

50 Years of Orienteering



Editors:
Alan &
Wendy
West

LEI NEWS

The Newsletter of the Leicestershire Orienteering Club



Event News - Summer 2021

Back to Life, Back to Reality

Fixtures

Looking Back



Summer 2021

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*Front Cover: Venice - 25th June 2006
by Chris Bosley*

Points from the Editors

Welcome to this edition of the LEI News. It's great to see orienteering returning to some sort of normality, with a number of fixtures now going ahead. However, please thoroughly check all details, as these are subject to change in these turbulent times.

It's a slimmer edition than usual, which reflects the ongoing restrictions. However, we look forward to receiving all of your articles and photographs when there is more to report. Let's hope that we see a full return to orienteering in the coming months.

Thank you to Steve for spending the time to look through his recent acquisitions of CompassSport magazines, and for finding some relevant and interesting Leicestershire articles - see pages 8 and 17. It is interesting to look at the map of Bradgate and Swithland, and compare that to the current standard of map that we are used to. There is a marked difference between the maps of yesteryear and now.

Please make a note that 17th October is the CompassSport Cup final and Esther is encouraging as many members as possible to enter - see page 4.

For the junior members of the club, please see the deadline dates on page 5 of Libby's article.

Wendy and Alan



Ramblings from the Easing Lockdown Chair



It is good to be back! With the summer league already in full swing and the East Midlands League event at Bagworth successfully completed, it's almost starting to

feel normal again. Many thanks, as always, to the event teams and volunteers for getting these events up and running in a short time frame. It is also looking to be busy for the rest of the year, with a number of Level C events to follow the summer league. It was good to see both old and several new club members at the events, too.

As the lockdown measures continue to be relaxed, I am looking forward to orienteering outside the East Midlands for the first time in well over a year, with trips planned to the Welsh Borders for the Midland Championships and Fort William for the Scottish 6 day event. Looking at the entry list, I am sure that I will see many of you around and about this summer. Good luck to everyone venturing far and wide in the coming months.

I have recently become the owner of a large number of Compass Sport Magazines dating from the early 1980s to the mid 1990s. (I believe my brother's wife had finally persuaded him to get rid of them or pass them on). I thought I would have a leaf through the pages to see if there was any relevant information on LEI and to see if I appeared at all.

I came across one article in praise of night orienteering and next to it a full page black and white map of Bradgate and Swithland, used for the British Night Championships in November 1983, (see pages 8 and 9). The interesting thing about the event is that it was sponsored by Foster's Lager. I have since found out from Ernie that each competitor was given a can of the sponsor's product when they finished - definitely an idea we should think about re-introducing! Another article from April 1985 (see page 17) focuses on the purchase of Martinshaw Woods by the Woodland Trust, supported by the Sports Council and LEI. Both the British Night Champs Map and Martinshaw articles have been included in this edition of the newsletter.

To answer the other question: yes, I did find my name, twice in fact, in 1982 - the first on the award of my gold M15 badge and the second time in edition No6 1982 (reasonably priced at 75p) in the Welsh Championship results. Unfortunately, things do not change too much in orienteering and I am still being beaten today by the same people as I was almost 40 years ago. If at the upcoming Midland Champs I am less than eight minutes behind either the winner of the M15 course back in 1982 (now at DVO) or the Welsh M13 champion (now at HOC), I will be a happy man.

Steve

Captain's Corner



Hi everyone,

I hope you are keeping as well as you can ☺.

With the lockdown gradually easing, it's been great to see our Level C at Bagworth taking place, and the first summer

league fixtures going ahead. To those of you who have done the work to get us going again (and it takes a lot of work) – **thank you so much.**

With few team and national events having happened, I don't have much to report in this issue. However, I do need to check: have you got the CompassSport Cup Final inscribed into your diaries? Yes? Good! We are still very much hoping it will go ahead on **17th October**, though now expected to be hosted by OD. I would love to see LEI out in force for this one! For those of you that are newer to orienteering, the CompassSport Cup (CSC) is an interclub competition that takes place annually, with everyone

running in their age class or 'running up' (i.e. running a longer course). The top scores will count towards a club's total score, with no more than 2 scorers from each course, but non-scoring runs can also be vital to a club's success as they help to push the scores of other clubs down. It's therefore, very often, a game of numbers, certainly in the qualifiers, where clubs with the most runners tend to do better.

I appreciate that many of us are perhaps a little bit rusty after the orienteering quiet of 2020 and the earlier part of this year, but I would still encourage you to come along; it's a big opportunity for us and, thankfully, not ever so far to travel. Rusty or not, don't forget we have a great programme of summer league events to refresh and practise your skills, or you could try a virtual or permanent orienteering course.

<https://www.britishorienteering.org.uk/vocs>

<https://www.britishorienteering.org.uk/pocs>

See you soon,

Esther

Junior Captain's Corner



The past few months have seen the continuation of 'online-o' which for me has consisted of training sessions via Zoom. EMJOS have continued online technical training sessions, which have been very useful, and I've also really enjoyed the Talent South training sessions which have focused on a variety of aspects in orienteering. So far, we have taken part in discussions and listened to presentations on topics such as the stages of physical training, race preparation, dealing with

uncertainty (with regards to training during the pandemic), sports nutrition, and female athlete health and training. It has been great to hear from a range of coaches and athletes, and I have also enjoyed the weekly strength and conditioning sessions with GB athletes, Megan Carter-Davies and Ben Mitchell.

It's also been great to see a few events beginning to take place - unfortunately (at the time of writing) I've only been able to make it to one event so far as although officially GCSE exams have been cancelled, I'm currently sitting a series of GCSE-style exams which will form the basis for my grades. Good luck to any other juniors sitting exams this year and hopefully after a busy term, the summer will provide more opportunities to participate in orienteering.

In particular, the YBT final is always a highlight of the year for juniors. This year it will take place on 4th July at Westonbirt National Arboretum. Qualifying events that went ahead in 2020 are still valid for this 2021 final, and further qualifying events taking place this year will add to the previous qualifying teams. Although as a club we have not, and do not, plan to take part in any qualifier due to the pandemic, we are still able to contact the organiser to see if we may be eligible to take part in the final. It would be great to take a team to the final, as after a year of minimal orienteering, a team event would be a fun and lightly competitive return.

Also, good luck to any juniors hoping to be selected for a JROS summer camp this year. Please be mindful of the closing date for nominations from regional squad coordinators and personal nominations, which can be found on the JROS website. Currently, the tours are planning to go ahead and for the overseas tours, JROS are also looking at what we can do in the UK as a plan B, should that prove necessary. The main

selection race for juniors this year seems to be the Lake District weekend on 5th/6th June, which some LEI juniors have entered. However, there are no specific selection races mentioned in the selection policies this year - just 'major races in 2021', so even if you can't attend the BOF selection races, it is worth trying to get to some bigger events in the coming weeks. Likewise, due to the lack of events, selections for the Junior Home Internationals will also be based on nominations from regional squad coordinators, with the closing date for these being 11th July. Again, no specific selection races are listed, so if you are able to attend any major races this year, this will put you in the best possible position for selection.

Summary of key dates:

- Deadline for nominations for Lagganlia summer camp – 31st May 2021
- Deadline for nominations for Deeside summer camp – 31st May 2021
- Deadline for Stockholm summer camp – 14th June 2021
- YBT final – 4th July 2021
- Deadline for nominations for JHI's – 11th July 2021

Libby

Don't forget!
**The LEI NEWS can be found
on line, in full colour at
[www.leioc.org.uk/members/
lei-news/](http://www.leioc.org.uk/members/lei-news/)**



Event News - Summer 2021

We are back to Orienteering!

At the time of writing this report, we have had four events. The weather for the Bagworth event was superb, and even with the restriction on numbers we had enough people to make it a worthwhile event and a good day out in the forest.

When we first orienteered at Bagworth nearly 30 years ago, it was newly planted and still looked very much the site of a former coal mine. Who would have dreamed it would be developing into the beautiful area it is today - a really true example of what the creators of the National Forest had hoped for.

The Summer League seems to be attracting high numbers (we are limited to a maximum of 60 entries or less because of Covid and car parking restrictions). Groby and Cademan have been near sell outs. There is, not surprisingly, a demand for competitive activities from members.

The venues and event officials are in place for the rest of the league, although, as always, with a competition that runs for four months, there will undoubtedly be some tweaking as the weeks go by. Keep your eye on the LEI website for the latest updates.

Looking to the autumn, unfortunately, because of permission problems, it has not been possible to run the planned double header weekend with OD at Burbage Village and Hinckley. However, the Burbage event (19th September) will still be going ahead. Parking and an event centre have been secured.

There are three other Level C events scheduled for the Autumn:

Shepshed Urban—3rd October

Booththorpe and Hanging Hill - 14th November

Cademan and Thringstone - 12th December.

Additionally, there will, of course, be the Winter League.

As always, I am looking for volunteers to be officials at the various events.

We also need control collectors after the summer and winter league events. The only way we can provide these events is if we have people to help clear up at the end. If you are not prepared to help, don't be surprised if there are no events to go to.

Covid 19 permitting, it is intended to run an event safety workshop one evening in the autumn as we have a number of members who need to complete the course.

EMOA is currently looking at the possibility of an event officials day, probably in the autumn, but more likely in early 2022.

Looking further ahead, and as a reminder, we have the YBT Final at Irchester next year, the British Schools Score Championships in 2023 and the JK Sprints at Easter 2024.

Chris



Summer League 2021 (abbreviated)

Top 28 Places as at 19th May 2021

Pos.	Name	Class	Club	Best 4	Handicap	Attendance	Score
1	Edward De Salis Young	M50	LEI	398	462	40	502
2	Andy Glover	M40	LEI	390	421	40	461
3	David Cladingboel	M55	LEI	312	374	40	414
4	Stephen Chafer	M50	LEI	322	373	40	413
5	Ben Glover	M16	LEI	315	353	40	393
6	Alastair Paterson	M50	LEI	297	345	40	385
7	David Seaman	M50	LEI	287	333	40	373
8	Andrew Ward	M21	LEI	324	324	40	364
9	Kevin Gallagher	M70	LEI	244	322	40	362
10	Helen Chiswell	W40	DVO	284	319	40	359
11	Daniel Glover	M14	LEI	247	287	40	327
12	Keith Willdig	M70	OD	221	291	30	321
13	Steve Edgar	M55	LEI	230	276	40	316
14	Chris Bosley	M70	LEI	207	273	40	313
15	Ursula Williamson	W55	LEI	218	270	40	310
16	Matthew Birkett	M45	LEI	241	270	30	300
17	Iain Phillips	M50	LEI	218	253	40	293
18	Roger Edwards	M70	LEI	192	253	30	283
19	Kevin Bradley	M65	LEI	190	243	40	283
20	Chris Phillips	M70	LEI	183	241	40	281
21	Ross McNaught	M20	LUOC	232	241	30	271
22	Peter Leake	M80	LEI	165	225	40	265
23	Maureen Webb	W65	LEI	169	223	40	263
24	Jonathan Lee	M60	LEI	162	200	30	230
25	Stephen Martin	M60	LEI	169	209	20	229
26	David Bray	M65	LEI	155	198	30	228
27	Jane Dring-Morris	W50	LEI	165	198	30	228
28	Jacob Fleming	M21	LUOC	204	204	20	224

Looking Back - British Night Orienteering Championships 1983

In praise of —

Night Orienteering

by Eddie Harwood

A myriad lights descending on a clearing to find no control, and apparently untrammelled featureless plateau with the sound of a distant river enhancing the feeling of solitariness, an unmapped ruin looming out of the fog, and the sight of an unbroken mass of gorse beyond which one believes is the control. These are the low points in each of this season's night champs, and I suspect are a large part of the reason why so many orienteers neglect this most taxing and exciting version of the sport.

Despite the reluctance of much of the O-community to partake or to take night O-seriously, I am glad to say that the championship organisers and planners seem at last to be providing a more consistent product, with good areas and little concession to the extra difficulties of night navigation.

This year's championship season started in mild weather and mostly mature pine forest at Star Posts. Well planned courses gave us plenty of forest running. The following week, on the 1981 B.C. map was equally pleasant in the forest out of the strong wind, and penalised sloppy technique heavily as many paths were invisible at night. The British at Charnwood had the usual influx of people who never compete at other night events, and was on a markedly easier area, but the weather evened things up with torrential rain and thick fog, but not cold. Chris Hirst paid one of his rare visits to record an easy victory and enhance the status of the event. The Midlands was a far smaller

affair, but proved to be in many ways the best. The Welsh came up with a superb weekend to which all too few travelled. The weather on Saturday night was absolutely still, so that the hard frost was comfortable. The area had an excellent variety of open moor, large earthworks, and forest. John Howell's computer results programme has to be the best yet used - with results like this, worries about Welsh organisation are unfounded.

The reasons given for not doing night-O seem to be threefold.

- (1) Risk of injury.
- (2) Fear of the dark.
- (3) Cost of equipment.

However, I guess that the feeling that it is all really rather masochistic and unsociable is the major factor.

Of these points, only No. 2 seems to be insurmountable despite its irrationality.

With regard to injury, whilst it sounds risky, I don't believe that it is really so. Certainly, the average night event is far safer than many badge events, and in years of competing and training on terrain in the dark I have only hurt myself enough to miss a day's training when running on the road.

Equipment is an interesting talking point. There is no doubt that you do not need any special equipment to do night-O, but you will now be competing against people with extremely powerful headlamps. I feel that it is essential to have your hands free, but that it is merely an advantage, rather than a

necessity to have great power. Legislation about lighting power is clearly impracticable, but the very powerful lights do to my mind detract from the sport. I have never used a powerful bulb - mine is bright enough to enable me to run confidently, but not to shine around for a control - and thus sloppy techniques really show. To me this is the essence of night-O, and too much power will spoil it, but I might decide by next season "if you can't beat 'em, join 'em."

Finally, masochism doesn't come into it, it might be abnormal, indeed the thought can make one decidedly unenthusiastic, but once out it is just like normal orienteering, with certain added satisfactions. The weather is no more often utterly foul at night than in the day, and I have never suffered on this count other than by over-heating when over-dressed.

In general terms, there is a built in reluctance to run over terrain at night, with the assumption that training has to be done on roads. With Dark Peak Fell Runners, groups go out regularly over the moors despite the weather. It rapidly becomes so natural that one thinks nothing of it, with the extra-long or extra-wild nights being those that produce the adrenaline. As far as I know, it is only in the Pennine area that groups regularly do this, and I urge other groups to get together and try it. All you need is a light, powerful enough to run by. Then you might have a chance of winning a championship whilst having no hope during the day.

The above text and map on the following page are reproduced with kind permission of CompassSport Magazine. This article is from Volume 5, No. 1, February/March 1984.

FOSTER'S

BRITISH NIGHT ORIENTEERING CHAMPIONSHIPS

**BRADGATE PARK
SWITHLAND**
26th November 1983

➤➤➤➤➤➤➤➤➤ F. Watkins 1st W19A

~~~~~ C. Hirst 1st M21A



Surveyed Jan/March 1983 by 1st group (DUMMOCK)  
Based on photographs by Harvey Map Services  
Cartography by HVO, Dept 1983  
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# Club Chat

We would like to give a big LEI welcome to the following new members:

Julia Gomez

Jitka Vseteckova, Yannis & Alexander Pappas

Andy Nicholls

Stephen Martin & Carol Stynes-Martin

Jo White

## Diary Date

**The Club AGM is on Monday 25th October.**

**All members are encouraged to attend. We are unsure at this stage if the meeting will be live or virtual. Please refer to the website for the latest**

With the restart of orienteering, club members can now qualify for BOF awards. Awards are based on the results submitted to BOF by clubs. The latest event to be added is our East Midlands League event in April at Bagworth. Following this, Ellen Simpson achieved her Light Green colour coded award. This is based on achieving three standard performances, the average of the first three winner times plus 50%.

Similarly, the Racing Challenge and Navigation Challenge are entry level awards and are based on three performances at a TD level. David Cladingboel has achieved the gold standard, and both Ben Glover and Peter Dargue have achieved silver 5 stars. 5 stars is for TD 5 level courses, i.e. Short Green upwards. Eoin Simpson has gained bronze 3 stars.

The Navigation Challenge is based on successfully completing courses, and Eoin Simson has achieved 3 stars, Robyn Jarvis 4 stars and Ben Glover 5 stars.

Club members who are currently hiring a dibber may now collect stickers for each hire and use these to buy an SI dibber through the club treasurer. Collect a sticker (value £1) for each hire at an LEI event and affix to your collector card. Redeem when you want to buy - just pay the difference between your card's value and the dibber price.

*Roger Edwards*





*Congratulations to LEI members Jack and Lucy on their recent wedding.*

Lucy and Jack are currently living in Fuerth which is a city in northern Bavaria, which is now contiguous with the larger city of Nuremberg, the centres of the two cities being only 7Km apart. Catching up with Lucy by email see explained:

We moved out to Germany in 2019 when I was offered a job at Adidas. It was quite an adventure of beer festivals and the Alps until last March

when we were locked down which brought an abrupt halt to the European exploration! Luckily we were able to get back to the UK at Christmas where we were married on the 29th December. Although that was a bit dicey as we nearly didn't make it out of Woodhouse Eaves due to snow. Still, it was a lovely ceremony and fortunately we made it back to Germany just after New Year. Unfortunately I am not sure when we will be back to the UK because of travel restrictions but I was hopeful enough to put in entries to the Scottish 6 Days so fingers crossed it goes ahead and we can make it over! The local orienteering here is few and far between but we make the most of training by exploring the forests in the area, especially going to see the local wild boar sanctuary as they currently have baby boar - humbugs with legs!



# **RMC: Back to Life, Back to Reality, Back to Life, Back to Normality. (With apologies to Soul II Soul).**

We start the year in the height of Covid transmission and the hospitals struggling to cope. Soon, we are close contacts of family members suffering with the virus that the children had picked up at preschool. We deliver food and beer to the back door and wave at the kids through the window. It is Grandson's 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday and he proudly shows us the new tool belt with toy hammer and saw for us to see.

Edd's condition worsens. We dash to find an oximeter (it clips onto the finger to detect the oxygen level in blood) on a Saturday evening - not an easy task. Four pharmacies: closed, 'none left' or 'can order one for you', then we have success. The oxygen reading is low and NHS 111 orders an ambulance. We wait in the dark, cold street as it arrives, with men wearing protective masks and flimsy aprons. After five hours in hospital, it is safer that the patient be sent home to recuperate.

Winter weather, snow and Storm Christophe, and our local Rothley brook is flooded. Water is gushing down the overflow channel to Cropston Reservoir. The water on the main path in Castle Hill is half way up your wellies. RM is following the rise in water level on the internet, with the readings from 'Shoothill Gauge' sited on the brook as it passes through Rothley fields.

RM is trying to be active. The colour printer is 'in pieces, being mended' so using a black and white map of Birstall

North/Hallam Fields, he attempts to find the 18 controls. Maybe he would not have missed control 7 if he had read the instruction 'most of the controls are on lamp posts'.

He returns to Hallam Fields to run in melting snow, but his comments are not about the orienteering, but the developer's ideas of making a huge estate that is 'not car dependent'. They have not achieved this. RM has spent much time researching the planning applications for house building. He has put together a map of Leicestershire that saddens me, as nowhere seems safe from land grabbing, money making activities. Agricultural land is cheap. Get planning permission for houses and that land soars in value. RM is busy with CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England) zoom meetings on this topic.

The beginning of February and 70 year olds are the next in line for the Covid vaccine. John's invitation arrives at the same time as a leaflet from Anstey Funeral Services! We laugh at the phrase '93% customer satisfaction' as we imagine ghosts filling in a questionnaire: 'rate your funeral experience on a scale of 1 to 5, etc.'

13<sup>th</sup> February is almost Valentine's day and we romantically go together to be vaccinated in Anstey by a young dentist, who finds work 2 days a week giving jabs. I do make a special meal on the 14<sup>th</sup>. Two days later, it is his 73<sup>rd</sup> birthday and he celebrates with a walk from the

Oaks campsite with our son. He returns with presents: a train tracks puzzle book and lots of bottles of beer. He had recently been to Tesco and staggered through the front door with beer and more beer. Unwittingly, he had also shoplifted 'The Times' as it was under his arm and he forgot to declare it at the self service check out.

RM has a new GPS watch for his birthday and goes for a run in 'Grass Forest'. However, it has also recorded the car journey home. After mistakenly entering the word 'diving', instead of 'driving', the fitness calculations reward him with: 'You have earned your night diving badge'.

On 8<sup>th</sup> March, we officially begin gradual lockdown easing and I celebrate with a flask of coffee on the morning dog walk. I have to boil the water in a pan as RM has the kettle in pieces. He has recently mended the bread-maker, the shower temperature control and soaked the shower head in vinegar, but the colour printer is still foxing him.

21<sup>st</sup> March is the first ever online census. Together we fill in the our answers, but it takes a lot longer than the advertised ten minutes.

A minute's silence at noon and 8pm doorstep candle/ torch vigil on 23<sup>rd</sup> March marks one year since the first national lock down began. 126,000 people have died from Coronavirus, a figure that, per 100,000 population, is one of the worst in Europe. But hope is on the horizon, as the vaccination programme is going well, and on this day I also spot the first bluebell of spring on the ridge with the felled pines in The Outwoods. Here, yellow marker paint begins to define the car parking spaces. We find it difficult to socially distance from so many people and dogs celebrating Easter with a bubble/family walk in The Outwoods, looking for the chocolate eggs that the

Easter Bunny has hidden. Extensive, double yellow painted lines have appeared on the roads around Hunts Hill and Hallgates, as people banned from holidaying abroad flock to Bradgate Park.

There are revolting scenes across the country of piles of litter left behind from people's picnics.

Hooray! I can visit the hairdresser again, but RM trusts Suzi to trim his locks.

With Covid safety rules in place, outdoor sports can begin again, and RM runs at Fairmeadow Road, near Loughborough. There were snow flurries, and did somebody cheat by running across the pitch and putt course?

Where were you when it was announced that Prince Philip had died? I was at a socially distanced committee meeting for Glenfield Country Market, taking place in a freezing cold garage with the doors wide open 'for ventilation'. I have been a supervisor for the D of E Award for nearly twenty years with my friend Christine. We were in Snipedale Country Park, near Horncastle, when the funeral took place. Nearing 3pm, and sitting at a pond next to the Meridian Stone (Greenwich 0 degree line passes through Snipedale, and, yes, there is a POC here), we watched on the phone as the coffin, on his old Landrover, approached St. George's Chapel. The bearer party carried the coffin up the steps and the firing of a gun began the national one minute silence.

RM has been on his bike to map Strasbourg. No, not the one in France, but Strasbourg Drive in Beaumont Leys for his event. The bike chain breaks, but luckily he is not too far away from his car. And the event? 'Went okay; perhaps the map scale could have been bigger and the middle course not so long.'

More steps to normality are seen as New



Zealand and Australia re-open transport between their two countries after 400 days. On the same day, a new Covid variant from India has arrived in UK.

We both have our second Astra Zenica jab, although there are concerns looming about blood clots in some people. I take it easy for the rest of the afternoon and look through Facebook. I can't believe Nick Wilson is now 23. Derek Herd has a rat trying to climb the pole of the bird feeder and Roger Phillips has posted a gruesome photo of his swollen ankle after O-ing in Cademan Woods. RM does not appear in the Cademan results as he forgot to download his times.

What shall I write for 15th May?

Leicester City won the FA Cup, courtesy of an offside ruling by VAR. Nail biting or what?

Normality will be meeting people again, although I have bumped into David

Anderson on dog walks in Swithland and Castle Hill, ordered and collected Glenfield Market goodies and met Judy Leake at Loughborough Farmers' Market. I can watch Bob T on Youtube as he explains how to radio orienteer or Amateur Radio Direction Finding - ARDF.

Chris and Ursula will finally be able to hold their wedding. Fingers crossed.

RM has kept busy mending things and has been sitting in front of his computer for hours on end researching for CPRE. He has been enthused by new walks in the Bardon Hill, Copt Oak, Timberwood and Collier Hill areas.

**RM defines a return to normality as 'being able to sit inside 'Spoons' after an O event and hopes it may happen following the Donisthorpe evening.**

Keep safe.

*Irene*

# Club Shop



Hoodies are available in either purple or navy (the latter are very dark, almost black). Junior and adult sizes are available. Adult sizes - £26, junior sizes - £20. For further details, contact the club secretary, Roger Phillips. For further details, see: <http://www.leioc.org.uk/members/club-shop/>



# Looking Back - Saving Martinshaw Wood.

## SAVE MARTINSHAW - The Million Tree Wood!

### Forestry Commission sells off Orienteering Land; Woodland Trust launches Appeal

Orienteers as well as conservationists are rallying to the banner of the Woodland Trust in an attempt to purchase and safeguard the 254-acre Martinshaw Wood near Leicester.

The wood, which has an estimated 1,000,000 trees, is being sold by the Forestry Commission as part of its government-enforced privatisation programme, and the Woodland Trust has only until August 1985 to raise the £217,000 purchase price.

Martinshaw Wood is one of the largest in Leicestershire and was mentioned in the Doomsday Book. It is the only wood in the county with free access for orienteering and Leicestershire OC has established a permanent course there. The club holds regular events in the wood and local schools and groups use the permanent course to introduce and improve orienteering skills. The club is now playing an active role in raising money to donate to the Woodland Trust's appeal.

Orienteers, conservation groups and local residents all fear that if the wood falls into unsympathetic hands public access will be restricted to the single footpath that runs through the wood, or, worse still, development activity will take place. In recent years the wedge of green countryside between the wood and the edge of Leicester has shrunk dramatically and new



housing construction is taking place within sight of the wood.

Of the £217,000 required, £67,500 has already been promised in grants from Leicestershire County Council, the Countryside Commission, the Sports Council and the Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council. The Sports Council grant is especially significant as it was made in order to enable orienteering to continue. The trust also expects to raise up to £100,000 from its 40,000 members.

Leicestershire OC is donating to the appeal 50p per competitor from the Coleorton Badge Event on May 19th as well as staging other fund-raising activities. There will be a 'Martinshaw Day' on June 23rd which the club will be advertising in the local press and radio to publicise both Martinshaw and orienteering. The club's

'Trophy Event' will be in the morning followed by a Come-and-Try-It and all proceeds will go to the Woodland Trust.

One might ask why we need to give money to a charity to buy what is already ours? The Forestry Commission is a public body, so that's our land they're selling off! Surely we shouldn't make it any easier for them! What we really need, after all, is a change of attitude towards the countryside, away from the present system which encourages land development rather than conservation.

Meanwhile though, land is being developed at an alarming rate — 2,000 miles of hedgerow are being dug up every year, for example. Lobbying for changes in land management policy is a long, slow process, and charities like the Woodland Trust provide immediate and practical action to save bits of the countryside for everyone to enjoy, while we wait for the powers that be to wake up to the need for conservation.

A Woodland Trust Leaflet with full details of the 'Save Martinshaw' appeal is enclosed with this issue. The address for appeal donations or membership enquiries is **The Woodland Trust, Westgate, Grantham, Lincs NG31 6LL.**

Thanks to John Sutton, Sue Corbishley and, of course, the Woodland Trust for material used in this article.

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Have you changed your email address lately?

If you have, then please don't forget to inform our membership secretary, Roger Phillips, by emailing [rogerphillips34@gmail.com](mailto:rogerphillips34@gmail.com) to ensure your contact details are updated.

# Summer League 2021

The fixtures are listed on the following pages. The events are informal, but, currently due to Covid 19, will be lacking the normal social element for the earlier events. Weekday starts are staggered generally from 6.30pm to 7.15pm, and courses close at 8.15pm. (These times may be advanced by 30 minutes at either end of the season.) For details of the event type, i.e. score, classic or sprint, please check on the LEIOC website.

**Entry is via the online entry system on the website.** Competitive events will use SI electronic punching (£1 hire). Entry fees: seniors £5.00, full time students and unwaged £2.50, juniors (or family group shadowing their juniors) £1.50. For results, please see [www.leioc.org.uk](http://www.leioc.org.uk)

Please confirm arrangements, either with the organiser or league co-ordinator. League scores are on standard handicaps, giving everyone a chance of success in the league if they perform as well as their age would suggest they should. Overall, it is the best 10 events to count with a sub-league of sprint/urban events, with the best 4 counting. All events include a technical course. There will be an introductory level course for novices and young children, and, where practical, an intermediate standard course.

## Fixtures

This fixture list is intended to list events in and around the Midlands and neighbouring areas, plus other items likely to be of interest. Unless otherwise stated, local (D) and regional (C) events offer entry on the day (EOD) to a range of colour-coded courses, with start times from 10.30am to 12.30pm. Local events will only have a limited range of courses. National (B) and major (A) events provide a range of age-related courses and are normally entered in advance online. EOD will usually be limited and more expensive. Most will offer a limited number of colour-coded courses for EOD. The OS map reference is either the car park or point from which the event will be signposted. The list is based on BOF registration data, but events are sometimes cancelled. If you are uncertain as to whether an event will take place, check with the organiser, check on [www.leioc.org.uk](http://www.leioc.org.uk) or check on [www.britishorienteering.org.uk](http://www.britishorienteering.org.uk). The editors take no responsibility for wasted journeys!

### EVENT STRUCTURE IN FIXTURE LISTS

- Local (level D) = relatively low-cost events providing local competition and aimed at increasing participation.
- Regional (level C) = events providing a wider variety of venues and competitors.
- National (level B) = events providing opportunities for more experienced competitors, giving a wider variety of terrain and competition for those who are prepared to travel longer distances.
- Major (level A) = major UK events, the best that orienteering can offer.



| <b>June 2021</b> |                            |                                                                                                                                                             |
|------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1st<br>Tuesday   | LEI<br>EMOA<br>Local D     | LEI Summer League 6, Watermead Country Park. SK607114, Watermead North Car Park, Pay on entry, Height barrier. Dogs on lead.                                |
| 5th              | MDOC<br>NWOA<br>Major A    | British Orienteering Middle Championships (UKOL), Summerhouse Knott, Newby Bridge.<br>Organiser: Derek Allison 2021bmdc@gmail.com                           |
| 6th              | MDOC<br>NWOA<br>National B | Northern Championships (UKOL), High Dam, Newby Bridge. SD363883<br>Contact: nchamps21@mdoc.org.uk                                                           |
| 9th<br>Wednesday | LEI<br>EMOA<br>Local D     | LEI Summer League 7, Johns Lee Wood Scout Camp, Markfield, Leicester LE67 9PS. SK504105. Parking at the Scout Camp Car park off Markfield Lane. No Dogs.    |
| 13th             | CLOK<br>NEOA<br>National B | Acorn Hutton Mulgrave & Skelder, Whitby. NZ850094. Middle Distance Event.                                                                                   |
| 17th<br>Thursday | LEI<br>EMOA<br>Local D     | LEI Summer League 8, Melton Country Park, Melton. LE13 1EB SK756208. Car park off Wymondham Way. Dogs on lead.                                              |
| 20th             | SYO<br>YHOA<br>Regional C  | YHOA Urban League, Sheffield City, Sheffield.                                                                                                               |
| 26th<br>Saturday | LEI<br>EMOA<br>Local D     | LEI Summer League 9 & LEI Score Cup, Irchester Country Park, Wellingborough NN29 7DJ. SP911658. Dogs on lead. Score event.<br>Entry times: 11.00am - 1.00pm |
| 27th             | DVO<br>EMOA<br>Regional C  | East Midlands Championships 2021, Chinley Churn, Manchester. SK22 4QL SK035836. Organiser: Nicola Hart, nicjhart@gmail.com                                  |
| <b>July 2021</b> |                            |                                                                                                                                                             |
| 1st              | LEI<br>EMOA<br>Local D     | LEI Summer League 10, Burrough Hill, Melton. LE14 2QZ SK766114<br>No Dogs.                                                                                  |
| 4th              | BOK<br>SWOA                | Yvette Baker Trophy Final, Westonbirt Arboretum, Tetbury. GL8 8QS<br>ST856897. What3Word: plankton.love.landowner                                           |
| 4th              | NGOC<br>SWOA<br>Regional C | NGOC League - Urban race. Stroud Town, Stroud.<br>Events@ngoc.org.uk                                                                                        |

| <b>July 2021 Cont.</b> |                                 |                                                                                                                                                    |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>5th Monday</b>      | <b>LEI<br/>EMOA<br/>Local D</b> | <b>LEI Summer League 11, Beacon Hill, Loughborough LE12 8RW SK521148. Lower car park, pay on exit.</b>                                             |
| 11th                   | SYO<br>YHOA<br>Regional C       | YHOA Urban League 2-part Sprint, Weston Park, Sheffield University Botanic Garden, Sheffield. Sprint event.                                        |
| <b>14th Wednesday</b>  | <b>LEI<br/>EMOA<br/>Local D</b> | <b>LEI Summer League 12, Willesley Woods, Ashby. LE65 2UP SK337144. Dogs on lead.</b>                                                              |
| 17th                   | AIRE<br>YHOA<br>Regional C      | Fat Rascal Weekend, Cottingley & Churnwell, Leeds. LS11 8BR SE281303. 2 x sprint races. Ken.patterson@geo2.poptel.org.uk 0113 294 8488             |
| 18th                   | AIRE<br>YHOA<br>Regional C      | Fat Rascal Weekend, Scratcherd Park, Morley. LS27 9BQ SE261277 Urban event. dsheely@btinternet.com 01943 875935                                    |
| 18th                   | NGOC<br>SWOA<br>Regional C      | Cheltenham Race Course, Cheltenham. GL52 3LZ 2 x sprint races. Greg Best, events@ngoc.org.uk                                                       |
| <b>20th Tuesday</b>    | <b>LEI<br/>EMOA<br/>Local D</b> | <b>LEI Summer League 13, Martinshaw Woods, Leicester. LE6 0LU SK497075. Parking off Markfield Road, on private land. Drive carefully. No Dogs.</b> |
| 25th to 30th           | MA<br>SOA<br>Regional C         | Coast and Islands - 6 Day Event. www.coastandislands.com                                                                                           |
| <b>29th Thursday</b>   | <b>LEI<br/>EMOA<br/>Local D</b> | <b>LEI Summer League 14. Fosse Meadows, Leicester. LE10 3AB SP489910 Parking, off Fosse Way. Dogs on Lead.</b>                                     |
| <b>August 2021</b>     |                                 |                                                                                                                                                    |
| 1st to 7th             | SOA<br>National B               | Scottish 6 Days - www.scottish6days.com                                                                                                            |
| <b>3rd Tuesday</b>     | <b>LEI<br/>EMOA<br/>Local D</b> | <b>LEI Summer League 15. Loughborough University TBC.</b>                                                                                          |
| <b>11th Wednesday</b>  | <b>LEI<br/>EMOA<br/>Local D</b> | <b>LEI Summer League 16. Bennion Pools, Leicester LE4 2LZ SK571091<br/>Parking on Redruth Road. Urban event.</b>                                   |

| <b>August 2021 Cont.</b> |                                    |                                                                                                                                                                          |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 15th                     | LOG<br>EMOA<br>Regional C          | Lincoln City Race, Lincoln.                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>19th<br/>Thursday</b> | <b>LEI<br/>EMOA<br/>Local D</b>    | <b>LEI Summer League 17 and Presentation Evening. Aylestone Meadows, Leicester. LE2 8LA SK573014, Canal Street car park. See LEIOC website for presentation details.</b> |
| 21st                     | DEE<br>NWOA<br>Major A             | British Sprint Relay Championships. Skelmersdale.                                                                                                                        |
| 22nd                     | DEE<br>NWOA<br>Major A             | British Sprint Championships (UKOL). Skelmersdale.                                                                                                                       |
| 28th/29th                | EBOR<br>YHOA<br>National B         | White Rose Orienteering Weekend, Gulling Woods, Helmsley.                                                                                                                |
| <b>September 2021</b>    |                                    |                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 4th                      | SLOW<br>SEOA                       | City of London Race. Kings College, London.                                                                                                                              |
| 11th                     | SMOC<br>EAOA<br>Regional C         | Milton Keynes Summer Urban, Great Linford Memorial Hall, Great Linford, Milton Keynes. Mk14 5AX                                                                          |
| 12th                     | NOC<br>EMOA<br>Regional C          | East Midlands Sprint Championships 2021. Top Valley, Nottingham.                                                                                                         |
| 12th                     | SWOC<br>WOA<br>National B          | SWOC Welsh Orienteering Championships, Merthyr Common, Trefil. NP22 4ET SO119131                                                                                         |
| 18th                     | WIM<br>SWOA<br>National B          | Caddihoe Day 1 (UKOL) Godshill, New Forest, Fordingbridge. SP6 2LL SU176149. No dogs.                                                                                    |
| <b>19th</b>              | <b>LEI<br/>EMOA<br/>Regional C</b> | <b>EM Urban League 2021. Burbage Village, Hinckley.</b>                                                                                                                  |
| 19th                     | WIM<br>SWOA<br>National B          | Caddihoe Day 2 (UKOL) Hampton Ridge, New Forest, Fordingbridge. SP6 2LL SU176149                                                                                         |

## September 2021 Cont.

|      |                            |                                                                                                              |
|------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 25th | CLOK<br>NEOA<br>National B | Junior Inter Regional Championships Long Distance and October Odyssey. South Gare, Redcar. TS10 5BE NZ574256 |
| 26th | CLOK<br>NEOA<br>National B | Junior Inter Regional Championships Long Distance and October Odyssey. Eston Moor, Eston. TS6 0QA NZ553171   |
| 26th | DVO<br>EMOA<br>Regional C  | East Midlands League 2021 Kedleston Hall, Derby. DE22 5JH SK305412                                           |
| 26th | TVOC<br>SCOA               | TVOC Urban Regional Event, Witney. OX28 6FQ                                                                  |

## October 2021

|      |                              |                                                                                                    |
|------|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2nd  | DEVON<br>SWOA<br>Major A     | British Orienteering Championships (UKOL)<br>Braunton Burrows, Barnstaple                          |
| 3rd  | LEI<br>EMOA<br>Regional C    | <b>EM Urban League 2021 Shepshed, Loughborough.</b>                                                |
| 3rd  | BOK<br>SWOA<br>National B    | British Orienteering Championships weekend supporting event (UKOL)<br>Braunton Burrows, Barnstaple |
| 9th  | National B                   | British Schools Score Championships. Venue: TBC                                                    |
| 9th  | WAOC<br>EAOA<br>Regional C   | Bush Heath (UKOL), Bush Heath, Thetford. IP28 7JD                                                  |
| 9th  | SLOW<br>SEOA<br>National B   | Junior Home Internationals Individual, Hindhead, Haslemere.                                        |
| 10th | SUFFOC<br>EAOA<br>Regional C | Bury St. Edmunds (UKOL), Bury St. Edmunds IP33 1XL TL856643                                        |
| 10th | SLOW<br>SEOA                 | Junior Home Internationals Relays, Hankley, Haslemere.                                             |

| <b>October 2021 Cont.</b> |                                    |                                                                                                   |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10th                      | LOG<br>EMOA<br>Regional C          | EM Urban League 2021. Venue: TBC                                                                  |
| 10th                      | DEE<br>NWOA<br>National B          | DEE Urban Weekend Northwich Urban Race (UKUL), Northwich town centre, Northwich. CW9 5QJ SJ659738 |
| 17th                      | <b>OD<br/>WMOA<br/>Major A</b>     | <b>CompassSport Cup Final for 2020, Sutton Park, Birmingham.</b>                                  |
| 30th                      | EAOA<br>Regional C                 | Cambridge City Race. Cambridge.                                                                   |
| <b>November 2021</b>      |                                    |                                                                                                   |
| 6th                       | SARUM<br>SWOA<br>National B        | Salisbury City Race, Salisbury. (UKOL).                                                           |
| 7th                       | SOC<br>SWOA<br>National B          | November Classic (UKOL)                                                                           |
| 14th                      | <b>LEI<br/>EMOA<br/>Regional C</b> | <b>East Midlands League 2021. Booththorpe and Hanging Hill, Ashby de la Zouch.</b>                |
| 21st                      | HH<br>SEOA<br>National B           | British Schools Orienteering Championships. Stowe Park, Buckingham.                               |
| 27th                      | NGOC<br>SWOA<br>Major A            | British Night Championships (UKOL) - Provisional date.                                            |
| 28th                      | DVO<br>EMOA<br>Regional C          | East Midlands League 2021. Hardwick Park, Chesterfield. S44 5QL SK463637                          |
| <b>December 2021</b>      |                                    |                                                                                                   |
| 12th                      | <b>LEI<br/>EMOA<br/>Regional C</b> | <b>East Midlands League 2021. Cademan and Thringstone Woods, Shepshed.</b>                        |

**Not all those who wander are lost. J.R.R. Tolkien**

# Photo Gallery: Cambridge City Race 26th October 2019



Jane

Jessica



*Photos by Steve Rush*

