

# Chairman's Newsletter

## January 2013



Happy New Year to everyone and welcome to 2013. Let's hope it is as inspiring a year as 2012 and that the nation's sports men and women can continue their rich form and bring more success. At a more local level we can all aspire to achieve greater goals in the most interesting and entertaining sport that is orienteering.

We have just held an excellent Boxing Day Canter with 222 entries, and it actually stopped raining long enough to not get wet from above, if only the same could be said of the conditions under foot!



The fairies were out in force in the woods, ably led by chief fairy Jo Pickering assisted by apprentice fairies Grace and Alice French and Charlotte Slade. Father Christmas, whose identity is a closely guarded secret (to avoid disappointing the children), was also to be found wandering around the forest. (Photos courtesy of Simon Branford)

The orienteering was excellent and thanks must go to Eamonn and Kirsty Staunton supported by the rest of the Staunton clan, and to top it all Paul Pickering topped the table with an excellent and in Pauls words "tactical" run.

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Wimborne also scored well at the Sarum OC New Years Day score event at Tinney's Firs & Woodfalls with five runners in the top 20 including an excellent first place to Jamie Ranson with 880 points in 59:52, followed up by Steve Mallinson (11<sup>th</sup>), myself (15<sup>th</sup>), Keith Henderson (19<sup>th</sup>) and Karen French (20<sup>th</sup>).

2013 is going to be a pivotal year in the history of Wimborne Orienteers. Following on from the mandate given to the committee by the AGM we are working towards setting a date for the EGM at which a proposal to amalgamate with Wessex Orienteering Club will be debated and then voted upon. I trust everyone got my letter about the proposed amalgamation, a copy of which can be found on the members' area of Waffle. I will be writing again shortly with more details and more importantly a date for the EGM.

Our next event is a "3 in 1" at Moors Valley on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> January. The mountain bike event is in the morning followed by an informal and DSL event in the afternoon and then a night league event. I do urge everyone to support these excellent events that afford opportunity to those of all ability.

We also have many more events planned, details of which can be found on the web site or via the weekly email from Chris Branford. If there is anyone who receives Waffle but not these weekly emails please can you let Chris Branford ([chris@branford.eclipse.co.uk](mailto:chris@branford.eclipse.co.uk)) know and he will add you to the circulation list.

Once again, Happy New Year to everyone and here's to a successful year of orienteering.

Andy French