



[www.wimborne-orienteers.org.uk](http://www.wimborne-orienteers.org.uk)

# WAFFLE

September 2011



## Caption competition!

'Now that must be on the map.'

'Where's everybody else gone?'

'This doesn't look like Dorset.'

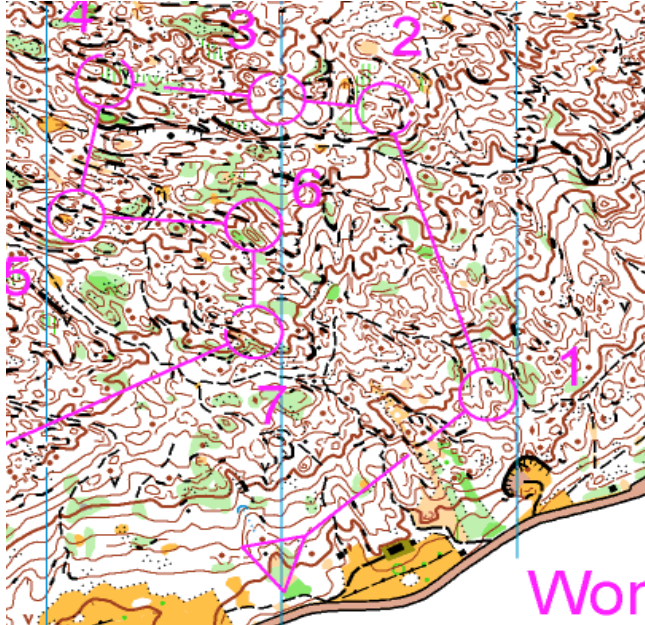
These are Martin Cross' suggestions as captions for this photo of him on the third day of Oban 2011. Can you do better?

Bring your captions to the AGM. ( Friday October 7<sup>th</sup>) Martin will be the judge!

2.

## Chairman's Column

I write this having recently returned from the World Championships in France. These were staged in a huge and spectacular area of forest on the Savoie Grand Revard plateau above Aix-les Bains, on the edge of the French Alps.



Wor WOC Middle Distance  
Womens final – Cse.extract

The terrain was extremely technical, so much so that the GPS tracking on the big screens in the arena revealed elite athletes making the sort of errors that novices dread, such as running completely off the map, or in the case of the great Finnish runner Minna Kauppi, retiring after getting completely lost and failing to find the first control!

My performance in the TrailO is best forgotten, although the rest of the team performed brilliantly and ended up 4<sup>th</sup> in the team event, missing out on the medals only by time penalties. Pleasingly the organisers had managed to hold the TrailO finals in an area with the finish in full view of the FootO finish and the big screens in the arena.

So I was able to witness the French crowd go wild when their hero, the great Thierry Gueorgiou ran into the finish in the Long race nearly five minutes clear of the second placed runner, and again when he picked up his well deserved Gold medal at the prizegiving.

I know various members of the club also ventured abroad to compete in events during July and August and a goodly contingent went to this years' Scottish 6-Days. There was little orienteering on offer down in our own area after the most enjoyable Furrow Hoppers relay in late July.

After the holiday break its now back to the beginning of our own new domestic season, and I'm looking forward to orienteering again on the Avon Heath, which we are using again this September after a break of almost 25 years.

I hope I will see many of you there, at the Poundbury event the week afterwards and at the club's AGM on October 7th

Dick Keighley

## **Wimborne Orienteers Minutes of 42<sup>nd</sup> AGM Held at Canford School on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2010**

### **Present**

David Tonge, John Tilsley, Di. Tilsley, Eamon Staunton, Kirsty Staunton, Mike Tween, Cris Tween, Chris Branford, Lynn Branford, John Whittingham, Judith Bland, David Bland Martin Cross, Keith Mitchell, Kevin Pickering, Hilary Pickering, John Shucksmith, Trevor Bridle, Deborah Mays, Karen French, John Warren, Barbara Warren (22)

### **Apologies**

Horsler family, Jo.Stanley, Sue Hands, Richard Brightman, Dick Keighley, Gillian Cross, Keith Henderson, Simon Branford, Noel Smith, Sophie Lawrence, Mike Kite, Bernice Tonge

### **Minutes of last meeting**

Had been circulated with the Sept 2010 Waffle and were signed by the Chairman having been approved by the meeting.

### **Chairman's Report**

John Shucksmith presented a summary of club activities during the past year.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Trevor Bridle presented a full and detailed analysis of the club finances over the past year with an excess of income over expenditure of £199-21 and an end of year balance of £5535-70.

The accounts were unanimously approved by the meeting and Trevor was thanked for his continuing outstanding service to the club, both as Treasurer and Club Captain.

### **Election of Chairman**

John Shucksmith stood down as Chairman after his agreed one year tenure and was thanked for his work for the club during the year.

There being no current proposals for Chairman, Dick Keighley agreed to act in this capacity for 1 year.

Proposed by Trevor Bridle, Seconded by John Shucksmith and approved by the meeting.

### **Election of Officers**

John Warren was again nominated as Club Secretary by Cris Tween, seconded by Hilary Pickering and approved by the meeting.

Trevor Bridle was nominated as Treasurer for 1 further year with Karen French acting as his assistant. Nominated by John Tilsley, Seconded by Barbara Warren and approved by the meeting.

### **Election of Committee**

Tamsin Horsler wishes to stand down and was thanked for her years of service to the club. Martin Cross had indicated that he was prepared to stand for election. Proposed by John Warren, Seconded: Trevor Bridle and approved by the meeting.

The current members : Hilary Pickering, Chris Branford, Karen French, Mike Kite, John Shucksmith, were all prepared to stand for re-election. This proposal was put to the meeting and they were all unanimously elected.

The committee and officers for next year is therefore ; Dick Keighley, Trevor Bridle, John Warren, Martin Cross, Hilary Pickering, Chris Branford, Karen French, Mike Kite, John Shucksmith.

4.

John Whittingham expressed the wish to attend committee meetings as an observer over the coming year.

### **Club Fees for 2011- 2012**

Trevor Bridle recommended in the light of the current financial position of the club that the fees remain unchanged for a further year.

Fees for 2011 -2012 to be set at £ 8 Senior and Family and £1 Junior.

This proposal was approved by the meeting.

### **A.O.B.**

Trevor Bridle drew the attention of members to recent correspondence with Mike Hamilton, Chief Executive of British Orienteering regarding the forthcoming new agreement between British Orienteering and the Forestry Commission concerning land charges. It appears that a new flat rate charge of £3 per competitor may be applied to all but the smallest activities and affects Seniors and Juniors alike. As much of the land used by the club is FC the effect is likely to be severe.

Cris Tween suggested that proposed purchase of new computers be reviewed in the light of the emerging financial situation.

Kevin Pickering – Pointed out that the forthcoming Boxing Day Canter would mark to 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the event, and was a special celebration appropriate.

Barbara Warren – The new club O tops should be available at the CompassSport Trophy final and the remaining old stock are to be sold off at a discount?

John Whittingham – Route Gadget is now available for club events.

Trevor Bridle – CompassSport Trophy final in Derbyshire arrangements are all in hand with some 41 members travelling to take part. He was thanked by the meeting for his unstinting efforts to arrange for this to happen.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.36pm

Following refreshments Hilary Pickering assisted by Kevin, presented a fascinating illustrated account of their visit to the Asia/Pacific Orienteering Champs in Japan giving an insight into country life in Japan away from the high tech cities. Hilary and Kevin answered many questions, and were thanked by the outgoing Chairman and a very appreciative audience

### **Wimborne Orienteers 43<sup>rd</sup> AGM - Friday October 7<sup>th</sup> 2011**

As in previous years the AGM will be held in the Governors' Room at Canford School 7.30 for 7.45pm.

The 2011 agenda and the minutes of the 2010 meeting are printed below.

#### **Agenda**

Apologies for absence

Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

Chairman's Report

Treasurer's Report

Election of Chairman

Election of other Officers

Election of Committee

Club Fees for 2012/13

A.O.B.

Following the business meeting there will be refreshments after which there will be a presentation by Andy and Karen French on their visit to Finland and the Jukola relay event.

## **WIM's Unexpected Windfall.**

The phone conversation went something like this.....

"Would Wimborne Orienteers like four thousand pounds for some more electronic SI equipment? Oh, and there would be another thousand pounds for supporting club coaches to use it in schools. How quickly can the club draw up an invoice?"

To which my reply was: "I'm emailing it to you now...!!"

This very unexpected & rather surreal phone call took place in June between myself & a local School Sport Partnership Manager, but the history leading up to it goes back a lot longer.

As many of you know, in late 2004, I became involved in a lottery-funded project to map a large number of Dorset schools. This started as a 1 year project, but grew to fill my life for about 6 years. 3 years of full-time mapping (about 160 schools mapped) & training of school staff, followed by working alongside the newly formed School Sport Partnerships to promote & develop orienteering in Dorset schools. On top of that, John & I were involved in a fair amount of "voluntary" work, with our WIM hats on, establishing inter-school competitions in several areas of Dorset, kindly supported by the boundless energy of WIM coaches. I did quite a lot of teaching of orienteering within curriculum time, particularly to encourage the school staff to use the maps & other resources that I had set up within their school grounds. I ran after-school clubs, again in the hope that school staff would continue with it in future years. And then there were the Orienteering "Festivals"! This involved anything up to 250 children doing a variety of orienteering activities on one day.... What really took off was the use of the club's Schools SI kits. The kids just loved using them & seemed to increase their enjoyment of the orienteering - the "geekiness" of using technology; the instant feedback of how quickly they'd done the course. Fantastic! What foresight the club had when they applied for a lottery grant to get 3 schools kits! In 2008 well over 2000 school children used the SI equipment. In 2009 & 2010 – just under 2000 each year.

However, these schools kits are used for both schools & club use and the issue of battery replacement & much greater capital expenditure on replacing them was beginning to raise its head. The Schools Partnerships did agree to contribute towards their running costs, and over 3 years paid the club nearly £1200 for their use. The club had thought about applying for other grants to replace some of the ageing equipment, but it's a long process of finding out about the appropriate sources of these grants, getting the "right" words down on paper & ticking the "right" boxes!

On a sunny day in March, in the middle of running an Orienteering Festival for North Dorset Primary Schools at Clayesmore School, I had a rather distracted, vague conversation with Julia, the North Dorset School Sports Partnership Manager, about the future of orienteering in schools following the government's decision to end the major funding for these partnerships from August. She was 100% behind the continued development of orienteering in schools but was concerned that, without future funding, the use of the schools kits may decline. She wanted to purchase a new schools' set specifically for the North Dorset Schools, but was rather concerned about who would look after it & where it should be based. The conversation ended abruptly when a child needed some "direction"!!

6.

After the event, I thought nothing else of the conversation. I dismissed it as a “pie in the sky” idea, which would go nowhere. The amounts of money being implied were ridiculously large, when funding was ending. The thought of a large amount of SI equipment left in a cupboard in a school somewhere, abused & misused, actually filled me with dismay.

Then came the June phone call....! Julia’s plan was for WIM to purchase additional SI equipment, keep it, maintain it, use it for whatever activities we wanted, but it should be available if & when the North Dorset schools get organised to want to use it. (They must be fair in the notice they give us when they to want to use it!) A member of the club may need to help with the planning of the activities and will definitely go with the kit to ensure it is used properly. Having worked with WIM coaches for several years, she knew how carefully we looked after the electronic equipment & was adamant that that the schools should not actually look after it! The £1000 for coaches’ expenses was a real bonus.

The money has arrived! So a small sub-committee has been formed to discuss exactly what will be purchased to make the best use of the money to supplement existing equipment, the maintenance of it & its eventual replacement. You see, there are good fairies in the woods.....

Di Tilsley

This funding is a well deserved tribute to Di for her remarkable contribution to schools and junior orienteering in Dorset over many years.

## **Events and Results**

Many club members have enjoyed events throughout the summer, but for those who don't travel far to events opportunities to Orienteer have been more limited than usual. The Springtime in Shropshire weekend ended with the cancellation of the prizegiving due to heavy rain, so it was two months later in Scotland when the mugs were handed over to Nikki, Richard, Wendy and Barbara.

Trevor and Chris organised an excellent Barbecue evening at Canford on July 9<sup>th</sup> preceded by events in the school grounds and in Merley planned by Kath Pike, her first venture in planning.

The following day WSX held their relay event at Upton Country Park, having a lovely sunny garden setting for a very sociable changeover.

Our own relay event, the Furrow Hoppers, took place in Blandford Camp with both map update and planning by Steve Mallison and organisation handled by Chris Branford and John Whittingham. 16 teams took part, 7 of them from WIM, and the mixture of sprints round the buildings, cross country courses and finally a maze was well received.

## **Congratulations to:**

**John and Beth Cameron** on the birth of their daughter Rose Veronica Iris on July 9<sup>th</sup> and best wishes for your house move.

**Paul Pickering** on successfully completing his course at Sandhurst and being commissioned as an Officer in the Army.

**Laura Bridle and David Bright** who are to be married on 10<sup>th</sup> September

**The Scottish 6 Days – Oban 2011 July 31<sup>st</sup> – August 7<sup>th</sup>.  
Some impressions of the week by a few of the WIM competitors**



'Glamping' at the Scottish 6 Days – the new way of luxury camping for orienteers! An 'Old-school' six man frame tent was erected for the 10 days Becca, Steve and I were staying up in Scotland. Steve managed to arrange with the camp owners that we could pitch a day earlier so got the pick of the field, only to realise later we had pitched on the family site! Although quietly playing cards after the curfew hours, we still managed to get 'sshhhed' by our neighbours!! The campsite was a perfect location for all of the events, local to Oban, sociable, had beautiful walks down to the beach and stunning views.

After challenging myself by entering onto the W21L course, looking at the hills of Scottish terrain walking to the start on Day 1, I was starting to wonder what I was about to put myself through. Picking up my map at the start and staring at my course, I didn't know whether to laugh or cry! However, I made it round in a reasonable time without too many major mistakes, returning to be placed 14<sup>th</sup> on Day 1. Although injuring myself warming up at the start on Day 3, I still managed to hobble my way round my course, only to realise I had done quite well in the rankings. Due to slowing down and pinpointing features on the map, I hit every control spot on and was really pleased with my navigation. Maybe I should try walking round courses more often!

Overall, an enjoyable experience was had at Oban 2011 and I am already looking forward to the next event.

Jo Pickering

8.

I suppose everyone has days which, in hindsight, it would have been better to turn over and go back to sleep.

Day 2 of the Scottish was one such day!

Ardnashie sounds like an unpleasant complaint and so it proved to be, with endless bogs and tussocks, indeterminate contours and vegetation, and virtually impossible to run anywhere. (At least one runner was reported to have become completely stuck in a bog. It took 5 people to pull him out!) It didn't help that I'd miscalculated the distance and climb to the start and arrived pouring with sweat just as my name was called. From the start I followed the wrong 'elephant track' and took 21 minutes on controls 1 and 2 and after that it just got worse. I finally admitted defeat at number 7 when I was completely lost, exhausted and a little bit tetchy (unusual for me!). Luckily, Day 3 at Creag Mhic Chailein was completely different – superb area, a great course, every control hit cleanly and 9<sup>th</sup> place. What a wonderful sport!!! Ain't we lucky!

Richard Brightman



With over 3000 competitors, the Scottish 6 Days had a major challenge with parking some 1400 cars each day.

Through Sue Hands WIM was asked to provide two teams of Car Park Marshals for day 5 which proved to be both enjoyable and challenging.

Unfortunately, the parking fields were at the end of a 2.5k single track road with no passing places. Competitors were encouraged to use a bus service to and from the camp site and consider walking back which involved a low tide paddle across a sea inlet!

The morning team packed cars neatly into the fields on a gloriously sunny and midge free morning. They then went off for their runs whilst the afternoon team, having survived early runs in virgin bogs and moorland took on the task of getting all the cars out of the car park and clearing up the site.

Because the bus closed the access road for 20 minute blocks we soon had queues of cars forming which meant up to 7 lines of cars awaiting their turn. The field looked just like a car ferry terminal waiting for loading and we even had to deal with 'foot passengers' who were loaded into cars with spare seats to try to reduce the number of bus journeys!

On a sunny afternoon after a testing event most people waiting seemed to be quite happy to sit and enjoy the sun and scenery with blue mountains stretching away towards Ben Nevis. Congratulations to the whole team, you did the club proud!

John Warren





This was my first visit to the Scottish 6 Days and, I hope, will not be my last. The locations were stunning, the courses challenging and the organisation truly impressive. However, the icing on the cake for me was the 'rest' day. This dawned bright and sunny so, having swathed my tent in soggy O kit, I set off for the island of Kerrara – one of three training sites. The island, close to Oban, was reached by a short ferry trip across gloriously clear water with glimpses of jelly fish, but sadly none of the sea otters that other WIM members had spotted earlier in the week. The training pack reminded me that this activity should not be treated as a race and I took this very seriously. Fortunately there were no shortage of places to stop and contemplate the best route choice to the next control, whilst admiring the view across the Firth of Lorn and munching the odd sandwich – orienteering at its most civilised! In the afternoon there was an excellent sprint event around Tralee Bay, just 10mins walk for the campsite. Billed as a forest sprint, the course actually included forest (with some short, steep climbs), dunes, beach and holiday park all within a very compact area. The run-in across a sandy play area provided additional entertainment for spectators from the assembly area. I'm afraid my sun-addled brain took longer than I would have liked to process the 26 controls over 2.9k. Fortunately, on finishing, it was just a few yards to the sea for a paddle to cool down. All in all as perfect a site for a sprint as you could hope for.

Kath Pike

This year was the first multi-day event that I have been on without the Corp and with Wimborne Club, the best part of the week for me had to be the camping with two great friends. Jo and Rebecca and the camaraderie and helpfulness of both Wimborne and Wessex members who took pity on us in the tent, albeit the 'Taj Mahal' of tents, and ensured that we were well fed on several occasions.

The terrain was amazing albeit extremely difficult in the first few days to get my head around the mapping and the terrain, which led me to feel a bit out of my depth on the M21L and annoyed with my own performance!. This was forgotten by the end of the week in particular days 5 and 6 where I was finally able to open my legs up and run with minimal retribution should I place my foot incorrectly. I was also finally in the zone by this point and was performing more like an orienteer rather than a headless chicken. If only all of my control legs had been as fast as the run ins!

Great terrain, great weather, and great friends, an amazing 10 days which weren't long enough! The next Scottish 6 is already in my diary with high expectations although it will be difficult to top Oban 2011.

Stephen Mallison

10.

Our first Scottish 6 Days was in the Trossachs in 1979. We were hooked and the bi-annual event has become a fixed part of our summer. There have been many memorable weeks, but for sheer spectacle at a start area, Oban's Day 6 will be hard to beat. The distance from assembly was given as 2km, with 190m of climb. If you can imagine scrambling up a steep, rough, uneven staircase for 20 mins on a warm day, you'll have an idea of the joy and relief of reaching the start area. It was wonderful to sit on the heather in the sun surrounded by WIMs and other friends and to watch a line of climbers struggling up to join us. On a windless day with unlimited visibility the Firth Of Lorn stretched out below and purple mountains from Mull in the west to Ben Cruachan in the east made this a magical place.

You would think that after all these years I would remember that it is sensible to concentrate on the course instead of admiring the scenery! I'm full of admiration for all WIM's newer members who adapted so quickly and enthusiastically to the complexities of Scottish terrain.

Barbara Warren



Congratulations to Nikki on some remarkable performances in Scotland. The final results are based on the best 4 runs out of 6 and Nikki became the overall winner of the W70L course.

This was my second Scottish and my first with my new baby sister, Alice. I was going to be able to show her how to do the string course.

Our first one was by the seaside and the run to the first control was along the beach to find objects associated with the seaside. On Day 2 I went on the string course once with Daddy and then with Jo Pickering and Alice was taken around carried by Steve Mallison.

My favourite string course was Day 3 as it was all about the Gruffalo and there was even a baby gruffalo running about the forest. Day 4 was wet and whilst Alice slept at the start, I showed Debs Mays how to do a string course as she was a novice in this event!!

On Day 5 I had to have my 'thinking head' on as at every control was a multiple choice question related to the Sea Life Sanctuary. On the last day the course was at the bottom of the hill and I went around with Alice, who was awake this time to find wildlife pictures.

I had a lovely holiday and did all the courses without any help from Mummy or Daddy and would like to say a 'big thank you' to everyone who helped look after Alice and I at all 6 events.

Grace French (3 yrs 9months)  
Baby sister Alice is 5 months old

**The next major 'Multi-Day' Events**  
Start looking for accommodation NOW!

**Croeso 2012**

July 22<sup>nd</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> July 2012  
6 days centred on Aberystwyth

**JK 2012**

April 6<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>  
4 days in Perthshire

**Scottish 6 Day 2013**

**Moray 2013**

July 28<sup>th</sup> – August 3<sup>rd</sup>  
6 days centred on Elgin and Forres

**Dorset Coast Path Relay**

By the time you read this the 'Coast Path Relay' will have taken place. There are several new faces in this year's team. We hope that everyone involved had a very enjoyable day and we look forward to hearing all about it.

Particular thanks to Chris Branford and John Whittingham for their planning and logistics

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## **Forthcoming Events** ( for full details see appropriate Club/BO websites)

### **September**

- Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> City of London Race – Barbican  
Saturday/Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> Devon Caddihoe Chase – Burrator – Yelverton  
SX 555691. Individual Day 1 , Chasing Start Day 2  
Pre -entry required.  
Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> WIM Dorset Schools/Informal event – Avon Heath Country  
Park – Nr Ringwood SU 120028  
Registration 1.30 – 3pm EOD only. Cses: White to Light Green

### **October**

- Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> SARUM Limited Colour Coded/Beginners event – Vernditch -  
SU040210  
Also QO Long O day 1 – West Quantockshead ST 117410  
Pre -entry only by 26/09  
Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> WIM – SW Sprint Championships – Poundbury – Dorchester  
SY675905 Pre-entry only by 26/09  
Also QO Long O 2 – Lynmouth ST794468  
Pre-entry only by 26/09  
Friday 7<sup>th</sup> WIM AGM – Canford School 7.30pm for 7.45pm  
Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> WSX Colour Coded – Gallopen event – Sugar Hill – Wareham  
SY 996843 Pre-entry and EOD  
Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> WIM Colour Coded – Gallopen – Godshill and Millersford -  
Nr Fordingbridge SU 185155

### **November**

- Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> SWJS – Sprint Races – Sandy Balls Estate – SU 169146  
Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> SOC November Classic – Level B event – Busketts Lawn-  
Lyndhurst SU315091  
Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> WIM Dorset Schools league/Informal event – Kingston Lacy -  
Wimborne (To be confirmed)  
Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> SARUM Dorset Schools League/Informal – Collingbourne -  
Ludgershall SU 271527  
Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> BOK Colour Coded – Gallopen – Wavering Down – Mendips  
ST410560

### **Autumn Training**

- Monthly WIM/WSX training evenings – 6.30 – 8pm  
Monday Sept 12<sup>th</sup> – Hyde Common – Nr Fordingbridge SU168125  
Score course, Compass and Pacing exercise, Maze  
Monday Oct.3<sup>rd</sup> – Upton Country Park – Poole  
Monday Nov.7<sup>th</sup> – Shaftesbury  
Monday Dec 5<sup>th</sup> – Hillbourne – Poole  
Weekly Thursday Orienteering training mostly centred on Parkstone Grammar  
School from 6 to 7pm  
More details for each of these events will be on the website. If you have any  
questions about these sessions contact Chris and Lynn Branford 01258 - 453716

