



NEWSTRACK

January 2013



The new DVO top. Will it be ready for the Compass Sport Cup?

Newstrack is the magazine of Derwent Valley Orienteers

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Editorial

We have had some volunteers to take their Newstrack as an e-mail copy, but far fewer than we'd hoped. Perhaps it would make the idea more attractive if we offer to send an e-mail copy to each family member with a separate e-mail address. All you have to do is send the request to Derek Gale, dg.244@btinternet.com.

Copy for the next issue to John Cooke, jholtcooke@btinternet.com by 15th March.

Open Meeting invitation

The next Open Meeting will be held at the Bell Inn, Cromford on Wednesday 10 April. There will be the usual run at 7pm (not compulsory) followed by the meeting at 8:15pm.

The Bell Inn is situated on Cromford Hill (B5036) at the junction with North Street, the first turn on the left going away from the A6: parking either on the hill or in the residential streets opposite. This is your club, come and make your views known.

Thoughts from the Chair

I thought that I would use this edition to look at event safety.

For such an 'adventure' sport we appear to have a very good safety record. Consider the remote areas we use, the exertion, the potential for getting lost, the weather conditions, the age range, and some of the 'lone working' of event officials. It is perhaps surprising that we do not have more worrying situations arise.

In the club and in the sport we have a significant number of dedicated members who take on the roles of organiser, planner and controller. Coupled with the fact that these same people are also regular competitors maybe goes quite some way to explaining why we have a good safety record in that the officials really do know what the sport is about first hand. In putting on events we certainly rely on the skills of the officials to ensure that courses are planned to provide a safe environment bearing in mind the nature of the sport.

BOF requires that a risk assessment is undertaken during the preparation for each event, clearly for safety reasons and in part for insurance reasons. In looking at this at Committee we concur that the risk assessment approach is a good way of identifying, assessing and mitigating risks or hazards and as such fully support the completion of a risk assessment being carried out in advance for all events. Any such risk assessment is the responsibility of the Organiser to complete with input from the Planner, the Controller and any other persons applicable – perhaps team leaders. The risk assessment then needs to be 'signed off' which is normally done by the Controller (or another person who has authority to do so).

We should not think of the risk assessment as being burdensome or as a piece of bureaucracy – it needs to be efficient and should ensure that the significant risks or hazards are captured and where necessary mitigated. It is basically what we have done for years but slightly more formally, probably more consistently and hopefully will help to provide a safety net for those things that may be forgotten. Of course where there have been risk assessments undertaken for the same area for previous events then it is most likely that the previous risk assessment will provide some useful information for the event officials and probably some ready-made solutions. In Committee we are looking to ensure that risk assessments are carried for all events and to make sure that the Club's processes provide for this. I am sure you can all see the requirement for this approach, if however you have any concerns or suggestions then please let me know so that we can consider what is best for our members and all competitors.

Club Captain's Corner – Compass Sport Cup

Our Compass Sport Cup heat takes place on Sunday 17th February against LEI, NOC, NOR, SMOC, SYO & WAOC at the event hosted by LEI at Fineshade, near Corby. It will be a tough match but with the support of all club members we could make it through to the final in the Forest of Dean in the autumn as two clubs will go through (assuming SYO win). The scoring system is fiendishly complex, so all club members play a part in the final score. This is the one event in the year when we run as a club so I hope you will support YOUR club.

Entry has now been confirmed as being via club captain. I need to know that you wish to run by 30th January by email (Liz.Godfree@btinternet.com) or personally. There will be white and yellow courses for EOD for juniors not yet competent on orange but these do not score for CS Cup.

Brown	Men's Open	Short Green	M75+, W60+
Blue Women	Women's Open	Light Green Men	M18-
Blue Men	M45+, M20-	Light Green Women	W18-
Green Women	W45+, W20-	Orange Men	M14-
Green Men	M60+	Orange Women	W14-

As ever DVO pays half the entry fee (so long as you run) so I will be collecting £6 adult/£3 junior on the day. I am investigating getting a bus but I would suggest only if it enables us to park at assembly avoiding the bus transfer.

JK Relays

I need names for the JK Relays by January 31st to get the cheap entry. Please email with your BOF number if I have not already spoken to you. You will find me at Calke with the shocking pink hat and a red folder!

British Relays

I will need names for the British Relays by March 25th to get the cheaper entry. Please email with your BOF number and SI card number if I have not already spoken to you.

Liz Godfree (Liz.Godfree@btinternet.com) 01335 346004)

DVO Membership Report

January 2013

We currently have 307 paid up members and the comparison with previous years is given below. Note that as Family Membership is no longer appropriate the 2013 figure excludes that box and the number is the start of year figure which I would expect to change fairly rapidly.

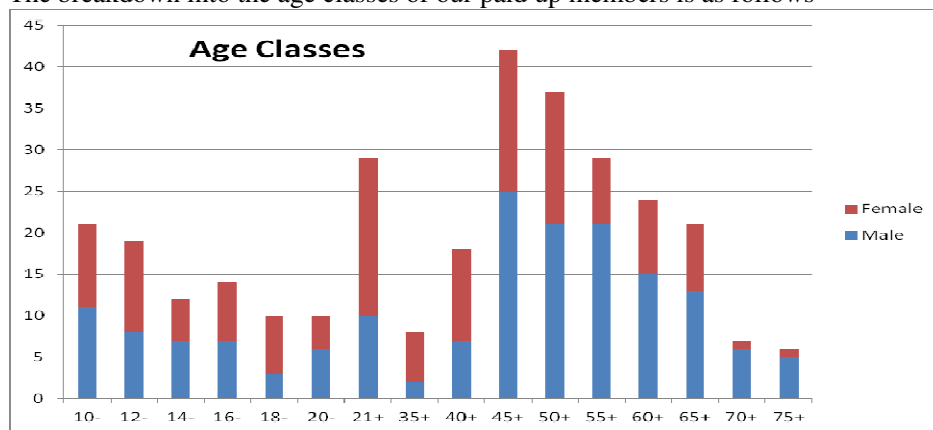
Comparison of membership over the last four years

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Seniors	61	61	69	83	220
Juniors	13	11	11	5	86
Family	254	187	224	206	
Others	5	0	3	5	6
Total Individuals	333	259	307	299	312

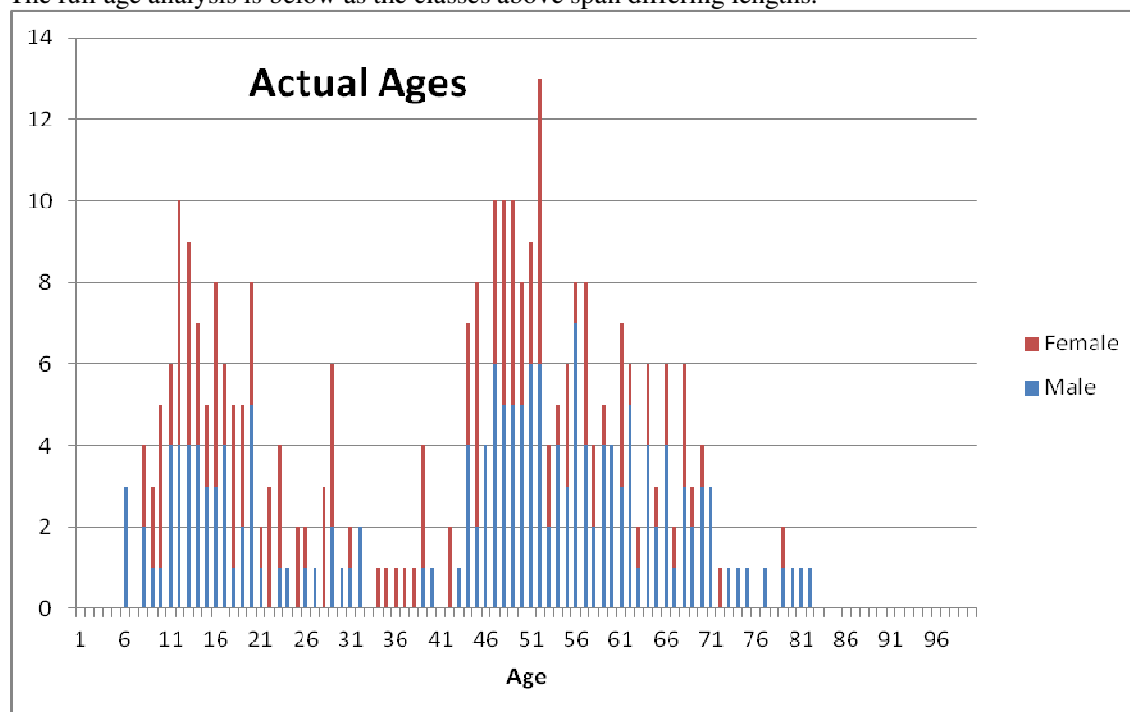
Others in this table refers to Life(5) and Associate Memberships(1 - included in the 307 paid up members). Life Members are orienteers who belong to other clubs now and may not be in this country or those who have retired from the sport.

Age Analysis

The breakdown into the age classes of our paid up members is as follows

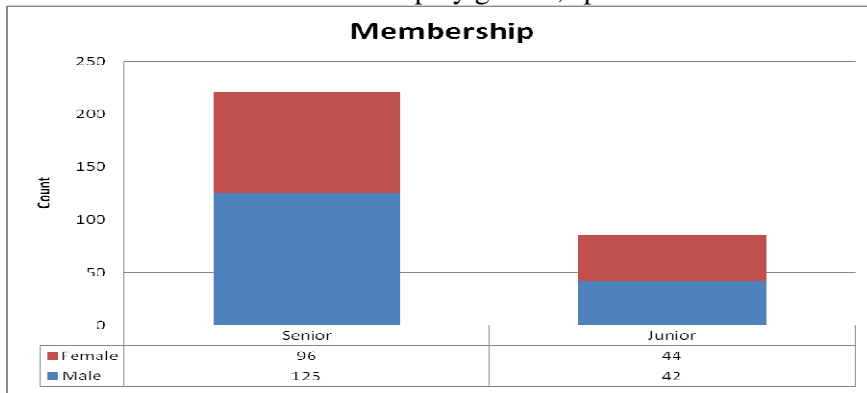


The full age analysis is below as the classes above span differing lengths.



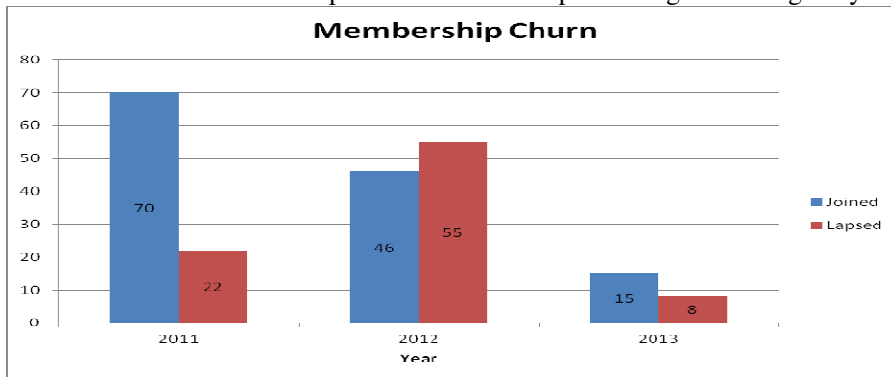
Gender Classification

The breakdown of our membership by gender, split into Juniors and Seniors is as follows



Membership Churn

The Club appears to have relatively stable membership numbers but this disguises what might be termed Membership Churn. This is the number of members who leave compared with the number who join in any one year. Below is the current table the club starting in 2011, using the difference between 2010 and 2011 shown in the opening table. I start counting those that join or leave from November each year as that is when renewals start. There is an assumption that members will renew so the lapsed count can be expected to grow during the year when they fail to do so.



Summary

The membership level of DVO has been fairly steady over the years and with the number of events we stage I believe we are still attracting enough new members to offset those who decide not to rejoin. We are however still very short in the 20 to 40 age group so new members in that category should be encouraged.

Derek Gale
DVO Membership Secretary

Membership Renewal

As Membership Secretary of DVO I have access to British Orienteering's lists of current DVO members and also lapsed members. The latter gets refreshed at the start of each year with those members from the previous year who have not yet renewed. Our lapsed list is quite long at present so I would encourage all those who have not done so to get a move on! Current DVO fees are zero but for Seniors it is £5 for British Orienteering and £2 for East Midlands Orienteering Association (the equivalent for Juniors is £2 and £1). This edition of Newstrack is being sent to new members as well as all 2012 members but lapsed members will drop off the distribution list for the next edition.

Derek Gale

Welcome to the following new members

Heather Brighthouse
 Cavill family
 John. B. Mawby
 McCarthy family
 David Morrow
 Naish family
 Richard Needham
 Colin Pearson
 Amanda Richardson
 Natalie Shaw
 John Wilkinson

We hope you enjoy your time orienteering with Derwent Valley Orienteers. Just introduce yourself at the club tent at any of the club events or come along to any of the advertised club nights, details under Club Nights on the DVO website.

DVO Event Officials

As we move in to 2013 Robert Shooter and myself have taken on the roles of getting officials for DVO events (for the level C and above events). We have a list of officials for 2013 which is shown below:

Date	Location	Type of Event	Organiser/ Co-ordinator	Planner	Controller
1 st Jan	Matlock Street O	Level D - Urban event	Richard Parkin	Richard Parkin	Ranald Macdonald
27 th Jan	Calke Park	Level C - Colour Coded	Paul Goodhead	Rex Bleakman	Bob Haskins(Lei)
24 th Feb	Crich Chase	Level C - Colour Coded	Chris Millard (Andy Hawkins mentor)	Dai Bedwell	John Cooke (assisted by Judith Holt)
21 st Apr	Stanton Moor	Level A - British Middle Distance Champs	Sal Chaffey with Dave Chaffey	John Duckworth	Tony Carlyle (AIRE)
12 th May	Chesterfield (Queen's Park)	Level C – EMOA Urban league		Murray White	
2 nd Jun	Cromford Moor and Black Rock	Level C - Colour Coded	Steve & Sian Mead		
21 st Jul	Buxton	Level C – EMOA Urban League		Dan Riley	
8 th Sept	Hardwick Estate	Level C - Colour Coded			
13 th Oct	Kedleston Hall	Level C - Colour Coded	Sal Chaffey	Rob Smith	Doug Dickinson
17 th Nov	Shiple Park	Level B -, British Schools Champs	Val Johnson	Mike Godfree	Mick Lucking

As can be seen we do have a few gaps still, so we need volunteers to step forward and assist as organisers, planners or controllers for these events (and if anyone is keen we also have events scheduled for 2014 where we can start allocating officials as well). I am also looking to liaise with the other EM clubs to share controllers at Level C events. As you can see we already have Bob Haskins of LEI controlling our event in Calke Park in January, and LEI are looking for a controller for their event in Spring Cottage (a level B event) in November 2013. So again any volunteers for this would be appreciated. Or if you want to request to control any other EM event (for those who have done a number of DVO areas it will get you a chance to control a different area), then let me know and I'll see if there are any events we can schedule you in for.

For those of you who would like to plan but have not had any experience so far, there is to be an East Midlands Introductory Planners course scheduled for April 27th. This would be a good chance to get involved. We can then get you involved as a planner with an experienced mentor at a level C event, or find a level D event for you to try your hand at (if you haven't already done this).

On the same day there is due to be a Planners and Controllers conference for the more experienced officials to discuss various matters. This is really for those with experience and is recommended for all controllers and experienced planners. Dates and venues are still being finalised but it should be a useful session.

Some other points to bear in mind from a controlling perspective as we go in to 2013:

- The Risk Assessment form needs to be completed for all events as early as possible. For future events Robert will be chasing folk up to make sure we have this in place before the event. You should be able to get a risk assessment form from a previous use of the area, but please always consider changes that might have occurred for your event.
- Don't forget when planning events to take in to account the climb on a course. DVO areas are very different and a 10km course in Kedleston Park would be very different to a 10km course in Whitesprings. I think most people to always allow for this, but there are guidelines in place in the rules to assist you in planning.

In the past when events always had results posted out after the event, we often had quite long planners and controllers comments. What might be a good idea is that after each event if the controller wrote a brief synopsis of any key points they think it would be useful to be aware of after the event and sends that on to Robert and myself. That way we can make sure changes can be made to the notes we have available. This might cover:

- Any problems you faced and how you overcame them (even if not obvious to competitors) – could be location of controls, problems with the map, numbers of competitors, etc.
- Anything unusual about the event that gave you a challenge
- Anything that went well

Rex says his bit on the Informal Events (Level D) 2012 Programme

Just a short report to round off things off for 2012. Overall I am pleased with the way this, mainly Saturday mornings, programme has gone.

Getting club members to volunteer for the dual Organiser/Planner role was reasonably painless. I hope that it gave some 'first-timers', confidence boosting, experience that will lead to greater things. Big "Thank You" to all of you and the family, friends and DVO members who helped.

A little bit of analysis. Not too much as I ain't that interested in statistics. I just like everyone to enjoy their orienteering because in this way, in my experience, if you enjoy something you'll come back for more!!!

If you leave out the Derbyshire Schools and Youth Group Championships we staged thirteen events with an average attendance of about 40. The best attendance was Rosliston (South Derbyshire) with 67. That was on a Saturday in the middle of August (School holidays) when there wasn't much else locally. Pointer perhaps?

So onwards to 2013. I have said that I will co-ordinate the programme again. Slightly different for 2013 as each event will have four courses on offer. White, Yellow, Orange and Light Greenish Challenge. A few are already sorted. The first will be Bradley Woods, Ashbourne (Stuart Swalwell) on March 9th. Viv Macdonald and Judith Holt, with the help of the Matlock Community O Club have agreed to do two in their area. Plus one is planned for Ilam on July 13th. So we could do with at least two in Derby City, two South Derbyshire, two Chesterfield way and two in the Buxton area.

What I now need is a few phone calls or e-mails from Club members to offer to have a go at Planning/Organising. We have mapped areas in several county wide locations that are suitable for these Level D events. If you feel inexperienced don't be put off I can find any 'first-timer' an experienced Organiser/Planner to help. Just ask Zoe Gordon. She Planned and Organised a very successful event in Markeaton Park last May with Tony Berwick as her mentor and you don't get much more experienced than Tony !

Rex Bleakman Tel: 01283 733363, email: rexbleakman321@btinternet.com or see me at Calke on 27th January

2012 – A brief review of the year’s events

Dave Nevell

2012 saw plenty of DVO activity on the event front with a total of 26 being staged at all levels although this was 6 fewer than in 2011. Under the new classification scheme these came out as follows:

Level B:	1
Level C:	6
Level D:	19

The lowest classification is a fairly broad church these days. A lot of them were part of the interminable (in a good way) “summer series” and also included two closed events, namely the Derby Schools Championships and the Club Championships although some guests did run at these.

25 different venues were used, the only repeat being Wirksworth urban. The only truly new area used was Broomfield College in April. Farley Moor hadn’t been used for quite a while.

Talking of attendances, the total turnout for all the events together was 3103, representing an average of 119 per event. This total was 303 down on 2011 which had been boosted by the Compass Sport Cup Final. Perhaps surprisingly, it wasn’t the Level B event at Eyam in November that pulled in the most; that accolade went to Shining Cliff in January with 463. The average numbers at each of the levels were as follows:

Level B:	384
Level C:	299
Level D:	45

There were 13 Saturday events, 12 Sunday events and just one other, the Ambergate and Nether Heage rural race on a Wednesday. Members may be interested to know that in the first 15 years of the club’s existence, the total number of Saturday events was a mere 4. Now it seems to have achieved parity with Sunday although it remains the preserve of the smaller events; average Saturday attendances were 43 whilst Sunday’s were 211.

I identified 42 different DVO event officials throughout the year filling almost 60 slots (we don’t have officially listed controllers for a lot of the smaller events). Applying an ad hoc weighting system I attempted to work out an unofficial “official of the year”. This is totally unfair of course because it doesn’t take into account the team leaders who put in a huge amount of uncredited effort, as do the team members themselves. As it turned out, no one person really stood out, but Judith Holt, Paul Wright, Mike Godfree and Rex Bleakman perhaps deserve mentions in despatches for spreading themselves around a bit!

Sports Personality of the Month

No-one! Nothing! A complete absence of nominations! It could be a first. I find it hard to believe that no-one in DVO has done anything silly since the last edition. So is everyone else being unusually discrete? Come on, let John know for the next issue.

The Venice City Race 2012 aka Swim-O

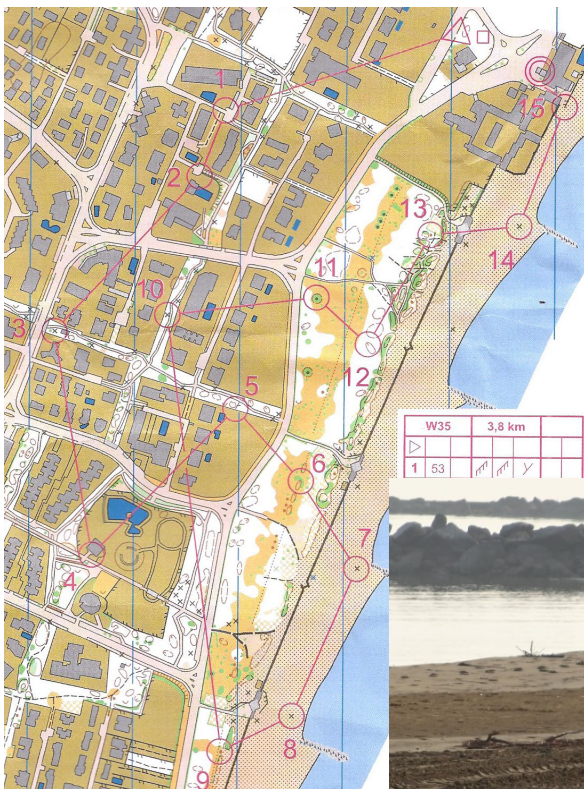
Helen Chiswell

For as long as I care to remember Dad (Philip Cooper, SOC) had been saying that the Venice City Race was on his orienteering "bucket list" and we had to get over there and do it! Well, finally this year we decided to go for it and arranged a weekend in the Venice area, taking in the City Race and the Adriatic Orienteering Meeting that took place on the two days prior to the City Race. We booked some budget flights, courtesy of Ryanair, arranged a hire car and found an apartment to rent. Everything was set for an excellent weekend of orienteering!

Friday: Lignano Riviera

Day one was in the Pineta Riviera of Lignano Sabbiadoro, which is apparently one of the most well-known and popular beaches of Adriatic Sea! You would not have known this on the day of the competition – clearly very out-of-season, we arrived an hour or so before the competition began and the whole area was deserted. Hotels were boarded up for the winter and the place had more of a feel of Chernobyl than of a busy beach resort town!

There had been some confusion over what to expect on the orienteering front – initially advertised as a night race, with starts from 3pm (yes, we couldn't work that out either!), the race turned out to be a sprint day race with starts from 2pm! This was one aspect of Italian orienteering that we had to get used to while planning this weekend – everything is very, very last minute and a little haphazard! However, if you can hold your nerve it all works out well in the end!



The area consisted of a town, small strip of sand dunes and the beach. Courses were relatively simple and winning times very fast.

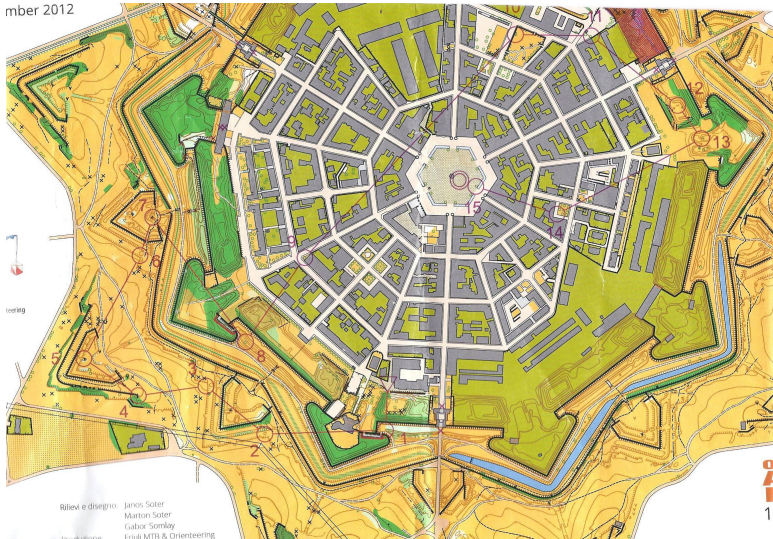
I ran W35 and managed the 3.8km in a respectable 21:06, 2:30 down on the leader. The course was pretty straightforward, with little route choice. It was all about getting your head down and running hard, including on the beach, which was pretty tough going!



Lignano map & Dad on the beach at the penultimate control

Saturday: Palmanova

Day two was in the very unique town of Palmanova, also known as the "star town" because of its shape – a 9 pointed star. It is a fortress town built by the Venetians in 1593, and is an Italian national monument. The area was truly unique for orienteering and I thought it was a shame they didn't try and get more from the area and make it into a middle distance race.



As you can see from the map extract, the entire 9 pointed star town was mapped. It consisted of the central town area, with all streets feeding into the central square, an inner wall, moat, outer wall and defence hillocks at every point on the star! Outside the walls there was some excellent open terrain running with lots of contour detail and inside the walls the usual urban orienteering experience.

An added challenge was presented by the limited number of routes through the walls. There were a couple of gates (mainly way off the routes) and several tunnels through the walls. These were the main thoroughfares chosen by orienteers and the organisers had floodlit them for the event, which was great as they were pretty much pitch black inside!



The courses were shorter than Friday. I again ran W35 and had just 3.0km, which I managed in 24:59, again about 2:30 down on the lead. To finish off an excellent day's racing, the organisers had managed to secure some sponsorship from an ice cream company and we were all given free ice creams after the race! Slightly strange choice for a cold, wet November day!

Sunday: The main event – Venice

I am sure you have heard by now, about the conditions that greeted us when we arrived in Venice on Sunday morning! A very high tide combined with some rain and high winds meant that most of Venice was covered in sea water! It took us some time to work out how to get the ferry around to the event centre which was near St. Mark's Square, as all the routes had been altered due to the high water levels. By the time we arrived, the water was around ankle deep, and there was lots of hoping about and exclaiming how cold it was. Little did we know what was to come! Starts were initially delayed by half an hour, apparently to let the water levels go down as some controls were complete submerged! However, by the time my sister made her way to the start at 9:30, the water levels had risen further! In most places it was knee-deep and in some even deeper still. Starts were delayed a further hour to 10:30, and then finally the organisers decided to abandon the allocated start times and let competitors queue and have a punching start.

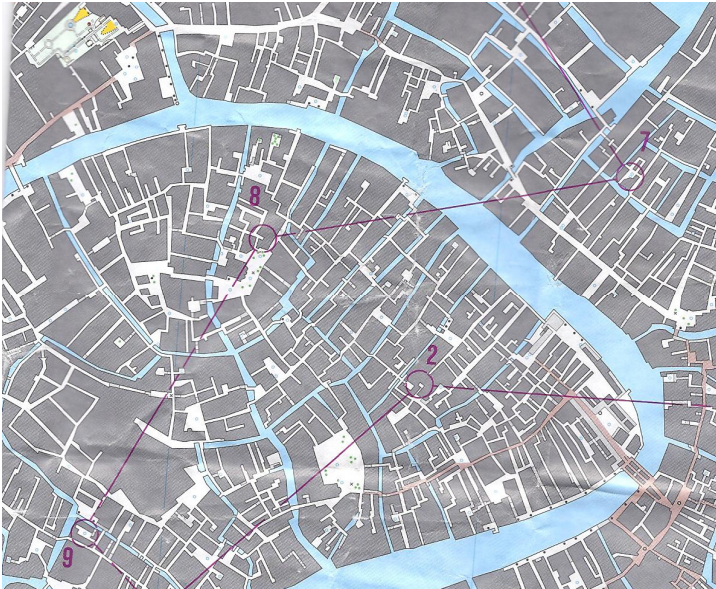


It got even deeper than this!

We headed off to the start almost straight away, whilst others waited (tactically!) hoping the water levels would fall before they started. Making an early start turned out to be a good decision. About an hour after the "free" starts began, the Police told the organisers to stop the competition – Only around half of orienteers had started at this point. The Police had received numerous complaints from local Venetians about competitors splashing waters into their homes and businesses. Having been out on my course, I can understand how this happened. There certainly were some very inconsiderate orienteers out there, running at full speed down the narrow, flooded streets, creating huge tidal waves in front of them, past people who were trying to mop out their homes. After two or three of these orienteers had past and pushed water back

into your house, I think you might have got a little irate too! It's a shame really – as I don't think it was too much to ask for competitors to slow down to a walk in the deeper water and near other non-orienteers. Most competitors did do this, but there were a significant minority, for whom the Venice City Race seemed to be a world champs level of event, in which they were not going to slow down for anybody!

Anyway, despite the deep waters, I thoroughly enjoyed the race and it was certainly the most difficult urban event I have ever completed. Reading and staying in touch with the complex map was a real challenge, especially when running.



I ran the women's elite course (thought I would get value for money!) and there was some legs where the route choice really got you thinking! I have included a small map extract which contains what I think was one of the best legs on the course – controls 7 to 8. Which way would you go? Via the westerly or southern bridge? Post-race discussions seemed to indicate that the most popular choice was via the westerly bridge. Hopefully I have whetted your appetite enough to try a future Venice City Race weekend. Unfortunately, you will have to wait until 2014 for the next race. The organisers have decided not to have a race in 2013 to try and ensure that relations with the Venetians are good for the World Sprint race in 2014. A weekend is being planned for Rome in 2013 however, and this could be equally as interesting:

“Three day event in Rome 1,2,3 Nov 2013. Details still being worked out as to which areas we will use but there will be a mixture urban and park orienteering - as you may imagine obtaining permissions will be challenging here and may affect the ultimate choice of areas. For instance I would like to have the Sunday race in the area around Roma Antica and use Circus Maximus as the Arena for start finish and spectator controls but that may prove to be difficult. What I can say is we will definitely use Pincio/Villa Borghese/Piazza Del Popolo for one of the events with Parco Villa Doria Pamphli, Lotta di Garbatella, Piazza Navona, Colosseo/Roma Antica among the possibilities for other areas.”

Finally a few top tips if you are thinking about a future Venice City race:

- Don't expect UK-style pre-planning and organisation! The Italians seem to do everything very last minute (start times and final details released 24 hours before the event!), but it worked out successfully in the end!
- Unless you have a burning desire to, don't stay in Venice itself. We stayed in Mestre just on the mainland. It was soooo much cheaper, we had somewhere we could park our hire car and it was only a 20 minute, €1.30 ride on the bus into Venice (and there were plenty of buses even at 7am on Sunday morning)
- Hire a car to get out to the races in the Adriatic Meeting – we met several people who had tried to get there on public transport and hadn't made it in time! Car hire from the airport was only €50 for the whole of the long weekend, and once I got used to the Italian driving it was fine!

DVO's top 30 orienteers at close of 2012

Dave Nevell

I said in the last Newstrack that I would reveal who the best orienteers in the club were. So here are 30 of them! Everybody in DVO who had a ranking from 3 or more events on the National Ranking List in December 2012 has had their score adjusted to a common datum; the score it is estimated that they would have been able to achieve (or in Harriet's case will be able to achieve) when they were 28 years old. A gender adjustment (about 15%) has been made for the women and it also assumed that there are 6 scoring events. This is the same procedure that was described in CompassSport Issue 3 Volume 31 earlier this year.

Liz is fairly clear leader at the moment although I think John has been catching up in recent months. There are sure to be one or two interesting personal battles going on – for example. David and Harriet Lawson are a mere two points apart near the head of the table.

That's enough on handicapping for now! I will aim to update this table in 12 months' time. And watch out for updates to the personal handicapping scores which I hope can be put on the web page sometime soon.

Pos	Name	DOB	Adj Ranking Score
1	Liz Godfree	1948	7836
2	John Duckworth	1966	7729
3	Paul Addison	1957	7597
4	David Nevell	1960	7510
5	David Lawson	1963	7354
6	Harriet Lawson	1995	7352
7	Andy Sykes	1965	7343
8	Pauline Ward	1944	7278
9	Judith Holt	1950	7256
10	Mike Godfree	1949	7254
11	John Hawkins	1958	7239
12	Stephen Kimberley	1958	7208
13	Doug Dickinson	1945	7205
14	Andrew Middleton	1948	7122
15	Richard Parkin	1968	7087
16	Robert Smith	1963	7020
17	Andrew Jackson	1963	6986
18	Dai Bedwell	1967	6948
19	Sal Chaffey	1965	6930
20	Graham Johnson	1955	6915
21	Ben Crane	1971	6899
22	Chris Millard	1982	6893
23	Derek Gale	1944	6892
24	Mike Smith	1962	6886
25	David Vincent	1961	6885
26	Helen Finlayson	1945	6869
27	Viv Macdonald	1952	6810
28	Fiona Sellar	1957	6758
29	Paul Armstrong	1953	6733
30	David Parkin	1933	6727

All Orienteering Events* within 50 miles of Derby over the next 2 months and also major events further afield

For further details see either the clubs' website or BOF website

Key: A Major event, B Ranking Event, C Standard Event, D Small Event. For DVO level D events see Informal Events under Fixtures on the DVO website.

DVO events & other significant events are in bold. Events further than 50 miles away are in italics.

*Details and information correct at time of compilation - Please confirm before embarking on the journey.

Day	Date	Where	Club	Event Standard	Nearest town or location
Saturday	26 th January	Ollerton Pit Wood	NOC	D Night event	Ollerton
Saturday	26 th January	Wainbody Wood North	OD	D	Coventry
Sunday	27th January	Calke	DVO	C	Derby
Thursday	31 st January	Baggeridge Country Park	HOC	D Night event	Dudley
Saturday	2 nd February	Chorleton Water Park	MDOC	D	Sale
Sunday	3 rd February	Sherwood Forest	NOC	A Midland Championships	Mansfield
Tuesday	5 th February	Bagworth Heath Woods	LEI	D Night event	Coalville
Tuesday	5 th February	Heaton Streets	MDOC	D Night event	The Heaton
Saturday	9 th February	Tankersley	SYO	A British Night Championships	Sheffield
Saturday	9 th February	Apedale Country Park	POTOC	D	Newcastle-under-Lyme
Saturday	9 th February	Everdon Stubbs	OD	D	Daventry
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>9th February</i>	<i>Bromehill</i>	<i>CUOC</i>	<i>B Thetford Thrash Day 1</i>	<i>Brandon</i>
Sunday	10 th February	Tankersley	SYO	B YHOA Superleague	Sheffield
Sunday	10 th February	Lickey Hills	HOC	C	Rednal
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>10th February</i>	<i>Thetford Warren</i>	<i>CUOC</i>	<i>B Thetford Thrash Day 2</i>	<i>Thetford</i>
Tuesday	12 th February	Western Park	LEI	D	Leicester
Sunday	17th February	Fineshade	LEI	B Compass Sport Cup Round 1	Corby
Tuesday	10 th February	Macclesfield Streets	MDOC	D Night event	Macclesfield
Thursday	21 st February	Highgate Common	HOC	D Night event	Wombourne
Saturday	23 rd February	Gamecock Barracks	OD	D	Nuneaton
Sunday	24th February	Crich Chase	DVO	C	Matlock
Saturday	2 nd March	Outwoods	LEI	D	Loughborough
Saturday	2 nd March	Bramhall Park	MDOC	D	Bramhall
Saturday	9 th March	Hilltop, Sandwell Valley	COBOC	D	Birmingham
Sunday	10 th March	Rivelin	SYO	C	Sheffield
Sunday	10 th March	Bagworth Heath & Woodlands	LEI	C EM League	Coalville
Sunday	17 th March	Harlow Woods	NOC	C	Mansfield
Sunday	17 th March	Bathpool Park & Birchenwood	POTOC	C	Kidsgrove
Friday	29th March	Whiteknights Campus		A – JK Sprint	Reading
Saturday	30th March	Hambledon		A – JK Ind Day 1	Henley
Sunday	31st March	Cold Ash		A – JK Ind Day 2	Newbury
Monday	1st April	Hambledon		A – JK Relays	Henley

2013 Entry Cut-Off Dates for Major Events

	Cheapest	2 nd Cut-Off	3 rd Cut-Off	Others
JK	Passed	3 rd February	3 rd March	No EOD
British Sprint	27 th January	9 th March	9 th April	No EOD
British Middle	28 th January	9 th March	9 th April	No EOD
British Classic Championships	31 st January	31 st March	20 th April	No EOD
Scottish 6-Days	31 st January	30 th April	30 th June	Late
White Rose	Not yet available			

Some of the price increases are significant e.g.

JK Senior for Individual Days	£16.00	£18.50	£21.00
British Sprint Senior	£16.00	£17.00	£19.00

Rocky Knoll Recommends

There is a feast of orienteering coming up in the build up to the various British Championships. You should be just in time when you read this to enter the Midland Championships on 3rd February at Sherwood Forest. The following weekend sees SYO hosting the first two events in the new UK Orienteering League on Tankersley with the British Night Championships on the Saturday and a middle distance race on the Sunday. That's about as close as the Night Championships are likely to be in a long time so get that headlight charged.

Then on 17th February it is the Compass Sport Cup heat for everyone and on Sunday 24th February we have our own Crich Chase event. There is a rumour that start and finish are low down but at least the bracken should be just about at its lowest.

Then on Sunday 3rd March looks like a WCH event at Sherbrook though their web site says "to be confirmed". On Saturday 9th March there is a rare treat of an almost new DVO area but only up to Light Green. Bradley Wood near Ashbourne has not been used for many years. This time you do not have to risk life and limb parking and crossing the A617; instead we have permission to use the JCB area (anyone remember driving across this wilderness in the dark for a night event?). The map now has part of the old airfield but of course the JCB diggers could move the knolls at the last minute.

On Sunday 17th March you can go east or west for league events. POTO are staging a WM league event at Bathpool Park (does anyone remember the Black Panther ?) near Kidsgrove or there is the East Midlands league at Harlow Woods. Or for the really keen there are two more UK O League events but around Stirling (and even then the fixture list says that capercaillie restrictions mean a change of venue).

At the moment the following weekend looks like a taper off for the training before the JK over the Easter weekend. Some Nopesport commentators have been very rude about it using Emit punching. If you have not used Emit then make sure you visit the practice controls.

As ever keep an eye on both the DVO and British Orienteering web sites for up to date information and for those idiosyncratic local events.



An EMOA Conference for Experienced Planners and Controllers

Saturday 27th April 2013, 10.00 - 15.00

(tea/coffee from 09.30)

**at Rushcliffe Country Park, A60 (Loughborough Road), Ruddington,
Nottinghamshire, NG11 6JS**

What the day will include:

1. We are hoping that Barry Elkington (OD) will run a session on planning long distance courses. Barry was Chair of Rules Group and is now on the Events and Competitions Committee. He wrote the very useful series of articles on course planning for CompassSport which are on the British Orienteering website at http://www.britishorienteering.org.uk/page/handbook_mapping.
2. Hilary Palmer (NOC) will run a short update and discussion session on [Safety and Welfare: Sharing Good Practice](#).
3. The week after planning the British Middles Distance Championships at Stanton Moor, John Duckworth (DVO) will run a session on [Experiences and challenges planning the BMDC](#).
4. Through a series of role plays, small group and plenary discussion the emphasis will be on the practical interpretation of the BOF Rules, Guidelines and Appendices as they relate to the events with which we are involved. We will use some recent events to analyse the courses and consider planning and controlling issues, including the need to change the map during the process.

The day also provides a valuable opportunity to meet and discuss issues with other EMOA event officials

What to do:

If you are interested in coming, please let Ranald Macdonald know by Monday 22nd April at r.f.macdonald@btinternet.com

Lunch and drinks will be provided if we know by this date – late bookers may have to bring their own!

There will be no charge for the event as it is being run as part of EMOA's Development Plan activities for 2013.

The day is being put together by Ranald Macdonald (DVO) and if there are particular issues you would like us to bring into the workshop, please let Ranald know in advance.