

INTERLOPERS

ORIENTEERING CLUB

EDINBURGH

NEWSLETTER NO. 85

September 1992

85

Shine On Harvest Moon

You know the scene. It's two days after the copy deadline. There hasn't been much orienteering to write home about. The Social Secretary is away gallivanting about somewhere in France and so you still don't know who actually won the club championships. You're sitting in front of your computer with one article for the newsletter courtesy of the Junior Member and you're thinking how can I possibly fill the remaining pages up. Some editorial licence is obviously called for and a great deal of invention too. It's Thursday evening. You're sitting at home and normally you would be in the pub. Your best friend is having to take his wife out for a meal because it's their

anniversary. I ask you! The phone rings and it's the Chairperson. Cue dramatic and ominous sounding music. "Would you like to run a leg in the Harvester?" Your mind quickly tries to come up with at least ten good reasons why you can't but you fall back on the old stand-by - "Well probably, but I'll have to check with my wife first." So you slink back into the sitting room and casually work it into the conversation about an hour later once you've worked up the courage to ask. You sit there confidently expecting the inevitable refusal and she says "Well, we're not doing anything, dear. Just you go!" **^&*&^*&*

In This Issue

Mammoth

White Rose

*The Club
Championships,*

*The 14 - Person
Relay,*

*Letter From
Devon,*

*and anything
else I could find
to put in !*



President Bush's reaction on his visit to the disaster area at Devilla.

Mammoth

An Event To Remember ?



OK ! So it's an elephant.
You try finding a mammoth
at short notice !

After staring at a decidedly thin editorial file for quite some time the juniors "done well" (footballese jargon) and came up with so much stuff that some of it will have to be held over till the next issue ! Many thanks to Ross Graham of George Watson's College for his article opposite.



Interløpers Club Weekend

Friday 18th - Sunday 20th September
Woodlands
Kingussie

The usual format. Interløpers annual pilgrimage north for a Scotlandsgaloppen and a.n. other event. (This year the Moravian Bull Trophy). So if you fancy a run at Achilty on the Saturday and/or Darnaway (again !) on the Sunday get in touch with Pat Squire (445-4830) for details, cost, directions, etc. Be warned. Places may be limited especially if the editor takes much more time to get the newsletter on the streets !



The event got off to a very poor start in foul weather on a big open hillside called High Pike. The organisers were six minutes ahead with their starts so quite a few competitors found themselves late in starting. The winning times proved to be quite fast but that was because the courses were a bit on the easy side. Just as I was finishing the sky opened and it continued raining for the rest of the day. This made conditions rather slippery and a Devon runner, who was in the Youth Hostel with us, badly cut his hand in a fall.

Day Two brought much better weather and a more interesting course. The hills were still there but this time the courses went into a forest, Wythorp Wood, providing some variation which was sadly missing on the day before. Unfortunately, a shortage of maps necessitated some map copying at the start which caught several, including me, out !

The relay was staged on Faulds Brow and this proved to be the best day of the event. (Terrain technical, but not the weather). The going was fast underfoot (apart from several badly placed marshes) and a well organised changeover ensured that my first relay event, with Anthony and his dad, went smoothly. The bag collectors certainly had fun in the high winds !

The event was rounded off with a 'fun' score relay event at Aughtree Fell but slow going underfoot and an icy head wind did their best to slow us all down.

Ross Graham

Letter From Devon

Dear All,

Well here are the Inverarity tribe ensconced in University Halls of Residence again on the basis that if it's good enough for students then there's very little that our terrors can wreck and less chance of them disturbing the general populace, acres of space for them to run around in and also the fact that it tends to be a reasonably cheap place to spend a holiday in.

We've been to Exeter before, but this time we're in the 'luxury' flats which they were building last time we were here. Instant reaction from the wife was "They let students have these flats! Can I take this kitchen home with me? Isn't this lovely!", etc."

The university is set in its own grounds on the south-facing slope of a steep river valley on the northern edge of the town near to the railway station. Some kind benefactor donated the land many years ago and it's beautifully landscaped helped by the extremely moderate climate which this part of the country enjoys. (One of the main reasons for holidaying here).

As is usual when you holiday anywhere, the first task is to unpack the trainers, get out the O.S. map and check out a likely route to run. Major problem with Exeter is the Exe is a ria. (A submerged upland valley for you non-geographical types! It's all to do with rising sea levels when the ice sheets melted).

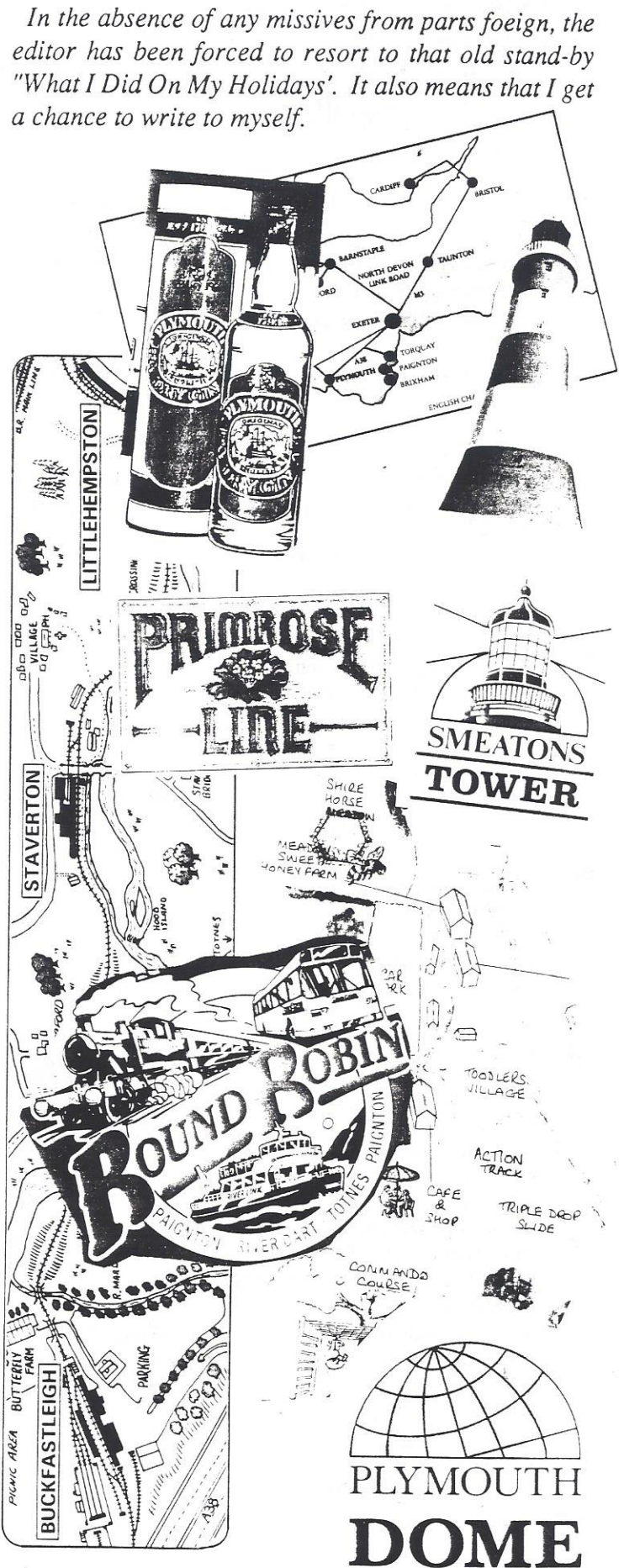
What this means is that there are steep hills everywhere.

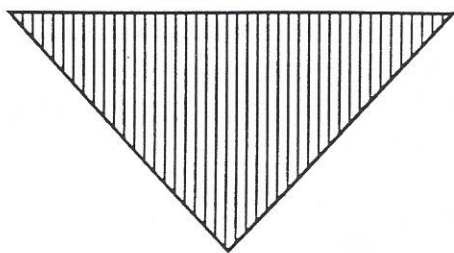
You sometimes here people saying that most of England is little use for challenging orienteering. That may be the case but some of the terrain certainly makes for demanding training. I settled for a 5 mile loop with a nice climb of just over a kilometre from sea level to about 160 metres. At the crest about 8 minutes later and puffing a wee bit I could look forward to a more gradual descent home. It made me pine a bit for Arthur's Seat!

Fortunately there was an outdoor swimming pool on the campus next to our flat which was used very extensively. None of this chipping away at the ice like you do at North Berwick.

As if this wasn't enough action for me, the team took me round a commando course at a woodland park as well. Other sites and attractions to enjoy were the Cathedral and the Maritime Museum in Exeter, steam train rides, a trip down a Victorian copper mine, climbing the Edystone lighthouse (on Plymouth Hoe), a couple of days at the seaside making massive sandcastles and being buried up to my neck and rounded off by frequent trips to Sainsbury's to stock up the larder.

A nice place to go. The weather is so mild compared with our northern climes. It's enjoyable to wander around on a summer's evening without a fleece jacket or Icelandic sweater. And a holiday at one of our universities is to be recommended for the facilities on offer, the physical surroundings and the price. Book now to avoid disappointment.





- Saturday 19th September
Scotlandsgaloppen 5
Achilty, Contin (INVOC)
 (NH442568)
 Pre-entries and enquiries to
 S. Carroll
 Wilson's Building,
 Main Street,
 Golspie KW10 6TG
 (0506-32222)
 £4 / £2
 Closing Date 9th September
 Limited EOD
- Sunday 20th September
Bull Trophy Badge Event
Darnaway, Forres (MOR)
 (NH995535)
 Enquiries to
 Nick Williams (0343-835478)
 £3 / £1.50. EOD only
- Sunday 27th September
Glasgow Galoppen 7 (CLYDE)
Croy Hill, Croy
 (NS726762)
 Information from
 L. Spibey (041-942-1369)
- Sunday 27th September
LOL 1 (LINOC)
Kinneil Wood, Bo'ness
 (NS984805)
 Information from
 Suse Coon (0506-632728)
- Sunday 4th October
Scotlandsgaloppen 6
Allean Forest, Pitlochry (STAG)
 (NN865603)
 Pre-entries and enquiries to
 Jackie Riley
 23 Whitburn Street
 Glasgow, G32 6PG
 (0506-32222)
 £6 / £3
 Closing Date 26th September
 Colour Coded EOD only
- Saturday 17th October
National Event 7 and
Senior Home Internationals
Trossachs (FVO)
 (NN505065)
 Pre-entries to
 G. Bryan-Jones
 29a Dunster Road
 Stirling, FK9 5HX
 £6 / £2.50
 Closing Date 26th September
 EOD Colour Coded
- Sunday 18th October
Home International Relays
and Colour Coded (CLYDE)
Duchray Water, Aberfoyle
 (NS454997)
 Enquiries to
 J. Daly (041-324-6643)
- Sunday 25th October
LOL 2 (INT)
Beecraigs, Linlithgow
 (NS998742)
 Information from
 John Barrow (031-440-2136)
- Saturday 31st October
Tinto Twin Trophy
Night Badge Event
Lanark Racecourse (TINTO)
 (NS900427)
 Pre-entries and enquiries to
 P. Allan (0555-662783)
 £5.50 / £2.50.
 Closing Date 18th October
- Sunday 1st November
Tinto Twin Trophy
Day Badge Event
Ae Forest (TINTO)
 (NX984897)
 Pre-entries and enquiries to
 P. Allan
 5 Whitehill Terrace
 Lanark ML11 9HQ
 (0555-662783)
 £5 / £2.50.
 Closing Date 18th October
 Combined Entry
 Senior £9 Junior £4.50
- Sunday 8th November
FVO Local Event
South Achray, Aberfoyle
 (NN518015)
 Information from
 Jim McGroarty
 (0786-841622)
- Sunday 15th November
SOLWAY Local Score Event
Keir Hills, Penpont
 (NX860918)
 Information from
 L. Fraser
 (0387-710140)
- Sunday 22nd November
Glasgow Galoppen 8 (CUNOC)
Culzean Country Park
 (NS233100)
 Information from
 H. Moiser (0294-822880)
- Sunday 6th December
Scottish Score Championships
Blairadam Forest, Kelty (WFO)
 No further details available yet.



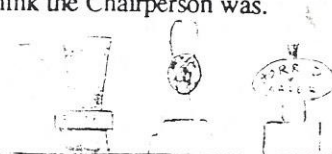
Events

LAST
 This
 Month's
 Competition



Spot The Orienteer

Put an X at the spot nearest to where you think the Chairperson was.



White Rose

Over the years the White Rose (traditionally held in the North York Moors over the August Bank Holiday Weekend - except for viewers in Scotland !) has brought mixed fortunes to the Squire family. Lost contact lens, blow out on hired cycle, thunderstorm so heavy that the 50 metres from the car to the Youth Hostel was impossible have been the rewards for the Senior Member in previous years, whilst mugs and trophies have been known to come the way of Anthony.

This year any news is good news, with no disasters to report. The weather was moderately kind and even the thunderstorm whilst crossing Rievaulx Moor on Day 2 was most spectacular.

The two individual races were held on adjacent areas to the north of Helmsley - Collis Rigg & Bogmire Gill and Rievaulx Moor. Both areas were of mixed terrain - planted forests, steep hillsides (up and down !), and open moor. The second day had most of the open stuff including a very hard and boring 2km leg across heather.

On the whole the courses were quite varied and interesting. The technical demands were limited by the terrain but added spice was provided by controls on man-made tripods in the middle of light green areas.

The results from Day 1 had a certain A. Squire at the head of the M15 class, whilst doubt was thrown on either the timing system or the quality of the remainder of the class by P. Squire appearing in 12th position in the M35L class.

Although results are still awaited from Day 2 due to your 'on the spot' reporter being assigned to yet another Royal Scandal story, a spokesman for the Interlopers team has said that Anthony Squire is rumoured to have said "Dunno !" when asked how he fared on the course. Following further questioning he is alleged to have commented "I think someone could have beaten me but I don't know if they have".

Pat Squire, esq.

Mutterings From The Chair

This issue's mumblings from the chair is being hurriedly penned to avert the wrath of the mighty Editor (How the mighty are fallen. - Ed.) I have had the misfortune (sic) to have spent most of the last two weeks in Northern Italy; where the weather was particularly fine, as was the wine, the mountains and the cuisine.

I had the dubious honour of being the Official Reporter at the World Cup Race for that other famous Orienteering Publication; namely BumptiousSport and Boringteer. This entitled me to be bored witless (don't tell me that I already am !) by sundry minor Italian dignitaries while drinking warm champers. It did not however provide any access to information, telecommunication equipment, split times, photo-opportunities, or indeed any of the paraphernalia associated with World Cup O-Races. I am not trying to imply that the Italians couldn't organise a p**s-up in a brewery, merely that they would start to struggle if it involved more than 4 people and it only required one type of wine; For example, the organisers' predicted winning time for the ladies race was 70 mins. but only 9 girls got under 110 mins. and only 15 under 2 hours. I could tell you more but I'm sure you get the idea. So the next time you feel like having a grump because your course was too long / short / hard / easy or that there were not enough drinks / toilets / signposts / prizes or whatever, just remember it could almost certainly have been much worse.

The following weekend, having spent a fantastic five days scrambling about in the Dolomites, I went along to laugh at the World Cup Fell Running in the Alps, near Turin. This was relatively well organised by comparison and there were some very good performances by some British orienteers: Mari Todd was 3rd in the Junior Ladies Race and then 23rd in the Ladies Race the next day !; Our own Andy Kitchin was top "Scot" in the Mens Long Race in 36th, just ahead of those other famous Scots, Dickie Jones (39th), Fraser Clyne (42nd),



Mark Rigby (45th) and Jack Maitland (53rd). Pete Dymoke was 3rd in the open race which was a very fine performance. The open race was a gentle 9 miles with nearly 5500 feet of climb, being one of the least pleasant experiences of my short life ! In fact, the very thought is making my legs hurt so I shall change the subject.

On returning to these fair shores and reacquainting myself with Proper Beer after a traumatic period where the "I-word" was all that was available, I discovered that I was just in time for our latest Social Extravaganza; the French experience Chez Jules. It was a fun evening although the service was typically Gallic; i.e. C**p. (Xenophobia lives ! - Ed.) However the food was passable, the company enchanting and the conversation scintillating. Jolly Good Show, Andrew and Janet ! Next, please !

By the time this hits your retinas, the Harvester (7 Person Night Relay) will have taken place and we will have done marvelously. But that is tomorrow night and I need some serious sleepage because it's Andy's birthday today as well so I'll have to go round and put a rug over his knees and give him a small sherry and a cup of warm milk.

Anyway, that is quite enough for now, except to say that I'll see you all at the Interlopers Weekend at Woodlands.

Byeeee. . . .

Andy Kitchin was the winner of last month's competition for his offering opposite. Not for any artistic merit but because it was the only entry. In fact, it's the only response I've had in a year of editing the newsletter. Come on you dozy lot - involve yourselves !

The Chairperson's Bit



PERSON RELAY

The Team

Green

1. Gail Balfour

Yellow

2. Eva Riemersma

3. Lucy Barrow

4. Rachel Balfour

Light Green

- Tim Barrow

- Colin Inverarity

- Fay Balfour

Light Green

5. Graham McIntyre

- Janet Fallon

Green

6. Ynske Riemersma

Blue

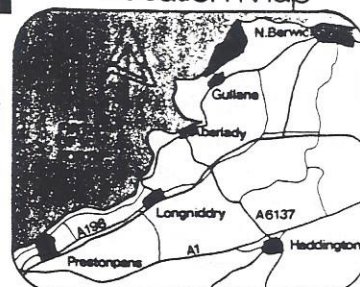
- Ian McIntyre

- Charlie Walton

- Gordon Riemersma

- John Barrow

Location Map



Young Gordon was handed the poisoned chalice this year. John Barrow pleaded that he was otherwise engaged in organising our LOL event. Gordon's mum said he would do it because he would be just sitting around the house doing nothing anyway. The task in question was to try and persuade 14 assorted personages to run and organise them in such a manner so that we stood a faint chance of doing well.

As with many events around this time, the weather forecast made for pretty depressing viewing so it was with some trepidation that I headed eastwards towards Gullane. If nothing else it would give us a rare opportunity to run on one of the few areas we have actually managed to map (Not so subtle hint about dearth of volunteers to map new areas - Ed.). As long as my course stayed away from the dunes.

As can be seen from the list above our team once again covered a wide spectrum of ages and abilities with some strong family representation making for a pleasant and happy atmosphere. Everybody was there for enjoyment and fun with a little bit of competitive spirit in the air.

The team arrived in dribs and drabs. The late arrival of the Barrow family had prompted some scurrilous remarks about them looking out of the window and deciding not to come in the light of the impending downpour. The real reason was the last performance of the Festival production they were involved in had caused a bit of an oversleep.

ESOC as always seemed to have the organisation of the event running very smoothly. This acted as a dry run for the Harvester the following week. It did seem a bit funny watching the first runners from behind a hedge and fence ploughing through an area of rough open at the start.

Gail was handed the task of giving us a sound platform to start on. All eyes were focussed on the last control about 30 minutes later waiting for her return. The changeovers were facilitated by

the last control being placed at the other end of the start field with a potentially embarrassing run-in of about 200 metres to the finish.

The first runners appeared. ESOC closely followed by CLYDE. Gail came in a few minutes later in about 7th place and the first lady if I recollect too.

The big debate was who would be the first to arrive back on the second leg. It proved to be Eva who handed over to Charlie. Barrow senior became a bit anxious about the time Barrow junior was taking. Next in sight came Ian who handed over to me. I had a nice invigorating blast round my course being careful to avoid the wasp nests and felt that these light green courses were about the right standard for me. I did feel a bit later that I hadn't really exerted myself though.

The race positions were a bit unclear at this stage but it did seem that ESOC seemed to be steam-rolling towards victory again. They had three teams entered and seemed to be in 1st and 2nd at this time. The next worry for the Barrow family was Lucy's return. She managed to bravely run round after having dropped her inhaler just

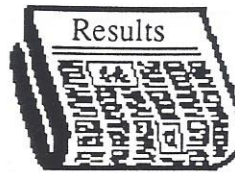
after the start. Gordon, Fay and Rachel were out now and they all returned within 3 minutes of one another to let our light green runners off.

Interløpers had been steadily gaining places. Gordon's planning seemed to have been masterly. The critical factor on this leg was the 'dead time' between the arrival of the first and last runner back. Our time lengthened to 6 minutes but this was fairly respectable as Ynske was the first final leg runner away. We were in the lead!

The nail biting started. ESOC had Walter Clark and Jamie Stevenson on the last leg. How much of a start would Ynske have? The seconds ticked off. Jamie went off about seven and a half minutes later. Would that be enough? As the fates would have it, Jamie was the first back, then Walter and FVO just squeezed us into 4th place. Ynske had found it a bit heavy going in the southern area of the map. She certainly looked a bit weary on her return. All this running in Sweden has probably taken a lot out of her.

So, another good result for Interløpers, a lot of fun and some money for the Treasurer for all the maps we flogged to ESOC.

Leg	Runner	Start	Finish	Time
1.	Gail	00.00	36.40	36.40
2.	Ian	36.40	78.15	41.35
	Tim	36.40	79.30	42.50
	Eva	36.40	62.14	25.34
3.	Charlie	62.14	100.18	38.04
	Colin	78.15	103.13	24.58
	Lucy	79.30	122.28	42.58
4.	Gordon	100.18	137.35	37.17
	Fay	103.13	137.36	34.23
	Rachel	122.28	140.50	18.22
5.	Graham	137.36	160.16	23.20
	Janet	137.35	165.38	28.03
	John	140.50	166.30	26.20
6.	Ynske	166.30	209.23	42.53



Wednesday 19th August Caerketton Hill Race

While there is not much orienteering going on, some Interlopers, past and present have been spotted at other events.

1.	Pete Dymoke	12.35	* Course Record *
6.	Ben Hartman	13.38	
23.	Matt Ogston	15.25	
34.	Scott Balfour	15.58	
36.	Gordon Riemersma	16.04	
	Gail Balfour	19.20	* 1st Girl *
77.	Heather Peel	19.37	* 7th Lady *
	Rachel Balfour	21.10	* 2nd Girl *
83.	Janet Fallon	21.20	* 8th Lady *

Sunday 6th September Harvester Relays, Devilla

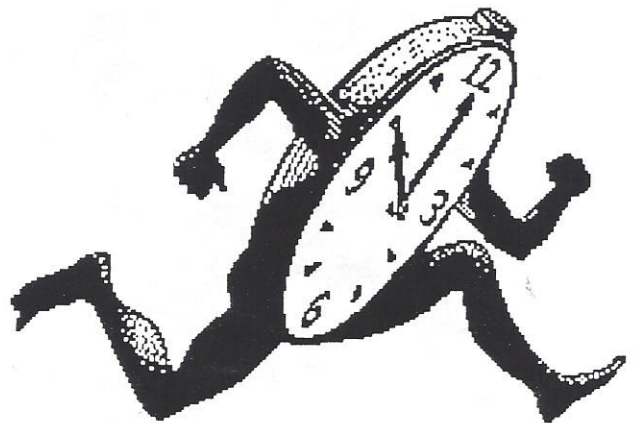
Results are just provisional so far but our three teams did the club proud in their respective classes. The 'A' Team came 2nd out of a disappointing entry of only six teams in their race. The 'B' teams came 4th and 20th out of 38. A more detailed report in the next issue of the newsletter.



dnf

as well as standing for did not finish, on this page it means **do not forget !**

- Circuit training recommences at Moray House (Gym 3), Holyrood Road on Wednesday 23rd September from 6-7 p.m. and at this time every week until December 15th. Cost, if I remember correctly, is in the region of £1 for seniors and 50p for juniors.
- Brooks running tights are available in club colours (green / yellow) from Bourne Sports, Church Street, Stoke-on-Trent. (Tel. 0782-410411). Prices were £8 per pair or £17 for two pairs.
- The Sports Injury Clinic has started up again. The club has registered with Moray House again for the academic year (September-September). The cost remains at £10. A worthwhile investment to make if you compete regularly or are becoming older, frailer and more susceptible to injury. Consultations are at DCPE, Cramond. If you're interested, want more information or want to sign up again - it's that man Pat Squire again who you'll have to contact. (445-4830)
- The Treasurer is looking for money from our Holyrood Park event. Did we make any? Have you got it? If so, hand it over to him **now !**
- An order of 15 O-suits has been made. Ring Eva (445-4419) to find out what sizes are available and how many of them are bagged already. Get your order in quick. She also has still available at absolutely no discount whatsoever an abundant supply of club badges.
- Do you want a club sweatshirt? Pat Squire has a couple of indeterminate size. Both green, one probably XL and one towards XS. Get in touch if you think you might fit. On the matter of sweatshirts, Eva has offered to put an order in for more if there is sufficient interest. You know the number. Get dialling.
- Those of you who managed to go to the Harvester are of course realising that you have to pay for your run these days. The club will still subsidise 50% of the entry fees. If you didn't manage to dry out your pound notes on the day, seniors are due £4 and juniors, £1. Money to team managers now, please! The Treasurer needs it.
- Do not not forget the club's LOL event at Beecraigs on October 25th. Any offers of help in advance will be gratefully accepted by John Barrow. (440-2136). If you don't volunteer we'll stick a pin in a club list at the next committee meeting for all the nasty, horrible jobs.
- We do have a big event commitment ahead of us this year. If you can help the club in any way do let any committee member know.



Who's got the Club Watch ?

Junior Page

CALLING ALL JUNIORS !

Hi, I'm Gail Balfour, your new junior representative in the club. If you have any queries you can contact me at

23 Buckstone Loan
Edinburgh
EH10 6UD

or by phoning 031-445-3966.

I'll try and put something interesting on the junior page every issue. So, here's the first. Try your luck at the O-Search below. The answers may be found backwards, horizontally, vertically or diagonally.

Gail Balfour.

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X C Y L O R T N O C L P
T R G D P L B K Q D Y G
T S P A M R U K S I A S
I T F E B Q G W D T D X
W A E I D A N L O C I H
P R N W R I L S H H V T
D T C C P A R R R R M A
F B E G W L D P K A T P
L L B Y K K R N E B V Y
L H S I N I F R G A Y M
M R Q O U K T G T G V G
F X K Y P S M Y A X B H
    
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












Find these words hidden in the puzzle above.

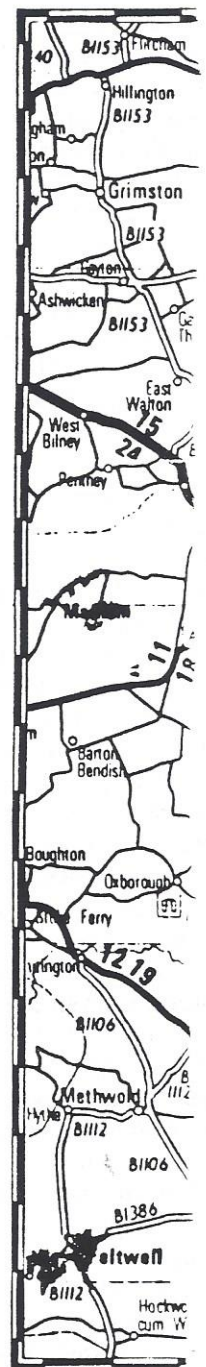
BAG	CONTROL	CRAG	DITCH
FENCE	FINISH	MAP	PATH
RIDE	START	STREAM	WALL

Gail has also sent in this sheet of the revised O.S symbols. These will be handy for all us orienteers zooming across the country to the myriad of events on offer.

NEW STYLE O.S. MAP

This is a section taken from one of the new Ordnance Survey maps (soon to be introduced), excluding many of the boring symbols like 'Ancient Monument' and 'Level Crossing Without Gates' and replacing them with more interesting ones.

-  **M** Massage parlour
-  **M** Massage parlour with extra personal services
-  Orchard (or very large cribbage board)
-  Public telephone
-  Public toilet
-  Indian takeaway
-  Chinese takeaway
-  Cattery (or could be two Chinese takeaways next to each other, if you don't get your cat back it is)
-  Fly squashed on map
-  Private hospital
-  NHS hospital
-  Airport
-  Airport with above average of Boeing 737's landing
-  Church without spire
-  Church without congregation
-  Lake
-  Motorway
-  Wet motorway
-  Information centre
-  Information centre for people who don't want to know anything
-  Mountain refuge hut
-  Parking
-  Parking on mountain refuge hut only
-  Bridge
-  Footbridge
-  Lock
-  Dam
-  Bollocks!
-  Caravan site
-  Cheap caravan site



Hälsning från Sverige

The thought of a 24 hour boat journey from Harwich to Göteborg was daunting, but eating (sandwiches - the boat prices were very, very expensive), drinking (water and lemonade, of course), playing cards (not for money) and sleeping (by myself).

After the boat trip and a long drive to Håkonsås (pronounced Hook-en-sauce) we settled in and prepared to do some hard training. **NON!** (Tour word, means opposite of what you just said). (Wayne's World reaches those wacky fun-loving Swedes? - Ed.).

The first training day was on Hellidsberget, an area like British forests to slowly get us used to Sweden. There was a map walk to find six controls in a small area, then there were timed 1 kilometre runs on a track and in the terrain. We had lunch and it started to rain. The afternoon was spent doing three courses designed to find our strengths and weaknesses. I finished the first day feeling tired but happy.

I always knew we were good but even I was a bit surprised when they took us to Kleven where the World Championships were in 1989. The morning was devoted to long compass bearing legs. This was of mixed success. I got some controls alright but others I completely mucked up! The afternoon proved to be a bit better, but not much. It was fine compass bearings, taken at a slower pace, so more accurate. Today I was just tired.

Kleven again! This was a 100% improvement. There was only one exercise and that was a normal course to get us ready for the next day which was to be my first event in Sweden.

Saturday dawned and we set off bright and early. There was

a problem with our starts so we were all late starters. Even so, we all started before 10.00 a.m. This was by Swedish standards a small event. There were still club banners, an assembly field, a commentator, toilets, finish funnel, pre-marked maps, show-ers, computerised results and a big trader like Ultrasport. I had quite a good run and came 4th on H16A behind Walter, Bertie and Chris in that order. I won a mug.

Sunday and another event. Since we couldn't find it at first we were late getting there. I started a minute late and spent another minute getting sorted



out. I was 'miles' down the field.

Monday was a rest day so we went to Sömmerland which is a bit like Alton Towers. It didn't turn out to be much of a rest day as we seemed to be on our feet for most of the time.

Tuesday was back to training at Sparresäter which was more rocky with lots of misleading features. Just the place to do compass work and pacing which is what we did.

Wednesday was long legs. I was shadowed and made a

complete ****-** of it! That must have gone down well in my report! The afternoon was a Sprint'O'um Relay. We were in teams of four and my team came third.

Thursday, the last day of training, was Sarah Noot's exam to see whether she could become a coach. It consisted of a clock-pairs



race. It was a bit complicated so I won't try to explain it.

Before lunch it was a relocation exercise which was in pairs again and you ran with your partner's map, get inside a big circle 200m in diameter, give them the map and they had to find out where they were and then find a control and then you swapped over.

The afternoon's exercise was a normal course but in awful rain and I fell in a very deep marsh and smelled. (Smelled what? - Ed.).

Friday was it! Ignore the JK, British, Scottish. This was the Tour Championships held at Otterstorp. It was based on World Cup 1 this year where there were three short courses and you did them all in a set order. There were only two for us though.

My first course went well and James Esson and I were leading but on the second course I mucked up control 5 and lost five minutes. I slipped down to 4th place. The eventual winner was James, with Walter Clark 2nd and Euan Naismith 3rd. All Scots!

Saturday was a Harvester in the light. Ten legs, each between 4 and 6kms (for males) and 3 and 5kms (for females). Being up against the best clubs in Sweden we had no hope of victory, but the girls had brilliant runs and came in 5th.

The last orienteering on tour was quite a big event beside Västra Oresjön which is 20kms south of Goteborg. I was tired and made a few little mistakes but still managed to have quite a good run and finished off the tour on a happy note.

All there was now was the boat trip back!

Anthony Squire



Anthony on one of his more challenging route choices in Sweden.

The Club Championships

Well it had to happen! Sooner or later the Club Championships were bound to held on an absolute stinker of a day. Course planner, organiser and controller A. Bankhead arrived in the early hours of the morning to prepare the course. He deposited a suspiciously heavily laden rucksack at our house and then I drove him up to the Hermitage so that he could dash round and set out the controls. I left the tribe at home. It was too wet for them so they had decided that they were going to go swimming instead!

About an hour and a half later I arrived at the Observatory to find a motley few Interlopers and no sign of our erstwhile Social Secretary. It didn't look as if there were going to be many club members prepared to brave the elements but a quorum of idiots was reached. (Ray, Pat, Scott, Cathy, Kirsty, Rachel, Fay, Gail, Charlie, Janet, Eva, Rudolf (n/c), Gordon, Ian, Jane (definitely n/c) and myself. (Apologies if I've forgotten anybody)).

Andrew eventually emerged wraithlike (drookit, actually) from the mists and began the impossible task of trying to explain to the assembled hordes how the event was going to operate. No mean feat. - (Just some very wet ones - Ed.)

For the first half of the event we were to be organised into teams of five with each member being called upon to demonstrate his/her control of one of his/her senses. Andrew then revealed the mysterious contents of his rucksack. Some lucky people got to put their hands inside a black bag and touch strange objects (fruit, actually).

Others had to taste cunningly disguised flavours of yoghurt. Some had to smell herbs which Andrew had coloured a charming shade of navy blue. One group had to see where they were on a large board with a number of photographs of selected control sites on it. The last group had to listen to a tape of Andrew going around a course and work out where he was going from the background noises. The wailing of the wind had rendered this virtually impossible so he had dubbed on some enigmatic musical clues for his route. As this involved going into a car to listen to the tape, the more sensible members of the club (Janet, Ray and myself) volunteered for this option. The various clues from the activities gave you letters of the alphabet and you then went to these controls in any order you deemed fit as far as I could gather, although the hearing group followed Andrew's route.

Needless to say, yours truly ran off to Control 2 before Control 1 and didn't realise until en route to Control 3. That must have puzzled Ray a bit. A ridiculous route choice saw Janet overtaking me before I reached number 3. I 'ran' along behind her until the summit of Blackford Hill and puzzled her no end by running off to Control 1 after we had punched the last control. Man in harmony with a map!

The actual scoring was a bit of a mystery but Andrew did record our times when we returned. I think that everybody's time went towards their team score and that was to be used as the basis for the handicapping of the second event.

Any hopes of the rain letting off proved

negligible. Ray had had enough after the first event and quietly sloped off. Poor Andrew had the unenviable task of trying to control, inform and encourage several sodden orienteers who despite being soaked through were fairly eager to know what was going on.

For the second half the master of ceremonies presented us with a selection of letters and told us to make the largest word we wanted from them and then visit those controls as quickly as possible. We were not given any indication of how long we could be out there which added to the mystery of it all. Fortified by copious bits of chocolate the brave souls ventured out once again, more with the intention now of getting the whole thing over with as soon as possible. The continual downpour did not help the calculation of final placings but no one seemed really bothered. The keen ones, (Pat, Scott, Ian, Gordon and Charlie) volunteered somewhat masochistically to go out and collect the controls in.

The rest of us adjourned chez Riemersma for some warming fare of coffee/tea and fresh pancakes dripping with maple syrup which was much appreciated by all. The opinion of all who took part was that Andrew yet again came up with a very original and entertaining event. The planning and preparation must have taken a lot of time and thought. It's a pity that the rain probably discouraged some of you from attending an excellent social affair. But, finally Andrew

So Who Won ?

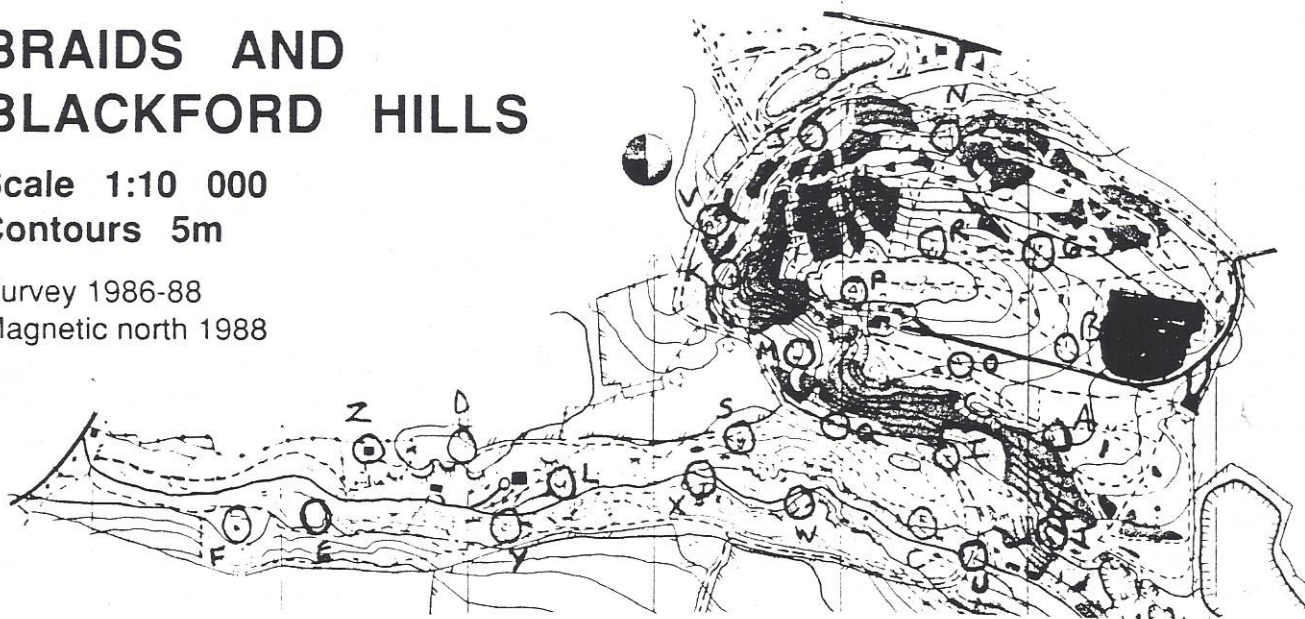
BRAIDS AND BLACKFORD HILLS

Scale 1:10 000

Contours 5m

Survey 1986-88

Magnetic north 1988



M thirtysomething



85

Well, it's back to work. All that conscientious endeavour during the summer putting miles in the bank falls completely by the wayside. I got them old beginning of term and there's so much work to do, it's untrue blues.

Three birthdays during the last month, urchins to be taken to swimming lessons and gymnastic lessons, relatives from New Zealand visiting - everything seems to be happening to prevent me going out for a run. Miss a few days and it becomes more of a struggle to put your trainers back on again. The waistline begins to expand and the pounds pile back on. Mental turmoil ensues. Got to get back in the old routine.

The 'O'-Season is starting up again! Here we go! The club weekend at Kingussie with a couple of events over the holiday weekend. Magic! Then one of your friends announces he's finally going to the States. He married an American girl in the summer of 91. He got his visa shortly after but he's been stuck here for months because he can't sell his house. Over a year later and he's

getting a bit fed up not being able to be with his wife and decides enough is enough and he's going. He'll try and rent the house. Of course his going away do is this weekend. So, no trip up north for me alas. Have a good time you lot.

All the more reason for me to get out there and start running again. Sure I did the 14 person relay and a leg in the Harvester but both of them were only 4kms. I haven't been exactly overstretching myself. First solution - deliver some newsletters.

As most of the cost of the newsletter these days seems to be postage and in an attempt to placate the mighty Treasurer, I try to deliver as many as I can within the immediate environs of my house. If you live in beautiful downtown Newington, Grange, or Marchmont you are usually lucky enough to have your copy of the newsletter delivered personally by my own fair hand. I've worked out quite a pleasant wee romp around these areas which doesn't take too much out of me despite what Mrs McIntyre might think as I stagger up the stairs to her flat.

The only problem is entry-phones. See the guy who invented them! It's an absolute nightmare for us workers in the distributive trades. I've been a paper-boy, apostman and now a newsletter editor. I seem destined never to be able to get into blocks of flats.

Last issue proved an exception though. I obviously had timed my delivery much better (Monday evening around tea-time seems to be a better time to catch people in). I even managed to deliver Tim Jordan's copy for the first time. It's fairly frustrating as he's fairly near to where I live. Some kind soul let me in on this occasion. I zipped round the other ones no bother and then I just had A. Kitchin's to deliver and guess what. His hovel stair has been recently renovated and an entryphone fitted. The one stair I thought I could rely on. C'est la vie!

This month's competition - What was President Bush saying at Devilla? e.g. "Is that how long Pakit took?"

Odds and Ends

While the club funds are still fairly healthy we are a bit concerned at how the opportunities for generating income do not seem as guaranteed as they were in the past. Coupled with increased levies and FC charges, some budgeting may be necessary. This is why the Committee has felt it necessary to introduce a charge for relay entries.

The coffers did receive a boost from our Calder Wood event. According to Pakit a respectable sum was made with costs verging around peanuts. Of course he creamed much of it off for British Squad funds.

Even Colinton Dell produced a healthy amount. Some of the money has been given to two of our talented juniors, Ynske and Anthony, who requested a grant to help them finance their journey to Sweden with the BOF Junior Squad. Lothian and Borders Juniors ended up doing well thanks to the Riemersma's 'shop' during the summer series and the barbecue at Bonaly.

The vexed question of voting rights for family and group members has been the subject of much dedicated and careful scrutiny by Steve Ambler. This potential diplomat presented us with a reasoned overview of the existing situation at the last committee meeting and a suggestion for the future which you will be informed of at a later date. Well done, Steve!

BOF, in its wisdom has decided to alter the format of the Compass Sport Cup. We now qualify as a small club but the revised rules require at least one senior member (M55) to run a blue course which might be deemed a bit excessive unless you're Bill Gauld. With the reservations expressed by quite a few members about the format of this event in the past, it has been decided not to enter this year.

Have you offered to help at Beecraigs? Day 4 on Deeside? the LBOA Championships? the Scottish Score Championships? Why not?

LBOA fees are to stay the same for 92-93 (£2.50 for seniors and £1 for juniors) with an increase probable the following year. Concern has been expressed that the LOL series at present does not adhere to BOF guidelines. It is proposed that the colour coded scheme be abandoned because courses of light green and above are not of the necessary standard in the main. They are likely to be replaced by courses A-G.

Apologies to the juniors for failing to squeeze in the results from the Inter-Regional Championships and the Scottish Schools. They'll be in No. 86. I promise!

More new members in the club. (That doesn't sound just quite right - Ed.) A hearty welcome to the Kellock family, James and Susan (both 21) and Stephen Vickers (M21) also. Good luck to you in your orienteering. Apologies (?) to Aileen Cruickshank who I credited with 21 years in the last issue and seems to have lost 8 since!