

# LEI News

editor - john cooke

The Newsletter of the Leicestershire Orienteering Club

## Ramblings from the Chair



The end of another Summer League, which means another summer is over. No that the weather has been very summer like. I distinctly remember getting very wet at several events this year. One of my travelling companions came up with a measure of wetness – how much water he could wring out of his underwear! Congratulations to Peter Hornsby as the overall winner, Alison Hardy as the highest placed woman, James Hornsby as the Junior winner, Dominic Leake as the Under 14 Junior and Roger Phillips for the best score before handicapping.

The end of the summer means that we return to the more demanding business of District and Regional Events. The programme through the autumn and winter has two areas that will be new to

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**Copy date  
for next issue  
15th January**

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many people, Charnwood Forest South and Lount. Both areas contain pockets of woodland we have used before but with the addition of new areas. Charnwood Forest South will be the venue for the Club Championships and the National Forest Trophy Competition. The Winter League will also be running again this year in a new extended form.

The club's 2007/2008 financial year has just ended and we find ourselves in the strongest position for several years. With the addition of a grant from a third party funder we have enough monies to be able to purchase sufficient SI equipment to run our C5 events without having to rely on the EMOA pool. The EMOA pool of SI equipment is a great thing but it does mean an event organiser having to trek round the region to pick up the kit. Having our own equipment for small events will mean a saving in cost and organiser time. We

are still short of "dibbers for hire" Please see the Dibber Exchange Advert below.

Two important dates for your Diary. The club's Annual General Meeting will be take place on 27<sup>th</sup> October at Forest Hill Golf Club. I would like to extend a special invitation to our newer members to attend. You will be given a warm welcome and I promise that you will not be given a job to do (unless you want to volunteer!). The second date is for our Annual Dinner and Presentation Evening. Again the venue is Forest Hill and the date is Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December.

Finally welcome back to our President Ernie Williams who has been out of action for several weeks after some intensive surgery. Good to see you in robust health once again.

*Chris Phillips*

## Club News

### Dibber Exchange

Are you thinking about changing your old SI Dibber to one of the new super fast Type 6? The club are looking to acquire a supply of dibbers to hire at events. So if you are thinking that high speed dibbing is on your agenda for this winter then the club will offer you £10 for your old dibber. Please contact either Chris Phillips or Roger Edwards.

### British Middle Distance Championships

**10<sup>th</sup> May 2009**

Preparations are well under way for next year's Championship at Cademan and Thringstone Woods. Entries will be opening later this Autumn. If you are a club member, able to help at the event and want to run at the event please **do not** enter via the online entry system. Members are asked to contact Chris Phillips, the event Organiser, for entry information.

# Club News

The AGM of the Leicestershire Orienteering Club will be held on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2008, commencing at 7.30pm. The venue is the Forest Hill Golf Club, Desford (SK482058)

## Agenda AGM 2008

- 1 Apologies for absence
- 2 Declaration of membership numbers
- 3 Approval and signing of minutes of last annual general meeting
- 4 Matters arising from those minutes
- 5 Chairman's Report on past year
- 6 Matters arising from Chairman's Report
- 7 Treasurers report and budget projections for coming year
- 8 Matters arising from Treasurers Report
- 9 Independent Financial Examiners Report
- 10 Approval of Accounts
- 11 Club Membership Fees for coming year.
- 12 President's remarks and election of Chairman
- 13 (New) Chairman's address and plans for coming year
- 14 Election of other Principal Officers (Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer )
- 15 Election of Committee
- 16 Election / adoption of Independent Financial examiner
- 17 Election of President, Honorary Members

The meeting will be followed by an open forum with light refreshments provided

**Good advice is something a man gives when he is too old to set a bad example.**

**Francois de La Rochefoucauld (1613 - 1680)**

# Treasurer's report 2007/8



The turnover through the club accounts has increased considerably this year, to about £8k. This is as result of our involvement in providing maps for 13 schools (paid for by external funders) and three city parks plus the major development of Permanent Orienteering Courses (POCs) in the National Forest. We have also purchased the new club kit and many club members have now bought the new style top.

The bottom line shows a surplus of over £550 which is due to many factors. Our successful regional event at Wakerley contributed a lot. We were successful in gaining one off grants which we have used to buy loan compasses, SI kit and pay for some schools mapping. Unaudited draft accounts for 2007/8 are shown below:

<b>Income</b>		<b>Expenditure</b>	
Membership Fees	360	Committee Expenses	500
Surplus from events	3730	Newsletter	460
Club shop	800	Publicity	50
Corporate event	270	Mapping expenses	550
Permanent Courses	330	Schools/POC Mapping	1940
Commissioned mapping	1500	Laser printing	1010
Interest received	430	Software	510
Grants & Gifts	<u>1500</u>	Event Equipment	560
		Depreciation	600
		Training Expenses	350
		Permanent Courses	250
		Trophies	70
		Subsidy on Club kit	660
		Purchase of stock	<u>860</u>
Total Income	8920	Expenditure Total	8370

There were extra expenses in the year in preparation for the 2009 British Middle Distance Championships at Coalville and these have been carried forward to be included in the event accounts.

The Committee's proposed budget forecasts for 2008/09 a loss but includes buying more SI kit sufficient to run a summer league event and this is on order. Once delivered the club will take

out insurance on this equipment. Members are reminded that the cover will apply in one's home and in the car on the way to the event, but not overnight storage in your car nor in the woods overnight. We also have to pay out for mapping connected with promoting the Compasssport Cup final in October 2009 and the Midland Championships at Belvoir in March 2010 but we won't have any income until the following year.

Of course some additional details will be given at the AGM.

The Club Committee agreed to make use of internet banking to pay suppliers and club members. We took this opportunity to raise the single signatory cheque signing level from £200 to £500. The standing orders have been varied accordingly. With the increase in fuel

costs we also approved two increases in the mileage rate paid to volunteers to cover their expenses.

### **Club subscriptions**

British Orienteering requires early notification of club subscription levels so the 2009 rates were set in 2007. The AGM will agree the rates for 2010 and your committee proposes no changes. ie

Senior & Family & Corresponding member £4 Junior £1 Group £10

All members pay a subscription to British Orienteering but the offer of one year's free BOF membership is still open to new local members. So invite your friends to join now.

*Roger Edwards*

## **Annual Awards Presentation Dinner**

The Annual Awards Presentation Dinner will take place once again at the Forest Hill Golf Club on Saturday 6th December 2008. The menu and application form should be included with this newsletter. Also, nearer the time, a form will appear on the website for those of you who prefer to use a mouse rather than a pen. In both cases the money will need to be paid either by cheque to Roy Denney or via bank transfer direct to the LEI bank account. Full details will be on the paper form and the web form.

## **Club Championships**

The 2008 Club Championships take place at the Charnwood Forest South Event on Sunday 12th October 2008. Men should run the Blue course and Women the Green course to qualify. The current Club Champions are Roger Edwards and Judith Holt

# LEI Club Development

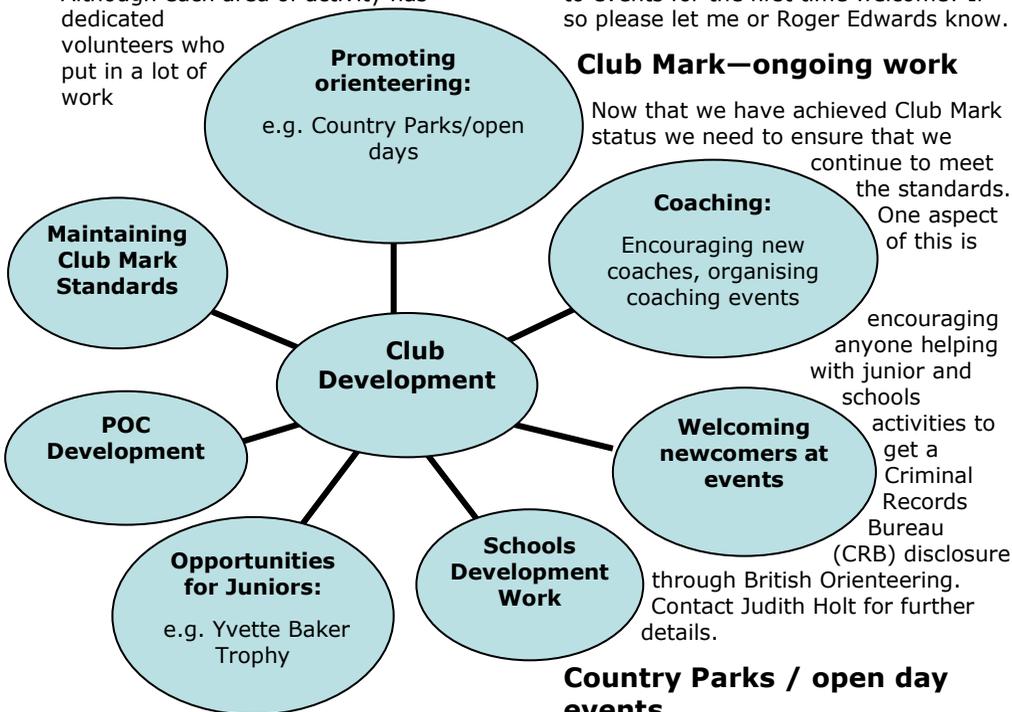


Club development depends on bringing together a lot of different activities each of which feed into the other. As time goes on we have more focus on some areas than others. Some 'investments' are much longer term than others.

Although each area of activity has dedicated volunteers who put in a lot of work

orienteeing to a newcomer? Could you come to a country park event for an hour or two?

Could you pass information on events on to a contact at your local school? Do you have other ideas for raising the profile of orienteeing and making those who come to events for the first time welcome? If so please let me or Roger Edwards know.



## Club Mark—ongoing work

Now that we have achieved Club Mark status we need to ensure that we continue to meet the standards. One aspect of this is

## Country Parks / open day events

there are many opportunities to contribute through just an hour or two of your time. Could you start your run at the next local event half an hour later and spend that time explaining

This year the club has had a presence at (at least 5) events. The development group has reviewed our presence at these and concluded that we should

focus on offering introductory orienteering only at those very large events offering family activities - people come to these prepared to 'have a go' at things. At other events we will consider providing an information board with Permanent Course Maps if relevant. This will focus our limited number of volunteers on the events where we are most likely to attract new recruits. The most important aspect is talking to people to explain the sport and provide a friendly introduction to the club. If you think you could do an hour or two of this once or twice a year please let me know.

## Coaching

Four club members attended a level one coaching course in June. They are now going through the process of being assessed so that they can run introductory sessions on safe enclosed areas such as school grounds.

We plan to have a Club Coaching day in the Lakes next spring, keep the weekend of April 18th/19th clear for this.

## Leicester-Shire & Rutland Sport Competition Board

Our schools work has been a major activity this year (*see following article - ed.*). The competitions board promotes sport through 'Celebration events'. In previous years we have been able to nominate orienteers attending local schools for awards. This year there will be a Celebration Event for Athletics/Orienteering/Cross Country on 2nd July 2009. The club will be looking out for the best improved junior orienteers during the coming year to nominate for this event.

*Judith Holt*

## Schools Development

The past year has been one where some School partnerships have been trying out orienteering. As reported in the May



edition, there were two main events: the series of inter-school sprint competitions between the Oadby & Wigston

High schools and the Primary school festival at Ratby Woodland in May plus a first evening sprint competition at Anstey Martin High school in July.

The forthcoming year marks a steps change in this with the first County Schools' championships scheduled for the last week in June. The Club will promote this event to ensure courses are of the required standard and appropriate safety measures are considered.

Although the event is open for years 5-13, the initial focus will be the later years from the County primary schools and early years from secondary schools. Schools will be invited to compete after holding a partnership festival or selection event. These events will be lead by the County Competition Managers. Kim Lillie based at Longfield, Melton is now the Manager specialising in Orienteering. The county championship will be organised along the lines of the British Schools Championships with White courses for 9 to 11 years old and Yellow for 11 to 13 years old. An Orange course will also be offered to the oldest competitors.

The intention is in future years to build on this and increase the numbers of competitors and the age ranges. We may even match the opportunities for cross-country runners by holding an East

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## Junior Section



This is a new section aimed at the Junior members of the club which we hope to make a regular feature of the newsletter. Some suggestions for content include:

News from schools: information about schools events coming up (BSSC & BSOC)

Future junior coaching sessions

News about how juniors are doing in particular competitions

Fun/games e.g. crossword, word search and something to test orienteering knowledge

Coaching tips

Did you know—what happens behind the scenes in an orienteering club

If anyone, particularly Juniors, would like to contribute anything at all for this section please send it, preferably in electronic format by email (I can cope with paper copy if necessary), to the Newsletter Editor—contact details on page 3—*ed*.

### **Mairead Roche selected for Junior Squad and EYOC**

Mairead has been selected for the British Orienteering Junior Squad and for the European Youth Orienteering Championships taking place in Switzerland between the 9th & 12th October 2008.

### **Yvette Baker Trophy**

- ◆ What: inter club junior competition
- ◆ Who: and club junior or pupil of a school with a formal link to the club
- ◆ When: Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> November
- ◆ Courses: Yellow, Orange, Light Green, Green
- ◆ pairs can compete on the yellow course
- ◆ 9 people to score

If you are available to run please contact Judith Holt. If you would like a late start (up to 1.00pm) because you are involved in cubs/scouts remembrance day parade please contact Chris Phillips.

We hope to have team T-shirts available at a very modest price.

### **Junior Champion T shirts**

The club has purchased a number of T-shirts with Junior Champion emblazoned on the back. These are intended for the Junior winners of various competitions. The first 2 were presented to James Hornsby and Dominic Leake for winning the Junior and Junior under 14 classes of the 2008 Summer League. The T-shirts were presented after the last Summer League event at Sence Valley.



## *Junior Interregional Championships 2008 -NEOA – 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> June 2008*



On the last weekend in June a not quite complete team of 21 people from East Midlands travelled up to the JIRCs near Richmond in the north east of England. After a smooth journey up north we arrived at Feldom Ranges, a large open area with small patches of thick trees.

The courses were not incredibly technically difficult but fast running was essential to do well, with the fastest times being 5.7 minutes/km. Luckily the weather stayed dry, although we did have fun trying to put up an old canvas tent in the wind! East Midlands had two finishers to count in each class. Among the 208 competitors, our top ten positions were Peter Hodgkinson (NOC) 2<sup>nd</sup> and Ben Windsor (LEI) 3<sup>rd</sup> on M18, Mairead Roche (LEI) 4<sup>th</sup> and Laura Evans (NOC) 10<sup>th</sup> on W18, Fiona Claxton (NOC) 3<sup>d</sup> on W16, and Harriett Lawson (DVO) 7<sup>th</sup> on W14.

After everybody had finished we got back into our two minibuses and a car and drove to Richmond where the overnight accommodation was. Since there were no showers there, the swimming pool in the leisure centre across the road had been hired for us, so after a rather exhausting run we also got to go swimming! At the

accommodation we had 23 of us sleeping in one classroom which was a bit tight! During the evening some people played Frisbee outside and some relaxed in the room. Our Frisbee broke and ended up taped together with as much tape as plastic! Dinner was at 6pm for us, with plates of chicken korma



and rice with lovely cakes afterwards.

We then had a team meeting to announce the relay teams for Sunday and do some team stretching. Imagine a classroom of people all lying on the floor with one leg in the air, or all standing up looking like ballet dancers, it was quite amusing. And we finished with spin around as many times as you can on the spot, then sit down and pretend to drive a plane – you fall over even when you're sitting on the floor!

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Next was the prize giving in the main school hall where medals were given to the top three on each course and the individual team results were announced. With much



enthusiastic cheering from each squad as they were announced, with East Midlands in 4<sup>th</sup> place, and North West winning the individual event by just 3 points from Scotland. There were also some unexpected prizes for three people who had attended 6 JIRC's and this was there last one, including Matthew Wallace (NOC).

Now chaos! Everybody tried to return their chairs simultaneously from the hall, then everyone tried to cram into the dining hall to make sandwiches for Sunday. But we all got food in the end. Janet went shopping when we realised the amount of food we were getting at dinner so there were bananas and biscuits and chocolate-spreaded bread in the room too! Then a bit more time to relax (or play Frisbee) and lights out at 10.30.

Sunday morning was a fairly early start before seven so that we were packed up and fed by 8 to leave for the relays. After an

hour along the A66 we arrived at Rossmede army base near Warcop, the first time it had been used for a non-army orienteering event. Despite being a smaller area than Saturday, it was just as fast, being mostly open with some small areas of trees. Courses had quite a lot of climb for the distance – there were a couple of round or over route choices. There were men dressed in army camouflage walking around and training: we were told to ignore them if they shouted at us, but stop if they threatened to shoot us!

The mass starts at 10am for male and 10.10am for female were both exciting to watch, and the commentary at the spectator control kept us on our toes as to who was going to win right the way through. The relays were in the order 16, 14, 18, with the 16 and 18 legs being gaffled, perhaps causing people confusion coming out of the



mass start!

For two of our ladies teams everything looked fantastic as Fiona Claxton (NOC) and Jenny Evans (NOC) came in 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> after the first leg. When the leg 2 runners came in

things looked slightly worse, as 2<sup>nd</sup> dropped to 7<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> dropped to 11<sup>th</sup> position of the 28 teams competing. However, Mairead Roche (LEI) recovered one team up to an excellent 5<sup>th</sup> overall position after leg 3, while the other one dropped one more position. The third team finished 26<sup>th</sup>. For our men's teams things were a bit disappointing, finishing 16<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, and 21<sup>st</sup> of 30 teams, since to do well we had to be strong in every age group. The best men's place gain was by James Taylor (NOC) who made up 5 positions leg 3 to finish 16<sup>th</sup>.



*Start of the Women's Relay*

When all runners had finished it was time for the results to be announced and overall prize giving for the JIRC's. East Midlands women came 4<sup>th</sup> and men 7<sup>th</sup> out of the 12 regions, and so EMOA came 4<sup>th</sup> on the relay overall. North West won the relays by 6 points from Scotland, maintaining their first position from Saturday.

Finally the complete JIRC results were announced. East Midlands had finished comfortably in fourth overall, one of the best ever results, but not quite up to last year's third! This year's winners were North West, followed by Scotland then Yorkshire &

Humberside in third.

We departed fairly quickly just after 12 for our journey home. Across to Scotch Corner was a clean drive, and we stopped at the



*Start of the Men's Relay*

services for the fat people to go to Burger King. A short was down the A1 we got a phone call from the other bus saying they were caught in an almost stationary traffic jam further south. However, our fantastic organisation did not include bringing a road atlas in the minibus with us. So we got



*The lorry drivers were scared*

caught in the traffic. We considered running along the side of the motorway would be quicker, but then decided there were more fun things to do in a traffic jam (see the photo). After a few rather useless phone

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calls to people who did have maps and another half hour in the jam, we managed to make our way across to Leeds and the M1 along other roads, and finally back to Nottingham after 5 hours!

Overall a successful weekend enjoyed by everybody, and particularly it being only my second but final JIRCs, I definitely had fun!

Finally, thank you to all the coaches and East Midlands Orienteering Association for organising everything and for the coaching throughout the year.

*Ben Windsor*

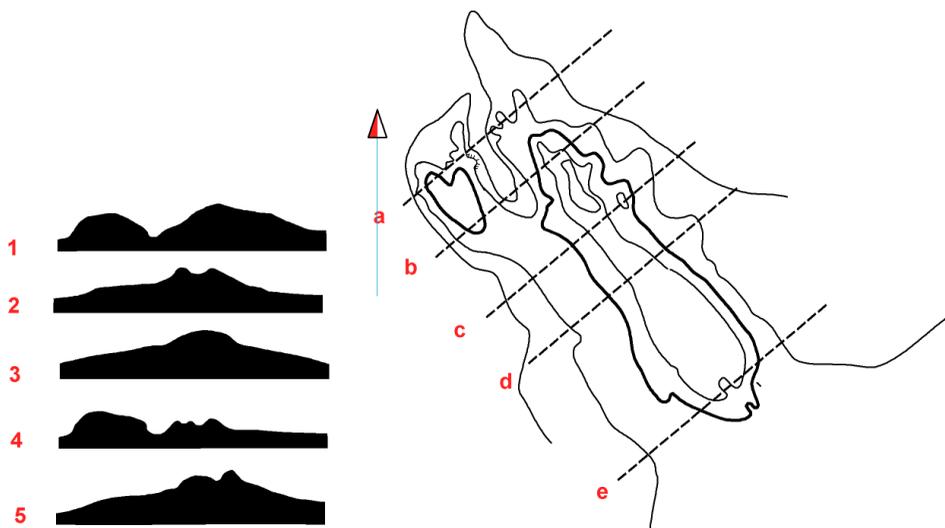
*(This article can also be viewed on the LEIOC website at <http://www.leioc.org.uk> with additional photographs in full colour—ed.)*

## Brain teaser

How well do you understand contours?

Have a look at the contour detail shown in the portion of map below (taken from the Altar Stones map). Imagine that the land has been sliced through by the dotted lines. Which of the profiles '1' to '5' matches the slices taken at points 'a' to 'e'? Fill in the grid with your answers. No prizes, just for fun, the answers are on the inside back cover (seniors might find this a

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	



# Website News



Since the beginning of May this year I have been monitoring the numbers of visitors to the LEIOC website courtesy of "statcounter.com". The results for the four months of May, June, July and August are shown in the graph below. The graph shows the following categories of visitor week by week:

I hope to have news of which pages are the most popular in the next edition of LEI News. Some more work is required to achieve this but so far it looks as if the home page is the most popular page (not surprisingly) followed by the Fixtures and results pages. The largest number of page loads are in the weeks before and

after the Burbage Common District event on 15th June with the largest daily totals being on the Sunday (15th) and Monday (16th).

*Page Load* - The number of times the page has been visited.

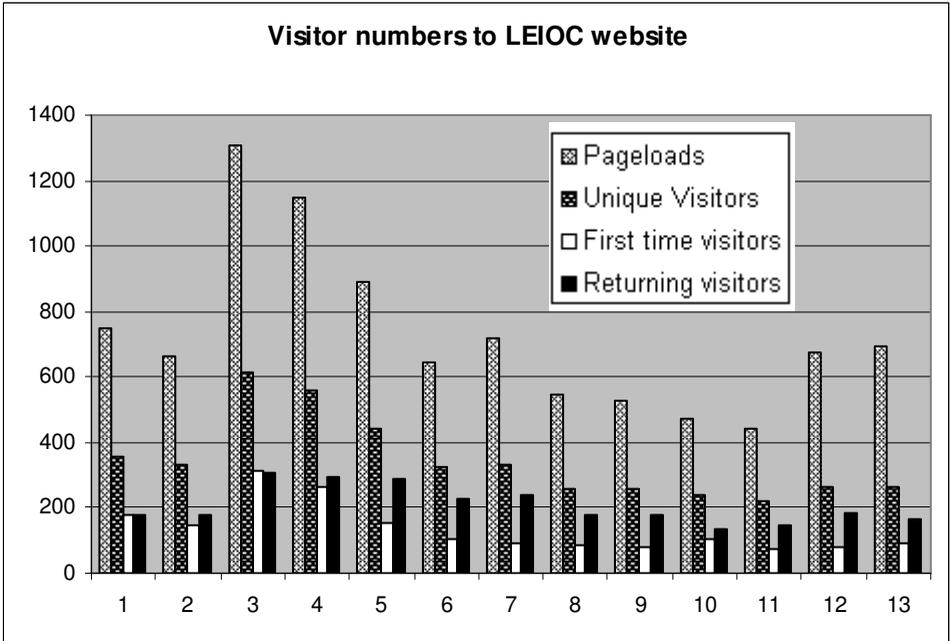
*First Time Visitors* - Self explanatory.

*Returning Visitors* - Someone returning to the website for another visit an hour or more after a previous visit.

*Unique Visitor* - This is the total of the returning visitors and first time visitors.

*(Whilst the total page loads should be accurate the other figures are not necessarily so accurate as they rely on the presence (or not) of cookies*

Visitor numbers to LEIOC website



# The Retired Man Chronicles the Next Instalment



Retired Man has been very busy with the job of Permanent Course Co-ordinator, which has involved many hours of work at the computer (in dressing gown) and lots of half days on site (thankfully not in dressing gown). This has resulted in the much improved & extended details of permanent courses on the LEI web site & a raising of the world record for '*still being in your dressing gown*' to 4.30 pm. However, having realised I was recording the times, & being inspired by the British success at the Beijing Olympics, Retired Man has threatened, but not yet carried out, the ultimate challenge of being in dressing gown all day until bed time.

Whilst on the computer he has caught E Bay Disease, and has been bidding for all sorts of 'boys toys', no not naughty things, DIY/ electronics type things, but I do wish he wouldn't use 'the Pinger' on the cooker to time the end for bids, when I'm baking Sticky Date Cakes !!

One of the new toys is a router, a sort of wood engraver, for marking permanent control posts. It was like watching a small boy with his new birthday present as little wood shavings piled up on the patio and a wooden post was routed and painted with 20 year old red paint from the bowels of the garage. Retired Man carries the post onto the lawn, supporting it with bricks at the base, so that it makes a picturesque photo on the beautiful lawn. The photo is to send to

Roger E. to justify the expense of the new toy. On closer inspection, I discover the post now has been routed with the letter R 'Is this R for Roger?', no reply., Router? Red? Redundant? Retired man!

The lawn has been the outside project for Retired Man this year and for most of the summer has had ugly brown black patches where he has been waging war on buttercups and daisies;-it has been worth it, for now in Sept, we have a luxurious green lawn. I must warn the mole that lives near the runner beans, of impending doom should it stray and put up molehills on Retired Man's lawn.

Inside projects have included making a receiver for radio orienteering from plastic plumbing pipes and metal tape measures (& of course electronic bits) Have you seen that TV programme 'Scrap Heap Challenge'? 'Yes, Treasure, it's the best receiver I've ever seen' yawn...Captain Bob has whisked him off radio orienteering which he has enjoyed but has found somewhat frustrating. Be warned, John is getting ready for the Night 'O' season with the purchase of a powerful LED torch. This is another new toy which I have had to admire 'Yes Dear, It's a wonderful torch' yawn

A squeal from the bathroom and 'Quick, get me my new torch' I find Retired Man unable to move, fearful of treading on his contact lens. Torch in hand & on all fours I carefully scour the bathroom floor. 'Wait, I can feel something on my face'

I've heard of lost things being 'under your nose', but this particular contact lens was stuck **on** Retired Man's nose.

Retired Man has also been carrying out projects on behalf of other orienteers. The first was inspired by his Scottish 'O' trip with Andy Middleton to BOC 2008 Culbin Forest and was an investigation into porage oats, Quaker oats, Scotts Oats, Tesco Oats, Co op Oats...The winner was Scotts; but. why don't men believe in reading instructions?? -not all oats are the same, some need less liquid, less time in the microwave and a much deeper cooking bowl. Porage oats are not the easiest material to remove from microwave walls.

His trip to a wet Wales in August gave rise to a tastier investigation into barbeques & steak. The original delicious meat emanated from the Asda at Merthyr Tydfil. John had to forego the delights of the Watermead summer league event to selflessly carry out another barbeque-steak test, the meat had reached its use by date & this was the first rain-free evening for days! Of course missing a summer league event also meant missing out on ten attendance points reference 'How to improve your score in the Summer League' a two page article by Mark Foxwell in Lei News. Silly me, I thought you just had to

1. run faster and 2. don't get lost.

The Club shop has been to Introducing

Orienteering events over the summer. The sweets & pop have attracted the children and then we have been persuading them & their parents to try orienteering. The events were at Burbage, Snibston, Sence Valley & Watermead. If you are a newcomer reading this drivel, welcome and don't forget to visit the club shop & ask if you need any more information or help: I might not have the answer but I know a man/woman who does.



A big thank you to all those involved in these promotional events, I now know why Roger Kelly string courses are not suitable for adults, there's a lot of grovelling through child-size tunnels in the undergrowth. Ursula & Roger W. have been a tremendous help. Roger W. was demonstrating his skills with his new mobility scooter it even has warning beeps for 'this vehicle is reversing'. It seems to me that Roger is a universal orienteering name Roger E. & Roger P are two more how do Roger Hornsby, Roger Foxwell, Roger Cooke, Roger Bradley

sound ?? This reminds me of the Monty Python sketch where they are all called Bruce, but we will have to rename the women as Sheilas.

Enough rubbish, I'm off to talk with the Directors & Producers of The Boy in Striped Pyjamas and Men in Black who are considering a merged version called The Man in the Black Dressing Gown.

*Irene 'Sheila' Marriott*

## Permanent Orienteering Course Development

### Background



LEIOC has had a number of permanent orienteering courses (POCs), some of which date back many years, and whose origins seem to be lost in the mists of time. These include Burbage, Martinshaw, Wakerley and East Carlton Park. More recently, POCS have been introduced at some of the newer orienteering venues, including Fosse Meadows and Brocks Hill. Unfortunately, over time some posts have gone missing or have been vandalised. Woods and maps have also changed and the position a year ago was that the only usable courses were at Wakerley, Brocks Hill and Watermead.

In order to use a permanent course you need a map and some control descriptions. Some locations have a Visitor Centre and the club typically entered into an arrangement where it sold bulk packs to the VC and they then sold the packs to the public at a slightly higher price, providing some income to cover handling costs. This worked well at Brocks Hill which is open 7 days a week throughout the year but was not so effective at other venues where the Visitor Centre had more restricted opening hours. In the case of Wakerley, the Visitor Centre was at Fineshade; reasonably close, but not on-site.

Many POC locations are managed by local authorities and in some cases arrangements were made with them to sell map packs from their offices. How well this worked in practice depended to some extent on the authority. At other

locations, such as Watermead, the club sent map packs out by post on request in exchange for a cheque. All rather slow and messy and not particularly convenient for the club or the user.

### New courses

One of the aims of the Club's development programme was to increase in the number of POCs around the county. Typically POC courses would offer 2 or 3 courses ranging from Yellow to Light Green or Green. It was felt that there was a need to offer something similar to a White course for beginners and to have additional posts to facilitate simple training exercises for schools and other groups. These typically involve Star (out and back) exercises and Loops (visiting a small group of posts and returning to the start).

In 2007 the National Forest Company offered funding to develop some new courses in the Forest by April 2008. As is normal with such funding, it came with a requirement to provide match funding from other sources. With the help of the County Council, the Woodland Trust, the Forestry Commission and members of LEIOC new courses were planned and installed by the deadline. Particular credit must go to Roy Denney who overcame the many considerable difficulties that seem inevitable with such arrangements. As a result of the National Forest funding there are now new courses at Beacon, Martinshaw and Sence Valley and the courses at Snibston and Donisthorpe will be completed soon after some final checking.

Some POCs outside the the National

Forest have also been created or updated. These include Evington Arboretum and Abbey Park. Hinckley and Bosworth council have also put in new posts at Burbage to create 3 courses and these should be operational by the time you read this.

## **Computer wizardry**

The maps for all courses are now created in OCAD and wherever space permits control description are included on the map. The map files are then turned into pdf files so that they can be printed out easily, preferably on a laser colour printer. I have also created a "Control Card" which people can use to write down check letters. It will be quite some time before SI type technology gets to POCS!

The club has been considering offering POC maps to download from the internet but it was known that the Ordnance Survey had rules regarding the maximum size of any maps based on OS material that could be displayed or downloaded. OS base maps are sometimes used to get the initial shape of a new area and they can be used for contours but the vast majority of the O-map content comes from other sources.

One day I trawled through all the 200 + POC locations listed on the BOF website and discovered that some clubs were offering map downloads, including Hampstead Heath and some in Dorset. Earlier this year the club decided that the loss of income that we would suffer by offering POC packs as a free download would be small compared with the potential to increase awareness and hopefully participation. Ideally, income from participation would more than offset the loss of income from map sales and might lead to increased membership, with further benefits.

To overcome any possible concerns that might arise regarding the downloading of maps with some OS content, we decided that maps would only be sent as email attachments. Our web wizard, John Cooke, came up with a process that required people to supply an email address. It then assembles the requested courses and other information into a zip file and sends it out - all automagically. In order to assist us with planning new courses and to understand what the existing courses were being used for we asked people to supply some additional information, although this was not essential. John has also added a feedback form so people can let us know if anything requires some attention.

There are now 9 locations with downloadable maps. The location of all courses, including those being planned, can now be seen on a Google Map on the website. Roger Edwards has also increased publicity through his schools newsletters, on-site publicity leaflets and other activities. The demand is now very much higher than it was 6 months ago and I expect it to continue to grow as word spreads and other sites are added.

## **Where to next – Adopt a POC**

One thing that is apparent is that POCs need quite a bit of setting up and ongoing maintenance can be a problem in some areas. I am looking for volunteers to "Adopt a POC". If you live near a POC, or go to areas with a POC, would you be willing to check it out from time to time to see if everything is OK. Some areas might need to be checked more often than others and if several people volunteer to adopt the same POC I am sure we can come to some arrangement. No fights please.

*John Marriott*

## Summer Fairs 2008 – String Courses



LEIOC provided string courses at 4 fairs this Summer. Two of the fairs were very successful and

two were disappointing in terms of the number of participants.

The attendance at each is shown in the box alongside.

Burbage	175
Snibston	20
Sence Valley	20
Watermead	120

The format for each event was similar. There was a string course (or 2) and introductory training courses.

At Burbage Common, the string course registration was in one of the 3 marquees next to a specially provided door which gave good access to the usual copse. From this door there was also a good view of the registration for the introductory courses which was about 100 metres away near some woods.

At Snibston, the introductory courses were part of a Club Summer League event. The registrations were both in gazebos, about 10 metres apart. The weather was poor with both rain and wind to contend with.

At Sence Valley, the gazebo was again used for the string course and the Club tent was put adjacent to it with the intention of having internal communication, but the wind was too strong to allow this.

At Watermead, the gazebo and the club tent were again adjacent. There was no wind in the morning so the gazebo was

used with no sides and both doors of the club tent were open. Both registrations were in the gazebo and Irene's refreshments were in the tent. With fine weather both the high display and the low display boards were outside.

The string courses used were similar to those used last year. At Burbage, 2 courses, short and long, were provided. Courses at Burbage meander through the copse and back so they tend not to follow the previous year's course exactly, but who knows. The long courses take off to the next copse where more variation is possible. While I prefer to check before the day and possibly lay some of the string, no other preparation was needed.

Snibston was being used for the first time, so it needed careful surveying. The main problem was finding a way across fences. Some brambles and nettles needed clearing. A single course was provided, this went from the Centre up to the top of the hill through various bits of wood and then back down again.

For Sence Valley, we were able to go through the wood next to the car park and then up the hill through the woods to the small pine trees along a few metres, down and back through the wood we started from. There was very little evidence of the route prepared last year and much of the course had a scattered nettles to be cleared, but on one stretch they were a bit thicker. Another problem at Sence Valley is the deep ditches which have sides which are a bit steep for the very young. Steps

were cut to help them climb in and out of the ditches, but they tended not to be used.

At Watermead, we put out 2 courses along routes very much the same as last year. In fact I changed the pictures just to make sure no one thought it was identical to last year. As last year considerable preparation was needed for the long course. Where this course left the field to enter the wood, a path was cut through about 5 metres of nettles



and going up the bank towards the Mammoth about 10 metres of path through brambles were re-opened. (As last year, the blackberries were magnificent.)

The success of Burbage and Watermead in attracting a large number of participants justifies the effort put into these events. There is a problem converting these participants into Club members, but at least they know that part of the excitement of orienteering is traversing difficult terrain – something they might not realise while learning to navigate on White courses or at school.

These 2 skills will be brought together when they reach more difficult courses such as Green. The enthusiasm with which some children want to run the string courses again and again stretches the integrity of those on string course registration who know the rule is that after running each string course once, participants are to be passed on to introductory course registration. Some of the disappointing numbers at Snibston and Sence Valley can be blamed on the weather, but the weather was not that bad.

Clearly these events have not been successful in exciting large numbers of children.

A big thank you to all the people who helped

with these string courses, in particular to Ursula and Irene for their work on registration. Without them, the result would have been complete chaos and we would have lost many children through long queues – the hours were long, but the joy of the children made up for it. Just as necessary were the people who helped put the courses out and get them back in.

*Roger Kelly*

## Spotlight on Rutland and the Borderlands



On this occasion, as your Access Development Officer, I thought I would share my records with you on those areas south of Leicester where we are a bit thin on the ground. By this I mean the arc from Market Harborough to Corby and north into Rutland.

In addition to those mentioned we have considered others and discounted them for the foreseeable future in particular ones in Corby itself which we have explored with Corby Council but found unsuitable for various reasons.

We have looked at Kings Wood, a local nature reserve surrounded by schools and this was perhaps the best of these prospects if it could have been mapped in conjunction with the campuses. We also looked at a woodland park with lake just by the Civic Centre but it came to nothing.

Within this area we have Wakerley and Fineshade, we did look at Collyweston Great Wood just behind Fineshade and we do have East Carlton Park and Burrough Hill but there is a glaring hole in the centre of Rutland where we cannot find anywhere to use.

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### **BROOKFIELD PLANTATION**

At 500 acres or thereabouts this remnant of the Rockingham Forest has been eaten into by urban, transport and industrial development.

It lies along the southern scarp edge of the River Welland Valley and separated by grasslands from Rockingham Castle and Park.

The provenance of this area is

problematical and early enquiries failed to ascertain who was responsible for it. Locals talk of informal access in the past but obvious entrances are now secured. It apparently has a diverse and successful ecology and has featured in numerous reports about the green infrastructure around Corby. From what can be deduced it seems to have good landforms with some history of quarrying and large redundant railway cuttings.

Given that we have numerous locations in the vicinity and that most Northamptonshire woodlands are very similar we have not pursued this possibility. If we lose any other areas in the district and have an influx of members living near enough to help service events there we may reconsider this prospect

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### **BURLEY ON THE HILL**

Overlooking Rutland water, this hill top woodland has been mapped but not used for many years. It has been through the hands of numerous owners some with fairly colourful reputations. Our last map was drawn in 1979 and will obviously have been overtaken by changes on the ground. There has been talk of residential development within the buildings and possible office accommodation but the present circumstances are not known. It is a target for re-activation and any information will be welcome.

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### **BURROUGH HILL**

Burrough is one of the best-preserved Iron Age forts in the country. The hill is

one of the highest points in Leicestershire, reaching 210m (690 feet). A toposcope at the site indicates landmarks that can be seen from the summit. The 35-hectare site is owned by the Ernest Cook Trust and leased to Leicestershire County Council and for our purposes is mapped together with other parts of the Trust's woodlands.

Burrough Hill lies on the western edge of the uplands in the east of Leicestershire and the land falls away by almost 350 feet to the south-west and commands a wide view of the Wreake valley. The mixed vegetation including mature woodlands, some newer plantations, pastureland with copses of gorse and open rough grassland combined with the inevitable amount of climb can make this a challenging area.

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## **EAST CARLTON PARK**

East Carlton Countryside Park is situated on the edge of the beautiful Welland Valley and is the walled estate of an old hall. The Heritage Centre is in the converted coach house and stables and houses a display featuring the history of Corby and the development of the iron and steel industry in the town.

There are numerous paths throughout the park, through fine mature woodland and grasslands. There are natural ponds which are being restored for use as fish hatcheries. They are fed by streams flowing down to the Welland.

Part of the Jurassic ironstone rock seam which extends from Dorset to Yorkshire and which accounts for the establishment of the local steel industry runs through the parkland.

Whilst small this area is quite intricate and we use it occasionally for small

training events. There is a permanent orienteering course there.

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## **FINESHADE**

Fineshade is going through a period of considerable change. The alterations reflect much improvement work being done by the Forestry Commission under its Ancient Woodland Project. These woodlands are within the old Rockingham Forest area, named about 900 years ago by the Norman Kings who hunted there. There are miles of continuous woodlands in the area, many of which we have used, and this large block provides a haven for a healthy wildlife population including the magnificent recently reintroduced red kite. On a recent visit several types of deer, lizards, adders and numerous bird species were seen.

In medieval times this area was mostly pastureland. Westhay which is now part of the area we know as Fineshade was woodland way back but Fineshade itself was largely created by new plantings by the Forestry Commission in the early 20th century. This is slowly being removed and replaced with often self-regenerating native species.

Most of the forest lies over boulder clay making it largely unsuitable for agriculture which probably accounts for its survival. Even today Forest Enterprise has abandoned attempts to grow commercial conifers due to the waterlogged soils which we are all too familiar with.

Fineshade and the nearby Wakerley Great Wood make up a sizeable chunk of near continuous woodland with a number of interesting landforms. Given the large area of woodland with fairly small gaps between individual woods a healthy wildlife population thrives from

the magnificent recently reintroduced red kite down to invertebrates and more unusual insects including many glow worms. There is evidence of medieval and roman iron smelting in the wood. Roman slag heaps still abound and can be seen in many fields in the area. Fallow deer abound in the woods and muntjacs are also there in considerable numbers.

Fineshade Wood is an ancient mixed broadleaf and conifer woodland with field maple or ash with a sprinkling of oak but there are rarer species about such as the chequer tree and small-leaved lime.

The wood is therefore deemed to contain rich semi-natural native woodland, as well as areas of conifers that are gradually being restored to site-native broadleaf woodland under the 'Ancient Woodland Project'. The wood was coppiced for many centuries, and the remnant coppice banks can still be seen. The coppice was used in the past for charcoal making.

Quite apart from being the home of the expanding Red Kite Project the centre will be a learning centre for local schools and will have a café and toilets. Working with the RSPB and others there will be a wide selection of courses, demonstrations and ranger-led walks. Stalls will supply the product of local crafts.

Rainwater will flush the loos into a natural 'sewage' plant. This organic 5 tier cleansing system uses ancient technology. The 150 meter reed bed is self contained, odourless and is indeed beautiful. It is oxygenated by solar power. All that can outwardly be seen is any area of wetland plants surrounded by tall trees but all the output from the estate buildings, the caravan park and over 500,000 visitors each year is 'digested' with the moisture being

breathed out by the vegetation.

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## LAUNDE WOODS & PARK

This area, which would be ideal for us, is actually in three blocks; two of woodland and the other the parkland in between. Launde Big Wood covers 40.4 ha and is a Site of Special Scientific Interest, whilst Launde Park Wood extends over 54.4 ha. Both are ancient woodlands, include two SSSIs and were leased by the Leicestershire & Rutland Wildlife Trust in 1997 from the Leicester Diocesan Board of Finance for a period of 350 years. It is 450 acres in size overall.

We made early overtures but these were not well received but now that the Trust knows where they are going with these areas we may well make a further approach.

Rich in history and wildlife, Launde contains an old priory set in parkland, a possible Norman motte and bailey castle site, medieval fish ponds (now re-flooded) and the earthworks of a medieval deer park.

The priory of Launde was founded some time before 1125, and lay within the royal forest of Leighfield. In 1248, shortly after the forest was reduced in size, the prior was granted licence to 'impark'. Launde Park Wood now stands on part of the site formerly occupied by the deer park and there are some very impressive earthworks to be found in and around the wood. Both the Park Wood and the Big Wood are very old, with massive boundary earthworks, huge coppice stools clearly centuries old, and many plants known to be confined, or nearly so, to ancient woodlands sites.

The Big Wood is situated on a hill top, with superb views of the surrounding

countryside. Its soils are mainly heavy and calcareous, being derived from various clays, but there are also better drained areas resulting from deposits of glacial sand and gravel. While a fine high-forest structure is developing in this wood, the fauna and flora of more open woodland has suffered since coppicing ceased to be practiced, and the rides have become narrow and more heavily shaded.

Park Wood is now larger than the Big Wood, the latter having been reduced in size in the last 150 years or so. The woods stand on similar geological formations, and this is reflected in their flora and vegetation. Park Wood contains the same range of plants as the Big Wood, and is the best wood in Leicestershire not protected by SSSI status.

About two-thirds of the Park Wood has been clear-felled and planted with a mixture of trees, especially conifers, but much of the original vegetation still remains. The wood is a very large one in a Leicestershire context, but its nature conservation interest has suffered greatly in the last 50 years. Many of the rides have become narrow and overgrown, and the coppice has been neglected. There is a real challenge here to restore it as an ancient woodland, and to use it to encourage other woodland owners to do the same.

The Trust has started to reintroduce traditional management to these woods, to benefit wildlife. Ride, glade and coppicing work will create valuable habitats for many birds, plants and insects, and the setting will provide and ideal opportunity to demonstrate to people how landscape history has influenced wildlife. Visitors are able to participate in practical work, guided

walks and educational visits, learning about the history and wildlife of Launde.

The Big Wood is dominated by stands of oak, ash, hazel and field maple. Many other trees are present, including elm and aspen. The ground flora is very rich, providing magnificent displays in the spring. Wood anemone, bluebell, wood-forget-me-not, sweet woodruff, early-purple orchid and primrose are just a few of the more attractive species, while rarer ones include bird's-nest and greater butterfly-orchids, nettle-leaved bellflower, herb paris and toothwort.

Mammals include fox, badgers, rabbits, stoat and weasel, whilst nightingale and nuthatch have been noted amongst the birds. Purple and white-letter hairstreaks are amongst the butterflies present.

Despite much of the Park Wood having been planted with conifers, it still retains many of the same features of interest as the Big Wood. These are best seen in the northern third of the wood, which escaped planting. However, where conifers have been removed the ground flora is now recovering with the spread of species such as ramsons, sweet woodruff and primrose. Towards the end of the summer the rare fragrant agrimony can be found growing beside the main ride.

The area surrounds Launde Abbey which is the Leicester Diocese Retreat & Conference Centre and is on the border of Leicestershire & Rutland. In addition to the parkland and woods it has extensive cultivated gardens and the 12th Century Chapel. The Chapel is all that remains of the Augustinian Priory that was founded here in 1119 AD.

Once the major changes being undertaken settle down we have ambitions to try and get some use of these lands in an area where we are

otherwise short of possibilities.

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## OAKHAM TOPS

This is a series of small Woodland Trust sites clustered across the hill tops above Rutland Water on the outskirts of Oakham and near to Brawnston in Rutland. There is a mixture of meadows with gorse thickets, mature copses and some new plantings. Gorse Field Wood is about 20 acres, Harris Grove and Balls Meadow add another 14 and The Seek is 27 giving 61 acres in all, with paths through pastureland linking them. An acquisition of a nearby field in 2008 with some assistance by the club will add a further 30 or so acres.

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## OWSTON WOODS

Forestry Commission lease much of this wood which includes areas of ancient woodland including a famous coppiced small leave lime many hundreds of years old. Some parts of the wood are owner occupied. Admission is by arrangement only except a single right of way. Owston Woods is representative of ancient semi-natural woodland that has developed on heavy clay soil. Owston Woods is the largest continuous area of ancient semi-natural woodland in Leicestershire (approximately 141 ha) and is one of only three sites in Leicestershire that supports purple small-reed. It has a diverse and sensitive damp-woodland plant population and intrusion is resisted.

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## ROCKINGHAM CASTLE

On a hill previously occupied by Iron Age, Roman and Saxon tribes, Rockingham Castle towers above the picturesque village of Rockingham.

Because of its location in the heart of the hunting grounds of Rockingham Forest, it was a popular retreat for royalty in medieval times and for Charles Dickens some time later.

Historic parks and gardens are characteristic of the Rockingham Forest landscape. Rockingham Castle itself is located on the upper slopes of the scarp; it overlooks the valley of the River Welland and is separated by grasslands, from Brookfield Plantation. Views from the castle extend across the Welland Valley and over at least four counties.

Rockingham Castle Park which is believed to date to the 13th century boasts over 200 species of trees and shrubs, many of which are rare and has a number of fine examples of veteran trees.

There is little settlement or development within the valley bottom and it retains a quiet rural character, with arable and pastoral farming the predominant land use. Areas of permanent pasture often contain remnant areas of ridge and furrow. Hedges divide the landscape into a neat patchwork, although within the floodplain, post and wire fences are often used to delineate individual fields. The steep scarp that defines the northern side of the valley, together with the extensive woodlands that extend across and at the top of the scarp, intercept and screen views to Corby and the large structures within the industrial districts.

We have a limited number of members in the area and as a result events are both expensive to organise and modestly supported so we have not as yet pursued this potential additional area.

## **RUTLAND WATER**

The flooded valley has the character of a basin, with the flat expanse of water surrounded by generally low, gently sloping hills to the skylines. For the most part, Rutland Water is unobtrusive from many of the surrounding roads as a result of the undulating topography and high level of tree cover around its shores. However, from certain vantage points extensive views across the water to the surrounding slopes are gained.

The openness of this huge mass of water is significantly softened by the presence of the Hambleton peninsular. Varying water levels produce a changing shoreline landscape. Established, pre-reservoir trees and woodland and subsequent planted planting and landscaping, combine to provide a detailed mosaic of pasture and woodland on the shores and all the variety we need for orienteering.

We have mapped and used pockets round the Water and started a programme to map the whole area but access and linkage problems persist and the completion of this project is now low priority.

The Water can be over seen from either Burley on the Hill which is mapped but we do not use at present and from the area the other side of the lake from the area which we know as Oakham Tops.

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## **SOUTHWICK WOODS**

This is large, leasehold Forestry Commission woodland of about 800 acres. Original enquiries determined that a shooting tenant does not welcome other users and given its distance from our heartland and the numerous other opportunities in the area we have not as yet pursued it.

It is a pity as much of this ancient woodland site is very interesting although a good part of it was replanted to replace elm trees felled in the late 1960s following the spread of Dutch elm disease. It now contains a mix of deciduous species such as oak, ash, field maple and hazel. The developing woodland provides food and cover for a range of visiting species including willow warbler, coal tit, woodcock and tawny owl.

At the entrance, remnants of the original woodland with its large impressive oaks provide an important source of dead and dying wood for a wealth of insects and fungi.

The rides through the wood are typically for Northamptonshire; very wet as the underlying ground is boulder clay. They are still rich in wildflowers including ragged-robin, cuckooflower, meadowsweet, soft rush and twayblade. Butterflies are abundant, as are speckled wood, gatekeeper and comma butterflies fluttering up and down the grassy rides or in the sometimes sun-drenched glades.

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## **St JOHN'S WOOD & BEDFORD PURLIEUS**

This wood is amazingly varied, with many different wildlife habitats as the geology of the woodland changes from north to south. This makes it a fascinating place to visit. Bedford Purlieus is also full of archaeological features, such as wood banks, and the remains of a large roman dwelling place.

This large block of superb woodland is about 208 hectares in size and is owned by the Forestry Commission. It is partially mapped as they were happy for us to use it but the map was aborted

when English Nature objected after the area was classified as a National Nature Reserve. It is actually just inside Cambridgeshire but not far from Fineshade.

Bedford Purlieus is an historic ancient woodland in the 'Soke of Peterborough'. The wood was declared a National Nature Reserve by English Nature in 2000, in recognition of its importance as a species-rich semi-natural native woodland. The wood is home to more plant and insect species than most other woods in this country.

The wood is now open for quiet recreation which they seem to feel excludes us.

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## WAKERLEY GREAT WOOD

This woodland was part of the Rockingham Forest named about 900 years ago by the Norman Kings who hunted there. Wakerley has little changed since the entry in the Domesday Book in the 11th century. It is much the same size although many examples of man's fine tuning through the ages can be seen with a discerning eye.

Ditches and banks around the edge are actually evidence of the woodland boundaries and 13th century deer protections created by the then lord of the manor. In later years stone walls were added and the ruins of these can also be seen.

The only two stone-built cairns ever found in the area are in Wakerley and are bronze-age burial mounds.

There are also numerous holes in these woods which, despite rumours to that effect are not bomb craters made by planes ditching their unused bomb loads before coming in to land. Many are bell

pits created by early ironstone miners and some are natural sinks where water has found a way through the clay and dissolved the limestone underneath. These potholes are not extensive enough to have any sporting interest and given the weight of the clay usually collapse before getting any real size creating these deep depressions.

Wakerley Great Wood is an historic ancient woodland. The car park is set amongst majestic larch and includes a large grassed area for games and picnics which is an ideal event base for us and is used for events both in Wakerley and in nearby Fineshade.

Wakerley is about 600 acres and has a diverse selection of wildlife perhaps one of the more unusual being crossbills

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## WARDLEY WOOD

This is an interesting prospect of 180 acres off the A47 approaching Uppingham, an area where we have few opportunities. This small wood is an ancient woodland on a hillside in the undulating hills of Rutland where muntjac deer, fox and badger find refuge. Wardley Wood is famous for its display of bluebells in early May as well as its shrubs, wildflowers and wet valleys where rare opposite-leaved golden saxifrage grows. Numerous birds and other creature thrive including long tailed tits, lizards and butterflies.

It is bordered by interesting pasture land including a motte and bailey and steep slopes running off Castle Hill, but shooting tenants mean we cannot get access at the present time but we will keep trying.

*Roy Denney*

# Recent events update



Since the last newsletter the main focus has been on the Summer League which is reported elsewhere in this newsletter

## Burbage Woods District Event

### 15th June 2008

This was the only category 4 event to take place during the period May - September. It attracted about 125 competitors which is a little down on the equivalent event in October 2006. The winners of the various courses are shown in the adjacent table:

Brown	Bill Edwards	SYO	M40	60:07
Blue	Mark Spendlove	DVO	M35	57:29
Green	Ian Wilson	LEI	M40	43:56
Lt Green	Harriett Lawson	DVO	W14	39:17
Orange	Nathan Lawson	DVO	M12	27:59
Yellow	Nicholas Wilson	LEI	M10	16:41
White	Alex Cvancara	LEI	M8	9:53

## Score Cup - Grange and Battram Woods

### 21st September 2008

Rather a small turnout for this event which was a shame as it was a very pleasant day in what has become an interesting area as it has matured. Score events are not everyone's cup of tea, indeed I was never very keen, but I am starting to change my views. They do have certain advantages over the standard event format: you know how long you are going to be out (40 or 60 minutes at this event); if you are unable to find a control you can just leave it and go on to the next one (indeed it is probably sensible to do that rather than waste more time looking); you can finish early if you feel so inclined and still figure in the results (someone will almost certainly have incurred enough penalty points to keep you from being last).

Long (60 min)	David Lawson	M45	64:54	630	-50
Medium (40 min)	Alison Hardy	W40	46:08	290	-70
White	Ethan Tebbutt	M10	17:01		

# Access Development Report



As previously reported the Woodland Trust is playing its part in developing new areas we can use. Quite apart from their contribution within the National Forest they have been planting a number of small areas around Oakham which we used for a summer league training event this year. Those who did turn out in pretty appalling weather were introduced to a small but quite complex and varied area. The Club donated the surplus from that event to the Trust to assist their appeal to raise funds to buy further land adjoining this area and I am please to report that the acquisition has gone through.

Gorse Field Wood on the edge of Oakham, has now more than doubled in size following this acquisition of a neighbouring field (for those who came to the event it is the field we used which had the old rifle butts and sheep grazing). The newly created wood had already been extended in 2005 with the purchase of Harris Grove and Ball's Meadow, but this latest addition brings it all much closer to Oakham itself and especially to Brooke Hill Primary School which is right next door and may be able to use our map. The new field will become a combination of woodland, parkland and grassland.

At present Gorse Field Wood is about 20 acres, Harris Grove and Balls Meadow adds another 14.

Gorse Field Wood, Harris Grove and Ball's Meadow are already home to a wide variety of birds, animals and insects, including colonies of yellow meadow ants which flourish in the semi-

natural grassland as can be evidenced by the numerous ant hills dotted all over the place. Were there not so many they could justify being described as small knolls and added to the map.

As those who ran the area can attest there is

. . . Bardon Hill.  
This is the  
highest  
'B' hill in  
Leicestershire.

considerable rise from top to bottom of this area and it affords good views of Rutland Water from the higher points; hence the name we have given the map 'Oakham Tops'

The nearby 'Seek' also owned by the Woodland Trust is also on our map and hopefully some day in the future the informal headland paths which link them may become a formal route we can use to better utilise the areas. The Seek is 27 acres at present giving 61 acres in all, although there is dead running between the two locations. With the new addition the WT ownership will be close to 100 acres.

Another area of current interest is Bardon Hill. This is the highest 'B' hill in Leicestershire.

Standing above the lowland areas are four prominent hills, Bardon (the highest point in Leicestershire at just over 900 feet), Breedon on the Derbyshire border, Beacon to the east, and Burrough in the

west. There are numerous other hills beginning with the letter B for no apparent reason.

(Bardon, Billa Barra, Beacon, Bradgate, Burrough, Breedon, Budden, Billesdon Coplow, Benscliffe, Burley on the Hill, Bomb Rocks, Broombriggs Hill and the hill on which Belvoir Castle stands.)

It was thought that there was an iron age hill fort at the summit of Bardon Hill but nothing of it remains indeed not much of the hill itself remains.

In medieval times to ensure a plentiful supply of game for hunting purposes, the monarch and nobles established reserves called parks. These were areas of countryside that were considered to be on agriculturally inferior soil, often attached to a manor and which often contained woodland. Parks varied immensely in size, from a few acres to the size of the giant park of Whitwick Manor, which covered Bardon Hill and which extended over the surrounding area to over 1260 acres.

However, by about 1427 it had been reduced to a smaller area around the summit of Bardon Hill but a small collar of woods on the southern flank is all that survives today.

Bardon has strong historical involvement in the life of the county up to fairly recent times. The 19th century development of the Leicestershire quarries of Bardon Hill owes much to the initiative and resourcefulness of the affluent local yeomanry of the higher class, as represented by the Ellis, Everard and Pochin families; nonconformist in their religious sympathies and liberal in their politics.

The earliest known printed reference to quarrying at Bardon Hill dates back to 1622. The commercial development of

Bardon Hill stone, however, was made possible by the opening in 1833 of the Leicester and Swannington Railway, the first steam-worked public railway conveying both passengers and freight in the Midlands. The success of the line was largely due to the initiative and enterprise of the Ellis family of Beaumont Leys, who were active Quakers. George and Robert Stephenson were consultants in building the railway and at its opening the first train carried banners promising cheap coal and granite, warm hearths and good roads. The granite for the good roads was to come from Bardon and other local quarries. Ellis Park in Glenfield commemorates the Ellis family, Everards are still brewing and Pochin are well known in construction.

The Leicester and Swannington Railway prospered and in 1845 it was purchased by the Midland Railway and the Ellis influence expanded correspondingly. John Ellis became MP for Leicester, Mayor of the borough, and Chairman of the Board of the Midland Railway. Glenfield featured in the early development of the railway with the tunnel, opened in 1832, the then longest in the world.

The Everards made their home at Bardon Hill House. The affairs of the Bardon estate at this time were in some disarray, and in 1864 it passed into the hands of William Perry Herrick of Beaumanor who renegotiated the lease

George and  
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building the  
railway . . .

of Bardon quarry to Ellis and Everard. The quarry was now developed and mechanised and workmen's cottages were built and a school provided, both at the joint expense of Ellis and Everard and the Perry Herrick's. Eventually they added a parish church and John Breendon Everard, the architect of the school, houses and church became a partner in the firm of Ellis and Everard and was responsible for the design of the then magnificent Bardon Mill House.

Much of the money underpinning these families came from the quarrying which continues to this day and whilst the summit of Bardon Hill is protected not much remains of the north side of the hill. The summit area has been landscaped together with areas to the NE and a collar of mature woodlands gives the area some potential for smaller events.

We are however awaiting the outcome of a planning application due to be lodged shortly. Bardon Aggregates wish to move their operations to the east of the hill and start an extraction programme which is likely to last 30 years or more. The area in question is at about 250 metres above sea level and is to be removed down to about 50 metres ultimately to become a lake.

Bardon Hill itself is not affected by this proposal. However, the more immediate landscape of the proposed extension area would change substantially. They propose landscaping and tree planting to ensure that any impact on visual aspect will be slight, with the majority of viewpoints screened before quarrying takes place.

Three members of the committee have had a guided tour over the present and proposed operations and discussed possible landscaping etc with the

management of the quarry. The proposals are in the consultation stage at present and we amongst others wish to suggest possible diversions to the footpath network, new access points and long term ideas for making good the area. Not many of us will live to see this but we do have the chance to help shape the area for future use by the community.

I was amazed when we visited to see the enormous size of both the quarry and the various factories that service it given that it cannot be seen from the road. Bardon Hill is a nationally important rail-linked quarry producing over three million tonnes of crushed rock every year. Operations include asphalt plants and a pre-cast concrete products factory and provide jobs for 500 people.

This proposed extension would be linked to the current processing area by a conveyor system. The processing plant is likely to be kept in its existing location to take advantage of the road and rail network that is already in place. The existing quarry is still digging deeper and will end up about 40 metres below sea level but would then be part-filled with the material known as overburden that overlies the rock to be quarried. Future use of the existing quarry will be determined at a later date after further consultation and we would wish to have

The area in question is at about 250 metres above sea level and is to be removed down to about 50 metres . . .

some input into that.

We will be making a case that if they wish to keep the community on board they should remove any unnecessary old 'furniture' such as fences and create as many safe access points into as much of their estate as can be safely made available for public use. Going on from that all new banking etc to mask the works should be of an irregular nature and therefore more natural looking and that any screening trees should be of mixed native species and not planted in 'boring' rows. Our preference would be for a mix of copses and glades giving diverse habitats and a varied terrain we could use for the sport. Under this proposal, some public rights of way will be affected but alternative and additional routes will have to be provided and we will be making suggestion in this regard. Their proposals do include public access

to the landscaped areas.

The quarry does already work with partners to protect the eco system and this year the Bardon Hill site was awarded the Wildlife Trust's Biodiversity Benchmark. The hill itself is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

One further piece of interest which came out of our visit is why the two windows either side of the door into the Chapel just off the A511 are not quite the same size given that the chapel itself was designed to be symmetrical, an exact cube to be specific. Apparently they could not get coffins through the front door the way the interior is configured so that had to go through the larger window.

*Roy Denney*

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*(Continued from page 7)*

Midlands inter-county event after the county final.

We have a steady trickle of schools requiring mapping which the club's mappers are just keeping pace with. For the Autumn term we intend to complete Hastings School, Hinckley and Thurnby St Luke's School plus add some more detail to the South Charnwood School map to enable the adjoining woodland to be used at a later date. There are several requests in the pipe line but no firm commitments as yet. At least three Secondary School maps will be needed to created to ensure all partnerships have a festival area to school sprint standard. We are working with Bushloe High School to install a set of permanent course markers and print star and loops maps for use in their curriculum.

A final development being piloted is the after school clubs at both the Oadby & Wigston and the South Charnwood Partnerships. This scheme, one in each of the Autumn and Spring/summer term, provides a group of pupils with Orienteering coaching after school for two months interspersed with some Saturday morning competitions. The whole programme ideally culminates in a large scale event or championship. The scheme is funded though the County Sports and is part of the national efforts to increase participation in sport leading up the 2012 Olympics.

Looks like a busy year ahead for our mappers and the development team.

*Roger Edwards*

## Summer League 2008

This years summer league came to a close finish at Sence Valley with a late surge from Peter Hornsby who had obviously read my article in the last newsletter and paid particular attention to tips on organising and attending as many events as possible. Congratulations to Peter for winning and to Dave Bray and Chris Bosley for running a close second and third. Alison Hardy was the best lady for the second year running ahead of Ursula Williamson and Liz Phillips of OD.



James Hornsby best junior and Dominic Leake not only the best 14 or under but second overall junior with Ben Windsor third (admittedly only from handful of events). Our other winner was Roger Phillips who scored the most points but couldn't overcome the handicapping system and the more mature runners. Looking back there have been a lot of interesting and challenging events. The final event was a map exchange score from Mark Sherriff which proved

	Name	Class	Club	Best 8	Total	
1	Peter Hornsby	M55	L EI	735	1072.34	1st Overall
2	Dave Bray	M55	L EI	759	1050.55	2nd Overall
3	Chris Bosley	M60	L EI	712	1032.97	3rd Overall
4	Simon Ford	M65	L EI	691	1024.78	
5	Roger Phillips	M21	L EI	817	996.92	Best unhandicapped
6	Bob Haskins	M55	L EI	677	972.02	
7	Peter Leake	M65	L EI	617	969.50	
8	John Marriott	M60	L EI	651	967.38	
9	Bruce Bryant	M50	OD	715	929.02	
10	Roy Denney	M60	L EI	591	913.14	
11	Alastair Paterson	M40	L EI	723	911.33	
12	Mark Foxwell	M40	L EI	647	878.54	
13	Alison Hardy	W40	L EI	640	877.29	1st Woman
14	Mark Sherriff	M45	L EI	649	876.61	
15	Dave Denness	M45	L OG	686	858.63	
16	Ursula Williamson	W45	L EI	592	846.86	2nd Woman
17	Ian Wells	M50	L EI	646	839.36	
18	Mark Hardy	M40	L EI	615	814.18	
19	James Hornsby	M18	L EI	622	791.40	1st Junior
20	Chris Phillips	M60	L EI	508	790.33	
21	Liz Phillips	W40	OD	606	788.69	3rd Woman
30	Dominic Leake	M10	L EI	316	532.31	1st Junior 14 or under
46	Ben Windsor	M16	L EI	315	383.27	3rd Junior

a tough proposition in an hour. Roy Denney and Iain Tebbutt introduced us to new areas - Oakham Tops and the northern part of Dilworth Clumps. We also had a couple of well planned sprint events for the first time using secondary schools in South Leicester to generate fast and furious detailed racing - a real

change from our more classic event areas. The 2009 summer league is in final planning and we hope to have a similar mix next year. Watch the web site and the next newsletter for details. We are now starting the winter league, a series of 7 events across Saturday mornings, half term week days two night

events and our New Years day event to score - hope to see you there.

*Mark Foxwell*



Some photographs from the Final Summer League Event at Sence Valley

Top— the competitors gather for the mass start

Left - everyone listens attentively (not) as organiser Mark Sherriff explains the rules

Bottom left - careful study of the map wasn't enough to allow Dave Bray to catch Peter Hornsby (Dave finished 2nd overall)

Right - Club Chair Chris Phillipp looking suitably pensive.

*(Photos courtesy of Ernie Williams)*



# Out and About



Fast on the heels of the nasties which have wreaked havoc with our hawthorns and oaks we now have scourge hitting our horse chestnuts. 25% of Britain's horse chestnuts have conker canker which causes splitting of the trunk and the bleeding or oozing of sap. The same number again are showing some symptoms of the problem which appears to be spreading rapidly.

There is no cure and it has been discovered that this is a new virulent bacteria not the one which has laid low small numbers of these trees over the years. No one knows how this bacteria got here and it is usual to blame our warming climate but perhaps not in this case as the bacteria was first identified in the Himalayas. It probably came with imported chestnuts but it is not a disease easy to understand. One puzzle with it is that chestnuts in cities are far more badly hit than those out in the woodlands.

If trees do not have enough problems with infections and diseases man is again adding to the problem. One local council is proposing to cut down 'monkey puzzle' trees in school play grounds as the needles on the trees are sharp and if they fall to the ground may hurt children if they fall on them.

Need I say anything more!

Four families of European Beavers are to

be released into the wild in a forest in Argyll. This is hardly a bold step in that whilst now sanctioned it is not to happen until 2009. Quite what will change between now and then is not mentioned in the press release.

Beaver have been absent from the UK for several hundred years but the Forestry Commission are allowing them back in an attempt to restore wildlife balance and improve water quality. They do feed largely on bark but with Forest Enterprise moving away from commercial forestry and taking steps to



restore natural woodland this is not seen as an unacceptable threat. They rarely cut down trees for dams unless in very rocky terrain which is not likely to be the case in the Knapwood Forest were they are being released. They will be closely monitored and if no problems arise they may be allowed to expand their area freely with further imports from Europe.

Beaver have been absent from the UK for several hundred years . . .

These vegetarian creatures usually make nests in river banks and thereby slow water run off partially changing the local

habitat and providing refuges for many other creatures. They have been introduced in other parts of Britain within enclosure to assess their impact and are being tried as part of management regimes. It is hoped to restore areas along streams to a mix of water meadows and open marshland with pockets of native trees at various stages in their life cycle including dead and decaying remains. We should then see an increase in the species of flora and fauna present and it is thought that the beaver will play an active part in maintaining this diversity once it has been established.

The RSPB has highlighted that record numbers of birds of prey were killed in Britain last year, with buzzards, peregrine falcons and golden eagles badly hit. They received 262 reports of birds of prey being illegally shot, trapped or killed by the destruction of their nests, compared with 185 reports the previous year, a rise of 40%.

According to the society's annual 'Bird crime' report, there were also 49 reports of birds of prey being poisoned, including red kites and one of the only pair of Golden Eagles breeding in the Borders.

Red kites were often poisoned, deliberately or otherwise, when they scavenged on carrion, itself killed by illegal toxins. The RSPB fear the figure is much higher because many crimes in more remote areas remain undetected or go unreported.

Many hen harriers, which do eat grouse, have been killed on some grouse moors, and peregrine falcons have been shot because they preyed on pigeons including racing birds.

In all, there were 1,208 separate incidents of crimes against wild birds

reported to the RSPB in 2007, beating the then record of 1,019 in 2006. The four worst counties in England for reported persecution of birds of prey were North Yorkshire (78 reports), Northumberland (22), and Shropshire and Cumbria (16 each).

All is not doom and gloom however. A pub tycoon has just instigated one of the biggest regeneration schemes ever undertaken in Britain. 5000 acres of Wemmergill Moor in County Durham are to be re-seeded with heather to restore the habitat ruined by over grazing. He has also planted a

quarter of a million shrubs and trees to provide cover and hopes to protect and encourage many endangered species of birds. Golden plover, red and black grouse need the heather for their survival and his efforts have already seen black grouse numbers increase from 4 to 150. Merlins, moorhens, snipe, short eared owls, curlew and red shanks are all increasing in number as well.

Good news on the squirrel front. The sanctuaries being created to try and preserve the red squirrel are seemingly working quite well. The Red Squirrel

A pub tycoon has just instigated one of the biggest regeneration schemes ever undertaken in Britain.

*(Continued on page 36)*

*(Continued from page 35)*

Protection Partnership have organised culls of well over 20,000 greys in the last 18 months, mostly in Northumberland but a few thousand have been killed in Cumbria and efforts are being stepped up in Scotland where outbreaks of squirrel pox are increasing. This is carried reasonably happily by greys but is fatal to reds.

In all about 170,000 acres of reserves have been created within which the greys are being eradicated. Reds are now being seen in increasing numbers over these 16 reserves and two more are to be added.

Ullapool has no population of either species so a red introduction programme should get off to a good start and the second is to be on the Isles of Scilly where again at present there are no squirrels at all.

It is important we work on these wildlife protection schemes as wildlife is disappearing at an unprecedented rate in the countryside. Nature is compensating however as more species are starting colonising urban areas.

There have been major declines in populations of breeding wading birds on unprotected lowland wetland grasslands, notably the snipe which is down by 90% in some regions but in the last 12 years the overall population of urban birds increased by 14%. Pigeon numbers more than doubled, and there were big increases among green woodpeckers, goldfinches, robins and great tits.

Natural England's annual state of the natural environment report, published earlier this year, finds birds, bees and other insects deserting intensively farmed lowland areas for better

conditions in urban gardens and in brown field sites. Some butterfly species, it says, are now more likely to be found in suburban areas than in the open countryside, and at least 40 species of invertebrates are now wholly confined to towns. More than half of the summer roosts of some species of bat are in man-made structures less than 30 years old.

"Our land and seas are under more pressure than ever before," says the report. "We have a growing population with growing aspirations, meaning increasing demand on the natural environment to provide food, energy, leisure and space for development".

"We are now locked into at least 50 years of unavoidable climate change. Wildlife is increasingly isolated in protected areas, unable to move with the changing climate".

"Although we are broadly maintaining the character of England's landscapes, 20% still show signs of neglect and within our landscapes there are significant problems. For instance, lack of woodland management is causing a 50% decline of our native woodland butterflies - the wood is still there but the butterflies aren't".

"Other habitats are also deteriorating -

More than half of the summer roosts of some species of bat are in man-made structures less than 30 years old.

only 3% of our grasslands remain rich in native plants. We are seeing signs of stress from climate change, both on the coast, where habitats are being squeezed between our sea walls and the rising sea (25% salt marsh loss from the south east of England), and on land, with a range of species moving northwards and upwards such as the mountain ringlet butterfly".

"The current system of conservation has often focused on protected areas such as sites of special scientific interest and national parks. But away from these areas the natural environment is increasingly under threat. It not well placed to withstand the challenges of development and climate change."

Britain's leading environment groups, including the National Trust, the Campaign to Protect Rural England and the Royal Society for the Protection of

Birds are calling for a radical new approach to conservation to match the unprecedented scale and speed of the habitat change taking place in the countryside.

The National Forest is playing its part by providing new habitats and the Woodland Trust is doing likewise including areas in our patch falling outside the National Forest. They have been planting a number of small areas around Oakham which we used for summer league training event recently and whilst quietly going about my business planning that event I was blessed by the sight of two young stoats playing tag within a couple of yards of me for nearly three minutes before they spotted me.

*Roy Denney*

## Celebration evenings at County Hall 2008/09

Please put in your diary Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2009 the Chairman's Trophy Presentation evening. This is for the three most improved athletes of County standard and above. In May 2008 Harriett Lawson and Nicky Wilson were presented with their awards for their success in regional events. So who will be going this year?

Later on in the term there will be

the first combined celebration evening for Schools Athletics / Orienteering/ Cross Country. This will be on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2009, which is the week after the County Schools orienteering championship. The target for 2008/9 is for over 100 schools to participate in the district 'qualifying' events leading up to this Championship. So if you want to do well then make sure your school is participating.

## Forthcoming LEI Events

**Sunday 12th October**  
**District & East Midlands League**  
**Event, Charnwood Forest South**



**Tuesday 21st October**  
**Winter League Event**  
**Burbage Woods, Hinckley**

**Saturday 1st November**  
**Winter League Event**  
**Knighton Park, Leicester**



**Sunday 9th November**  
**District & East Midlands League**  
**Event, Bagworth Woods**

**Saturday 15th November**  
**Autumn Series Event**  
**Brocks Hill Country Park**



# 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 District events offer entry on the day (EOD) to a range of colour coded (C4) courses with start times from 10.30 to 12.30. Local events (C5) will only have a limited range of courses. Regional and National events (C3 & C2) provide a range of age related courses and are normally entered in advance using a Standard Entry Form (SEF); EOD will usually be limited and more expensive. Most will offer a limited number of colour-coded course for EOD. Cheques payable to organising club, if not otherwise specified.

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, but events are sometimes cancelled. If you are uncertain of whether an event will be on, check with the organiser. The editor takes no responsibility for wasted journeys !

## CHANGE OF EVENT TITLES IN FIXTURE LISTS

Please note that the new terminology for event titles described in the Autumn edition of LEI News has been introduced for the current and future fixture lists as follows:

- All C3 Badge Events will be titled Regional Events, but will retain the specific event titles (eg. Concorde Chase Regional Event).
- All C4 Colour Coded Events (5 or more CC courses inc Blue) will be titled District Events.
- All C5 or C4 Limited Colour Coded Events (4 or less CC courses) will be titled Local Events.
- Events that have specific titles not falling into the above categories will remain unchanged, but dependent on level of event (Score, Short, Night etc), they may be prefixed by Regional, District or Local.
- Championships (JK, BOC etc) and National Events remain unchanged.

## October 2008

4th-5th	NE C3	October Odyssey Weekend 4th - Day 1 Regional Event. Edges Green, Hexham. NY722688. Boris Spence, 01670 860897. borisspence@aol.com £8.00/£2.00 students at junior rate. EPS-SI. Lim CC courses - Yellow & Orange, Fees - £4 senior, £2 junior. Parking £1.00. See website for entry details. www.northern-navigators.org.uk
	C3	5th - Day 2 Regional Event. Allen Banks, Hexham. NY795639. Barry Young, 0191 2576246. barryz@btinternet.com £8.00/£2.00 students at junior rate. EPS-SI. Lim CC courses - Yellow & Orange, Fees - £4 senior, £2 junior. Parking £1.00. See website for entry details. www.northern-navigators.org.uk
4th	EM C4	LOG District Event & EM League. South Common, Lincoln. SK972695. Sean Harrington, 01522 791344. info@logonline.org.uk £7.00/£2.00. EPS-SI. Dogs on leads. Please note date change. www.logonline.org.uk
5th	YH C4	SYO District Event. Treeton and Hail Mary Woods, Sheffield. SK438875. Tim Tett, 0114 266 7922. timtett@ttpca.force9.net £6.00/£2.00. EPS-SI. String course. Parking £1.00. www.southyorkshireorienteers.org.uk
5th	WM C4	HOC District Event & WML 8. Brockhampton NT, Nr Bromyard. SO682545. Mike Farrington, 01531 635502. mike@farrington.me.uk £8.00/£3.00. EPS-SI. String course. Dogs allowed on leads in car park only - sheep in fields. www.harlequins.org.uk
11th	EM S3X	NOC British Schools Score Championships. Sherwood Pines, Mansfield. SK612647. Hilary Palmer, 0115 982 0651. hjalmer@ntlworld.com Fees TBA. EPS-SI. www.noc-uk.org
12th	EA C3	SOS Regional Event & Interland Junior Selection. Hatfield Forest, Bishop's Stortford. TL547203. Organiser: Jenny Collyer, 01787 370947. sos.collyer@btinternet.com Entries: Lyn West, Grove Hill House, Dedham, Essex, CO7 6DX, 01206 322905. lyn@stragglers.info CD: 28/09/08. £10.00/£4.00. Lim EOD +£2.00/£1.00. Chq: SOS. EPS-SI. String course. CC courses - White/Yellow/Orange/Red/L Green - £7.00/£3.50. Parking £1.00. Late entries accepted subject to map availability and £2/£1 surcharge. Dogs on lead in car park only. On-line entries preferred at www.oentries.com. www.stragglers.info

October 2008 continued

<p><b>12th EM</b></p> 	<p><b>LEI District Event &amp; East Midlands League. Charnwood Forest South, Loughborough. SK523118.</b>  <b>Laurie Fluck, 01509 503107. £7.00/£2.00. EPS-SI. Parking £1.00. Dogs allowed on Lead. www.leioc.org.uk</b></p>
<p>18th WM C5</p>	<p>HOC Local MADDO Event. Castlemorton Common, Malvern. SO748381.  Mike Farrington, 01531 635502. mike@farrington.me.uk £4.00/  £1.00. EPS-SI. Parking £1.50.</p>
<p>18th EM C5</p>	<p>DVO Local Event. Markeaton Park, Derby. SK335370.  Val Johnson, 01773 824754. gmjandfam@aol.com £3.00/£1.00 Family entry: £7. www.dvo.org.uk</p>
<p>19th WM O3</p>	<p>OD Compass Sport Cup &amp; Trophy Final. Sutton Park (Streetley Gate), Sutton Coldfield. SP087987.  Bob Brandon, 024-7650 5050. robertbrandon06@aol.com £8.00/  £3.00. EPS-SI. Parking £1.00. SI punching (not Emit). NO EOD.  www.octavian-droobers.org</p>
<p><b>21st EM</b></p> 	<p><b>LEI Winter League Event. Burbage Common, Hinckley. SP447953</b>  <b>Organiser: tbc £3.00/£1.00. start 11.00am—12 noon</b></p>
<p>26th WM C4</p>	<p>WCH District Event &amp; WML League. Shoal Hill, Cannock.  Ianka Petrova Evans, 01782 788341. ianka.evans@googlemail.com  £7.00/£2.00 - BOF less £2 for adults. EPS-SI. Dogs on leads. SI card hire £1. www.walton-chasers.co.uk</p>
<p><b>27th EM</b></p> 	<p><b>LEI Annual General Meeting. Forest Hill Golf Club SK480065</b>  <b>Refreshments provided</b></p>

**The LEIOC Annual General Meeting  
will be held this year on the 27th  
October at the Forest Hill Golf Club**

# LEI News

## November 2008

<b>1st</b>	<b>EM</b>	<b>LEI Winter League Event. Knighton Park, Leicester. SK606009</b> <b>Organiser: tbc £3.00/£1.00. start 10.30am—12 noon</b>
1st-	YH	Yorkshire Pudding Weekend
2nd	O4S	1st - Day 1 Leeds City Chasing Sprint. The University of Leeds Campus, Leeds. SE295346.
	C4N	1st - Day 1 Night Event & Yorkshire Night League. Beckett Park, Leeds. SE273365.
	O4S	2nd - Day 2 Skipton Town Race. Skipton Town Centre, Skipton.  Martyn Broadest, 0113 2328982. martynATbroadest.org.uk £6.50/£2.00 (£2 discount for adult BO members) per event. EPS-SI. Dogs allowed on leads please. See website for full details of the Yorkshire Pudding Weekend. www.aire.org.uk
1st	EM	LOG Local Winter Series Event. West Common, Lincoln. SK960717.
	C5	Sean Harrington, 01522 791344. Sean@logonline.org.uk £1.50/£1.50. Dogs allowed kept on Leads. www.logonline.org.uk
<b>9th</b>	<b>EM</b>	<b>LEI District Event. Bagworth Woodlands, Coalville. SK458067.</b> <b>Peter Hornsby, 01530 456066. mapping@lineone.net £7.00/£2.00. EPS-SI. Dogs on Leads. www.leioc.org.uk</b>
		
15th	EM	LOG Local Winter Series Event. Riseholme Park, Lincoln. SK981757.
	C5	Sean Harrington, 01522 791344. Sean@logonline.org.uk £1.50/£1.50. Dogs allowed kept on Leads. www.logonline.org.uk
<b>15th</b>	<b>EM</b>	<b>LEI Autumn Series Event. Brocks Hill Country Park, Oadby, Leicester. SK606009</b> <b>Organiser: Roger Edwards, 0116 212 7547. £3.00/£1.00. starts 11 am—12 noon</b>
		
16th	EM	DVO Regional Event. Shining Cliff, Belper. SK335522.
	C3	Organiser: Sal Chaffey, 01773 825418. dave.chaffey@zetnet.co.uk Postal Entries: Mike Godfree, Highfields, Mapleton Road, Ashbourne, DE6 2AA, 01335-346004. Mike.Godfree@btinternet.com CD (postal): 03/11/08, (online): 09/11/08. £10.00/£3.00 (inc Students). CC - £7.00/£1.00. Lim EOD +£2.00/£1.00. Chq: DVO. EPS-SI. String course. CC - W, Y, O, R. Dogs on lead, in car park. Entries preferred on-line via website: www.dvo.org.uk

## November 2008 continued

22nd	YH C3S	TNS UK Cities Cup Race 3. Sheffield, Sheffield. Stewart Caithness, 0131 3375495. wattok@nopessport.com www.citiescup.nopessport.com Full registration pending
23rd	YH C4	SYO District Event. Ecclesall Woods, Sheffield. SK313827. Pete Tryner, 01142 668626. peter.tryner@rubicon-consulting.net £6.00/£2.00. EPS-SI. String course. Parking £1.00. www.southyorkshireorienteers.org.uk
23rd	WM C4	WRE District Event & West Midlands Championships. Wildmoor to Gogbatch, Church Stretton. SO435967. Graham Hardy, 01584 861 418. gah@f2s.com Fees TBA. EPS-SI. No dogs. www.wrekinorienteers.co.uk
<b>26th</b>	<b>EM C5</b>	<b>LEI Winter League Night Event. Fosse Meadows, Sharnford.</b> <b>Organiser: tbc £3.00/£1.00. starts 6.30 –7.30 p.m.</b>
		
29th	EM C5	LOG Local Winter Series Event. North Kesteven School, Lincoln. SK938664. Sean Harrington, 01522 791344. Sean@logonline.org.uk £1.50/ £1.50. Dogs allowed kept on Leads. www.logonline.org.uk
30th	WM C3	WCH Regional Event. Brocton & Milford, Cannock. SJ973210. Organiser: Pat Murray, 01538 266224. pat@ipstones37.freeserve.co.uk Entries: TBC. CD: unknown. £11.00/£3.00, less £2.00 BOF adults. SI hire £1.00. EPS-SI. CC - White - Light Green. Colour coded entry £7 (less £2 for BOF members. Dogs on leads. www.walton- chasers.co.uk

**About the only thing that comes to us without effort  
is old age.**

**Gloria Pitzer, in Reader's Digest, 1979**

## December 2008

<b>6th</b>	<b>EM</b>	<b>LEI Annual Dinner and Awards Presentation Evening. Forest Hill Golf Club SK480065 Woodlands Suite</b>
		
7th	WM	HOC Regional Event. Postensplain, Wyre Forest, Bewdley. SO743791.
	C3	Organiser: Steve Chiverton, 01905 831184. stevechiverton@fsmail.net
		Entries: Mike Farrington, Postensplain 08, Oak Lodge, Floyds Lane, Wellington Heath, Ledbury, HR8 1NB, 01531 635502 (7 - 9 pm). postensplain08@harlequins.org.uk CD: 21/11/08. £11.00/£3.00 (up to 14/11/08), £13.00/£4.00 (Up to 21/11/08). No EOD. Chq: Harlequins Orienteering Club. EPS-SI. W, Y, O, Lt Gr & Red - £7.00/£2.00. String course. Parking £1.00. Dogs allowed on lead at all times in car park and assembly field. On Line Entries via <a href="http://www.fabian4.co.uk">www.fabian4.co.uk</a> . <a href="http://www.harlequins.org.uk">www.harlequins.org.uk</a>
13th	EM	LOG Local Winter Series Event. Lincoln University, Lincoln. SK967711.
	C5	Sean Harrington, 01522 791344. Sean@logonline.org.uk £1.50/£1.50. Dogs allowed kept on Leads. <a href="http://www.logonline.org.uk">www.logonline.org.uk</a>
<b>13th</b>	<b>EM</b>	<b>LEI Christmas Novelty Event. Sence Valley Forest Park, Ibstock</b>
	<b>C5</b>	<b>Details tbc</b>
14th	EM	DVO District Event. Whitesprings, Matlock. SK297645.
	C4	Paul Beresford, 01302 751549. paul@pberesford.fsnet.co.uk £7.00/£1.00 (inc Students), Family entry: £15. EPS-SI. String course. Dogs on lead, in car park. <a href="http://www.dvo.org.uk">www.dvo.org.uk</a>
21st	EM	NOC District Event. Walesby, Mansfield. SK669702.
	C4	Catherine Hughes, 0115 8774089. Catherine@midlandsnordicwalking.org Fees TBA. EPS-SI. String course. <a href="http://www.noc-uk.org">www.noc-uk.org</a>
<b>28th</b>	<b>EM</b>	<b>LEI District Event &amp; East Midlands League. Beacon Hill, Leicester. SK510145.</b>
	<b>C4</b>	<b>Bob Haskins, 01509 842449. bobh@piperdrive.org.uk £7.00/£3.00. EPS-SI. Parking £2.00. <a href="http://www.leioc.org.uk">www.leioc.org.uk</a></b>

## January 2009

<b>1st</b>	<b>EM</b>	<b>LEI Winter League Event. Evington Park and Arboretum, Leicester.</b> <b>Details tbc</b>
		
1st	WM	OD Laurie Bradley NYD Score Championships. Sutton Park (Hartopp Gate), Sutton Coldfield. SP109972.
	S4	John Bowman, 01926 853720. jandsbowman@yahoo.co.uk Fees TBA. EPS-Emit. Parking £1.00. Full registration pending
1st	EM	DVO Street-O. Melbourne, Nr Derby. SK386252.
	S5	Doug Dickinson, 01509 265653. doug@dougdickinson.co.uk £2.00/£1.00. Dogs allowed on leads at all times. 11.00 mass start. Event - 1 hour score. www.dvo.org.uk
3rd	EM	LOG Local Winter Series Event. Lincoln South Common, Lincoln. SK977698.
	C5	Sean Harrington, 01522 791344. Sean@logonline.org.uk £1.50/£1.50. Dogs allowed kept on Leads. www.logonline.org.uk
17th	EM	NOC Local Night Event. Oxclose Wood, Mansfield. SK481598.
	C5N	Catherine Hughes, 0115 8774089. cath-erine@midlandsnordicwalking.org £2.00/£1.00. www.noc-uk.org
17th	EM	LOG Local Winter Series Event. Hartsholme Country Park, Lincoln. SK946697.
	C5	Sean Harrington, 01522 791344. Sean@logonline.org.uk £1.50/£1.50. Dogs allowed kept on Leads. www.logonline.org.uk
<b>18th</b>	<b>EM</b>	<b>LEI District Event. Lount Woodlands. SK378208</b>
		<b>Organiser tbc. Fees £7.00/£2.00</b>

**"I have an existential map; it has 'you are here' written all over it"**

**Stephen Wright (American Actor and Writer, b.1955)**

# LEI News

## January 2009 continued

<b>21st</b>	<b>EM</b>	<b>LEI Winter League Night Event. Beacon Hill, Woodhouse Eaves. SK521148 (tbc).</b>
	<b>C5N</b>	<b>Organiser tbc. £3.00/£1.00</b>
24th	SE	SN BRITISH NIGHT CHAMPIONSHIPS. Mytchett & Congo Stream, Aldershot. SU924563.
	C1N	Organiser and entries: Steve McKinley, Paramali, Bagshot Road, Brookwood, Surrey, GU24 0EY, 01483 476914. BNOC2009@southern navigators.com CD: 11/01/09. £9.00/£4.50. Lim EOD +£2.00/£1.00. Chq: Southern Navigators. EPS-SI. Parking £1.00. Dogs on leads at all times. www.southern navigators.com/bnoc2009
25th	EM	LOG Lincoln "City Race". The Lawn, Lincoln. SK973719.
	O4S	Sean Harrington, 01522 791344. Sean@logonline.org.uk Fees TBA. EPS-SI. Dogs allowed kept on Leads. Full registration pending
31st	EM	DVO Local Event. Holmebrook, Chesterfield. SK360730.
	C5	Mike Godfree, 01335 346004. £3.00/£1.00 Family entry: £7. www.dvo.org.uk Full registration pending

## February 2009

1st	EM	NOC Regional Event. Clumber Park, Mansfield. SK616781.
	C3	Catherine Hughes, 0115 8774089. Cath- erine@midlandsnordicwalking.org Fees TBA. EPS-SI. String coursea. www.noc-uk.org Full registration pending
8th	EM	DVO District Event. Lindop, Bakewell. SK259684.
	C4	Mike Godfree, 01335 346004. £7.00/£1.00 Family entry: £15. EPS-SI. String course. Dogs on lead, in car park. www.dvo.org.uk Full registration pending

## February 2009 continued

15th	EM	LEI District Event & EMOA League. Willesley Woodlands Organiser tbc. Fees £7.00/£2.00
<b>17th</b>	<b>EM</b>	<b>LEI Winter League event. Donisthorpe Woodlands SK318141</b>
	<b>C5</b>	<b>Organiser tbc. Fees £3.00/£1.00</b>
Feb 28th- Mar 1st	SC	BRITISH ORIENTEERING CHAMPIONSHIPS
	C1	28th - BRITISH ORIENTEERING CHAMPIONSHIPS. Hampton Ridge, New Forest. SU200140.
	R1	1st - British Relay Championships. Beaulieu & Dibden, New Forest. SU390040. Organiser: Jerry Newcombe, 01256 780990.
		Entries: Lynne Moore, 12 Beaufort Place, Old Mill Lane, Bray, Berkshire, SL6 2BS. CD: unknown. Fees TBA. EPS-Emit. <a href="http://www.boc2009.org.uk">www.boc2009.org.uk</a>

## March 2009

7th	EM	DVO District Event & EM League. Stanton Moor, Bakewell. SK241622.
	C4	David Vincent, 01773 716615. <a href="mailto:dvincent@tesco.net">dvincent@tesco.net</a> £7.00/£1.00 Family entry: £15. EPS-SI. String course. Dogs on lead, in car park. Parking £1.00. <a href="http://www.dvo.org.uk">www.dvo.org.uk</a>
29th	WM	POTOC/WRE CompassSport Cup & Trophy 1st Round. Weston Heath, Market Drayton.
	O3	Organiser: Geoff Hollins (POTOC), 01782 503385. <a href="mailto:geoff@hollins28.fsnet.co.uk">geoff@hollins28.fsnet.co.uk</a>
		Entries: TBA. CD: unknown. Fees TBA. EPS-SI. <a href="http://www.sisyphus.demon.co.uk/POTOC">www.sisyphus.demon.co.uk/POTOC</a>
		Full registration pending

April 2009

10th- 13th	NE C1S	JAN KJELLSTROM ORIENTEERING FESTIVAL 10th - JK SPRINT. Newcastle City Centre, Newcastle. NZ240640. Paul Thornton, 01287 635829. paul_thornton@ntlworld.com Fees TBA. Full registration pending
	C1	11th - JK DAY 1. Kyloe woods. NU045385. Boris Spence, 01670 860897. borisspence@aol.com Fees TBA. String course. Full registration pending
	C1	12th - JK DAY 2. Detchant, Shiellow, Greensheen Hill, Cockeneugh. NU059352. Peter and Marion Archer, 01609 882420. peter@archerhome.demon.co.uk Fees TBA. String course. Full registration pending
	R1	13th - JK Relay. Dipton. NY970605. Fees TBA. String course. Full registration pending
19th	NW C2	LOC NATIONAL EVENT. Graythwaite, Ulverston. Sheila Hobson, 01229 582852. <a href="#">Initialcontactonly</a> Fees TBA. <a href="http://www.lakeland-orienteeing.org.uk">www.lakeland-orienteeing.org.uk</a> Full registration pending
25th- 26th	EM R5	Lincolnshire Bomber Weekend 25th - Lincolnshire Bomber Relay Event. Riseholme Park, Lincoln. Jon May. Fees TBA. EPS-SI. <a href="http://www.lincsbomber.co.uk">www.lincsbomber.co.uk</a> Full registration pending
	C4	26th - Lincolnshire Bomber - Long O & District Event. Caistor. Jon May. Fees TBA. EPS-SI. Parking TBA. <a href="http://www.lincsbomber.co.uk">www.lincsbomber.co.uk</a> Full registration pending

## May 2009

3rd	SW	BOK The "Mike Nelson BOKTrot" NATIONAL EVENT & FCC Final (Provisional). New Beechenhurst, Forest of Dean.
	C2	Organiser: Howard Thomas, 01225 334611. howard@cotswolds5.demon.co.uk Entries: TBA. CD: unknown. Fees TBA. EPS-SI. String course. Full registration pending
9th	EM	NOC British Elite Sprint Championships. Nottingham University Campus, Nottingham. SK540385.
	O2S	Catherine Hughes, 0115 8774089. catherine@midlandsnordicwalking.org Fees TBA. EPS-SI. Full registration pending
<b>10th</b>	<b>EM</b>	<b>LEI British Middle Distance Championships. Thringstone and Cademan Woods, Loughborough. SK435184.</b>
	<b>O2</b>	<b>Chris Phillips, 0116 255 0330. onecephillips@lineone.net TBA/Senior. EPS-SI. No dogs.</b> <b>Full registration pending</b>
		
16th	EM	DVO Local Event. Ilam Hall, Ashbourne. SK131505.
	C5	Mike Godfree, 01335 346004. £3.00/£1.00 Family entry: £7. www.dvo.org.uk Full registration pending
30th-	NW	Twin Peak 09 Weekend
31st	C3	30th - Day 1 Regional Event. Moel y Dyniewyd, Beddgelert. SH625498.
	C3	31st - Day 2 Regional Event. Moel y Dyniewyd, Beddgelert. SH625498. Sue Birkinshaw, 0161 980 5068. EPS-SI. www.mdoc.org.uk Full registration pending

Answers to  
Brain teaser

1	b
2	e
3	d
4	a
5	c

# Next LEI Events

**This event is also the LEI  
Club Championships  
See page 7 for details**

**Sunday 12th October 2008**

## **Colour Coded District & East Midlands League Event**

**Charnwood Forest South  
SK523118**

**Laurie Fluck  
01509 503107**

**£7.00/£2.00  
(£2.00 discount for BOF members on production  
of current membership card)**

**SportIdent electronic punching**