

An LEI NEWS Special Production



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Alan &
Wendy
West**

Celebrating 50 Years of Leicestershire Orienteering Club



October 2020

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Front Cover: Beacon Hill relays start - 2018.

Photo: Birthe Richter-Wilson

Points from the Editors



Welcome to LEI's 50th anniversary newsletter. What a great achievement to reach this milestone. Thank you all for the excellent contributions,

which have made this newsletter a joy to produce.

We have particularly enjoyed reading about the changes in map styles across the years. The original, hand-drawn style of maps must have been very difficult to use at speed, especially whilst trying to interpret the various shades of grey, not helped by a less-detailed scale of 1:15,000!

The advent of technology has vastly changed orienteering – we can't imagine not using a dibber and downloading our results.

Another fascinating element of looking back at orienteering over the last 50 years is the way that clothing and footwear have transformed the sport. It is comical to look back at the early pictures of the orienteering 'suits', which looked more like pyjamas! No doubt they were revolutionary in their day. You can see the various styles on pages 39-40.

During the foot and mouth disease crisis, urban orienteering evolved. Now we are facing sporting restrictions again in the new Covid-19 era, virtual orienteering has become the new norm. We are in awe of the creativity of orienteers and their dogged determination to keep the sport alive.

Wendy and Alan West



Ramblings from the Chair



Welcome to this special 50th anniversary edition of the LEI newsletter. I am indebted to the many contributors to this edition for supplying so much archive information and recollections of their early orienteering experiences. Special thanks go out to the club founder members and for those answering a newspaper advert 50 years ago to join the club.

I hope you all enjoy looking through this special edition as much as I have. It is striking that, although we have moved forward significantly in 50 years in terms of race technology, with results published almost instantaneously, and definitely with 'O' kit fashion, many of the issues and items in the past will be all too familiar to anyone organising or planning events today. At least then, they didn't have to worry about ordering enough PPE!

While our 50th anniversary events have had to be put on hold, it has been great to get back to some competitive orienteering and see some club members again, other than via Zoom. Many thanks to Ursula, Chris and the other event planners for putting together the revised summer league events and adapting to the current guidelines. I am sure that the Bennion Pools event must be one of the very few times that the planner has been able to use the corner of their own house as a control point.

It is a great shame, but no real surprise,

that the Compass Sport Cup final will no longer take place on 18th October. It does, however, open up the date to be used for the LEI club championships at Burbage Common. As event planner, I am hoping that I will be able to put a 50th anniversary twist on the courses.

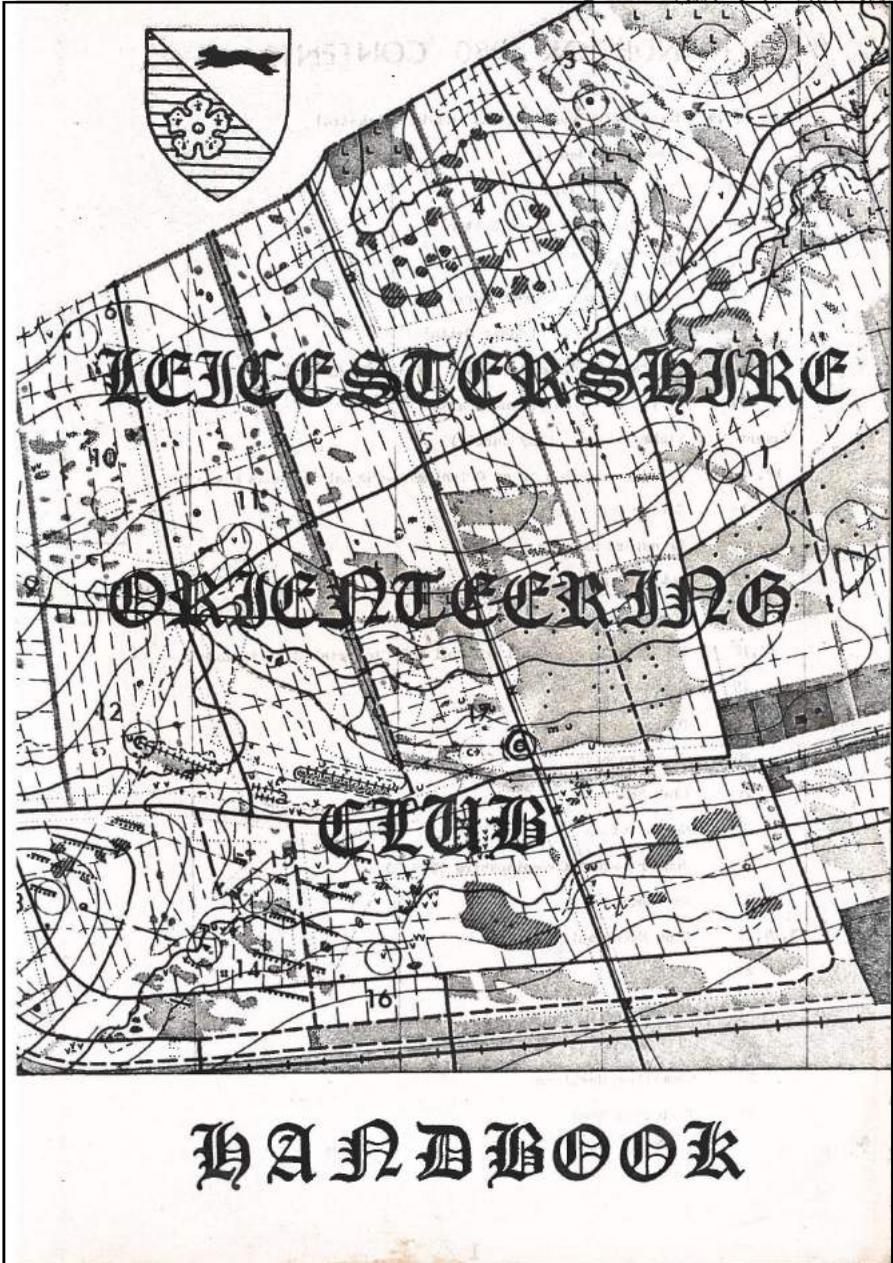
With the summer league now complete, we will be looking to push forward with an autumn/winter event programme this year. Unfortunately, we are very limited in the areas we can use, due to ongoing access restrictions, but we will aim to continue to provide competitive orienteering through the remainder of 2020.

Two notable events for your diaries: first is the club's AGM on 26th October. This year, the AGM will be run virtually via Zoom. The second is the East Midlands Championships, which, fingers crossed, LEI will be organising on 22nd November. If you are willing to help at the upcoming events in any capacity, please let the events coordinator know.

Steve Chafer



Club Handbook 1980



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©LEIOC/1979

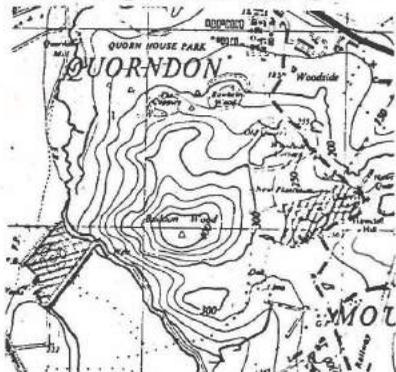
CLUB HISTORY

On November 19th 1968 three ramblers from the Post Office Sports and Social Club, took part in an orienteering event at Shining Cliff Woods, Ambergate. The event was a DVO/NOC joint venture on a black and white copy of the OS. map. The competition area was only 4" by 1" on the map. They enjoyed the event to such an extent that they changed the ramblers section to an orienteering section. Meetings were held at the Post Office Training Collage, Glen Parva Barracks, Wigston. There were few events and none within 30 miles of the city. Membership in 1969 was a total of 5.

The first open orienteering event in Leicestershire was held at Budden Wood (now a quarry) on 20th April 1969. The event was staged by the East Midland Orienteering Association to promote the sport in the county.

The map was a black and white copy of the OS. map as shown on the right:

Things have improved a little since then! The organiser was nowhere to be found at the start of the competition, he appeared later in the day to start the event after having fallen and knocked himself out. No one could go until he turned up as he was also the planner, controller, start finish and results team. The original one man band!



After this event the clubs founder member Keith Tompkinson hired a room at Vaughan College, Leicester and put an advert in the local paper. The inaugural meeting of the club was on 12th May 1970. Three weeks later the club entered its first teams at the Bishops Wood Badge Event in Staffordshire. Results were: Junior Men, R. Prior 3rd, P. Lord 6th. P. Hornsby 12th. Veteran Men, K. Tompkinson 6th, E. Cameron 10th, J. Richardson 11th.

The first club event was an evening event at the Outwoods on 23rd June 1970 on a copy of a Loughborough Colleges map. This was produced in 1953 by a group of Scandinavian Students for an event - probably one of the first in the country.

In 1970 the North Ants Club joined LEI O C boosting membership to 18. The clubs territory then became Leicestershire, Rutland, Northamptonshire and part of Lincolnshire. There was a suggestion that the name of the club should be 'The Charnwood and Rockingham Orienteering Club' because of the main areas we use - or maybe it was because it's abbreviation was appropriate to most of the club members!

The first open event staged by the club was on 26th September 1970 at Swithland and East Bradgate

Our first Badge event was held at Budden Wood on March 21st, 1971, (during the postal strike) the event was a Norwegian type on a 1:10,000 three colour map.

Over the years other areas have been mapped. The number of Surveyors and Cartographers increase, 15 at the last count. Maps are now of high quality, four colour, with a professional finish. The club is indebted to Leicestershire County Council Reprographic Department for their assistance over the years. There are now 26 areas mapped for use by the club, including the permanent course at Martinshaw maintained by the club, L.C.C. and the Forestry Commission.

Membership over the years has grown from the 5 members in 1969 to 93 members in 1977, many of the present members are families, the clubs personnel is in excess of 130. With the growth in members there is also a growth in competitors. Events in 1970 were considered well supported with 50 competitors.

A badge event could attract 150 competitors. Seven years later a park CATI event has 70 competitors, a club event 450 and a badge event up to 1,000. Organising Planning and Controlling these events has become a fine art, and the club is fortunate that there are plenty of willing hands to assist at events.

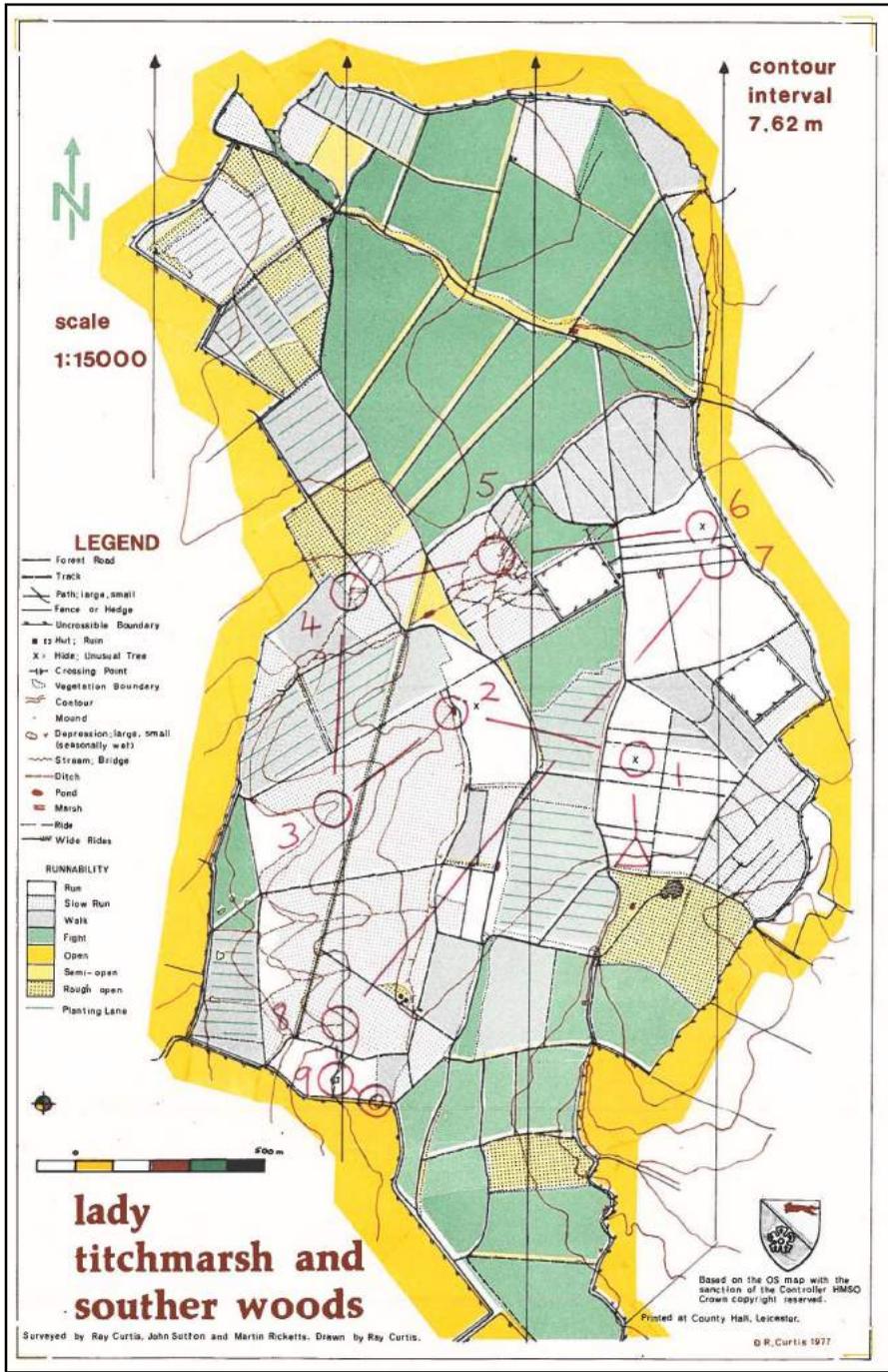
CLUB TEAMS

Jan Kjellstrom Trophy - Orienteers wanting a run
(Easter) contact the current club chairman at the December club night before the event, or by telephone.

British Relay Championships - Contact the chairman at the
(April, May or June) February club night or by telephone.

Welsh O-Ringen event (Spring Bank Holiday)
Mammoth Weekend (Weekend before White Rose)
White Rose Weekend (Late Summer Bank Holiday)

Relay teams for the above three, and any other informal relays, will not be co-ordinated by the club.

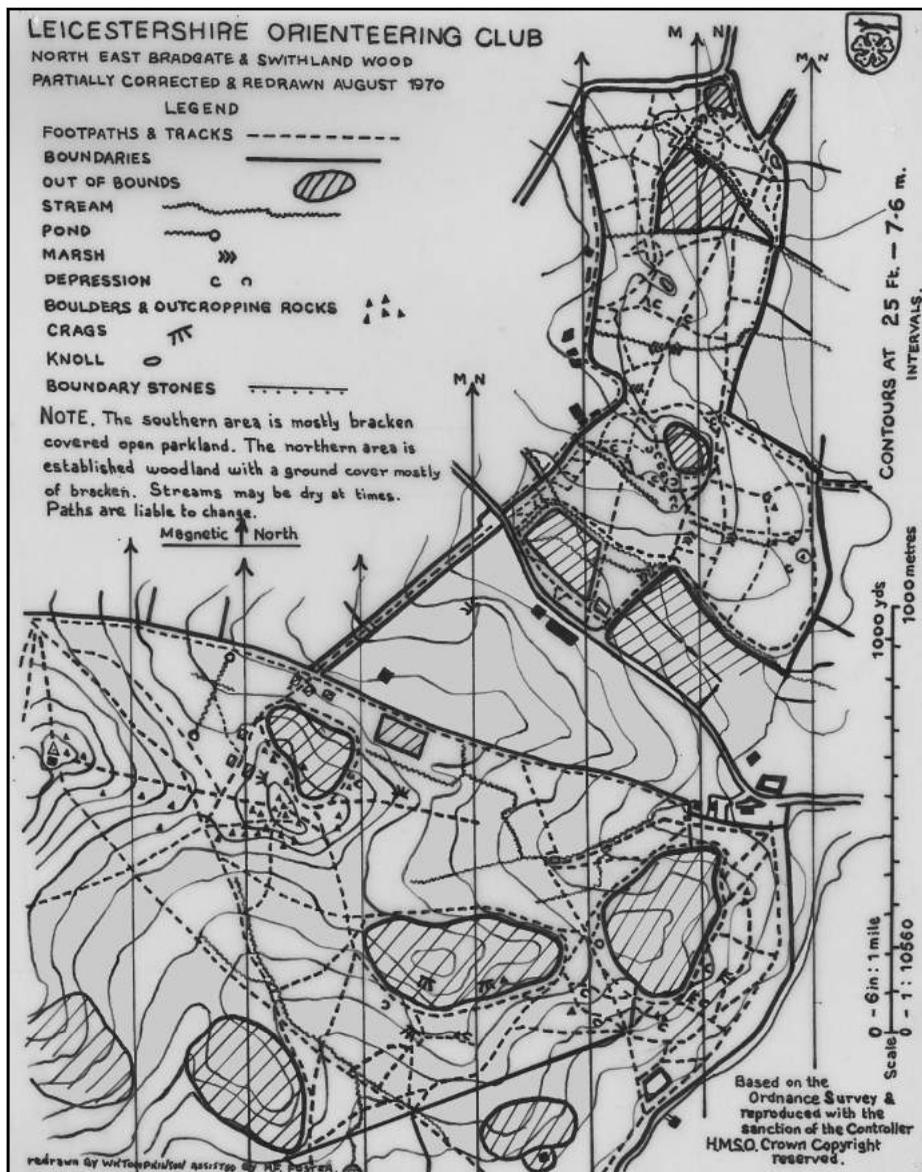


First Leicestershire Event Map



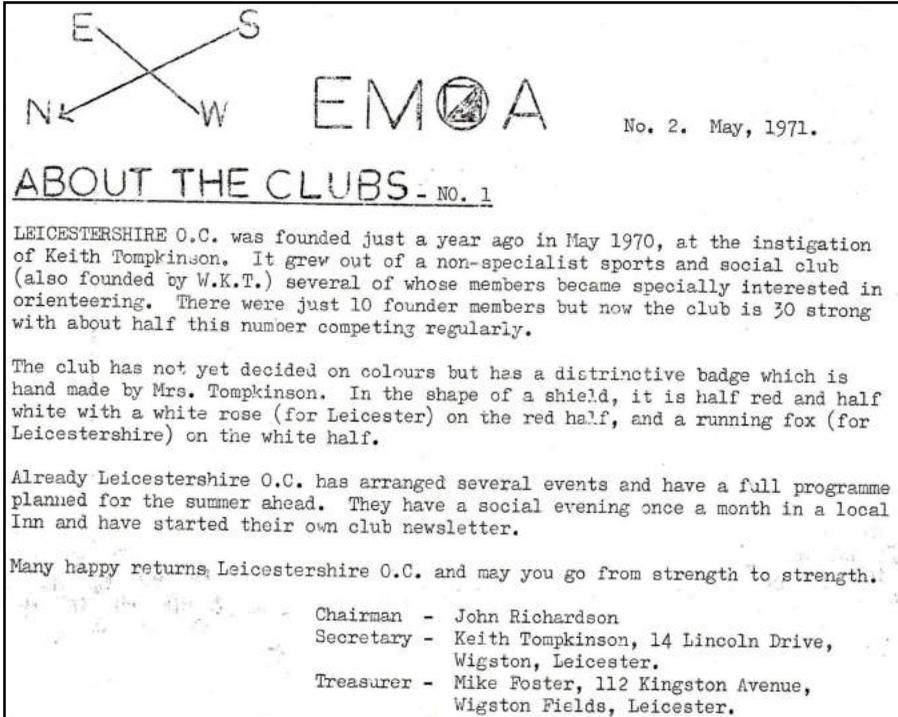
The first event in Leicestershire at regional standard was held at Buddon Wood. This was organised by John Clarke of DVO, who lived in Belper.

First Club Open Event Map



This is the map used at the first club event held in September 1970. Keith Tompkinson drew the map and hand coloured streams and out of bounds areas. The first start time was given to a lad from Guthlaxton School...Peter Hornsby.

From the National Archives



The national archive mainly has national and regional records, and not clubs, but the above article is in the second edition of the EMOA newsletter held there. Also found in the archives was the map for LEI's first badge event, which took place at Buddon Wood (Charnwood Forest). Swithland Reservoir can be seen in the bottom left hand corner of the map. The Norwegian system means there was a new master map at each control, with just the next leg marked on it. The results show the event being won by Harold Harung from Manchester University OC.

The first mention of LEI in BOF's monthly foolscap newsletter was in December 1968, where it states "East Midlands OA: Leicestershire appears to be the county making the most progress at present and it is hoped that a club will soon be formed, anyone interested in joining or helping please contact Mr. W. K. Tomkinson. The YMCA in Leicester are also hoping to form a club"

National records show there was a training event held in Charnwood Forest on 26th September, 1970, the contact person being M. Foster. By December 1970, there were 24 members.

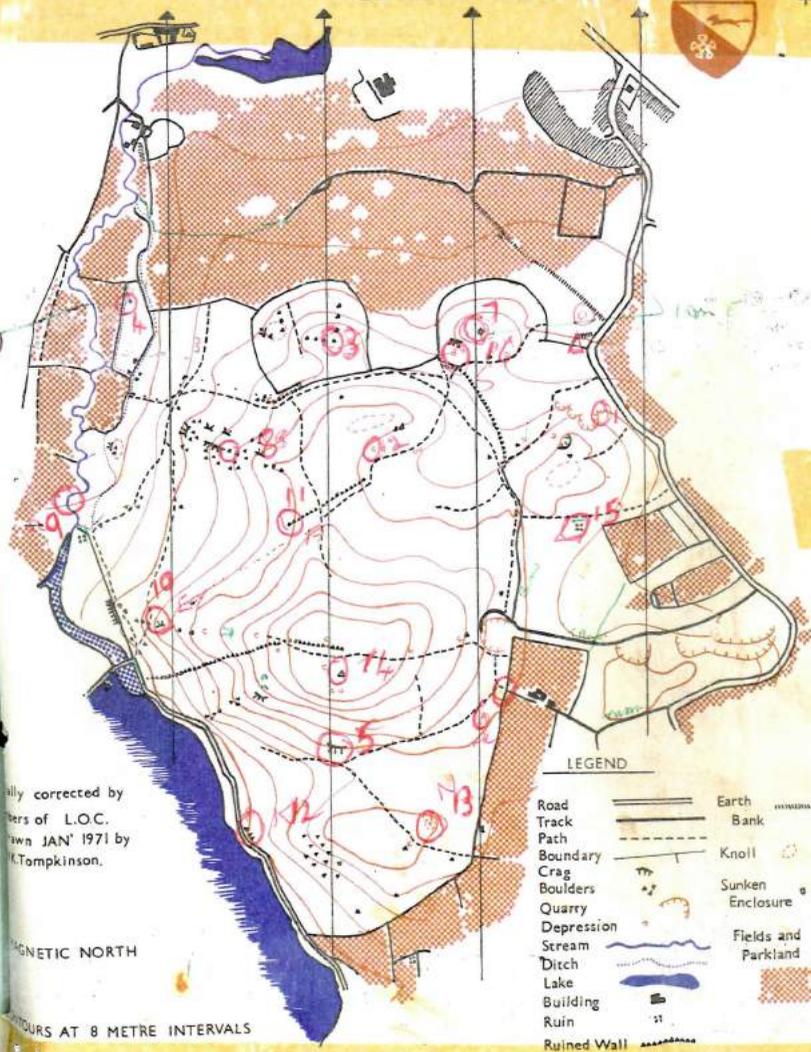
With thanks to Clive Allen for researching this information.

LEICESTERSHIRE ORIENTEERING CLUB

NATIONAL BADGE EVENT SUNDAY MARCH 21st 1971

The event will be run on the Norwegian System.

LEICESTERSHIRE ORIENTEERING CLUB



ally corrected by
ers of L.O.C.
own JAN' 1971 by
M. Tompkinson.

MAGNETIC NORTH

CONTOURS AT 8 METRE INTERVALS

SCALE 1:10000

500 METRES 1000 1500

Based on the O.S. Map with the sanction of the Controller HMSO. Crown Copyright Reserved

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LEIOC in the Early 1970s

Ernie's appeal for archive information has stirred me to dig out some mementoes and memories.

My first comment is that there was a rumour that one of the first orienteering races in Britain was arranged by some Norwegian students at Loughborough College (now Loughborough University), in the 50s or 60s. They were supposed to have used Beacon Hill and/or the Outwoods.

There were orienteers at the College again by about 1970. Amongst the stuff that I have given to Ernie is an unsigned and undated master map of the Outwoods, from college archives, and aerial stereo photos covering the area from E. Loughborough to the Beacon, dated July 1969. These were not used for the master map, as obvious paths are omitted. The map pre-dates the use of magnetic north as the basis for the map frame, and has 10 degrees magnetic variation from grid north. This corresponds to 1952; it was down to 7 degrees by 1970, and I suspect that the draughtsman overlooked the change and just used the value on the (then) current O.S. maps. It is also 11% over size (possibly having been traced from a photocopy). The O.S. map was the basis, with extra detail but the same incorrect magnetic north, for W.K. Tompkinson's 1971 map. Keith did get the scale right.

I first heard of the sport when the new-born club sent a notice to my wife's school in the summer of 1971. I took part in a race of two halves - a normal section round the Outwoods, followed by a separately timed (score? I cannot remember) section round the Beacon. I do not have the map or the results for that race, but I enclose both for the next

race around Bradgate and Swithland on 11/9/71. The map is black and blue! I persuaded some colleagues to join me on that occasion; they never tried again. These were possibly the 2nd and 3rd LEI events, the first being in Buddon Wood (which is now a very large hole!).

My next document is about my first "National Badge Event" in College Wood, Oxfordshire, 15 days later. (15 because LEI ran events on Saturday mornings in those days.) Several points may be of interest. It was before A4, and the results are on foolscap. The ages were split into boy/girl, junior, intermediate, senior and veteran (42+), so I started as a veteran! Competitors include four Leveringtons from Leic, as we were then called. This is followed by results for two night events at which I was within the gold times (being beaten into 2nd place by a man and a dog on one of them), though I was less successful on the badge events on the next morning's. Team results used to be calculated at badge events (three finishers becoming a team), and our veterans were team winners at the next three badge events for which I have results - organised by BUOC, CC, and DUFFO from Feb to April 1972. We were also the only team to qualify at the Welsh Championships that March, so we became the Welsh Veteran Champions. Euan Cameron, Tom Beattie, and Gordon Lindsay-Jones were the other team members in these victories. We might also have won the Northern Championships if three of us had been there, for Euan and I were 6th and 2nd. We did come 3rd in the British Championships, though the results don't show it, as we were ignored. After that, I was getting big-headed and entered an A (Senior) race, but only just scraped into

the top third; LEI came 8th in the team results (Pete Leverington and R.L.Cole being the rest of the team).

Gordon, Euan, and I won the 1973 M43 Southern Championships - by 1 minute after an appeal. The southerners had ignored us (again) until we complained.

1974 was the year when I scraped into the championship standard - I have never been near it again. One had to be no more than 25% behind the winner in three championship events, including at least one of the British and the JK. Perhaps I should resume running round the Outwoods instead of having lunch. That was the last year for M43, as the 5-year groupings came into force in 1975 - luckily for me I was 45 by then. The team results were replaced by relays, and I have nothing further to contribute to the club records.

A few comments: my original membership number was EM 637 - has anyone got an earlier number? Illness made me take a year off and my number is now much higher. As I continued to help at local events during that year, I consider myself to have been a club member for 29 years. Over that period, the average map has improved immensely, though the best were very good even then. Some bad ones contained smudgy lines, incorrect scales and inadequate, or inaccurate, detail. Entrance charges have shot up (I remember being horrified at a 7/6d (37.5p) charge) - but only in line with

inflation. Hills appear steeper, for the contour lines have changed from 25 ft (7.6 m) to 5m, and distances appear longer, for the 15,000:1 scale was standard (apart from one where it was 12,500:1 by accident). Races have really got tougher as the average standard of orienteering has risen. As I moved up the age range, I sometimes found the badge standard races were longer than those for the younger class on the same map five years' earlier. Finally, although there are many more competitors at every event, the forest is still uncrowded. Anyway, I like to see youngsters dash into the control as I punch my card, and race away, only to repeat the operation several times before the end of the race. I get a similar pleasure from telling people that my sport is chasing young women through woods on Sunday mornings!

Roger Beresford

(From LEI News Online Winter 2000, With thanks to Roger Phillips for the link.

Photo below: Roger Phillips at Bradgate Park, 2008, LEIOC website gallery)



Burton Trader - 26th August 1998



They're really branching out

MOIRA hosted a special orienteering event recently – and competitors soon found what a difference trees make.

The training event, organised by the Leicester Orienteering Club, was staged in readiness for a major competition planned for next year.

Club chairman Roy Denney said: "The initial reaction from the runners was very positive and we feel that the areas of new tree planting will make the terrain much more challenging in the years ahead."

The club are now exploring the possibility of establishing a permanent course in the Forest area which could also be used by youth clubs and disabled people.

Pictured ready to find their way around the Moira course are (kneeling, from left) Margaret Willdig, Chris Phillips, Roger Beresford, and (standing, from left) Keith Willdig, Peter Leake, Roy Denney, Simon Starkey and Roger Phillips.

With thanks to Margaret Willdig

Orienteering Club of the Year 2011



John Marriott receiving the award from the BOF chairman at the time, Neil Cameron.

Extract from the LEI NEWS, Summer 2011, Ramblings from the Chair, written by Chris Phillips.

As many of you will be aware, after being runners up for the last two years, in March we were awarded the title of British Orienteering Club of the Year 2011 (*despite BOF engraving the trophy with 2010—editor*) making us officially, what we all knew – the top Orienteering Club in the Country! It has been pointed out to me that being the club of the year does not mean that we can rest on our laurels. The rest of the orienteering world

has expectations that we will continue to deliver the high quality club activities and events that has allowed us to occupy the top spot. I have to thank Roger Edwards for all the work that he has put in over the last three years on the applications to the club of the year competition. You will have seen the extracts from our application in the last edition of Focus. They were a very small part of a very long paper produced by Roger which took many hours of work.

The Trophy. Photograph by Neil Fitzgibbon



LEI's JK Days in the 21st Century

In the last 16 years, LEI has taken the lead role on one of the days at the JK in 2004 and 2014. On both occasions, I have been privileged to be the Day Organiser and lead the LEI team.

The 2004 event was originally scheduled for 2003, but the Foot and Mouth epidemic postponed it for a year (so, there is nothing new in 2020!). In those days, the JK was only a three-day event with no Friday Sprints. For the Sunday event at Graythwaite, in the Lakes, LEI took responsibility for organising and was supported by the other clubs in the region, with DVO looking after the planning.

Many myths and stories have been spun about the 2004 event, so perhaps it's time to set some of the records straight.

A small group of LEI members formed the 'core team', handling a lot of the central organising. Ernie Williams was my Assistant Organiser and the rest of the team consisted of Roy (who was the Regional Chairman), Peter H, Peter L, Bob, Laurie and Roger P.

We arrived at Graythwaite, after a long lunch, on Friday afternoon. Some preliminary work had been undertaken by outside contractors. Unfortunately, the pile of water bottles (we gave one to each competitor in those days, so there were around 5,000 bottles) had been left in the wrong place and needed to be moved. The team set about moving them. Miscommunication (blame it on the long lunch) meant that they were moved to the wrong location and had to be moved again. First myth buster: only twice, not five times, as legend has it!

Whilst all this was happening, Ernie was

solving one of our other problems – lack of access to the Elite start. Ernie's well known loquacity, and a suitably large bottle of whisky, solved the problem with a local farmer.

We set to with a will early on Saturday, despite having had a long walk on Friday evening to find suitable refreshment and nourishment. During the day, more members of the club joined to help set up the site. I had been told the week before, under conditions of the utmost secrecy, that the elite competitors on the Sunday were going to be subject to drug testing. The only clue on the Saturday was a large, double disabled toilet, with red and white tape wrapped around it and 'do not enter' notices placed on it, which would be the base for the drug testing. Despite there being 100 other Portaloos on site, one club member just had to use the drug testing unit. Thanks, John!

The event on Sunday went very well, apart from the white and yellow course competitors missing a right turn and disappearing off towards Windermere, the small matter of the string course having to be moved at the last minute (being a devout coward, I sent Bob and Laurie to sort out the very feisty lady running the string course – sorry!) and the bibs not arriving at the elite start until a few minutes before the off.

Having suitably fortified ourselves on Sunday evening (you will see that there is a pattern here), we turn up with a will on the Monday morning to clear the site. One of the remarkable things about orienteering events is the lack of litter: 5,000 competitors at the event and less than a carrier bag of litter.

2014 was a very different event and

Llangynidr was a very different area: 1,800 feet above sea level and a remote Welsh moor. Part of the assembly area was a disused quarry, and when I first visited the area in February 2013, with the rest of the team, the temperature was well below zero and long icicles were hanging off the rocks. I have to say that there was a little bit of gloom and despondency around and the general view was this is going to be a challenge to turn this into a decent event area. My personal thoughts are probably not for a family magazine.

This time, the event was very much LEI's, with Roger E, Peter H and Steve E undertaking the planning. As organiser, I was joined by Bob, Roger P, Ursula and Ernie as my Assistant Organisers. With four starts up to 3.5 km away from the assembly area, it was clear that helpers were not going to get back to base for food and drink. A catering team, led by Tracey B, produced food which was distributed by Roy and Chris B. With over 100 volunteers, that was a lot of food and drink. One comment that was made was: "are we feeding the whole of Wales?"

Life was not made easier by our car park – 5km long and 20m wide. This was superbly controlled and organised by Howard and his team.

The early morning weather forecast on the day was terrible: fog, low cloud, rain, high winds later and perhaps some thunder. Could we go ahead? Finally, at 8.00am, with the support of our mountain rescue team leader, I took the decision that we could run the event. There was, however, one gigantic clap of thunder at about 1.00pm that shook everybody.

With all the problems (including the IOF Adviser being hospitalised the day before), this was probably one of LEI's finest days, with our helpers battling through some horrible weather on exposed moorland so that our 3,500 competitors could enjoy the top flight courses produced by the planning team, despite the sheep eating the planners' control markers!

JK – well they come around every 10 years for LEI. Next one is of course 2024. See you there?

Chris Phillips



Chris Phillips and Peter Hornsby at JK 2014.

Orienteering LEI - 1973

In 1973, I was a member of the Territorial Army and my Commanding Officer decreed that each of his squadrons were to field a team in two of the West Midlands District Competitions in the Spring of 1974. The choice was the District Weapons Meeting (shooting on a rifle range), the District Patrol Competition (a group of about 15 soldiers tackling a variety of 'tasks' in an overnight competition) and some new thing called the District Orienteering Competition.

I was running the Signal Squadron in Rugby at the time, and I decided we should enter the weapons meeting and the orienteering. I had been interested in maps as a child, and after a bit of thought decided that I might well be as good at this orienteering thing as anyone else in the squadron, so decided to give it a go.

I then did two things: I bought a copy of the 'Know the Game' book on orienteering, and secondly I joined LEI, and have been a member continuously ever since.

I read the book from cover to cover and the one (rather important) thing it neglected to mention was that the white bits on the orienteering maps are trees. Having 'cut my teeth' on OS maps, this came as a bit of a surprise. I had to have the meaning of 'fight' explained to me by Deborah Wilkinson of DVO at an event at Thieves Wood (long before most of it blew down in the big gale of 1987)

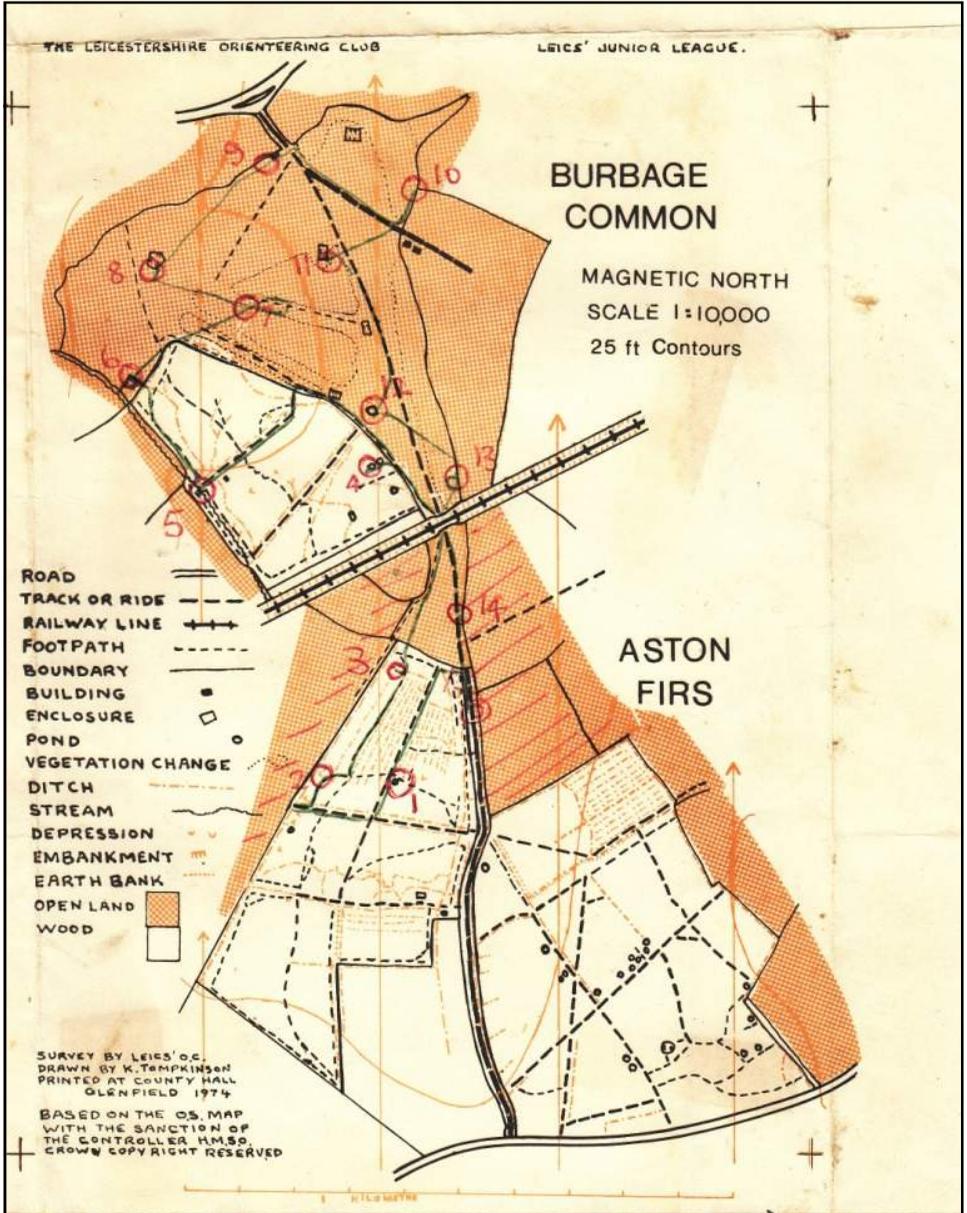
I was made welcome by the LEI O Club, in which a guy called Keith Tompkinson acted in the role that Steve Chafer has today. Keith worked for the, then, GPO telephones and later moved to the Lake District to work his last few years with the GPO in a location where he wanted to retire.

At that time, four colour maps were a distant dream, and many of the maps were just black and white prints. Sometimes a second colour would appear, making it a bit easier to distinguish the features. Slowly, but surely, mapping standards and printing improved. Cannock Chase was one of the first areas to be mapped well and printed with a four colour map for JK 1972 that would pass muster today.

I have included here just two early LEI maps from the mid 1970s, one of the Outwoods and the other of Burbage Common. Back then, the north-eastward extension of the land at Burbage had not been purchased. The golf club still used the Common as part of their course. Today, you can still find some of the tees in the long strips of rough grassland, which were once the fairways. We were also 'allowed' to use the whole of Aston Firs. This 1974 map of Burbage was a bit of a departure in that it was a two-colour map (gasp!).

The map of the Outwoods from the following year (1975) sports four colours (and 25 ft contours), but still has that 'hand-drawn' look to it. At the time, we had the use of the crags on the eastern edge of the car park, before it became a conservation area. There were also some lovely stands of pine in those days. The 'eco-warriors' then started their opposition to non-native species, and so we lost three excellent parts of the woods when they were clear-felled. One is recovering passably, but one still resembles a jungle today when once upon a time it was a joy to run through. There was even a small stream passing through it, which made an excellent control site.

The club ran a junior league in those



days, and on the back of this we got our maps printed at County Hall free of charge. Printing was often a choice between a spirit duplicator (Banda

machine), which enabled a hand-drawn map to have, say, four colours, or proper printing using offset litho. The days of the home computer and laser printers were

not even featured in the comics of the day (Remember the 'Eagle' anyone?)

The maps duplicated on a Banda machine, even if waterproofed with transphyeal, usually came back looking very sad and careworn if it was raining on the day. The economics of offset litho made it a very expensive option to print fewer than 100 maps.

Events had a very different feel back then: you rolled up, registered and received the blank map, plus something called a 'control card'. There would be provision for you to address an envelope, put the requisite amount of cash inside to pay for the stamp and leave it so that the results could be sent to you after the event.

There would be map corrections to be copied, as we could not afford to just throw away any maps that were a tad out of date.

On starting, the first stop was the master maps, where one copied the course onto the blank map you received at registration. It was an acquired skill to copy all the controls onto your map and to do it fast and accurately, since the clock was now ticking.

Maps were printed on ordinary paper and so needed to be weather proofed in some way. A plastic bag was a common solution.

Needle punches were placed at each control and were used to prove that you had found the control by punching the corresponding box on the control card. The system had the disadvantage that, taking the controls in the wrong order to gain an advantage, was hard to detect. Courses had to be planned so that there were no opportunities for such underhand behaviour.

After the event was over, the control cards had to be checked to see if the

punching was correct. I can recall at major events when results were needed on the day, seeing a line of volunteers busily checking control cards before the results could be announced.

Another feature of those early days was Nigel Bennett and his father, Alan. Nigel came to all the LEI events with a small trailer on the back of his car. This contained some display boards which were quickly lifted out of the trailer and set up using the trailer as a base. These boards gave all sorts of information, not least the details of upcoming events. This was quite important at a time when a lot of people were coming into orienteering, all of whom needed to find out all about the sport.

I have dug out a couple of press cuttings from the Leicester Mercury, both from March 1974. Some of the names are familiar today: Bob Brandon is still active and still with OD, and Martin Ricketts is also still active and now with TVOC. Familiar names also appearing are Pete Leverington of WAOC; one 'P Leake', who most readers will know; the Clarke family of Loughborough; Roger Cole; David Hale of WCH and Alan Bennett, the father of Nigel, whose trailer was described above.

My first event was an army one and it was very much a case of the blind leading the blind. The planner was blissfully unaware of the requirement to place controls on features, and so I had an 'interesting' day on Cannock Chase. I was at least able to 'pull rank' on the planner and give him a hard time!

At that time, BOF ran a badge scheme with three levels: bronze, silver and gold. 'Badge' events were run by clubs and were bigger and better resourced than the LEI local events. Most of the top orienteers would turn out for these events and this made the standard high in each of the age classes.

Talking of which, the age classes were different back then. There was, of course, M21 (and W21) for those in the prime of adulthood. For men, this was followed by M35, then M43 and M50.

I was 32 in the year I started orienteering, and once I got up to a reasonable standard, I achieved an M21 gold badge standard on two occasions. One had to get to within a certain % of the winner's time for each of the gold, silver and bronze standards. Three qualifying badge times at the sought-after level were required to qualify. I never managed that elusive third qualifying time before I moved on to M35.

Through the 1970s and on into the 1980s, I did a lot of orienteering, not just with the club but also with the Army. I was the Territorial Army individual champion for three years at this time, and the squadron at Rugby won the TA team orienteering event a number of times. I also acquired a few prizes at the JK Festival over the years by dint of entering the B classes, where the competition was not as tough as it was in the A classes.

Orienteering has been a great sporting pastime which still gives me a lot of enjoyment today.

Bob Titterington

Orienteering win for Tom Beattie

LEICESTERSHIRE Orienteering Club fielded a strong challenge of 25 competitors in the Nottingham O.C. national badge event at Clipstone Forest near Mansfield and did well over a fast course.

Tom Beattie returned a very good time to win the men's over 50 class. He came home four minutes 13 seconds ahead of the next man. The Leicestershire club's 43-50 team also gained another success. Provisional Leicestershire results:

MEN

Over 50: 1, T. Beattie 61-15, 45-50: 3, G. Lindsay-Jones 71-39, 5, B. Townsend 77-10, 11, K. Tompkinson 99-43; 13, A. Bennett 147-46.

35-43: 11, P. Leverington 67-46; 15, P. Leake 70-37; 18, B. Clarke 75-45; 19, E. Clarke 77-29; 22, R. Coles 80-00.

21-35 (A): 22, M. Ricketts 77-30, 15-16: 9, M. Townsend 76-30, 13-14: 10, A. Clarke 73-14, 12-13: 9, M. Clarke 189-27, P. Ois (one control wrong).

WOMEN

35: 5, W. Clarke 138-21, Women 19: 5, J. Coles 7714, Wayfinders: 5, S. Merry and H. Barwick 114-00.

Leicestershire O.C. have entered strong teams for the Manchester and District O.C. event near Buxton on Sunday and their own club event comes up a week later, at Whitwick, with a junior league meeting.

Junior orienteers at Aston Firs

AFTER a break for the winter months, Leicestershire Junior Orienteering League competitors got down to serious business with an event at Aston Firs, near Hinckley. Conditions were ideal and more than 80 competitors took part. Results:

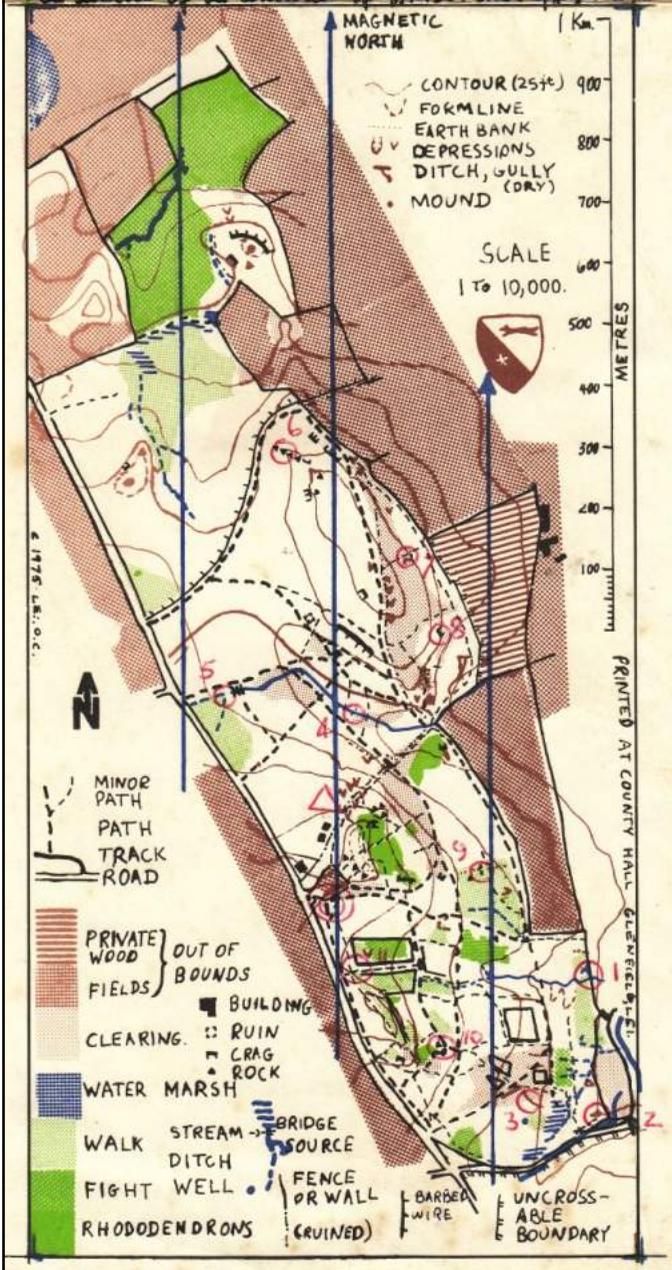
M-12 class, 1 J. Cook (Gateway), 2 J. Wood (Cosby), 3 P. Ois (Gateway); M-13, 1 J. Creed and S. Botrill (South Charnwood), 2 S. Morrison (S. Charnwood), 3 D. Glover and J. Simpkin (S. Charnwood); M-15, 1 S. Hales (Walton Chasers), 2 C. Reed (Walton Chasers), 3 D. Stevens (Brodington); W-12, 1 G. Timson (Cosby) and S. Hutchinson (Cosby), 2 S. Swan (Cosby), 3 E. Foley (Cosby); W-15 A. Dowels.

NoVICE senior, 1 G. Titterington, 2 I. Thomas, 3 A. Bower; senior training event, 1 D. Hale (Walton Chasers), 2 I. Reynolds (Derwent V.O.), 3 B. Brandon (Octavian Groovers).

Next league event is at Whitwick on April 6.

THE OUTWOODS. LEICS. O.C. 1975

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How I Started Orienteering

I first came across orienteering when I was in the scouts. I was looking for a proficiency badge I could gain and came across the Navigator badge. As I've always been interested in maps, I thought the badge looked interesting and one I could pass. One of the requirements for the badge was to 'take part in two properly organised orienteering events and show an improvement in your performance'.

At the time, my mother was doing temporary supply teaching at one of the local primary schools. One of the teachers at the school, Mike Bursnall, was a member of the orienteering club and was able to point me in the direction of an event. I don't remember the location of my first event. However, I do remember going to Burbage Common for one event. I always ran the orange course and only went to Leicestershire events. I often seemed to struggle with one control on the course; it was a bonus if I got round cleanly. Still, I enjoyed the events and did a lot more than was required for the navigator badge (which I passed).

This was the era when the results arrived



through the post around two weeks after the event. The details of the next event or two were printed at the end of the results, so I was able to keep track of where the next events were going to be. Unfortunately, I missed a couple of events and lost track of where the events were being held. I hadn't joined the club, and with no online fixtures list to look up, I didn't know when or where the events were taking place. So, after several events, my orienteering career as a junior was over.

Fast forward a dozen or so years to 1995, and Kevin Bradley suggested to Alison Hardy (they knew each other through scouting) that she might like to try orienteering. Alison invited me along to an OD event at Hopwas Hays and as I'd enjoyed my previous orienteering experiences, I jumped at the chance.

I joined the club soon after and the rest, as they say, is history.

Alastair Paterson



Above: Alastair's navigator badge.

*Left: Alastair just ahead of Alison at the finish control, Wales by 2013.
Photo: Annie Leake*

Thirty Years of Orienteering

I started orienteering in 1989, a year after moving down to Leicester with work. I met Peter Hornsby through business and was bemoaning the distance to any good hill country to continue my interest in fell walking and mountaineering, and he offered to come on one of my weekends away with my climbing club if I had a go at orienteering, and the rest is history.

As a kid, I did not get much involved in school sports, spending the sports lessons cycling to the swimming baths and trying unsuccessfully to learn to swim. Despite being unafraid of the water, I left school barely able to keep afloat. I did, however, do a fair amount of cycling before I was old enough to buy my first car. In my early teens, I did play league basketball for a couple of years, but as my contemporaries grew taller and I did not, I gave it up (coinciding with a ban for over robust defence). During my mis-spent, youth I became a quite capable snooker player and competent darts player, and won trophies in both sports.

When I was about sixteen, I started hill-walking and progressed into rock climbing, caving and mountaineering, and have been a member of one of Britain's oldest mountaineering and caving clubs for nearly 50 years. Members of the club have used our premises for events in the past. In those days, I was a dedicated semi-professional crown green bowler, winning trophies, prizes and money before that was acceptable in the wider bowling world. Lancashire was, in fact, thrown out of the British Association for a few seasons before the rest of the sport fell in line. When Doreen first met me, I was playing in a different league every weekday evening and another at the weekend, quite apart for the professional

tournaments I was entering.

During my working life, I did play soccer for a works' team, completing my last ninety minute game in my early forties, and did play cricket occasionally. My bowling left much to be desired and I had no pretence of defensive skills with a bat, but I could rattle up a quick knock with some robust agricultural sweeps. I have enjoyed an occasional game of modest tennis with my children when they were young, as well as badminton for a few years, and managed to fit in a game of golf now and then. Since my near obsession with bowling, I have made it a point of trying most things, but not to the extent that it excluded other things, and, as such, have not really excelled at any.

Despite my slow start, I have become keen to take to the water, and whilst not a technically good swimmer, I love sea swimming and did some snorkelling a few years ago in the Cooke Islands and off the Outer Barrier Reef, in Queensland. I have taken to canoe, both kayak and Canadian, and have sailed a 27 foot ketch off the west coast of Scotland, and several times crewed a friend's 9 berth ocean-going yacht along the coasts of Dalmatia (Croatia).

I have also done a little gliding and have had a number of trips in hot air balloons, if these can be classed as sports.

My sporting ethos can probably be best summed up as 'having a go at nearly anything'. After retiring at 51, I spent three weeks trekking in the Himalayas with a business friend and climbed an 18,000 ft peak giving views across the Khumbu glacier to Everest, with base camp 800 feet below us.

So what were my aims in orienteering?

Primarily, before injury put paid to much running, to keep one step ahead of Chris Phillips. No, seriously, at my age and coming to an athletic sport fairly late in life, my real aim was to keep running as long as I could and continue stretching myself, keeping myself fit for high level hill walking.

I have done most of the roles the sport has to offer: vice chairman and then chairman of the club, chairman of EMOA, planning, controlling and organising to regional level, access development, social secretary, summer league coordinator and results secretary. I was stand-in treasurer for most of a year and, though never secretary, the early days negotiating access meant a lot of correspondence.

The sport has offered me much more, however, and I particularly enjoyed mapping, giving me the incentive to get out in the wilds as often as possible. I enjoy planning, and even controlling when I was fit enough, as again I found myself wandering woodland all by myself, quietly observing the wildlife. I enjoy exploring new areas, and my work as access development officer gives me considerable satisfaction.

Despite having been chairman of EMOA, if I had it in my power I would reduce the layers of administration and give the sport back to the clubs. If we require third party funding to develop the sport, then we do need the elite element and the B O operation, but the ordinary club member is, to my mind, often overlooked in organising the sport, and this is where numbers of new members are generated.

Advice to orienteers: do not take yourself too seriously - ambition is great, but the social side is just as important for a balanced existence, and the camaraderie that can develop within any sport should not be missed. It is from this sense of

togetherness that volunteers for mundane roles can be found.

Somebody asked me recently, being retired and no longer able to orienteer, and with walking very limited, how I fill my days. You would need a bigger newsletter to cover all my interests. Finding time is my problem. One member asked me recently what I was doing sending out an email at 1.30 in the morning, but this is the sort of time I catch up with my paperwork.

I am currently on 14 committees, am a Parish and District Councillor, represent EMOA on the National Forest Access & Recreation Group and chair a committee of a QUANGO at County Hall. I am also on the board of the Charnwood Forest Regional Park. I am on the District Tourism Partnership and on the District Planning Committee as well

My work outdoors has instilled a great interest in country affairs and wildlife, and I write articles for several journals from time to time, publish three newsletters and compile and publish a 200 page annual journal. I have done the local legwork for a commercial map now in its third edition and publish books on cooking, diet and on traditional songs. I also have my own good pub guide.

I enjoy travel, conversation, gardening, photography and eating out. I do almost all of the cooking in our home, and, if you do not tell my doctor, I am not averse to a fine wine, good port, rare whisky or real ale.

Covid-19 has made it difficult to pursue these interests, but the week they were allowed to open, I had to check the Grey Lady and Griffin were doing things properly! I am, after all, also chairman of the District Licensing Committee.

Roy Denney



How it all Began for Me...

I had to think how I first started orienteering, as it has been such a huge part of my life since my mid twenties. It turns out that I have LEI's own Kev Bradley to thank for making me aware that orienteering even was a 'thing'. Back in the '90s, we were both involved with county scouts, along with a number of other folk who are also LEI members now. Annually, we found ourselves doing whatever was needed for the team race called High Adventure. Over a weekend, teams of local scouts navigated to controls sited over the hillsides of Wales or the Lakes, carrying their overnight camping kit. Sadly, I was too old to take part, but I really wanted to try something like it. My, then, boyfriend, Mark Hardy, got us an entry for a November mountain marathon, a similar type of weekend event. It was tough, but I loved it, so we entered another race in June, which was blessed with better weather. These navigation races were amazing to take part in, but we could only find two for the whole of the year.

Here's where Kev came up with the great suggestion of trying an orienteering event, giving us a copy of the LEI fixture list to choose from. Numerous locations, far less travel, no need to carry a tent and a part day outing, rather than a full weekend. At the time, I often spent long days walking in the hills and regularly climbed, which maybe should have influenced my course choice at my first ever orienteering event at the Outwoods.

Along with a pal from the mountaineering club, I queued for the car at the registration, located at a sports facility some distance from the event start. We didn't question the advice to try a white course as it was our first O event, so,

armed with our map, headed off to the start. As many of you will know, there are a number of crags at the Outwoods, but, as climbers, we were amused to discover that some seemingly large 'boulders' could also be shown on the map with a 'crag' symbol! After a very quick run around, the good news was that we arrived at the finish in minutes, wanting to do more. The bad news was that we would have a long walk back to registration to download and get another map. Undeterred, we headed back to the start again to try an orange. I suspect our combined courses were less distance than our trips there and back, but everyone we met had been so enthusiastic and encouraging.

After a previous a brief dabble with half marathons, I was so much happier racing without the pressure of a mass start, just you against the clock, at least until the results arrived in the post! (We had to leave a stamped self-addressed envelope to receive a copy of the result by post).

Flushed with our Outwoods' success, finishing above a couple of junior participants, I next braved an individual run at Cademan Woods, near Whitwick, starting from the car park of the aptly named pub, Man with Compass. Here, I met Andy Portsmouth, who was also a newcomer. We compared our limited O experiences and noted there were more 'crag' to locate. Thankfully, I was wise about what to expect, but discovered that I was less adept at map reading whilst watching my feet placements. A deep knee gash was my first (of very many!) O injury.

I tempted more mountaineering club friends to join me at the next event, out of county, at Hopwas. Individually, we

attempted the orange course with mixed success, but I was really getting hooked. Over time, as my confidence grew, I progressed through the colours, but I got my first taste of longer and tougher courses, thanks to, then, club captain, Simon Ford. Because of Simon, I found myself in the back of a minibus heading to Thetford Forest for an interclub team event. I was a W21, which I discovered to my horror meant I needed to run considerably further than my regular light green courses! Well, what can I say: I wasn't fast, but I wasn't last. It was the push I needed to try more testing courses and I realised I was definitely hooked.

Over the years to follow, I have been lucky to compete at so many varied events, including more recently MTBO events, and have almost filled a filing cabinet with maps from these outings. I continued to take part whilst pregnant, memorably wobbling around Coombe Abbey, very near to my due date. Once Ben could walk, I accompanied him

around many string courses, including the infamous ones set by LEI's Roger Kelly. We would often see Annie Leake and the late Shirley Moir supporting their junior proteges, who have now become confident competitors in their own right.

After shadowing your offspring, it is a big step to let them head off on their own. My friends struggled to understand how our youngsters can do this, but what great life skills, independence and confidence it can instil. I now have the pleasure of seeing my son consistently outrun me, but it doesn't mean I don't try to run him close. It is so hard to explain to non-orienteers what the sport is, what challenges and rewards it can give, and, I suppose, what makes the sport so addictive. Maybe the search for that 'perfect run'..... if so, I'm still searching!

Alison Hardy

*Ben at various orienteering events.
Photos: Alison Hardy*



Fifty Years of LEI, but only Forty Two for Retired Man

I took up my first biology teaching post at Longslade School, Birstall, and met Dave, the physics teacher. He sounded very enthusiastic about a sport called orienteering, which I thought my boyfriend might find intriguing, and so on 11th November, 1978, John and I together tried the orange course at Beacon Hill. We took 30 minutes 19 seconds and came 14th out of 106. (Wow, look at the number of competitors on an orange in those days!). John was bitten by the O bug and, as I was 'too slow', we have never been on a course together since.

Bradgate and Lawn Wood soon followed, but I remember well the Lady Titchmarsh Woods event, even though it was more than 40 years ago. The mud was so deep it was like being in the WW1 trenches, with orienteers coated in mud, looking like chocolate figurines, and runners so slow that the time to pack up was getting later and later. Dave had promised his wife he would be at the theatre, but had only muddy jeans to wear as he had forgotten some clean clothes, and no time to get home and change. Solution: he turned his jeans inside out and wore them to the Haymarket Theatre. His wife was not a happy bunny! Soon afterwards, Dave moved to the Lake District.

Why was he running in jeans? In the early days, clothing and footwear were 'anything that was comfy for running and was OK to get muddy'. I usually wore a sage green jumper and my brown gardening trousers, and thought I was well camouflaged as a tree.

These were the days of Roger Hurt and

his mate 'Bunter', (Ian Burden), Graham Masters, John Sutton, and Gerry and Thelma Spalton. Dave Anderson, Ernie and Peter Hornsby are still orienteering with LEI.

There were no pre-printed maps on waterproof paper in those early days and, from the start, a competitor ran to the master maps to copy down the control sites with a red biro onto a paper map. If it was raining, you placed your map in a transparent polythene bag and hoped the map did not get wet and disintegrate before you reached the finish.

There were no such things as dibbers. Each kite had a 'punch' like a stapler with a pattern of pins in the shape of a letter. The results team needed to check every control card, perhaps holding it up to the light to confirm the correct letter had been punched. Obviously, there was no way of recording the time to reach each control (which did allow you to go back and punch a missed out control.) The system was open to taking controls out of sequence, especially on the longer courses that doubled back on themselves. So, manned controls operated at big events and officials could emerge from pits or behind bushes to check your control card. There was no opportunity in those days of comparing your split times or fastest run in with others from their results print out or Route Gadget upload.

It did not take very long until we were roped into volunteering for little jobs at events, and gradually took on more and more roles. Do you remember the big red cardboard post box for your stamped

addressed envelope or putting money in for the stamp? Did I imagine it or was it the same people who always 'forgot' to put any coins in their envelope? I do remember filling Cropston's post box with big handfuls of results letters. Results by post took several days to arrive but you could have some idea of your position on the day when result times were stapled to the 'washing line'.

Orienteering became a weekly passion and we went further afield to other club areas, not just the monthly LEI events. Most clubs had sensible initials, e.g. NOC and SYO, but how do you explain OD Octavian Droobers?

Some time later, our children were born. First, a son, Andrew, and, two years later, Suzi. When I was pregnant I walked round O courses and I discovered I could orienteer as fast as if I had run the course, as I took more care to keep in contact with the map and not get lost.

As the children grew, we would try the white and yellow courses. I hoped the course would have only 6 or 7 controls, as finding each kite meant a fruit pastille reward. Would there be enough pastilles in the tube to reach the finish? We returned to the car to change clothes, eat our packed lunch and wait for Dad. Sweaty John would return and want his cheese and beetroot sandwiches without changing clothes, and the kids would scream, "Pooh, Dad, you stink!"

Après O was a visit to a pub for the orienteers to compare their route choices and moan about the map, etc. – no change there, then! But, for the kids, we had to choose a pub with a playground or a village with swings and a slide. I thought about writing a book detailing the best pub playgrounds near O competition areas. Was I embarrassed at parents' evening when looking through my daughter's Monday diary of 'What We Did



Suzi - EMOA W10 champion 1994

At The Weekend' ? Every week was the entry, "We went (insert various spellings of orienteering) and went to the PUB," followed by a beautifully accurate drawing of the play equipment and smiling children. Did the teacher think we were alcoholics?

The kids loved Roger Kelly's string courses. Roger always took pride in threading the string through low bushes, where the children could fit, but the spaces were too small for accompanying adults. No wonder I hated helping him to reel in the string onto that back-aching contraption strapped to your chest.

For completing the string event at The JK, near Stourhead, the children were given a miniature kite to dangle in the car windscreen. These prototype mini kites were handmade from laminated card, but now it is possible to buy fabric ones.

Both Suzi and Andrew became East Midlands Champions when aged 10, but soon their interests turned to competitive swimming with Leicester Penguins.

LEI held a training weekend in the Lake

District, staying at the youth hostel in Ambleside. Trips to 'the sales' in the mountaineering/walking shops resulted in several of us buying fleece coats. Independently, we had all chosen the ones with the navy and purple colour scheme. This was the birth of the LEI's club colours, which transferred into running trousers and tops with the fox logo. Observant O historians may have noticed that over the years, the fox logo has undergone slight cosmetic changes (like Mickey Mouse).

The first tops were 100% nylon, purchased from Ken Broad's Ultrasport. He would travel from Newport to the big events with his van, loaded with bramble bashers (socks) and shoes, running tops and leggings, red biros, plastic bags and Silva compasses. Thumb compasses and GPS watches had not been invented.

Team Marriott - White Rose August 1991

When lycra leggings became available, we did wonder how Steve Nicholls dared to wear such jazzy colours. Some of the printed O tops did not wash well, with the rubbery letters peeling off.

Big events attracted the catering sales from Wilf's cafe. We bought two Wilf's mugs with the promise of 'a free cup of tea/coffee every visit'. As you can imagine, the queues for Wilf's were often extremely long. He specialised in vegetarian food, and the chilli on jacket spuds was very popular.

Club tents and club banners appeared much later, with the advent of lightweight material and bendy poles.

Over the years, together we have been to the JK, Springtime in Shropshire, the White Rose, and even abroad to Belgium and France. John has stayed several times in holiday cottages with other



orienteers for the Scottish 6 Days (while I make smelly chutneys at home).

John has progressed through the years to do all kinds of O jobs: organiser, planner, mapper, coach, etc., and taken up different orienteering genres, such as Street O and Night O, enjoying the challenge of making his own head torch. Meanwhile, I have 'helped' where I can, often in catering and for a while with the club shop.

In January 2005, I took over the running of the club shop from Kevin Gallagher and began writing 'News from the Club Shop' to thank orienteers for their support and advertise the available O kit, cakes, jams and hot drinks. Little bits of gossip, the exploits, and the ups and downs of orienteering by John Marriott and friends crept into these reports and the Retired Man Chronicles were born. (Sue Bicknell has also christened them The Retarded Man Chronicles.) Connoisseurs of the RMC may wish to know that the September 2011 'Retired Man goes to Ireland', with funny stories of myself, John, Pete Leake and Peter Hornsby spending a week at the championships in N. Ireland and Eire, missed the copy deadline and so it never appeared in print, but was put on the club website. I have a reputation for being 'last minute'.

In recent years, Radio Orienteering with Bob T and the small British team has taken Retired Man to far flung places, starting with Croatia in 2010, then Bulgaria, Poland, USA, Kazakhstan, etc. It was on 22nd August 2015, whilst radio orienteering in the Czech Republic, when he dislocated his left shoulder and severely damaged the nerves of the brachial plexus. Slowly, over the years, he has regained the use of, and strength in, his left arm and hand. In Korea, 2018, he earned a bronze medal, and the following year went even better to achieve a silver medal in Slovenia.

Normal orienteering cups and medals have eluded John, so we do not have a trophy cabinet, although the window ledge at the top of the stairs has been home to the clock trophy several times. (The clock trophy is awarded for 'persistence and perseverance', i.e. taking the longest finishing time on an event in an LEI area. This excludes stopping for a picnic or a swift pint in a nearby pub). John does, however, have a yellow mug from the score night event in 2014 at the White Rose, Scarborough.

The best thing about orienteering has been the friendships we have made along the way. You know who you are, so I have decided not to include a long list in case I leave someone out. We have had several holidays with Roger and Helen Edwards, even making a car-smashing trip to New Zealand (RM Chronicles Summer 2009). We have long-standing friendships (and friendly rivalry with John) with Sue Bicknell, Chris and Sara Bosley, to name but a few. We have enjoyed evenings out for club dinners and Plaid Coalville 'meetings in the pub'. We have watched little ones grow up and mature into excellent orienteers, then disappear



John's White Rose Mug With Wilf's

to university and around the country. Our own children live locally with our grandchildren and, in particular, there is a little 2 year old Marriott, who runs everywhere shouting, "Millie running, Millie coming back" and loves to explore in the Outwoods. Watch this space and remember the name!

Is it really 42 years of orienteering for us?

Looking at photos of John with more hair and moustache, and me with brown hair, it would seem so. To quote from the 'Deep Thought' computer in the Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy, '42 is the answer to the meaning of life, the universe, and everything'.

Irene Marriott.

Training Weekend in the Lakes

As I write this under the second Covid-19 'lockdown', it never ceases to amaze me how much you can get done when you are busy (and, conversely, how little when you've nothing to do).

One of the things I have enjoyed most about orienteering is venturing to places I would never have otherwise been to and solving the puzzle that is an orienteering course.

Early events as an 18 year old included visits to Whitesprings, in Derbyshire (it didn't put me off!); Grace Dieu, a badge event in the pouring rain, where I got my first 'silver time' by being one of two competitors who made it back on the B course with a control card intact enough to verify; a Crowden Moor badge event, a baptism of fire with so many funny squiggly brown lines I'd never met before, and visits to local areas like Lawn Wood and the Outwoods. Then followed a gap of several years, when, like most young people, there was no access to a vehicle and little money to spend on hobbies.

Returning once the children had grown enough to be able to participate, orienteering has since been an ever present feature in my life.

The photo is of a picnic enjoyed in Colwith Woods in the Lake District in

1998, courtesy of Ernie Williams' camera. Jenny would have been 14 and Chris, 11, and we were participating in an LEI training weekend based in Little Langdale. It was at these weekends when I finally got some inkling of what the brown lines meant, though they have foxed me ever since. Like many orienteers, I never understood that you could improve your performance by training, and it wasn't until the children joined the junior squad that I found out about such things as pace counting and aiming off.

On the Sunday of these training weekends in the Lakes, we would take part in a 'badge event', aka level B or national. The courses were always longer than in the Midlands and it took me a while to realise that, whilst bemoaning the long uphill walk to the start, one came down much quicker than one went up. I never was a practical learner.

I asked the children what they remembered of this weekend away. The answer, obviously, was the coil of Cumberland sausage at the Three Shires pub on Saturday night!

Ursula Williamson

Training



Colwith Woods

September 1998

'The Williamsons' - David & Liz Taylor
and the Forsters.

Recent LEI British Champions

Andy Simpson	M45	Middle Distance	15th September 2019
Andy Simpson	M45	Sprint Distance	14th September 2019
Andy Simpson	M45L	Long Distance	18th May 2018
Daniel Glover	M10	Middle Distance	2nd September 2018
Andy Simpson	M45	Middle Distance	2nd September 2018
Toni O'Donovan	W40	Middle Distance	2nd September 2018
Don Moir	M85	Sprint Distance	1st September 2018
Toni O'Donovan	W40	Sprint Distance	1st September 2018
Daisy Rennie	W12	Middle Distance	1st October 2017
Finn Lydon	M18	Sprint Distance	30th September 2017
Harrington Leake	M10	Middle Distance	10th May 2015
Harrington Leake	M10	Sprint Distance	9th May 2015
Don Moir	M80	Middle Distance	7th September 2014
Peter Hornsby		Mapping Chichester Trophy	18th April 2014
Emma Phillips	Junior	Trail O	21st March 2015
Finn Lydon	M14	Sprint Distance	20th April 2013
Mairead Roche	W18	Long Distance	3rd May 2009
Ben Windsor	M20E	Night	24th January 2009

Source: LEIOC Website

LEI Club Tops through the Years

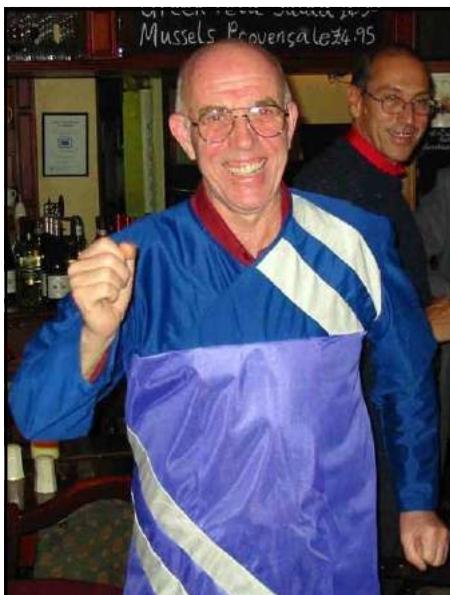


A collection of older LEI tops belonging to John Marriott. Photo: Irene Marriott.



Simon West in the long sleeved top, introduced around 2007. Photo: Alan West.

Peter Leake In the long sleeved top, introduced around 2002. Photo: LEIOC Website photo gallery.



Chris Bosley In the short sleeved top, introduced around 2007. Photo: Steve Rush.



LEI Club Tops through the Years



Steve Chafer in the current short sleeved top, introduced around Summer 2012. Photo: Annie Leake



James Rogers in the LEI vest top, introduced around Autumn 2019. Photo: Zara Rogers



Chris Phillips in the current long sleeved top, introduced around Summer 2012.

Photo: Steve Rush

James Rogers in the very latest short sleeved top, where the supplier has re-branded from Siven to Bryzos.

Photo: Steve Rush

