



# 40 Years of Old Cuocs

THE INTENSELY ABRIDGED ANNIVERSARY ISSUE



Not for sale

Stockholm, Saturday, 29 January 2011

www.drongo.org.uk

## Editor's Column

Here is is; my last newsletter.  
Eric Roller

Who wrote this club song:

### CUOC Club Song

[tune: Onward Christian Soldiers]

Onward Cambridge orienteers  
Running through the wood  
Beating all the others  
How we wish we could

Oxford University tried  
but could not win  
Now we've come to BUSE  
and we'll win again

Onward Cambridge...

Keith he was a beardie  
Grimble is one still  
Chris he is a speedy  
But Lydia's on the pill  
Ian has divided

Now three bodies he  
One goes north and one goes south  
And one goes home for ten

Onward Cambridge....

Now through all the country  
Roaming far and wide  
Happy bunch of morons  
Getting into stride

1. ....

IN THIS ISSUE, REDUCED  
FOR CONSUMPTION AT  
THE DINNER

Page 1 Editor's Column  
The Dinner Quiz

Page 3 Pub Score Event 1978

Page 5 Very, very few of our  
Members' Memories

Page 6 VM Map Quiz

Page 8 VM Planners' Quiz  
OL-Sudoku

## Anniversary Dinner Quiz

Can you guess the orienteer from the dinner attendees?

Too busy looking at their map s.o.  
ran into some fenceposts between  
the start and no.1 at a Varsity Match?

2. ....

Who remembers taking their 1970  
Hillman Hunter to drive CUOC-  
Cers to events along the North  
Orbital? (Hint about the era!)

3. ....

Was awarded the original "drongo  
of the week" title for managing to  
lock themselves out of the room  
whilst going for a shower and be  
seen wandering the courts of the  
college wearing just a towel?

4. ....

Who was one of those elected a  
honorary life member a CUOC  
in 2002?

5. ....

Was kidnapped by an ambulance  
at a British Champs, to the con-  
cern of fellow CUOC members,  
who did not know where to find  
him? (Hint: mobile phones  
weren't really common!!)?

6. ....

Was described with: "was a new-  
comer to the sport when he came to  
university and has progressed ex-  
tremely well and will hopefully get  
even better this year" in a commit-  
tee pen portrait.

7. ....

Who published a book about "the  
tale of a small girl's adventures in  
the Lake District (see extract in  
last newsletter) in a particular year?

8. ....

When asked how to spell their  
last name, who answered that it  
was "the same as that of the famous  
serial killer ...[one of the moors mur-  
derers], bar the last 'y'?"

9. ....

Spent a long time at Epsom A&E  
after a Varsity Match selection race  
(what a drastic way of making sure  
you don't have to go to a VM!)?

10. ....

Was one of the recipients of the  
"Bucket of Cold Water Award"  
during a inter-university champi-  
onships event?

11. ....

Who admits to frequently (but  
not deliberately) forgetting the  
sleeping bag for the Varsity  
match village hall sleepovers?

12. ....

Who was, in a pen portrait, de-  
scribed as "affectionately known as  
'bottle', 'alky' or 'aunt'. The former  
because of [their] love of all things  
alcoholic and the uncanny resem-  
blance between [themselves] and a  
bottle"?

13. ....

Who provided a generous supply of punctuation for the CUOC newsletter? Also whose room was this photo taken in?

14. ....

Was awarded a wooden spoon prize for the slowest time on the B course at their first Varsity Match?

15. ....

This person is believed to have bought the original DrongO hat that has since become part of the DrongO logo.

16. ....

Wrote a very detailed “unsolicited review” for the newsletter. *“Most CUOC members give me the uncomfortable impression of having been born orienteers, or at any rate, having come up through the ranks of M/W11, M/W13 etc. Norman Harris’ book (Orienteering for Fitness and Pleasure) is probably not for them. It is no technical manual, there are few hints, no real advice [...], but it does describe, vividly, what it is like to take up the sport, in headlong fashion, at middle age. [...] And it is a very good read – try it out as a Christmas present on a non-initiated uncle or parents. See if it works.”*

17. ....

This person was amongst those who successfully competed in the first Cambridge O Marathon.

18. ....

Who is better described as a passionate cyclist rather than being an orienteer?

19. ....

Which DrongO is the only one who is still in office in the CUOC committee?

20. ....



Who used to be a game bird, but is now a vet.

21. ....

In the election fever prior to a CUOC AGM, an anonymous author proposes this person “because maybe that’s the only thing that would keep him quiet.” (But actually never seems to have been a committee member).

22. ....

Who came up with the idea to hold this year’s Varsity Match in the Czech Republic?

23. ....

Who is occasionally confused with Zara Length?

24. ....

Who was a member of SHUOC but spent rather a lot of spare time with CUOC.

25. ....

Who, before Mark Collis, held the record for the longest uninterrupted presence as a student or graduate in Cambridge (and has managed to leave)?

26. ....

Who managed to lose the Men’s team Varsity trophy on a train.

27. ....

A British Champion who can claim to have won the Varsity Match five times, plus coming second in another one.

28. ....

This messed-up Lost Ice King is best remembered for being nearly permanently injured. Also “been delegated ‘Prince Edward liaison officer’ for Jo.”

29. ....

Who got “a year’s supply of gob-stoppers” from Santa one year?

30. ....

# CUOC Pub Score Event 14<sup>th</sup> Nov 1978

Organisers: Ian M. Bratt (a.k.a. Big Ian) & Chris J. Hirst

## Rules

- i) All contestants must be on foot and must walk at all times. They must also behave in an orderly manner (even when drunk).
- ii) The start will be at 7.45pm from Cripp's bar, St. Johns college or as soon after as is practical. All contestants are expected to report to the finish in Cripps Bar by 10.30pm. where the merrymaking can continue legally. All contestants **MUST** report to the finish or we will assume that you have been arrested!
- iii) Please do not disturb or antagonise other customers or landlords in any way. They have not been forewarned!
- iv) All participants **Must** enjoy themselves or be disqualified.
- v) **THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO OBLIGATION TO DRINK ANY ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE DURING THE EVENING NEITHER IS THERE ANY LAW FORBIDDING IT (WHICH WE MIGHT HAVE A LITTLE DIFFICULTY ENFORCING!!!).**
- vi) The idea of the game is to visit pubs which must first be worked out from the clues provided. There are plus points and negative points and you must try to obtain as large a positive score as possible.
- vii) This is a team event and you must remain in your teams or be disqualified.

## Hints for 2011

- i) A Cambridge pub map may help. [www.cambridge-pubs.co.uk](http://www.cambridge-pubs.co.uk)  
The clues for the pubs that have closed have been greyed out !
- ii) The CUOC noticeboard, at that time, was in Gonville & Caius.
- iii) In November 1978, the U.K. was experiencing a bread shortage.
- iv) For the purpose of points c) and d), a new pair of organisers need to be elected.
- v) Finally, competitors were in teams of two tied together at the

## How to Win Points

- a) Decipher the clue to each pub (various values from 10-50)
- b) Visit the pubs in any order (proof of a visit is to write the landlords name(surname) on the clue sheet). Various values 50-250 points.
- c) Find one of the organisers in a pub, drinking, or in possession of a drink (before he finds you!) 100 points
- d) Buy the organiser a drink 100 points

## How to Lose Points

- a) Be found untied or not in your group/team -1000 points
- b) Be found in the pub by another group -50 points
- c) Be found in a pub by an organiser -100 points
- d) Not buying the organiser a drink -50 points

**PLEASE BE HONEST IN APPLYING THE RULES!**

**CUOC PUB SCORE EVENT 14TH NOVEMBER 1978 CLUE SHEET**

Names:

Team Number:

Clue Value (points)

Visit Value

(50)	1. Re-imburse Avogadro we heard Dr.Spooner say? .....	(100)
(20)	2. What Cambridge weren't after sinking last year. ....	( 50)
(30)	3. What you live on, Eh! .....	(100)
(40)	4. Sat on toilet confused. ....	(250)
(50)	5. Heard walking to the club noticeboard? .....	(200)
(10)	6. Mother and daughter, of a sort! .....	(100)
(20)	7. Producer of whisky in Rio? .....	(100)
(10)	8. Oxford pub? .....	( 50)
(10)	9. Edinburgh, Caernarvon or Windsor? .....	( 50)
(10)	10. Choose reel change to catch it. ....	( 50)
(10)	11. <del>Coloured</del> 6 without offspring .....	(100)
(50)	12. Members of N.O.C. ? .....	(250)
(40)	13. Not much in use during present lack .....	(250)
(10)	14. Chigwell event .....	( 50)
(10)	15. Has the ale got gravity here? .....	(100)
(20)	16. Partner for 11. ....	(200)
(30)	17. Canonised farmer 'ad e gun down within this pub. ....	(150)
(20)	18. That orienteers enjoy after a run. ....	(150)
(20)	19. Try even roast for a change here. ....	( 50)
(30)	20. Usually happy suppliers of 13, but could be members of Deeside. ....	(150)
(20)	21. Not what beer is made of, but they still sell it. ....	(200)
(20)	22. Dig with Samuel or Thomas a. ....	(150)
(20)	23. Owner of lots of 6, 11 and 16. ....	( 50)
(20)	24. Home of 20. ....	( 50)
(30)	25. Mary counts for this hostelry. ....	( 50)
(600)		(3000)

We claim to have drunk.....

pints,

shorts,

fruit juices

cider,

lemonade,

others

Big Ian  
9/11/78



# Members' Memories

*A very brief selection from 26 pages of precious recollections...*

CHRIS THORNE 1955

"My second event, on a black and white map, was at Sandringham, when I got very badly disoriented. A helpful small boy competitor, asked 'are you lost, Grandpa' (I could have done without the Grandpa bit), and kindly turned my map the other way up for me. But it still took me 98 minutes for the 4km!"

DAVID LEE COOPER 1957

"Although CUOC didn't exist in my day, I took part in my first orienteering event in Cambridge in the early part of 1959. At the time **Peter Palmer**, whom I consider to be the 'father' of orienteering in the UK, was up at Cambridge reading for a Teachers Diploma."

DON MCKERROW

"It was my privilege to be in CUOC for the first three Varsity matches and to compete in the first two, which we won. I was dropped from the team for the third, which we lost." Coincidence?

MARTIN GREEN 1972

"At Easter in my 2nd year at university (Trinity College 72-76) I was walking through the Forest of Dean when the JK relays came the other way.

I joined CUOC the following autumn. Introductory event along the backs, failing to find the correct fire hydrant number. Followed by my first M19B course in over 2 hours."

IAN BRATT 1973

"The first Icenian was held in Oct. 1976 at Mildenhall Woods. I was sat in a car reading the finish clock which one of our genius members, **Andy Carstairs**, had decided would use 'decimal seconds' each minute being divided into 100 instead of 60. Needless to say the idea didn't catch on!"

JOHN HURLEY 1973

"I was the organiser/planner of a come-and-try-it event at Wandlebury Ring on 20th April 1975. The event made a profit of £6.37 and I hope that this has been spent wisely."

ADAM LEAF 1980

"Thinking about to my CUOC days, I remember the early Sunday mornings cycling up to Churchill in the snow to get my 1970 Hillman Hunter for a 7am meet-up then driving hours round the North Orbital or up the A1."

TREVOR HOEY 1982

"Mapping Bush Heath Woods for Icenian, then not getting the maps until 48 hours before the event!"

PAUL CURZON 1983

"Incidentally, if you like random facts the blue bird logo was originally drawn by me as a self portrait in a depressed moment mid PhD."

IAN BUXTON 1984

"One thing I do remember was the day my CUOC O-kit was presented to me. It was basically a set of white, pale grey and pale blue nylon pyjamas, and I remember thinking they were far too skimpy for me to wear outdoors!"

DARRELL HIGH 1986

"Running the Varsity match in football boots and a rugby shirt from my school days.

The minibus with benches down the side and no windows."

ALISTAIR HINDLE 1990

"The editing decision when Bush Heath was being mapped to remove the bramble screen from most of the map because it didn't look very nice with all those green lines.

The very embarrassing time we went to a major relay which didn't censor our relay team names."

DAVID BOWMAN 1991

"Formal halls in the exotic colleges of other CUOCers - and especially that one where a girls' sports club sitting opposite us stood up and flashed their breasts at regular intervals."

NIGEL WHITEOAK 1992

"The puzzle-O on Coe Fen (and later in the Lakes) when 'Marsh in this area' was actually **Chris Marsh**, wandering around with a punch in his pocket."

ERIC ROLLER 1993

"Comparing split times in the back of the mini bus (on a couple of occasions, **Alistair Hindle** pressed the wrong button on his fancy new wrist watch and instantly deleted all his splits)."

VIV BARRACLOUGH 1994

"Those Varsity Matches where I would usually, and not deliberately, forget my sleeping bag for the Village Hall sleepover."

MARK COLLIS 1995

"The following year I was both organiser and planner of a badge event at Bromehill having also made the map."

WAYNE PATRICK 1999

"There is a special place in his heart for the **Patrick-Elder Trophy**. Surely that thing can't still exist...can it?"

ANN MARIE CODY 2003

"The Alc-O. Coming from the U.S., I had never experienced anything like it (we would be arrested)."

CHRIS WILLIAMSON 2005

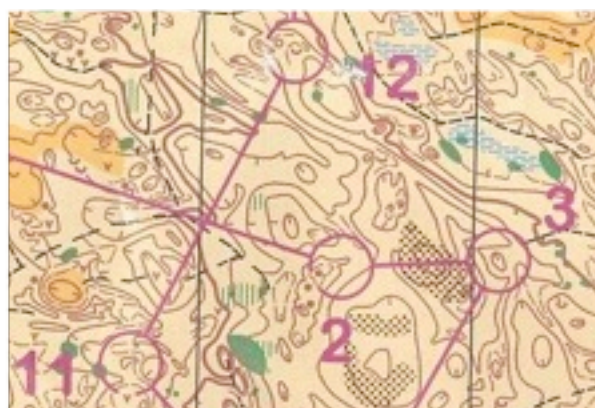
"Unfortunately the one quote that seems to summarise my time in CUOC was 'It wouldn't be an annual dinner if we didn't make Chris wear something pink and flowery.'"

MAP QUIZ -12 Maps From Selected Varsity Matches (N.B. Men's Or Women's Courses)

*Can you name the year and the name of the map? Who won the VM? Who won the M/W course?*



A. ....



D. ....



B. ....



E. ....



C. ....



F. ....

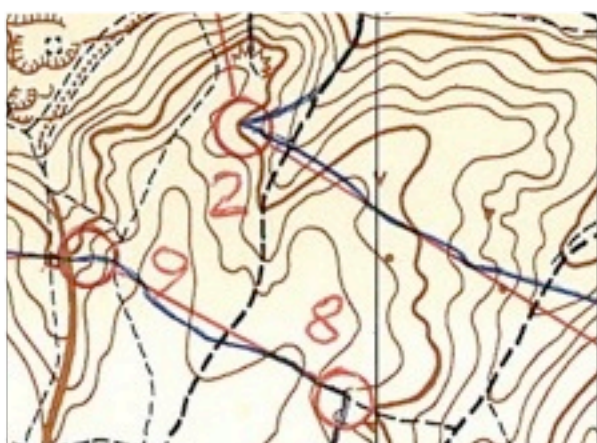




G.....



J.....



H.....



K.....



I.....



L.....

## VARSITY MATCH QUIZ: A PLANNERS NIGHTMARE

Reprinted from the February 2010 DrongO Newsletter

Looking forward to the upcoming Varsity Match? Don't answer now — read this first!

Over the years one gets to hear many behind-the-scenes stories of past Varsity Matches. Or one is “lucky” enough to be cast for the “leading role”.

Below are a selection of such incidences that may or may not have happened at one or more Varsity Matches during the last ten years.

Judge for yourself: find 5 items that did not happen. Their letters form an orienteering term.

Email your clue to us together with a little story about yourself and a major donation to DrongO's race funds. Closing date is VM day 1. A prize may await the lucky winner at the anniversary dinner.

**M** A week before the VM, the planner discovers that the forestry commission has felled a section of forest that all courses must pass.

**H** On the way to the forest, the planner's car breaks down. Luckily, he OUOC minibus was right behind him when it happened.

**F** The CUOC minibus gets stuck in the snow and Cambridge fails to turn up for the Varsity Match. The race is postponed to the following day.

**I** Of the 3 club volunteers who had promised to test-run the courses an hour before the race, none turn up.

**H** 4 inches of new snow over night. The entire forest is covered in white. Navigation becomes a mere footprint-following exercise.

**L** Everything is ready to go and all SI units have been put out. When the first runners come back, we learn that as many as 4 SI units have died. A fifth unit only works for about half of the competitors.

**O** The race is already in full swing when the planner's wrist watch dies. And, yes, there was no other watch with the official race time.

**E** There is a very adapt planner and a trustworthy organiser (both of which are one and the same person), but alas, there is no controller. What can possibly go wrong?

**S** One of the Port-a-Loos topples over with a CUOC runner inside. We shall keep reminding him/her about it for the rest of our lives...

**N** The organiser has set up a printer for results and split times. As luck has it, the printer never spits out a single page ... because its cable was never hooked up to the PC.

**R** In the assembly field, the results tent is blown away. During the turmoil that follows, three runners finish without getting their correct time recorded.

**K** When the race is over, the planner discovers that a SportIdent unit in the finish had been misconfigured. It takes the most part of an hour to decipher the irregularities.

**D** Too much of the same sh... The septic tank is full and the toilets in the accommodation are flooded.

**A** The organiser accidentally drops his laptop. The data cannot be recovered in time for the VM dinner.

**L** VM dinner: the tagliatelle pasta is overcooked into mush. A rare delicacy. Or is it a regular VM occurrence?

**T** The Varsity Match dinner is over, everything is cleaned up and you are ready to lock up the hall, but not without setting off the burglar alarm...

OL SUDOKU

#10

