



Website: www.wimborne-orienteers.org

WAFFLE

May 2007

Chairman's Column

These last few months have been important for WIM in many ways and it's difficult to know where to start in explaining why this is. So let's begin with the regional CompassSport Cup & Trophy round at a very windy Harewood. Having lost half a dozen members over the last couple of years we became a 'small club' this year for the purposes of the competition and were therefore eligible to take part in the Trophy competition.

Almost all our available active membership turned out (Trevor Bridle again doing a wonderful job in organising this) including Helen Bridle and Mats, who were over from Sweden for a few days, and in the end we came second overall and almost beat Sarum. However as they are the current holders of the trophy, both clubs progress to the final, to be held near Mansfield in October, where we will hope to be able to field a team of similar strength.

After the event was over, the club tent was filled to bursting point for the EGM at which we adopted a new constitution. We've had recent AGM's with a smaller attendance. This task was the last in a number of activities which the club and its members have had to undergo in order to qualify for the Clubmark award. Lynn Branford has been in charge of co-ordinating this (Thanks, Lynn!) and within three days of the EGM and submitting our folder, we had heard from British Orienteering that WIM had gained Clubmark, only the second club in SWOA and the thirteenth club in the Federation to do this, narrowly pipping bigger clubs like BOK and SOC who also gained their Clubmark a few days later. Lynn and your chairman were presented with the award at the JK prizegiving on Easter Sunday.

The benefits of this have already been seen as within the last few days we have heard that we have been awarded a grant of £400 to help us develop club/school links, map new small areas and increase our junior membership.

The day before the CompassSport event, a dozen WIM members had spent the day completing a Red Cross First Aid course at Canford, necessary for most of them as part of their coaching awards and also meaning that as a club we now have enough qualified people to staff the First Aid point at our events.

2.

After complaining about the rain in my last column, written in February, it had actually got worse before it got better. I've never seen the New Forest as wet as the day I controlled the SOC event at New Copse at the beginning of March and during the competition it rained non-stop. Since then, however, things have improved dramatically. Most events I've been to have had the sun and and over the Easter weekend, the JK was held in the Forest of Dean in stunning spring weather.

There was a big WIM presence at the JK and it was good to see one or two members on the podium at the prizegiving. The club's main involvement this time was with the Trail-O event. This small but politically important part of the the JK was much enjoyed by most of the competitors. It was unfortunate that it proved impossible to locate either of the two days of the competition closer to the main events which might have increased participation a little more, but almost all of Britain's regular trail-orienteers were present and I've had a number of appreciative messages from those who took part. My thanks to everyone who helped us before, during and after the events.

Our long awaited new SI schools kits, bought with the aid of a Lottery grant, but with the addition of some club money as well, finally arrived nearly five months after the order was placed. One set has already been well used in three different schools, as well as at the JK Trail-O, and we intend to christen the equipment at the Dorset Schools Championships at Moors Valley on May 11th.

That event is also the first event in a series of midweek informal events, stretching through the summer months. Some of these will be conventional events in forests. Others will be a chance to try the kind of urban 'sprint' events which are becoming increasingly popular throughout the country. Watch out too for the inaugural WIM MTBO event in Ringwood North - a chance for the cyclists amongst you to try your hand at yet another variant of orienteering.

Finally, many club members will be spending some time orienteering further afield during the summer months. Whether in Scotland, Ireland, France, Sweden or wherever, may you run in sunlit forests.

Dick Keighley



photo: Jo Pickering



Ian Keith 1930 to 2007

Ian Keith, who died on 9th March 2007, was one of the founder members and first Chairman of Wimborne Orienteers. Having moved to Wimborne from Cheshire Ian saw the publicity for one of a national series of events to promote orienteering in 1969. He attended the event in King's Park, Bournemouth where he met Ron Wilton, and was elected Chairman at Wimborne Orienteers 1st AGM in early 1970, with Ron as Secretary. Ian planned and organised in the Club's early years, and was co-planner with Ron for the JK79 Relays on Bramble Brook (now known as Buller's Hill).

Ian had had a very successful career as a track and road runner before taking up orienteering. He won 10 Cheshire Championships, and his proudest achievement was winning the 1962 Cheshire 20 Mile championship, in record time, and then 4 weeks later winning the Cheshire ¼ mile championship. His best marathon time was 2hr 31min although he regarded his best performance as the 2hr 38min for a Yorkshire Wolds marathon.

Ian had to stop running in 1982 because of a problem with his left knee, but found that he was able to cycle. When he retired in 1990 he bought one of the first mountain bikes and cycled the byways and bridleways of most of Dorset and Hampshire and Wiltshire in the following years. More recently a group of us would meet to cycle on winter afternoons or summer evenings, and despite his age Ian was frequently well ahead of the group.

There was much more to Ian than first impressions of his quiet manner would suggest. He was a true gentleman, and retained his sense of humour to the end. We will miss him, but we will remember the good and happy times we spent with him.

John Shucksmith

Wimborne receives aid first

In March a number of WIM members, along with several from SOC and SARUM, attended a one-day First Aid course at Canford School. For some this was to refresh and renew previous qualifications, for some it was simply to become qualified First-Aiders, whilst for others it was a requirement of the Level 2 Certificate in Coaching Orienteering.

The day was expertly run by a very knowledgeable member of the Red Cross and covered a variety of first aid techniques. We all gained hands on experience in these techniques which included putting and being put in the recovery position, carrying out CPR and bandaging in all manner of ways. All attendees successfully completed the course and were awarded the first aid qualification. Joanne Pickering was on hand with her camera!

Tim Britton



4.

Dorset Coast Path Relay 2007

Yes its that time again, folks!

This year's Dorset Coast Path Relay will be held on **Saturday July 7th 2007**

This is the second year on its new July date. The second year with the new trophy and new handicap competition, and hopefully the second year with more than the usual few teams.

The relay is raced from the Devon-Dorset border at Lyme Regis along the Coast Path (taking the in land route north of Weymouth) all the way to Sandbanks chain-ferry at Shell Bay – a distance of some 65 miles with some steep hill climbs. The route involves legs of distances of between 1 and 10km. There have been up to six teams competing, team sizes varying from 10 to 40 runners. The event is usually won in a little over 7 hours 30 minutes, while the last clubs have come in with a time of up to 10 hours. Teams organise themselves in terms of numbers of runners, leg change-over points and transport of runners to the change-over points. Some teams use a fleet of cars to move people from the end of one leg to their next running leg; other teams prefer to use a minibus with one or two support cars.

The event is essentially a 'friendly' competition with only a few rules/guidelines and offers a great day's running along a truly beautiful stretch of coastline. There is a trophy awarded to the overall winning team (first to reach the chain ferry) and also to the team winning the handicap competition (handicapped by number of male/female/junior/senior runners). All teams must carry a baton/bib from start to finish, and the final leg along the sandy beach of Shell Bay must be run by at least three people per team (the third finisher records the team's overall time).

We're always keen to get as many people involved as possible; even if you don't feel up to running a whole leg you'll be very welcome to help out with 'laddering' up hills at changeover points. It's a great day out, a great club social event amongst beautiful scenery, and ends with a fine meal at the Bankes Arms in Studland. So if you fancy joining us, or have any friends or family who'd be interested. Please get in touch with **Noel Smith 01202 821053** or **Tim Britton 07788 608478**.

P.S. Last year, in line with the changes to the organisation of the Relay, we created a special Dorset Coast Path Relay website. This site contains all the information you will need, including a map, history of the race, photos from various teams, results, rules/guidelines and links to associated websites. There is a link to this site on the left of the WIM website www.wimborne-orienteers.org.uk Do take a look.

Tim Britton

COMPASS SPORT TROPHY EVENT

Congratulations to everyone who turned out at Harewood Forest on 18 March to represent the Club at the Compass Sport Trophy Competition. We had 44 runners in the competition and were only just pipped at the post by Sarum. The final scores in our competition were as follows:

SARUM	1276 points
WIM	1251 points
BADO	1189 points
WSX	1188 points

5.

Everyone had been allocated start times prior to the event and so I arrived early at the car park to set up the club tent. However the large open field acting as the car park was also very exposed to the strong prevailing winds and there was no way we were going to see the tent erected in the open. Eventually we set up just inside the woods close to both the start and the finish. Everyone congregated in the tent and eventually made their way to the start. Harewood Forest has numerous paths and the courses in the main favoured the strong runners. However there were a couple of complex pitted areas that some found tricky and the run at the end across the field in the strong winds made for an interesting finish in the full view of spectators. During the competition the results were constantly updated and at one stage with Wim in the lead it looked as if we may beat Sarum. However Sarum picked up towards the end of the event and just won by 25 points. We rounded off the day in the club tent by presenting the Club Trophies to John Shucksmith and Jo Pickering who were present whilst those for Michelle Spillar and Terence Furlong have now been passed on. The day was rounded off with the Club EGM to approve the new Constitution since when and as a result of that we have been presented with the Club Mark award.

We had some excellent results on the day and I note below our top scorers:

Helen Bridle 100, Mats Haldin 100, Vikki Crawford 100, Kirsty Staunton 98, Terence Furlong 98, Tamsin Horsler 96, Jamie Ranson 96, Jose Stanley 96 and Kevin Pickering 95.

As Sarum were placed in the first three at last year's competition they had automatic selection for this year's final providing they won this round but also meant that we in second place have a place in the final. The final is to be held on 14 October 2007 (**NOTE YOUR DIARIES NOW**) at Blidworth, Mansfield. Map Ref. SK583522. Let's make a weekend of it and possibly arrange mini bus/coach transport and say Travel Lodge accommodation. Please let me know if you are interested. This time I am sure we can beat Sarum!!

Trevor Bridle



photo: Chris Branford

6.

WIM Midweek Street & Sprint-O League, Summer 2007

Rules

1) Starts will usually be between 6.30 & 7.30 pm. Younger juniors (M/W12) must be accompanied by an adult. Older juniors (M/W 14-16) compete in pairs and have (written) parental permission. All compete at their own risk and are responsible for their own safety.

Entry is free, except for those in FC areas (Moors Valley, Godshill) but a donation of £1 to cover expenses, would be welcome.

2) There will usually be two courses available, Long (~4.5k) & Short (~2.5k). In some cases, the planner may produce a 45 minute Score course as an alternative. Punching may be SI, pin-punching or some other method, depending on local conditions. Bring a pen to be on the safe side.

3) The league co-ordinator will endeavour to produce a league table using the traditional SW gallopen scoring. A runner's best 5 events to count. Those alternating between the two courses will be put in the Long class and get Short class points scaled down by 50%)

4) Events will be held fortnightly throughout the summer, usually on a Wednesday, but beginning with the informal score event in conjunction with the Dorset Schools Score Championships on Fri May 11th.

It is possible that WSX may organise events (Poole Park, Littledown?) to supplement these events

5) The event organiser will suggest a suitable pub for a post event get together.

Date	Venue	Car Park	Planner/Organiser	Pub
Friday May 11	Moors Valley	Moors Valley	Jane Smith + Schools Champs organiser	Old Barn Farm
Wed May 23	Sturminster Newton	Station Road	Dick Keighley	BBQ Tweens
Wed June 6	St Ives, Ringwood	Braeside Hall	John Warren	Old Barn Farm
Wed June 20	Blandford	Ham car park (behind Tesco)	Branford Family	tba
Wed July 4	Godshill	signed from Fighting Cocks,	Kirsty Staunton	tba
Wed July 18	Wimborne	tba	John Shucksmith	tba
Wed Aug 1	Verwood	tba	Noel Smith	tba
Wed Aug 15	tba (Dorchester or W Moors)	tba	tba	tba
Finale Sat Sept 1	Merley & Canford	Canford	Trevor Bridle	Annual BBQ & League prizegiving

updates/further details will be published on WIM website www.wimborne-orienteers.org.uk

JK 2007 (in the eyes of the juniors!)

Having looked forward to the JK 2007 for so long, we were so excited for it to be finally here. With the lovely weather (and Jo seeing everyone from Hong Kong again) it was a very enjoyable weekend.

Unfortunately, both our mums didn't enter us for the sprint day on the Friday afternoon and so we were spectators enjoying the event but wishing we were taking part (well Jo anyway!) The Sprint was held at UWE University in Bristol and was perfect terrain and the racing was fast and furious. For Jo it was a great chance to socialise and practice her photography skills! Wim was well represented with many people having good runs, often only two or three minutes behind the leader.

Both the Staunton's and Pickering's stayed at Christchurch Campsite, Coleford along with many other orienteers. It was a lovely site, although the downside of many orienteers was cold showers!

We were very fortunate to have lovely weather throughout the four days of JK. However the Stauntons suffered chilly nights in their tent.

The Club had organised to meet for dinner at a local pub on the Saturday night. The food was fab but very large portions (I think John had the right idea by ordering a whole pig!!)

The two individual days, people had many varied results but enjoyed their runs. As Juniors it was the relay that made the weekend for us. The relay day was located at Caerwent based at an Army Training Camp. Our team, the Wim Whistlers consisted of Patrick, Tom and Jo in the AdHoc category. Although we were not in a competitive category, we were looking to do well. Patrick was to run the first leg, Jo the second and Tom the third, increasing in length respectively. Patrick had a good, clean run although the changeover was a problem as Jo couldn't make herself visible behind the big, brutish men!!

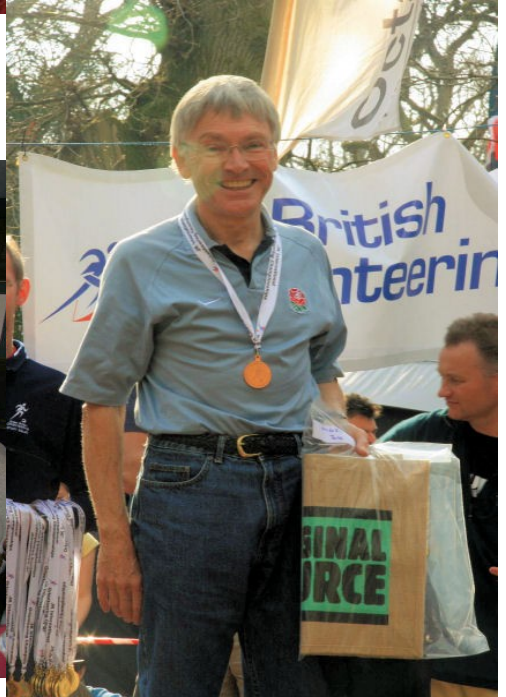
Jo had trouble opening her map and started running in the wrong direction until her team mates told her otherwise. After her little mistake she had a clean run also and we were currently placed in third place overall. Tom had a very fast run until the last control which proved difficult. There were four final controls within 40 metres of each other and situated on the edge of an open field, in plain view of spectators. Tom emerged through the tree line although continuous shouts from his fellow team mates distracted him and he had difficulty locating his last control. After much deliberation he found himself at the last control and beat a competitor on the finish line. Overall a great effort from Wim Whistlers and a successful result of 8th out of 101.

Also well done to team Wim is Moving (Hilary Pickering, Sue Hands and Vikki Crawford) for coming 7th out of 35 in Women Total Age 165+. Also thank you to Hilary for doing a great job organising all the relay teams and coming up with some interesting names! She thought she had got away without running as the organiser but at the last minute had to fill in for Kirsty, who had fallen badly the day before and bruised her ribs.

Now we look forward to Springtime in Shropshire and we hope to see everyone there.

Jo Pickering and Patrick Staunton

8.





photos: Jo Pickering, Chris & Simon Branford

10.

WIM & JK2007

A great weekend in the Forest of Dean both in terms of competition and achievement. Jo and Patrick have given a flavour of the Relay day but in the individual races some outstanding performances deserve recognition. Jo came overall 3rd in W20S, Kirsty 10th on W50L, despite surviving a bad fall on the second day. Sue Hands was overall 3rd in W55L as was Keith Henderson in M65L. Sophie Lawrence was crowned JK champion in W70 S whilst Paul and Hilary Pickering had outstanding individual runs on day 2. The Club Mark team received the WIM certificate at the prizegiving and a massive vote of thanks should go to Dick Keighley for all his work as mover, shaker and planner of the Trail O. Finally, you may not know of another key player in the JK, the Treasurer none other than our own Trevor Bridle! The amount of work that Trevor does behind the scenes is amazing. The club, the Region and British Orienteering owe him a great debt of thanks!

WIM Air CRAFT at the JK

If it has slipped your attention (and I do apologise to those it has) Wimborne Orienteers have recently received a batch of trendy new orienteering tops. Those at JK2007 are bound to have noticed 25 or so club members at the relays sporting their new tops. Indeed anyone who has recently visited the club website will have seen a rather exhausted me sporting my new top.

Two and a half years ago when I was elected on to the club committee I decided to make it my aim to do something about attracting younger people to the sport. The single most common observation (I hesitate to use 'criticism') noted by numerous friends of mine was that of the 'funny clothes' orienteers wear while running around lost. That became my target. Change the club uniform.

The issue was raised at a committee meeting back in what seems like eons ago now. Following a unanimous agreement that it was indeed time for a change, I was charged with taking responsibility for my project.

Some of you may remember the club skittles evening in May 2006. There I presented a range of designs that I had sketched, all based upon the styles available from the usual manufacturers. The popular choice from the skittles evening was e-mailed off to all the O-top manufacturers for a quote. I received in return a range of alternative designs, some really quite fantastic, along with a range of quotes, and even one free sample all the way from Norway (who remembers seeing a few of us squeezing inelegantly into that 'medium' Trimtex top at the club BBQ at Canford?!). The committee eventually agreed to go with CRAFT on grounds of price, style, sizing, and ease of access via Ultrasport. By this time I had left the committee in preparation to move away from the area – but I wasn't going to go without seeing my project through to completion! All that remained was to get orders from club members and give that order to Ultrasport. Simple, yes?

No. Christmas 2006 came and went (due to a very full order book). January came and went. February came and went. So did our order. Ultrasport were not satisfied with the quality of the product and the whole lot was returned to CRAFT. One week prior to the JK, I received a call from a very jubilant Ian at Ultrasport. Finally the tops had arrived with him. There was a problem. The yellow-gold colour, which had been the subject of much discussion for some time was no longer available. They only had yellow and had made the tops in yellow. Was I going to argue with that? No. We all looked great at the JK in our clean new tops, fresh from the packaging. I hope that more of you will see them and decide you want one too. If so, please get in touch with me. I'll put together another order (minimum 10) with your requests. Please note that the sizes are rather generous. I'd suggest ordering a size smaller than you would usually expect to fit. I am aware that there have been numerous exchanges of tops among members due to the sizing issue.

I've lost track now of who's swapped with whom, and who wants what to replace what was too big or who's passed what on to whom and now needs something different! If anyone wants a new club top please give me your order. Pay upon receipt. £31 for a short sleeve, £33 for a long sleeve.

Tim Britton

tim.britton@tiscali.co.uk 07788 608478

P.P.S

The new O tops have been very well received by everyone whose order was in the first batch, but by popular agreement it has been decided to add the word 'WIMBORNE' in Arial type down the centre of the back in yellow.

This will be the standard design in future,

If you have one of the first tops (without the name) it is possible to add it at a cost of £2. Please wash your O top (!) after the British Champs, make sure your name is pinned on securely, and return it to John Warren, Hilary Pickering or Lynn Branford. UltraSport say that they can return the tops within 7 to 10 days.

British Schools Orienteering Championships – 17th/18th November 2007

(Organised jointly by SARUM and WIM with help from WSX)

The weekends programme is:-

Saturday:-

A CATI at Cold Harbour organised by WSX with courses from white to green on offer.

Also a Selection Race for M/W14's and 16's at Gore Heath (embargoed area) organised by WIM.

This is a selection race to select teams for the World Schools in 2008

Sunday:-

The main Championship is at Bovington with an anticipated 1,000 children from ages 9 to 18.

Due to the age and inexperience of many of the competitors lots of helpers will be needed – far more than usual.

Some of the areas needing help will be forest patrol, start and finish teams, car parking, water, map collection, road crossings, marshals, setting up/clearing up teams, computing, announcing, trophy minding and collection, etc, etc.

Please put these two days in your diaries – **all** offers of help will be greatly received.

Thankyou.

Chris Branford

Coordinator British Schools Orienteering Championships 2007

Do you remember when-----

A red pen was essential for Master Maps.

Pin punches were at every event

Lottery tickets were stapled to your card when you finished

Cardboard control cards had to be covered by transpaseal

The results team had to use mental arithmetic to work out your time.

If you were lucky printed results arrived in the post weeks after the events

If you remember this then you might also remember a few other changes in your life-

A M/W 65 is a person who was here before the pill, television, frozen food, contact lenses, credit cards, and before man walked on the moon. To this age group 'time sharing' means togetherness, not holiday homes, a 'chip' is a piece of wood, 'hardware' means nuts and bolts, and 'software' is not even a word. For them 'cleavage' is something that butchers do, 'stud' fastens a collar to a shirt and 'going all the way' means staying on the bus until it reaches the depot. 'Fast food' is what you eat in Lent, a 'big mac' is an oversized raincoat and 'crumpet' is what you have for tea. 'Grass' is mown, 'pot' is something that you cook in, 'coke' is kept in the coalhouse and 'joint' is cooked on Sundays. How times have changed and now we are told that an Orienteer in the future will use a wrist mounted GPS system, will hunt for control sites that are not marked by flags and that your route will be immediately available for examination/ridicule etc at or even before download!

12.

Forthcoming Events

All events use electronic punching unless indicated

May

Friday 11th WIM Dorset Schools Score Champs – Moors Valley Country Park-
Ringwood GR: SU106057 Starts 6-7pm after schools event.

Contact: John Warren 01425 – 474861

Sat. 12th WSX Informal event - Cold Harbour – Wareham

Contact: Tim Houlder 01202 - 380628

Sat/Sun 12/13th Double Gloucester events are cancelled.

Wed. 23rd WIM Midweek Street/Sprint Summer League – Sturminster Newton
(See note in Waffle for details) Contact: Dick Keighley 01258 860935

Sat – Mon. 26/27/28th

Springtime In Shropshire Three Regional events round Ludlow.

See website for details and last minute information

June

Sat/Sun 2nd/3rd KERNO Harvester Relays – Penhale Sands – Perranporth

If you want to be part of the team get in touch with Chris Branford now!

Wed. 6th WIM Midweek Street/Sprint Summer League – St. Ives -Ringwood
45 minute Score event (see note in Waffle) Contact: John Warren
01425 – 474861

Sunday 10th BADO District Colour Coded – Micheldever Forest -GR SU 528382
Contact: Mike Broderick 01256 351624

Sunday 17th SARUM Colour Coded – Fonthill – Hindon GR: ST 910310
Contact: Denise Mullins 01963- 33579

Wed. 20th WIM Midweek Street/Sprint Summer League – Blandford
Parking in Ham car park behind Tescos. Contact: Chris Branford
01258 – 453716

Sunday 24th North Wilts Relays – Details to be confirmed see website.

July

Sunday 1st BOK Adams Avery Relays – Ashton Court – Bristol GR:ST 556727
Contact: Jo. Foster 01179 421572

Wed. 4th WIM Midweek Evening Informal – Godshill Inclosure – Fordingbridge
GR:SU177160 Contact: Kirsty Staunton 01425 – 653629

Sunday 15th WSX Hardy Relays – Culpeppers Dish – Bere Regis GR: SY815925
Contact: Ian Sayer 01202 - 484523

Sunday 22nd DEVON Relays – See website for details

Sunday 29th WIM Furrow Hoppers Relays – Somerley Park – Ringwood
Details available nearer the date.