



May 2008

"From the Chair"

Once again we are in one of the busiest and most important times of the orienteering year with the JK, British, and many other top quality events in rapid succession.

Unfortunately I wasn't able to attend the JK, but I have read the reports of its uncharacteristic weather conditions, and there were successes for several NOC members.

As I write this I have just seen the provisional results from the British Championships in Scotland. Yet more successes, so well done everyone, particularly the class winners. A fuller report, due to be written on the way back home from the event I understand, will be found elsewhere in this issue.

Locally, the first of our 2008 Summer League events will take place on Sunday 25 May at Rushcliffe Country Park, followed by a series of others around the county. The details are elsewhere in this issue of Black & Green, and also on the NOC website.

Please try to get along to as many of these events as possible, and if you feel you are able to help in any way please contact Helen O'Neil or one of the organisers. As you know, the more people offering to help, the easier it is for all concerned.

At the events held during last year's Summer League you may remember filling in a feedback form to express your views, ideas, and comments on the way in which you feel that the efforts of the club should be focussed. These forms are still available at any time if you wish to suggest any other changes or have new ideas, or you could contact any of the Committee members.

Which reminds me.....you may remember these comments from last year....

"Continuing with a building theme for a moment you could say that we have cleared the ground, done the remediation work, set the foundations for the future, started the planning, and now need a bit of design work before we put together our planning application. The 'design work' is the feedback that you are going to provide when you return your form which is in this issue of Black & Green. As soon as the 'planning application' is completed (that is the production of the Development Plan) and passed, building work will commence!"

It is time for celebration!!! The 'building work' was done and we can now see the results.

I am pleased to be able to tell you that we have been successful in our bid for funding for our Satellite Clubs initiative. A report and explanation of this is elsewhere in this B&G.

You may also have seen the announcement on the websites that we have also been successful in receiving reaccreditation of our ClubMark certificate. The effort put in by all who contributed is an excellent way of showing our commitment to this important initiative, which recognises good practice in coaching, child protection, equality, links with local authorities, etc.

However, there is more building work to do. We have reached first floor level....there is at least another storey to go before we can cap it off and fit the roof! Let's keep building on our success to date.

IMPORTANT: Can I just remind you that there are still vacancies for the posts of Start Team Leader and String Course Team Leader.

I'm sure that most of people in those teams know how the system works already, so it won't be too big a change or too difficult for you to step up and act as the coordinator. Please volunteer – try to share the workload - don't leave it for someone else to do!

Thanks to one and all - see you in the forest

Dave Cooke

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"From the Editor"

Posting hard copies of the B & G to members has a significant negative effect on the Club's finances. For some time now we have maintained a list of members who are happy to receive their B & G electronically. Please send your e-mail address to bag_ed@noc-uk.org if you would like your B & G electronically.

Many thanks

Peter Bourne 1940 – 2008

Without Peter's involvement in NOC, it wouldn't be the successful club it is today. As Chairman during the 1980s, Peter was responsible for steering the club through a period of intensive development, from a tiny collection of enthusiastic individuals to the successful club it is today. It was he that put the substance to the maxim: 'NOC may not have the best orienteering areas in the country but it can stage the best organised events.'

It is often said that life begins at 40. This was certainly the case for Peter's life in orienteering, which started in 1980 when Robin Stansfield of SYO persuaded the Bourne family (Peter, Ros and their children, Simon and Chris) to go to an event at Sandal Beat Wood near Doncaster. Peter's involvement with NOC started a year later at the notorious Bestwood event when the map, delivered from the printers the day before the event, had not only the green and yellow colours the wrong way round but also was at the wrong scale of 1:6666. Despite (or possibly seeing an opportunity to resolve) these problems, the Bourne family weren't deterred but joined NOC to become enthusiastic, dedicated and committed members.

Typical of his enthusiasm for whatever he was involved, within two years of joining NOC, Peter was its Chairman. He led by example, turning his hand, extremely successfully, to organising, planning and controlling, the pinnacles of his career being the organisation of the 1985 British Relay Champs. in Clipstone (now Sherwood Pines) and the planning of the 1991 JK Relays in Clumber Park. He was also responsible for initiating a highly successful scheme to develop permanent courses throughout Nottinghamshire.

Coming from an athletics / cross country background, Peter was highly competitive and wanted to succeed at the highest level. Having been awarded the 1956 Victor Ludorum Cup at Loughborough Grammar School and having completed a 10 mile race in 50 mins. 6 secs., he took up orienteering with enthusiasm and determination. However, individually he didn't win any trophies; it was generally

agreed with his many friends, often whilst polishing off a bottle of red wine, that if only he could navigate as well as he could run he would have been unbeatable. He did, however have success as a NOC relay team member, taking home trophies from the 1990 and 1995 British Relay Champs.

Despite his many commitments, Peter was above all a family man. When the boys were young, he thoroughly enjoyed family orienteering at weekend and holiday events, on one occasion (1984) winning the Mammoth Family Relays. When they were a little older, he relished joining them for mountain marathons at which they were quite successful, he and Simon coming 3rd in the 1984 Saunders (C Class) and he and Chris coming 2nd in the 1987 Saunders (C class).

In 1995, whilst running the F.R.A. relay over Studley Pike, he suffered the first of three serious heart malfunctions, which curtailed his running much more than he would have wished. Following retirement from teaching Chemistry in 2001, Peter and Ros moved from Nottingham to Derbyshire to enjoy more of the outdoor life. They maintained their interest in orienteering. Characteristic of his generous spirit, they joined DVO so that he could continue to contribute to orienteering by playing an active role in the organisation of local events. DVO's gain was NOC's loss.

Recently, Peter and Ros were often to be seen at events entering the shorter courses. Indeed, on the Sunday before he died, he and I met serendipitously in the middle of Beaudesert to collaborate in a futile attempt to find an elusive pit. In the subsequent post-run analysis, Peter was vibrant and lively. The news of his death was devastating.

Orienteering in general, and NOC in particular, owe him an enormous debt of gratitude.

Peter Hubberstey (NOC) & John Orton (NWO)
Since the funeral we have been contacted by Ros Bourne who has asked us to thank all those members of NOC who contributed to Buxton Mountain Rescue in memory of Peter, a total of £790 having been collected thus far.

"From the 'Saga Warriors' following the 2008 British Champs."

The Saga'O' saga

And so it was in the 8th year of the 3rd millennium, that the silver haired warriors of the NOC veteran tribe set forth to do battle in the great forest of the northern lands known as Culbin. Ancient charts and maps from the second millennium were studied and tales of ancient orienteering folklore were told as they rode north through snowy lands, courtesy of Mrs Elliott's people chariot.

Day 1 of BOC '08 dawned sunny and calm, a welcome change from the snowy JK and Middle/Sprint weekends. Napier had successfully generated self-pressure by announcing he was trying for the treble by adding the BOC title to those won in M55 at the JK and Sprints. Elliott, Lucking, Napier and Lomas were vying for the places in the M50 relay team hoping to repeat or better their silver medals of last year. Rice was making one of his occasional returns to 'O' and hoping to surprise us all and himself !

There was much pre-race banter about the best way to hold a 'brick' (answer – anyway you like), whether they interfered with a compass or not (answer – yes if held in the same hand) and what the display means (answer – forget it, you won't have time to study it and if you do have time you won't want to and have probably blown it anyway). The map controversy abated but at 1:7500 it did take a while to spot the first control on the massive sheet of paper. We're all base-platers (we need the magnifying glass!) but folding it down to thumb compass size can't have been easy.

The forest lived up to expectations, largely open and very runnable with accurately mapped areas of intricate detail with few handrails to help. When losing contact, escaping to the nearest road or track was the only hope of relocating. The M50's 1.7k leg gave plenty of opportunity for savouring the wonderful terrain but, without an excuse for slowing down, it sapped one's strength. The M50, M55 courses and many others had the last few controls in the green, which caught out many, spoiling otherwise good performances. And the results? Lucking good to average, Lomas, Elliott and Rice below average and Napier, uncharacteristically poor by his high standards. Napier

blamed the magnetic interference from the brick on his compass making it 'all wobbly'. Relay teams were then selected – Lomas, Lucking and Napier (on the basis of previous form only, ignoring all pre-race selection policy!) Elliott and Rice selected to back up Robert Parkinson for the B team.

Individually the NOC star was Helen Palmer taking bronze in the Women's Elite – well done, all that making snowballs clearly hasn't done you any harm.

Relay day was a revisit of Culbin West, as used in last years Scottish 6 days. Warm sunshine beat down on the 150 or so runners for the 10am mass start. The event had unusually only three mass starts making for a crowded first few hundred meters. The elite, the young and the fit legged it whilst us more mature competitors cranked themselves up to full 8k per hour speed. A fast road run to control 1 and open flowing forest to 3 was followed by intricate costal dunes in the dark green – time to slow right down despite the pressure to hurry that relays generate. Success here and the remaining 10 controls to the finish would be straightforward.

For the NOC teams there was the sweet smell of success. The M50s finished 2nd and thankfully the selection of Napier over Elliott was vindicated. Rice got the best value from his entry fee whilst Parkinson ensured a NOC presence at the W70 prize giving by finishing at the same time.

The stars of the show were however the Men and Women's 18 teams, both showing a clear pair of studs to the rest of the country. Congratulations to them – Peter Lynas, James Taylor and Peter Hodgkinson, Fiona Claxton, Sarah Claxton and Jenny Evans.

Thus it was that the NOC Saga'O' warriors left their mark on the nations orienteering tribes. Wearing medals of honour they returned to the lowlands to ruminate on what had been and what might have been, and to add the story of Culbin to the great tome of never-ending orienteering legends.

Saga Warriors: Kevin Lomas, Mick Lucking, Michael Napier, Steve Rice and Simon Elliott (Warriors sponsored by Stannah'O' Stair Lifts)

*"From Peter Carter,
Novice Planner - Walesby C4 - December 2007"*

I had a go at planning Annesley Forest last year but just before I got all excited the event was cancelled. I was "collared", however, in a friendly sort of way at the Blidworth CompassSport event by Helen O'Neil, "Would you like to plan Walesby"? After taking the first step trying to plan at Annesley, it wasn't such a shock decision to accept the task. Although I was slightly anxious for the next two months, I had very welcome offers of help from David Olivant as well as advice from my controller Hilary Palmer.

The forests at the time I started my planning were in full Autumn bloom and it was a pleasure to be exploring them, and imagining how the courses would appear to the runners. Unfortunately by the time of the event the forests had lost their spectacular appearance. David Olivant discovered during one of his mapping trips that the area south of the road wasn't very pleasant ie the man trap brambles, he passed this information to me. Not using South of the road and making a decent blue and brown, "turning in squares and avoiding dog-legs, etc., etc.", needed some thought.

By the time Condes (planning software) had arrived I had done many drafts on paper. The software would be very helpful in reducing the piles of waste. I had to be confident I was on the right track, so made time to visit my controller, this was a wise move resulting in some useful advice. It was noted with some concern that several consecutive 325 degree turns on Green Blue and Brown were an unfortunate feature and might need some revision. Hilary was also worried about the area mapped as seasonal marsh in the North of the map, having visited several times I was happy with this unusual area, although something could have been noted on map corrections for the less bold orienteers.

David finished the computing side cleverly working out how program use of the same control twice and sent the job to print, which was great relief to me.

Although it seems like a lot of work being the planner, it is probably the best job because of the creativity involved. When I was getting up at 5:00 am on Sunday morning to meet David Winsor who essentially put out loads of controls for me, the end was in sight. Planning was good experience, and having been at events where the planner receives less than positive comments, I was very pleased that people had a pleasant run around in this traditional NOC winter venue.

Peter Carter

"From Andrew Powell, Coaching Co-ordinator"

NOC's got Talent

Do you have a hidden talent that could be useful to the club?

Are you first aid qualified?

Can you drive a minibus?

Are you a computer expert?

Do you have teaching skills?

Do you want to get involved with helping your club?

All of these skills and more would be of valuable use in our orienteering club and just knowing the people that can do these things would be a great help to us on the committee.

Please do not hesitate to contact the committee (chair@noc-uk.org) if you feel you have skills which might be of use, or if you want to learn skills which will be of use in the future.

Do you want to learn how to plan courses, draw maps, become a controller or organiser of an event?

We have existing experts in the club, who are happy to run courses *if* there is sufficient interest from members. So why not let us know?

Andrew Powell

Contact details

A plea from committee members to all members of NOC:

If you move house or change email address please could you remember to inform the club secretary (secretary@noc-uk.org) so that our records can be kept up to date.

It is very useful to us and you to be able to keep in contact with our membership about forthcoming events.

To anyone who is on email who hasn't given their email address to the club, please consider doing so as we currently have only 50% of club members e-mail addresses, and it is by far the easiest way of communicating with the club as a whole.

Many thanks in advance.

Andrew Powell

Satellite (Hub) Clubs' Initiative

Pauline Olivant and Catherine Hughes have been working with Derek Gale, Chairman of EMOA, and representatives from Derbyshire Sport, Sport Nottinghamshire and Sport England to secure funding to set up hub clubs in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire.

What does this mean for existing members of NOC?

Our aim is to set up these small clubs to encourage people new to orienteering to try the sport and for those people to meet up on a regular basis to take part in coaching sessions so that they learn to navigate, improve their fitness and meet other like minded people. The members of these clubs will also be members of NOC - so eligible for the CompassSport Cup etc. We have financial support from various local authorities who are keen to support our club and encourage people in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire to be more active.

Can you remember how you first started orienteering? We probably came through a variety of different routes. However, one of the most powerful ways to persuade someone to try anything new is through word of mouth. The challenge facing us is how we get these clubs started. We have funding and venues but we need your help in spreading the word and in the early days we would be very pleased to see existing members coming along to club nights to support the coach in delivering training sessions. The first club will be set up in the area centred on Mansfield / Sutton in Ashfield.

We will be sharing with you more information about the launch of this initiative in the next Black and Green. In the meantime, if you're interested in getting involved, please contact Catherine Hughes on hubclub@noc-uk.org

Pauline Olivant & Catherine Hughes



NOC Training

Every Thursday Evening May - August

Starting 6.30 pm in the Gym at
Bramcote Hills Sport and Community College, Moor Lane,
Bramcote

During the Summer evenings, some activities will move
outside with training runs, intervals, etc.

All ages and abilities catered for.
Why not come and join us



Cost:
Adults £1.00 Juniors 50p.

PHONE:

0115 9607714 for details

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**Remember : Every Thursday starting at 6:30pm at
Bramcote Hills Sport and Community College, Moor Lane.**

NOC Summer League

Sun 25th May	Rushcliffe Country Park ; Land reclaimed from former MOD depot with large open areas and maturing woodland	SK575320
Sun 1st Jun	Silverhill Wood ; Reclaimed colliery site with some open areas and a lot of fairly young woodland. The top of the old tip is Nottinghamshire's highest point.	SK473622
Sun 15th Jun	Wollaton Park ; Fast open parkland.	SK533393
Sun 22 nd June	Manton Wood and Kidney Clump Reclaimed colliery site, mixed woodland and open	SK616781
Sun 13th Jul	Ollerton Reclaimed colliery site, mixed woodland and open	SK668673
Sun 20th Jul	Oxclose Wood ; Reclaimed colliery site, mixed woodland and open	SK530632
Sun 10th Aug	Colwick Park ; Water sports parkland reclaimed from gravel pits. Woodland and open areas.	SK603392
Sun 17th Aug	Bevercotes Pit Wood ; Reclaimed pit site with mixed open areas and young woodland	SK700741

Future Events List

May 2008 – August 2008

	Date	Category	Venue
Thurs	15/05/08	C5 LOG	Riseholme Park, Lincoln
W/e	17-18/05/08	C4 NATO	Kielder Trophy; Kielder Forest
Sun	18/05/08	C4 DVO	Hardwick Hall, Sutton-in-Ashfield
Sun	18/05/08	C4 EPOC	Deffer Wood, Barnsley
Sun	18/05/08	C4 WRE	The Wrekin, Telford
W/e	24-25/05/08	C2-R4 SOA	Scottish Champs.; Kinloch Rannoch
W/e	24-26/05/08	C3 DEVON	Tamar Triple; Plymouth
Thurs	29/05/08	C5 LOG	Bourne Woods, Bourne
Sun	01/06/08	C4 AIRE	Heaton & Northcliffe, Shipley
Sat	07/06/08	C5 DVO	Ilam Hall, Ashbourne
Sun	08/06/08	C2 HOC	Brown Clee, Bridgnorth
Sun	08/06/08	C4 SYO	Silkstone Fall, Barnsley
Thurs	12/06/08	C5 LOG	Lincoln University, Lincoln
Sun	15/06/08	C4 LEI	Burbage Common & Woods Hinkley
Sun	15/06/08	S5 DVO	Ashbourne Street-O, Ashbourne
Sat	21/06/08	C5 DVO	Elvaston Castle C. P., Derby
Sun	22/06/08	C4 DVO	Carsington Pastures, Wirksworth
Thurs	26/06/08	C5 LOG	Twyford Woods, Grantham
Sun	29/06/08	S5 DVO	Allestree Street-O, Derby
Sat	05/07/08	C5 DVO	Darley Park, Derby
Thurs	10/07/08	C5 LOG	West Common, Lincoln.
Sun	13/07/08	C4 OD	Burton Dassett Hills C. P., Warwick
Sun	13/07/08	S5 DVO	Matlock Street-O, Matlock
Thurs	24/07/08	C5 LOG	Ostlers Plantation, Woodhall Spa
Week	3-9/08/08	C3 WOA	Creoso 2008, South Wales
Thurs	07/08/08	C5 LOG	Lincoln South Common, Lincoln
Sun	17/08/08	S5 DVO	Bakewell Street-O, Bakewell
W/e	23-25/08/08	C3 EBOR	White Rose; Barns Cliff, Scarborough