



The Bag.

The Newsletter of Nottinghamshire Orienteering Club.

<http://www.noc-uk.org>

May 2001.

****BRAMCOTE HILLS EVENT C4****

13th May String, White - Blue,
P. Ray B: C. Hilary P: O. ? SK 506380 Parking may be
limited. Please volunteer to Ray if you can help



FOOT and MOUTH EMERGENCY

BOF policy is being kept under review as the situation develops, though conflicting messages are causing us difficulty. The current policy is:

No orienteering (events or training) in infected areas, until at least six weeks after the last confirmed instance

No orienteering (events or training) in restricted areas, including areas with closed footpaths

No orienteering (events or training) on land where livestock are or may be kept

No orienteering (events or training) without the full agreement of every landowner affected

Members are also requested not to travel through or from infected areas in order to attend orienteering events. Note that this does not exclude orienteering in town parks or woods, or in forests where access restrictions have been lifted. We understand that livestock' means farm animals, but the disease is infectious among deer as well as sheep, pigs, etc., so we are surprised that the Forestry Commission has opened forests containing deer and in some cases sheep. It may be that forest users are expected to stick to roads and paths. As always, it is essential to confirm the precise use of the area with the land-owner.

But in the meantime....

The emergency does not mean that club orienteering must come to a complete halt. It is important not to go out of business until the crisis ends. That would affect clubs even more than BOF, because you are more likely to lose occasional orienteers than committed BOF members. Several clubs are running full programmes of street and/or park events. Indeed we're told that street orienteering began in response to the 1967 outbreak. Why not run your own Park Race series with age classes, or a suitable form of handicapping so the M60s still have a chance (I'd better declare an interest). You may even find that, because other outdoor activities are restricted, street and park events are more popular than ever. Perhaps 2001 will see the real start of park orienteering in the UK?

....and afterwards

You could also be thinking now about how to regain lost ground when the emergency ends. If you're finding yourself with time on your hands, why not be planning a promotional campaign, ready to roll out for your first real event? Local newspapers should be pleased to run an 'Orienteers Get Back in the Forest' feature.

In fact it's the perfect opportunity to explain the (often misunderstood) nature of our sport: that the point is precisely that we do not stick to paths, that we do get into the forests. BOF can provide all sorts of assistance, including leaflets, posters, and advice on promotion and dealing with the media, originally produced for WOC'99 but easily adapted to the current situation. Teresa Dudley, our Marketing and Membership Manager, will soon be sending you a marketing pack. Associations may want to co-ordinate and support promotion campaigns in their area.

This will also be a theme at this year's Club Development Conference to be held within 5 minutes walk of Derby station on Saturday June 23rd, at a cost of £5 per delegate to include coffee, lunch and afternoon tea. Book your place now with BOF office (bof@bof.cix.co.uk), A detailed programme will be available shortly.



Mountain Bike Orienteering

BOF has also renewed its agreement with the Trail Cyclists Association, who are responsible for the development of MTBO in the UK. To help them do this, and ensure uniform standards and an integrated event programme, we have agreed that all mountain bike events of colour-coded equivalent or above should be registered with (and insured by) the TCA. BOF clubs are free to run local, informal or 'social' mountain bike events (C5 equivalent) whenever they want to. These will be covered by BOF insurance provided the event is registered with BOF in the usual way. But BOF clubs wishing to run 'serious' mountain bike events (C4 and above) should join the TCA, which we have agreed they can do at half the standard TCA rate, i.e. £12.50 instead of £25. For information about the TCA and mountain bike orienteering please contact:

Mike Haywood, www.trailquest.co.uk

Right to Roam legislation

BOF Environment Officer Doug Kennedy advises clubs to keep an eye out for announcements of meetings of their Local Access Forums. These local bodies are going to be extremely important in determining the way in which the Countryside and Right of Way Act is implemented, and an orienteering input could be crucial with regard to access in your area.

NOC en France

Or more accurately 8 of NOC (in a British presence of 150 out of 600 competitors)

Suffering greatly from withdrawal symptoms some intrepid NOC orienteers crossed the Channel for the 'Trois Jours du Sud Ouest' - or '*not the JK avec sun, wonderfully runnable forests and wine*'. John and I went to the French 5 Days near Bordeaux two years ago and knew how gorgeous the forests (pine on sand dunes) are down there, so we filled up our car with Rob (Palmer) and Richard (Robinson) and booked for a week. Others were far more adventurous .. Chris and David Hodgkinson went by coach and bike! Helen Palmer and Liz Day, of course, travelled with the GB junior squad so their journey was quicker (plane) but via Brussels (cheapest route apparently). Chris and David camped whilst the rest of us had 4 bed apartments (for only £5 per person per night!) in a complex with a (covered) pool and on the southern edge of the days 1 & 2 map and just over the road from the day 3 area!

It was well worth the trek. Although the area's forests had been hit by a severe storm last year, a lot of clearing up had been done (the start on day 2 was in a 'map correction' felled area as was my first control that day) and we had 3 great days of competition. Some of the 'white' wood with nothing on the floor and gentle undulations is the stuff orienteers' dreams are made of. In other bits broom bushes reduce visibility and there is some 'green', younger forest, but the overwhelming impression is of an amazing orienteering area.

Fortunately we also got there in time to practise on an area just to the south of the competition areas with 80 permanent posts (each with a punch!) - just as well because we were all a bit rusty and also needed to run on a 1:15,000 map which we would be using in the competitions ... some of us are not used to that scale (well that's my excuse!)

As luck would have it some of my competitors needed the first 2 days of the 'trois jours' to practise and I was able to take it easy on day 3 with a 10 minute lead. Other NOC prize winners were David, second to James Furness from OD by only 1 minute 14 secs over the 3 days (very close) and Liz ,2nd and Helen, 3rd on D20E.

This event takes place every year (next year it's down near Biarritz) and the French 5 in 2003 is also in the Landes forests (July 7 - 11) – well worth the trek, so maybe some more NOC members will venture south to orienteer in the future.

Hilary

BRITISH SCHOOLS ORIENTEERING CHAMPIONSHIPS QUIZ

- 1 Which region is organising the 2001 BSOC?
- 2 On what date is the main Championship race?
- 3 In which country are the 2002 World Schools Championships going to be held?
- 4 Whose phone number is 0115 xxxxxxxxxx and why should you be ringing it?
- 5 Approximately how many prizes are going to be awarded at the British Schools Championships?
- 6 Is your employer able to pay for these prizes?
- 7 Are you willing to ask him/her to do this?
- 8 Approximately how many competitors are expected at this event?
- 9 Why are junior orienteers throughout the region busy with their crayons/computer drawing packages?
- 10 The answers to these questions are on pages 6 and 7 of the Spring 2001 issue of EMEWS. Have you read it? Will you act upon it?

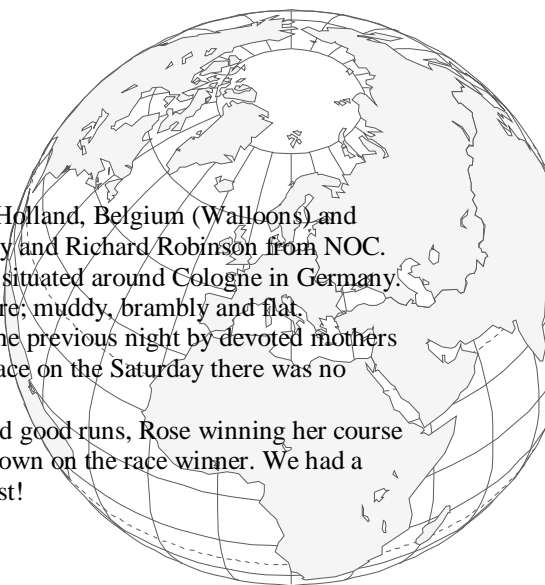
NOC Juniors dodge the F&MD (24-25 March)

I was selected to run for England in the Interland match against Germany, Holland, Belgium (Walloons) and Belgium (Flemish), along with Rose Hodgkinson, David Hodgkinson, Liz Day and Richard Robinson from NOC. Unfortunately, Liz had to pull out through illness. This year the match was situated around Cologne in Germany. Ten hours of travelling brought us to an area reminiscent of Nottinghamshire; muddy, brambly and flat. However, we were all glad to get our O-shoes back on (scrubbed spotless the previous night by devoted mothers so as to pass the foot and mouth inspection at Dover), and with a practice race on the Saturday there was no excuse for mistakes!

The race went well, with England winning comfortably. Both of us girls had good runs, Rose winning her course outright while I won the Interland competition but remained five minutes down on the race winner. We had a great time, and look forward to the next opportunity to get out into the forest!

Alison O'Neil

(Alison modestly omits to mention she was running up a class)



| NOC Provisional Fixtures Check details @ http://www.noc-uk.org | | | | |
|--|--|---|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| Date | Venue | Status | Organiser | Notes |
| Every Monday 18:00-19:00 | at Sport Nottingham, Notts County Stadium, Meadow Lane | Circuit Training and post race analysis | | Cancelled until further notice |
| Every Thursday 18:30 prompt | from The Olivants, Carlton | Training Run and discussion | | |
| 13th May | Bramcote Hills & the Hemlock Stone | C4 | See Web Site | |
| 20th May | Berry Hill Park | O5 | See Web Site | |
| 27th May | Colwick Woods | O5 | See Web Site | |
| 3rd June | Nottingham University | O5 | See Web Site | |
| 10th June | White Peak, Derbyshire | Pre-entry CD 25th May | See Web Site | Five Hour Score in pairs |
| 17th June | Colwick Park | O5 | See Web Site | |
| 24th June | TBA | O5 | See Web Site | |
| 1st July | Forest / Arboretum | O5 | See Web Site | |
| 8th July | TBA | O5 | See Web Site | |
| 15th July | TBA | O5 | See Web Site | Barbeque |

| Future Fixtures Check details @ http://www.noc-uk.org | | | | |
|--|--|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| 18 Nov 01 | British Schools Champs with supporting C5 on 17th Nov | Closed Event | Mick Lucking | Entry via school only |
| 16/17 Feb 02 | Short Race on Saturday (Walesby) Badge on Sunday (Clumber) | C3 Weekend | | |
| 7/8 Sep 02 'On the Drawing Board' | Peter Palmer Relays to be hosted by NOC | | | |
| Easter 2003 'On the Drawing Board' | EMOA may be hosting day 2 of the JK - in the Lake District ! | C2 | | |

HELP WANTED

Permanent Course co-ordinator needed.

The club makes a lot of money from the permanent course in our area, but we desperately need someone to oversee the Maintenance programme for them. This does NOT mean you would have to go out and check all the course, (unless you wanted to) there are often club members who are only too happy to have a training run around the posts, but we do need someone to co-ordinate the checking and make the necessary arrangements for any posts to be replaced. Again you are not expected to do this yourself. Could you spare a little time to help with this?

If you would like to discuss further or feel you could help the club in this way please contact me or anyone else on the committee.

Pauline Olivant

Chairmans bit

Message from between training sessions on tarmac

Depressing isn't it and painful on the joints as well. In many respects the F & M crisis has been a burden – we are trying to recruit orienteers and this doesn't help. Also the total lack of good quality events will have made us all a bit rusty for when the season finally gets underway. The frustration is tempered however by the realisation that many other groups of people have a greater right to occupy the 'victim slot' rather than ourselves. Things are changing however.....

The outbreak is waning and we are able to get back into some areas for some fairly low key events. These are listed here and on the web site – come along and support our efforts in regaining a sense of normality. Another event that will hopefully happen is the Peak District Long Distance Footpath Relay – this is on Saturday 15th September. We will hold off entering as long as possible (the end of August) however if you want to enter then please e-mail your details to Catherine Hughes well before this date. It is usually good, competitive fun.

That's all. See you in the parks/woods/wherever. (*Bramcote I expect Ed*)

Tony Donaldson

Yet More Stop Press

Congratulations go to David Hodgkinson has been selected for a BOF World Class Start trip to the European Junior Championships in the Czech Republic in May –

In the rush to get the Bramcote event publicized this weekend some items have by necessity been missed out or held over. Apologies to any contributors affected. Please don't let this stop you writing more.....Keith
No room for any more now see you soon.