

INTERLOPERS

ORIENTEERING CLUB • EDINBURGH

newsletter no. 60

march 1988

Editor's Note

The worst of the winter is almost over, the days are getting longer, and the orienteering calendar is once again getting underway.

Over the next few months there are several major events eg The British Championships in the Lake District in May and also smaller local events eg the summer series which begins again in April.

The date for our Compass Sport Cup appearance has been set for 29th May so please put this down in your diary. Another important date is the AGM to be held on Thursday 19th May followed by our annual dinner (at Fat Sam's).

Last month's mystery map was of Gallowhill Wood on the Beaully Firth. Did any of you get it right? This month's map is of an area where an event has been held fairly recently...

Charlie Walton has organised a training day for 10 April to be based at Riccarton. This should be a great day, catering for all ages and standards. It should be a good chance to pick up some useful tips and to get to know some other club members. If you would like to come, please fill in the enclosed slip and return to Charlie so that we have some idea of numbers.

This month's issue features an article by Gordon Shiach. This is a transcript of his toast to the immortal memory of Robert Burns at our Burns supper in January. There is also an interesting letter by Donald Watson who has recently emigrated to Ottawa, which continues our regular North American column!

GOOD ORIENTEERING!!

Jane Cherry
101 East Claremont Street
EDINBURGH EH7 4JA Tel 557 0652

Closing date for next issue 15 April 1988

INTERLOPERS ORIENTEERING CLUB

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday 19th May 1988
at 7.00 pm

Venue to be decided

Followed by ANNUAL DINNER AT

FAT SAM'S

TRAINING DAY

Sunday 10th April

HERIOT-WATT UNIVERSITY SPORTS
CENTRE AT RICCARTON

From 10 am to 4.30 pm

ALL WELCOME

COMPASS SPORT CUP

INTERLOPERS V ESOC OR FVO

SUNDAY 29 MAY 1988

VENUE TO BE ARRANGED

Please come and support your club

* NEWS * NEWS * NEWS *

By CHARLIE WALTON 225-5762

Membership List and Renewals

There's always a lot of membership changes at this time of year, so rather than listing names I'll just welcome all our new members, and thank those of you out there who have renewed your membership. If you're not on the new-style membership list, I don't have details of your '88 membership - it might be being processed but if not please renew NOW. I suspect that the Data Protection Act requires me to inform you that membership details are kept on a computer - please get in touch if you have any objections.

AGM

The club Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday 19 May, probably 7 pm, with venue to be decided. Club meal afterwards. This is your official notification of the AGM - send proposed constitutional amendments, motions to be debated etc to me by mid April. Please come along to the meeting to support your club.

Courses

How do you fancy becoming a controller, or just learning a bit about the intricacies of our sport? There's a controllers' course in Glasgow on the 9th April, well worth a visit. I've also got details of SSC coaching courses at Cramond - these are two evening courses, dealing with different topics each week, and sound excellent. Contact me for details: the club will be able to help with expenses.

Loch Lomond '89

The Scottish 6-day is back with us again next year, based around Loch Lomond. We are helping with Day 5 at Rowardennan, along with SOLWAY, RR and PO (Perth Orienteers). We urgently need volunteers to act as officials - planning, organising or controlling is a big job, but a good way to put something back into Scottish Orienteering.

The Welsh 6-Day

This new venture runs from the 7th to the 13th August this year. I've lots of details/entry forms if you're interested or need extra forms.

Relays

We've entered 4 teams in the JK relays so there's space for everyone going down to get a run. The BRITISH RELAYS are the next big one, in the Lake District on the 8 May. Let's get a good INT turnout; I've got to enter the teams by the 7 April, so if you want a run, tell me by 1 April. The same goes for the SCOTTISH RELAYS (22nd May) - names to me a week before the closing date.

BOOKS

We've got club copy of the new "Teaching Orienteering" book, which has received many good comments, which is available from Jane Cherry. Remember we've a stock of good orienteering books - get in touch with Jane for details.

COMPASSPORT CUP

29th May is the day that has been put aside for our first match in this year's contest. The venue and opponents have still to be decided, but please put the date down in your diary NOW! Our strongest team could spring a few surprises, but that means everyone turning out - including you.

O-SUITS AND T-SHIRTS

After the new O-suits ... the new Interlopers T-shirts. Watch out for them soon! In the meantime, contact Scott Balfour if you'd like a new club O-Suit.

WORLD CUP SELECTION RACE

This is happening on 24 April near Stirling. We've volunteered to help the organisers on the day, so if you can assist, call Steve Terry for details.

RUNNING AND TRAINING

Remember Tuesday and Thursday evenings - intervals at the meadows, 8pm Tuesday and running from Meggetland, 6pm Thursday - details from me or any 'regular'.

* LETTERS *

Dear Ed

I write in support of Richard Speirs. I feel it is unfair to describe him as the butt of many jokes. Fun should not be poked at the afflicted, and he has not been a well man of late.

On top of the fact that one of his arms has gone limp, he recently suffered his worst injury since his "implosion" at the British at Achilty. Apparently, he slipped on a wet twig at a recent badge event, fell in a bramble bush and suffered near terminal lacerations of his right knee cap.

All this misfortune has brought on hallucinations - he claims he was recently asked to run for the Scottish team....

Simon Thompson

NORTH AMERICAN COLUMN

Greetings to you all from Canada. In between finding an apartment, searching for a drinkable pint, trying to preserve my assets against the -20 C temperatures and getting a grip on my new job, I've been checking out the orienteering scene in Ottawa. This has been greatly helped by the fact that the Canadian Orienteering Federation director is a fellow Glaswegian. There are two clubs here: the Ottawa OC and the Loup Garou OC (Werewolf - night events a speciality!). Contrary to what the names may suggest, the city club tends to be French speaking and the L.G. English. The L.G. also has some of Canada's top orienteers among its membership.

Local Areas

Ottawa is fortunate in having the Gatineau provincial park just 20 minutes drive away in Quebec. This is 350 square kilometres of mature natural forest studded with lakes and marshes. The maps I've seen of the area are mostly white, with many rock features and few paths. Many of the water features are due to beavers doing what beavers do best; that is gnawing down trees to create a complex network of dams and lodges. New ponds and marshes can appear overnight, which tends to keep the mappers busy. At the moment, unfortunately, the park has too much snow for ordinary events and not enough for ski-O, so my first hand experience of the area has been limited to a few excursions on the cross-country ski trails.

Ski-O

Ski-O is not as popular as I expected. It would appear that orienteers here would rather compete in loppet races than orienteer in winter. The Calgary Winter Olympics has meant that many of the top orienteers have been concentrating their efforts on getting into the Canadian cross-country ski team. For now, I have to keep my fingers crossed for more snow and wait patiently for April when the ordinary events start again.

Summer Events

If you are planning a holiday in North America this year, you should note that the Canadian championships run for a week from 7th - 14th August in Brandon, Manitoba. In the Fall, the USA O-Fest runs from 29th October to 6 November. All the events are based in Pennsylvania and Maryland in the eastern US and are accessible from New York. Anyone fancy an Interlopers US tour?

Cheers,

Donald Watson



LOOKING FORWARD

Orienteering clubs are being encouraged to produce forward plans ... so here's our current list of 'future events':

Each year INTERLOPERS will be aiming to hold -

- 1 a Lothian 'O' League event
- 2 events (2 or 3) in the Edinburgh Summer Series
- 3 further informal events eg Autumn series, night events
- 4 the club championships
- 5 whatever training events can be arranged.

On top of this background activity we put on bigger events every so often-

- 1988 an open event in the autumn (?)
- 1989 SE Area Champs badge event (autumn ?) helping at Scottish 6-Day (August)
- 1990 helping at JK (Easter)
- 1991 Scottish Championships (May/June) helping at Scottish 6-Day (August)

All these events need areas and officials, as well as "on the day" manpower. We're always looking for areas where we can hold events, and always need volunteers to be event officials.

Coming up soon:

Training day, 10 April: Please come along!

1988 Summer Series - 2 events
11.5.88 at Holyrood Park
- organiser Janet Fallon
1.6.88 at Corstorphine Hill
- organiser Scott Balfour
More help needed at both of these.

1989 Lothian O League: We hope to be able to use Archerfield in February. Anyone fancy organising or planning?

SE Area Champs, 1989: We need an area, an organiser and a planner soon.

6-Day, Loch Lomond '89: Planners, organisers, controllers needed NOW.

Scottish Champs 1991: This may seem a long way off, but the ball will have to start rolling soon. This is a big commitment for the club and we need people to take on the main jobs soon.



ROBERT BURNS

A Little Orienteering with Burns.

(The toast to the Immortal Memory, given at the Interlopers' Burns' Supper on 25th January 1988)

Route to the Start

Where can I begin?

Let me rephrase that. I found the car park no bother. But when I followed those little yellow streamers to the Start, they seemed to disappear. So just before despair set in, I invoked the spirit of Robert Burns:

O whistle an' I'll come to ye, my lad,
O whistle an' I'll come to ye, my lad;
Tho' father and mother and a' should gae mad,
O whistle an' I'll come to ye, my lad.

The Start

Then I heard the whistle, followed the sound, and found the starting grid. There, as usual, were orienteers of kaleidoscopic range, some doing their warming-up exercises. One in particular caught my eye:

He lean'd him to an ancient aik,
Whose trunk was mould'ring down with years,
His locks were bleached white with time,
His hoary cheek was wet wi' tears.

1st Leg

At last it was my turn to go. A fast run through pleasant woodland, with glimpses of higher ground beyond.

What tho', like commoners of air,
We wander out, we know not where,
But either house or hal',
Yet Nature's charms, the hills and woods,
The sweeping vales, an' foaming floods,
Are free alike to all.

2nd Leg

Not much time lost so far! Over a fence and into a field. But spare a moment - there's a little mountain daisy:

The flaunting flow'rs our gardens yield,
High shelt'ring woods and wa's maun shield;
But thou beneath the random bield
O' clod or stone
Adorns the histie stibble field
Unseen, alane.

3rd Leg

Would you believe it? A glance down just before I re-enter the woodland, and there, almost underfoot -

Wee, sleekit, cowrin', tim'rous beastie,
O, what a panic's in thy breastie!
Thou need na start awa sae hasty,
Wi' bickering brattle;
I wad be laith to rin an' chase thee
Wi' murdering prattle!

So I said to the tearful M 11, "Okay. If you dry your eyes, I'll show you where we are on the map."

4th Leg

All's well. Here's the stream at the woodland edge. I just need to follow it downstream for about 40 double paces:

Whyles owre a linn the birnie plays,
As thro' the glen it wimpl't;
Whyles round a rocky scaur it strays;
Whyles in a wiel it dimpl't;
Whyles glitter'd to the nightly rays,
Wi' bickerin', dancing dazzle;
Whyles cookit underneath the braes,
Below the spreading hazel.

5th Leg

Now over the fence and into the desolate marshes. Whoops! I didn't mean to scare those water fowl.

In these savage, liquid plains,
Only known to wand'ring swains,
Where the mossy riv'let strays,
Far from human haunts and ways;
All on Nature you depend,
And life's poor season peaceful spend.

6th Leg

Uphill! Crag foot, northmost. I'll be really puffed when I get there.

Ye hills, near neebors o' the starns,
That proudly cock your cresting cairns!
Ye cliffs, the haunts of sailing yearns,
Where Echo slumbers!

7th Leg

This wind is almost unbearable! It was so ca' in the valley. And what a contrast between this raging torrent and the wee burn in the hazel grove.

The wintry west extends his blast,
And hail and rain does blaw;
Or the stormy north sends driving forth
The blinding sleet and snaw;
While turning brown, the burn comes down,
And roars frae bank to brae;
And bird and beast in covert rest,
And pass the heartless day.

8th Leg

I found the control, but now I have to cross this swollen torrent.... There was once a man rescued from a swollen river, who gave his rescuer a miserly 6d (six old pence to the young 'uns). The rescued man got a lot of flack for his meanness; but to everyone's surprise Rabbie Burns spoke up for him. Then he added:

Well, why should he give more than six pence. He must surely be the best judge of the true worth of his own life. (verb. sap.)

During this philosophical contemplation I somehow crossed the stream unskaited, and found the re-entrant.

continued...

9th Leg

I'm getting pretty exhausted, but I'm not so bad as yonder lost and despondent veteran. There must be a control somewhere nearby!

Go live, poor wanderer of the wood and field,
The bitter little that of life remains!
No more the thickening brakes and verdant plains
To thee shall home, or food or pastime yield.

10th Leg

A good view now over the lower ground. It's getting late, but there's enough time before the course closes.

The wind blew hollow frae the hills,
By fits the sun's departing beam
Look'd on the fading yellow woods,
That wav'd o'er Lugar's winding stream.

11th Leg

From that last depression it's a clear run now through the well-spaced trees. All the privations of the run are almost forgotten:

O Nature! a' thy shews an' forms
To feeling pensive hearts hae charms.
Whether the summer kindly warms,
Wi' life an' light,
Or winter howls, in gusty storms,
The lang dark night!

The Finish

Farewell to the mountains high-cover'd with snow,
Farewell to the straths and green valleys below;
Farewell to the forests and wild-hanging woods,
Farewell to the torrents and loud-pouring floods.

Departure

As the last cars were driven away, the local inhabitants drew breath and welcomed the return of the peace of their daily lives. Two of them, in particular, sat on and pondered.

By this, the sun was out o' sight
An' darker gloamin' brought the night;
The bum-cock hummed wi' lazy drone,
The kye stood rowtin' i' the loan.
When up they gat, and shook their lugs
Rejoiced that they were na men, but dugs;
An' each took off his several way,
Resolv'd to meet some ither day.

The Moral

You'll know an Interloper by her or his Burns' quotations.



NEW ZEALAND JANUARY '89

PRIZES

Several months ago, Scott Balfour held a competition to find the most inspiring, unusual, silly etc etc names for Interlopers relay teams. I'm pleased to announce a winner has now been declared - well done to Charlie and Janet!!!

Their prize? - an Interloper's badge, publication of their entry (see below) and use of the names at future major events.

MW11	Intellectuals
M13	Intstones
W13	Inthusiasts
M15	Interloafers
W15	Intermediates
M17	Interposers
W17	Interlovers
Women Open	Interlopettes
Long Open	Internationals
Men Open	Intestines
Short Open	Intoxicated
M35	Intvalids
W35	Interminglers
W40	Intrepids
M40	Interhoppers (or Internohoppers)
MW45	Intaches
Ad Hoc	Interpreneurs
Family	Interrelations

We now have some further information about the 'South Island 7 Day Orienteering Festival'.

It will be held from January 7th 1989 to January 15th 1989. The races will be held on 6 different areas and one of the events will be a relay.

Our chairman, Steve Terry, is seriously considering travelling to this event and has now obtained several information sheets and entry forms.

So, if you have relatives in New Zealand or Australia and fancy an excuse to go out and visit them, why not combine the trip with a 7 Day orienteering event? Or perhaps if you have always had a desire to see New Zealand, and thought it was an extravagance, you could justify the holiday by including some orienteering - and also writing an article for the newsletter?

Anyway, if you are interested please contact Steve (Tel 0506 881241) for futher details - and you never know, we may be able to organise an Interlopers Down Under Tour!

NEW ZEALAND NEW ZEALAND
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Mar 27 LOTHIAN O' LEAGUE - 7, Rox. Reivers Cardrona, Peebles 73/293384
D. Jones, Schoolhouse, Stov, Midlothian 05783-218

Mar 27 MAROC NORTHERN GALOPPEN EVENT Alltoaliesch, Ballater NO 345935
E. Hall, The Firs, Ballater Road, Aboyne 0339-2685

Mar 27 GLASGOW GALOPPEN - 3, (ESKO) Stronchullin Farm, Dunoon H3 190843
A. Duncan, Linnside, Kilbride Road, Dunoon D. 5796

Mar 27 NO OPEN EVENT Dipton Wood, Hexham

Apr 1-4 J.K. WEEKEND J. Crosby, 35 Allanville, Camperdown, Newcastle 091-268-5449
entries closed 31/1/88 Chichester, West Sussex

Apr 10 GRAMPIAN OPEN EVENT Mulloch Hill, Banchory NO 720913
I. Kennaway, 48 Countesswells Road, Aberdeen 0224-319099

Apr 10 BL BADGE EVENT Scratchmill Moor 522373
H. Snowball, 21 Clifford Street, Appleby 0930-52497

Apr 17 ESOC BADGE EVENT Craig a' Barna, Dunkeld NO 015420
pre-entries close 1/4/88, £3.00/£1.00, SEP, EOD with surcharge
W. Stevenson, 21 Orchard Road, Edinburgh EH4 2EP 031-332-3045

Apr 17 MN BADGE EVENT Chopwell Wood, Rowlands Gill 137585
pre-entries close 28/3/88, £2.25/£1.00, SEP, limited EOD
G. Murdoch, 8 Hawthorne Terrace, South Bents, Sunderland 091-529-2853

Apr 24 ELO LOCAL EVENT Woodhall, Ormiston NT 425680
S. Strain, 39 Bankpark Grove, Tranent, East Lothian 0875-611014

Apr 30 MAROC SPRING WEEKEND Inver West, Braemar NO 196925
May 1 30/4 OPEN EVENT Sluis Woods, Banchory NO 605986
1/5 BADGE EVENT
pre-entries for Badge Event close 20/4/88, £2.50/£1.50, SEP
EOD for colour coded courses only
E. Hall, The Firs, Ballater Road, Aboyne, Aberdeenshire AB3 5HY 0339-2685

May 1 GALLOWAY GALOPPEN - 6, Solway Mable Forest, Dumfries 952715
T. McGowan, 41 Gillbrae Crescent, Dumfries 0387-61014

May 5 ROX. REIVERS LOCAL EVENT Bowmont Forest, Kelso 74/729258
evening A. Hewat, Kirkhope House, Ettrickbridge, Selkirk 0750-52259

May 6-8 BRITISH CHAMPIONSHIPS WEEKEND Coniston, Lake District
entries on special form by 31/3/88
M. Bibby, Birk Moss, Emmerdale, Cumbria 094686-1208

May 15 MORAVIAN OPEN EVENT Hewtyle Forest, Forres NJ 052551
P. Gordon, Cadzow, Kintessack, Forres 03094-217

May 15 GLASGOW GALOPPEN - 4, Clyde Mugdock Country Park, Milngavie
D. Sommerville, 78 Henderland Road, Glasgow 041-942-4392, 64/547781

May 15 BL OPEN EVENT Silverhill 357706
-- no other details --

May 22 SCOTTISH RELAY CHAMPIONSHIPS North Aohrey, Aberfoyle MN 505064
S. Smirhwalte, Achilty, Lochloy Road, Wairn 0667-55431

May 25 GLASGOW PRIMARY SCHOOLS CHAMPS. Glasgow Zoo
closed event; pre-entries close 9/5/88, £0.50 no EOD
entries: T. O'Brien, P.E. Dept, St. Andrews Secondary School,
47 Torphins Crescent, Carnlyne, Glasgow 041-774-9718 X26

May 28 GRAMPIAN MINI EVENT South Kirkhill, Aberdeen NJ 848110
M. Forsyth, 220 Midstooket Road, Aberdeen 0224-323300

May 29 INVOC OPEN EVENT Achilty, near Contin. NH 427564
K. Naismith, Merkland, The Ness, Fortrose. 0381-20947

May 31 ROX. REIVERS EVENING EVENT Elbank Forest 73/402362
J. Hodson, Dairy Cottage, Kailsie Home Farm, Peebles

Jun 5 SCOTLANDS GALOPPEN - 3 ECKO Badge Event
pre-entries close 23/5/88, Strathlachan, Dunoon NS 028964
L. Dickinson, Ardentinny Outdoor Centre, by Dunoon PA23 8TR
036-981-271

Jun 5 MORAVIAN OPEN EVENT Oakenhead Wood, Elgin NJ 250681
R. Climie, Branahnie, Urquhart, Elgin 034384-2526

SUMMER SERIES

The following events are all on Wednesday evenings in and around Edinburgh.

Date	Location	Club
20/4	Dalkeith Park	ESOC
27/4	Carberry	ELO
4/5	Dechmont Law	INV
11/5	Holyrood	INT
18/5	Calder Wood	LINOC
25/5	Hedderwick	ELO
1/6	Corstorphine	INT
8/6	Braids & Blackford	ESOC
15/6	Haylodge Park, Peebles	RR
22/6	Bonalv (+ barbecue)	ESOC