

Newstrack

December 2009



A control on the formation of the old railway at Craddock Moor

Guest Editor's Opener...Dave Bennett

As well as the usual DVO news and members' reports, this edition of Newstrack includes a couple of contributions from non-members, and a bit of fantasy. I hope you enjoy it.

Contributions for the next edition of Newstrack, and offers to be the next guest editor, should be sent to Neil Forrest neil.forrest899@btinternet.com, 40 Riber View Close, Tansley, Matlock, Derbyshire, DE4 5HB.

Belper Street-O...Sal Chaffey

I normally try and avoid score events as I think there's too much choice in life already, but when it's on the doorstep and billed as a day-to-night event, well, who can resist?

The Coppice Car Park lent itself well to the twilight start as there's an expanse of open separating it from Parks estate. My strategy was to set off across the Parks (nature reserve) in the daylight then leg it round the streets. All controls carried the same number of points, so at least that was one dimension of complexity taken out of the equation – thank you John!

After leaving the nature reserve, I dipped down to bag 24 and 30, then slogged back up Bargate Road. Some local knowledge helped me with the 4 controls up on Parks estate as I knew all the ginnels and cut up via the track to No 33 on Sandbed Lane, dog-legged to 34 and went round the block back into town via 15, 14, 20, 19, 13 and 12. The latter was a mistake as I was 2 minutes over time. Must remember to bring a digital watch next time – it's something we don't tend to use anymore in the Age of the Dibber!

I worked out that my route was 11.6km and about 160m climb without even crossing the Derwent – wish I got that far in the forest! Although maybe not, as it would make my errors bigger (like No 12 on Brown at Calke)! At this point an energy diversion from legs to brain would be advisable.

DVO 40th Anniversary Club Championships...Dave Bennett

The 40th Anniversary Club Championships were held at Hardwick Park on 3rd October. As is usual for the Club Championships, start times were allocated based on the participants' past performance, with the aim of everyone finishing at mid-day on all three courses. In the past, this has resulted in competitors following each other for the last few controls, but Liz Godfree planned this year's event as three loops from the start, with runners on the long course doing all three loops, but not all in the same order. Medium course runners did two of the loops, with alternate runners starting on different loops, and Short course runners did one loop. This format worked well, as even at the last couple of

controls of my last loop on the Long course, there were only three other runners in sight. Each loop took in a different part of the park, including a new extension of the map into the parkland behind Hardwick Hall. Although not technically difficult, the extension did add variety to the longer courses.

The club champion is the first person to cross the finish line, so the way to win is to be faster on the day than the organiser thinks you will be. As soon as the start times were published, Steve Kimberley was predicting that Dave Vincent would be the winner on this basis, and so it proved to be.

The club champions for 2009 are:

- Chris Yardley trophy (first male current club member to finish) - Dave Vincent
- Judy Buckley trophy (first female current member to finish) - Val Johnson
- Lithuanian trophy (first junior to finish) - Nathan Lawson
- Peter Bourne trophy (fastest male current member) - Andy Jackson
- Karen Jackson trophy (fastest female current member) - Harriet Lawson
- 40th Anniversary trophy (fastest past member) - Alex Ross

There was no trophy for historical accuracy, but founding DVO member Brian Gibbs nonetheless wore the running kit he used 40 years, and was handicapped by having to hold it up as the elastic has long since perished.

DVO 40th Anniversary Dinner...Ranald Macdonald

Following a very successful Club Championships held earlier in the day at Hardwick Hall, the Club dinner was held that evening in Wirksworth Town Hall. DVO (Fairly Limited) Caterers decided to have a rest this time so that we could relax and talk to more people so we asked Jill who runs the Tall Trees Restaurant at Forest Garden centre in Darley Dale to cater for us.

Over 80 people seemed to enjoy the food and company and its was good to see a number of previous and lifetime members including Steve and Margaret Buckley, Alan and Jenny Shaw, Roger and Debbie Wilkinson, Jenny Tennant. Unfortunately, Ted and Liz Smith were unable to attend as Ted had badly injured his leg at Malham Moor the previous weekend.

We had the traditional presentation of Club Awards, this year to:

- DVO orienteer of the Year: Liz Godfree
- DVO Junior Orienteer of the Year: Harriett Lawson
- Most Improved Orienteer: Jess Addison
- Most Enthusiastic Newcomers: Kim and Russell Buxton (strictly re-newers following a number of years out of the sport)

Newstrack Journalist of the Year was awarded by the current editor, Neil Forrest, to Steve Kimberley.

After a generous number of nominations and voting, Sports Personality of the Year was awarded to Paul Addison, who was seen on the Start line earlier in the day exchanging shoes with son, Luke, as he had the wrong ones on! A truly worthy winner in the spirit of the award ...

Next year's dinner will, we hope, be on Saturday 9 October, following the Club Champs at Calke Park in the morning. See you all there! We have yet to decide whether DVO (Fairly Limited) Caterers will make a comeback or whether to continue with outside caterers with the consequent extra cost and subsidy from the Club.

40th Anniversary greetings

From former DVO members who were unable to attend the club champs and dinner.

Hi All,

I'm planning a CATI on Saturday, in Aberystwyth, so alas I can't make it to the event, which Mike told me about when we met at the Scottish 6 Day. I didn't see many DVOers there - very different start times, I guess (either that or you all hid when you saw me) - but I walked to one start with Ranald, exchanged a cheery hello with Jen G out in the forest, shamelessly scrounged a bottle of water off Doug D, had a chat with Tony B at one sunny set of results boards. (Hope I haven't forgotten anybody) Anyways, Happy 40th to DVO ... and forget the Olympics ... put Croeso 2012 in your diaries, all at *top quality areas* here amongst the hills and coast of West Wales.

(Also the Welsh Champs Weekend 2010, with Classic and Middle Distance events, will be hereabouts - Hafod (Middle) and Nant Yr Arian + Blaenmelindwr (Classic) - in March.)

Best,
Dave Brodie

I suspect I shall not be able to make it that weekend. Please pass my best wishes onto all who know me and Congratulations on reaching 40! HOC managed that feat last year, somewhat amazingly coinciding with the club's 1000th event. I will be at the CompassSport Cup Final in October which is over your way but there will be no DVO! Keep up the good work.

Cheers
Dave Nevell

Liz and I are so disappointed to be unable to take part in either the club championships or the anniversary dinner tonight. Please convey our greetings to

all and very best wishes to DVO as it stands today.
We spent a very happy 12 years or so as members of DVO and enjoyed countless happy occasions leading to enduring friendships.
We trust that DVO will go on from strength to strength but still maintain that 'family' spirit.
All the very best to DVO and all its members both past, present and future.
Ted and Liz Smith

Thanks from the Planner at Eyam...Ranald Macdonald

As the day of the Eyam Moor and Bretton Clough (to give it its full name) event drew closer I was getting more apprehensive about the weather and the challenge of putting out and waking up the controls with short daylight hours. Further, with the event being the Veteran Home Internationals and a junior selection race for the Interland, I knew that my courses would be scrutinised even more closely than normal.

A further complication was that I knew I had to leave Eyam at 2.45 on the Sunday to drive to Manchester airport to get a flight to Dublin!

However, from my point of view, with a few minor negative comments and much more of a positive nature, everything seemed to go very well. I think my courses were judged to be tough but fair, though the heavy rain made them far more physical than in other conditions.

I'd like to thank everyone for their help towards making the VHI Individual event such a success (not to say that the relay wasn't but this is to my 'team'). Hoping I don't miss anyone out...

- Steve Taylor as assistant planner for feedback on my early planning, visiting some of the area with me, putting out and gathering in controls. A younger, fitter pair of legs was a great help!
- Brian Slater as Controller for his help and advice - I have to say I learned a lot from Brian and am sure the good comments received about the planning reflected his input as much as mine.
- Stuart Swalwell and his team for the efficient organisation of a complex venue - sorry about the distant start and two finishes!
- Liz Godfree, Dave Chaffey, Andy Jackson, Neil Forest and Viv for their help in collecting in controls either after their runs or on Monday morning.
- Mike Godfree for help with aspects of OCAD and last minute mapping.

And, finally, Viv (and the dogs) for accompanying me in both good and bad weather. Eyam Moor and Bretton Clough can be both a magical place with a real sense of solitude and a wild, lonely place and we experienced both during our many visits to the area over the last six months or so. On the morning I had to use my compass when waking up the controls on the moor because of the thick

fog, which cleared by the time of the first starts. We were so lucky with the weather!

Thanks to you all - and I've promised Viv not to take on another major commitment too soon.

PS. As I left the airport in Dublin on the Sunday evening I met four of the Irish competitors who said that they had thoroughly enjoyed the whole event and the courses on Sunday as they liked a more physical challenge – yes, they had worked out they were talking to the planner!

Christmas wish list...the Download Team

Buy your loved one their own E-card to save having to hire one at every event. Even better bring some cheer to the download team by making sure that your E-card (old or new) is correct on your BOF renewal form or registered with SI. That way we don't have to type your name in at every event.

'Rocky Knoll' recommends

You might still be in time for the last National Event of the year on Cannock Chase on 13th December and this is also the Midland Champs. Don't miss one of the few age class events of the year in the new structure when it is as close as this. Good practice for next year's British Championships.

Blow away the cobwebs on New Year's Day at Darley Dale with a score event on another of DVO's renowned street maps.

The first close Regional Event of the New Year is the OD event at Sutton Park on 17th January. But it is that dreaded Emit punching again.

It looks as if the first heat of the Compass Sport Cup on 24th January will be a long trip whichever heat we are allocated or choose. Watch out for details from the Club Captain.

Then the first National Event will be the closest of all next year's major events. SYO's Northern Championship is on 31st January on Big Moor which is actually in Derbyshire. So a National Event on our doorstep which we can enjoy without having to help.

A First Experience of Orienteering...Tim Reeves

During a National Trust volunteering weekend at Ilam, a shared NT/YHA property, a group of us took an evening walk around the permanent orienteering course. We were accompanied and encouraged by a keen and experienced orienteer.

As a fairly experienced walker I am familiar with the British OS maps, so this maybe why I found the orienteering map a little difficult at first, but quickly got used to it.

The countryside - especially natural history and landscape archaeology - are great interest of mine, even so, along the course I found myself having to be much more aware of my surroundings than on a regular walk. Features like overlaid field boundaries, old gate posts, ridge and furrow and even different tree species were more noticeable as I had to be more observant and alert.

Our group of novices took quite a while to complete what I guess was a fairly easy course, but we all enjoyed the experience and working as a team. We all got so much more out of an evening walk.

I would be keen to go orienteering again, just for fun, maybe not competitively just yet.

A Newbie's story...'Dorothy's Dibber'

I was first introduced to orienteering by a colleague who has been orienteering for over 20 years. My first experience was of doing a yellow course with a friend as a pair and having a good laugh whilst enjoying the fresh air and countryside, we seemed to spend most of the course looking for bear nests. After that we went most weeks doing a mixture of orange and red courses (and once a string course so our friend could say she'd done 50 courses that year).

Unfortunately my partner in crime moved away and in the new year I took up orienteering with more vigour eventually competing in light green courses. Orienteering attracted me because it gave me a reason to get out and enjoy the countryside and walk with a purpose, it also cut out the hassle of having to decide on a destination. It also helped that my friend took me around a few courses and showed me the ropes and was always happy to stop and show me the way out!

My ideal event would be a light green course of a gentle mixed terrain (not too many hills or marshes and definitely no barbed wire fences – I still have the scars), ideally 5km in length and held at the weekend. I have competed in the Sheffield spring cup and did really enjoy the weekday events however the distance became too great to travel to and from work.

With regard to value for money, I have felt that prices have gotten a little bit too high for something that I see as an enjoyable pastime. I found that I was travelling for over 30 minutes to get to some events and then only running for 30 minutes. The cost of the event and petrol started to become a little bit too high for the time/enjoyment of the course and the option of doing a harder course seems a little out of reach, especially as my mentor has also moved out the area which means I have no one to turn to for help.

I started off as a member of DVO however I felt let down after an incident with a course organiser who I felt was very unsympathetic. I had been doing fairly well on an event then disaster struck: I fell over and got disorientated, however picked myself up and managed to get back on track after some time. Conscious of the time and being near the finish line I ran back to enquire how long I had left (having only 2 more flags to find) to be told that I should give up and call it a day, to which I did protest but I did as I was told. I then found that there was still over 30 minutes left of the event to go. This was very disheartening and upsetting and so I moved my support to NOC (whose events I had always found to be friendly).

As a newbie to orienteering I was very fortunate to have a helpful friend to guide me around and show me the best gadgets and helpful hints and tips to completing courses. However, without her I may not have attended as many events. The one downside to the orienteering experience is that you turn up, do your course and go home. I haven't met nearly as many people as I would have hoped, this was also the case at the White Rose.

I have never formally been asked to help at an event but did help my friend at an event she organised. I would have been very happy to help at events, albeit I would never actively put myself forward as I still feel very much a novice and unsure as how to help. Clubs should ask for help and members should expect to be called upon.

As with life, time and money become very limited and some things have to go, in my case I let my membership lapse, with great sadness though. However, on a positive note I have started to attend events again this year and have goaded my other half into joining me.

Observations:

Too many people take the sport too seriously and at times I have been barged out of the way even though I have been given very little chance or warning to move - a simple "excuse me" goes a long way!

I have seen too many small children lost and in tears – please can there be some sort of monitoring on what courses they attend, one small boy was on a blue course and in hysterics because he couldn't find his way. Nobody stopped

to help him so I did even though I was only a light green course. It frightens me that so many people run past and leave the child.

I am an adult and I feel frightened at times to ask for help because of the attitude of some of the top orienteers.

A couple of times, courses at (DVO-led) events have been duplicated year on year – please alter a little bit or let us know so we can decide whether to attempt a different course!

I tend to move between orange, red and light green courses, I would love dearly to move up onto green but I have no idea about the pictorial descriptions and not all events provide both sets.

Without my mentor I would never have understood half of what goes on in orienteering - perhaps doing buddy sessions where new people can go around with professionals would be helpful? Descriptions aren't always clear to people who don't speak the lingo.

More score events please!!

Like a lot of club led activities its very hard to get into if you don't know the right people! I honestly believe orienteering is a very beneficial pastime/hobby for young and old but if you don't enjoy your first time you won't go back.

The training/club runs etc. are an excellent idea but as someone who is very unfit, slow and a novice I feel daunted turning up to one of the training events.

Advertise the fact that you can go round in pairs without paying the cost of two people – for people starting out that would be an excellent incentive. This is how I began and then my pair and I separated and started to compete against one another. Please don't penalise someone for needing a supporting friend – being lost in a forest can be very lonely and frightening on your own!

Also – lets have more events they seem to be a bit spaced out and its hard to get into a routine!!

One Day in Cornwall...Dave Bennett

For me, orienteering is only one part of a good day's out; an event is also a reason to visit somewhere new and interesting.

On the way to Craddock Moor, the mist is hanging on the tops of distant hills under an otherwise cloudless sky. As the mist clears to reveal a series of chimneys, engine houses and heaps of mining spoil, I stop to look at the massive stones of Trevethy Quoit, a 5,000 year-old burial chamber. Nearing the

event I pass a tall standing stone, Long Tom, just outside the village of Minions where the assembly area is.

Craddock Moor itself is an open moorland plateau, a stony, marshy area with patches of bracken and scattered gorse bushes. Semi-wild ponies are grazing, and so are sheep with identification marks in red dye like an O-kite. The linear broken ground - pits, depressions, gullies and knolls - is reminiscent of the mining remains on Carsington Pastures. There are patterns of earth banks marking out ancient field systems. The attack point for control 4 is a pair of 4,000 year old stone circles known as The Hurlers. After the event I go back for a proper look. Towards control 16, the Cheesewring appears on the horizon, a precarious pile of granite slabs perched on the edge of a quarry face. On the way down the hillside to control 18 I cross a wide, flat path surfaced with pairs of granite blocks. This is the formation of the railway that once took stone from Cheesewring Quarry to the Liskeard & Looe Canal, and below are the remains of more chimneys and engine houses.

Minions is a tiny village now that the mining has ceased, but thanks to it being part of the Cornish Mining World Heritage Site, it attracts enough visitors to support both a village shop and tea rooms. The tea room owner tells me "we can't please everyone, so we just serve the things we like". After a good run I also like his filled baguettes, eaten whilst sitting out in the sun, and reading more about the village's history. Finally, to round off my visit to Cornwall in traditional style, I stop at the local shop in St Cleer to buy a pot of clotted cream and scones to eat on the way home.

A Wet Day in November...Mike Gardner

I haven't done too many events recently and despite the attractions of the November Classic and a run on Cannock Chase I opted for a run around a NOC area at Byron's Walk. I had an ulterior motive in that I had EMEWS to distribute and hoped to get rid of some to save postage. However, the day dawned (if that was the word) very wet and windy.

I got there in time for an early start and managed to park pretty close to the registration/download tent and unload EMEWS without it getting too wet (apologies for those of you who had EMEWS sent later as it may have got a little damp at the event), then drove about 100m away to park. I then walked back to register. In that distance I was thoroughly soaked to the skin despite wearing an anorak over my o-gear. But I still decided to do the Blue course of 6.4km.

Having made the decision the rain eased somewhat, though still drizzling and I headed for the start. I was the first there, and with a few other folks we waited. Unfortunately one of the controls had been pinched and Peter Hubberstey, the controller, was busy replacing it and checking any others were missing so we had to wait a short while.

Then we were off. The first thing I did was ran up a ride and turned right on to the next ride to be confronted with a long slope (yes, there are slopes in Nottinghamshire). Given the weather it really was two steps forward, slide back one, but eventually I made it up and over the top and on to the first control. One of the surprises to me was how runnable large parts of the area were and with quite a few re-entrants, and a very well planned course it really was a good challenge. I can honestly say I really enjoyed the course and was surprised when at download I found it had taken me 78 minutes. I had enjoyed the course, even with 3 maps and never felt it was taking that long.

By now the day had brightened up as well, but as all my clothes were rather damp now I set off home fairly quickly. But when the next event is on Byron's Walk, hopefully with a similar level of planning, I'd certainly recommend it.

'Rootstock' reports

While most of you were racing across the plains of Calke Park 5 DVO stalwarts travelled south to tackle the rocky tors of Dartmoor. The Caddihoe Chase is an annual mid-September two day event in the southwest.

We fought our way through waist high bracken, stumbled over hidden boulders, scaled rocky pillars, and ran across ankle-turning tussocks all in search of that elusive red and white banner. Day 2 is a chasing start with the fastest on the course on Day 1 off first. The rest set off in their Day 1 time behind the leader. This leads to some close packing with people only seconds apart. The result of having that less than perfect run on an open area means that you can watch Day 1's leaders and work out where your first control is. Pity the poor girl who circled every boulder in the bracken before finding her first control – all in full view of a crowd of orienteers offering advice! Never before had I realised how clearly visible a blue and yellow DVO top is, even on a distant hillside.

This was a tough area physically and technically. Older competitors in particular found the high bracken exhausting. Having said that it was a good event, Devon laid on an Indian summer.

The Pavilion Gardens in Buxton couldn't have been more different but to the keen orienteer a new area presents a new challenge. These gardens would be ideally suited for Park O but Norwegian map memory was quite a challenge –no going straight on a bearing unless you wanted to wade the stream – and the bridges over paths were reminiscent of London's Barbican. A good little area with a plethora of paths requiring constant map contact.

Street O presents a different challenge. On the 5th Wednesday of the month DVO tears round Derbyshire towns. September 30th was the turn of Belper – a dry night this time, no papier mache maps. With the evenings drawing in

fluorescent tops and headlamps were de rigueur. But a Trinity House light seemed a bit over the top for reading numbers on lampposts! A good run round made more challenging by the 1 hour time limit.

The club handicap event at Hardwick was a must for all members. On a very windy but dry day 70+ members and past members ran loops round the park chasing after those in sight ahead. Nathan Lawson reeled in the other juniors on the short course while Sarah Duckworth on Yellow kept ahead of everyone else.

The Nopesport urban league runs throughout the year with a preponderance of events in the autumn – London with the challenging layers of the Barbican, Chester with its walls and Rows, Cambridge and Oxford with colleges and town centre tourists. Close map contact must be maintained and route choice is vitally important – crowded city streets don't lend themselves to fast running.

The prospect of a gruelling 2 day mountain marathon in possibly grim weather conditions appeals only to the few. A run round the reservoirs of Newmillerdam near Wakefield was an enjoyable alternative. Beautiful runnable woodland interspersed with pits in man eating brambles gave rise to interesting comments at the Finish.

The November Classic is an annual event held in the New Forest. For once the Met Office got it right – wind and rain till mid morning. The New Forest is never dry at the best of times and after a night of torrential rain streams became high and dry ditches were flowing. Runnable forest was broken by leg-sapping heather in open moorland and tracks were quagmires. Paths through the forest were covered in fallen leaves and easily crossed unnoticed. Worst of all was the dreaded Emit system which always results in some competitors being 'emitted' i.e. the 'brikke' didn't register. SI with its bleep and flash is so reassuring.

Some weekends there is no event within a short driving distance and you have to decide between the brambles of Wakerley and the tussocks of Titterstone Clee. As our offspring are no longer eligible to run in the Yvette Baker league we opted for Titterstone Clee in Shropshire – a high tussocky plateau with steep sides and numerous bell pits hidden amidst rocks and marshy areas. A biting wind reminded us that despite pleasant autumn days this was November. However, the 'mirk' lifted as the sun rose higher in the sky and visibility improved – so much so that some folks chose to avoid the tussocks and took the long track route and preserved their ankles. This event provided plenty of navigational practice for Eyam Moor.

DVO's big event of the year was the hosting of the Veteran Home International – an annual competition with teams of 24 from each of England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland – M/W35-M/W60. With both an individual and a relay it is a massive task organisationally and very demanding of manpower. In November the weather can make or mar the whole event. Competitors at Longshaw completed

the relay in the dry (overhead if not underfoot) as did those who took part in the Score event afterwards. Only the helpers were soaked to the skin as everything was manhandled back to the car park.

We were more fortunate at Eyam the following day as the early morning mist lifted to reveal Derbyshire in its autumn colours. Only the longer courses spent any time on the energy sapping heather of the moor and all bar White and Yellow courses visited the intricate landslip that is Bretton Clough. After all the rain we've had the ground was sodden, tracks were muddy and some descents were lethal mud chutes. One competitor recounted how he shot past his control (out of control!) and then had to climb back up the slope to punch. Not the only such incident, I'm sure.

Courses found favour with the National teams, some of whom commented that low cloud would have made for a really challenging course. Most were quite happy to run in sunny conditions.

Just a reminder to all - DON'T FORGET TO DOWNLOAD. Some 45 minutes were spent recovering the Finish boxes, ferrying them back to Download only to discover that the 2 'missing' competitors had 'finished' but failed to download. As a result some helpers had their second drenching of the weekend.

On a happier note England won both the relay and the individual competition followed by Scotland, Wales and Ireland

Gremlins were at work in Sheffield for the final event in the urban league. First of all was the rain – nothing like the downpours in Cumbria over the previous days – but annoying mizzle in the morning followed by heavier rain in the afternoon. Combined with an intricate maze of streets the map reading was difficult for those who are 'visually challenged'. Underfoot also was slippery especially on smooth pavements and cobbles.

Secondly was the problem of disappearing controls – it would seem the security guard hadn't been informed of the event! In the afternoon's Chase one control was cordoned off in the belief that it was a bomb. Credit must be given to the computer wizard who deleted the leg times before and after the problem controls enabling the Chase to go ahead only 10 minutes behind schedule

The first 'street' events were held on university campuses with little traffic, only a few students around and plenty of parkland in which to run.

Now they have moved to city centres with busy roads, tourists or Saturday shoppers and the additional challenge of different levels be it the housing in London's Barbican, the Rows in Chester or the staircases in a multi-storey car park. Not only are these difficult to map but the control descriptions give no clue as to which level to aim for. Perhaps we should follow the example of Istanbul

where controls in the bazaar (a night-time event) are shown on the map with different colours for each floor. From which comments you will deduce that some folks are finding urban racing less satisfying than originally.

IKEA-O...Ray Stuart

There was a long discussion on the DVO e-group about the strange names for the additional colour courses leading to the suggestion of IKEA sponsoring a magnolia course.

Not so sure about IKEA for magnolia, however there is a B&Q just down the road. Orienteering in IKEA would be like night O event with the lights on. The whole point of IKEA is that humans, on entering, are turned into mindless zombies with no sense of location or direction. They can thus be routed round the store with the sole objective of buying something that they never came to buy, worse still they find later that they don't know what it is or even what to do with it on account of it having a meaningless name like "igblat". All human movement inside IKEA is subject to Kjellstrom's Uncertainty Principle which states that it is impossible to know simultaneously both where you are and in which direction you are facing. Thus, to an outside observer (if such a thing can exist), movements inside IKEA appear to be purely chaotic; however to the accountants inside this very chaos leads to a steady and relentless rise in profits. In some ways, IKEA resembles a "black hole" in which the time-space continuum becomes distorted so that it would be impossible to draw maps. This really is just another way of saying that outside observers cannot exist. Another, and I think almost insuperable problem with conventional orienteering in IKEA is that the queue at the finish would make it impossible to measure anyone's course time. Not that time has any meaning inside IKEA.....

So we need a new, radical form of O - ultra dark black! Each competitor would be given £100 at the start (in a brown paper bag) - the winner would be the one to spend the least. Alternatively, we could issue credit cards for the electronic punching version.

Fortunately for us, the local IKEA is in the NOC area.

A quick search of the internet found that Ray's fantasy is already a reality in Sweden, origin of both orienteering and IKEA. The instructions for last year's sprint-O inside the IKEA store in Valbo were:

1. Punch all controls
2. Show No Mercy
3. Buy something for 5 kroner

<http://orienteeringsgymnasiet.bloggagratist.se/2008/09/08/938087-ikea-sprinten/>
has maps and photos.

Increasing the Challenge: a Photographer's view...Phil Burdge

One idea was to have a control on the back of a bus, so you would have to time your approach to match the timetable.

You could have a few controls which expire after a set amount of time, or are only active every 15/20 min. *(probably best for a score event)*

Pop one on a ferris wheel.

Float one in the middle of a pond or water fountain.

How about at the top of a church bell tower, or NCP multi-storey car park.

How about one hanging 8 foot from the ground on a post, so you would have to get someone to give you a leg up, or piggy back to reach it.

Pop a control in the middle of a Maize Maze.

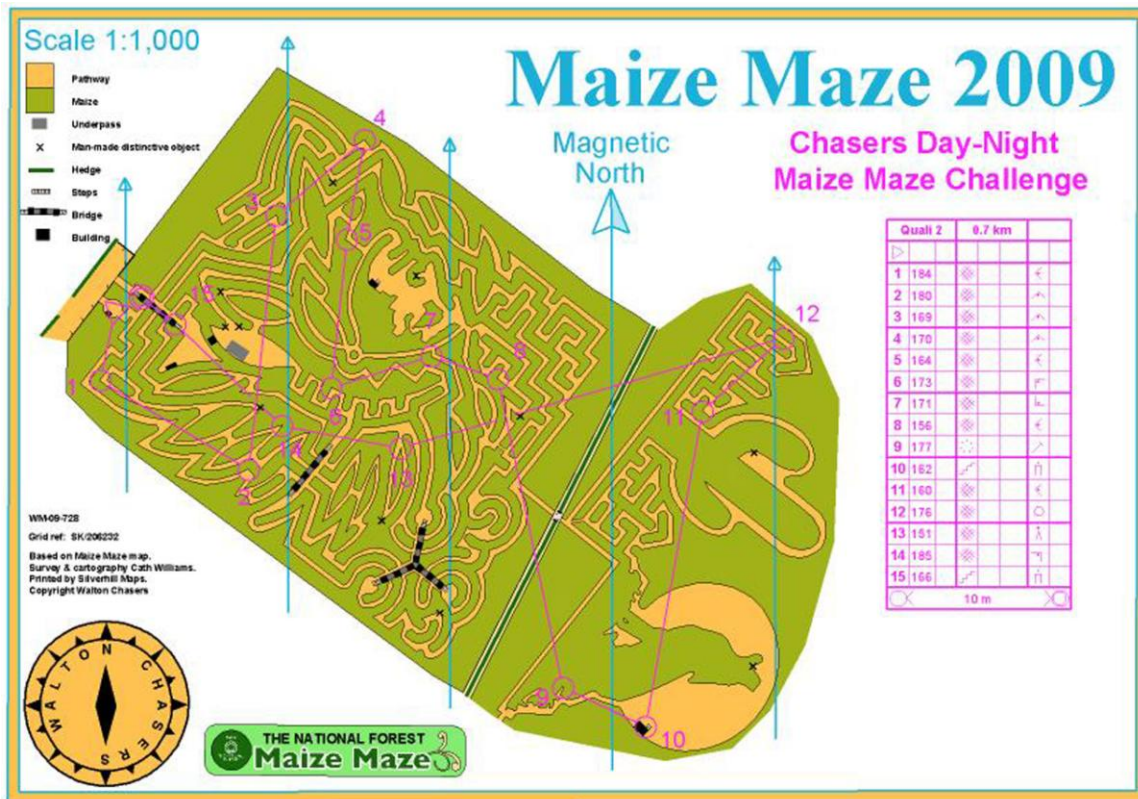
Deliberately misprint some details the map, so you have to take an alternative route.

Including height, time, co-operation, and identification of map errors into one event would take orienteering from a mere 2-dimensional sport to a 6-dimensional one. The map would be more complicated, but surely the essence of orienteering is about interpreting information and making decisions at speed? And whilst running up the steps of a church tower is not technically difficult, the resulting oxygen deprivation adds to the challenge of a technically difficult next leg.

Some of Phil's ideas have already been tried. Another quick search of the internet found an example of an event with a moving control: in a lift at an event in the Glattzentrum shopping centre at Wallisellen in Switzerland. The map is at www.olg-pfaeffikon.ch/jahr08/Bahn_Lang_Glattzentrum.pdf ; each of the four floors is mapped separately to overcome the problem mentioned in Rootstock's report.

Much closer to home, Walton Chasers had an event in a Maize Maze at Tatenhill near Burton-on-Trent. The organiser, Cath Williams, sent a copy of the map which is on the next page, and commented:

"Unfortunately the clash with the DVO club champs & the OD charity score event was unavoidable - it was the only Saturday of the year we could use the maze. Hopefully we'll be organised earlier next time & get the dates advertised more in advance!"



EMOA Committee Vacancies...Dave Bennett

East Midlands Orienteering Association is seeking candidates for election to two vacancies on the committee, Vice-Chair and Treasurer. Anyone interested in nomination for either of these roles should contact the EMOA Chair, Ernie Williams, on eawo119791@btinternet.com.

EMOA committee meets every two months, in Clifton Village (Nottingham) on a Monday evening. The vacancies have arisen because principal officers may not stand for election for more than three consecutive years.

I have been Treasurer for the past three years. The role requires a commitment of an hour or two per week, with the advantage that the majority can be done from the comfort of your own study at any time of day or night. I can provide more details of what the role entails, and will be available to support whoever takes on the role.

DVO Event Helpers Teams...Viv & Ranald Macdonald

Many, if not all, of you will have been phoned by Jen or me to ask you to be part of one of DVO's event teams. The Committee agreed that we would try this system for a year to see how it works.

The rationale behind it, is to try to encourage more people to help at events and to make new members, or those who haven't felt able to help in the past, more welcome and to help them get to know the various roles in running an event. We need to spread the load of running events, as it tends to fall on the same people and we are in danger of not being able to carry on with our programme of good quality events without more help.

You should all by now have been contacted by your team leader or deputy, so you should know which team you are in. We used this system at Eyam and it seemed to work well – but we would appreciate any feedback from people. Brian Slater, the Controller at Eyam, was very impressed by the fact that we were able to put on such a high quality two-day event; much of this was down to our experience of running similar events in the past but also the fact that much of the responsibility was devolved to team leaders and their deputies. Stuart Swalwell, the Organiser at Eyam, still had plenty to do but was more of a co-ordinator.

Team leaders and their deputies have been asked to use the system as a way of mentoring new members to the club and to discuss their orienteering with them. It is also a good way of getting to know more people in the Club. We are going to try this for a year and then review it. We will also change the teams, so that you have a chance to try different duties. Some people say they are never asked to help – don't wait; volunteer!

Team leaders and deputies don't need to be at every event but they do need to ensure that the staff are appointed and understand what they have to do and when. We are in the process of producing one-page guidelines for each of the major roles – Registration, Start, Finish, Download, String Course, Traffic (parking and road crossings) which will be available for downloading from the DVO website. This will also make the job of the Organiser a bit more manageable, who will be more of a Co-ordinator for the event.

We are looking for officials for the events we have planned for 2010 and 2011, so please feel free to contact one of us if you would like to Organise, Plan or Control one of the events you will see in the list in this Newstrack. You might also like to volunteer to assist one of the major officials before taking on such a role yourself.

The Team Leaders and their Deputies are:

Team	Leader	Deputy
Planners	Ranald Macdonald	John Duckworth
Controllers	Ranald Macdonald	Mike Gardner
Organisers / Co-ordinators	Viv Macdonald	Ranald Macdonald
Start	Robert Shooter	Helen Finlayson & Neil Forrest
Finish	Dave Bennett	Ray Stuart
Registration	Zoe and Tony Gordon	Margaret and Roger Keeling
Download / Results	Mike Godfree	Steve Kimberley
Traffic	Andy Hawkins	Stuart Swalwell
Shop & Enquiries	Vincent family	Val Johnson
String course	Mackervoy family	
Safety / welfare	Sue Russell	
Assembly area	Paul Wright	

From the Finish Team Leader...Dave Bennett

With two finishes, the event at Eyam needed more helpers on the finish than usual - and more than were available within the finish team. So some of you who helped at the finish at Eyam will normally be a part of other teams; your usual team just happened to need fewer helpers at Eyam.

DVO Event Officials...Viv & Ranald Macdonald

If you would like to volunteer for a role and date which fills a gap in the table below, please contact Ranald or Viv on 01629 734307 or r.f.macdonald@btinternet.com

Date	Location	Level	Organiser / Assistant	Planner / Assistant	Controller / Assistant
19/12/09	Shipley	Local, limited	David Vincent	Dave Skidmore	John Hurley
1/1/10	Darley Dale	Local, Street score	Steve Mead	Steve Mead	---
23/1/10	Poolsbrook	Local, limited		Daniel Kimberley	---
30/1/10	Hardwick	Local, night	-	Steve Kimberley	
6/2/10	Littlemoor	Local, limited	Mark Spendlove	Paul Wright	
14/2/10	Allestree	Local, full range	Derek Bishton	Rex Bleakman	Colin John
20/3/10	Markeaton	Local, limited	Tony Berwick	Val Johnson	---
28/3/10	Crich	Regional, full range	Zoe Gordon	Dave Chaffey	Steve Kimberley
9/5/10	Cromford Moor	Local, full range			
19/6/10	Elvaston	Derbyshire Schools		Val Johnson / Rex Bleakman?	
20/6/10	Linacre	Local, full range	Paul Beresford		
19/9/10	Carsington	Regional, Full range (C4)	Roger Hodgson		
9/10/10	Calke	Club Champs & Dinner		Val Johnson	Doug Dickinson / Andy Jackson
31/10/10	Stanton Moor	Regional, full range		Ro Cole	Mike Gardner

27/11/10	Shipley Park	Local, limited		Murray White	
4/12/10	Allestree	Local, night			
5/12/10	Shining Cliff	Regional, full range			
22/1/11	Big Moor	Regional, full range			
16/10/11	Chatsworth ?	CSC Final, Level 1	Roger Hodgson	Paul Addison	Mark Garside

2010 Summer series (Co-ordinator to be confirmed)

5/6/10	Ilam	
13/6/10	Darley Park	
19/6/10	Elvaston	
25/6/10	Bakewell	Street O
30/6/10	Oakwood	Street O
11/7/10	Holmebrook	

A Note for Planners, Controllers and Mappers...Tony Berwick

I doubt if the perfect map has ever been produced for an event, however big or small. Even with a brand-new map hot from the mapper's hand, it is near-inevitable that, when it comes to be used for the event, faults will be discovered by the planner and controller, and later by competitors, even the mapper him/herself - incorrect runnability, missed or wrongly-positioned features, incomplete map legend, or complex areas just not clearly mapped.

This can result in the planner and controller having to omit use of individual features, or particular areas on the map, difficult on the sorts of areas which DVO uses for local events. Also, during the event, competitors may detect mapping errors...need I say more?

It is most helpful if all faults on the map are recorded as soon as possible after the event, rather than just moaning (or worse) at the planner. Probably best if these are passed to the mapper, who can then note these suggested corrections on a copy of the map, and kept (by Mike Godfree, DVO mapping co-ordinator) till the area is next due to be used.

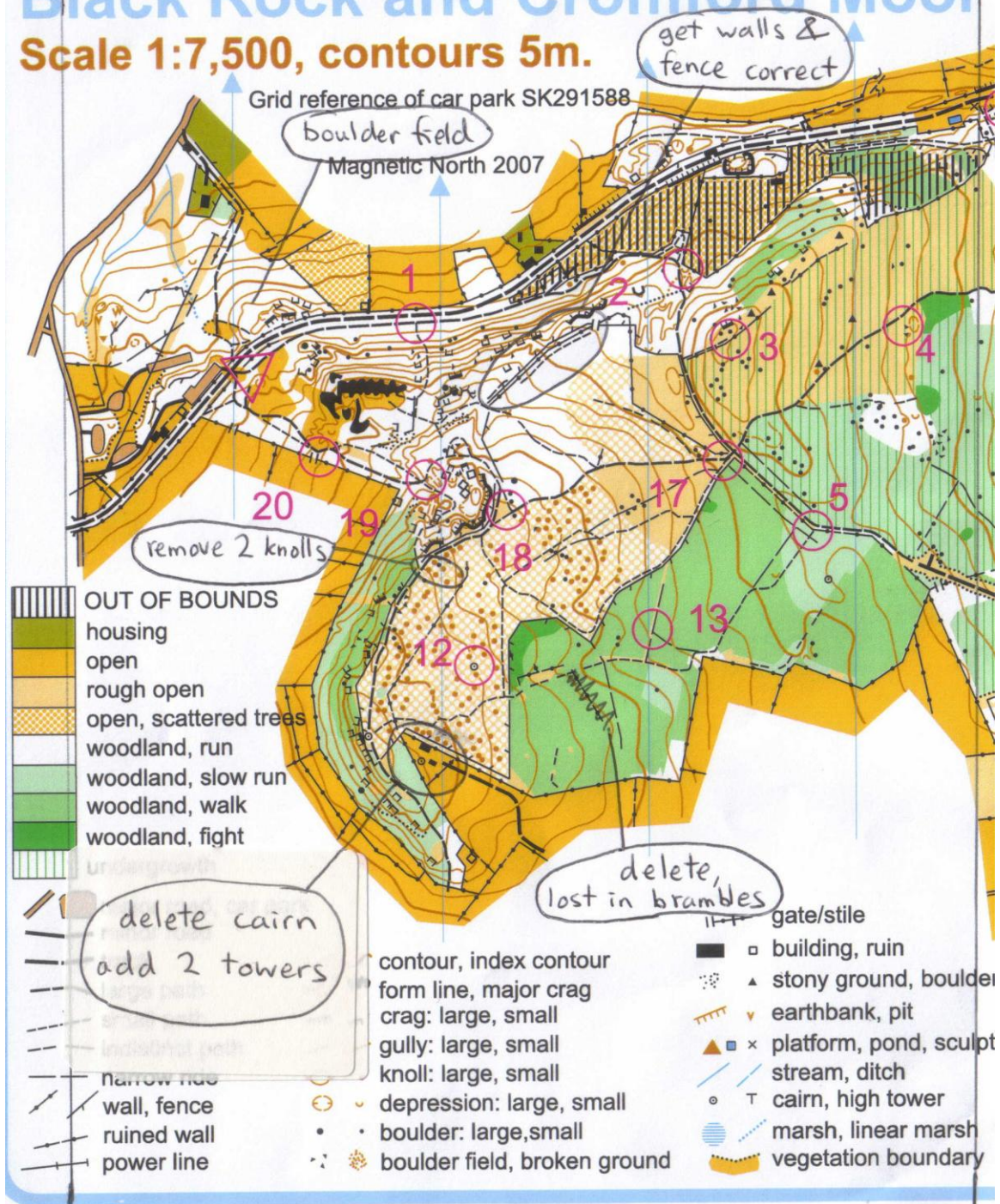
On the next page is a portion of my correction notes for Cromford Moor, mapped and used in September 2008. Besides a re-map if thought necessary, at least the most obvious errors can be corrected.

So please do try to get map faults recorded first, *then* perhaps you can go and stick pins into a wax effigy of the mapper (should the DVO shop sell wax effigies of its mappers?).

And remember that DVO can always do with a few more mappers.

Black Rock and Cromford Moor

Scale 1:7,500, contours 5m.



DVO Training Runs

There are Club Training Runs every Wednesday at 7pm. The runs really do cater for all abilities, and give you the opportunity to meet other club members over a cup of tea and / or pint of beer afterwards.

Please check with the hosts or on www.dvo.org.uk to confirm the venue.

The normal pattern is that the on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month we run from the Johnson's house in Belper, and on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday, we run from the Mackervoy's house in Allestree, Derby. If there's a 5th Wednesday it will be something different.

Buxton and District Orienteers Club Night (open to all DVO members)

Every Tuesday (except at holiday times) from 6:30pm - 8pm in Gothic Hall, Buxton Community School. Please check with Buxton Coach, Dan Riley, to confirm the dates.

Adults £2, Children £1

Activities include:

- Group runs
- Circuit training
- Indoor and outdoor orienteering exercises
- Problem solving activities

No experience necessary. Suitable for all fitness levels, ages and abilities. Everyone welcome including families and individuals.

Club officials

Chair	Stephen Kimberley	Stephen@skimber.demon.co.uk
Secretary	Helen Finlayson	neilentansley@yahoo.co.uk
Treasurer	Roger Keeling	rogerjkeeling@aol.com
Fixtures Secretary	Paul Beresford	paul@pberesford.fsnet.com
Club Captain	Dave Lawson	dvhn.david@btinternet.com
Coaching/Juniors	Val Johnson	gmjandfam@aol.com
Buxton Coach	Dan Riley	danloveshills@hotmail.co.uk
Event Officials coordinator	Ranald Macdonald	r.f.macdonald@btinternet.com

Please notify the secretary of any changes to your address, phone number or email.

Fixtures

This fixtures list is a summary of events being organised by DVO and neighbouring clubs. For full details of these events, and others farther afield, check www.britishorienteering.org.uk or club websites, or look out for leaflets at events.

LOG Winter Series 4/6 Nearest Town: Lincoln Venue: Riseholme	Sat. 12 Dec. 2009 Club: LOG
National Event, Midlands Championships & Interland Selection Race Nearest Town: Cannock Venue: Beaudesert, Cannock Chase	Sun. 13 Dec. 2009 Club: WCH
Shipley Country Park - (White to L/Green) Nearest Town: Heanor Venue: Shipley Country Park	Sat. 19 Dec. 2009 Club: DVO
LEI Xmas Novelty Event Nearest Town: Leicester Venue: Aylestone Meadows	Sat. 19 Dec. 2009 Club: LEI
MDOC Sprint Score Nearest Town: Stockport Venue: Woodbank Park and Vernon Park	Sat. 19 Dec. 2009 Club: MDOC
EM league Event Nearest Town: Ollerton Venue: Walesby Forest	Sun. 20 Dec. 2009 Club: NOC
Level 3 Local and EMOA League Event Nearest Town: Loughborough Venue: Beacon Hill	Mon. 28 Dec. 2009 Club: LEI
New Years Day Street Score Nearest Town: Matlock Venue: Darley Dale	Fri. 1 Jan. 2010 Club: DVO
LEI Winter League New Years Day Local Event Nearest Town: Coalville Venue: Snibston Discovery Park	Fri. 1 Jan. 2010 Club: LEI
Annual Charity Event Nearest Town: Stockport Venue: Lyme Park	Sat. 2 Jan. 2010 Club: MDOC
LOG Winter Series 5/6 Nearest Town: Lincoln Venue: South Common	Sat. 9 Jan. 2010 Club: LOG
Park event with Chasing Sprint Nearest Town: South Manchester Venue: Wythenshawe Park	Sat. 9 Jan. 2010 Club: MDOC
Night Event	Sat. 9 Jan. 2010

Nearest Town: tb Venue: tb	Club: SYO
Colour Coded Event	Sun. 10 Jan. 2010
Nearest Town: Sheffield Venue: Treeton	Club: SYO
Bagworth Woods EMOA League Event	Sun. 17 Jan. 2010
Nearest Town: Coalville Venue: Bagworth Woods	Club: LEI
LEI Winter League Local Night Event	Wed. 20 Jan. 2010
Nearest Town: Leicester Venue: Cademan Woods	Club: LEI
Local	Sat. 23 Jan. 2010
Nearest Town: Chesterfield Venue: Poolsbrook	Club: DVO
LOG Winter Series 6/6	Sat. 23 Jan. 2010
Nearest Town: Lincoln Venue: Sudbrooke Park	Club: LOG
DVO Night Event	Sat. 30 Jan. 2010
Nearest Town: Chesterfield Venue: Hardwick	Club: DVO
NW Night League	Sat. 30 Jan. 2010
Nearest Town: Stockport Venue: Reddish Vale and Tiviot Dale	Club: MDOC
Middle Distance Event	Sat. 30 Jan. 2010
Nearest Town: Beeley Woods Venue: Sheffield	Club: SYO
Northern Championships	Sun. 31 Jan. 2010
Nearest Town: Sheffield Venue: The Gritsone Edges and Big Moor	Club: SYO
DVO Local Event	Sat. 6 Feb. 2010
Nearest Town: Matlock Venue: Littlemoor	Club: DVO
Robin Hood Trophy	Sun. 7 Feb. 2010
Nearest Town: Mansfield Venue: Blidworth	Club: NOC
Local Night Event	Thu. 11 Feb. 2010
Nearest Town: Lincoln Venue: Riseholme	Club: LOG
Local & EM League	Sun. 14 Feb. 2010
Nearest Town: Derby Venue: Allestree	Club: DVO
WCH Regional Event & WM League	Sun. 14 Feb. 2010
Nearest Town: Cannock Venue: Brereton Spurs, Cannock Chase	Club: WCH

LEI Winter League Local Event Nearest Town: Leicester Venue: Western Park	Tue. 16 Feb. 2010 Club: LEI
Charnwood Forest South EMOA League Event Nearest Town: Loughborough Venue: Charnwood Forest South	Sun. 21 Feb. 2010 Club: LEI
Local event Nearest Town: Mansfield Venue: Thieves Wood	Sun. 7 Mar. 2010 Club: NOC
Fairoak & Birches Valley local Nearest Town: Cannock Venue: Hednesford Camp, Cannock Chase	Sun. 7 Mar. 2010 Club: WCH
Colour Coded Event Nearest Town: Barnsley Venue: Tankersley	Sun. 7 Mar. 2010 Club: SYO
Stapleford EMOA League Nearest Town: Newark Venue: Stapleford	Sun. 14 Mar. 2010 Club: LOG
Local Nearest Town: Derby Venue: Markeaton Park	Sat. 20 Mar. 2010 Club: DVO
National Event & Midland Championships & Future Champions Cup Nearest Town: Grantham Venue: Belvoir Estate	Sun. 21 Mar. 2010 Club: LEI
EM League Nearest Town: Matlock Venue: Crich Chase	Sun. 28 Mar. 2010 Club: DVO
Nottingham City Sprint Nearest Town: Nottingham Venue: Nottingham City Centre	Sun. 11 Apr. 2010 Club: NOC
Walton Chasers score event Nearest Town: Cannock Venue: Shoal Hill, Cannock Chase	Sun. 11 Apr. 2010 Club: WCH
Colour Coded Event Nearest Town: Barnsley Venue: West Haigh	Sun. 18 Apr. 2010 Club: SYO