

Once upon a time there was a poor old computer programmer who got himself lumbered with the job of editing his orienteering club's newsletter. He managed OK for a while, but then the end of the financial year came around and the Managing Director of his firm got all hot & bothered about getting-in as much money as possible to make this year's accounts look as healthy as possible, so the poor computer programmer was shunted about the Continent trying to rake up extra pennies in the most peculiar places. He succeeded reasonably well, but only at the expense of dropping practically everything else he was doing, including Editing his Newsletter, which is why he is now typing this in a great hurry and incredibly late! Sorry.

However, you may take heart from the fact that this Organ is perused by some of the Highest In The Land, and the Wise Words of Secretary Owens may now be seen quoted in the Ned Paul English Fell-Runner's Magazine "CompassSport", for all the nation's fell-runners to read and be transfixed by. So Come All Ye Would-be Contributors -- be not afraid! Be assured that your words of ineffable erudition will be weighed by The Almighty, yea every phonsme. Meanwhile, back on Earth, the title of this issue has been modified because most of you probably have heard everything already, and the only new thing will be the Crossword.

G.P (OLD, STALE & LIFELESS)

BOF have circulated a questionnaire asking if clubs (that's us) can help to introduce orienteering to local groups, youth clubs etc, for instance by providing speakers for talks, information on local orienteering areas and availability of maps. BOF are also interested in encouraging mutually beneficial links with local sports clubs, like us organising a jogging/orienteering section in return for use of their facilities. Or Something. In principle of course everyone is in favour of such fraternisation, but if anyone has any concrete ideas about these proposals, please speak up and let's try to get something happening.

Robert (Pogo) Paterson wrote a very sensible and cogent letter pleading poverty and asking for assistance in going to the J.K., and the committee agreed to advance him £10 in anticipation of his writing an article for the Newsletter about his trip. This sort of cash is available to any Junior who writes (e.g to Scott) in advance, saying what sort of orienteering activity he/she would use it for. Any activity aimed at raising funds specifically for and by Juniors will also receive favorable consideration by the committee, although the club is currently very rich (by my standards!), and we can afford to subsidise Junior activities quite heavily, nevertheless we would like youngsters to try to think of their own ways of boosting the J.I.M. fund. Meanwhile we await a and awestruck the purple prose from Pogo's pen.

Back to BOF -- a survey is being made of the use of computers in orienteering. Scott has already answered the questionnaire (my notes say "Scott has Apples" -- lucky teacher!), but if anyone has any original (practical) ideas in this area, or information about ways they are already being used, we would all like to hear about it. Apart from results processing I see they are already being used for course overprinting and description-list production; I would dearly like to be able to apply my map-making computer system at work to the production of O-maps, but it is far too expensive and sophisticated to be practical (and hard work!).

From the I.O.F we now have a copy of the New Drawing Specifications for International O-Maps, so contact me if you want to see it, or get a copy from BOF when they start to publish it in colour. And from the Scottish Sports Council we have a booklet on "The Media and Sport" -- a guide to obtaining publicity for sport. Anyone who wants to volunteer for the post of Press Officer for the club and apply some of the advice in this book will be very welcome.

Pat Squire has written to say that he can offer to conduct fitness tests at Dunfermline College of P.E., Cramond, on an appointment basis for one or two persons per half hour. Parameters measured include: body fat estimation, grip strength, lung capacity, mobility, muscular endurance and estimated oxygen uptake. There would be a fee of £2-50 per person. Anyone wishing to undertake a test can contact Pat either at his address on the list or at the College 031-336-6001 to book an appointment. If he gets data from enough people he might be able to produce a survey on the superb level of Interlopers' fitness! The Editor is too scared of being shown up as the puny weakling he really is to get within 500 miles of such an exercise.

Hilary Smith (I warned this was OLD gossip!), an Interloper of long standing, long running, long jumping, long sitting and of very high esteem, has decided to try to liven up the West of Scotland by joining Clydeside (shame!), where along with Jean Ramsden and Ros Goats she will form a devastatingly strong women's team. That is, in between trying to educate Scotland's youth in the delights of outdoor activities, skiing Three Peaks Yacht Racing, ski-mountaineering etc etc... Best wishes, Hilary -- please keep in touch!

Charismatic Chairman Scott Balfour has received some entries for the latest Course Planning Competition, but since he refuses to tell me when the closing date is I'm not sure if he is still accepting entries, but I'm sure he will tell you if you ask him nicely.

Scott is also supposed to be ordering Club T-Shirts, and he would like to hear from everyone wanting one. (The Editor wants to get one, Scott -- the mud stains won't come off my old one!)

In an attempt to deplete the embarrassingly large bank balance the club has bought a job lot of the new BOF book "Orienteering Training and Coaching", for resale at the discount price of £4-65. Few, if any, of the first lot are left now, but if there is a demand we will get some more, so contact Ken if you would like one. Having had a quick look at this book I can enthusiastically recommend it to anyone seriously wanting to improve their orienteering -- it contains expert advice from Carol McNeill, Geoff Peck, Gareth Bryan-Jones and Tony Thornley -- there are no better mentors in the country.

So from the sublime to the ridiculous -- a letter from Ian Miller in Nova Scotia.

"Dragging myself away from my wine bottle (an endless process since Christmas) just a quick note to accompany my membership form. Basically I'm playing dumb and seeing if the BOF system will break down and not charge me extra for Canadian mail. I doubt it but I may as well try.

"Meantime things are not too bad here. I've been a bit spoiled these last few weeks with my sister and Maggie Tullis both visiting as temporary cooks and bottle washers. Unfortunately it is the mildest winter for ages and so far I've only managed one days skiing. The Orienteering has closed down for the winter and I'm trying to get fit to star in the coming season. "Competition is a bit thin on the ground but there are one or two who might survive in Britain. I'll probably have to travel to reach decent competition in Ontario or New England.

"Pass on my best regards to everyone."
-- What Ian does not say here is that he and Maggie are getting married soon. I feel like old Mr. Woodhouse -- how do these things happen??

FORTHCOMING HAPPENINGS

A series of Saturday Afternoon Training Events are to be held, organised alternately by us and ESOC. John Mitchell is organising the first one on 23rd April at Corstorphine, and Ken-O the third one at Beecraigs on 14th May. The others are listed in the calendar below. Everyone is welcome to these, either to run or to help-out with the organising work (or both).

Eight (8!) teams have been entered for the British Relays at Dalswinton (nr Dumfries) on Sunday 1st May -- two "A" (open), two "B" (short open), one "C" (M43 & up), one "D" (M35 & up), and two "E" (women open). It is hoped that this provides enough places for everyone who wants a run -- please contact Ken as soon as possible to let him know if you would like to represent Interlopers in any of those teams. Don't be shy, we would rather have too many runners than have to waste money on unused entries.

While on the subject of relays, the Scottish Relays (Sun 29th May) and the Harvester Trophy (18-19th June) are coming up, and Ken wants to know who wants to run in these, so as to be able to decide what teams to enter. The Scottish are at South Achray, which is a very nice forest, if a bit hilly, and Ken needs names NOW! The Harvester is a superb event and has now received recognition as an official I.O.F. international fixture but it's happening in the Deep South (Aldershot) this year, an awful long way to travel. However if enough people want to go then we will enter a team. Count me in for one, Ken!

The Wednesday Evening C.A.T.I's are happening again, if a bit chaotically, and one of the last of these will be the Interlopers Club Championships on 22nd June, probably at Seamuir. Ken-O is dreaming up some fiendish plan to tease your wits, and no doubt a nearby tavern will be monopolised afterwards. An Organiser is required!!

At the Scottish 6-Day, Royal Deeside '83, EVERYONE is needed to help out on Friday 5th August at Glen Tanar -- believe me, helping will be infinitely preferable to running (i.e. trying to crawl/stagger) in the forest -- anyone who went to last year's Scottish Champs will agree! I have only just realised that the closing date for entries was 1st April!!!!!! -- why on earth do they need FOUR MONTHS to sort out entries?? I think I will stay away in a huff if I can't get a run. Roger Vander Steen is Organiser-in-Chief, with Ian Lamont and John Mitchell planning, Ken-O in charge of the finish, the Editor doing the Blue Start (huff huff! if he's still around), with ELO and Solway doing everything else. Roger, Ian and John are visiting the forest this month, and it is hoped that the planning will be completed and the course overprinting done in June. Roger hopes that the bulk of the map-bagging will be completed before everyone disappears on holiday in July.

Interlopers Annual General Meeting is to be held on Friday 3rd June at Broughton Primary School, starting at 7-30 pm. The secretary, Ken Owens, should be notified of any proposed items for inclusion in the Agenda (including amendments to the Constitution) by Friday 6th May. Broughton Primary is next door to the Lothian Outdoor Education Centre in McDonald Road. The A.G.M. will be followed as usual by the Interlopers Annual Dinner, at a yet-to-be-decided Edinburgh eating establishment of impeccable reputation if dubious ethnicity. Everyone is urged to come to these gatherings if you possibly can -- it's your chance to help to make Interlopers into the sort of club YOU want.

Other items worthy of your special consideration include two Skittles Evenings arranged at immense personal risk and with vast & consummate enterprise by SocSec Andy "Laidback" Spencley: on Thursday 5th May at the Corstorphine Inn, and on Thursday 9th June at the Sheeps Heid Inn, Duddingston. All welcome: bring friends: representatives from other O-clubs will no doubt attend. Other social possibilities are under investigation: barbecues, curling etc: anyone with any concrete ideas drop them heavily on Andy's head.

Ex-Chairman of Interlopers Robin Sloan has written to extol the merits of the Loch Rannoch Marathon, 26th June. Robin strongly recommends this event for the flatness of the course and the aesthetic experience of running round a Highland loch! Last year's small entry of 150 or so meant there were showers for everyone at the end. Facilities were superb -- even a low hovering helicopter to create a cooling wind! The Editor has one entry form (which he will not be using, in spite of the attractions of the scenery!), and further entry forms can be obtained from "Loch Rannoch Marathon, Rannoch School, Rannoch Station, Perthshire PH17 2QQ". Entries close 31st May.

Articles, notes about interesting events, results, achievements etc etc are always welcome for the Newsletter, preferably written down, or dictated at snail's pace over a pint of heavy. DEADLINE for next issue (probably a mere skeleton) is 6th May.

CALENDAR

- (Extra info: Ken Owens 031-334-4162)
(Local events transport: Pete Woolverton)
- April
 - Sat 16th R.D. '83 Open Meeting, 11 am, Stirling Univ.
 - Sun 17th Irish Championships.
 - Tue 19th Intervals Training, 7-45 pm, Meadows.
Pub night, 8-30....., Southsider.
 - Sat 23rd Training event, 2 pm, Corstorphine.
**** Helpers contact John Mitchell ****
 - Sun 24th MO club event, Ladybank.
 - Tue 26th Training & Pub night.
 - Wed 27th Lothian CATI's: West: Low Port
East: Ferny Ness
 - Sat 30th S.W.Area Champs, Laurieston.

May

- Sun 1st British Relay Champs, Dalswinton.
- Tue 3rd Training & Pub night.
- Wed 4th Lothian CATI: Cramond.
- Thu 5th Skittles evening, 7-30 pm, Corstorphine Inn.
- Sat 7th Training event, 2 pm, Holyrood Park.
- Sun 8th Borders Galoppen 2, Glentress.
MO club event, Tentsmuir.
- Tue 10th Training & Pub night.
- Wed 11th Lothian CATI's, West: Beecraigs
East: Saltoun
- Sat 14th Training event, 2 pm, Beecraigs.
**** Helpers contact Ken Owens ****
- Sun 15th British Champs, E.Sussex.

- Tue 17th Training & Pub night.
 - Wed 18th Lothian CATI, Blackford Hill.
 - Sat 21st Training event, 2 pm, Calder Wood.
 - Sun 22nd WFO club event, Blairadam.
MO club event, Pitmiddle.
 - Tue 24th Training & Pub night.
Borders Galoppen 3, Spottiswoode, nr Lauder.
 - Wed 25th Lothian CATI's, West: Calder Wood
East: Binning Wood
?? ESOC club event, Pentlands?
 - Sat 28th Scottish Champs, Trossachs.
 - Sun 29th Scottish Relay Champs, S.Achray.
 - Tue 31st Training & Pub night.
- June
- Wed 1st Lothian CATI, Holyrood Park.
 - Fri 3rd INTERLOPERS A.G.M. & ANNUAL DINNER.
All welcome. Dress & behaviour informal.
CANCEL ALL INHIBITIONS & OTHER ENGAGEMENTS, & ME!
 - Sun 5th S.E.Area Champs, Benarty Hill (LINOC).
 - Tue 7th Training & Pub night.
Borders Galoppen 4, Cardrona.
 - Wed 8th Lothian CATI's, West: Selm Muir
East: Hedderwick
 - Thu 9th Skittles evening, Sheeps Heid Inn, 7-30.
 - Sun 12th WFO club event, Humberie (Aberdour).
 - Tue 14th Training & Pub night.
 - Wed 15th Lothian CATI, Corstorphine.
 - Sat/Sun 18/19th Harvester Trophy Relays, Aldershot.
 - Sun 19th Northern Lights, N.Kessock.
 - Tue 21st Training & Pub night.
 - Wed 22nd INTERLOPERS CLUB CHAMPS. prob. Selm Muir.
 - Sat/Sun 25/26th Capricorn 2-day Long-O.
 - Sun 26th Loch Rannoch Marathon.
 - Tue 28th Training & Pub night.

July

- Nothing much (?) until
- 31st - Aug 6th: Royal Deeside '83.
and specifically:
- Aug. 5th Glen Tanar event organised by Interlopers.
**** Helpers contact Roger Vander Steen. ****

MEMBERSHIP etc etc etc etc

Seeing Stars

The attached Interlopers Directory contains a lot of asterisks against the names of those people who have not (or rather had not, in February!) renewed their subscriptions. If you wish to ensure a continued supply of this fabulous confabulation then just post off your cheque to Ian Lamont or Ken Owens a.s.a.p. Postal orders, cash, roubles, rupees, beads etc will all do just as well. Then start a campaign to introduce a "Life Membership" category -- I'm amazed that this has not been started ages ago; most other organisations have this facility, or at least a direct debit/standing order procedure. How about it, BOF?

New Members

- M21 F Calum McIntosh, 22 Wardlaw St., EH11 1TP
- M21 F Peter Couldrey, 41A Lockharton Ave, Craiglockhart.
- W19 F Susan Wilkie, 3 Comely Bank Row, EH4 1DZ
- W35 F Nicki Baker, 20 Annandale St., EH7 4AN
- M21 F Michael Preston, 190 High Street, EH1
- M50 Barry and M17 Jeremy Prowse, 14 Merchiston Bank Gdns.
- The Simpson Family -- Elizabeth W43, David M35, Andrew M12, and Shona W10, 6 Cumlodden Ave, EH12 6DB.

Welcome to all new members, and my usual forlorn appeal for you to write to the Newsletter with anything publishable!

Flits

Ian and Fiona Hendrie have moved to 2 Merchiston Bank Ave. Ian Miller's address in Canada seems to be (handwriting permitting) #10, 1030 South Park St, Halifax, N.S. B3H 2W3. Gordon Stoddart has moved to 13 Panmure St, Dundee. Robert Paterson's phone number has changed: Livingston 414158.

HOW TO SPEND A WET EVENING

Andy Spenceley

What have Glenarwoode, Ball Games and 100/7 in common? Only the hard men (and women) who ventured out on a cold rainy night through the thickest and most dangerous estates can answer -- that is, of course, the ones who survived.

NON-EXISTENT

The Mass Start Street Score Event (to give the official title) took place on 2nd February from Liberton Brae. The map and clues were designed to give an Interlõper victory, and this appeared to be working when Graham McIntyre was seen heading off the map, half-way round the course, fooled by a non-existent path shown on the map. Unfortunately our main hope Dave Copland suffered the same fate, leaving Ian Hendrie to bear the Interlõper flag.

FOOD

The minutes ticked away & the tension built up -- who would be first to appear? Then Fiona, Angela and Jonathan panted in, this was so they could get to the food first rather than because they had run faster.

STUFFING

With 10 secs remaining Ian sprinted to the finish having collected 19 of the 21 controls -- could he hold out and win? -- only time would tell. 60 mins, 61 mins, 62 mins passed, the penalty was increasing and it looked as if Ian might just pull off a surprise victory, when in staggered Graham to win by the narrowest of margins. But by then everyone was stuffing themselves.

A SHORT STORY

K'n *v*e*s

Slide evening! An alternative name for a skating evening perhaps, or a chance for Interlõpers to have fun in a childrens playground? What actually happened was "something completely different".

DEVELOPED

From about 7-30 pm that fateful Wednesday evening in February the slow trickle of Interlõpers arriving at Ken's house developed into an even slower trickle.

KILLING

One of the arrivals, having re-located after a drastic navigational error, was seen to be carrying two mysterious boxes. What could they contain? The plot thickens, the mystery deepens, the suspense is killing, etc.

ELABORATE

It later transpired that one of the boxes held a roll of white fabric along with some bars to allow it to be stretched out, while the second box contained a much more elaborate contraption which we shall henceforth refer to as a "slide projector".

DIFFICULT

It was found that if the white fabric screen was placed in front of the slide projector, and a small transparent picture inserted into the slide projector, a larger copy of the picture could be made to appear on the screen. The copy was usually the wrong way round, but when working at the forefront of modern technology there are always a few difficult problems which are yet to be solved.

SOMETHING ELSE

We should perhaps think of a name for this remarkable phenomenon whereby pictures can be sent over a distance of 10 feet without even a connecting cable. The word "wireless" immediately springs to mind, but I remember that word being used to describe something else.

LONG-HAIRED

As for the pictures themselves, they were very varied and interesting, dating from 1975 to the present day. People change a lot in 8 years, don't they! Some of the long-haired youthful characters in the pictures were hardly recognisable as the prominent orienteers we know today.

COPLAND

Thanks must go to Dave Copland and Andy Spenceley for providing slides and even more thanks to Dave for providing the projector and screen.

And Finally... THE CROSSWORD

by SILVAN

CLUES ACROSS

- 1,5 Orienteering magazine, top mass crops out. (7,5)
- 5 See 1
- 8 Put in danger by losing lip in wire. (7)
- 9 Orienteering coniferous tree, I suppose? (5)

- 10 Spot thrush in re-orientating fired flea. (9)
- 12 Message to beginner orienteers : Come and - it! (3)
- 13 'Tread safely into the --- ' (Louise Haskins). (7)
- 14 Intersect back in tuckshop. (3)
- 18 Rearrange forty men at start of race, then send this in to take part. (5,4)
- 20 One who measures distance in stepwise fashion. (5)
- 21 Those taking part in orienteering race? (7)
- 23 Firm ground, as in after race. (5)
- 24 What a 21 does when out of breath? (2,5)

CLUES DOWN

- 1 Precipitous features might 8 an orienteer. (6)
- 2 A representative member of the house, in short arranges to become an orienteering area surveyor. (6)
- 3 What we breathe, may be seen in pair of shorts. (3)
- 4 Well known type of orienteering 1 across. (5)
- 5 Not the fastest route choice, we lay around in rows. (6,3)
- 6 A participant in a 1,5 across is from the East after losing his ear, we hear. (6)
- 7 You can usually enter on this, but may pay extra. (3,3)
- 11 Dark green on the map is a sane reed, perhaps? (5,4)
- 14 There may be one of moss in the forest, PT race will find out. (6)
- 15 One who follows tracks, or an orienteer under a tree top? (6)
- 16 Second half of famous orienteering club is for those who run with long strides. (6)
- 17 Excites mirth in, assume excited. (6)
- 19 Extra requirement for night orienteering. (5)
- 22 Find a horse in men age group. (3)

Solution Overleaf.

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