

## **INTERLOPERS' CHAIR'S REPORT ON THE PAST YEAR – COLIN EADES**

The last year has seen Interlopers continue to enjoy orienteering locally, nationally and internationally. We have been heavily involved an event called WOC 2024, not sure if you noticed it! We had nearly 50 Interlopers actively taking part, team support, organising team and volunteering over the week, across a full spectrum of volunteering tasks all of which were vital to the successful delivery of the WOC and WOC Tour events. A big well done to one and all.

In addition we had four Interlopers with four club members on the world stage as competitors in WOC 2024. Aoife McCavana and Colm Moran ran in the WOC mixed sprint relay for Ireland. Freddie Carcas ran in the WOC mixed sprint relay for Great Britain. Thomas Laraia ran in the WOC mixed sprint relay for USA and also in the individual sprint and knock out sprint qualifiers.

A number of younger Interlopers have been seen in International activity, including participation in Euromeeting 2023, with many representatives here as it was held in the Stirling area. Well done to all. The European Championships 2024 saw a debut for Pippa Carcas, at European Championships in Italy with Mairi Eades, Eddie Narbet and Freddie Carcas Aoife also competing. Peter Hodkinson and Aoife McCavana were competing in Italy last October in 2023 World Cup. Mairi Eades and Freddie Carcas competed in World Cup Rounds 1 and 2 in Switzerland and Italy; Luke Fisher made his debut in Round 3 in Hungary; Colm Moran is currently competing at the World cup Final in Finland, along with Aoife McCavana. Laurence Ward competed at European Youth Orienteering Championships. Eddie Narbet and Freddie Carcas competed for Great Britain in the World Students Champs 2024 and rumour has it Eddie is still wearing his gold medal from the Mixed Sprint Relay!

As a round-up of domestic events: in the Compassport Cup Final, Interlopers a very narrow second to Swansea Bay in 2023 competition. We are through to the final in the 2024 event. JK2024 saw Sprint medals with gold to Lucy Ward and Peter Hodkinson in the Sprint, Bronzes for Laurence Ward and Freddie Carcas. For Individual combined medals, Luke Fisher won M21E Gold, Lucy Ward Silver and Claire Ward Bronze. In the Relays, Interlopers Men Peter, Luke and Freddie in Silver and Sasha, Eddie and James won Bronze after a very competitive race

At the British Championships 2024, Lucy Ward won Gold, with Laura Kitchen and Claire Ward winning Silvers. The Relays saw Bronze for Mairi, Pippa and Louise in the Women's Open. More podium places at the Scottish Championships 2024: for the Individuals, Luke Fisher silver; Robin Galloway silver; Laurence Ward bronze; Claire Ward and Ann Haley bronze. In the Relays, Rebecca Harding, Roanne Lilley, and Louise Adams won the Womens Open Bronze. The 14+ Relay saw Bronze for William Ivory, Katherine Ivory and Ray Ward; the 20+ saw Ann Haley Claire Ward and Garaham McIntyre win Silver. Quite a results summary! (Apologies if I missed anyone; if I did, my congratulations to you as well.)

Whilst there has been a focus here on results here the club needs to put on events to allow orienteering to exist. It also is one of our more significant sources of income, so again very important. Throughout the year we have been hosting several events and my thanks to all who have helped and to those officials who stepped up.

We have been involved in the following:

South of Scotland Orienteering League (SOSOL), planned for Calderwood. We nearly managed to get this event to happy but the wind got the better of us. Thanks anyway to Louise Adams for planning and Graeme McIntyre for Organising and having to make the safety call.

Interlopers Local events:

Braidburn Valley Planned by Ann Haley organised Fiona Eades  
Mortonhall with Joe Hudd EUOC guest planning  
Craigmillar Robin Galloway Planning and Max and Jane Carcas organising  
Kinneil Woods Saturday Event Chris and Pip hosting

SOUL: Livingston Pat Bartlett on Planning and Lucy Ward doing the organiser role

Sprintelopes:

Buckstone: Paul Caban hosting and Lucy Ward doing the planning honours  
Gracemount: Mairi Eades planning, Colin Eades getting drenched....  
Bioquarter: Graeme Ackland doing the honours  
St Leonards: Ann Haley and Tricia Alston joint effort  
Pathhead ("The one with the Shrubbery"): Chepelin Family hosting

Winterlopes

Jan 29 - Feb 4: Prestonfield, Graeme Ackland planned  
Feb 12 - 18: Braids, Bex Harding planned  
Feb 19 - 25 Portobello, Graeme Ackland planned  
Mar 4 - 10: Liberton, Pat Bartlett planned

Forthcoming events include the Kings Buildings Open Doors Orienteering Activity (Graeme Ackland planning and organising) and the Scottish Score Vogrie Country Park on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2024 (Mike Stewart Planning and Ray Ward organising). Our local events are Braidburn Valley local event on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2024 and Colinton Dell on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2024.

In other developments, the Orienteering Edinburgh initiative (joint with SOA and ESOC) has been ongoing and we are currently trying to work out how we continue this scheme or merge it into the other event series. Katherine Ivory has been progressing the new Interlopers Development Officer role after a recruitment exercise didn't identify any suitable candidates, and we are keeping next steps under review as the role unfolds with experience. There have been a number of introductory orienteering sessions for a range of groups and I would ask folks to try to help out at these events and engage with these groups.

I would like to thank the Committee for their hard work and support over the year. I have however run out of enthusiasm for committee-based orienteering and wish to step down to allow me to fall in love with orienteering again as I feel totally burnt out. I would also thank the other two committee members who are stepping down and we can promise the Eades family is not running away but want to add to the successful running of Interlopers and orienteering in different ways going forward.

Colin Eades  
26 September 2024