



the BLACK and Green word MACHINE

JUNE 1995

ROBIN HOOD TROPHY

Despite early concerns about the size of the pre-entry, the Robin Hood trophy at Sherwood Pines on May 14th had almost a thousand finishers. Clipsestone - as it was - had changed a lot since most of us had last been there. On the day we had four Midlands Champions. Andrew Preston M17, David Holme M70, Helen Palmer W13, and Hilary Palmer W45. Next year's event will be held at Budby (Sherwood Oaks?). In the article that follows Bert Bradshaw speculates whether or not this was the venue of the first orienteering event ever held in Nottinghamshire almost thirty years ago.

NOC SUCCESSES

Could I add to the list of prize winners given in the current EMEWS the name of Steve Wright whose third place in the JK M50L was an outstanding performance. Together with Tim Booker, Stephen Wright, Chris Hodgkinson first in the M13 Relay and Emma Jones, Stuart Hatfield and David Hodgkinson first in the JK Junior 37- Relay it was a good weekend for the club.

JUNIOR SELECTIONS

NOC Juniors go from strength to strength with six selections for tours this summer. Alistair Footitt, Chris Hodgkinson, Nicola Olivani and Helen Palmer travel to Lagganlis, Scotland and Robert Palmer and Andrew Preston on the U17 and U19 tours to Norway.

SUMMER LEAGUE

The Summer League organised by Ray Barnes is now well under way but with plenty of events still to come:

Date	Venue	GR	Organiser
June 15th	Rufford	587626	David Cooke
June 22nd	Burntump	574505	Richard Torr
June 29th	Arboretum + Forest	565409	Jim Clarke + NHS
July 6th	Nottingham University	544381	Hatfield family
July 13th	Theives Wood	5433576	Robert Palmer + friends

PERMANENT COURSES

So far, Rufford and Budby have been adopted leaving Bestwood, Clumber, Vicar Water and Bramcote looking for foster orienteers! The posts need checking roughly every three months. If you train in one of these areas and think you could help please contact Dave Olivant.

ANY LONG DISTANCE WALKERS?

The 52 mile long, 24 hrs Sheriff's Way Walk will be held on Saturday July 1st 1995 starting and finishing at Kimberley. There is also a shorter (30 mile!) Sheriff's Stroll finishing in Gunthorpe village. The event is organised by the Nottinghamshire Royal Society for the Blind to raise funds for the Early Start Nursery and Family Centre for babies and toddlers who are blind. Entry fee £15. Contact me if you would like an entry form. Closing date 9th June.

HELP NEEDED!

Fixtures Secretary Colin Portman has asked me to include a pro-forma with this issue which he hopes will make it easy for you to offer to organise, plan, control one of NOC's events next season. Please put something back into your sport and add your name to the list. The club has purchased lots of aluminium 'treble' type punches to make the Planner's task that little bit easier.

Looking further ahead, the 1997 British Championships are starting to take shape with the appointment of key officials. Kevin King and Andy Jones will organise the individual day at Clumber, whilst Eric Gebbett and Alan Beardsley are planning the relays at Chatsworth.

MAPPERS URGENTLY WANTED!

Re-mapping Bestwood, Nottingham remains a priority for the club. The existing map has been 'digitised' by Keith Streb which should make the cartography side of things much easier. The urgent need is for someone to spend 3/4 days surveying the forest before the bracken takes over for the next six months. Plenty of help is available on the cartography side. It is an ideal area for a first time mapper. Please contact David Olivant on a.s.a.p. if you can help.

WHEN DID IT ALL START?

The First East Midland 'O' Event

My introduction to orienteering came by way of a conversation with the late Gerry Charnley. In my running days I ran for Clayton-le-Moors Harriers along with Gerry and other famous names - Ron Hill, the Heaton brothers and Stan Bradshaw. This redoubtable and long standing club from East Lancashire were pioneers in the fell running scene back in the 1950's. We were always known as the 'original mountain goats'.

Gerry was an extremely keen competitor, but his main forte was always as an organiser. Not surprisingly he linked up with Chris Brasher and John Disley and together with great enthusiasm they set about spreading the news about this wonderful Scandinavian sport of Orienteering.

In the early 60's I was running rather well on the road. One of the best races in northern England at that time was a 6 mile 'eye balls out' race known as the Waterloo Road Race - near Southport always with a quality field. Gerry was a policeman and that particular day was on traffic duty with his motor bike. "Why not try orienteering now you are losing your speed, I will send you the details" he said after the race. What a compliment after the way I had run.

Nevertheless the information arrived almost immediately and included details of an evening event to be held at the Bulby Army training Area, Edwinstowe, Thursday March 31st 1966. The organiser was one Terry Hamilton a lecturer at People's College, Nottingham. Along I went together with fellow Nottingham A.C. member David Rhodes. According to my diary the weather was fine, I think there were about a dozen of us. We had no compasses, map cases, instruction or any idea either. Just a badly reproduced black and white photocopy of the O.S. map. Somehow we managed and so after taking part in the first local event I was hooked!

But was it the first event? Several years later at a party in Farnsfield a chance conversation with a Mr Spencer who was employed by Nottinghamshire County Council as a Youth Services administrator made me think again. Apparently in 1962 a party of Swedish orienteers led by Baron Lagerfelt a 'missionary' type orienteer travelled to Scotland where they organised several competitions. En route they called at Nottingham and set up an event in the Major Oak area for the Nottinghamshire Youth Clubs hoping the interest would spread from this source. They failed by targeting the wrong people. It was another four years before Jan Kjellström (the J.K. one) and Gerry Charnley realised that the immediate future lay with the vast spread of established British Athletic clubs, people who were running already.

As a token of appreciation Mr Spencer was presented with a small medal. On one side is engraved SÖDERTELJE IDROTTSFÖRBUND and on the reverse Scotland June 1962.

So there we have it. Two dates June 1962 and March 1966. Which is the best to remember I wonder? I still have the medal in my keeping. Perhaps it could be incorporated in to a new E.M.O.A. trophy, maybe for somebody on the organisational side of our affairs.

Bert Bradshaw

International Schools Sports Federation Championships, Estonia

On 2nd May, 1995, Hilary Palmer (our coach), Helen Palmer, Cathy Merriman and I left West Bridgford rather early in the morning for Estonia, to compete in the International Schools Sport Federation Orienteering Championships. We travelled with teams from Walton High School, who were the large schools champions in the British Schools Championships in 1994 and who invited us to join them as W13 winners.

We flew from Heathrow to Helsinki, from Helsinki to Tallinn and then had a three hour coach journey to Polva where we were based for the next four days. Luckily the local family we were staying with were very nice and spoke good English.

Things were certainly very different in Estonia, particularly the roads which as we discovered during the coach journeys, were hardly up to motorway standards. The countryside was surprisingly flat and very little of it seemed to be farmed.

The whole championships were very well organised and as well as three days orienteering we were kept occupied with sightseeing trips, a cultural evening (at which each country had to perform) and discos. Unfortunately all the Britons in Year 9 had to sit two English SATS out there!

Disappointingly, we did not manage to beat the strong East European teams but we blame that on the fact that their control cards are printed the opposite way to those in England!

Despite this it was all good experience and we had a terrific time. We would like to thank The BOF Elsie Ward Fund, NOC, The West Bridgford School Fund, West Bridgford School PSA and Nottinghamshire County Council whose sponsorship helped to make the trip possible..

Emily Talbot

THE COMMITTEE

Chairman	Andy Jones
Secretary	John Dalton
Finance Secretary	Colin Portman
Treasurer	Steve Wright
Coaching Co-ordinator & EMOA Rep.	Hilary Palmer
Team Manager & BAGWM Editor	Peter Bourne
Mapping Co-ordinator	Dave Olviam
Equipment Officer	Alan Jones

Next Committee meeting July 18th 1995. Please contact John Dalton if there is anything you would like the Committee to discuss. At present I am unsure whether there is a need for an August issue of the BAGWM, so it may be that your next copy will arrive early October.

Peter Bourne

WANTED - PLANNERS, ORGANISERS & CONTROLLERS

The dates and venues for next season are as shown below. Colin Portman now needs names for Planning, Organising and Controlling. If you have not yet planned or organised an event please give it a go, we rely too much on the faithful few. (If you are one of the faithful few , please volunteer again). If you think you don't have the knowledge to plan or organise, don't worry, an experienced Controller will be there to advise and guide you.

PLEASE ENTER YOUR NAME IN THE APPROPRIATE SPACE(S) BELOW AND RETURN THIS SHEET TO COLIN OR PHONE HIM ON

Please do so before he starts making those dreaded phone calls (as welcome as a double glazing salesman). Thank you.

DATE	VENUE	TYPE	PLAN	ORGANISE	CONTROL
24 Sep 95	RUFFORD	C5			
22 Oct 95	THIEVES WOOD	C4			Alan Gould
19 Nov 95	STRAWBERRY HILL	C4			
9 Dec 95	WALESBY	N5			
10 Dec 95	WALESBY	C4			
30 Dec95	COLWICK OR UNIVERSITY	X5			
21 Jan 96	SHERWOOD PINES	C4			
11 Feb 96	BLIDWORTH	C4	Ray Barnes		
17 Mar 96	BUDBY	C3	Peter Bourne		

P.S. Please note Colin's new address: