles SE of Derby
Fri SK 412332. Signed from A6. 6.30-7.30 pm. Org: John Hurley 01332-553561
- 11th EM **LEI Colour Coded Event, Burrough Hill**, 4 miles south of Melton Mowbray
Sun C4 Map ref 129/766115. Signed from B6047 Market Harborough to Melton
Mowbray road at Twyford. Org: Chris Phillips 0116-255-0330
- 11th NW **MDOC Colour Coded Event, Grin Low**, Buxton. SK 050723
Sun C4 Org: K.Weston 01538-387912. Electronic punching.
- 16th EM **DVO Summer Series, Carsington**, 3 km West of Wirksworth SK 245547.
Fri Adjacent to High Peak Trail. 6.30 pm. Org: Steve Kimberley 01246 280430
- 23rd EM **DVO Summer Series, Cromford Moor**, Between Cromford and Wirksworth,
Fri follow signs for Black Rock car park. SK 291557. Starts from 6.30 to 7.30pm.
Organiser: Val Johnson (01773-824754)
- 25th WM **OD Colour Coded Event, Burton Dassett**, Warwickshire SP 394520
Sun C4 Country Park signed from B4100 (was A41) 3 miles south of Gaydon
Org: Pam and Alan King 01926-499498. White to Blue
- Jul 31-Aug 7** **Scottish 6 Days, Inverness**. Special Entry Form. Donald Petrie, 10 Neuk
C3 Crescent, Houston, Johnstone, Renfrewshire, PA6 7DW. (01505-613094)

- Aug 28-30** **White Rose Weekend**, Event Centre 5 Km N of Hemsley SE 597887, Yorks
- Sat C3 **EBOR Badge Event, Cowhouse Bank**
- Sun C3 **EBOR Badge Event, Heator Rigg**
- Mon R4 **EBOR White Rose Relays, Ashdale**
Organiser Brian Jones 01904-625151. e-mail: brianjones@clara.net
Entries: White Rose Entries, 8 Hilbra Avenue, Haxby, York, YO 32 3HD
01904-762310. Fees as per Special Entry Form. CD: 20/7. Lim EOD

September

- 4th EM **LEI Colour Coded Event, Western Park**, 2 miles West of Leicester
Sat C5 Map Ref 140/561042. White to Red and possibly Purple.
For more details:- <http://www.spalton.u-net.com>
- 5th YH **AIRE Colour Coded Event, Black Carr & Park Wood**, Bradford, SE 218305
Sun C4 Organiser: Alan Parker 0113-268-5764

FIXTURES

September

- 12th EM DVO Try-O Event, Shipley Park, 1 mile South of Heanor Derbyshire
Sun C5 SK 431453. Signed from A608 Heanor to Derby road.
White, Yellow, Orange, Red and probably a Score Event.
Organiser: Tony Seaston 01332-514000
- 12th EM NOC Try-O Colwick Park, Nottingham. SK 602 392
Sun C5 White to Green. Organisers: Mick & Angela Lucking 0115-922 5578
- 18/19 SW WIM/WSX Caddis Chase Weekend, 15 miles West of Bournemouth
Sat C2 NATIONAL EVENT, Bovington, Wareham SY 843906
Sun O3 Chasing Start Event, Bovington, Wareham SY 843906
Entries: Cris Tween, Blackthorn Cottage, Fiddleford, Sturminster Newton,
Dorset DT10 2BX. 01258-861804. CD: 23/8. Chq. Wimborne Orienteers
18th- £7.50/3.00, 19th- £4.50/2.00. Organiser: Trevor Bridle 01202-888561.
- 25th EM DVO Three Dales Run. Organiser: Ranald Macdonald 01629-734307
- 26th EM DVO Colour Coded Event, Cromford Moor, 4 miles South of Matlock
Sun C4 SK 316552. Signed from A6. Organiser: Roger Keeling 01773-852991

October

- 2nd EM NOC Night Event, Walesby, (EM Night League). To be confirmed
Sat N5 Details:- Ray Barnes 0115-974-6044 or <http://www.engtech.co.uk/NOC/>
- 3rd EM NOC Colour Coded Event, Walesby, To be confirmed
Sun C4 Details:- Ray Barnes 0115-974-6044 or <http://www.engtech.co.uk/NOC/>
- 10th EM LEI Long & Short Score Courses and Long O, Riverside Park, Leicester
Sun Details:- <http://www.spalton.u-net.com>
- 17th EM DVO Colour Coded Event, Longshaw, 8 miles SW of Sheffield
Sun C4 Signed from A625 at Fox House Inn (SK 267803). East Midlands Galoppen
Organiser:- Andy Mackervoy 01332-557892
- 24th NE NATO NATIONAL EVENT, Kyloe, Alnwick, Northumberland NU 045384
Sun C2 Entries:- Margaret Crosby, 35 Alanville, Camperdown, Newcastleupon Tyne
NE12 0XS. 0191-268-5449. CD: 10/10. £8.00/£4.00 Lim EOD. Chq: NATO
Organiser: John Crosby 0191-268-5449

fine on her second leg but Mike Godfree, Steve Buckley and Anne Kimberley all managed to stand around whilst looking for their next but last control.

As we left there was still no news on places, but I believe we made our targets of first three, and at least no courses had been voided.

Perhaps next year the Scottish will be on good areas again.

Steve Kimberley

(Anyone reading this on the website will be able to see for themselves pictures of various DVO members looking as though they're really enjoying themselves)

And for an alternative view of the Scottish...

The first Scottish Champs of a new era

I have always enjoyed going to the Scottish Champs and Relays. I think the following quote from Malcolm Campbell sums up this year's in Galloway:

"It's bad enough driving all the way to the Peoples Republic of Alba to run on an area which made Clumber Park look like a world class Scandinavian Forest, but to have the planner and controller (was there one?) decide to use the event to show off how many mistakes they could squeeze out of one event - well, that's some conundrum!!!"

A number of courses were voided over a wrong control code. The declared climb on my course was 150m, yet before my first control the straight line drawn on the map crossed 7 index contours uphill (i.e. 175m) and I still had to struggle back over the hill later! And so it went on.

The relays the next day were on an area of farmland between blocks of windblown woodland. Yet despite this the sheer informal feel of the event made it fun.

Mike Godfree

(I'm glad someone enjoyed themselves over the Bank Holiday weekend.)

→ → → **HELPERS REQUIRED** ← ← ←
TO tidy out the DVO sheds and check equipment
ON Saturday 10th July at 10am
Please let me know if you can help for an hour or so
'MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK'
(and refreshments will be provided).

DVO Summer Series 1999

Allestree 4th June 1999

Steve Kimberley's Comments. The first of the Summer League events was organised by the Mackervoy's in Allestree Park, which is very familiar to many DVO orienteers. As well as the normal courses the main event was named Tutti Fruiti and was basically a 45 minute score event. You could do it either map memory or with the controls marked on a map. At each control was the name of a fruit and you had to memorise this and then write it down at the end of your time. Many DVO members were seen running through the park muttering the names of fruits to themselves. Normally though you forgot many of the names till, suprisingly about five minutes after you had finished.

Unfortunately the weather didn't realise that it was the start of our Summer Event Series (or maybe it did) and so we were treated to thunder as well as heavy rain. Somebody did tell the local vandals though and several missing controls affected the event.

Michelle Mackervoy's Comments Well thank you to all those brave and hardy souls who turned up for the first 'summer' (thunderstorms et al) evening event of 1999. I hope you enjoyed your run despite the weather and annoying removal of six controls which spoil the yellow course in particular. The competition was tough on the *Tutti Fruiti* score event, but it would be nice to see a larger field of participants on the yellow and light green courses - did the Malley Juniors wimp out and stay in the car or just simply not register for an actual start time ?!

TUTTI FRUITTI SCORE (Options A & B combined with position by points gained for visiting controls and remembering fruits, or lost in time penalties.)

Women	Time	Points			
1. Liz Godfree	39.51	30	4. John Hopper	43.18	27
2. Sue Russell	44.33	22	5. Steve Buckley	44.58	26
3. Val Johnson	44.23	20		+ writing time!	
4. Christina Wright	43.36	18	6. Rob Shooter	42.36	24
5. Judy Buckley	44.50	15	7. Tony Seaston	44.35	24
6. Jo McPherson	45.44	13	8. Mike Godfree	44.30	22
7. Jen Gale	46.30	9	9. Mike Gardner	45.20	21
8. Jayne Malley	46.56	7	10. Andy Sykes	37.40	18
			11. Brian Denness	44.00	18
			12. Rob McPherson	45.52	16
Men			13. Derek Gale	42.20	15
1. John Hurléy	43.30	30	14. Ian Hodson	41.53	12
2. Graham Johnson	44.00	29	15. Dave Bennett	47.43	12
3. Steve Kimberley	44.10	28			

Catton Park 11th June 1999

A new area to everyone, this area is similar to Calke but not as complicated. As someone said on the night it will be alright when the trees are grown. The event was normal courses with a yellow, light green and a long course of about 5.8km which had 21 controls to navigate you through the fields.

Turnout was smaller than last week, but then it was further for most to travel. Navigation wasn't too difficult but some people still managed to make mistakes. Graham Johnson in particular managing to make a route choice error in full view of the start. There were bonus minutes to be taken off your course if you could write down the IOF pictorial descriptions for the course and most people had a stab at them. It may delay the results slightly. John Hurley had the fastest times, so should be leading the league, but who knows after the handicap (SK)

Long (5.8Km)

		Run	Bonus	Adjusted time
1	John Hurley	31:30:00	25	27:20:00
2	Steve Buckley	33:51:00	22	30:11:00
3	Mike Gardner	37:44:00	32	32:24:00
4	Steve Kimberley	33:03:00		33:03:00
5	John Hopper	38:40:00	20	35:20:00
6	Michelle Mackervoy	38:20:00	16	35:40:00
7	Dave Walker	39:11:00	15	36:41:00
8	Graham Johnson	40:25:00	22	36:45:00
9	Dave Bennett	37:19:00		37:19:00
10	Robert Shooter	41:30:00	13	39:20:00
11	Simon Starkey	41:02:00	8	39:42:00
12	J. Middler	45:33:00	19	42:23:00
13	Jenny Ewels	44:52:00		44:52:00
14	Sue Russell	49:22:00	13	47:12:00
15	Dean Robinson	49:45:00	1	49:35:00

Light Green (3.9Km)

		Run	Bonus	Adjusted time
1.	Hilary Johnson	29:27:00	14	27:07
2.	Tony Seaston	32:40:00	19	29:30
3.	Jen Gale	36:30:00		36:30
4.	Margaret Keeling	36:41:00		36:41
5.	Claire Gale	36:45:00		36:45
6.	Joy Hopper	56:30:00		56:30

Yellow (1.9Km)

1.	Daniel Kimberley	13:50
2.	Amy Kimberley	35:49
3.	Jessica Gale	58:22
(with break for change of supervisor)		

dsq Roger Keeling (missing 5 & 8) 40:52:00

World Championships – Inverness August 1999

Last year DVO were volunteered by me to organise the finish arena for the Short Race Final on Saturday August 7th. This competition is always very exciting with only seconds covering the top runners; it may be which side of a tree to run round that separates two competitors.

My list of known helpers is shown at the end of this article. If you are going to Highland 99 and not on the list then please let me know now (Tel 01332 552664 Email stephenbuckley@btconnect.com)

The race takes place in the morning of the Highland 99 Day 6 near Nairn. We are expected to construct the site over the previous few days and ensure all works smoothly on the Saturday before helping dismantle things with the H99 officials. Start, Finish, Results & Commentary teams are not our responsibility, they are independent teams who go from event to event.

Some of the facilities will be professionally constructed during the course of the week but the bulk of our building work will take place on Friday August 6th. I have requested late runs for H99 Day 5 on the Friday anticipating early construction of the arena but there will certainly be quite a lot of work to do later in the evening as equipment moves site from the Short Qualifier/Day 5 venue to our site. Please be prepared to be flexible over your arrangements on this day. It will help if you can stop on site overnight ready for Saturday as the Short Final starts at 9am.

Mike Godfree has agreed to deputise for me in case of my unavailability at any time.

Steve Buckley

Car Park	Stewarding	Security & Services	Drinks etc	Team Tents etc
Tony Berwick	Liz & Mike Godfree	Sue Russell	Chaffey Family	Roz & Andy Clayton
Johnson Family	Kimberley Family	Dave Clough	Rex	Addison
Shooter Family		John Duckworth	Bleakman	Family
Dave Bennett		Ann-Marie Priston		
H99 team		Whitehead Family		

Harvester Relays - September 11th/12th

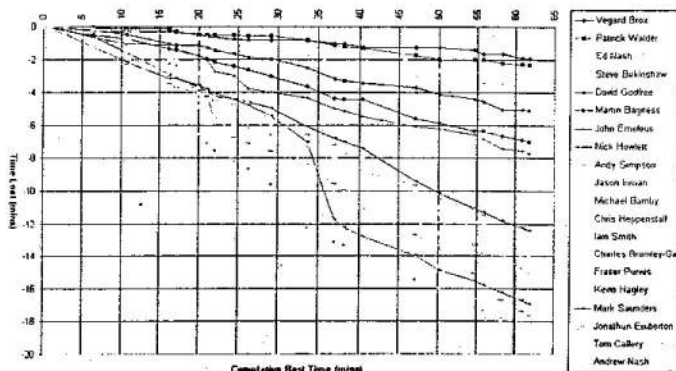
This year the Harvester is in the Forest of Dean. I have agreed to act as substitute club-captain for the weekend. The exact format has not been made known yet but hopefully we can enter two handicap teams, either balanced or first and second teams, or even a women's team. Let me know if you would like to run and whether you would prefer to run a short/long leg or night/day leg. Obviously transport will be shared. More details when available. Ring now to reserve your place in DVO's premier team. As one of the larger clubs in the country I feel we should be able to enter at least a couple of teams when it is as close as this year's.

Mike Godfree

Take a Look at the future

Those of you who have been to badge events in the North West, or colour-coded events in Cumbria, will have already used the Sport-Ident electronic punching. Many more will meet it at the Scottish 6 days. Everybody that I have spoken to likes it. Punching at the control is quick and unlike the Emit system you get a positive bleep and light to show that your punch has registered. Much better than carrying a soggy piece of paper around with you. Mind you, you will have to decide how to carry your control descriptions, unless you like unfolding your map approaching each control. Another risk is that without a control card to refer back to it is even easier to find yourself navigating from control 5 to 6 on the map when you should be going from 4 to 5. According to the BOF fixtures list it is coming to Derbyshire for MDOC's event at Grinlow on July 11th.

One of the advantages of the system is that split times are available for every competitor. What would you want to do with this? Take a look at the graph below. The top horizontal line is the theoretical ideal time constructed by taken the fastest split on each leg. Each gradually dipping line shows how a particular competitor got on. If you have a good run but are losing time consistently on each leg your graph would show a straight sloping line. A steep dip would show a bad mistake and so on.



Electronic punching can reduce the manpower needed at the start and finish. So long as it works of course! But it could increase the dependence on a few technically minded people. If you find setting DVO's start clock difficult!! Before the club considers investing in a system like this we would need to consider a few questions. How would we get on with lending novices the finger transponder and then asking for the £14 cost when they lost it? The units that go in the forest are expensive, how many would we lose?

Go to Grinlow and see what you think.

Mike Godfree

The Return of Letter to the Editor (my first in about two years !)

Dear Ed

I have a problem, or perhaps it's a friend of mine has a problem!

When I get the chance to go orienteering, which is not as often as I'd like, I look at a fixtures list and select an event that I hope will be worth the journey.

If I'm lucky, I'll find a wonderfully runnable forest which is intricate, physical etc. and also suitable for white/yellow courses.

The problem is how do I get a clue about the attributes of the area from the fixtures list - "Boring Wood, near Boringtown" may not be boring whereas "Grace Dieu" maybe - who can tell from a name. This has an uncanny similarity to my choice of wine - I can always tell a good wine by the label!

Back to the problem - so therefore it would seem useful to me for there to be a "Rough Orienteers Guide to Orienteering Areas" (rough as in unofficial and not as the editor's 'style' of orienteering).

Perhaps when an orienteer visits an area they could use a few words to describe it and so others can then review their thoughts when deciding whether to travel say, W by 80km or N by 80km for an event.

This could of course be a little contentious - persons having mapped (given birth) to a dire area may be a little sensitive to it being described as such, even if it clearly is the case - therefore it may have to be for fun and unofficial of course (no representations... etc.). It could even be a little humorous.

Here's a few I prepared earlier (my recent runs):

Carsington Pastures	DVO	Sep 98	Open, small (Blue just about), technically OK in parts
Strawberry Hill	NOC	Oct 98	Forest, medium size (Brown 2MM), not very technical
Sutton Park	OD	Oct 98	Mixed terrain, fast, pleasant, technically OK, large
Linacre	DVO	Nov 98	Forest with paths, physical, not very technical, medium size
Kinver Edge	OD	Nov 98	Nice forest with bracken!, technically good, physical - worth driving to
Fairoak & Brindley	WCH	Dec 98	Fast forest with paths, technically OK, largish - good
Bottom Moor	DVO	Dec 98	Mainly green, plenty of undergrowth, some small nice bits - don't travel too far for this one
Eckington Park	DVO	Mar 99	Small pleasant forest (Blue 2MM), reasonably physical, OK technically
Darley Park	DVO		Don't bother

Hope I haven't upset anyone there.

If your readers think it's worth it perhaps they would e-mail me with their comments - if I get a number I'll put them together for general amusement.

My e-mails addresses are:

Reentrant@hotmail.com

John.Hawkins@angeltrain.co.uk

Regards

John Hawkins

DVO BARBEQUE

Sunday 5th September

at The Hoppers
44, South Ave,
Chellaston,
Derby.
01332 703830



Bring your own meat
and a salad / pudding
to share, please ring
to say you are
coming.

3pm

Boules, rounders,
cricket but
definitely NO
running

A CUT OUT & KEEP ARTICLE ABOUT EQUIPMENT

Equipment Officer : Michelle Mackervoy

Just a few notes about the storage and use of equipment to help organisers and planners through the maze !

Organisers

- Most of the equipment you require is kept in the 'back' shed.
- Equipment susceptible to damp - i.e. control cards, registration sheets, envelopes, finish printer clock, answer phone - is kept by me. (If you contact me in advance I can arrange to bring these items to a Wednesday training run before your event or to the event itself.)
- You need to purchase orange squash.

Planners

- You will be allocated a set of control numbers for your event. If you don't receive these or intend to use more controls please contact me.
- The equipment you require is kept in the 'front' shed.
- DVO's map stocks are kept by Mike Godfree.

PLEASE TRY TO RETURN EQUIPMENT TIDILY TO THE PLACE YOU FOUND IT AND REPORT ANY LOST OR DAMAGED EQUIPMENT TO ME A.S.A.P.

If you have any queries or requests for equipment then please contact me on 01332 557892 .

Thanks Michelle

This could be a case for Mulder and Scully Has anyone the answer to the mystery of the club champs? Paul Addison went missing for 10 minutes - where was he and what was he doing? Was he taken by aliens and returned after his brain had been emptied? Did he find some strange and somewhat wonderful plant species that warranted extended observation? Did his compass become affected by an unusual magnetic field? And what was that unpleasant brown substance on his trousers?

(D of DA)

August Newstrack. Will it or won't it ? The answer is I don't know. There is at present 10 days between my return from the Scottish and departure for a 'proper' holiday so there may not be time for a full-blooded Newstrack - unless people want to inundate me with material between now and the end of July of course. Chances are that there will be at least a Kate Moss edition, the chief feature which will be an autumn fixture list.

DVO Shop

I'm re-stocking the shop and am putting in an order for:

O tops: All mesh OR Mesh yoke OR Ordinary
(prices between £10 and £12)

Sweatshirts with small logo (£8 for children; £11 for adults)

Long sleeve T shirts

with small logo - a new line!

Medium (42"), Large ("44") and Extra Large (48") all at £7

Prices may vary slightly depending on final quantities.

If you would like anything for the Scottish 6 day, please ring me and I'll bring it to Scotland if I don't see you before.

Viv Macdonald
Tel: 01629 734307

DVO Summer Runs

7 th July	20 Castle Hill Duffield	Wilkinsons	01773 840712
14 th July	12 Chevin Road Belper	Johnsons	01773 824754
21 st July	Croft Cottage, Ilam	Malleys	01335 350467
28 th July	New Road Farm, Alderwasley (From Derby - Sharp left from A6 by bridge at Whatstandwell)	Keeling	01773 852991
4 th August	Carsington Water	Meet at Visitor's Centre	
11 th August	High Peak Junction	Between Cromford and Lea	
18 th August	Crich Carr	Duckworth/ Priston	01773 856824
		(limited parking so take train to Whatstandwell or park at station)	
25 th August	Rose Cottage, Cat & Fiddle Lane, West Hallam	Shooter	0115 9322945
1 st Sept	Bullbridge, off A610, Ripley to Ambergate road		

DERWENT VALLEY ORIENTEERS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, 29th SEPTEMBER 1999, 20.15 hours at Belper Sports Centre

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence
2. Approval of previous year's minutes
3. Chair's report
4. Secretary's report
5. Treasurer's report
6. Election of officers
 - Chair
 - Vice-chair
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
 - Captain
 - Fixtures Sub-Committee Chair
 - Committee Member
 - Fixture Sub-Committee Member
7. Presentation of appointed officers
 - Social co-ordinator
 - Equipment Officer
 - Newsletter Editor
 - Minute Secretary
 - EMOA Representative
 - Coaching Co-ordinator
 - Mapping Co-ordinator
 - Permanent Course Manager
 - DVO Diarist
 - Publicity Officer
8. Agreement of budget
9. Any Other Business
 - Changes to Constitution (discussed at Open Meeting)

(if anyone missed the Open Meeting – and if you did, there was no note from your mother – and you have a burning desire to see the proposed changes in advance, contact me, Graham, or Ranald. There's no point turning up on the night and complaining about lack of consultation).

ODDS and SODS

Sports Personality of the Month

Tony Seaston had just emerged from the first control at Calke when he heard a long low whistle. Pausing, he heard it again, not the classic three long three short three long of the distressed orienteer but perhaps the call of an inexperienced novice, in trouble but doing their best. Half intrigued, half concerned, Tony made his way through the undergrowth to come upon a stout, matronly figure blowing upon a whistle for all she was worth. In answer to Tony's anxious enquiry after her health, she explained that she had lost her dog.....

Control of the Month. The most unusual feature that I have encountered recently was a knoll marked on the Catton Park map, which turned out to be to six foot high pile of wood. Will it still be there after next Guy Fawkes Night?

Orienteering in Popular Culture. BOF's campaign to publicise the sport of orienteering received a welcome boost – or alternatively was set back by ten years – when it made an appearance as a plot line in 'Neighbours' on 1st June.

Harold organised a competition in the bush between the Kennedys and the Martins (characters' names courtesy of Ruth). Well, who would have thought orienteering was so exciting. No sooner had Ruth Martin set out than she suffered a most unfortunate accident, injuring her foot when she slipped under a boulder which the mapper had by an unfortunate oversight omitted from her map. But what a relief when everything worked out fair dinkum. She extricated herself at the cost of no more than a sprain and bravely limped round the rest of the course.

We must be grateful to 'Neighbours' for showing where we've all been going wrong all these years. No need to bother with those red and white controls – there was not one in sight in the whole programme. And here's a handy tip. When you're lost, just take the top off the thermos that you've thoughtfully taken along with you, fill it with water, take a eucalyptus tree leaf and float it on the top. Then remove the paper clip from your map, rub it vigorously on your shirt and place it carefully on the leaf when it will instantly become a compass allowing you to navigate to the finish. Probably not much use in this country though- you have to work out which way is north from the direction of the sun.

And after all that, the competition was won by the Kennedys in a time that the planner of Shobden would have been quite proud of – two hours and forty five minutes.