



Website: www.wimborne-orienteers.org.uk

WAFFLE

May 2008

Winners!



WIM are British M/W 60 Relay Champions
Chris Branford on the podium at Culbin. Team members Sue Hands and Keith Henderson had to leave the event early



JK-W165+ Bronze Medallists – Kirsty Staunton, Nikki Crawford and Sue Hands

2.

Chairman's Column

The last two months have seen the most of the major events in the UK fixture programme take place in contrasting conditions.

The JK, held over Easter in the South East of the country, was largely held in cold, miserable weather, with wind, hail, sleet and snow spoiling the pleasure for many competitors. Only the Sprint event on Good Friday escaped the worst of the conditions, although the prize giving had to be abandoned half-way through, when a horrendous hailstorm caused everybody to flee to their cars. The following day, our ill-fated club tent suffered further, possibly terminal damage, blowing down (for the third time in five months) in the gale which swept the assembly area.

A fortnight afterwards, the British Sprint-O championships, held around Warwick University, just escaped yet more unseasonable snow which resulted in the cancellation of events further south.

The British Championships, held a month later in the far North of Scotland, fared better, with sunny and almost warm conditions in the fiendish forested sand dunes of Culbin on the Moray Firth.

Many club members ran at the JK, rather fewer made the long journey to Scotland. At each event, particular successes came in the relay events, with WIM having class winners at each event. Reports of all these successes will be found elsewhere in Waffle.

Back home in Dorset there have been few local events recently. The New Forest has always been a 'no-go' area for orienteering between April and August for environmental reasons, mainly because of ground-nesting birds. This year, for the first time, this ban was unexpectedly extended to cover the Dorset forest areas for the first time, which has caused the club considerable problems in finding areas to use for summer events such as the Furrow Hoppers relay.

We have however gained permission to use Moors Valley Country Park for the annual Dorset Schools Championships in May and also Moors Valley and Ringwood North for a mountain-bike orienteering event in June. MTBO events stick to the forest roads and so don't disturb the birds!

Despite these problems, we are hoping to arrange a series of summer events, both mid-week and also the odd weekend. Most should appear in the fixture list at the back of this edition of Waffle, but it will be worth checking the club website as well to see if anything more has been arranged.

In addition, some of our members will be competing further afield over the summer, with members venturing to Scandinavia, Latvia, Ireland and Italy as well as to this summer's multi-day event in Wales. May you run in sunlit forests.

Dick Keighley

Membership

Almost every year we send out an updated membership list to all our members with addresses, phone numbers and E mail addresses. In an attempt to cut unnecessary use of paper and print we haven't sent out the 2008 version. However, if you would find the updated list useful, please phone 01425 – 474861 and we will be delighted to print one for you.

Score Event /Skittles Wednesday 4th June

We will be holding a Score Event followed by a Skittles evening on Wednesday 4th June.

The pre-skittles Score Event will allow you to run and work up an appetite in the grounds of Canford School with start times from 5.30pm to 7.15pm. Changing rooms and showers will be available. Depending on availability we will either start in the Sports Hall or Golf Course Pavilion and the event will be signed from the main school entrance.

Skittles will take place from 7.30pm onwards at the Hamworthy Club which is adjacent to the school grounds and the car park for the Club is off the A341 Wimborne to Bear Cross road at Grid Ref: 037977. Money for pre-ordered food will be collected on the night.

We would particularly like to welcome all orienteers and their friends to the evening, but those wishing to attend the Skittles must let Trevor know their names (for licensing purposes) and food orders by Friday 30th May.

Skittle Alley Food

Food	Price
Club Chicken Sandwich & chips	£5 – 00
Jumbo Sausage & chips	£4 – 50
Scampi & chips	£6 – 25
Half Chicken & chips	£6 – 25
Sausage, Egg & chips	£3 – 95
Ham, Egg & chips	£4 – 25
Double Club Burger & chips	£4 – 25
Double Club Cheese Burger & chips	£4 – 50
Veggie Burger & chips	£4 – 50
Breaded Cod & chips	£5 – 75
Ploughman's (Cheddar/Stilton/Ham)	£4 – 25

Please contact Trevor Bridle with your order before the closing date.
Contact details are:

Telephone: 01258 – 454811

E mail: trevorbridle@btinternet.com

4.

Dorset Schools Orienteering League

The league this year has been won by the enthusiastic team from Swanage Middle School, who headed South Wilts GS and last year's winners, Burgate, at the end of the season. Their outstanding runner has been Martha Tavinor, who won Year 8 Girls with the maximum score of 500 points. Jack Tavinor, Peter Taylor and Natalie Blowes have also scored very well.

Elsewhere, club juniors Terence Furlong, Fraser Smith, Rebecca Whittingham, Katherine Hodge and the Colfox team of Elizabeth and Katie Reynolds and George Butler have all performed well.

What a difference 3 weeks make! JK 2008 and BOC 2008

It's the British weather again! How often is your enjoyment of an Orienteering event coloured by the weather conditions on the day? This was spectacularly evident in this spring's two major multi-day events, the JK in SE England and the British Championships in Northern Scotland.

Here are a few contrasting aspects of each event:

JK 2008

Surrey/Sussex about as far south as you can get in UK.

Far north of Scotland on coast of Moray Firth

Mostly runnable, hills, woods and heathland of Leith Hill and Ashdown Forest

Superlative, runnable, wooded sand dunes of Culbin.

Leith Hill - Icy NE gale, frequent blinding hail showers. Wear hats and gloves from car!

Pippingford Park - 0 degs C all day, heavy snow in morning. Most set off in cagoules.

Relay day - Less wind but exposed and cold. Blizzard at midday.

Sunny, calm and mild!

Challenging parking on all days! Mud severe. Marshals deserve medals for their efforts.

Huge, flat dry field. Easy access, Marshals seemed to be enjoying their jobs!

Not always easy to get to Loos particularly at Relays, but organisers had little option!

Convenient location on gravel approach roads close to assembly.

Leith Hill - Windswept Assembly field where you risked early hypothermia in open. WIM tent poles broke again so club 'homeless' and most retired to cars to await long hike to start. Sadly, little spectator interest despite long run-in. Final control periodically vanished in blinding hail.

Pippingford Park - Far too cold to hang about spectating in icy mud. Lengthy uphill run in good for spectators in good weather but all but deserted on day.

Relay - Thank goodness WIM reclaimed the small tent from Trail O to shelter from the mid-day blizzard. Snow balls good. Facilities 400m away up hill, but there was no alternative.

*In high open woodland with sun streaming down. No tents needed. Good views of run in and changeover
Relaxed, friendly and sociable.*



The Relay Changeover was bleak! In mid-day blizzard waiting competitors looked like snow covered penguins in the Antarctic. Incoming runners not easy to see in snow nor was the terrain in the forest!

Warm ,sunny, sociable. Good view of incoming runners in sunny woodland.

One of worst weekends ever for Traders! Local school charity food stall struggled in gale. Traders making up for lost time. Local village food stall doing a roaring trade.

Apres O meant heading for accommodation and sitting in hot bath thinking smugly of 'happy' campers!

*Apres O meant relaxed sight seeing and socialising
Enjoying magnificent calm sunset views of the
Mountains across the Moray Firth*

Overall couldn't wait to get home!

Didn't want to come home!

However for WIM both events had one important thing in common - club members achieved podium positions in the Relays! In the JK Kirsty Staunton, Sue Hands and Nikki Crawford gained a bronze medal in the W165+ category whilst in the British, Chris Branford, Sue Hands and Keith Henderson had a convincing win in M/W60+. Congratulations to them all!

Having been involved in organising and planning major events my heart goes out to the JK team. Months, if not years of work are on the line and you can do little about it! WIM has had similar bad weather experiences at the British Relays of 2005 at Penhale and the 2007 British Schools Championships at Bovington which tested everyones calibre to the full.

However, people remember the good times and enjoy telling stories about braving adversity which is what Orienteering is all about!

John Warren

6.

Wimborne at the British Championships

13 intrepid WIM's made their way by various means to the forested sand dunes of Culbin (Scotland) to compete in BOC and BRC 2008.

The area provides some of the best 'O' terrain in the UK.

There was varying degrees of success on Individual Day – with Helen Bridle posting our best result – 5th in W21Elite.

Other top ten results were

Penny Harwood	1 st – W80L
Barbara Warren	2 nd – W70S
Judith Bland	4 th - W65S
Sue Hands	7 th - W60L
Keith Henderson	8 th - M65L
Simon Branford	9 th – M21S

The rest of us had varying degrees of success.

Relay Day was much more successful. Here are my tips for the BRC.

1 Head north – to avoid the rain – also compare Culbin with the South East at Easter

2 Travel as lightweight as possible to allow room to pack the trophy on return – especially important if you choose to fly with hand luggage only.

3 Ensure your 1st leg runner leaves the Arena before number 2 and 3 runners finish. That way the win is a surprise.

4 Ensure your final leg runner has NO idea he is in the lead (it makes for an interesting interview with the commentary team!) It also means the rest of the club can do the worrying(?)

5 Ensure your 2nd leg runner has an early flight and leaves as soon as the final leg runner has finished. This means that prize giving becomes like an edition of Crackerjack (some of you will be old enough to remember 'Double or Drop') When there is only one team member to collect – trophy – medals – prizes – for three (We were not the only team in this position)

6 As Team Captain (?) use your imagination to select your team for the Men's Short Class and at the last minute inform the oldest member that he is using a 1:10,000 scale map (not 1:7,500 as used by the older classes) The Team finished 31 out of 41 – well done John.

7 Ensure you are a non-comp team captain. All you have to do is declare teams, collect bibs, pins and back-up cards. Then sit (stand) back, watch, cheer and take photos.

Wim had 3 relay teams finishing

Wim Wanderers 31st in Mens Short (Helen, Simon and John)

Wim Away 1st in M/W60 (Keith, Sue and Chris)

Wim Weasels 30th in M/W60 (Richard, Nikki and David)

Lynn Branford



The M/W 60 British Relays Trophy



Richard Brightman on run in at British Relays

Dorset Coast Path Relay Saturday 12th July

It's Coast Path Relay time again. Yes, that fun packed day once a year by the seaside where people compete as a team against up to 9 other teams. We need at least 25 people to run the 45 or so legs between Lyme Regis and the Poole chain link ferry, 100km in length. Some of the legs are short relays to get the 'baton' up a hill quicker than an individual runner would be able to do where you might only run 30m, where the more normal legs vary in distance from half a km upwards. There is no need to feel daunted by it all as everyone is matched to legs that they can accomplish!!! The race finishes off with at least 3 runners running along Studland Bay to the finish. It always amazes me just how many people have the will power and energy left at the end of a long day to run past all those nudists!

Would everyone who would like to join in, please let me know as soon as you can so I can plan this event accordingly. It takes a lot of time shuffling runners into appropriate slots and even more time co-ordinating the travel logistics. Please can you ask around to see if you have any friends that run as we often benefit from outside help. For those of you who don't know what it's like, I'll be happy to tell you all about it or alternatively look at the link to the event on the Wimborne Orienteers web page.

Looking forward to hearing from you all.

Noel Smith 01202 -821053

8.

Forthcoming Events

All events use electronic punching - S/I or EMIT

(Club websites will usually give full details of events)

May

Friday 16th WIM Dorset Schools Score Champs - Moors Valley Country Park
Contact: John Warren 01425 - 474861 S/I

Saturday 17th Harvester Night and Day Relay - Park Wood - High Wycombe
GR: SU 834974. Pre-entry only EMIT

Sunday 18th SARUM Local event - Bulford Ridge - Amesbury GR: SU208445
Contact: Heather Haskins 01980 - 600897 EMIT
Also QO 2x2 Relay - Castle Neroche - Taunton. GR:ST267158
Contact: Roger Craddock 01823 - 323850

Tuesday 20th WIM Evening Sprint event – Sturminster Newton
(See website for details) Contact; Dick Keighley 01258 860935

Saturday - Monday 24/25/26 Tamar Triple Day 1 - Inny Foot - Callington
Day 2 - Plym Forest - Plymouth
Day 3 - Smallhanger Waste - Plymouth S/I

June

Sunday 1st BADO Regional Badge event - Butterwood - Hook GR:SU715524
NB This is the event postponed by snow. All previous entries valid.
New closing date May 17th See webpage for details EMIT

Wednesday 4th WIM Informal and Skittles evening - Canford School and Hamworthy
Club. See details elsewhere in this Waffle. Note closing date! S/I

Sunday 8th HOC National event - Brown Clee Hill - Ludlow. Pre entry by May 16th
Contact: Mike Farrington 01531 - 635502 S/I

Sunday 15th WIM Furrow Hopper Relays – Blandford Camp S/I
(This is a provisional date See website for confirmation)

Saturday 21st WIM Mountain Bike event - Moors Valley and Ringwood North
See WIM website. Contact: Trevor Bridle S/I

Sunday 22nd SN District Colour Coded event - Frith Hill - Camberley GR:SU905580
Also DEVON Sprint O - Exeter University GR: SX920939
Contact: Erik Peckett 01803 – 311704

Wednesday 25th WIM/Army event – Blandford Camp – To be confirmed