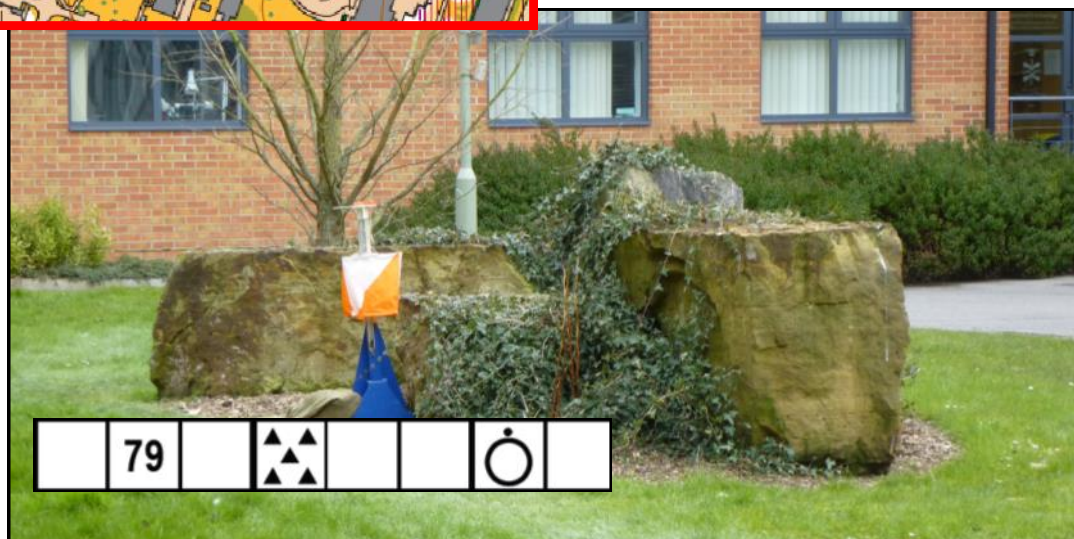
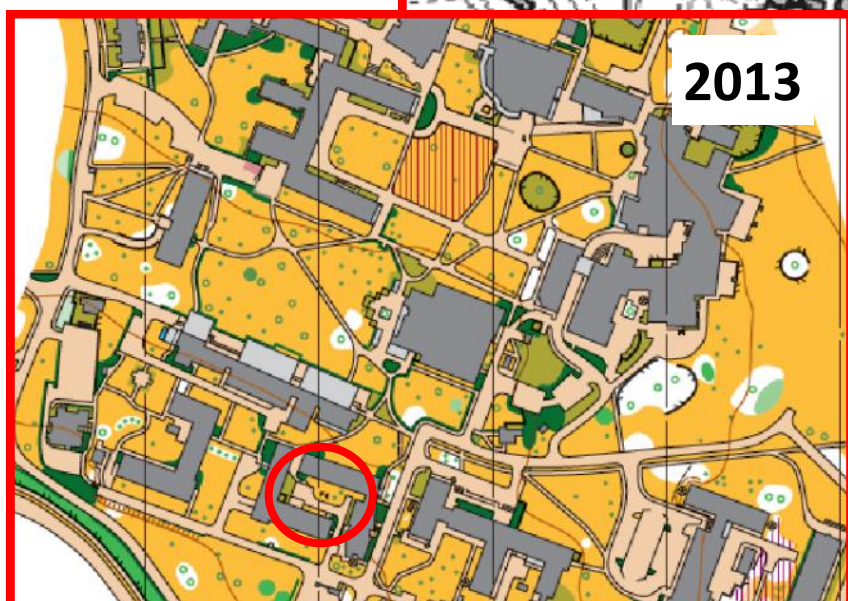
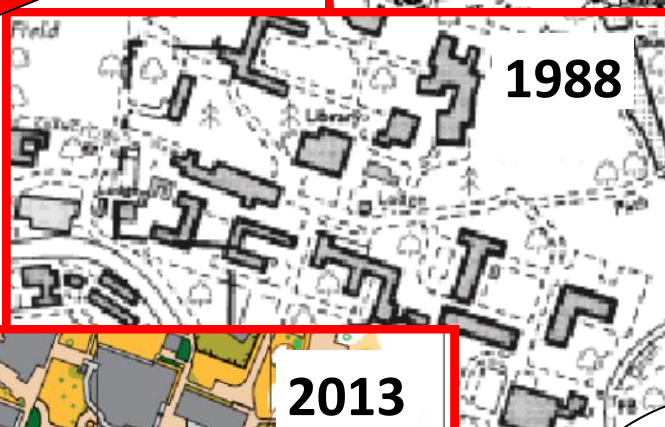
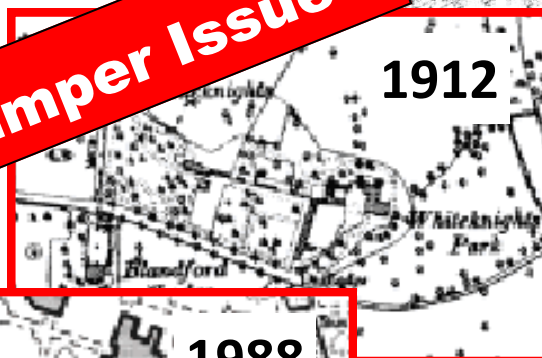
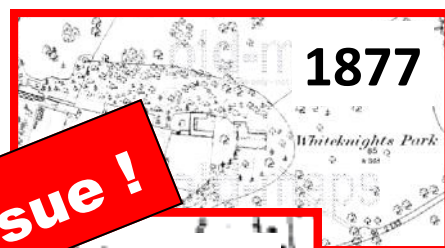


Berkshire Orienteers

Newsletter

May 2013

JK2013 — 28 Page Bumper Issue!



**Cold Ash:
Day 3 Assembly**



**Andy Parry and Ian
Hudson at the Day 3 start**



**Derick Mercer:
Completing Day 2**



**Katy Stubbs
(JK Co-ordinator) receiving
a memento in recognition
of her contribution**



**Robert Lattimore helping
his Dad, Dave, at the
relays in the red BKO tent**



Editorial

We did it! The Jan Kjellström International Festival of Orienteering (the JK) was a major effort for the region and, as one of the larger clubs in the region, we contributed to the overall planning, the staging of some of the days and the provision of numerous helpers throughout the long Easter weekend.

The weeks before the event were wet, cold and dull - not an ideal way to prepare and it added to the complexity of the arrangements. However, over the four days of the festival, although there were clouds and even some snow flurries, the sun did shine and the ground dried out. Yes it was cold (even freezing), but most people seemed to have wrapped up warm and were able to enjoy the competition and the atmosphere.

You will not be surprised that the main focus of this issue is the JK and our role in staging it. My thanks to all those who willingly provided me with information on their contribution and some of their memories. My aim was to focus on the volunteers - we nearly all played our part in many different ways but perhaps did not see the bigger picture. I hope you find this overview interesting.

The JK was just the start of a hectic period in the orienteering calendar. The events vary from the British Individual and Relay Championships not far away (near Dorking), our own SCOA League and Yvette Baker Trophy Heat and the start of our summer urban series. Plenty to enjoy!

David Jukes

Club Notes

Keeping you informed about the club and its members

Results - Level A Events

Of course, the biggest 'Level A' event has been the JK and details of the results are reported elsewhere. The only other recent events at this, the highest level, have been the Southern Championships (14 April), the British Sprint Championships (20 April) and the British Middle Championships (21 April).

The total entries for the **Southern Championships** were disappointing but it was down in Cornwall and at a very busy time of year for high quality events. Only 5 BKO members made the trek. Of these I suspect the most satisfied with their result was **Katy Stubbs** who, freed from the worries of organising the JK came in first to win the W55S class. The highly technical nature of the sand dunes at Penhale can be confusing and seem to have led to some longer than expected times. The event was preceded by an urban event at St Ives which was the first event in this year's Southern England Orienteering Urban League (SEOUL). Best result for BKO was the first place in the UltraVet Men by **Martin Wilson** with **Dick Rae** not far behind in 7th place.

On a lovely sunny day, the **British Sprint Championships** were staged on the campus of Loughborough University and involved morning heats for each age group followed by an afternoon final (or 'finals' for the larger classes) using a different part of the campus. The fastest from each heat would qualify for the 'A' final. This was typically the top 6 but actual numbers depended upon the total entries in each age group. The remainder were then allocated to a 'B' final (and in some popular classes, a 'C' final as well). 11 BKO runners were there and **Martin Wilson** (M65) and **David Jukes** (M60) both won their heats and easily qualified for their 'A' final. Also getting through were **Neil Frankum** (M40) and **Nigel Hoult** (M60). Both Martin and David had good runs in their finals but were just off the pace - Martin finishing 4th and David 5th. It also

**Bryce Gibson
competing in the British
Sprint Championships**



should be noted that **Byrce Gibson** finished 1st in the M70 'B' final.

On the following day were the **British Middle Championships** held on Stanton Moor, Derbyshire. The concept of a 'middle' race is explained in the BOF rules and the following is an extract:

"Middle distance orienteering requires fast, accurate orienteering for a moderately long period of time. Even small mistakes will be decisive. ... The emphasis should be on high speed running where competitors need to adjust their speed for the complexity of the terrain. There will be a higher density of controls than for an equivalent long distance race."

Because the courses are relatively short, the area chosen for the event can be quite small but it does require complex detail to keep the competitors constantly thinking. There was no major success for BKO members at this year's event. Top half results came from **Martin Wilson** (12th in M65), **Richard Rae** (33rd in M65) and **Janet Gibson** (7th in W70)

SCOA Middle Championships, Oxshott Heath.

These were held on the 7th April, less than a week after the end of the JK. It was staged in conjunction with the SEOA Middle Championships and organised by Southern Navigators. A handy turnout of BKO members brought successes, with the club gaining its fair share of Championship Awards. Congratulations go to the following medallists: M65+: Gold for **Ian Cooper** and Bronze for **Martin Wilson**; W20-40: Bronze for **Annika Hermik**; W65+: Bronze for **Gill Bennett**. A stunning run by Ian Cooper showed up the 'youngsters' in his class with a well-deserved win. But a superb run by Annika in a tough W20-40 class must surely rank alongside that. Many congratulations to Annika for her first taste of Championship success!

Committee Discussions

The Committee met in mid-March, just before the JK. Along with the more routine matters linked to future events, some of the matters under discussion included:

- Membership has held up well into 2013 with an overall high renewal rate and some new members.
- It was reported that the regional association, SCOA, was still without a secretary. The task is apparently relatively limited and mostly involves the taking of minutes at the meetings and handling a small number of other issues that relate to regional activities. Any interest?
- One matter that had been discussed at the most recent SCOA meeting was the allocation of major national events to the region. Apparently the British Championships might be coming our way in either 2017 or 2018. Also, curiously, we had been provisionally listed to stage the JK again in 2019. This is being questioned as it would be much sooner than expected.
- The club is likely to be represented in the 'Get Berkshire Active' campaign this summer. Our Summer Urban Event at Sandhurst on the 1st June and a special event linked to our Wednesday evening event at Lily Hill Park on the 5th June are expected to be included.
- Denise Harper is continuing to support the running of a Berkshire Schools competition this year and the committee were delighted to hear that Slough might be participating this year.

Membership Memo's

Ian Hudson

It's been a quiet time in the membership department over the last couple of months, except for all the work building up to that JK thingy! Actually being in enquiries over the whole weekend I managed to meet and put a face to a number of the BKO members, I was the one in the lumberjack hat if I didn't speak to you.

Only one new set of members to welcome since the last newsletter:

- **Nicola Jones** and son **Harley** (a potentially useful junior) from Maidenhead, both have been coming to the Wednesday club nights for some time and at last have decided to take the plunge and join us (Nicola is so keen she even bought a compass that points to North; eventually).

Your 2013-2014 Committee

Chairman:	Katy Stubbs	chairman@bko.org.uk	0118 978 2875
Secretary:	Derek Mercer	secretary@bko.org.uk	
Fixtures Secretary:	Andy Parry	fixtures@bko.org.uk	
Treasurer:	Peter Entwistle	treasurer@bko.org.uk	01628 635278
Development Officer:	Ken Ricketts		
Membership Secretary:	Ian Hudson	membership@bko.org.uk	
4 Committee Members :			
Fiona Clough, David Jukes (newsletter@bko.org.uk), Dave Rogers and Brian Sewell			

Newsletter Distribution

Our thanks to those who have indicated that they will be happy to only have the newsletter as a pdf file sent by e-mail as this does save the club money. Printing and posting each copy costs about £1.50 so there would be valuable savings even with only a few members choosing this option.

If you are willing to only receive the newsletter by e-mail as a pdf file, please let me know and I will add your name to the list. **newsletter@bko.org.uk**

Have you got your BKO kit yet?



As you will see from the various photos in this issue, many club members now run in BKO kit. The club has a selection of different items to allow you to stand out from the crowd and be recognised by other club members. The O-tops come in both long and short sleeved versions and in a range of sizes. Price £20. There are also some sweatshirts available.

Sue Wilkes keeps our stock so if you don't yet have a club top, give Sue a call on **01635 522356** and she will be able to get you kitted up. Alternatively, send her an e-mail on: **sue_w26@yahoo.co.uk** to discuss your needs.

Sue's husband Alain can be seen here at the start of the British Sprint Championships modelling one of the BKO tops.

JK2013 - the coordinator's view - Katy Stubbs

My involvement with JK2013 first began in June 2009 when as SCOA Technical Officer I was asked to find out whether SCOA had areas suitable for JK2013. Partly as the technical Officer and partly because I had ended up at coordinator of the last two SCOA JK weekends in 1993 and 2003, when the existing coordinators were no longer available. At the time I said there was no possibility of me being willing to be coordinator for 2013.

Having found three possible areas, a Sprint venue which eventually fell through, Hambleden and Cold Ash, SCOA agreed to take on the event on behalf of British Orienteering in late 2009. The committee then tried to find a coordinator for over a year, approaching various experienced orienteers. Finally in January 2011 I agreed to take on the role as no-one in the region was willing to do so.

In the next few months, preliminary agreements were reached with the landowners of Hambleden and the main owner of Cold Ash and the process for getting permission to use RAF Halton started. I started to find the main officials (planner and organiser) for each of the four days, as well as central officials such as treasurer, safety officer, going mainly via clubs, but also directly asking a few people.

Over the next two years an enormous number of tasks were completed, some of the more problematic are listed below

By Dec 2011

- All main officials in place (after some arm-twisting / encouragement and downright flattery)
- Relay venue agreed to be Hambleden after looking at around 15 possible sites

Photo Caption Challenge

The photo shows **Andrew Graham** at the Enquiries tent at the JK.

Has he taken a dislike to one competitor and is giving him a final warning? Is he kindly pointing out the location of the competitor's mouth?

Or is there some other reason for the pointing finger and stern expression?

Please submit your suggestions to newsletter@bko.org.uk and Andrew will be asked to select the most humorous suggestion. He might also be able to explain what in fact he was actually doing!

The best suggestions will be published in the next newsletter



By March 2012

- Permission refused for RAF Halton, negotiations start for RAF Dalton
- Request made to me from the TrailO committee to include TrailO at the weekend

By June 2012

- Permission refused for RAF Dalton, outline permission agreed for Whiteknights
- Replacement Equipment Manager and major Team Leaders appointed.
- Initial agreement to use Leighton Park School for accommodation.

By Dec 2012

- After a lot of going back and forward it was agreed (including that of the Day 1 and 2 organisers) that TrailO could happen in conjunction with those days. The TrailO committee agreed to find the officials for these events.
- Some major officials drop out and replacements are found.

By the end of January 2013 we had around 2000 individual entries and the greater team had met and agreed procedures across the weekend. Planning was essentially complete for most days. Caterers and Traders had been sent contracts, safety procedures had been drafted and we were starting to look forward to the events. Some issues were still causing concern - The Sprint map where changes to the area meant that the map needed a lot of last minute updating. Permissions for Whiteknights were still being very difficult as so many different areas of the university organisation had their own concerns. In the end Luke (the day 1 Organiser) had to hire fencing because the estates department would not let us put a post in the ground deeper than 6 inches. The continuing persistent wet weather meant that not only were we going to have to use parking off-site at Whiteknights, but was threatening to make parking at Cold Ash and even Hambleden impossible. In late February even the large flat dry field at Hambleden became so wet that they cancelled an event. Fortunately it dried out enough to use, although we did buy some emergency ground cover for the entrances. Liz (Day 3 organiser) and her deputy Alain spent days looking at many different options for Cold Ash and eventually we decided that we could not risk it and would have to park most cars off-site and pay for buses.

We had up to 170 helpers daily, many of whom worked more than one and quite a few worked all four days. There were around 50 major officials and team leaders, as well as controllers from SEOA, SWOA. Without all of these volunteers the event would not have happened and I am enormously grateful to everyone. To repeat my words from an email sent out just after the event.

The maps were excellent, the courses likewise and the organisation almost faultless. Yes there were a few niggles, but they really were tiny in an event of this complexity. The major issues were handled almost seamlessly and everyone worked together as a team, helping each other out.

I am sure everyone is like me, very tired at the moment, but you all did a magnificent job both over the weekend and beforehand.

I am very proud that SCOA (and friends) put on a top class festival incorporating two World Ranking Events.

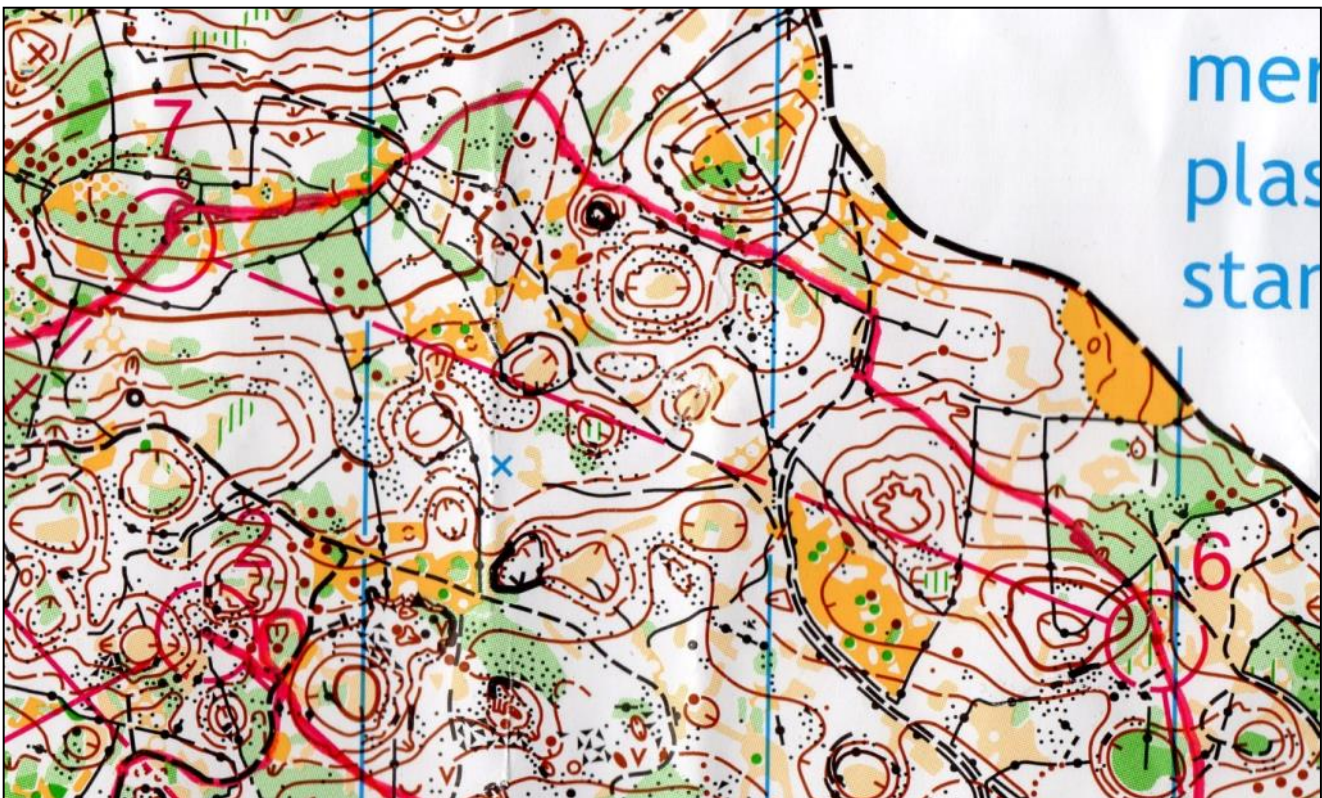
Slovenia - Andrew Graham

In early March I escaped the snow and frost of England for the rain and fog of Slovenia. I was there to participate in four days of orienteering in the classic Karst landscape in the south of the country just inland from Trieste. I participated here a few years ago in the heat and obscuring foliage of July. During that visit I was totally blown away by the challenge of incredibly 'feature-rich' terrain and maps, the challenge being telling the difference between one ruined wall and another or one karst depression or another. They all look very much the same. Oh and you have to try not to turn over your ankle, or worse, or the very rocky ground.

The first two days were the Xtremor warm up 'barebones' events. Tough terrain but with relatively small entries so it was hard to judge how well I was doing with only 6 people in my class. But a good warm up for the main event and although there were mistakes made, these were not the horrendous 'am I even still on the map?' type I had endured on my previous visit. The second two days were the Lipica Open, a major event over two days attracting entrants from 20+ countries.

On first impressions one was immediately struck by how short the courses were – the longest M55 was 4.7km (winning time 42:00) the others were low 3kms. But this was a reflection of the tricky terrain where running speeds were never very fast because of the rocky conditions underfoot and the limited number of paths. Two example legs are described below.

The first is from day one about half way around the course by which time I was well out of contention having annoyingly messed up the last fraction of the longest leg on the course to 5. I don't know if there was a hangover of frustration or resultant over-urgency but, leaving control 6, not having pre-planned, I failed to notice the path heading SE/NW across the line between the two control circles. Nonetheless, the route I took at least kept me in contact with the map and confident that I knew where I was all the time. I know from experience that those small paths can be pretty much invisible in places so are not entirely reliable but in retrospect that path would have



been a much better route. However, the ruined walls, the deep karst depression led me easily to the ridge up the crest of which I ran, through the open areas and in to the control. 9:50, more than 4 minutes slower than the fastest and 20th of 32. Nothing to be proud of there but the map shows the terrain nicely.

Well, a representation of it. The real thing was just so variable, the contour lines give you an indication but there were undulations everywhere. The vegetation mapping was similarly difficult with big variations of woodland type. This results from changes in species rather than size of tree as most of the forest appeared to be secondary regrowth on land which had previously been cleared and used for agriculture. So there was plenty of small stuff; not a lot of running through widely-spaced, clear-stemmed mature trees. All the walls, many of them well ruined, appeared left over from previous agricultural management. These were another source of confusion as the naturally occurring rocks were used for their construction. Consequently it was very difficult to tell the difference between a ruined wall and a naturally occurring pile or line of rocks lying under the trees. When there were plenty of walls intersecting or in parallel there was plenty of scope for confusion. And judging the size of a depression on the map and judging whether the one you were looking at was the same size was fun as well.

The second route from Day 2 came after a series of controls which I had executed well (for me) always feeling in control and good contact with the map. On 7-8 the key thing was to avoid falling down the hole of doom immediately NE of 7 but whether to go N or S of it? Ultimately I was happy with my decision to go N. The rocks underfoot (which were alot worse than a few spots on the map can indicate) and vegetation in the white forced me a bit further N than I had intended but got me to the track OK. This was a chance to speed up and took me to a clear attack point up the hill through the rocks for 8. 6:52, only a minute behind the fastest and 4th for the leg. I then struck lucky (or was it skill?) with 9 where I found the control in a 10' deep rocky cleft which was probably considered a mega bingo control by the large numbers of people who seemed to be casting around in the surrounding rocky landscape looking for it.



I finished this 3.1km run in 38:28, 8th of 32, my best result of the four days and mightily pleased. No real mistakes, and not losing concentration at the end due to tiredness. To put it in context, Pete Jones of SN came 2nd in 33:58 (winning time 32:29).

What struck me as strange for a major international event was the, hem hem, cheating. Loads of people seemed to call out to each other when they found controls. I was asked for help (Are they mad? Me? With my reputation? etc.) on 4 occasions on Day 1 and 5 times on Day 2. Once by two adults, neither of whom looked in any physical difficulty, standing on one of the few tracks on the map which made it easy to work out where you were. My standard response was always to run past saying 'No, no'. The authority of this was rather diminished on one occasion when I promptly tripped and fell flat on my face while the fit lad in his 20's sped off in the other direction.

I found the terrain enthralling to run through and the poor weather really didn't affect my enjoyment. The organisers had plenty of helpers to push cars out of the muddy car parks and the whole atmosphere of the event was great though some of the organisation was a bit odd. You had to go to one tent to pay for a cup of tea, then take the ticket received to another tent to exchange it for the tea. Which turned out to be fruit tea. Well really!

Know Your Club Members - Jacob Marwick



You may recall from the last newsletter that Jacob got the 'club's Jim's Jug award for best Junior in 2012. So I felt that it was time we had a 'Know your club member' focused on Jacob. Despite having ASD (autistic spectrum disorder), he has achieved some good results recently and does sometimes now tackle a Light Green course. Thanks Jacob for answering our questions!

Age/Class?

- 12/ years old - M13

Hometown?

- Newbury

How did you start orienteering?

- My mum has done orienteering for years & I started to go along with her. I enjoyed it, so carried on going

Clubs?

- BKO

Best achievement/success?

- Winning the youth league

Most enjoyed event?

- Don't have one

Worst event/most embarrassing orienteering moment/biggest goof?

- Falling over right at the start of a course

International experience?

- None

Biggest cheat?

- Following someone round a whole course

Other activities/interests?

- Running, volleyball, athletics, youth club, karate, cycling (road and mountain), astronomy, science and technology club and chess.

Education/Employment?

- In year 7 at Trinity School

What training do you do?

- Nothing specific – just general sport

What is the best thing about orienteering?

- It helps with map reading skills

What is the worst thing about orienteering?

- I don't think there's anything bad about orienteering

Orienteering ambition?

- Don't have one

What have you done that no one else is likely to/will have done?

- I went on a cub trip a while ago, which involved a flight in a Chinook. It was excellent!

Favourite music / book / film, etc?

- Green Day / Power of Five series (Anthony Horowitz) / Batman Begins



Sunday 19th May 2013

**Bloom Wood, near High Wycombe
SCOA League & Level C Event *and*
Yvette Baker Trophy Regional Heat *and*
BKO Youth League Event**

The Yvette Baker Trophy is a junior event for clubs in England and Wales. It is named after Britain's first World Champion, Yvette Baker, who won Gold in Scotland in 1999. The event is aimed at juniors of all abilities from classes M/W20 and under. The final will be held on 7th July near Grantham.

Please could all juniors, teachers and parents note this important date and make every effort to support the club!

Details are on the club's website. Pre-entries will be via the Fabian4 website. The cheapest entries are available until 12th May and pre-entries close on the 16th May

Our thanks to Jane Courtier who stepped forward at the last minute to take on the role of Organiser.

Event Summary

This listing, provided by Andy Parry, shows a selection of forthcoming events. It is extracted from the national listing and shows all Level A events (important national events including championships) but only more local events or activities at lower levels. For a full listing, look at the British Orienteering web site.

Date	Name	Level	Club	Venue	Town	Ref
Fri 3 May	BOC13 warm up event	Level D	GO	The Chancies	Guildford	TQ011482
Sat 4 May	British Orienteering Champs (UKOL9)	Level A		Winterfold	Guildford	
Sun 5 May	British Relay Champs	Level A		Hombury Hill	Dorking	
Mon 6 May	BOC Weekend Urban Race	Level B	MV	Dorking	Dorking	TQ168503
Sat 11 May	TVOC Saturday series Hughenden/Downley	Level D	TVOC	Church car park	High Wycombe	SU860955
Sun 12 May	SE Sprint Championships	Level C	SN	Wellington College	Sandhurst	SU827638
Sun 12 May	SARUM Galoppen & SCOA League	Level C	SARUM	Hamptworth	Salisbury	
Wed 15 May	Military league South	Level D	BAOC	Bramshott Common	Liphook	
Sun 19 May	BKO SCOA League Event and Yvette Baker Trophy Heat	Level C	BKO	Bloom Wood	High Wycombe	SU860890
Sat 25 May	Scottish Championships - Individual	Level A	AYROC	Loch Doon	Dalmellington	
Sat 1 Jun	BKO Urban Parks Challenge 1	Level D	BKO	Sandhurst Memorial Park	Sandhurst	SU842613
Sun 2 Jun	TVOC Regional Event & SCOA League	Level C	TVOC	Coombe Hill	Wendover	SP865078
Sat 8 Jun	TVOC Saturday series Black Park	Level D	TVOC	Black Park	Slough	SU855891
Sat 15 Jun	BKO Urban Parks Challenge 2	Level D	BKO	Wildridings & Easthampstead	Bracknell	SU863676
Sun 23 Jun	Northern Champs (UKOL13)	Level A	EPOC	Castle Carr	Hebden Bridge	SE022307
Sat 29 Jun	BKO Urban Parks Challenge 3	Level D	BKO	Lower Earley	Reading	SU751709
Sun 7 Jul	Moonraker Relay	Level D	SARUM		Salisbury	
Sat 13 Jul	Sarum Club Champs & Score event	Level D	SARUM		Salisbury	
Sat 13 Jul	TVOC Saturday series Kingswood	Level D	TVOC	Kingswood	High Wycombe	SU885936
Sat 20 Jul	BKO Urban Parks Challenge 4	Level D	BKO	Birch Hill	Bracknell	SU870668
Sat 20 Jul	South of England Urban League	Level C	SN	Goldsworth Park	Woking	SU987595

BKO Summer Evening 'Activities'

The following is a listing of our Summer Wednesday evening activities. These are designed to give members an opportunity to get out and do some 'training'. Each evening is expected to have a particular training focus. Please watch out for further details on the website or in e-mails giving last minute details or updates. And don't forget that the final 'activity' is the **Club Barbeque** which is always an enjoyable social (no training that night!).

Date	Venue	Town	Ref
Wed 1 May	Great Hollands	Bracknell	RG40 3DN
Wed 8 May	Lily Hill Park	Bracknell	RG12 2RX
Wed 15 May	Swinley East	Bracknell	SL5 8AX
Wed 22 May	Birch Hill	Bracknell	RG12 7PA
Wed 29 May	Swinley East	Bracknell	SL5 8AX
Wed 5 Jun	Lily Hill Park	Bracknell	SL7 3RE
Wed 12 Jun	Bloom Wood	High Wycombe	SL7 3RE
Wed 26 Jun	Swinley West	Bracknell	SL5 8AZ
Wed 10 Jul	Simons Wood	Bracknell	RG45 6AE
Wed 17 Jul	Club Barbeque, Winnersh	Wokingham	RG41 5JG

BKO Future Plans

The following details are some of the events that BKO is preparing to stage (or help stage) further ahead. Put them in your diary now to avoid disappointment!

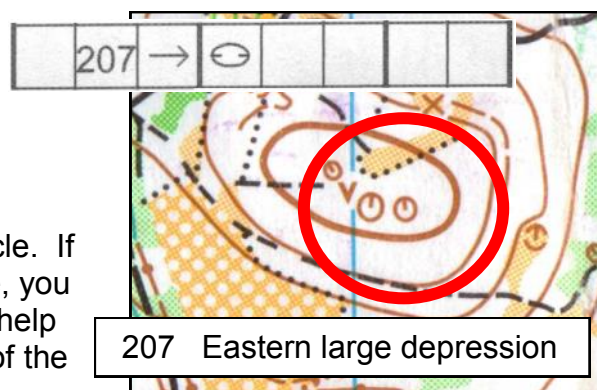
Date	Event Name	Level	Location	Town	Grid Ref	Planner	Organiser
29-Sep-13	BKO SCOA League Event	Level C	Yateley Heath	Yateley	SU802578	?	Andrew Graham
01-Jan-14	New Year	Level D?	?	?	?	?	?
26-Jan-14	Southern Championships	Level A	Star Posts	Bracknell	SU875661	Martin Wilson	?
18-May-14	BKO SCOA League Event (TBA)	Level C	TBA	TBA	?	?	Helen Fraser
01-Jan-15	New Year	Level D?	?	?	?	?	?
25-Jan-15	BKO Concorde Chase (Cold Ash)	Level B	Cold Ash	Newbury	SU520737	?	?

Know your sport: Control Descriptions

The site of a control is shown on the map by a circle. If you navigate to the point at the centre of the circle, you should then find the control. Control descriptions help by providing the control **code** and a **description** of the location:

- All controls have unique numbers on them and by checking the control's **code** against your own list you can be confident that you have found the correct one.
- Often it will be obvious from the map what feature the control will be using. However in areas of complex terrain, this can be hard and so a **description** is provided to ensure the competitor knows what they are looking for.

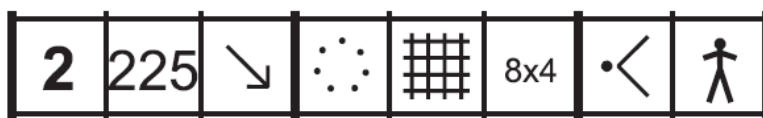
Junior and novice courses usually use descriptions written in plain English. However, since about 1975, it has been common to use the internationally agreed symbolic descriptions. This ensures that when competitors from other countries attend our events they can use the control descriptions and, more importantly for us, when British orienteers travel abroad, they are used to the format.



Column classification

A: Control number — Number of the control in the sequence they are to be visited (although not used in a 'Score' event where controls are visited in any order)

A B C D E F G H



B: Control Code — The unique number displayed on the control. Allows the competitor to know that they have found the right control.

C: Which of any similar feature — This is used when there are more than one similar feature within the control circle. Possible examples are 'south eastern' or 'middle'.

D: Control feature — This is the control description symbol equivalent to the symbol on the map for the site of the control (e.g. 'boulder' or 'vegetation boundary'). Since the map uses different colours for symbols whereas the control description list uses only a single colour, some of the control description symbols have to be different from their equivalent on the map.

E: Appearance — Additional helpful information to help the competitor identify the feature. Examples include 'overgrown' or 'ruined'. The column can also be used for a second control feature where the description combines two features (e.g. 'ditch/path crossing').

F: Dimensions/Combinations — Dimensions of the feature should be given when the symbol on the map is symbolic and not to scale. For example, both a 2m and a 0.5m boulder use a black dot symbol on the map of a standard size.

G: Location of the control flag — Position of the control flag with respect to the feature.

H: Other information — other helpful information for the competitor (e.g. 'drinks' or 'radio control')

Examples of the symbols used

Column C

Symbol	Name
	Northern
	South Eastern
	Upper
	Lower
	Middle

Column D

Symbol	Name
	Terrace
	Spur
	Re-entrant
	Earth bank
	Quarry
	Earth wall
	Erosion gully
	Small erosion gully
	Hill
	Knoll
	Depression
	Small depression
	Pit
	Cliff, Rock face
	Rock Pillar
	Cave
	Boulder
	Boulder field

	Lake
	Pond
	Waterhole
	River, Stream, Watercourse
	Minor water channel, Ditch
	Narrow marsh
	Marsh
	Open land
	Semi-open land
	Forest corner
	Clearing
	Thicket
	Linear thicket
	Vegetation boundary
	Copse
	Distinctive tree
	Tree stump, Root stock

	Road
	Track / Path
	Ride
	Bridge
	Stone wall
	Fence
	Crossing point
	Building
	Paved area
	Ruin
	Pipeline
	Tower
	Monument or Statue
	Building pass through
	Stairway
	Special item
	Special item

Column E

Symbol	Name
	Low
	Shallow
	Deep
	Overgrown
	Needle leaved
	Broad leaved
	Ruined

Column G

Symbol	Name
	North east Side
	South east Edge
	West Part
	East Corner (inside)
	South Corner (outside)

Column F

Symbol	Name
	Crossing
	Junction

Column G (ctd)

	South west Tip
	Bend
	North west End
	Upper Part
	Lower Part
	Top
	Foot (no direction)
	North east Foot
	Between

Column H

Symbol	Name
	First aid post
	Refreshment point
	Radio or TV control

D	E	F	
			Path crossing
			Ride / River crossing
			Road junction
			River / Narrow marsh junction

This is not a complete list! A more detailed A4 document is at:

<http://www.maprunner.co.uk/simon/iofcontroldescA4.doc>

For the full IOF official international specifications, see:

<http://orienteering.org/foot-orienteering/rules/>

JK Individual Results - Seniors

This year, the 'local' JK2013 brought out a large contingent of BKO members. In the Day 1 Sprint, **Martin Wilson** recovered from an early error to take the M65 Sprint title by 17 seconds. Other noteworthy performances came from **Lisa Methven** with 6th in W40, **Fiona Clough** 24th in a large W50 class, and **Janet Gibson** in 7th place on W70.

In the Individual Days 2 & 3 (with the total time over the two days giving the overall position), **Martin Wilson** held on during Day 3 to take the Individual M65L title by almost three minutes, making this his best result in 35 years in the sport! **Ian Cooper** in M70L fought to make up a three minute deficit from Day 2, but finished overall in second place, less than a minute overall behind the winner. Ian will be hoping to reverse this positioning at the British in May. Other excellent Long course finishes were achieved by **David Jukes** with 12th place in a very competitive M60L class, and **Janet Gibson** with 4th in W70L, including a 3rd place on Day 3. **Gill Godbold**, our other Long course competitor, gained a respectable 29th in W55L.

Many members ran Short courses on Days 2 and 3, and several good results were forthcoming. **Peter Bennett** ran to form for 2nd in M70S, with wife **Gill** matching with another 2nd in W70S; **Neil Frankum** was 5th in M40S, and **Simon Moore** 10th in M50S. Our senior ladies continue to improve, with 14th for **Lynn Moore** and 17th for **Sue Parker**. Well done to all these runners. It is only at major events like this that we discover just how many good orienteers there are in our age groups!



JK Individual Results - Juniors

And it is not just the more experienced and older who turned in some good performances.

John Hatton (M12) had previously run unshadowed for the first time on the White course at our Swinley East event on the 16 March. His runs on days 1-3 of the JK were therefore only the 2nd, 3rd & 4th times respectively that he had run unaccompanied. He achieved the following excellent results:

- Day 1 - Course 14 (Yellow) 6th on Yellow, 19th on Course 14
- Day 2 - Course 28 (White & M/W10B): 1st overall on Course 28 (including White)
- Day 3 - Course 28 (White & M/W10B) 1st overall on Course 28 (including White)

He will now move up and see how he gets on with yellow courses. And, judging by his result at Oxshott the Sunday after the JK, he will do OK!

Also on Course 28 are two younger Juniors who are making good progress - sister and brother **Anna** and **Adam Methven**. Anna ran in the W10B class and completed both days (finishing 6th overall in W10B) whereas Adam, still only 8, was running M10B and finished 2nd overall in his class.



John Hatton

JK Relay Results



Janet Gibson

We entered 12 teams in the Relays, many more than usual. Best results came from our Senior Women BKOol team of **Lynne Moore, Fiona Clough and Helen Fraser**, with an impressive 11th place, and our BKOntenders team of **Richard Rae, Janet Gibson and Martin Wilson**, with 8th place in the new UltraVets class.



Car Parking (Days 1 and 4) - Ian Cooper

Peter Bennett and I were co-team leaders for parking on Day 1 (sprint) and Day 4 (relays). Relay day at Hambleden was reasonably straightforward with helpers supplied by TVOC and SN.

Whiteknights was always going to be the more challenging of the two days not helped by the fairly late withdrawal of permission by the campus authorities to use a sports field (350 cars) - although this did relieve us of any concerns about bogged-down vehicles. The two original areas of Earley Gate and Shinfield Gate now needed to be supplemented with the satellite campus at Bulmershe. This involved additional manpower, and a 2km walk to assembly for competitors.

We were primed to expect 1000 cars (2100 competitors). 460 parking permits were issued for Earley Gate, 222 for Shinfield (including 44 campervans and 1 coach) and 187 for Bulmershe. All non-permit holders (an unknown number) were asked to park at Bulmershe – the only site where we took money.

Our hard working team of helpers - mainly from BKO - numbered 16 giving us a total workforce of 18 to cover 2 shifts. A few who weren't running worked through both shifts. Duties started at 10.0 with the shift change at 1.30 and completion at about 3.30.

Our main concerns for the day were: could we cope with the rate of inflow of cars and would we have enough space? At any one time we only had 3 or 4 marshals (depending on location) on duty at each site.

In practice the 4 hour spread of race start times kept our inflow to a manageable rate. We all had to re-direct some competitors to their correct parking area (not all of them happy!) and deal with a few complaints about signage.

At the end of the day we were surprised to have space remaining. This was probably due to the marshal's efficient parking and a shortfall in car numbers.

JK 2013 Treasurer - Jocelyn Andersson



Two weeks have now passed since the JK 2013 amazing how quickly the JK weekend went past compared to the one and half years leading up to it. This is my third time on the JK organising team. The first was way back in 1984 as an assistant planner to my father (or general dogsbody) on Moel y Dyniewed. At that time I belonged to Deeside OC, I can't tell you how hard it is to carry stakes up the hills in Wales but it's a memory I will always have.

I was Treasurer for the JK2003 (originally planned for 2002) but with the cancellation of JK2001 due to foot and mouth our event got put back a year. Katy Stubbs was coordinator for the event so it came as no surprise when Katy contacted me again in September 2011 and asked if I would be Treasurer for JK2013. After a ten year break, I thought why not!

The major changes for me as Treasurer since JK 2003 are that BOF is now fully involved. We had a BOF Event Manager supporting the event and

although I was still required to produce budgets and set fees leading up to the event (a total of 7 drafts were produced for each steering committee meeting). The actual payment of bills is processed by BOF Office. So my role is more like a middle man approving expenditure before sending copies of Invoices and Expenses to BOF and keeping records to check against the budget.

The JK does not pay a levy but is expected to share a 2/3 BOF 1/3 SCOA profit/loss. We were requested to generate a £25,000 profit for the event. The final budget produced had a £23,000 profit. It is still early days as to whether this target has been met as although we had a higher than projected entry which in itself is good news this in turn has a knock on effect in increasing costs quite significantly. On a lighter note looking at cost per head, taking into account that the average person would use the toilets twice a day over the weekend then the cost per visit was 25p.

There have been times over the last few months where I have had sleepless nights especially when more people than predicted based on previous JK data entered at the first closing date and secondly when Liz informed me we would be using all of our contingency money on bussing.

Well I expect to be involved for another month or so as the bills come in and wait for the next 10 years to go by. My thanks go to everyone from BKO. It was good to see so many new faces since I was last involved and lovely meeting up with the old crew.



Day 3 Assistant Organiser - Alain Wilkes

What does an Assistant Organiser do? In the main the duties seem to be that of a sounding board in the lead up to the event itself. Memories of many site meetings looking at the layout of the assembly area, parking and the routes to the starts and finish. Of walking the planned parking area and getting increasingly concerned that the huge field we thought we had for parking was becoming more and more water logged and that we would have to resite the assembly to that small part that was still useable. Of contingency planning depending on whether the farmer would allow us to use a neighbouring field for parking that was smaller but flatter and seemed to be surviving the rain. Of how much matting we needed to make sure that vehicles could get in and out of the fields – especially the caterers and the kit providers. Of reading endless emails to make sure that in the aftermath of the actual Organiser being run over the day before the event, I would know what was needed on the day itself.

Highs and lows? Definite high was the success of the day, despite Newbury College gates not being opened and those supposed to be using it for parking being diverted to the smaller field we were planning to use for helpers, families and those with a disability. Others included the “gardening” day when we were helped by cadets from the unit run by my son in law. Our task – to clear away all the undergrowth and other hazards between the car park and assembly and from assembly to starts. They also helped to set up the field the day before and in the presentation ceremony on the day itself. The cadets were quite young and needed lots of guidance but were full of energy and humour. Also included as a high was the rescue of a young competitor who had injured himself in the woods. The first aid four wheel drive land rover sent to bring him back got stuck in the mud, as did the four by four sent to pull it out. So as Assistant Organiser I tramped out and helped to carry the young lad back on a stretcher.

The lows? Being frozen sleeping in our campervan in the parking field next to assembly. The Organiser was worried that tents and equipment might disappear if unguarded over night. So I volunteered to sleep over. And it was bitterly cold despite two sleeping bags and wearing a hat! Another? Again as Assistant Organiser on the day (I think it comes down to plugging any gaps that appear) I had to manage the toilet queues while the contractor cleaned them. In general people were very understanding and accepted that some six or more were out of use at any one time but there were always those who snuck in while your back was turned. Some to get a not so nice surprise



Toilets at Day 3



JK 2013 Safety Officer – Dave Rogers

Looking back through my email archives for the JK 2013, it was around late August or early September 2011 that Katy asked if I would be the Safety Officer for the orienteering festival. I happily agreed as it fitted well with my professional life consulting in health, safety and environment, as well as my orienteering background in coaching and event management roles.

The role was not the usual event volunteer role. The aim of the role, as defined in British Orienteering's 'Official's Handbook' is: *"To ensure that adequate measures have been put in place to provide an orienteering event is as safe as is reasonably practicable and that it complies with current British Orienteering event safety rules & guidelines & procedures."* So in the 19 months or so before JK 2013, I was involved with a variety of tasks such as:

- pulling together various safety-relevant procedures and documents together to ensure that relevant risks were reduced (within the context that orienteering is a challenging outdoor adventure sport).
- attendance at JK 2013 coordination meetings
- liaising with the JK co-ordinator, the day organisers, planners and controllers to ensure that their risk assessments were adequate and the procedures were appropriate and workable;
- notifying the various Safety Advisory Groups of the relevant local authorities about the JK 2013;
- contributing to the contractual requirements for the various traders and equipment providers and then checking each of them on exciting topics such as insurance cover, food safety arrangements and training, and electrical equipment checks; and
- responding to various safety-related questions and comments from various parts of the larger JK 2013 organisational team.

My role on each day was as an advisor to the day organiser on safety matters and to ensure that BO's overall event safety needs were being met. Thus I was looking to ensure that the day organisers had taken the necessary measures as described in the procedure documents (before and during the event) as well as helping them to follow the relevant procedures during the event if things did not go to plan.

This essentially meant that I had a relatively relaxed JK 2013 – a check of the arrangements at the accommodation at Leighton Park School on the Thursday evening, and then at the beginning of each competition day a check of each of the traders set ups, the event tents and download equipment, the start areas, liaising with St John's and the Search and Rescue teams. During the competition it was basically troubleshooting as needed, calming down parents or teachers with lost youngsters and arranging a couple of searches for them, filling in as needed where things needed to be done, and waiting in download at the end of the day until it was confirmed that all the competitors had returned.

The main excitement of Day Three was the deployment of the St John's 4x4 into the forest to retrieve a youngster with an injured knee. The youngster was looked after in the forest by Alain and Sue Wilkes from BKO (thank you both!) and we then carried him out on a stretcher to the other St John's ambulance. The St John's 4x4 that went out initially got stuck and a Search and Rescue 4x4 which had gone out to retrieve it also got stuck. Thanks to Barrie from Amplified Sound and our local farmer with a tractor for retrieving the two vehicles, as well as our helpers who got a clay and soil treatment in the cause. BKO club members were also the highlight of Day Four for me – with last finisher Steve McNab (BKO) keeping us waiting whilst he completed his relay leg. We had just deployed the search party when Steve ran in (based on the picture from the pub with the search team afterwards, he did not seem to have suffered lasting effects from his run!).

Overall the experience for me was enjoyable but a long effort. During and after the event I have really appreciated the thanks given by both competitors and the JK 2013 organisation and it was a pleasure and a privilege to have contributed to such a successful orienteering festival.



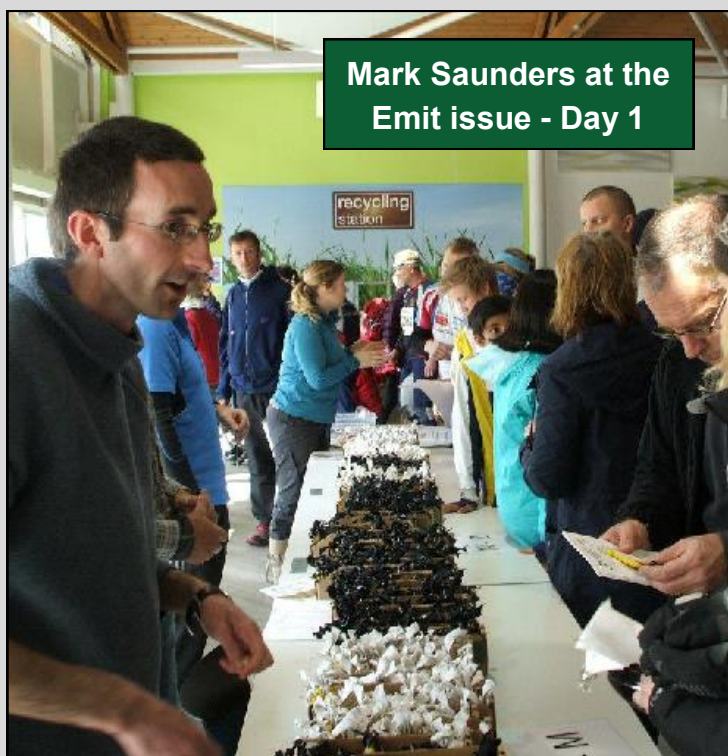
EOD at the JK - Gill Godbold

I was down to do EOD on Saturday at Hambleden and Sunday at Cold Ash on my own, not anticipating too many entries. How wrong we were! We were taking entries for 4 colour coded courses – White, Yellow, Orange and Light Green - with 35 maps for each colour. It wasn't long before the queues built up, with families, people downgrading from age classes and all sorts of others. Luckily, Fiona came to help and we soon evolved a system that worked – sort of! People needed help filling in their forms, we had to give out emits and backing cards, fill in the form for them to take to the start, keep track of how many maps had gone in each colour, take the money, answer any questions and make sure the registration forms got to download to be entered before anyone finished their course. It did get a bit fraught at times! Then we ran out of light green maps, and shortly after, orange, so there were some disappointed people but mostly they were very good about it, and patient with the queueing. One Mum came back after taking her children on the white course to say how much they'd enjoyed it and it was the first time the children done a course where they stayed happy all the way! Great that they enjoyed it and nice of her to come back and tell us.

Cold Ash was much the same, this time Martin joined the fray and although it was still very busy, overall there were fewer EODs. It all calmed down sooner so I had more time for lunch and preparation for my run.



It was a great weekend, which Colin and I really enjoyed, a masterpiece of organisation, Katy! One of the bonuses for us was getting to know fellow BKO members who up till now have been mainly a name on a list or a BKO shirt disappearing into the forest.



**Mark Saunders at the
Emit issue - Day 1**

Enquiries - Andrew Graham

What struck me was how everyone mucked in together and worked really hard to answer every question and deal with every new challenge that cropped up – all in freezing conditions – and fitted in their runs around it.

Handing out EMIT bricks made me realise just how varied people's surnames can be and how difficult it is to understand an unknown east European name in a crowded canteen, even when it is spelled out to you – twice.

I think my abiding memories will be around getting set up first thing each morning. The sun rising over the trees at (extremely) Cold Ash; hoar frost coating the tents; stubbing your toes on iron molehills and the first smells of cooking from Tom's starting to drift on

the chilly air. Suddenly a relatively deserted field could turn into a multi-coloured sea of people, the tannoy would start up and we were in business.

Planning at Cold Ash (Day 3) - Eric Harper

Sitting here the week after the JK the overwhelming feeling is of tiredness. On the day, after all the controls had been put out and checked, the feeling was somewhat of anti-climax. After watching the first starts and going into the forest and watching the competitors there was nothing to do other than wait to get the controls in.

The event had been over 3 years in the planning and for the last few weeks had almost totally dominated my life.

First some numbers; Over the past 2 years I have made over 20 visits to the area, several meeting the farmer and the forester; 2 deciding where we would have the starts; 3 checking the updated map and looking at potential control sites; 4 days taping all the control sites, one with Denise, 2 visiting some of the control sites with the controller; 5 days putting out controls; 1 day getting in controls. We used 144 controls over the 30 courses. I started putting out on the Wednesday before the event. Because the weather has been so bad over the winter and the tracks so muddy there were very few users of the woods. On several days when I was out there I didn't see a single other person. So I felt it was safe to put a lot of the controls out early apart from those close to the villages. Denise came out with me on the Thursday and Sunday and our son Alan helped on the Saturday when he and I put out about 70 controls

Because we were using offset litho for the printing in which each colour is printed separately and there is a chance of misalignment between the layers, Denise and I had to check every map that came from the printers (about 3500). We were told it would take a couple of days. In fact because the printing was so good it didn't take anything like that. I only rejected 4 maps – 2 for very slight smudging and 2 for marginal misalignment on the registration marks.

It seems along time ago that Katy asked me if I would take on one of the roles in the JK. I had planned the National Event there in 2006 and had also previously planned a Colour Coded course so I knew the area pretty well. In fact I did think that perhaps I shouldn't plan the event because I knew it so well and it would be better if someone came to the event with a fresh perspective. However, Liz, who had organised the National Event, agreed to organise the event and so I decided to plan it, partly because I would have been heavily involved as I knew most of the landowners and farmer and would have been involved in arranging permissions. Denise agreed to plan the Junior courses and I did the rest.

For the National Event the longest course I planed was a 12.9km M21L For a while at that event there was thought that we might do an M21E so I had a draft for course of about 15km which was about the longest course I felt the area could take. From the results in 2006 I knew that the M21E course for the JK should be about 17km and that we needed to extend the map in order to be able to get the length. We obtained permission to extend the map to use the woods to the S and E of the assembly field so I felt I could get a 17km course in that. We then heard that the event was being put forward by BOF as a World Ranking Event (WRE). This meant that the M21E would go out to about 18km which was about on the limit of the map.

I had been playing about with various ideas about courses but the planning really took off last May. I received the map with the updated survey plus the new area from Nick Nourse so went out to look at potential control sites in the new area and down in Bucklebury - I felt that I knew the other areas sufficiently well not to have to go out and look. Denise and I went to look for a Start. I had to use the whole area for the M21E so needed the start to be close to the top of the map. We identified where we wanted have the start but realised that without a taped route to the Start Control we wouldn't be able to start the Junior Courses at the same start so decided to





move the Junior start to the other side of the assembly field.

I had completed the first draft of the courses by about October so went out to tape control sites and look at the courses on the ground. This took longer than I expected. Nick had done the survey to reflect conditions at Easter and the vegetation looked completely different in October. The wood has several major species of trees in it and Nick had very accurately mapped the vegetation boundaries. These were not so obvious when all the trees were in leaf so in a few places I spent

quite some time pondering as to whether or not the map was correct. Nick was invariably correct. I did make a few changes and discovered that a very large pheasant pen had been removed which meant that the area inside had to be surveyed as it was on the courses.

After taping the control sites and revising the courses as I decided that I couldn't use some of my planned sites and needed to find others, I sent the courses off to the controller around the middle of November. It was about that time I discovered that the event being a WRE meant that I had in effect 2 controllers which was to provide an added complication. The IOF controller didn't like my proposed start as he wanted to have a 'model area' there where the WRE people could warm up. This would have meant replanning all my courses so I refused to move it.

After the controllers had visited all the control sites I spent a couple of days walking the area with them discussing contentious sites and agreeing where the map needed updating. This resulted in some of the courses being slightly altered. Nick then went and did an update to the survey and came up with the final version of the map. I thought the map was very good. One strange thing was that on my last visit to the area I came across a fairly large deep depression in the hill side near the finish that was not on the map. I checked back through all the previous maps and discovered it had never been on any of them. However there was a tape in it so someone had previously used it as a control site. I was able to add the depression to the final version of the map.

We had now reached mid-February with all the courses planned. The final bit of the planning process is then going through all the courses, cutting control circles, moving numbers and connection lines and checking the descriptions. I had been getting quite stressed about things so Denise made me go away on holiday which I agreed provided I had Internet access.

When we came back the last few weeks were very hectic; sending the maps off for printing; checking proofs; checking the printed maps; working out a control hanging schedule; working out a plan for getting every control checked on the morning; sorting all the controls out and then putting them all out. We left

ourselves with very little to do on day so when I got the phone calls from all the control checkers that everything was there we could relax and have some breakfast.

I would just like to thank all the people who have helped me in the last few years especially Katy, Liz and Denise. Also to our son, Alan, who helped put out controls and the 8 control checkers (Dan, Lenka, Zuzka, Ben W, David J, Simon T, Dick R and Stefan) and all the members of TVOC and Stephen Beale who helped get in the controls at the end of a long day.



Enquiries - Martin Wilson

My favourite story from helping on Enquiries was the following:

A Polite, Elderly Gentleman (PEG) came up to Enquiries: "I'm sorry to bother you, but I've lost my EMIT card. Has anyone handed one in?"

ENQ: "Where did you lose it?"

PEG: "Between control 8 and 9 on my course. I searched for it for 15 minutes, but couldn't find it."

ENQ: (after sympathetic noises) "We've not had one handed in today. It is perhaps unlikely that someone will find it in the forest. Best would be if you came back later and checked again".

PEG: "Yes, I'll do that. Thank you very much."

[Time passes...90 minutes later, PEG reappears]

PEG: "I'm the person who lost his EMIT card in the forest. I'm pleased to tell you I've found it."

ENQ: "That's good. Where was it?"

PEG: "It had slipped off my finger and dropped down the front inside of my gaiter. It then lodged itself in the top of my sock!"

ENQ: (laughing) "Oh good. You were very lucky. Shame you won't get a result for today though."

PEG: "Oh, that's all right. I enjoyed the course".

Aren't some people just wonderful?!



Control Marshalls at Whiteknights - David Jukes

As I work on the campus and had produced the previous Whiteknights map, I volunteered to help the planner on Day 1.

This involved an early start, helping to put out controls, and a late finish collecting them in. However my main organisational role was to provide control marshals for the Elites' controls. These were 'World Ranking Event' courses and their rules require all controls to have marshals. Since most orienteers were competing, the marshals had to come from outside our normal volunteers.

After some enquiries we decided to try and recruit university students and I sent an e-mail around those in my Department and managed to recruit some international students and a few staff members. John Methven also recruited some from his Department and a posting on the University web site generated a couple more. We also had a few orienteers who agreed to join the team after an early run.

Overall we were rather short - being Easter most people already had plans! We split them into two 2 hour shifts with about 10 marshal to cover 24 controls in total, about 2 each. Not ideal but adequate for the IOF Advisors.

None of the marshals actually had to intervene in anyway. One marshal, close to a non-Elite site, had to stand the control up several times as it was rather unstable. I am not sure exactly what the Chinese students thought was happening but I think they found it intriguing!

Alan Phillips - marshal
on the second shift



Enquiries - Ian Hudson

This was my first JK so I had absolutely no idea what was involved. I was able to volunteer for all four days fairly early on and was surprised to find out that I had been selected to supervise the "Enquiries" team together with Andrew. My volunteering expertise at events in the past had only progressed as far as car parking, a fact that one of the day organisers recognised and attempted to highjack me but was told I was "Enquiries" and that was that. Modesty prevents me from highlighting my supposed attributes that got me selected, but suffice to say it wasn't telling people in vehicles where to go.

My first task was to determine what the "Enquiries" team was responsible for; Andrew had a rough idea as at least he had observed what had gone on at previous events from a customer's viewpoint. After attending a couple of big meetings we realised that "Enquiries" does everything that nobody else owns and then some.

After a couple of management team meetings in a pub Andrew did a sterling job producing a document entitled "Describing what everyone in the Enquiries team does at the JK" so that I as far I am aware nothing came as a surprise to us over the weekend, including injured and lost children. The high intensity tasks for the team were different on each day, day 1 it was issuing EMIT cards, day 2 was EOD, day 3 was issuing relays declarations/bibs and day 4 was making team changes.

Andrew and my days started early and finished late as we carried all the team "stuff" away every night. We always managed a run, mindful of the commandment from on high that "one of us will be at the tent at all times". It was a tiring weekend but all the people in the "Enquiries" team were a pleasure to work with, thank you, you know who you are!

Andrew special thanks for the advice and for making my first JK run smoothly, when are we doing it again?



String Course - Day 1, Whiteknights. Janet and Bryce Gibson

When we were asked if we would do the String Course at Whiteknights we didn't immediately say yes. I think we had organised two string courses in the distant past. After checking the BO String Course guidelines, which did not seem to have changed we agreed to take it on. We live in Reading so visiting the site was not likely to prove difficult. In fact it was very useful as we had to make several visits and attempts at producing a map and course before ground staff gave their approval. On each visit we had noticed a number of dog walkers on the area which gave us some cause for concern.

Lyn Blackie of TVOC was String Course coordinator for the weekend. She provided us with pictures and also Emit controls and E-cards an innovation for us and also many of the competitors. She also provided cards, stickers and awards for the competitors. We realised that we would need a number of helpers to protect equipment, look out for dogs and generally keep the area as clear as possible, as well as to carry out the tasks in the tent. Reg and Anne Parker of BKO helped on the day as well as giving us advice before the event. We were very grateful for this.

After a tussle with the tent while a strong wind was blowing with the addition of a flurry of snow, the skies cleared. The dogs were out early and had all gone home before the first starters set out.

Apart from the 94 official competitors there seemed to be a few seniors who discovered that the String Course provided an opportunity to practise using their Emit cards or did they just want a chocolate egg.

Accommodation at Leighton Park School - Glenn and Di Wass

In comparison with the 'duties' of other volunteers our role was going to be 'cushy', after all we were indoors out of the wind and cold. But it presented its own challenges of course!

Firstly, we had only 3 ½ weeks between receiving final room details of the different Boarding houses at Leighton Park and the details of those 200+ people who had booked accommodation, and their arrival from 28th March. We allocated rooms based on groups, families, parties and individuals, B&B, dinner B&B, camping with meals, and for varying requirements on different nights. There were, of course, all the expected and unexpected queries and changes, late bookings and so on with hundreds of emails going back and forth. Glenn had made up a spreadsheet with all booking details, which we updated daily.



By the 28th we thought we had it all arranged, but there are always unexpected hitches, aren't there! In our case it was that building work was taking place in rooms we'd allocated to orienteers, and builders were using one room as storage, and had managed to cut off the power to another! This meant last-minute juggling and re-allocation of rooms. Also, unfortunately the school was not able to provide lifeguards for the swimming pool which meant we could not use it and we did not have the Wi Fi code for residents to access the Internet.

Lessons learned?:

- Don't try to have a social life for a month, or sleep much!
- You definitely need to leave 'leeway rooms' don't be tempted to take late bookings – we only just managed to fit in everyone (with much juggling) after the unexpected building work.
- Orienteers are in general really nice people!

MANY thanks go to Christine Vince (Entries Secretary), who never seemed phased by any of our queries, also to the ever-patient Anne at Leighton Park, to the wonderfully helpful caretakers and security staff at the school., and to the staff in the school dining hall whose catering was praised by many residents. Leighton Park is a lovely venue and we hope everyone enjoyed their stay.

Postings on the orienteering forum, Nopesport.com

"I come back every year overwhelmed by the amount of volunteer effort that goes into the JK. Is there anything like it in other sports? Many thanks to everyone in SCOA for an excellent weekend's racing."

**Graeme Ackland (Interlopers Orienteering Club, Edinburgh),
1st April 2013**

"Very smoothly run despite a number of difficult problems that arose due to weather. Congratulations to all the volunteers."

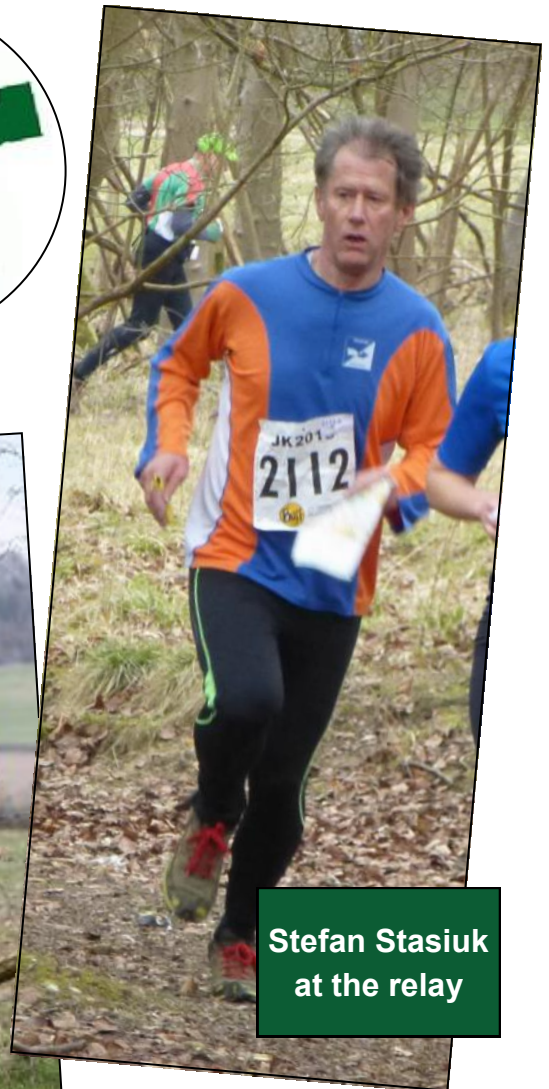
'HOCOLITE', 2nd April 2013



Steve McNab at
Whiteknights



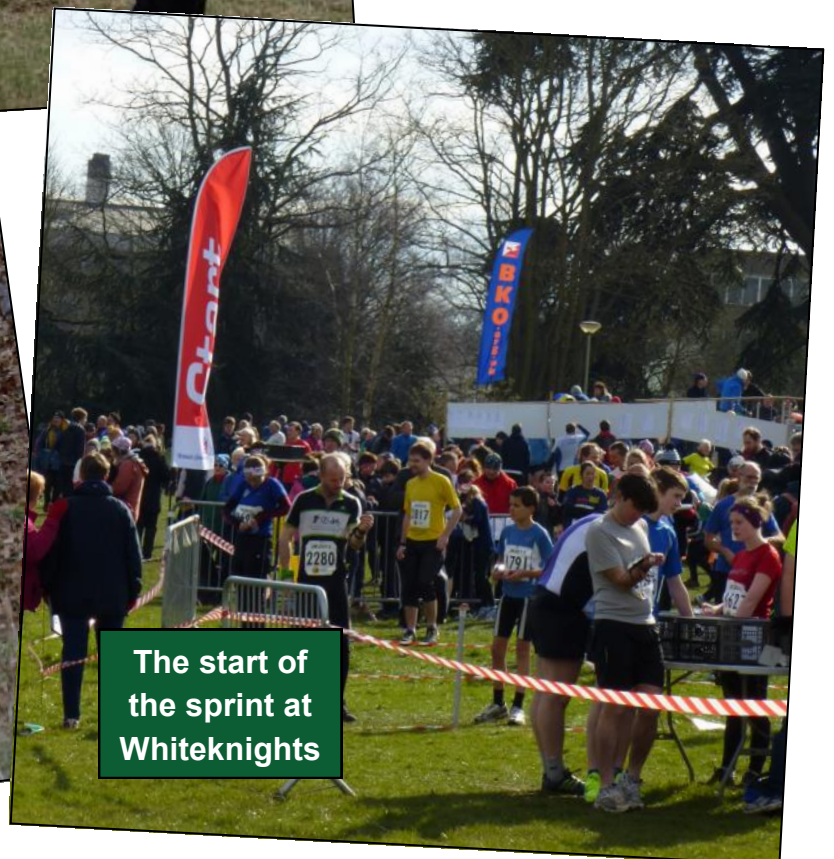
Brian Sewell on the run-
in at Hambleden, Day 2



Stefan Stasiuk
at the relay



Simon Moore
approaching the
spectator control at
the relay



The start of
the sprint at
Whiteknights



**Martin Wilson:
M65L Champion**



**Ian Cooper (left):
2nd M70L**



**Mark Saunders:
Near the relay
spectator control**



**Fiona Clough on the
run-in at Hambleton**



**Hambleton:
Day 2 Assembly**