

NEWSTRACK

MAY 2002



Great Moments from the Orienteering archives

**No. 6 : The Grand Old Duke of York thoroughly enjoyed the Brown
Course at Crich Chase**

Newstrack is the magazine of Derwent Valley Orienteers

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Thoughts From The Chair

It's been a few years since I've been to a JK so I was surprised at the pace of events. We witnessed highs and lows, dreams and nightmares, heard things people had wished they'd said and things that they'd wished they hadn't, concern for people taking too long and surprise when people returned unexpected, and often a sort of simultaneous comradeship and rivalry. There was enough material there to keep NEWSTRACK going for the whole year; and that was just from the 65 or so DVO contingent. Three things stood out for me. Firstly, a superb performance by both our women's 160+ and 120+ teams who came second and fourth in their respective relays. Congratulations to Pauline Ward, Jen Gale, Helen Finlayson, Val Johnson, Viv Macdonald & Liz Godfree. Secondly, the carefully balanced relay teams which ensured a good competition between the club's entries. Thanks to Liz Godfree for selecting these. Finally, the club dinner on the Sunday night. This was a brilliant meal and social which shows what can be done with 1 Beaver Hut, 1 cooker, 1 sink, 2 tea towels, and about 45 hungry orienteers all willing to muck in and do their bit. Thanks to all who helped and especially to Val Johnson.

Then just one week later it was the Midland Championships at the Wrekin. Yet again DVO did not disappoint with John Duckworth (M21), Liz Godfree (W50) and Hilary Johnson (W20) all becoming Midland Champions. But the biggest surprise (and one that gives hope to us all) was that Graham Johnson had a really good run, thrashing his usual peers. This could be his long awaited comeback? (Don't you have to have been somewhere first to make a comeback? - ed).

DVO has been spending its money recently purchasing a laptop, generator and some SI boxes. Having our own generator will obviously save hiring one as we've done in the past and the SI equipment means that we can hold our own training events and avoid hiring both EMOA and WMOA equipment for the larger club events. I'm a strong advocator of electronic punching and believe it's brought real benefits to the sport but I don't think it's reached its full potential yet. Splits as you finish are great, so are the final results and the progressograph highlights the good and bad legs but really I look forward to the day when we have a simpler entry procedure and better presentation of "on the day" results. If the boffins aren't working on these yet then they should be.

Ten people enrolled on the First Aid course led by Sue Russell last March. Sue presents a very entertaining and practical approach to First Aid, leading to a British Red Cross certificate. The club also subsidises the cost to members, so it's well worth taking the opportunity to do this now. Let me know if you would a place on a future course.

Finally, don't forget the NOW starting on the 9th June. DVO is putting on a whole range of events suitable for beginners, runners, juniors and seniors. This is your chance to introduce someone new to the pleasures of orienteering.

See you out there.

Robert Shooter

It's true, I tell you. DVO was the best represented club outside the North West at the Bigland National Event. Not a lot of people know that.

Thoughts from the Toilet Tent

These days there is no shortage of excellent support and training for our orienteering efforts. There are guidelines from BOF, club development documents, organiser's notes (with electronic punching appendix), and training events for anything from first aid to last orders. Yet not a word has been written or spoken on the challenging task of erecting the men's urinal tent. This is written in the hope that it will inform those hapless fellows who are allocated the task in the future.

At the recent Crich event those fellows were Rex, Terry and Brian, three of (arguably) the finest minds in DVO (doesn't say much for the rest of us, does it? – ed) who should have experienced no trouble with such a straightforward job. Blessed with a field that was ideal for parking but somewhat exposed for natural functions it was decided to position the tent in front of the wall well away from registration. A trench was duly dug and the urinal unrolled. As you may know this beast consists of ten yards of hessian attached to half a dozen mighty two-by-two poles. These are topped by some rather tatty lengths of string that are greatly flattered by the term guy ropes.

There was a stiff breeze blowing up from the river at that time of day and it quickly became evident that the 'guy ropes' would not be up to keeping the tent standing. If we were to be able to preserve the modesty of countless runners as they made their last nervous visit before the start another solution was required. The obvious answer was to use the only solid feature in the field, a wrecked farm trailer that hulked about ten yards away along the wall. We therefore set about filling the trench, shifting the pallets and timber that were jumbled behind the trailer and digging a new soak-away. It was the work of minutes to firmly secure the posts to the trailer and bring two lengths of sacking back towards the wall. The rear of the tent was open to a glorious view down the valley but with Chase Cliff House the only, distant, building this did not seem a problem. However, as we proudly stood over our trench getting a sense of the user's perspective, we heard voices and turned to find two white haired old ladies peering over the wall into our facilities: we had forgotten the public footpath that runs up the edge of the next field!

Another ten minutes' work saw a further length of hessian released from the trailer and wrapped around the back of the trench to give a semblance of privacy. Access required a tricky manoeuvre of leaning on the wall and limbo dancing under a guy rope, but we were reasonably pleased with the result. Unfortunately much later in the day it was noticed that as the only solid feature in the field, the trailer was attracting much interest from our most junior orienteers. Still full of energy after the string course they were using the trailer as a rustic climbing frame and from the top had an unobstructed view into the toilet. It was strange how compelling that spectacle seemed to be.

So there it is, a cautionary tale for future men's urinal erectors. There may be things to learn from our experiences, but don't be put off from volunteering. We had the best laughs of the day before most people even arrived.

Brian Denness

Mike Godfree at the British Champs

This was my first visit to Northern Ireland and I went with some trepidation. I realised that the bad press we see here would not be reflected in normal life. I was more concerned about the quality of the events and the thought of spending four nights in a tent in wet weather. We had chosen to fly to maximise the time over there and so only had a fraction of our normal car load of camping for wimps equipment. I took a woolly hat but had more need of a sun-hat.

Collecting a hire car at Belfast International Airport was easy, though I was disconcerted to find later that Avis make no concessions to local feeling and register their cars in England and my O2 registration was obviously foreign. Within less than half an hour of landing we were shopping at Tesco's in Antrim for the weekend's supplies which only left us with mths to find for the Trangia. Fortunately Liz spotted a B & Q off Ballymena by-pass. So within a few hours of leaving home we contributed some more to the local economy by paying £5 to park at the Giant's Causeway. Not as giant as I had always imagined but surrounded by beautiful coastline in gloriously clear sunshine.

The small tent enclave at Benone Tourist Complex would have been crowded had the other occupants from NOC and FVO brought a car each but it was pleasant to be with people we knew and with 3 of the 5 tents sharing a car there was plenty of space. Driving along the coast had shown us a strange mixture of smart housing, much new development but also red, white and blue kerbs and a defiant Irish tricolour flying from a lamp-post in Bushmills. That evening on the beach we had the first sign that all is not well when amongst the local youth cruising Benone Strand appeared two camouflaged LandRovers with passenger doors propped open by British soldiers with guns.

We were camped on the training map so after a day walking along the North Antrim Coast we were able to walk to the training event. It was good to see how the dunes would look on the map – complex! The training was a bit artificial as on this stretch we were surrounded by fences so it was difficult to visualise how the next day would be without them.

The individual day was further along the peninsula. As assembly was within the army base the car first had to be searched by dogs for explosives. The assembly was spacious on the level grass of the rifle range. The map was good, all the controls were in the right place and the sun shone. The dunes here had a lot of scrubby prickly undergrowth which in a few places was thick enough to need a detour. The only sour note was that several courses shared every single control on the second half. Hardly sound planning for a British Championship. Moreover as we only got control descriptions for the first time when we arrived, some competitors had sussed this and others hadn't.

The drive to the relays took in some more places that previously have just been names on the news like Londonderry and Strabane. If you believe that relays are more spectator sport than orienteering then Baronscourt was

probably the ideal terrain with assembly on one side of the valley in parkland overlooking a large area of parkland on the other side. Because DVO only had 5 teams this time with an eclectic mix of ages and abilities Liz had entered 2 Men's short, 2 Women's short in addition to the M50. Founder and life member Jenny Tennant was unable to get a run with her new club QO so joined Liz and Evelyn on one women's short team giving away about 100 yards compared to the possible 3xW21s but still finished in a creditable position. John Duckworth led the field on the first leg of a men's short. As ever the commentary concentrated on the elite race so the three M50s, Steve Buckley, myself and Alex Ross were unsure of our position at the time but finished 2nd, only 4 minutes down on SROC, out of 10 teams. Thanks to Michael Napier the results were again first class. I took care to download at the DVO computer that was on loan. I cannot help mentioning that Interlopers took the Men's trophy with two ex DVO's David & Al Buckley running the first 2 legs.

We could not of course have red, white and blue relay bibs as usual as that would be offensive to some. In the spirit of compromise we had red, white and green. (Think Irish tricolour and Union Jack colours). The sun was still shining so we took the scenic route back from the relays through the Sperrin mountains. And yes we did stop at the top of the pass and spend an hour climbing to the summit. It only remained to take in one last walk along the sands before a short night. The other campers were off at 4:30 a.m. to catch a ferry and we got up at 5:30 to pack up for the drive to the airport. Less than 5 hours after leaving we were back home and Liz was back at work in the afternoon.

Altogether an excellent weekend. A pity that the long journey and constraints of school and work made it difficult for many from DVO to go. If they ever hold the JK there we will be back.

Mike Godfree

'Bonecrusher' Walker v 'Mauler' Johnson - Round 2

The story so far: in last Newstrack, Dave penned an article expressing disillusionment with orienteering. Yours truly responded in a more positive vein, little realising what seditious and inflammatory words they were. Now read on:

Reply to the Editor's thoughts on my article in the last issue of Newstrack

I feel I must take the Editor to task over what I appreciate are his personal opinions but some of which I consider not very constructive and others not very well informed.

Firstly the comment on reducing numbers of M60's, in the last year we have lost two from our membership, one an experienced organiser and former Fixtures Secretary, the other a former Veteran International, Planner and Controller with 30 years experience in the sport, I may also have to retire due to persistent injury problems thus making the total of three retirements out of I think a total of seven M60's.

Can the sport afford to lose people like this or should it be actively attempting to retain their interest?

Secondly Graham's increasing enthusiasm for the sport is quite understandable, if you look at the membership profile in the BOF Annual Report you will see the apex of the graph is in the 45 to 50 age group. Why is this? Well could it be 'second youth'?

Graham is fortunate to have a wife who is possibly more enthusiastic about the sport than he is, plus the fact his children are now at the age where they can choose whether to compete or not, and can be left to doss in bed all Sunday morning should if they feel like it. So, after many years of restricted activity, he can now wander the motorways of England in search of events in prime terrain.

Which brings me to my **third** point. Any new member reading his comments may think that they have become involved in orienteering only to discover they live in the wrong part of the country and to enjoy the sport they will have to be prepared to travel to events which may involve between two and three hours driving most Sundays.

This can be a big turn off, especially for families with younger children who will tell you that spending between four and six hours in a car just for a 35 minute run can be very 'boring'.

Fourthly the non-orienteering spouse, and in this I will include ex-orienteers no longer able to compete. These are the non-participants that Graham states from his vast experience of other sports clubs (i.e. 20 years DVO, 5 Years Belper Harriers) will always feel left out.

I invite him to visit Moorways Stadium when there is a league athletics event being held and witness what known in the sport as the 'blazer brigade'. These people, some retired athletes, spouses, and some who have never competed, are there enduring the vagaries of the English Summer with their clipboards, stopwatches, tape measures and flags enabling the event to take place, without them there would be no Track and Field Athletics. These people are very much part of the club and certainly do not feel out of it. This is only one example from my experience, I could quote others where the same applies, for example local football where I have had involvement over many years, where in effect the non-participants run the club. Orienteering cannot afford to ignore the resource that non-participants can provide.

Finally, the question of variety of events, these may not attract large numbers but are we in the sport only to provide large scale events so we can make money, as has often been stated large events can be quite intimidating for newcomers to the sport, these more informal events provide an ideal introduction to the sport and they often provide a more social atmosphere.

Well now I've got that off my chest I think I'll pop down to the local sports shop to price out a set of bowls.

Oh no, it's yet more of the Editor's not very constructive and not very well informed opinions.

Oh dear, I seem to have upset somebody. My thoughts on Dave's original article were intended merely to offer another and therefore different point of view. I hoped perhaps to provoke a response from someone else, but Dave's incensed response was not what I expected or sought. However since he has chosen to reply.....

1. M60s. Fact: M60 is not a declining class. At Burnham Beeches, there were 63 M60s, more than twice the number of M35s and only two short of the number on M40. At JK82 (Star Posts), there were just 18 M60s (or M62 as it then was). By JK92 (Bigland), this had increased to 47. At JK02, there were no less than 110 entries on M60L alone. Seems to me, based on this admittedly brief survey that M60 is doubling in size every ten years and the bulge which Dave seeks to characterise as a trend restricted to M45-M50s is in fact a general phenomenon affecting all of the upper age classes. It is only because M60 is starting from a smaller base that the exponential increase is less noticeable. It is still undeniably there.

Of the two orienteers that Dave mentions as having disappeared from DVO's ranks in the last year, one is actually still a full member, but has not seriously orienteered for years. Thus the 'crisis' of losing two M60s in a year is actually a loss of two M60s over five years, hardly significant, and hardly as much concern as the almost complete absence of M and W21s, a combined 28 year age range, from DVO's collective ranks. Personally I am less concerned that DVO is able to boast as many as 6 M60s than the fact that we could muster only one (one-armed) M21 at the recent CompassSport Cup match, and codgers like me had to pose as M35s to make up the numbers.

Furthermore, the central theme of Dave's original article was disillusionment with orienteering. Both of the M60s referred to have retired largely through injury. I am sure at least one would be orienteering today if he could, so their example is hardly one which supports Dave's case.

2. My increasing enthusiasm. I had to read this section of Dave's piece twice to make sure it was actually me that he was referring to. The rather fanciful picture that he seeks to paint, of me shaking off the shackles of fatherhood and spending carefree weekends trawling up and down England's motorways in search of the best orienteering terrain, whilst leaving my kids to 'doss in bed all morning' could not be farther from the truth.

Fact: in the six months up to April, I travelled on just one motorway to get to an event (Burnham Beeches). This now stands at three following the JK and, oh, Swithland. Fact: in the same period I competed in just two events that involved more than an hour's travel, Burnham and Delamere. Fact: my kids travelled to and took part in every single one of these events, choosing of their own free will to abandon the competing attractions of a warm bed. Fact: I did not enter the Quantock National, nor have I ever orienteered in areas such as South Wales, because of the distances involved. It is unfortunate for Dave's argument that these inescapable facts blow his preconceptions about me and my orienteering out of the water, but truth and prejudice are often strangers to one another.

Further on in his article, Dave not only understates the number of sporting clubs of which I am a member but also my length of service with them. Makes you wonder who's the one expressing the not-very-well-informed opinions, doesn't it?

3. Travelling. Dave appears not to have read my original piece properly, and seeks to attribute to me views diametrically opposite to those which I actually expressed. The whole point of what I was saying is that there are plenty of choices of decent orienteering terrain within an hour's travel of Derbyshire, it just requires a little searching out. Dave's original article was written from the perspective of an orienteer for whom the delights of Stapleford and Cromford had faded through over-familiarity, it was not directed at the newly arrived orienteer of whom I am in a way rather envious. There were times that I looked forward to areas such as Bestwood and Bramcote because they were new and fresh, it is only because they are no longer so that I look elsewhere for something almost as accessible to maintain my enthusiasm.

4. Non-orienteering Spouse. Dave now redefines this to include all non-participants, which is the strangest definition of spouse I have ever seen. He thereby advances a completely different argument to that made in his original article, and then, ignoring my lack of telepathic powers, criticises me for making a point which I did not. I agree that we can ill-afford to lose the experience of members such as those he cites but his original article mentioned only offering something to interest the non-orienteering spouse, not how we are to retain the experience of those who for reasons beyond their control can no longer orienteer.

Orienteering, unlike the sports to which he refers, has always had a tradition, of which it should be proud, of being run by its members for its members, but there is nothing to stop any non-participant volunteering their services, and no-one has ever been discouraged from doing so. However I, as an active orienteer, have no right to expect them to spend their Sunday mornings in the middle of a wind-swept, cold, damp field. For the non-participant, orienteering holds very few attractions.

(Dave and I are still on very good terms and next time we meet we will shake each other warmly by the throat).



Orienteering at the Royal School for the Deaf, Derby

At the Royal School for the Deaf in Derby we teach orienteering in the same way as in a mainstream hearing school except for two main differences, firstly we use Sign Language and secondly it takes us twice as long to teach!

We are a bilingual school, which means that Sign Language and English are equal. In Physical Education we have two adults, one deaf and one who is hearing in every lesson, which means that all pupils have equal access to both languages at all times. All instructions are given in Sign Language but in the same way as a mainstream school.

As pupils look at maps, instructions and explanations are usually given linking maps to features etc. Unfortunately, as a deaf child looks at a map, they obviously are unable to listen to these instructions and explanations. They look up for these, possibly lose their place on the map, look down again to find directions, look up to discuss with peers or receive more information. This can lead to frustration, but ultimately leads to a time element.

We begin in Primary and map out courses in the Sports Hall with puzzles and games. This is developed using a large-scale course around the school playing field.

In Secondary School using the full school grounds with the maps drawn by Mike Godfree of Derwent Valley Orienteers develops this further. We have made five courses in total using this mapping. One for Primary, and the others for Secondary – two short courses in close areas, one using the furthest corners of the site and a final course using all 34 controls! These controls are laminated small markers permanently placed on trees, fence posts etc. We also like to get the pupils to make up their own courses using the flags and clippers, which they then swap over with the other half of the group.

Once the pupils are confident, we extend to local park courses. We usually start with Chaddesden as we can see the group at almost every point, but we really enjoy the courses at Allestree Park and Darley Park too.

All pupils at our school take part in orienteering, usually developing on levels as described, becoming more confident in their map reading and fitness. We have a learning support unit who are also involved in orienteering and basically do the same courses, but with much greater support.

We are just beginning to develop orienteering enthusiasm at the school and we are getting a healthy response from the children. They are happy to try out our ideas and thoroughly enjoy visiting local parks once they are confident. We are grateful to the support from Derwent Valley Orienteers and are pleased with the children and their attitudes.

Helen Jackson, Head of PE, Royal School for the Deaf Derby.

Club Captain's Corner

RELAY NEWS

A big thank you to all those who took part in the JK Relays in the Forest of Dean at Easter. Especial thanks go to Amelia Shooter and Paul Wright who responded to an 11th hour appeal and filled places in 2 otherwise incomplete teams.

It is worth noting for those who were not present that DVO fielded 17 teams, a total of 52 runners. The most notable performances came from the W165+ team of Pauline, Jen and Helen who came 2nd and the W120+ team of Val, Viv and me who came 4th. As always with hindsight "better" teams could have been selected but how do I know who will do a "flyer" and who will have a nightmare? Each time I look at my map I see a row of crags rather than a path (on which my control lay) on the edge of a VB!

I am taking names for the Scottish Relays at Daviot on 2nd June. Phone me A.S.A.P.

It looks as if the Harvester will be run in the North East on the weekend of 31st August. We would like to field a team as we host next year's event at Longshaw on the weekend of 14th June 2003. Unfortunately, some of the stalwarts will be on holiday then, myself included. Anyone interested in running contact me or Steve Kimberley.

Liz Godfree

Footpath Relay – Saturday 22nd June

The footpath relay this year starts and finishes at Ashbourne at the end of the Tissington Trail. It's a different format though still a handicap race as 2 runners from each club start off together on clockwise and anti-clockwise 10 leg loops reaching as far as Parsley Hay. The winning team is the first team to complete both loops. The 2 halves of the team will have to be balanced as we want them to finish at approximately the same time.

Names to me A.S.A.P. I've entered two teams but I'd like to enter a 'star' team if some of the fast men are prepared to run a shorter leg for the good of the club.

Liz Godfree – 01332 515862

RELAY SUBSIDIES

It is proposed that we discuss relay subsidies at the June open meeting. This was with a view to the club being more generous because on the whole those who are interested in running relays are those who put the effort in that creates the club's income. So in preparation here are some of the thoughts.

For the last few years the club has subsidised entries to the British and JK relays in three ways. Everybody, adults and juniors has paid two pounds less than the actual fee which this year at the JK was £9/£4.50 so we paid £7/£2.50. Juniors and students have only paid the junior fee even though running in a team for which the club has had to pay the senior fee e.g. ad-hoc or short open. In addition because the club pays the fee initially there have often been entries not used and last-minute entries for which there may have been a surcharge.

Other clubs are more generous right up to the extent of making it free.

So we have a number of proposals:

- make entries to the 4 UK Relay League events (JK, British, Scottish and Harvester) completely free. Numbers vary with the location and the enthusiasm of the club captain to encourage people to run but typically this could cost £1500 or more. I.e. it is effectively included in the club membership fee which might have to rise.
- Increase the subsidy to a higher level.
- Pay a fee, £5 was suggested, at the beginning of the year to cover all these relays. So effectively we would have an additional level of membership.
- Pay a small fee, £2 was suggested, when putting your name down for a run. This would be non-refundable if you subsequently didn't run.

The whole aim should be to encourage participation but at the same time making the club captain's job easier. One potential snag with free entries is that people would happily put their names down but feel under no obligation if they withdrew. An annual fee would make it difficult to encourage additional people to run.

Mike Godfree

Kedleston Map Corrections A recent walk round the Kedleston estate revealed extensive new planting of trees in the west and, most interestingly, a small maze, ideal for a control site in the middle in a few years' time!

Wot! No Club Champs? These will be in the Autumn this year.

**DO YOU KNOW WHAT IS HAPPENING IN YOUR CLUB FOR NATIONAL
ORIENTEERING WEEK?**

DO YOU KNOW WHEN IT IS?

CHECK THE FIXTURES LIST.

VOLUNTEER TO HELP.

COME ALONG AND HAVE A GO.

BRING FRIENDS AND FAMILY.

CLUB DEVELOPMENT

A number of events have been arranged to offer youngsters the opportunity to have a go at Orienteering, the first two events will use the club's electronic punching system.

FESTIVAL OF ORIENTEERING

Tuesday 11th June
Lea Green
9.00am – 3.00pm

DERBYSHIRE ADVENTURE YOUTH GAMES

Saturday 15th June
Carsington Water
9.00am – 5.00pm

DERBYSHIRE YOUTH GAMES

Saturday 13th July
Osmaston Park
(next to Moorways Sports Complex Derby)
12.00noon – 4.00pm

Help is required at all of the above events, you don't have to be an orienteering expert, just willing to come along for all or part of the day.
Ring or e-mail me to offer your services.

NB All volunteers have to be police checked with the CRB, this service is free of charge and Pete Coddington, Derbyshire's Sports Development Officer (and DVO member) has offered to do it for us but I must get names and addresses to him asap, so ring or e-mail me now.

Val Johnson 01773 824754 or gmjandfam@aol.com

COACHING

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY – Saturday 27th April.

Hopefully all 15 members who turned up found the day useful. Most importantly it gave us all the chance to practise some of the skills needed to successfully orienteer on more complex terrain than that which we find in the East Midlands. Exercises included: contour interpretation – trying to make a mental picture of the shape of the ground; route choice - straight line with climb vs. longer flatter running to attack points; control picking – lots of short legs with detailed map reading needed to maintain contact. The slower pace of the day meant that there was plenty of opportunity to talk about the techniques and evaluate their use.

Many thanks to those who shadowed less experienced members. There are more days planned for the future so watch this space.

SUMMER SERIES – see fixtures for dates and venues

Why not use the Summer Series to practise some of the skills that so often let you down at an event? Club Coaches will be at all of the events just contact me and let me know that you would like a bit of help with a certain area and I'll match you up with someone who can offer that help.

JUNIOR COACHING – Saturday 11th May

I had no firm takers for the session arranged on this date and it did not therefore take place. I do realise that there is competition from other activities like music and footy. Has anybody any suggestions? Should we go for a day in the school holidays for example?

GOOD PRACTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION COURSE (SPORTS COACH UK)

This course has been arranged by Derbyshire and Peak Park Sports and Recreation Forum for those who are volunteering to help at both of the Youth Games to be held this summer. Although it is not a requirement, the forum would like as many as possible to attend. There are 2 dates to choose from :

23.5.02 – 6.30 – 9.30pm Carsington Sailing Club;
12.6.02 - 7.00 -10.00pm Chesterfield (clashes with street O).

The course normally costs £30 but is free on this occasion. All members attending will be given a full work book and certificate of attendance.

Places need to be booked with Pete Coddington who can be reached at County Offices 01629 580000 or e-mail pete.coddington@education.gov.uk

DVO Fixtures May to July 2002

Saturday, 18th May Holmebrook Valley Park, Chesterfield. Schools & Local event.

White, yellow, orange & score.

Note start times 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Organiser Val Johnson 01773 824754

Entrance off B6051 Newbold to Barlow road on edge of Chesterfield SK360730

Sunday, 26th May Calke Park, Ticknall. Colour coded event with electronic punching.

Organiser Brian Denness 01332 553658

Car park fee for non-NT members of £2.60 per car

Follow brown tourist signs from A50/A514 junction south of Derby to enter park at Ticknall (SK 355240)

NATIONAL ORIENTEERING WEEK

Sunday 9th June Markeaton Park, Derby, Try Orienteering event.

Try Orienteering event. White, yellow & orange courses only. Starts 10.30 – 12.30.

Off roundabout at junction of A38 & A52 in Derby. SK335370

Organiser Rob Shooter 0115 932 2945

Sunday 9th June Holmebrook Valley Park, Chesterfield.

Try Orienteering event. White, yellow & orange courses only. Starts 13:30 – 15:30.

Entrance off B6051 Newbold to Barlow road on edge of Chesterfield SK360730

Organiser Dave Clough 01773 520229

This is not a mistake. There really are two events on one day – how many are going to do a Phil Collins (remember LiveAid?) and perform at two gigs in one day?

Wednesday 12th June Matlock Street O

Organisers Peter Richardson 01629 734194 & Ranald Macdonald 01629 734307

7p.m. start. Details uncertain.

Friday 14th June Carsington Pastures

Part of the Summer Series. Yellow, Light Green and a longer Challenge 3km west of Wirksworth, signed from B5035. SK245547

Organiser Robert Smith 01332 722145

Saturday, 15th June Stones Island Adventure Youth Games.

Open to pre-booked school and youth groups only

Saturday, 15th June Foremark Reservoir Try orienteering event.

Organiser Dave Walker 01332574003

Parking at Visitor Centre

Wednesday, 19th June Open Meeting. Assume that, as in previous years, this is at the Stone Centre, Cromford. Run: 7.00pm. Meeting: 8.15pm

Saturday 22nd June Footpath Relay See elsewhere in Newstrack.

Sunday 23rd June Linacre Colour coded event.

Organisers Derek & Jen Gale 01283 585244

DVO Summer Series 2002

A series of informal orienteering events for all abilities

Courses : YELLOW, LIGHT GREEN and a longer CHALLENGE

24th May Markeaton Park, Derby SK 335370
Main carpark off A38 /A52 roundabout (carparking charge)

31st May Shipley Park, Heanor SK 431454
Follow brown signs from A608 in Heanor

7th June Alfreton Park SK 409558
Follow Leisure Centre signs from A61 in Alfreton

14th June Carsington Pastures, Nr Wirksworth SK 245547
3km west of Wirksworth, signed from B5035

21st June No Event

28th June Elvaston Castle, S E Derby
Follow Elvaston Country Park signs from A52 or A6.

5th July Grassmoor Country Park, Chesterfield SK 413673
Follow signs from A617 /B6425 junction SE of Chesterfield

12th July Foremark Reservoir, South Derbyshire SK 336248
(Courses Yellow Light Green and Bike 'O')
Follow signs from A514 in Ticknall

19th July Allestree Park, Derby SK 352409
Main carpark off A6 north of Derby

All events are Friday evenings, starts 6.30 to 7.30pm

Entry fee : Adults £1 Children 50p

For more information contact **Michelle Mackervoy** (01332) 557892

Colour-coded Events Around and About

May 2002

- 12th WM OD Colour Coded Event. Hay Wood, Chadwick End. SP/207706.
C4 Robert Brandon, 024 7650 5050. £4.00/£1.00. String course.
- 12th EM LEI Colour Coded Event. Burbage Common & Woods, Hinkley.
SP/447953.
C4 Alison Mills, 01455 273028. mnhardy@hotmail.com £3.50/£1.50. Dogs on lead. <http://www.leioc.co.uk/>
- 19th YH SYO Colour Coded Event & YHOA Schools Championships. Cawthorne Wood, Barnsley. SE/297096.
C4 Colin Best, 0114 230 2621. £3.00/£1.00. EPS-SI. String course. White to Blue courses only. <http://www.southyorkshireorienteers.org.uk/>
- 26th EM DVO Colour Coded Event. Calke, Calke. SK/356240.
C4 Brian Denness, 01332 553658. BDenness@bigwig.net £3.50/£1.00, Family £7.00. EPS-SI. String course. £2.60 for non NT members. Dogs on lead in car park. DVO web

June 2002

Bags going on this month – see elsewhere in Newstrack

- 16th EM LEI Colour Coded Event. Wakerley Great Wood, Corby. SP/062987.
C4 Kevin Bradley, 01664 424163. bradley_family@btinternet.com £3.00/£1.50. EPS-SI. Parking £1.00. <http://www.leioc.co.uk/>
- 30th WM WCH Colour Coded Event. Cannock Chase (Birches Valley Forest Centre), Rugeley. SK/017171.
C4 Ray Collins, 01785 243192. £4.00/£2.00 +£1.00 SI hire. EPS-SI. String course. Parking £1.00. Dogs on lead. <http://www.walton-chasers.co.uk/>

July 2002

- 7th EM DVO Colour Coded Event. Linacre/Holmbrook, Chesterfield.
SK/361731.
C4 Jen Gale, 0128 378 244. derek_gale@msn.com £3.50/£1.00, Family £7.00. String course. Dogs on lead. DVO web
- 14th EM LEI Score Event. Bagworth Woods, Coalville. SK/472066.
S4 Andy Portsmouth, 0116 230 1337. andy.portsmouth@btinternet.com £3.00/£1.50. String course. <http://www.leioc.co.uk/>
- 21st WM OD Colour Coded Event. Burton Dassett Country Park, Northend.
SP/394520.
C4 Paul Furness, 01827 872271. paul.furness@virgin.net £4.00/£1.00. String course. Lim CC courses. freespace.virgin.net/paul.furness/index.html

WEDNESDAY EVENING RUNS

These will follow the usual pattern until mid-July: first and third Wednesdays of each month from Meadows School, Duffield, and second, fourth and fifth Wednesdays from the Buckleys', 253 Duffield Road, Allestree, starting at 7.00pm.

However, as usual, we will be giving our normal hosts a rest during the school summer holidays. This year the change of venue starts with something different. Wednesday July 17th meeting at Crich Market Place for a Street & Footpath Score event. Meet at 7 for mass start at 7.30. The specially drawn 1:15000 map in our normal street-O style includes Whatstandwell, Ambergate and Fritchley as well as Crich Chase and the canal so you can tell there will be plenty of choice. There will be a small entry fee to pay for the maps.

The following Wednesdays will see a mix of interesting venues with a variety of members' houses and car parks for footpath runs until normal service resumes on Wednesday September 11th. Why not join us for a sociable run, a cup of tea or something stronger afterwards. However in the autumn we will no longer have Duffield Meadows School available as Rex will have retired. Further details of the summer runs and new autumn venue in the next Newstrack.

Monday Night Runs

For those wanting more than just a Wednesday night can offer or who can't get on a Wednesday, there are two sets of northerly runs on a Monday. One set meets on an ad hoc basis (John Duckworth or John Hopper are good contacts) whilst I hope it is fair to describe the other lot, meeting under the auspices of Matlock Athletic Club, as more sedate and better organised. Anyone is welcome at the following venues, running from 6:30 onwards, unless from Sherwood Hall, Matlock when it's 6:15:

May

- 20 Sherwood Hall
- 21 Hell Bank Plantation

June

- 03 No run, Bank holiday
- 10 Gill Harrington's, Calver, followed by meal at pub
- 17 Sherwood Hall
- 24 Macdonalds' house, Oker, followed by barbecue

July

- 01 Sherwood Hall
- 08 Sheepwash car park, Carsington, followed by pub meal
- 15 Sherwood Hall
- 22 Eyam Moor, followed by meal in Grindleford
- 29 Sherwood Hall

(The Return of) ODDS and SODS

Injury of the Month 1. There are many different ways to get injured in orienteering, but I would like to claim a first – am I really the only person ever to have injured themselves in a portaloos? Congratulating myself on having arrived early enough to avoid the traffic snarl-up at the JK relays, I also took advantage of the absence of loo queue to shop early for Christmas. The latch on the one I chose was stiff and required considerable effort to force it into position. When it finally did snap into place, this was unfortunately the same place as my finger, which suddenly found itself minus the end as a result. Panicking at the potential loss of my dibbing finger and dripping blood, I sought out the ambulance, but it had not yet arrived, the organisers having naively assumed that no-one would injure themselves until the competition had actually started.

Injury of the Month 2. Emily Hopper bought an exercise ball and, while balancing on it, fell off, injuring her ankle on the wardrobe. Keeping fit can seriously damage your health.

Unspeakable Villain of the Month award goes to **Andy Jackson** who, on finding we'd left behind a Tupperware container at the JK Scout hut, kept the container but (and I'm sorry if some of you find this disturbing) threw away the cake inside. That wasn't just any old cake, Andy, that was one of Val's fruit cakes, with an indefinite shelf life. A word of advice: next time, throw the container away and keep the cake.

Unspeakable Cad of the Month. The unidentified DVO member who paid for their stay in the DVO Scout hut at the JK – with a forged one pound coin. You can't trust anyone these days.

Quote of the Month. 'I'm just off to Bottom Moor to check whether two boulders are still there'. – Val.

Daft Conversation of the Month.

The scene is the Outdoors Exhibition at the NEC where the Johnsons are helping out at the BOF stand. Kate approaches an interested punter and asks where he's from.

'Sorry'.
'Where are you from?'
'Sorry'
'Where are you from?'
'Sorry'
'WHERE ARE YOU FROM?'
'Kate, he's from Surrey'
'Oh, sorry'.

I'm sure it's not just my family that says stupid things, it's just that I live with them, you see.

Event of the Month. It must have been something in the air because it was at **Crich Chase** that both Dave Brodie and Steve Kimberley had to be disqualified because the former failed to punch at a gate control, figuring that it was beneath him on a Brown course, whilst the latter self-destructed even before the first control by neglecting to punch at the Start. It gives hope to everyone.

Sports Personality of the Month

Foreign Section

Before proceeding to finger this month's suspects, I cannot omit mention of a couple of corkers from parts elsewhere who would have been in strong contention were it not their fortune to be members of DVO.

The Planner of Hesley Wood. James Allen saw fit to miss The Wrekin – he obviously knew something the rest of us didn't – and entered a Blue at this event. Arriving at the mid-point of his course, he punched at the second master maps, and scratched his head, tried to work out what was wrong. Suddenly it struck him – no second master maps! Eventually a band of less than pleased orienteers sought out the planner. Doh! Smack of palm against forehead. He knew there was something missing.

The Announcer of the Midland Champs Prizes at the Wrekin – who had to re-award several of the trophies, because the winners had been worked out on the assumption that NOC was not part of the Midlands. Quel horreur.

Runners-up.

Dave Brodie (again), who took only two hours to make the journey from Derby to the JK relays and then a further hour and a half queuing to get into the car park field.

Kathryn Schofield. The mistake of picking up a wrong map is a common enough error but few take it as far as Kathryn. Competing at the JK on W21S, she picked up a map for W55L. Ignoring the fact that it had four more controls on it than her own course, and few of the control codes matched those that she was expecting, she plunged on regardless and actually completed the course in continued ignorance of it being the right course. It was only when she downloaded to find out that none of her controls were the right ones that the penny finally dropped.

But the winner is:

Simon Ross for services to navigation. He was given the none too onerous task of directing his sister back from the JK to Wirksworth, but succumbed to somnolence on the way. When he finally came to his senses, he found that the unfortunate Sarah, deprived of any navigational assistance, had taken the wrong turn off the M42 and had got as far as Rugby, heading towards London on the M40!

Calke Park Colour-coded Event- Sunday 26th May 2002

- By Car:** Follow brown tourist signs to Calke Abbey from the junction of A50/A514 south of Derby to enter the park in Ticknall (128/SK355240). Parking is in part of the National Trust Car Park, parking fee £2.60 (NT members free).
- By Public Transport:** Bus service 69A from Derby and Swadlincote. Alight at Calke Abbey Gates in Ticknall. 1 mile walk through park to Registration alongside National Trust Car Park.
- Cost** Seniors £3 (DVO or BOF members), £4 (non-members); Juniors/Students £1; Family £7 (DVO or BOF members), £9 (non-members). Plus 50p dibber hire
- Registration** 10.00 - 12.00
- Start Times** 10.30 - 12.30
- Courses** String, White, Yellow, Orange, Light Green, Green, Blue, Brown
- Terrain** Parkland with some wooded areas
- Dogs not allowed on courses; must be kept on a lead in the car park**
- Organiser** Brian Denness - 01332 553658
- Planner** Dave Bennett
- Controller** Mike Gardner

Holmebrook Local and Schools League Event - Saturday 18th May

- By Car:** Holmebrook Valley Country Park is signposted from the B6051 (Newbold Road) west of Chesterfield town centre (SK361731)
- By Public Transport:** Bus service 89 from Chesterfield town centre, alight at the entrance to Holmebrook Valley Country Park
- Cost** Juniors £1. (All the courses are aimed at juniors but adults wishing to take part may also do so for £1.)
- If you are bringing a group please phone the Organiser before the event.**
- Registration** 13.00 - 14.00
- Start Times** 13.30 - 14.30
- Courses** White, Yellow, Orange, Light Green, Score
- Terrain** Parkland - with no dog restrictions
- Organiser** Val Johnson

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