



## **Bilbao City Race – Liz 2nd on Women's Ultra Vets Prize-giving in front of the Guggenheim Museum**

Christine Kidder (GO) 1<sup>st</sup>, Kari Pederson (Norway) 3<sup>rd</sup>

Pierre Dayon (France) 1<sup>st</sup>, Martin Wilson BKO 2<sup>nd</sup>,  
Daniel Sepans (France) 3<sup>rd</sup>, Mike Godfree 5<sup>th</sup>

**Newstrack is the magazine of Derwent Valley Orienteers**

Editor: [sal.chaffey@gmail.com](mailto:sal.chaffey@gmail.com)



Chairman	Andy Hawkins	a.hawkins517@hotmail.com
Vice chair	Stuart Swalwell	stuart.swalwell2412@mac.com
Secretary	John Hawkins	john.hawkins16@sky.com
Treasurer	Roger Keeling	rogerjkeeling@aol.com
Fixtures Secretary	Stuart Wicks	stuwicks@stadtgenwicks.plus.com
Minutes Secretary	Dave Chaffey	dave.chaffey@gmail.com
Coaching and Juniors	Val Johnson	gmjandfam@aol.com
Club Captain	Graham Johnson	serendipadeedoodah@gmail.com
Committee Member	Rex Bleakman	rexbleakman321@btinternet.com
EMOA Rep.	John Hurley	Johnhurley870@btinternet.com
Matlock Reps	Viv Macdonald & Judith Holt	viv.macdonald@btinternet.com judith.holtcooke@btinternet.com
Junior Rep	Sarah Duckworth	jasrduckworth@btinternet.com
Mapping & permanent courses	Mike Godfree	mike.godfree@btinternet.com
Event Officials Coordinators	Ann-Marie Duckworth Jen Gale	jasrduckworth@btinternet.com jg.244@btinternet.com
Controllers Coordinator	Paul Addison	pxaddison@aol.com
Access Coordinators	Viv & Ranald Macdonald	r.f.macdonald@btinternet.com
Development Officer	<b>Vacant</b>	
Informal Events Coordinator	Sal Chaffey	sal.chaffey@gmail.com
Equipment	Paul Wright	Cpstwright@tiscali.co.uk
Web master	John Cooke	jholtcooke@btinternet.com
Press	Paul Wright	Cpstwright@tiscali.co.uk
Publicity	Sal Chaffey	sal.chaffey@gmail.com
Social Rep	Anne Cunningham	annecunningham15@googlemail.com
Welfare Officer	Sue Russell	01773 857318

## New Members

Welcome back to Dan Kimberley and Mark Goodhead. Other autumn joiners are Kiyoko Naish, Robin Pierce, Isabella Edwards, Ian Warton-Woods, Julie and Mike Corne, Lisa Cooke, the Hall family (Graham, Sarah, Holly and Chloe) and the Peckham family (Christian, Jennifer and Cameron). Good to have you in the Club :)

**Next issue** I've enjoyed reading all the contributions this issue from the many DVO jetsetters, thank you all! And who knew that the Club has staged over 900 events?

The first issue of 2018 will be available at our Birchen Edge event on January 28<sup>th</sup>, which means a copy date of January 21<sup>st</sup> [sal.chaffey@gmail.com](mailto:sal.chaffey@gmail.com)  
Thanks in advance!

## What's inside?



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## Committee and Open meeting dates

Traditionally club **Committee** meets on the second Tuesday of March, June, September and December – so next dates are **12<sup>th</sup> December** and **13<sup>th</sup> March 2018**.

DVO **Open Meetings** take place quarterly(ish) on the second Wednesday of each month at the **Family Tree in Whatstandwell**. All are welcome and there is a run beforehand, at 7pm, with the Meeting starting at 8pm. Bar available and free tea and coffee. The next ones are on **10<sup>th</sup> January** and **11<sup>th</sup> April**. **All welcome!**



## DVO Goes to Derby Velodrome!

**When?** Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2018

**Time?** 10.00am to 6.00pm (approx)

**What?** **The National Omnium Champ-ionships.** Eight races in all 4 events each for men and women.

**How much?** £10 / £6



Tickets can be booked online through Derby Live [www.derbylive.co.uk](http://www.derbylive.co.uk) (apparently it's cheaper than booking in person or by telephone).

We will make further plans for the day when we know who is going.

**Val Johnson**

## DVO Membership Renewals

Membership renewals for 2018 are due by the end of 2017. If you haven't renewed then you should have received a mail from British Orienteering a few weeks ago giving details of how to renew. Alternatively you can navigate to the British Orienteering website <https://www.britishorienteering.org.uk/home>, log in and then find 'My Account' and then 'Renew your Membership'. DVO is very keen for all current members to renew and remain members during 2018 and beyond of course.

**John Hawkins, DVO Secretary**

## Thoughts from the (new) Chair

Well, the Chair isn't new, just the bottom sitting on it....

And I should start with thanks to the previous ~~bottom~~, er, Chair. Thanks to Stuart, the club is in good shape, and I shall do my best to keep it that way. You will read elsewhere about some new ideas on how we can deal better with newcomers to the sport, and to the club.

The other aspect I would like to emphasise for 2018 is the constant need for volunteers. It is really easy to always leave things for other people to do, I know. I plead guilty to this myself. It can seem other people have more time, or more energy, or more knowledge and experience of the sport. But the same old trustees may eventually say no. The club is everyone's club. The work should be shared more equally between everyone.

A typical Regional event (old Level C) needs approx. 30 helpers. We put on about 10 of this level and above each year, making 300 'helper-units'. This is not counting the Local (Level D) events, admittedly smaller, but more numerous.

If you haven't helped as much as you would like in 2017, perhaps we can do something. Is the Help team to which you have been allocated not to your liking? Ask Jen Gale for a transfer ([jg.244@btinternet.com](mailto:jg.244@btinternet.com)). Perhaps you're not in a team at all. Again, ask Jen. Have we not got the right email address for you? (If you've not been getting requests to help, this could be the explanation.) Get in touch with John Hawkins ([john.hawkins16@sky.com](mailto:john.hawkins16@sky.com)). If your work/home situation is such that committing yourself in advance is difficult, explain to your team leader, and perhaps when you *are* able to get to an event you could slot in on the day in place of a previous volunteer.

If you're new to the sport, you will not be asked to do anything difficult, or anything on your own.

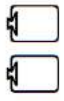
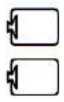
Helping is rewarding. You get to know other people in the club, talk to them and to our 'visitors', and you get a half-price run as a reward. What's not to like?

**Andy Hawkins**

[a.hawkins517@hotmail.com](mailto:a.hawkins517@hotmail.com)



Mike Godfree at the Club Championships at Ilam receiving the new David Parkin Trophy for Services to the Club; appropriately, a helping hand. Mike and Liz organised and planned the races at Ilam (see article, page 8). Mike is Chair of the Mapping Committee, Permanent Courses Officer and leader of the Results Team ... and we all know DVO's results are generally on the website before we've got out of the shower!



## CompassSport Cup Final, Virtuous Lady, Devon

“Sir Francis Chichester, Josh Widdicombe, Sir Walter Raleigh, Chris Martin, Christopher Hitchens, Miranda Hart, Samuel Taylor Coleridge, we have beaten them all, we have beaten them all! Sir Francis Drake, can you hear me? Sir Francis Drake, your boys took one hell of a beating! Your boys took one hell of a beating!”

(With apologies to Bjørge Lillelien).

Which is another way of confirming for the umpteenth time that, yes, DVO triumphed in fourth place (and I confirm that it is indeed possible to triumph in fourth) at the Victorious, sorry, Virtuous Lady at the CompassSport Cup Final in October. A glorious achievement to which all who took part can be proud of having contributed.

I have had the privilege of a sneak preview of ‘Mystic’ Dave Nevell’s comments on his forecast of a measly eighth position for DVO. If I’d forecast my club to come eighth in a field of eleven only for it to come fourth, I’d be keeping quiet instead of proclaiming myself the winner. I’m not letting Dave anywhere near my pools coupon. I understand DVO’s answer to Nostradamus has predicted that, this year, Christmas will fall on 17<sup>th</sup> December so make sure you buy early so as not to get caught out.

I think it’s quite interesting (whether you do or not!) to look a little more closely at how and why DVO confounded the odds.

Firstly of course we were there in numbers; as Sir Dale of Winton so rightly says, ‘You’ve got to be in it to win it’.

A magnificent forty-six DVO members hauled themselves down the M5 (more than even went to the heat), dwarfing the efforts of some clubs closer to Devon (OD and SN, ahem, who couldn’t even manage the minimum twenty-five necessary to count).

Of those 46, as you’d expect, the majority were to be found in the Short Green Veterans class where DVO counted 10 of its runners, a maximum four of whom contributed to our overall score. In fact, DVO managed to have at least one runner in each of the eleven categories, only SYO exceeding this feat (so if you know of anyone harbouring any M16s or M18s for next year, please let me know).

The only other category which contributed a maximum four was perhaps surprisingly the Junior Women where DVO managed to field a third of the overall total in this class! Sarah Duckworth matched the achievement of her sister, Rachel, in Orange Women by winning the class outright, but Sophie Vincent, Grace Pennell and Isabella Edwards all scored 88, 82 and 78 points respectively in DVO’s total of 2,154. I think I’m right in saying Isabella had never even done a Green before and though she came twelfth, her score was still enough to feature in DVO’s 25 best, because (a) she completed her course and (b) there were relatively few in her category. (SYO’s juniors were impressively multitudinous, and SYO should be congratulated on the success of their comprehensive programme of local events, but only 8 SYO juniors over 4 categories in fact comprised part of SYO’s counting 25 runners).

Two of our counters were Mark Goodhead (one of only two DVO Brown Men but scoring 80 points) and Sophie Gordon (likewise, one of two DVO Blue Women but scoring 89 points), both of whom were late entrants but who nevertheless made a precious points contribution, for the same reasons as previously mentioned.

And here is a valuable lesson for the future. DVO may spend a great deal of effort in trying to recruit junior orienteers, the next generation to replenish the declining ranks of those of us hobbling arthritically through the few precious years which still remain, but so, apparently, does everyone else! One way to succeed is to bombard the age classes with as many bodies as possible (see above), the other is to identify the classes with the fewest members and make sure you have people in them. Unfortunately, these tend to be the younger (particularly female) age classes: M14- and W14- (23 each), M16/18 (17), W16/18 (12) and Brown Women (18).

There’s only so much we can do about the junior classes (although I was encouraged by the numbers at the club champs). However, next year, I may be looking to some members to run up a class or two for tactical reasons! (I wonder what sort of response I’d get from Jen Gale if I suggested she should run as a Blue



**Jane B at the spectator control. Can you name the tor on the horizon?**

**Dave Chaffey off for his run**



Woman; I suspect it would be the air that would be blue and my ears red). But it might be worth a tactical shot...

I think that it's time for the CSC organisers to change their rules and extend their categories to include a twelfth, i.e. to split Short Green Vets into male and female just like every other class. At present, women compete against M70 men at W60. When you look at the results, W60/65s do well against their M70/75 counterparts, five W60/65 women being in the top ten of SGV in Devon, but W60+ made up 16 of the bottom 20. I don't think it's fair to pit a W70 against an M70 – you wouldn't in any other class – particularly when, if you're a women, you are likely to spend (hopefully) many years as

an SGV once you hit 60. Splitting the class on a gender basis would still have left two competitive classes of 47 women and 30 men in Devon. (By the by, the present system also prejudices DVO who had more than the maximum 10 SGVs permitted.)

No sooner has 2017's CompassSport Cup been consigned to the knackers' yard than its 2018 successor is already snorting in its trap-gate. I've recently had an email from the organiser of next year's competition. The good news is that, if we get to the Final again, we'll only have to go to Cannock Chase. But first we have to fend off the fervent efforts of our East Mids competitors at the

heat; nothing can be taken for granted.



The Club Captain, happy to reach the Finish!

Cannock so possibly scope for more teams than usual) and the British Relays (Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> May on Torphantrick, Deeside, Scotland so possibly scope for less!). Closing date for the JK Relays is Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> March but note that the 'cheaper' individual closing date is Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December). The cost goes up £2.00 per day after that.

Onwards into 2018! May it be a rewarding one for all.

Graham Johnson, Club Captain [serendipadeedoodah@gmail.com](mailto:serendipadeedoodah@gmail.com) (photos, Sal Chaffey)



W21 now at Bristol University, Sophie Gordon

## CompassSport Cup footnote

Anyone who read the CompassSport Cup preview in the September edition will have seen the little prediction contest between Francesco Lari and me. Well, Andrew Powell joined in as well, albeit with a little more advance information

Pos	Final	Predictions		
		Andrew	Francesco	Dave
1	BOK	1	3	2
2	FVO	2	2	1
3	SYO	3	1	3
4	DVO	8	8	8
5	DEVON	4	9	6
6	NGOC	7	11	10
7	SN	6	7	9
8	OD		4	5
9	CLOK		10	11
10	SO		6	7
11	LOC		5	4

than we had (i.e. the start lists) and not surprisingly met with rather more success. He got the 1-2-3 correct but rather blotted his copybook by suggesting that SARUM, a team that wasn't even competing, were going to finish 5<sup>th</sup>. For that reason, I am going to disqualify him and declare myself the winner (see table, just trust me). The real winner was of course DVO itself, a result that defied our joint expectation of 8<sup>th</sup>. In our defence, none of SN, OD or LOC managed to score full teams; had we known that they weren't going to be at full strength I think Francesco and I would have been predicting about 5<sup>th</sup>. Beating DEVON was the key. It is unlikely that our non-scorers pushed their scorers down as they had much the bigger team but we held them off. I'm not going to attempt that analysis – it's complicated enough with 2 or 3 teams, let alone eleven.

Dave Nevell

The club Fixtures Committee had originally proposed holding this year's competition at Grangewood south of Swadlincote in October. However, on trying to get access I discovered that the main landowner had just died and I wasn't willing to contact his widow so soon. With time running out and no other volunteers Liz agreed to plan if we could have it close to home so that she could visit the area easily. That suggested Thorpe Pastures but the rifle range were not prepared to grant access at the weekend in case they were shooting. We turned to Ilam only to find that there was a large wedding taking place in the Hall on the chosen date. Now would you want a DVO flag growing out the bride's head on your wedding photos? Not to mention the number of cars and people there would be.

The next convenient date with the National Trust, Ilam Hall and the orienteering calendar was November 25<sup>th</sup>; fortunately just before they started their Christmas Tree sale. So with a room booked for download etc and a room booked for the meal in the Hall finally everything was in place.

The first planning visit revealed as ever a number of map corrections – enclosures removed, trees felled, old tree stumps no more than a twig. On one of our visits we cycled and used Liz's prize from the Ilam Fell Race (a cream tea for two). Liz wanted to finish through the buildings behind the Hall but not with a long path run, so that all the courses could finish with the same last control. As ever the simplest course tends to define the start and finish locations. But neither of us could read the old map there so I decided to bite the bullet and fully update the map. The new map uses ISOM 2017 symbols even though still at a scale of 1:5000. Did you notice the open blue square for the water troughs? (Not at the time, but now I see that there were lots – Ed.) At the same time I rotated it to the current magnetic north and improved the positioning of some of the trees (Google Earth is a marvellous asset in an area like this). Even then we felt that an enlargement of the finish area would help to make it clear. After test running the courses we made a few adjustments.



Diane Blount, 1st woman across the line,  
wins the Judy Buckley Trophy

Drawing up the map in Purple Pen demanded some careful work so that you could have a full set of control descriptions and the download system would know about each full course. You will have realised afterwards that the Medium course first ran most of the Short course and then a part 2 which was identical with Long part 2 before finishing off with the last few legs of the short course. The intention was that a large pack would chase through the last few controls but still have to pay attention – just in case.

At the closing date we had over 80 entries but a few cancellations later it was looking like 75 runners – still more than most recent years. Formerly active member, Dave Nevell, produced his detailed handicaps down to the last second based on a large database of your runs. We then adjusted one or two obvious anomalies (not by enough in Diane's case!) and changed them to the nearest half minute to

make the start process simpler and to avoid runners only seconds apart after big gaps.

With the maps turned round very quickly by the printers we were almost ready to go. The start clocks were charged and then on Friday morning I very carefully set one to real time and one 90 seconds fast for call-up so there would be beeps on both the full minute and the half minute. Control descriptions were photocopied.

Friday was a glorious but cold sunny day. We started hanging around 2pm with 25 controls in the park. Controls were gripped where feasible just in case walkers or sheep took a fancy to them. Soon the sun disappeared behind the hill to the west and it turned very cold for the last few controls. It was then we discovered that our start area had been fenced off because someone had sunk a car into the soft grass. Also that 3 enormous piles of logs which had been around long enough for the satellites to see had been burnt. So a quick addition to the start lane maps.



Dave Clough, 1st man across the line,  
receives the Chris Yardley Trophy



Fastest man & women Chris & Rachel receiving the Karen Jackson & Peter Bourne trophies (above & right)

Saturday morning the alarm went at 6:30 and we soon realised there was snow outside with more to come. Arriving on site before 8 we split up to hang the remaining controls in a blizzard. I visited the Youth Hostel reception to collect two keys and unloaded the car. I then set off on a personal score course to make sure all the controls were still in place and were awake for the first runners. Not a single problem and that only took me 45 minutes whilst Liz laid out the start and finish. By 10 we were ready for action.

Although football had been called off for the O'Donnells because of incomplete teams it was ironic that the snow actually made getting to Ilam from Buxton difficult.

After that it seemed a blur. With Ranald marshalling the road crossing and Stuart manning the heavy gate into the park for the juniors my two main concerns were covered.

Everyone got away on their scheduled time. One unfortunate consequence of the format is that there is no-one to cheer in the winners other than Liz and myself. We had not long cleared away the start when Diane appeared with Dave soon after. A quick check at download and yes they are indeed this year's winners. Two new names on the trophies though we reminisced with Dave about the time at Linacre when he and our Chris (then about 13) were at the last control together. We always thought Dave had let Chris win to avoid having to organise the next year! But maybe young legs had the benefit on the run in.

We were very pleased to see so many newish club members turn out. For many of you it would have been your first club champs. We were surprised at the number of club members fit enough to run on Sunday at Sherbrook, Kinder or Eccleshall who had chosen not to take part. I know, a variety of reasons. It was still the best turnout since around 2008. We were very pleased at the number who stayed on for the lunch and the number of spouses, even if it made the room rather crowded. Our thanks to those spouses for setting up the room and washing up afterwards. I had first told the hostel we would have 30 then 40 and we ran out of plates and cups. Obviously having lunch on site made a big difference to the numbers.

Thanks to the control collectors, we were able to tidy away very quickly and join the throng just before the prize-giving. Only leaving trips to Ilkeston and Ambergate to return equipment.



(photos, Sarah Parkin and Sal Chaffey)



Orienteer of the Year, Junior Orienteer of the Year and fastest junior (Lithuanian Trophy complete with amber) were won by Jake, Rachel and Leo. Jake M12 won both the British Sprints Championships and Middles Championships as well as his class in the British Schools Championships. Rachel was 1st every day of the JK in W14 and also won her class at the British Schools in November in the Forest of Dean. Very well done, and good luck for 2018!

Once again the handicapping for this failed to produce the close finish I strived for. The two winners (Dave and Diane) both required some manual guesswork on my part as they lacked much recent form. The envelope of uncertainty I had about Dave was such that he would have been first man back whatever I had chosen. Diane is clearly on a rapid curve of improvement which I failed to detect, but that in itself would have been no reason to penalise her. Both are clearly worthy winners. The rest of you are just as unpredictable as ever. A slight error on my part was underestimating the overall speed of the terrain which resulted in the average finish time being at 11:54 rather than 12:00. I don't think this had a major effect on the outcome but it did mean that the final starter, Steve Hand, ended up going off on Short just 8 minutes before the first finisher. At least he didn't know that at the time. I was pleased that the first three finishers were from three different courses (with first Junior not far behind) but there appears to have been a 3-4 minute average advantage gained from running the Short course. This is a significant improvement over the course to course variation seen last year and I must thank Mike and Liz for test running them to help in the calibration.

As a footnote to the footnote, 75 was a great turnout for a snowy day in November, the highest turnout for a Club Champs since 2009 and the third highest in the club's (almost) 49 year history.

## Coaching day in the Lakes, February 10th

The Orienteering Foundation is pleased to announce that we have arranged a coaching day on Saturday 10 February 2018. The day will be held at **Tarn Hows** near Hawkshead in the southern Lakes and will run from 10:00 to 15:00. Participants can be of any standard other than absolute beginners.

As well as the individual coaching (which will be restricted to participants age 18+), Clubs may also organise their own coaching (which can include juniors) using the controls set out, provided they take full responsibility for their groups and use appropriately qualified coaches.

You can make it a weekend of orienteering and practise what you've learned by participating in the LOC orienteering event at Black Beck Woods near Newby Bridge on Sunday 11 February.

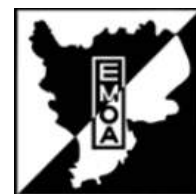
Don't delay in getting your place as numbers are limited for safety and to ensure a good in-forest experience.

Full details and how to register are on the Orienteering Foundation website at <https://www.orienteeringfoundation.org.uk/orienteering-foundation-coaching-day>

Neil Cameron  
Chair, Orienteering Foundation

## East Midlands Urban League winners 2017

Congratulations to all the winners, especially DVO members (shown in blue):



### Juniors Points (maximum 400)

Women 16–	Rachel Duckworth	396
Men 16–	Jake O'Donnell	393

### Open

Women	Sal Chaffey	389
Men	Richard Robinson (NOC)	396

### Vets

Womens' 40+	Tanya Taylor (LOG)	400
Mens 40+	Francesco Lari	382

### Supervets

Womens' 55+	Amanda Roberts (LOG)	400
	Ruth Ellis 2nd	372
Mens' 55+	Andrew Ridgeway (NOC)	392

### Ultravets

W Ultravets	Liz Godfree	400
M Ultravets	Doug Dickinson	388
	Mike Godfree 2nd	370

This year's Urban League kicked off in Belper on January 2nd, hibernated in the spring to resurface in a heatwave in June at the Meadows and Loughborough University. Then there were events in the summer and autumn, culminating in the December 3rd race at Wollaton East and Nottingham University.

Four races count, with each win scoring 100 points. You can see from the table that Liz won all 4 of hers!

Prizes will be awarded at Buxton Urban on January 1st, which of course is the start of the 2018 League, dates below!

- 1 Monday 1 January: Buxton (DVO)
- 2 Sunday 29 April: Southwell (NOC)
- 3 Sunday 10 June: Quorn (LEI)
- 4 Sunday 24 June: Skegness (LOG) (*also part of the UKUL 2018*)
- 5 Sunday 19 August: Lincoln City (LOG)
- 6 Sunday 16 September: Nottingham (NOC)
- 7 Sunday 7 October: Shepshed (LEI)
- 8 Sunday 9 December: Oakwood (DVO) (*also part of the UKUL 2018*)





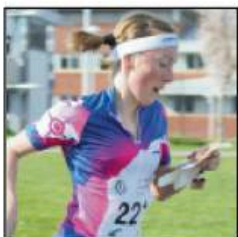
# ***Navigate Buxton!***

## ***Try Urban Orienteering with DVO***

**Jan 1st 2018** from 10:30am for 11:30am start  
**Registration at Buxton Pavilion Gardens car park**



- ▣ Courses from 2.4km to 7.9km, for all ages & abilities. Run, jog or walk!
- ▣ Children's courses in the Pavilion Gardens, older children also use a low-traffic area
- ▣ Enter on the day, £9/£7 for Courses 1–5, £3.50 for Courses 6 & 7 (competitors under 16 can only compete on these courses due to road crossings)



Further details at <http://derwentvalleyorienteers.org.uk/> or email [jasrduckworth@btinternet.com](mailto:jasrduckworth@btinternet.com).  
 Pay & display parking at the Pavilion Gardens, off Burlington Road

## Have you ever thought how confusing our sport is to a newcomer?

If you are a newcomer to the sport, or you introduce a friend some time, there is now some more help at hand. Visit the DVO website, press the Newcomers button, then the Help for Newcomers button, and you will see two new DVO booklets.

**“Your First Event”** tries to unscramble the jargon that we use, and to make sense of the bewildering-to-a-newcomer chaos of the carpark, registration, start and so on. You could send it or give it to a newcomer before or at (preferably before, there’s a lot to learn!) an event. The club will have a printed supply of these at Registration, usually as part of a Newcomers pack, all for £3.50, dibber included. (Genuine First-timers only!)

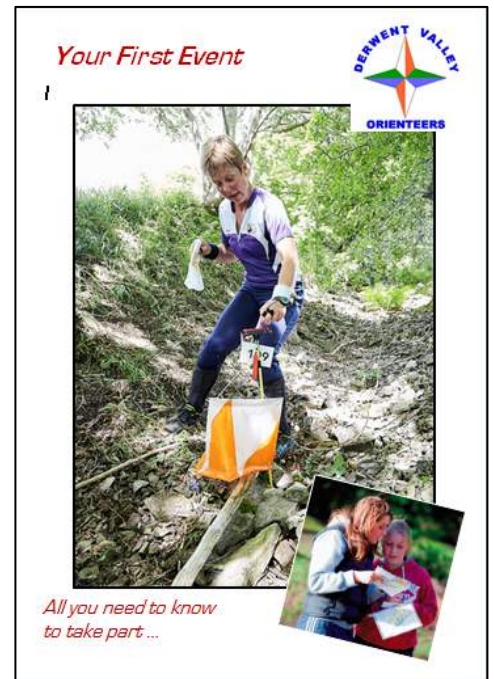
If you are introducing a newcomer, strongly suggest they do either a Yellow, or Orange course. This is partly to make sure their first experience is a happy one, but mainly to help them avoid pictorial control descriptions. They may think the distance is ridiculously short, but it will take them longer than they think. If they haven’t had enough after their first course, we’ll offer them a second one that day, free of charge.

**“Your Second Event”** takes them a bit further, explaining the colour-coded system, equipment they might buy, and most important, a key to pictorial control descriptions. We won’t have printed copies of this, but email it them, or give them the web address. With luck, they may now survive in our strange world, and are ready to cope with the really tricky bit ... navigation!

These booklets can be used by anyone in the club. They were designed with adults in mind, but juniors and parents are welcome to give them a try.

Booklets help, but the best introduction is by a friendly person. The Enquiries team try to do this when they can, but an ideal introduction would be to be with the newcomer through Registration, through the Start, and up to the first couple of controls. And where possible to meet, or contact, the newcomer again after the Finish. So, if you’re injured and can’t run, how about helping newcomers? See the Enquiries team, ask at Registration about the Newcomers Pack (Level C only, but Help booklets available at Level D as well), get a hi-vis and smile!

**Andy Hawkins**  
DVO Chair

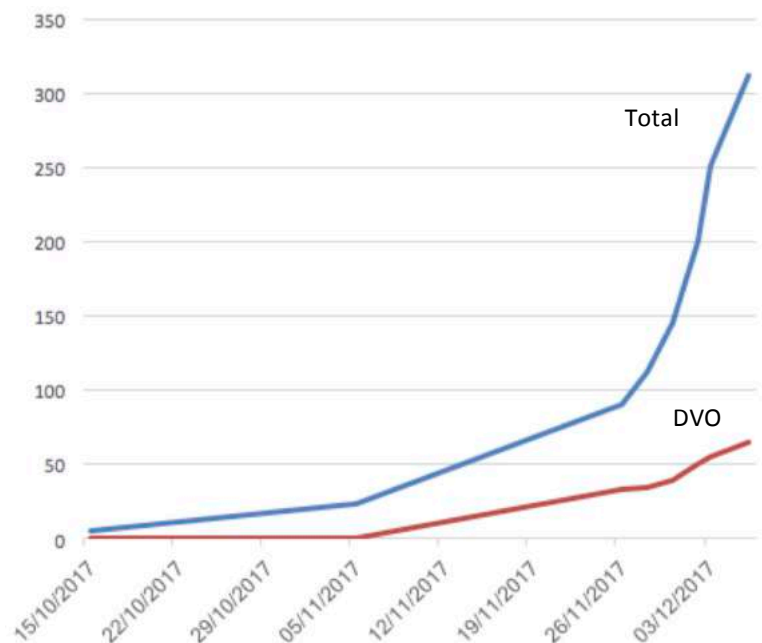


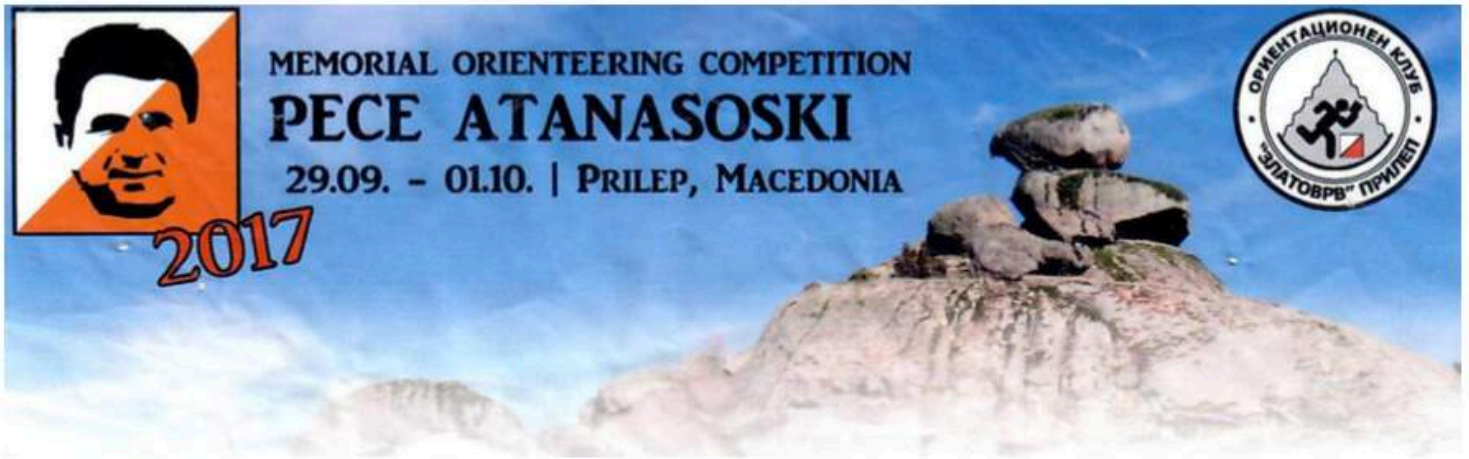
## **Fabian watch, Eyam Moor**

You will be reading this Newstrack shortly after the Eyam Moor and Bretton Clough event. I decided to track entries to monitor the ‘last 24 hours phenomenon’. An amazing 97 entered in the last 24 hours before entries closed!

While event organisers are aware of this trend towards last-minute entries, I’m sure they’d be reassured if the curve was nearer the diagonal! It’s good that the DVO curve flattens out in the last few days, in contrast to the ‘Total’ curve. Sometimes, of course, people have good reason to enter late, for instance if an injury is healing or if there are social ‘unknowns’. Often though, it’s simply the ‘Sunday night phenomenon’!

**Sal Chaffey**





Some idle browsing turned up a 3 day event in Macedonia. Most people would be hard pressed to locate Macedonia on a map! A small land locked nation in the Balkans established in 1991 and surrounded by Albania, Kosovo, Serbia, Bulgaria and Greece, it's only real international acclaim being its long running dispute with Greece about its name!



The 'original' Macedonia from Alexander the Great's time also included parts of Greece and Bulgaria.

Pece Atanasoski was the JK of Macedonian orienteering, founding OK Zlatovrv in Prilep and putting Macedonia on the world orienteering stage. His sudden death at the age of 60 in 2009 was a huge blow to the club and the growing Macedonian Squad.

Memorial Orienteering Competition "Pece Atanasoski" (MOCPA) 2017 was the sixth event in memory of the founding father of Macedonian orienteering.

Four of us gathered at Luton Airport for the early morning Wizz Air flight to Skopje.

The usual messages about the draconian cost of data and calls greeted us on landing (Macedonia is only a candidate for EU membership) together with a welcome message encouraging us to visit the Museum of the Macedonian Struggle.

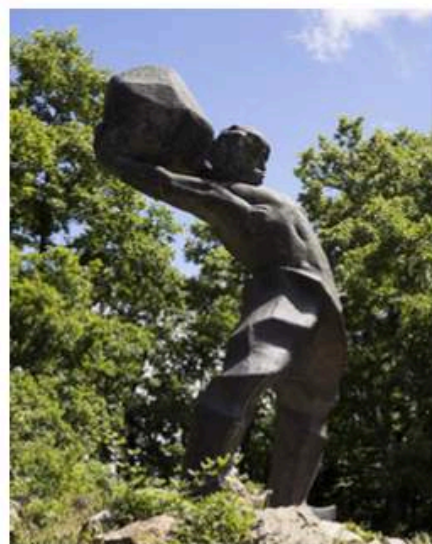
A couple of hours later we were over the pass into Southern Macedonia and in Prilep ready for the action.

Our first evening introduced us to the delights of Macedonian beer and food – we did our best to eat and drink in style but could only push the bill to just over £20 for the four of us!!

The next day we headed west across the plains towards the mountains that separate Macedonia from Albania. The sprint race was in Krusevo – the highest town in the Balkans at 1500m (higher than Ben Nevis!) It was misty and a little chilly.



*Event Director - Meri Chkripeska  
at WOC 2011*



*Pitu Guli  
Hero of the Battle of Mechkin Kamen*

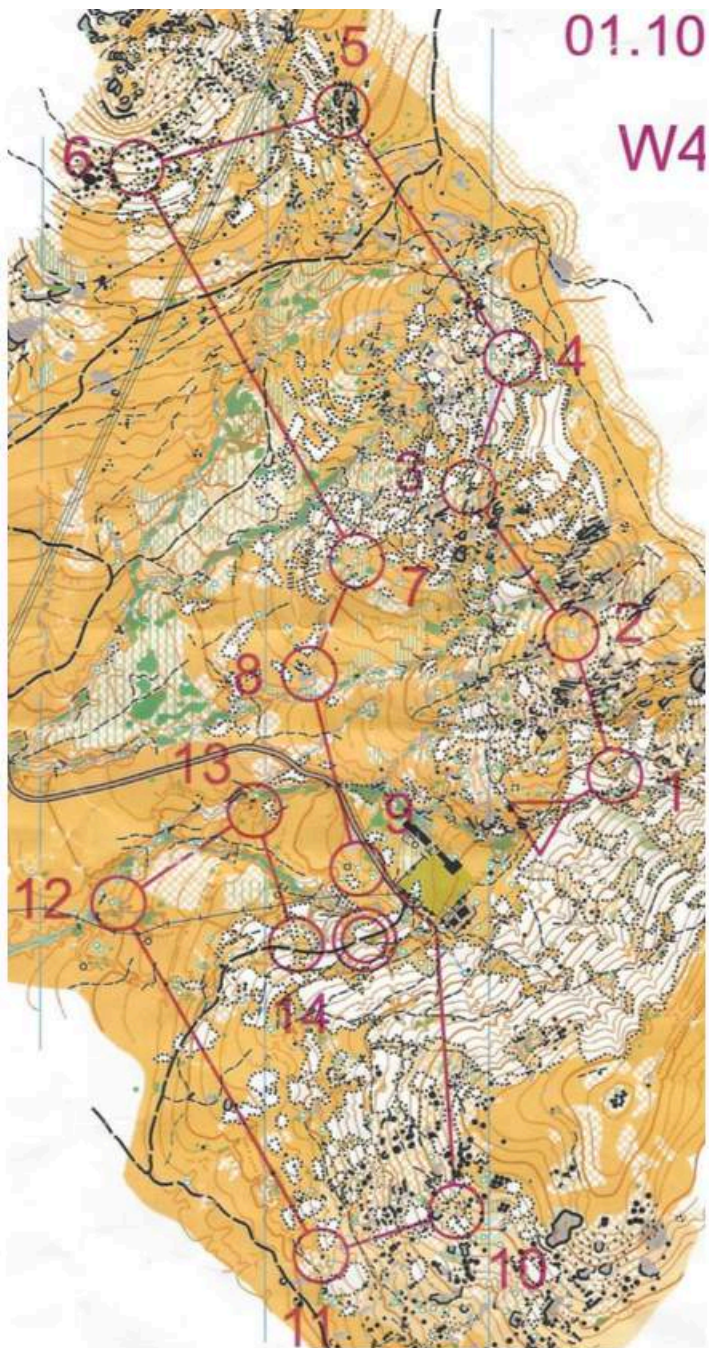
Krusevo was the centre of the Macedonian uprising against the Ottomans. We visited the battlefields of 1903 and enjoyed our first introduction to the Macedonian Struggle. The Republic of Krusevo lasted just 10 days before the uprising was crushed at the Battle of Mechkin Kamen.

Krusevo also hosts an impressive museum commemorating the life of Tose Proeski – a local lad who made it big as a singer but died in a car crash in 2009 at the age of 26. He used much of his wealth to support local causes including the local monastery.

The sprint race was from the local primary school recently refurbished with aid from Norway.

The courses were well planned with lots of route choice in the narrow streets and alleyways.

Tony and Helen won M70 and W40 so we were off to a good start.



W40 course



For Day 3 and a chasing start the Event Centre was to the east of Prilep at the monastery of St. Demetrius of Salonica. The terrain was steep, rocky and partly covered in pine, but there was still no excuse not to run!



Before the prize giving everybody was provided with a Macedonian lunch cooked in the monastery.

We headed back to Skopje for some sightseeing including a visit to the Museum of the Macedonian Struggle (for independent statehood). History graduates from the local university enthusiastically related the tales of the political struggle and the battles we had seen commemorated in Prilep.

The 7<sup>th</sup> MOCPA is scheduled for the Orthodox Easter weekend (one week after the JK). A four (or perhaps five) day event is planned. Mark it in your diary for some O in unique terrain and the chance to support the Struggle to establish orienteering in Macedonia.



Post mortem over a Macedonia beer



Prizes for Helen & Tony

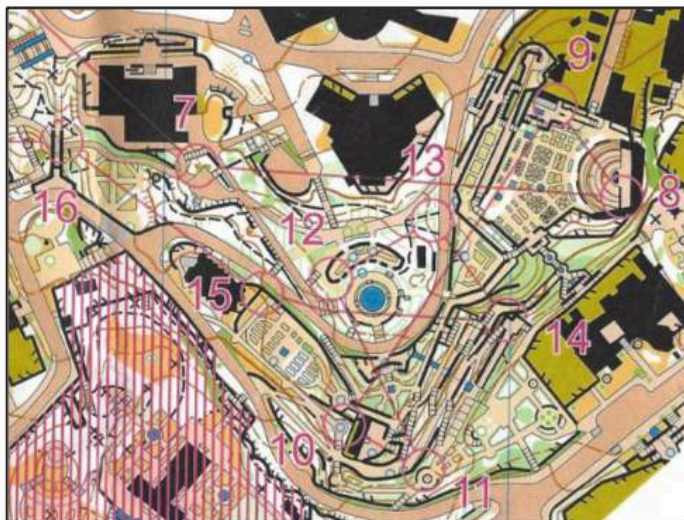
Looking for a bit of winter sun, Rachel, Doug, Andy and I decided to make a quick trip to Barcelona for the city race at the start of November. It didn't disappoint – with warm temperatures, sunshine and only a bit of rain!

### *Middle distance*

Saturday's event was a middle distance around Montjuic – Barcelona's Olympic park. I don't think I have ever climbed up and down so many steps and even escalators in one orienteering race!

They were relentless! Courses were short, as you would expect in a middle distance, but all the stairs, walls and fences added up to much longer running distances – my 3.5km ended up being 5.5km.

The map and courses were excellent with lots of detail on the map to keep you thinking. You needed to keep an eye on the control descriptions to ensure that you didn't end up on the wrong side of a tall wall or on top a bridge with the control far below you!



*Extract from middle distance courses - W Vet & M Supervet*

The map extract shows the best of the area with numerous steps and walls to keep you thinking and lots of detailed route choice decisions to make.

We all had reasonable runs, but were pleased to see that Rachel and Doug had podium positions overnight with a 3<sup>rd</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> on Women's Open and Men's Open respectively. There were some advantages to entering Open rather than Elite!

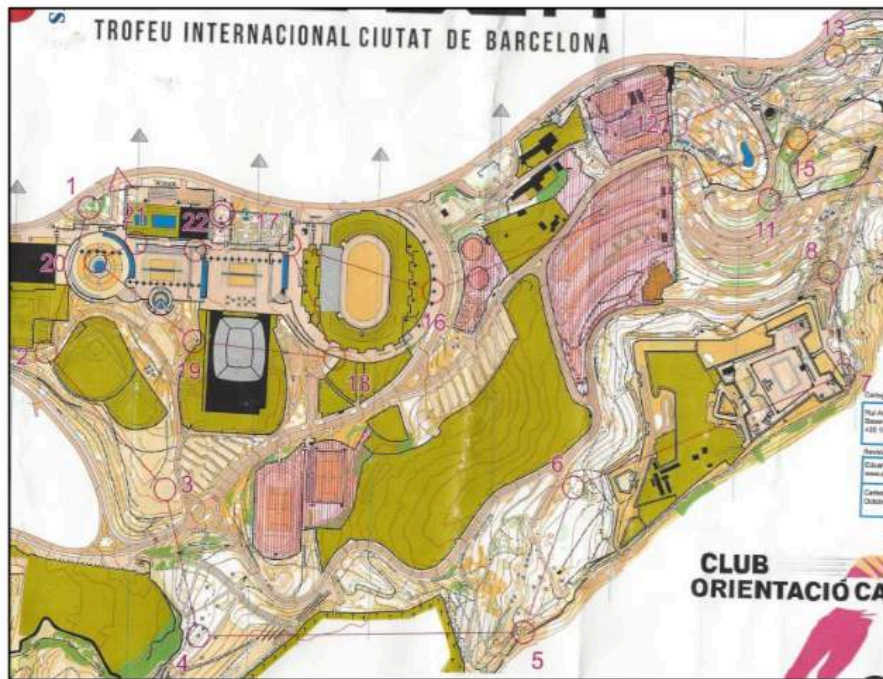
We spent the afternoon picnicking in the Olympic Park and admiring the view from Montjuic Castle at the top of the hill – this proved to be a nice reccy for Sunday's race!

Rachel had booked us in for a meal at "Dans le noir" on Saturday evening. This probably wasn't great preparation for Sunday's race, but was very amusing. If you haven't heard of it, I can highly recommend it, and, as the name suggests, it consists of eating your dinner, served by blind waiters, in the pitch black!

### *Long distance / city race*

The city race itself was also held at Montjuic – the rumour was that concerns over interruptions in the city from the recent Catalan independence demonstrations meant the race was moved out of the city itself. As it was the only evidence of demonstrations we saw was that at 10pm every evening, all those in favour of independence came out on the balconies and banged their saucepans together for 30 mins!

However, Montjuic made a great setting for the race and the map covered a different part to Saturday. Courses provided a mix of urban and terrain orienteering. Navigation was simpler than Saturday, but nevertheless there was lots of detail on the map to keep you concentrating. The other notable difference on Sunday's race was the lack of steps and escalators, which was very welcome with tired legs!



"City" race – W Vet

There were some legs with great views around Montjuic Castle (that we had partly receded on Saturday afternoon!) and some fast running with walls and gates to consider around the old Olympic stadium. Times on the courses were very fast and there was a definite advantage for those who did not run on Saturday and had a fresh pair of legs!



Rachel and Doug win a prize!

After a bit of a wait whilst everyone finished, we were happy to see that Rachel and Doug had maintained their podium positions and we needed to wait for the prize giving. There were typical Catalan sausages for the first three in every category! They provided a nice addition to our lunch!

If you fancy a bit of winter sun, the Mediterranean Champs are in February (16<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup>) and are being held in and around Barcelona. There's a race out in the mountains of Montserrat, a long distance on Montjuic and a sprint in the old town itself (independence protests permitting!)



## Sports Personality of the Month

**Pauline Ward** who, helping on Registration at Chesterfield Urban, had with her the map she'd used in 2015. Course 5 maps ran out and had to be re-used, so Organiser Claire Selby took a batch over to the Start. When Pauline later went to start her run, what were the chances that she'd pick up her map from 2015? Yes, you've guessed it, but only after a good few seconds staring at the map and seeing it had her name and her route marked on, did she realise what had happened! You couldn't even make this stuff up!!

## ☆☆ Star Runners ☆☆

Bit of a catch up again I'm afraid. Well done to all below who performed best against handicap at the following events.

Date	Venue	Star Runner	Course
02/04/2017	Irchester	Jake O'Donnell	Lt Green
09/04/2017	Crich	Ben O'Donnell	Lt Green
26/04/2017	Calke	Liz Godfree	Green
12/05/2017	Burwell	Graham Johnson	Green
23/09/2017	Kedleston	Anne Cunningham	Lt Green
15/10/2017	Burrough	James Bedwell	Green
05/11/2017	Shirebrook	Viv Macdonald	Green

**Sshhh! David Parkin is 84 and being a true Yorkshire man, Sarah thought he'd like a limestone pavement cake, as seen on Facebook and CompassSport!**



David's limestone pavement is Malham, although the only thing to signify that is the wrap-around map (saves icing the edges!). The cake originally appeared as 'Attermire' (opposite) for Dave Chaffey's birthday in October, following a trip to Airienteers' Dales Weekend in September. Note the stile made from olive picks!





Annie and I have never orienteered abroad before. We were rather put off by travelling to Ronda in southern Spain for WOD two years ago to be met by torrential rain and an event cancelled with no warning and no notices. How poor must we be at orienteering, we mused, if we can't even find the event! But Ranald and Viv were organising this trip, so what could go wrong!

After a sensible early Friday night (not!), with only water and coke drunk (oh, you're not going to believe any of this, are you?) we awoke at stupid-o'clock to catch the coach into the middle of nowhere for the first event. Which we did – the first coach. Well done us. We drove for an hour through the rain and mist, round switchback roads with what should have been stunning views. Oh good, we are here. Er, where's here? Where are the trade stands and the marquees and the food stalls and the club pennants and the rows of shining, sweet smelling toilets? Is this the right place? The queue for the five portaloos was comic. Each person in turn opened a door, gasped in horror, pulled their buff high over their noses and entered the black hole of Legutio. Then gasped back out with mimes of the flush not working, no water, no toilet paper and disappeared off to do their run.

The DVO contingent had taken up residence on the top floor of a two-storey portacabin. Liz and Mike swept out the water with a piece of plastic and we huddled in one, dry corner. Others joined us and we were cosy for a while – until the event officials came and threw us out. The structure was pretty unstable but at least it was dry! It was then taped off with yellow and black tape that we know no self-respecting orienteer would ever cross.

The drizzle did eventually stop and off we went, shivering in our DVO tops, to start times which ensured that partners ran two hours apart. Only 2.1km. How difficult could it be! Very difficult, it seems. Only when I go birding am I slower than I was that day. But the beech forest was lovely, so it wasn't all bad. Mike Godfrey was 1<sup>st</sup> in his class. The rest of the results are best kept buried in a Spanish archive.

Back on the coach to the apartment for a brief rest and then out for the night sprint around one of the city's lovely parks and along the river. Ranald and Annie made their now well known 180 degree error out of the start but the rest of us had decent, fast runs. Liz was 1<sup>st</sup>, and Viv and Mike 3<sup>rd</sup> in their classes. More archiving for the rest of us.

The hard work of a long day, enormously fun and sometimes very funny, was over and we could return to our beautiful, enormous apartment in the old town to clean up for dinner. More mineral water and coffee was quaffed (with the occasional medicinal glass of Rioja) in preparation for the big day.

Sunday dawned chilly and bright and Viv and I, leaving Annie, Ranald, Derek and Jen enjoying a lie-in, had the city to ourselves as we headed across town on the fabulous public transport network to the beautiful Guggenheim museum. The event building went on around us as we admired the stunning architecture and sculpture, the red leaves of the maple trees reflecting in the river, all under a canopy of blue.





How different it was from the day before (although the same toilets put in a surprise appearance, there were other, clean toilets in the museum and a nearby café). Music played, smiles beamed, a radio presenter interviewed runners and tourists, they started to arrive, looked on, totally bemused. We all enjoyed our runs. We covered so much of the city, although most of it was ignored as we searched corners

The station we all ran through and didn't see

for elusive orange and white kites. The runs were tough and long, especially after yesterday's efforts, but well planned and clever.



The missed control!

We were done and dusted by lunch time. Liz and Mike again put in DVO's best performances and Annie and I promised each other speedy dibbers for Christmas so we could at least be competitive on the run in! We showered and changed and headed back out for a river trip, the boat being filled with British orienteers, huddled indoors against the returning drizzle.

We had finished running and we had several more days to enjoy the city. On Monday Viv led us out to see (and ride on) the iconic Puente Colgante, Bilbao's answer to the Tees transporter bridge, along the coast at Getxo with its stunning early 19<sup>th</sup> century villas and into the old fishing village of Algorta for a stunning, three course, 18 euro lunch in a converted fishing shack. The next day we enjoyed the city separately: a funicular railway, the Guggenheim from the inside, the market and the whole city that we had rushed through on Sunday. Out to the coast on the last day, with a visit to the island featured in Game of Thrones (I know, it was lost on me too, but very beautiful) and another lunch

in the sunshine).

Bilbao is lovely. After the civil war, the thriving industrial area was abandoned by Franco because it sided with the wrong guys. It fell into ruin and my 2005 guide describes it as 'not beautiful'. Well, the building of the Guggenheim, the development of the riverside, the fantastic old town, the clean streets, first class transport system (1 hour coach trip to the coast 2.50 euros, all tram rides 1.50 euros) has seen that change and an ambitious deindustrialisation process is seeing the emergence of a completely different city.



Location of Dragonstone from Game of Thrones

Well worth a visit, and the orienteering was a bonus. So when's the next event?

## A weekend in the sand dunes of Northern Holland!



Each year my dad, sister and I like to try and find a European O weekend to do together. This year it was a little tougher than normal though, as my sister had used up all her annual leave for her honeymoon earlier in the year, so we had to find something that could fit between a Friday night and Monday morning!

We spotted the Veluwe 2 days in the calendar – just a short drive from Amsterdam and with one day on an open sand dune area, it looked like it could be a good short weekend. With so many cheap flights on offer to Amsterdam, we all flew separately from different corners of the UK and met up in the arrivals hall at Schipol, arriving from Manchester, Birmingham, Southend and Southampton!

The weekend started on the Friday night with Day 0 - the organisers had added an urban night sprint relay to the event, giving us three events over the weekend.

### *Day 0 – Urban night sprint relay*

Friday night saw us in the old town of Wageningen for a fast and furious night sprint relay. Each leg was 3.5km actual running distance and the leading teams were back in less than 15 minutes! We adopted a somewhat more sedate pace, with our leg times ranging from 23 minutes to 30 minutes. The area made for an interesting sprint race – quite a few alleyways to lose yourself in and the canal added to the route choice decisions on several of the legs.



*Leg 1 on the night sprint relay*

The planning was good and made the most of the area. The courses had been sliced and diced to give 9 different leg options and, with only 30 teams in the event, meant that you were running your own race most of the time.

### *Day 1 – Long distance in the sand dunes!*

Saturday was the race we had been looking forward to – a classic race in the sand dunes – and it did not disappoint!

The terrain was a mix of wide open sand dunes and runnable forest areas with lots of contour detail. Courses were well planned to ensure that the few line features on the map were of little use. The best



*View across the sand dunes mid race – lots of lost people!*

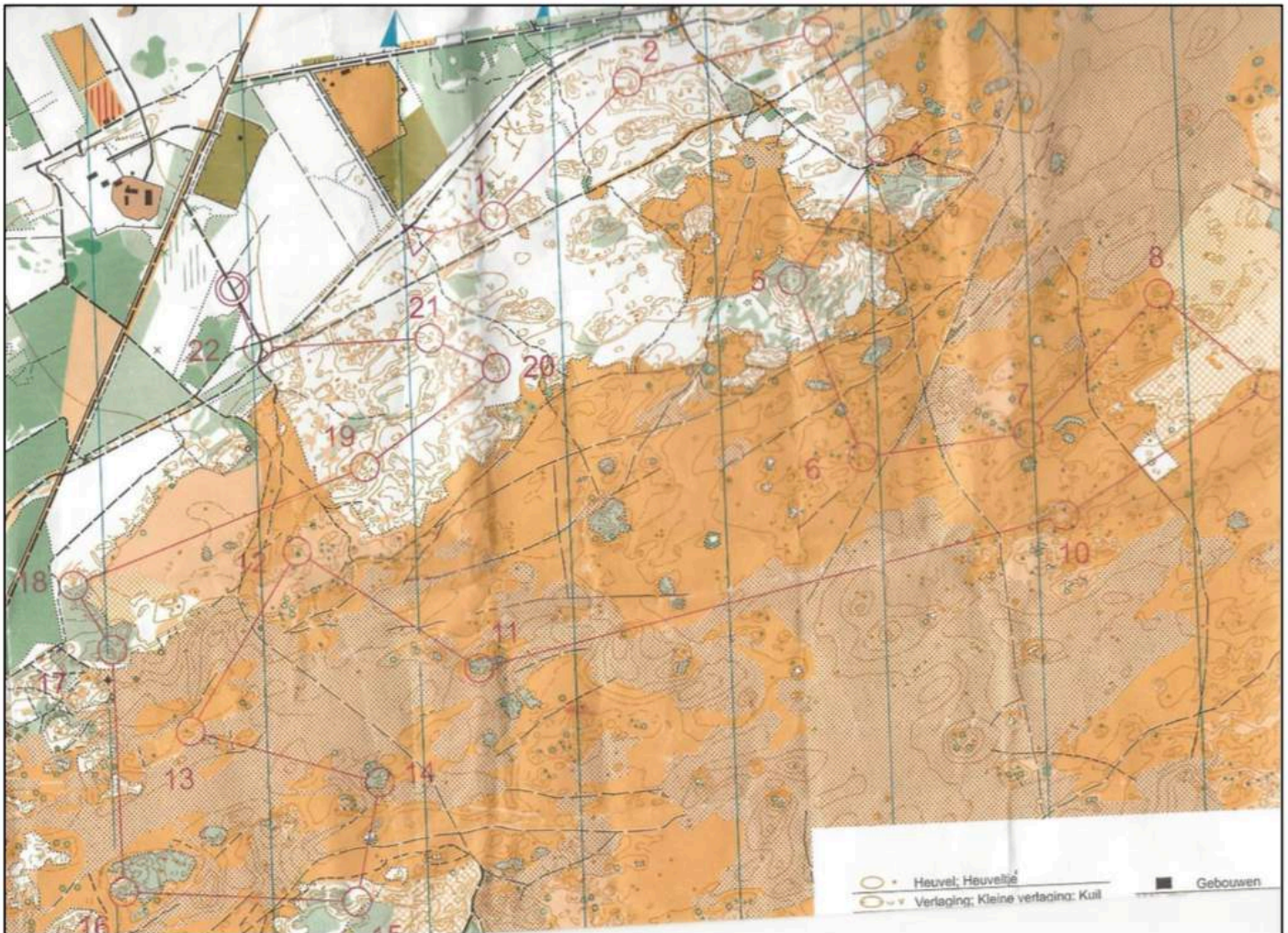
route was almost always the straight line and there was lots of fine contour navigation to keep you on your toes!



Rachel trying not to get lost in the dunes

The area was a challenge for many people and there were lots of lost looking souls out on the courses and some long times posted on the results board.

Dad and I had some good runs (4<sup>th</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> respectively), with the area playing to our strengths of navigation over speed!



W35 / W40 / M50 / M55 Day 1 course in the sand dunes of Kootwijkerzand

## Day 2 – Middle distance

Sunday was a middle distance event on a forested area near Ede. There was quite a bit of contour detail, but with many paths and other line features, navigation was not too tricky and correspondingly times were fast. I didn't have enough energy left in my legs to speed round the course and so despite my good performance on day 1, I ended up in 4<sup>th</sup> place. Disappointing as the bespoke pottery plates that had made for the event prizes looked quite good!

The best thing about the day was the excellent café at the event centre, serving excellent *erwtensoep* – a traditional Dutch pea soup, with meat of course! Very welcome after a long run in the cold!

We headed back for the airport pretty quickly after the event, having opted for the afternoon rather than evening flights. Everything worked out well and we were back in our respective homes by 5:30, ready for another working week!

The event is run every year and makes a cheap and easy weekend orienteering break – we would certainly recommend it and will probably be back again! In 2018, the event is moving slightly further north (if that is possible whilst still remaining in Holland!) and being organised by OLV Minor. They are promising 3 days (even though it's the Veluwe 2 days again!) of fast orienteering with challenging detailed contour terrain. The Saturday is a world ranking event, so is likely to be popular and there is often a small (300) entry limit for this event. So, if you are keen it would be worth getting your entry in early!

- ▶ Friday October 26, 2018 – Night sprint in the old inner-city of Harderwijk
- ▶ Saturday October 27, 2018 – Middle distance, Zandenbos
- ▶ Sunday October 28, 2018 – Classic distance, Stroese Zand

Helen Chiswell

## Francesco's linguistic adventures Finland

Francesco Lari

When my wife asked me if I wanted to join when she was going to a conference in Helsinki at the end of August I quite naturally, and much to her regret, started looking if there was some orienteering in the area. Luck was, the Espoo orienteering club was organizing a 2 days in the area, with a sprint on Friday evening and a middle on Saturday. As you can expect in Finland, even if the race was only a regional one, organisation was superb, with the level of details in the race instructions that you can expect from a JK over here. But Google Translate hasn't yet caught up with Finnish, so the translated instructions made for some funny reading, like the following bit:

The competitor emulates his Emit card on the goal line. After that he will go to the Emit card reader according to the instructions for checking the tile contours. When a rejection proposition comes, the competitor moves to the adjacent crying wall where the matter is handled.

After finishing the competition, the competitor may keep his map, but may not show it to an unsettled competitor in accordance with a fair game spirit. Interrupted competitors sign up for the finish.

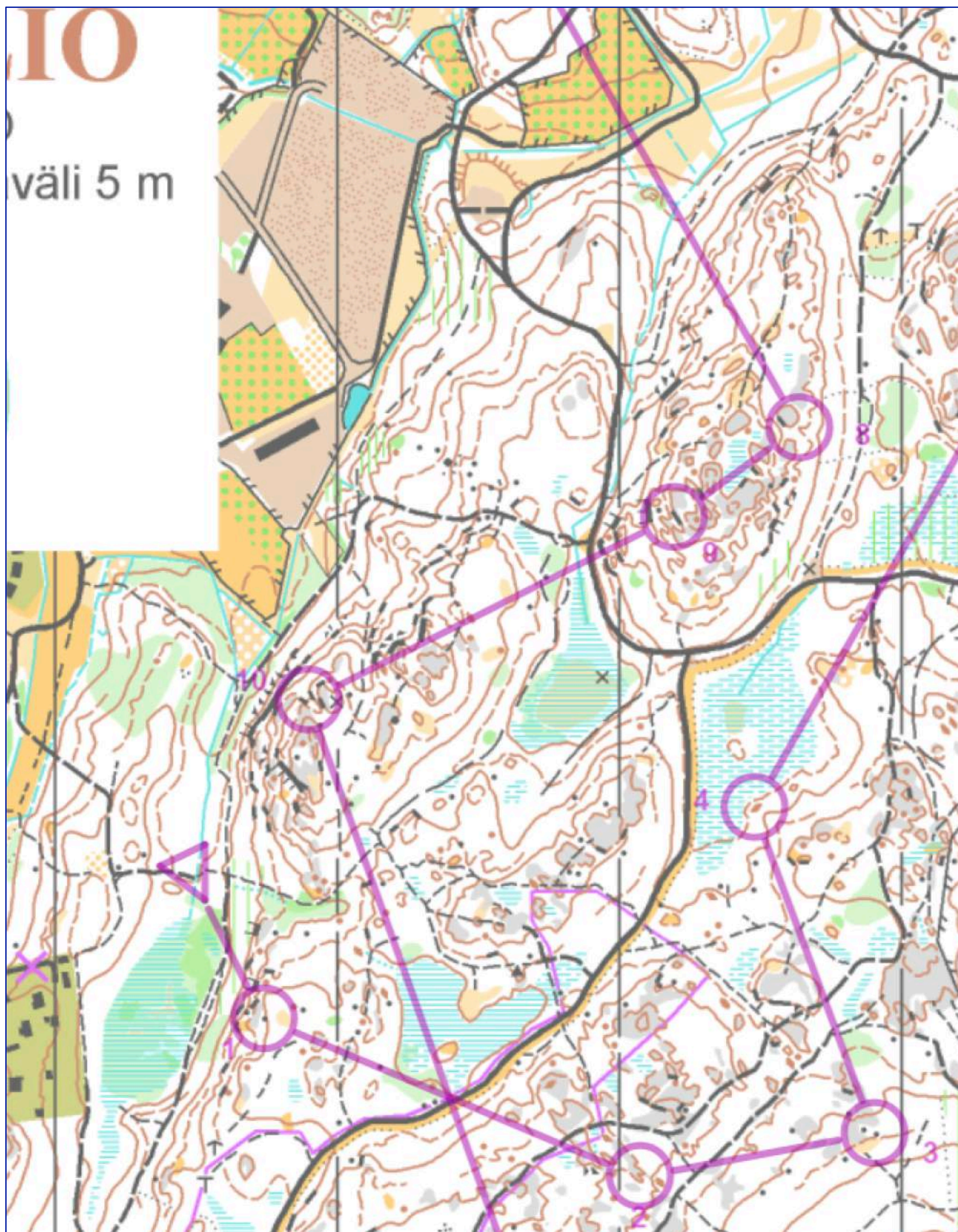
The sprint was in an urban area, and every bit of private lawn or OOB area had an official from the organising club looking over. I am assuming that the reason wasn't really that they wanted to DQ somebody, but that they wanted to do a sprint that had the look and feel of a world cup event. If you expect to have a substantial number of youths and elites that may be involved in International racing that makes perfect sense. On a personal note I even managed a best split in M50 between 15-16 where all the quicker runners decided not to take the underpass and the other route must have been slower (opposite).

Saturday was probably rather easy by Finnish standards, but the white is deceptive in that it was very slow running because of the



fallen trees combined with a rather thick forest that made the controls visible only when you were on the spot. Let's say that I don't expect I have scored a lot of Finnish ranking points in this one.

And when I got back to the Hotel on Saturday I turned on the TV and they were broadcasting the world cup relays on National TV (I think they were in Latvia). Now this won't happen anytime soon on the BBC or the Italian TV.



# WSC

**When Sunday Comes**

*(Except when it's Saturday or Wednesday)*

RDO – Real Derbyshire Orienteers. Fanzine No 24

*Ich bin ein Belperer*

## Seasonal greetings to all our readers

It's a headline without a catch (page 4)

No, really it is. We aren't hiding anything. Honest. (Page 7)

For goodness sake, just take it at face value! (pages 92-96)

Alright then! Have a right old miserable time if you insist -supplement

### RumpassSport Cup Final Fourth Place Disaster

You can't say we didn't warn you. We could have just about accepted sixth or seventh but fourth! What were you all thinking of? Did a fit of collective madness descend on the team? Have the principles of Real Orienteering been sacrificed on the altar of ambition? Enquiries are under way and action will be taken, mark our words. WSC has a long memory. Just saying.

### A Haiku from the RDO poet laureate in response to the RumpassSport Cup Final result

*Real orienteer*

*Look into the dark mirror*

*Of your soul. And weep*

By EJ Throbb aged 97½. Please give generously.

### Back to Business

Well, at least that's out of the way for another year and the less said about it the better. What else has been going on? The 2017 East Midlands Junior String Course Championships at Cromford Rocks, sponsored as usual by Bad Dog Breweries, controversially seemed to have passed off this year without controversy. That is until it transpired after the event that the shape of the string had been arranged to spell out an obscene phrase in Esperanto. For obvious reasons we can't repeat the phrase here other than to say that the advice proffered on exactly what to do with one's walnut dibber rack has been proven to be a physical impossibility (*I still say you should give it one last try – Ed*). Full refunds have been offered and we can assure you that the offending string has been incinerated.

### A short guide to orienteering terminology

Hurley (vb, liz). – to hurley is to eke out the usable life of any piece of old orienteering clothing by using safety pins. Preferably one very big one.

*(we did warn you it was short – Ed)*

### The Orienteer – How It works (continued....)



The national orienteering magazine is called RumpassSport.

It is lovingly crafted by artisans in a woodland cottage in Surrey using totally green technology.

This attention to detail means that publication dates can sometimes be a little delayed.

You'll be getting the October 1877 edition anytime soon.

### Top Tip of the Month

There is 100% certainty that you will win your next race if you eat three (*tip continued on page 9*)

From the casebook of reporter extraordinaire Miles Piles, WSC is proud to present .....

#### **The Mystery of Cromford Rocks – Part Four**

*The story so far: Bob McNut, editor of Gripple Monthly, has been elected as the new puppet chairman of the Big Orienteering organisation (BOO), seemingly with the clandestine support of evil chutney magnate Sir Branston Pickle who is determined to build new factories on prime orienteering land. Belper Thunderer reporter Miles Piles is on the case and has just been informed that there has been a serious outbreak of Larch Lurch at Cromford Rocks. Now read on.....*

The prime suspect for the outbreak was clearly Kevin the three-toed Hungarian boll weevil, on the run from the Commission for Lots Of Trees (CLOT) where he had previously worked as a pest advisor but had fallen out over a disagreement about subscription to *Big Lycra*. I needed more information. There surely had to be a link to Smalls here – all this trouble had kicked off the moment he had been released from jail. I set off to pay CLOT a visit, at the same time sending my assistant, cub reporter Robin Wood, to check out things on the ground at Cromford Rocks. The journey to CLOT took a couple of hours and it was late in the afternoon by the time I arrived. I knew the lay of the land at CLOT, having visited the HQ before for various reasons over the years so I was therefore surprised to find that a few changes had taken place over the few months since I had last been here. Whereas before it was a simple matter of pulling into the car park and going through to reception, now there appeared to be a huge increase in security. A freshly installed perimeter fence had been erected, necessitating passing through a manned security post just to get to the parking area. Beyond that, who knows what. I decided against making my arrival public and drove on by, parking the car out of sight around the corner. I took stock.

Something felt wrong. I decided that I had to gain access without being detected. Once inside I was confident my sleuthing skills would see me through. Five minutes later I was crawling through undergrowth at the rear of the building, covertly tracking the line of the new fence. I was in luck; although not easily detected, a short section of fence didn't follow the shape of the ground and I was able to worm my way underneath. Two minutes after that I was inside the nerve centre of CLOT. I now reverted to my tried and tested method for snooping around practically anywhere without coming under suspicion. I donned my handy "roll up in a tiny bag" white lab coat, complete with ubiquitous ID pass and tucked my red clip board and pen under my arm. Almost immediately a couple of staff appeared in the corridor and looked at me in puzzled fashion. "Health and safety," I muttered, "There's a problem with the latest canteen delivery of Magnus Magnusson frozen elk balls. Can't take chances." They looked satisfied and passed on without comment. Good, it was working. Now, I needed to find the pest consultancy offices where Kevin had been working. The building was huge and it could take some time. In here CLOT masterminded the running of huge swathes of British forest and as such had developed close links with BOO over the years, not all of it necessarily amicable. But they were both agreed on the need to prevent problems like Larch Lurch decimating the nation's woodlands. I was again in luck. After trudging down half a dozen corridors I came across a door with a plate on it announcing "Pest Control Consultant. Dr Laszlo Zatopek III." Hmm, Kevin's preferred title with extra doctorate added. I took a chance and entered the room. There was nobody there. Inside it was a bit of a mess. There was little evidence of any scientific or academic work having taken place here. There was a cluttered desk and also a camp bed in the corner. Various bits of detritus were scattered around. Empty hob-nob wrappers, a crumpled edition of *Big Lycra*, a copy of *Grand Theft Auto* and sheets of paper with various scribbles on. But something else caught my eye. A map on the wall of Cromford Rocks, identical to the one that Smalls had accidentally dropped after the BOO AGM. Again with strange markings on it. This then was a clear link to Smalls. But I was shortly to get an even stronger link. Voices outside in the corridor. Steps approaching. I froze, unsure of what to do. The door handle twitched but remained unopened. There was a frantic discussion going on. Something about dodgy elk balls. The steps then receded and I was able to edge the door open and peep outside. Amongst the group of figures walking away from me I could make out familiar figure of none other than Sir Branston Smalls. What on earth was going on? I had to follow them. It wasn't too difficult; Smalls was booming on about how things were all going to change and how he was going to drain the swamp. They were heading for one place I did know, the canteen. We turned the corner and there sitting at once of the canteen tables was none other than the evil weevil himself, Kevin!

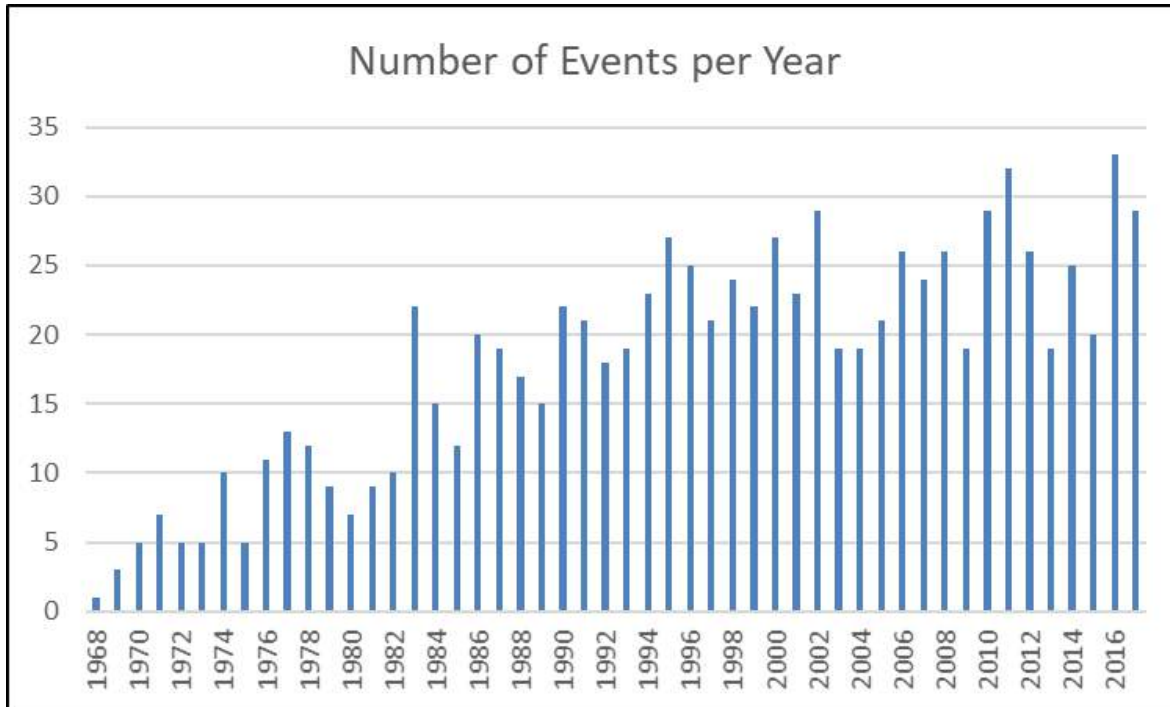
**Part 5 will inevitably follow Part 4. We are sorry for any stress this may cause you.**



## DVO – The first 900 events

### Dave Nevell (with much help from John Hurley, Mike Gardner and others)

As far as we can tell (and our list is still being finessed), the 900<sup>th</sup> DVO orienteering event took place at Ilam Park on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2017 and at the time of writing the total has reached 908. This is not an exact science; however, the club and region are fortunate to have had regular newsletters over most of the period since DVO was founded and so with the help of EMEWS and Newstrack we are pretty sure this total is not far out. Any ambiguity is more likely to be fuelled by uncertainty about what should be classified as an event or not, rather than the possibility that events may have been missed.



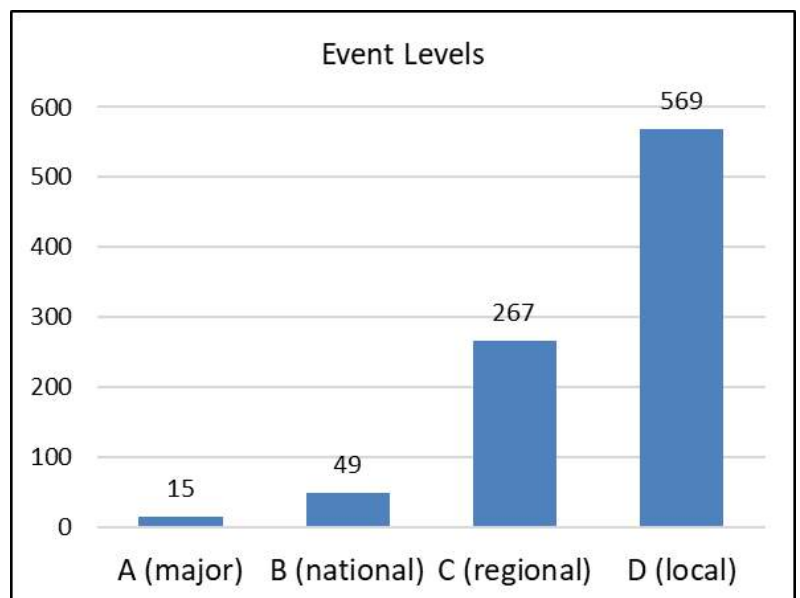
To qualify, an event must have been competitive, foot-based, involve navigation and have been given a reasonable degree of advertising. Closed events like schools and youth events are in, most Come And Try Its are in, major events shared with other EM clubs are in, Summer Series novelty events are in (whatever weird formats that may have been devised) and even the

various Booze-Os. Examples of events that have been excluded include Bike-O, training events that had no results, fell races, and casual forms of orienteering that occurred on an ad hoc basis on a Wednesday training night.

This means that over 17812 days of the club's history (pushing 49 years) we have been holding an event on average every 19.8 days. Who, I wonder has been to the most of these. Let's have a look at these 900 events in a few different ways. The chart of events per year shows quite clearly that these 900 events haven't been spread out evenly. It took 13 years to clock up the first 100 events; at the current rate it would take about three years to do 100.

The trend was upwards until about the early 1990s when the Summer Series became established and have been generally flat since then with a few peak years. There were 33 events in 2016 but 2017 is set to break that record.

When it comes to event levels we have a bit of a problem because British Orienteering can't make up its mind about how these should be classified and stick to it. Until recently there was a 4 level A, B, C, D system which now seems to have been replaced by a 5-tier system starting at International and stepping all the way down to Local. Many years back there used to be a 7-tier system. What is now known as a Regional event has also been variously known as a District event, a Level C event, a Level 4 event (usually a C4) or just a good old Club event. The term National event has meant two completely different things over the years. Anyway, we have collapsed the categorisation down to 4 levels as shown and

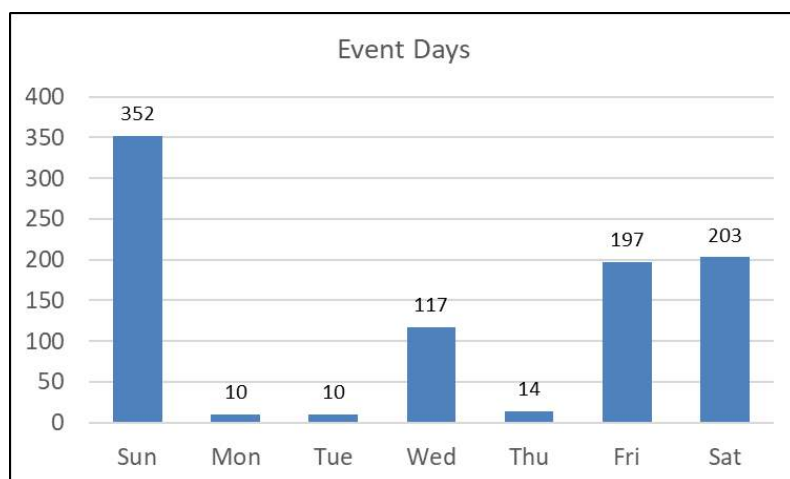


converted everything across to this system as best as possible. The dominance of Level D or local events is clear; they make up almost two thirds of the total. The Level Ds are a very mixed bunch – the majority of them would probably be classified as intra- rather than inter-club, and include a significant number of Summer Series events, for example. About 30% of events are Level C but Level Bs (the old “Badge” event) are relatively rare; DVO stages these on average once per year. According to our calculations, Eyam on December 10<sup>th</sup> will be the club’s 50<sup>th</sup> event at this level. What about those Level A events? Just 15 of them, the most important events that the club has ever staged. The most recent one was the British Middle Championships, held on Stanton Moor in 2013 but you can go right back to the fifth event DVO ever hosted to find the earliest example, that being the 1970 JK Relays on Shining Cliff.

This does raise the question of which DVO event has seen the largest attendance. We don’t have a comprehensive record (yet) of attendances although 668 of them are more or less known, totalling over 110,000 runs. Almost certainly the greatest number of runners on a single day was seen at Shining Cliff for Day 2 of the JK in 1991 when I believe there may have been around 3000 present (1991 was pretty much the high point of British orienteering in terms of membership and participation). That’s more than every event in 2016 combined. Another big event on Shining Cliff alone was the 1985 National event which I remember very well. I planned the courses, test ran most of them, printed and bagged about 2000 maps (Steve Kimberley “lived in” for the week to help). These are the 12 events that saw 1000 or more people present.

1	31/03/1991	Shining Cliff & Crich	A	3000 est	JK Indiv day 2
2	16/05/1982	Shining Cliff & Crich	A	1840	British Champs
3	06/05/1985	Shining Cliff	A	1800 est	National Event
4	18/05/1997	Chatsworth	A	1614	British Relays
5	29/11/1992	Eyam Moor	A	1603	National Event
6	16/03/1986	Chatsworth	B	1310	Badge event
7	13/09/1997	Longshaw	B	1225	Twin Peaks (with MDOC)
8	15/01/1978	Shining Cliff	B	1136	Badge event
9	21/04/2013	Stanton Moor	A	1082	British Middle
10	09/12/2007	Longshaw	B	1038	Badge event
11	01/04/1990	Chatsworth	B	1007	Badge event
12	23/04/1994	Chatsworth	B	1000	Badge event

[Chatsworth 1990 was the Chaffeys’ first DVO event and one of our first ever M/W21 A courses. I’ll just say that we both got excellent value for money! Ed.]

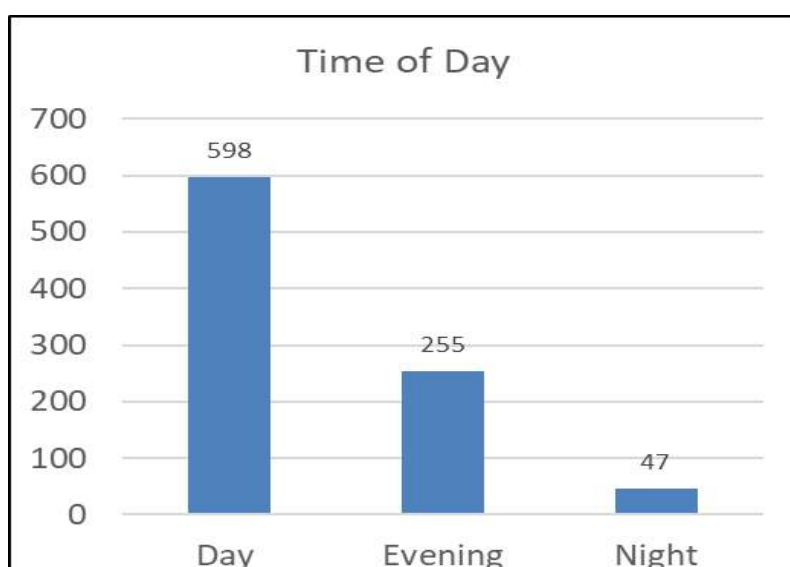


At the other end of the spectrum there appear to have been only 5 people present on New Year’s Eve 2008 running around the streets of Ashbourne.

The spread of events across the days of the week is worth taking a look at. Here the story is one of how orienteering slowly changed from being a Sunday based sport, an issue I have touched on before in these pages. Sunday leads overall as can be seen here. The Wednesday and Friday events are almost exclusively evening events. Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays often coincide with Bank Holidays (e.g. New Year’s Day). It is interesting to look at the

midweek/Sat/Sun split on a 100 event by 100 event basis. The chart shows quite clearly how, midweek events notwithstanding, Sunday dominated the weekend schedule for the first 300 events, which is right up to the early 1990s. The gap then rapidly closed, such that for the last ten years or so, Saturday has taken the lead, albeit with generally smaller events. Midweek events had big dip when the long running Summer Series stopped but these have been replaced with the more regionally based mini-leagues that have proven increasingly popular.

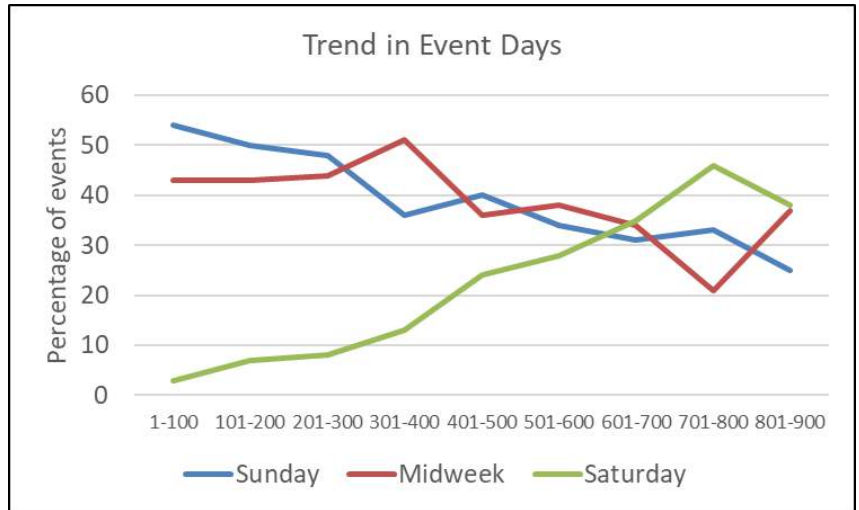
Another way of breaking it down is to look at the time of day that events are held, making a distinction



between evening events held in daylight and evening events held in darkness, thus designated here as night events. The early night events were all street events with a couple of forays into Allestree Park; there doesn't seem to have been a night event in challenging terrain until Event 178, the 1986 Midland Night Trophy on Matlock Moor after which time terrain night events became more regular.

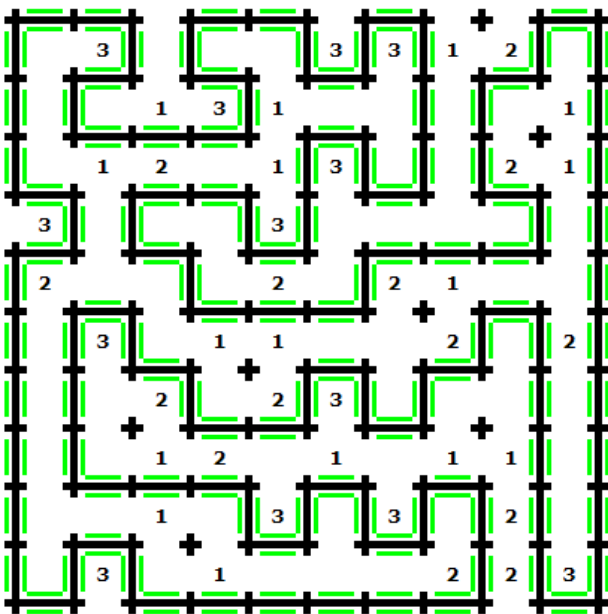
Finally, a quick mention of event formats. Clearly the often wacky formats of summer evening events are almost impossible to categorise and no attempt has been made to do so. There have been at least 51 score events and 32 relays. 72 events could be regarded as 'closed' since they have been either Club Championships or schools events. 71 fall into the category of urban although the nature of urban has changed greatly in the last ten years from what it was in the late 1970s when the maps were completely different and events were all evening or night based. It took the foot and mouth outbreak of 2001 to bring about the first DVO urban events held during the day at a weekend.

Forty-nine year's worth of orienteering has taken place at a lot of different venues. Over 100 in fact. In the next Newstrack we will look at where all of those events took place, counting upwards to the point when we will reveal the club's most utilised area. Can you guess where it is?



## Puzzle Page

Dave Nevell



OK, I admit that September's main puzzle was a tough one. Here is the answer. The solution to the closed loop route borders all of the squares by the number of times stated. I'm afraid I can't give any particular hints on how to solve this type of puzzle in an elegant way. I was very pleased therefore, after a couple of months of silence on this one, to receive a correct answer from Simon Gale. The other puzzle about the leaking water bottle was much simpler, it's just that the answer (half the water has escaped) is at first sight unexpected. Correct answers to the latter were received from Francesco Lari, David Vincent, John Hawkins and Simon Gale.

The final one for the year should be a bit easier.

### Passing observations



At a recent training night it was decided that the club members present would split into two groups and go for a run. One group consisted of the fast runners and one group consisted of the

slow runners. To spice things up (but not a lot, mind) one group decided to go clockwise round the agreed circuit and the other group anti-clockwise around the circuit. An observer (let's call him Brian), standing at a bus-stop roughly halfway round the circuit, noticed that as the fast group passed him, it took 3 seconds for them to go by (i.e. the time gap between the first and last runner). A little later the slow group came past in the opposite direction. Brian, whose bus still hadn't turned up, measured the time gap between first and last runner as 5 seconds. He also noted that in each case the column of runners was exactly the same length. In between Brian making these observations, but out of his sight, the two groups had passed each other. From the information he had, Brian was able to work out how long it had taken the two groups to completely pass each other. How long was that?

Answers to [dnevell3@gmail.com](mailto:dnevell3@gmail.com) by the editor's copy date please. As usual, double points for the last puzzle of the year so it's worth a shot.

# Forthcoming Fixtures (DVO, NOC, LEI, LOG & other)




\*\*\*Please check websites of organising clubs before travelling. Even for DVO events, this NT goes to press just before a Fixtures Committee Meeting, so there may be changes\*\*\*

**NB new BO categories – M Major (former A), N National (B), R Regional (C), L Local (D).**  East Midlands League, EMUL = East Midlands Urban League,  = UK Urban League, UKOL = UK Orienteering League

## December

- Sat 16<sup>th</sup> L Whitworth Park, Registration 1–2pm & Christmas drink in café
- Sun 17<sup>th</sup> R Blacka Moor (near Grindleford), Registration 10–12 noon (SYO)
- Sun 17<sup>th</sup>  15 Outwoods (near Loughborough), Registration 10–12 noon




## January 2018

- Mon 1<sup>st</sup> EMUL Buxton New Years Day Score event, Mass Start 11:30am
- Sun 7<sup>th</sup>  1 Strawberry Hill & Ransom Wood, nr Mansfield. Reg. 10–12 noon
- Sat 13<sup>th</sup> L Lea Green, Registration 1–2pm
- Sun 14<sup>th</sup>  2 Burbage Common, near Hinckley. Registration 10–12 noon
- Sun 14<sup>th</sup> R Rivelin (near Sheffield), Reg. 10–12 noon (SYO)
- Sat 20<sup>th</sup> UKOL Edinburgh City Race (EUOC Big Weekend 2018)
- Sun 21<sup>st</sup> UKOL Holyrood (entries now open on [www.sientries.co.uk](http://www.sientries.co.uk))
- Sun 28<sup>th</sup>  3 Birchen Edge, Registration 10–12 noon



Can you find the plastic boulder at Birchen Edge? It's on the O map, so no excuses!

## February



- Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> L Holmebrook Valley Park, Registration 1–2pm
- Sun 4<sup>th</sup>  4 Lincoln South Common, Reg. 10–12 noon
- Sun 11<sup>th</sup>  5 Bestwood Country Park, Reg. 10–12 noon
- Sat 17<sup>th</sup> Social Derby Velodrome Trip, see p 4
- Sat 24<sup>th</sup> UKOL Merthyr Mawr Warren and Woods (British Night Championships)
- Sun 25<sup>th</sup> UKOL Pembrey Forest, Burrows and Country Park
- Sun 25<sup>th</sup>  6 Cademan & YBT Heat, Reg. 10–12 noon



## March

- Sun 4<sup>th</sup>  7 Linacre, near Chesterfield, Registration 10–12 noon
- Sat 10<sup>th</sup> L Oker Hill, Matlock, Registration 1–2pm
- Sun 11<sup>th</sup> CSCup Canklow, Rotherham (TBC)
- Sat 17<sup>th</sup> UKOL Irchester Middle Distance, nr Wellingborough. UK O League Day 1
- Sun 18<sup>th</sup> UKOL Belvoir Castle & Estate, Midlands Champs. Entries open on [Fabian4](#)
- Sat 24<sup>th</sup> L Derby Parks 1: Markeaton Park, Registration 1–3pm
- Sun 25<sup>th</sup>  8 Byron's Walk, near Hucknall. Reg. 10–12 noon
- Fri 30<sup>th</sup> JK Sprint MoD Stafford (enter via SI entries)
- Sat 31<sup>st</sup> JKD1 Brereton Spurs (Cannock) Middle Distance

## April

- Sun 1<sup>st</sup> JKD2 Beaudesert & Brereton Hayes, Classic Distance
- Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> Relays Run for your club at Beaudesert! See Graham Johnson for details.
- Sat 7<sup>th</sup> L Derby Parks 2: Darley Park, Registration 1–3pm
- Sat 14<sup>th</sup> N Graythwaite East, Middle Distance race (part of LOC April Weekend)
- Sun 15<sup>th</sup> N Lingmoor, Classic Distance (see LOC website nearer the time for details)
- Sun 15<sup>th</sup>  9 Pleasley Park – new area! (date change due to nesting birds, TBA)
- Sun 22<sup>nd</sup>  10 Spring Cottage, Registration 10–12 noon
- Sat 28<sup>th</sup> L Derby Parks 3: Elvaston Park, Registration 1–3pm



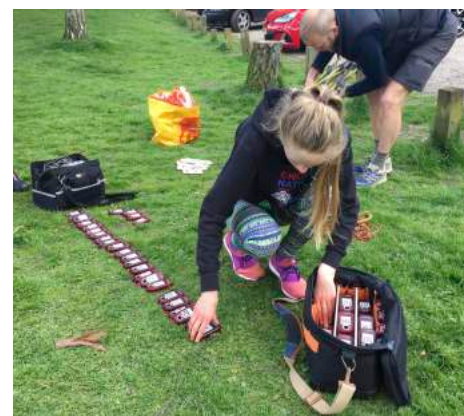
## May

- Sat 5<sup>th</sup> L Derby Parks 4: Allestree Park, Registration 1–3pm
- Sat 19<sup>th</sup> UKOL Balmoral, near Braemar, British Classic Distance Championships
- Sun 20<sup>th</sup> UKOL Torphantrick, near Ballater, British Relay Championships
- Wed 23<sup>rd</sup> L World O Day – daytime activities at Whitworth Park, evening event at Lea Green, TBC

## Event Officials Needed!

This list is taken from the DVO website Fixtures tab and is regularly updated. It goes right up to the Midlands Championships in February 2020, so do have a look and see if there's something you'd like to do!

Ann-Marie mentioned that Oker would suit a novice Planner and that there are plenty of mentors who can help. For this or any of the other vacancies, please email her at [jasrduckworth@btinternet.com](mailto:jasrduckworth@btinternet.com) For Derby Parks events, please email me ([sal.chaffey@gmail.com](mailto:sal.chaffey@gmail.com)) as Informal Events Corrdinator.



Would you like to plan or organise an event?

						Organiser	Planner	Controller
03/03/2018	Oker Hill	Oker Hill, South Darley	Y	D	PA	Viv Macdonald		Not required
04/03/2018	Linacre, East Midlands League	Linacre	Y	C	PA	Jonathan Cundill	Tony Stirland	Ranald Macdonald
24/03/2018	Markeaton Park – Derby Parks Challenge	Markeaton Park	Y	D	P			Not required
07/04/2018	Darley Park – Derby Parks Challenge	Darley Park		D				Not required
15/04/2018	Pleasley Park, Bolsover, East Midlands League	Pleasley Park		C		Val Johnson	Richard Parkin	
28/04/2018	Elvaston Castle – Derby Parks Challenge	Elvaston Castle		D				Not required
05/05/2018	Allestree Park – Derby Parks Challenge	Allestree Park		D				Not required
17/06/2018	Stanton Moor, East Midlands League	Stanton Moor	Y	C	P			
14/07/2018	Staunton Harold – South Derbyshire Challenge	Staunton Harold Reservoir		D		Rex Bleakman		Not required
21/07/2018	Foremark – South Derbyshire Challenge	Foremark Reservoir				Andy Hawkins	Andy Hawkins	Not required
11/08/2018	Swadlincote Woodlands – S Derbyshire Challenge	Swadlincote Woodlands				The Uni- Cycle Team	James Prince	Not required
15/08/2018	Ilam Park – National Trust Series	Ilam				Mike Godfree	Mike Godfree	Not required
18/08/2018	Rosliston – S Derbyshire Challenge	Rosliston Forestry Centre				Rex Bleakman		Not required

