



# Interlopers



December 2023

*'Tis the season to be jolly! Time for another Interlopers' Christmas round-up. A totally normal year again, with the full suite of events and activities able to take place (notching up a good number of INT successes along the way). For the fuller record, see the newsletters and reports on the club website. Huge thanks to everyone who has contributed in any manner of diverse ways to the club! Merry Christmas and here's to a happy, healthy and active 2024. Katherine & the committee*



**JANUARY** Off to a flying start with Graeme's Christmas Cup New Year's Day courses in Niddrie. The club's prospects for the year look excellent with a strong intake of new M/W21s! Selections to GB squads too: Sasha, Peter, James, Pippa, Mairi, Laurence. Big Weekend with some strenuous courses on Arthur's Seat. Laurence is crowned (the delayed) 2022 Club Champion. Winterlopes start up with some golf-course favourites again. A very nice Burns social chez Carcas. Scottish Night champs medals for Sasha, Louise and Max.

**FEBRUARY** INT gets its CompassSport Trophy campaign going by winning the small-clubs Scottish heat at Faskally. Chris, Rob, Colin B and Pip go ski-orienteering in Norway at the World Masters. Others enjoy sun and dolmens at the Portugal O Meet, and gruelling warm-weather training plus a triathlon in Lanzarote.



**MARCH** Craigmillar Castle Park local event (thanks to Louise and Roanne (plus Paul) for their debut club event) incorporating ESOA Juniors' training again. INTs start their SOL campaigns at Errochty and then North Pentlands. ChatGPT helps write the Club Newsletter. British Champs weekend at Cold Ash with INT podium places. Zoom S&C finishes for the season; thanks again Lorna.



**APRIL** Nice Kinneil Woods local event, thanks Colin L, and Max (organiser, and for 'converting' the courses to map memory). Sprintelopes start up, hurray! What a fabulous JK in the Lakes! 1<sup>st</sup> for the Men's Relay (Aidan/Pete/Sasha), 6<sup>th</sup> for the Women's (Roanne/Louise/Claire) and 1sts for Sasha, Bethan, Matthew, Jane A.

**MAY** An INT SoSOL at Dechmont Law – another great day out, thanks Mike and Paul. Scottish Champs. The first INT Sprintelopes of the 2023 series take place, with Moredun (Katherine) then Little France (Graeme A).

**JUNE** Fun Almondell local event (with lovely bluebells), thanks Pip and Chris. 10 INT juniors take part in the Scottish Schools at Callendar Park. Intrepid INTs enjoy the mega-scale delights of Jukola and Venla in Porvoo, led by Max. Pre-WOC Orienteering Edinburgh after-work events for newbies get underway as a joint initiative across INT, ESOC and EUOC. Laurence heads to EYOC in Belgium.



**JULY** Sprintelopes continue to offer (mostly) nettle-free evening orienteering options, at Mortonhall (Ann and Stephen) then Buckstone (Robin). The Coast & Islands on Lewis and Harris is fun, and Bartletts sample the Zagreb Four Days (not for arachnophobes!). Mairi heads to the IOF Young Leaders Academy in Italy to learn about all things orienteering and development.



**AUGUST** Lots of the club head to a very enjoyable Scottish Six Days in Moray, particularly for the amazing sunny INT day at

Roseisle with great courses and organisation; well done Robin and Max and thanks to everyone involved! Fun beach party after of assorted 'survivors' post clear-up. Pippa heads to JEC in Belgium. James gets a Diploma in the European University O Champs (6<sup>th</sup>) in Switzerland. The 2023 Sprintelopes series comes to an end at the Grange (thanks Graeme A). Congrats to Bex and Doug on Sylvie's arrival.



**SEPTEMBER** Aidan, James, Mairi and Fiona head off to the SHIs; Scotland wins by the skin of its teeth. INT AGM and William is awarded the Gullane Rock this year. Lucy W (W14) and Laurence (M16) are selected for the JIRCS in South Wales (Scotland won!). A club training / competition weekend on Speyside (thanks



Lorna). A very successful Loch Vaa SOL with nearly 300 entrants – thanks Mike for planning some fantastic courses and Graham for organising (+ EUOC for control collecting). Colin and Lorna win silvers at the Scottish Score champs.

**OCTOBER** Lucy W (W14) heads off to the JHIs. Lorna and Heather head off to the VHIs (Scotland 2<sup>nd</sup> to England, boo...). Mairi, Pippa, Freddie, James and Peter are selected for the European World Champs GB team, with Murray and Andy on the support staff (+ Colm for Ireland and Thomas for USA); good practice for the Euomeeting in Stirling just after. Claire & Ray deliver the Junior Inter Areas weekend. Another INT local event at Braidburn Valley Park, planned by Ann and organised by Fiona with help from William and Paul.

**NOVEMBER** Lorna's weekly Zoom torture sessions get going again. A successful Mortonhall local Saturday event, with Joe H (EUOC) as debut-planner and Paul for on-the-day organising. A second set of Orienteering Edinburgh events (lunchtime runs) start for newcomers. CST Finals take place in the Forest of Dean with a good turn-out and some strong runs (Graeme A winning his) but - alas! - a super-narrow miss to new champions SBOC (Swansea Bay). Louise retains the Golden Boot at least. ESOA Champs at Corstorphine Hill – trophies for Mairi (W21), Ben (M35), Mary (W50), William (M50), Ann (W55), Colin E (M55) and Graham M (M65). Louise starts as the SOA lead development officer. Lucy W and Laurence are selected for ScotJOS and the Talent Scotland squad.



**DECEMBER** The last event of the year with the Livingston SOUL; thanks Mairi, Pat, Lucy W and Claire + team. Time for a short rest before starting on the coming year's programme with local events, Winterlopes, SOLs, SOULs, oh and some sort of international level thing in Edinburgh in July! *[Clear your diaries for 12-16 July: sign up to volunteer and help make the World Orienteering Sprint Champs in Edinburgh go amazingly!]*

