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WESSEX EXTRA

THE NEWSLETTER OF WESSEX ORIENTEERS

JULY 2014

ISSUE NUMBER 203



Julie finishing
Day 2, Levico,
Italian 5 Days.



Italian 5 days, Day One
Assembly—Turchio, Asiago.

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CHAIRMAN'S PONDERINGS

Sitting here in the just-about-bearable heat of the evening, the thought of orienteering is far from my mind! Which is ironic as Kay and I have recently returned from Italy where we competed in the "5 Days of Italy" event. Fortunately, the weather was not as hot as it has been in the UK recently - in fact, we had rain every day of the competition, though thankfully not when we were running. We have written about some of the competition in this newsletter.

I know some others from the club are soon to compete in multi-day events - the Lakes 5 Days and a similar event in Spain. I wish you every success!

Congratulations must go to the '**Wessex Raiders**' relay team who once again won the South West Chairman's Trophy. It wasn't quite a clean sweep, as it has been in the past, but there were some great performances - particularly in the Furrow Hoppers Relay.

Well done to all those who took part in these relays - whether or not you were in the winning team. Every performance counted. And a big "Thanks" to **Dale Paget** for coordinating all the teams.

I would like to welcome two new members to the club:

Peter Suba - an IT consultant living in Bournemouth who has orienteered previously in his home country of Hungary.

He's already made his contribution to the club by being part of the winning team at the previously-mentioned Furrow Hoppers. Not a bad start!

Keith Glester - an M45 living in Southbourne. No other information at present.

We hope to see you at forthcoming events!

And finally..... I'd like to thank **Jason Falconer** who has been working as our Publicity Officer for the last few months. He has been working hard to try and make our sport more widely known in the area, using all forms of different media including Twitter and Facebook as well as the more conventional form of local newspapers.

He has also made some very useful personal contacts locally. All this work is hoped to bear fruit in the longer term but at the moment we are awaiting some external funding before he can continue in this role.

Julie Astin

SUMMER RELAY SERIES

The 2014 South West Summer Relay Series has come to an end. And Wessex Raiders have once again won the overall Challenge Trophy. But not as decisively as last year when we won every single event.

The Series consists of 6 relays around the region and teams score based on their position at each event. The first was the BOK Adams Avery Relay held at Ashton Court. We fielded 2 teams and our first team (the Wessex Raiders) came a close third behind two BOK teams (one made up entirely of the Hallett family). But still some worthwhile points scored. Our second team also came 7th pushing other teams further down the points table.

Then onto our own Hardy Relays at Holton Lee where not only did we win but the Veteran Team also won the Veteran Trophy. So more points to our overall score.

On 29th June the North Wilts relays were held at West Woods (the day after the Coast Path Relay). On a hot day it came down to the wire with a last leg tussle between Wessex and BOK but the younger runners in the BOK Team (there is no handicap applied to this relay) just beat us to gain their second win. However we came 2nd so again gained valuable points.

Then on July 5th we had the Moonrakers at Collingbourne Woods. Despite one of our leading team running off the map (he wasn't the only one to do this) we finished 2nd behind BADO. But, more importantly, BADO are not a SW club so don't count for the series. Meaning we were first South West Club. And our second team came second SW Club. So with no entry from BOK that put us in a very good position with only 2 events to go.

The Furrowhoppers weekend saw us much depleted with several of our top runners away in the Lake District doing the Saunders Lake-

land Mountain Marathon (see separate article elsewhere). However with Dale's master minding of the teams (and after much cajoling) we managed to field a good team. With the smallest handicap of all we still managed to beat off the opposition to finish first and gain maximum points. And again BOK were not there to contest the competition.

The last event was the Devon Relay held at Hound Tor on 20th July. Sadly things didn't go according to plan with some serious time lost and, with it being a Harris Relay where the slowest one back gives the Team's time, this meant we finished well down the list.

However overall we had won the Summer Series with more points than any other South West Club. A big Thank You to Dale for master minding this great effort and well done to all our runners who took part.

WESSEX HARDY RELAYS, Holton Lee, 22nd June. Veterans' Course.

Well, we certainly had good weather for the Hardy Relays; perhaps it was a bit too good, as all those who ran in the relays came back a little tired! Our team was Bill Brown, Gordon Raggett and myself (the oldies!). We had to complete two courses each; Light Green, Orange and Yellow. The courses were very well planned by Roger Crickmore. My first course was Yellow, which was quite an easy course but it being very hot, I was quite tired when I finished it. I was taking over from Bill, whose first course was the Light Green, and luckily I had about 10 minutes to recover before he came running in.

He looked hot and bothered, which is not surprising; the temperature was around 23 – 24 degrees so lots of water was drunk! Bill then had a rest before he took over from Gordon on the Orange, and Gordon went out on the Yellow.

We were a bit concerned that Gordon was out for quite a while, and we were glad to see him coming through the gate and running to the finish. And to my surprise, we won the Veteran's Trophy!! Beating Sarum who have won the Veteran's Trophy every year! But now we will have Wessex on the trophy; let's hope that next year the veteran team can win it again!

Kay Sayer

FIVE DAYS OF ITALIAN ORIENTEERING

A year or so back, Julie Astin mentioned that she wanted to compete in the 5 Days of Italy, driving her campervan down to the events. She didn't want to drive all the way on her own, so I "volunteered" to go with her. I have not been to a 5 days in Italy before, so thought it would be a good opportunity. We took two days to get down to Riva del Garda, where we stayed for a couple of days and then drove up to Asiago in a campsite for a week. We knew that the weather in the mountains was not too good at that time of year, but we did not expect so much rain – it rained every day and we had a couple of spectacular thunder storms with deafening lightning. But we were lucky in that it didn't rain while we were orienteering (someone must have been looking after that for us!).

Day 1 was in Turcio, Asiago, 2.0km, 50m climb and 10 controls. The event was quite near where we were staying, so we could walk to it. It was a 20 minute walk to the start and a steep uphill to the start kite. It took me a few minutes to locate the start kite as it was not very visible. So, got to the start kite and did a compass bearing to the first control; but I couldn't find it. I was not the only one sweeping around for it as the ground was very rocky and lots of large ditches. However, eventually found it but took me 13.24 to the first control! Not a good start. But once I had got my head around the map it was sort of o.k. I was quite slow as the undergrowth made it difficult to run. But there were quite a lot of paths and tracks around so I ran on the paths as much as possible. Quite a few children running around, with adults shadowing them; one young boy was very frustrated and crying as he couldn't work out where he had to go. I know the feeling! Quite tired when I finished the course, and waited for Julie to finish.

Day 2, was in Levico, an urban event, 1.5k, 20m climb, and was my best run. The course was mainly linear, so we walked to the other end of the town for the Start. It was very hot and humid, and we were pleased that water was available at the start. I do enjoy urban events; I can run faster in urban events than in forests. Leg 1 took 2 minutes (getting to know the area), 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 were good, just over a minute for two of them. 7 was quick, 33 seconds, but coming out of 7 I must have had my map the wrong way up because I ran to the wrong place and dithered about, before realising what I had done. So a quick sprint to 8 but that was 9.19 instead of 3 minutes at the most! The rest of the course was

simple and quick, coming in on a total time of 24.06. Should have been 18 minutes or so. Drat!!

With every course which I ran I had one control which took me a long time; why do I do this? Each course I tell myself that I MUST concentrate and not run around like a headless chicken. But I still do it!

Julie's article will show you how much better at orienteering she is than me, although she has had knee surgery she was very accurate with all her controls and so did very well.

After the orienteering events, we went back to Riva del Garda for some R and R, Julie has lots of friends in Riva so we met up with them while we were there. We swam in the lake early in the morning, before other people came to swim, and we also went to Lago de Ledro up in the hills for a few days, again swimming in the lake. The scenery around Riva and Ledro is spectacular and we were lucky to have clear skies during the daytime.

We had two long days driving back to Calais, stopping at camp sites on the way, but we missed our boat as we were in the non-EU queue which took for ever to get through, so we had to wait for the next ferry, but it was only an hour. Then a drive back from Dover to home. Thanks to Julie for a fantastic three weeks – and I hope we are still friends!!

Kay Sayer



Levico, Day Two

Turchio—Day One



TWENTY NOT OUT

No, not cricket. This year was my 20th time of competing in the Saunders Lakeland Mountain Marathon. First time was in 1994 when I did the first 3 years with Steve Shuck, then injury forced him out so from 1997 until 2004 my good friend Don Holmes kept me company. Sadly ill health forced him out so I then had a succession of partners until 2011 when Tim Houlder kindly offered to keep me company for the next 3 years. And this year I took to the hills with Gavin Clegg (for those of you eagle eyed enough to count you will realise that this is 21 years but there was no competition in 2001 as a result of Foot and Mouth).

Over the years we have had anything from just one pair to as many as 12 of us up there for an “enjoyable” weekend in the Lakes. This year there was Gavin and myself as well as Tim and Rob competing in the Harter Fell Class and John Cook competing in the new Pillar Class for individual veterans and females. For those of you who think that the Saunders is like the OMM but for softies let me explain that the only soft thing about it is that it is held in early July rather than late October so generally the weather is kinder. But once you are up on the hills believe me it is not for softies.

This year we started in Deepdale which is near Brothers Water to the east of St. Sunday Crag and the routes would take us over the Helvellyn ridge and down to the overnight camp at Steel End at the bottom of Thirlmere (which was used in 2011).

Gavin and I were the last to start at 10.20 and we quickly marked our map up from the supplied grid references. 6 controls over 17.4km with a climb of 1750 metres, so not for the faint hearted. We had already decided that Gavin would do most of the navigating with myself trying to set as fast a pace as I could sustain. The first couple of controls were no problem but then the third was a 3.5 km leg with a 700 metre hill in the way. A quick discussion and we decided to opt for the “down the valley and around” route which we are sure was the best route option. Even so it took over 80 minutes for this leg alone.

Then a long slog up Sticks Pass and over the ridge to number 4, followed by an unavoidable climb over Raise, White Side, Helvellyn etc (although we did

manage to avoid the very top of the summits) and down steeply to our penultimate control. By this time we had been out for over three and a half hours and my legs were beginning to cramp up badly. We took the path run down to the last control and staggered to the finish (in my case quite literally). We then walked to the overnight camp-site where we found that the others had already finished, although not much before us. At the half way camp we were 14th overall (out of 130 teams) and 1st Veterans out of 52 teams. So a good first day.

One of the difficulties of this type of event is trying to get enough nutrition and liquid into you to replace the energy you are using up. I had drunk plenty during the day and eaten an energy bar, dried apricots and a bar of Kendal Mint Cake so I was ready for some savoury food by the time we got to camp. Everyone seemed to be cooking up various dehydrated meals, noodles, pasta etc. After a welcome cup-a-soup I was ready for my main meal once rehydrated. Not exactly haute cuisine but it did the job.

Unfortunately it rained pretty much all night so most people beat a hasty retreat into their tents. Sunday dawned damp, midgy and cloudy. The tops were in cloud so I hoped that we would fair better than the fell runners as poor visibility often favours the orienteers. We were away soon after 8.00 in the mass start and followed the masses straight up the hillside. Today we had "only" 13.7km with 1140 metres of climb. The sheepfold we were looking for loomed up out of the clag right on the nose so a good start, first control in just over half an hour. A further 18 minutes got us to number 2 (Stream Junction) then a difficult choice to 3. It was over 2 km along the side of the Helvellyn ridge and, with the broken ground, it was difficult to pick the best route, following sheep tracks where we could. 52 minutes later we descended out of the cloud to see the control below. Legs and body were really feeling tired after yesterday's effort so it was a case of keeping refuelled and keep slogging on. A hard uphill climb over the side of White Side then a long run down to the valley where we had stayed in the Youth Hostel on Friday night. Over 4 km on this leg alone.

After nailing the next two we then had a brief discussion about the best route to the penultimate control. I basically said that my legs were shot so I needed as little steep climb as possible. We spotted a good route up a valley which very few others seemed to have taken so followed this, seeing and hearing others

higher up following a wall line. (Our later analysis shows that in fact we were among the fastest on this leg so it was the right choice). A short sharp descent down to the last then a “run” in to the finish. Not that I was tired but I even managed to trip over a blade of grass and went sprawling just before the finish line. Sadly we hadn’t managed to maintain our position from overnight but finished a very creditable 24th overall and 2nd veterans by just 6 minutes.

Tim and Rob finished 68th and 21st Veterans and John Cook finished 14th overall and 9th Veteran. A night in Ambleside only left the long drive home on the Monday, accompanied by cries of pain whenever we got out of the car. Just ask any of us about the “Saunders Shuffle”.

Have a look at the map extract and see if you could work out a good route from 149 to 142. (Don’t forget the contour lines are at 15 metres). This is where we think we lost some time but in reality I had given so much on day one that I paid the price on day two. It is definitely not for softies.



The “snake” at the start on Day Two of the Saunders Mountain Marathon.

Ian Sayer



ORIENTEERING IN BRITTANY

Have I told you how it came about that I decided to live here? No? Well I'll tell you anyway! It is a long story that started way back in 1985. I had not given the French Championships a thought until Devon OC invited me to go with them for a week-end of good food, drink and s....sunbathing. I declined their offer as I usually got disqualified in their company! However, Sheila and I soon found some companions in Lubor and Jean Velecky, Gary "Tinker" McEwan and we entered as "Wesoc".

Our travel arrangements nearly came adrift by striking seamen but once on French soil, Cherbourg greeted us in glorious sunshine and a fast road to Mur de Bretagne got us there in time for a sumptuous lunch on the borders of the lake. It shows you shouldn't judge by first impressions: I thought it was a swamp and I have had great difficulty since to live it down.....the lake had been drained that year!

We took in a bit of training in a nearby forest resembling that of Quenecan, followed by a restful night in a country hotel. The serious business started at 9.00 next morning. We were joined by a couple of dozen Brits, Eric Peckett, Brian Parker, Brian Till, Lyn Callard, Chris Virgo, Roger Henderson, among others. An A3 map at 15000:1 full of hundreds of charcoal burners platforms. Do you remember the Devon map of Dartmoor Moor with the



hundreds of hand drawn pits? Well, that was its equivalent in platforms but in a forest. Long and tough courses, winning times well in excess of an hour, a first place for Jean Velecky in W60, seconds for Brian P and me, beating Lubor (4th in UK M55)!

Wind forward exactly 20 years later. By that time I had become a widower when a friend mentioned having bought a house in Brittany and would I be interested in using my DIY skills to help her installing herself! She mentioned a place that I could not find in my atlas! Her map showed it to be on the edge of a huge forest: THE Forest of Quenecan: well, needless to say, that excited my brain cells....to see that forest again! I was soon in touch with the original organiser, Daniel Gastard, who was still deeply involved with Orienteering. I would say he was more the kingpin around whom all activities centered in Brittany and who had orienteering flowing in his veins! (I know another chap like him in WSX but daren't mention him by name) So, I naturally joined his Club and have 'run' in many parts of the forest since.

By coincidence the Maire of my village was the owner of the forest and he assured me it was always available for us free of charge. I am now the proud caretaker of a small forest in my neighbourhood where I organise local training events. If you ever come to visit me, I'll introduce you to a real little miracle of a varied terrain made up of a large variety of features which makes planning a real delight! Do come, you'll enjoy other things besides. ***(continued on page 14)***

FORTHCOMING ORIENTEERING EVENTS

www.wessex-oc.org

AUGUST 2014

- Sun 24** **WIMBORNE summer event** and Barbecue at Canford School. All welcome. See details on WIM website. **Summer League event.**
- Mon 25** **THAMES VALLEY** Urban event, Didcot. See TVOC web site for details.

SEPTEMBER 2014

- Mon 8** **WIM/WESSEX** Club evening and Summer League event. Flyer on Wimborne Website.
- Wed 17** **WIM Blandford Camp event**, Flier on Wimborne website.
- Sat/Sun 13/14** **NGOC CADDIHOE CHASE**, Forest of Dean. See their website for details.
- Sat 20** **GUILDFORD CITY RACE. ** Date changed from August.**
- Sun 21** **LONDON CITY RACE.** See SLOW website for full details.
- Sun 28** **WIM Galoppen**, Gore Heath. Flyer on Wimborne Web site.

OCTOBER 2014

- Sat 4/Sun 5** **DARTMOOR DOUBLE LONG-0 EVENT**, See Devon website for details.
- Sun 5** **SOUTHDOWN ORIENTEERS**, Level C, Arundel.
- Mon 6** **WESSEX/WIM Club Night**, Littledown/Kings Park.
- Sun 12** **WESSEX DORSET DELIGHT**, Bisterne Close, Burley.
- Sat 18** **WIMBORNE DORSET SCHOOLS & INFORMAL**, Hyde/Gorley.
- Sun 19** **DEVON GALOPPEN**, Virtuous Lady, nr. Plymouth.
- SAT 25** **SARUM DORSET SCHOOLS** and informal, Bulford Ridge.

NOVEMBER 2014

- Sat 1** SARUM SALISBURY CITY RACE,
Sun 2 SOC NOVEMBER CLASSIC – New Forest. This event is our
Championship event.
Mon 3 WIM Night League Event, Sherborne.

Details of all future events can be found on the British Orienteering website: www.britishorienteering.org.uk

Other useful local websites:

Wimborne Orienteers: www.wimborne-orienteers.org.uk

Southampton Orienteers: www.Southampton-orienteers.org.uk

Sarum Orienteers: www.sarumo.org.uk

North Gloucester Orienteers: www.ngocweb.com

Bristol Orienteers: www.bristolorienteering.org.uk

FOR UP TO DATE DETAILS OF THE WEDNESDAY ARMY EVENTS, GO TO THEIR WEBSITE: www.baoc.info

**** We try to put on a local event for newcomers and improvers most months during the year. For further details, please see our website: www.wessex-oc.org**

****Coaching will be available at all our events, including informals, for all abilities.**

The forthcoming events list is compiled from British Orienteering and other clubs' websites. For further details of events, log on to the **BRITISH ORIENTEERING** website or the relevant Club's website. **Please check before setting out, as some events have been known to change at short notice.** If you would like to share transport, contact a committee member who will put you in touch with someone who can help, or send a message through the Wessex Yahoo Group.

Just a word of warning: next year, 2015, the lake is being drained again!

The draining will be done in March, work will proceed in maintaining the concrete structure but principally renewing the vanes, etc. The water will be refilled in September and the generators launched in October. There have been public meetings galore to prepare us for this gigantic event: we normally get a million of visitors annually in the area BUT now the authorities expect between 2 to 3 Millions; roads will be closed to all but essential traffic, large parking areas allocated, buses to convey visitors to the shores, so you have been warned: avoid the July/ Aug/ period! I am glad all this is happening outside our usual activity period!

Andrew Beldowski



WESSEX ORIENTEERING KIT — A REMINDER!!

As most orienteering is done in Autumn and Winter, I wondered if we could raise the profile of our club with a few bits of warm kit.

What about a ***club beanie hat*** or even a ***club fleece***. Starting with a beanie hat would be the cheapest option. ***Acrylic hats embroidered with club Wessex logo*** would cost about **£11** so manageable for most.

Fleeces etc could be added to the range but they cost far more, especially if trying to clothe a whole family. If there is sufficient interest I will investigate further.

Tracy Crickmore

***** If you think this is a good idea for us to have some Wessex Kit, please email our Chairperson, Julie Astin, julie.astin@hotmail.co.uk , and she will discuss this at a forthcoming Committee Meeting.*****

5 DAYS OF ITALY - DAY 3 – Disaster!

Driving up to the “Altopiano di Asiago” on the Saturday before the main events started, we passed through the small town of Lavarone and it was here that we returned a few days later for Day 3 and 4 of the competition.

Having parked, rather tentatively, in a rain-soaked field (I had fears of my campervan getting stuck in the mud!) we had a long walk to the start up to the nearby village of Chiesa (meaning ‘church’)

At the Start, I discarded the plastic bag in which the maps were placed (I have enough trouble folding the map efficiently without the extra thickness of a plastic bag!) and set off on my course. But first I had to actually get to the Start Triangle which at these events always seemed to be placed not only out of sight (a good thing) but at some considerable distance from the start box (a bad thing – especially when it’s a steep climb to get there!) I found this a bit off-putting, particularly as it wasn’t even taped, and I actually had to ask someone where the triangle was, as it wasn’t obvious.

Anyway, I finally set off towards my first control, fairly clear on my route choice to what seemed an obvious knoll, via a well-marked path.....

.....but to this day, I’m still not sure what I actually did! All I know is that I somehow managed to be in the area where my 2nd control – and several others were located – about 200m from where I should have been, and on a totally different bearing to that which I should have taken. And what made it worse was that I kept on finding control 81 (I was looking for 42) and it was only on about the 3rd visit that it dawned on me that it was my 2nd control. Grrrr! Once I had realized this I fairly quickly managed to get my 1st control and then headed straight back

(again!) to control 81. Total time for my first leg? – 20 mins!! The only explanation that I can think of is that when I looked at my map as I was getting to the point where I would have to take a bearing off the path to my control, I had a mental aberration and actually took a bearing to my second control.

Whatever the reason, it clearly cost me dearly and, compounded by another bad control at 3 (10m 47sec instead of 3-4 mins), I ended up taking over 65mins for a 2.5k course! Overall position: 25th out of 34.

5 DAYS OF ITALY – DAY 4 – Redemption!

Waking up to rain-sodden skies, Kay and I both had the same sentiment as we lay snuggly in our beds that we didn't fancy competing if the weather remained the same for the day's event. It's not that we're wimps, you understand, it's just that we knew what the terrain was like out there, and struggling across wet, mossy boulders and crags etc. was not our idea of fun. But we decided to drive across, back to Lavarone, and see what it was like when we arrived.

Fortunately, we didn't have to park in the muddy field (there had been torrential rain and thunderstorms overnight) and we were directed to the car park right by the competition area, about 10mins from the Finish. We had a choice of how to get the Start: a 45-60 min walk up a mountain, or a 10 minute, €3 chair-lift ride. It was a no-brainer, as far as Kay and I were concerned!

It was still a bit nippy as we walked to the foot of the chair-lift, so Kay decided to take a jacket up with her. But as we gained height up the mountain the sun started to come out and by the time we arrived, it was gloriously hot and people were sitting outside the Rifugio supping a cold drink.

As the Finish was several hundred metres or so below us, we

knew that, basically, our courses would take us downhill and, in fact, my first control was a glorious 450m downhill run along a track, in the sunshine, to a feature that could be seen from a long way off. No navigation required. A world apart from my first control at the previous event!! The rest of the course went pretty smoothly too as there were lots of paths or line features which made navigation pretty easy. The run-in from the last control was exactly the same as the previous event, alongside a small lake and including a small water-jump, which some of the stronger/younger competitors actually leaped across, rather than tentatively step across as I did! The heat had really built up by now and I was really grateful for the bottle of water that was handed out after I had downloaded. I was pleased to see that I had completed the 3.8k course in a more reasonable time of 53m39secs and ended up in 12th position.

5 DAYS OF ITALY – DAY 5 – The Final Day

Campomulo was the venue for the final event, just a 20 minute drive up the valley from our campsite and which, in the winter, is a fantastic area for cross-country skiing apparently.

Again, it had rained overnight, but the morning was quite bright and became hotter as we waited for our start times. The commentator kept on referring to how technically and physically demanding the terrain was, so we were a bit trepidatious as we made our way to the start. But on the way there we were accompanied by a small group of alpine cows, complete with bells round their necks – which made me a bit more relaxed.

Looking at the map in the start lane, I could see why the commentator made those comments – LOTS of black crags and boulders and mostly steep slopes. So when I set off for my first control, with memories of Day 3 in my mind – I was determined to take it very carefully and accurately. And because it was up-

hill all the way, I was also quite slow – but at least I got the control spot on and this gave me confidence for the rest of the course. I felt I was reading the features well so that even if I was not quite on my control, I managed to quickly relocate and find it without too much delay. Having said that, I did dither a bit on controls 8 and 9 which were both “foot of steep slope” because one steep slope/crag looked like every other! In fact, there were quite a few competitors milling around these two controls, so it wasn’t just me.

But the remaining two controls were straightforward, although I was somewhat distracted by two mature Italian competitors running along nearby and talking loudly to each other (so typically Italian!) and I actually muttered “Shut up!” under my breath. Hopefully they didn’t hear me!

So a fairly clean run in 49mins put me in 14th position, so I was quite happy with that.

Overall, Kay and I had a great time in Italy and as it was my first multi-day event abroad, I have now got the taste for it and need to start planning next year.....



Relaxing in the sun—just the one glass, honest!

Julie Astin

Day 4 finish, Lavarone.



06 October 2014	WSX	Joint Club Night	80% Park & 20% Urban	Littledown
03 November 2014	WIM	Joint Club Night	Urban	Sherborne
10 November 2014	SA-RUM	Night	Urban	Salisbury City
15 November 2014	BAD O	Night	Forest	Bramley
22 November 2014	WIM	DSch-Informal/ Night	Forest	Golden Cap
01 December 2014	WSX	Joint Club Night	20% Park & 80% Urban	Broadstone Rec.
20 December 2014	SO	Night	Urban	Brighton City Race
05 January 2015	WSX	Joint Club Night	Urban	Poole Town
17 January 2015	WIM	3 in 1	Forest	Moors Valley
29 January 2015	SOC	Night	Urban	Lyndhurst
02 February 2015	WIM	Joint Club Night	Urban	Wimborne Town
07 February 2015	SA-RUM	D/Sch + Informal + Night	Forest	Stonedown
14 February 2015	WSX	Informal + Night	?	?
02 March 2015	WSX	Joint Club Night	Island	Brownsea
07 March 2015	SOC	Night	?	Southampton

WESSEX NIGHT LEAGUE

Following the success of last year's Wessex Night League we have put together an exciting list of events for the coming winter—see list opposite. I know it seems a long way away but you need to put the dates in your diary.

No fewer than 6 clubs are involved in staging these events and we regularly have at least 20 competitors taking part (often much more than this). The venues vary from parkland, urban areas and even a City centre. Several Wessex members are regulars so it is often possible to share transport, although quite a few of the venues are relatively close.

All you need to take part is a torch (preferably a head torch) and a Hi-Viz jacket and some enthusiasm. There are always plenty of people on hand to help so if you have never tried night orienteering before, make this the year that you give it a go.

Have a look at the list of events opposite, and start charging up your head torch.

WESSEX ORIENTEERS JUNIOR SQUAD PAGE

As we are now in the School holidays, we will resume the Junior Squad in September. So some dates below when there will be training for the Junior Squad. The Dorset Schools events are excellent events to improve your orienteering.

Monday 8th September: Club evening and Junior Squad training.

Monday 6th October: Club evening and Junior Squad training. Kings Park/Littledown.

Sunday 12th October: WESSEX event, Bisterne Close, Burley, New Forest. Junior Squad training.

Saturday 18th October: WIMBORNE Dorset Schools and Informal. Hyde/Gorley.

Saturday 25th October: SARUM Dorset Schools Event and Informal, Bulford Ridge.

Sunday 2nd November: NOVEMBER CLASSIC, New Forest. This is our Club Championship event which includes the Juniors. Don't miss it!!!

K.sayer@ntlworld.com

WESSEX COMMITTEE MEMBERS**CONTACT DETAILS**

Chairman: Julie Astin	Julie.astin@hotmail.co.uk
Treasurer: Karen Morton	karenmorton@ntlworld.com
Secretary: Alan Hooper	Alanj.hooper@ntlworld.com
Richard Arman (President)	thearmans@googlemail.com
Gavin Clegg	Gavin.clegg@parkstone.poole.sch.uk
Rob Hick	Rob.hick@tiscali.co.uk
Tim Houlder	Tim.houlder@ntlworld.com
Ian Sayer (Fixtures Secretary)	Ian.sayer68@ntlworld.com
Eric Whapples	Whapples@fsmail.net
Kay Sayer (Newsletter Editor & Membership Secretary)	K.sayer@ntlworld.com
Daniel Whapples (Vice Chairman)	djwhapples@gmail.com

NON-COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Alan Brown (Website Manager)	imagines@btinternet.com
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REGULAR CLUB EVENINGS/TRAINING

Training every Tuesday at Bournemouth University, Talbot Campus, 5.45pm for 6.00pm start.

Joint Club Evenings with Wimborne Orienteers are on the first Monday of every month. See the website for more details.



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