



# Cambridge University Orienteering Club

BEGINNING OF YEAR ISSUE OCTOBER 1977 BEGINNING OF YEAR ISSUE OCTOBER 1977  
OCTOBER NEWSLETTER OCTOBER NEWSLETTER OCTOBER NEWSLETTER OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

First of all, welcome to the first newsletter of the new academic year. An especially big welcome to all our new members. I hope that you will find our club to your liking and that it caters for your needs. If not perhaps you would like to contribute your own ideas. Its always good to have some fresh 'blood' in the club. As a member, you will receive a newsletter approximately three times a term containing event information, event reports and various odds and ends. So lets begin.....

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- + Oct. 8th Introductory event - Santon Downham (35 miles)
- + Oct. 9th Havoc Badge event - Bury Wood (45 miles)
- Oct. 15th Thames Valley Night event (80 miles)
- Oct. 16th Reading Romp (badge event) Xmas common (90 miles)
- Oct. 23rd ~~Badge event Earthan Wood~~ (110 miles) X  
*Sandringham*
- Oct. 30th ~~CUOC club event - Blackheath and Farley~~ (80 m.) X  
*Coxon Heath*
- Nov. 5th SUOC club event
- + Nov. 6th November Classic (130 miles)
- Nov. 13th LOK Badge event - Leith Hill (80 miles)
- + Nov. 20th Icenian III - Little Ouse Valley (35 miles) X
- Nov. 26th Midland Night Championships - Leicester (80 m.)
- Nov. 27th NOC Badge event - Annesley Forest (100 miles)

## + = FURTHER INFORMATION FOLLOWS

Plenty of events this term- probably the busiest Michaelmas term for many years. There are six badge events and two night events. Lets see how many Gold and Silver orienteers we can have in the club by the end of the term.

Event details are posted on the notice board a week before the event (unless pre-entries are required) - see article on notice board later in this newsletter.

## INTRODUCTORY EVENT

This will take place at Santon Downham on Oct. 8th.

Meet 2.00pm at the back of Christs (King St.). Bring old clothes, waterproofs if wet, compass and whistle (if you have them, -pen (most important) and about 40p to pay for the event and transport. We hope to be back in Cambridge by about 5.30 pm.

## Sunday 9th BADGE EVENT BURY WOOD EPPING FOREST Oct. 9th.

Meet at 9.00am. at the back of Christs. Bring as above plus pack lunch.

STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS  
The badge event at Earthan Wood on Oct. 23rd has been cancelled but there is a Wash O.C. club event at Sandringham that day instead. Also we will probably be going to the Eastern Army District Championships on Oct. 30th instead of



the advertised event, I have heard a rumour that some people are thinking of going to the French Championships that day instead. Anyone interested please see Allyson or Graham as soon as possible.  
NOVEMBER CLASSIC WEEKEND 5/6th NOVEMBER NEW FOREST

Entries for the above event must be in on Oct. 10th. If you wish to go - depart Sat. Return Sun. - please see Keith as soon as possible. Accommodation will be provided on Sat. night at Southampton University.  
ICENIAN III LITTLE OUSE VALLEY/GRIMES GRAVES EAST/SANTON DOWNHAM NORTH

This event will take place on Sunday 20th November and will incorporate the Icenian Trophy and the East Anglian Junior Champs. The map has been completed now and all that remains is to plan (Grahams job) and organise (Keith and Allysons task) the event. Allyson managed to persuade Hoeffers and the outdoor centre to advertise on the map and Robinsons to give us some orange juice. We will need some help to paint signs etc. Lets hope it doesnt rain this year.

MEET THE COMMITTEE...MEET THE COMMITTEE...MEET THE COMMITTEE

NO doubt you will already have met some of the committee - they probably conned you into paying your subscription in the first place. This easy to follow guide might help you to identify the rest of the heirarchy.

**CHAIRMAN KEITH TOMKINS-** 3rd year mathematician from Queens.  
Home club - Old Albanians (isnt that somewhere near Yugoslavia)

Our hard working, persevering, organising Chairman who is responsible for making sure that the whole club runs smoothly. If he is clever, he is able to delegate all the jobs to other members of the committee. Keith started orienteering at St. Albans school and is still learning.

Other interests- Girton, Walking (round 0 courses).

**SECRETARY PETER HAYNES-** 2nd year mathematician from Queens.

Home club - SLOW (yes we all know you are slow Pete).

Possibly the most time consuming job on the committee.

Pete was a newcomer to the sport when he came to university and has progressed extremely well and will hopefully get even better this year.

Other interests-

**TREASURER Iain MOORE-** 2nd year Natural Scientist from St. Johns.

Home club - have you got one Iain? I dont think you have.

Again a newcomer to the sport at University. Iain is the person to be on good terms with if you want any money from the club funds (I darent say anything bad since the club owes me some money).

Other interests- Officers Training Corps

#### Committee

**MEMBERS:- DAVE KINGHAM-** 3rd year Physicist from St. Johns.

Home club- Old Albanians (they seem to be taking over)

Again a product of St. Albans school. Dave is one of the clubs leading runners and is well known for his exploits at Trinity Great Court. He is thinking of becoming a professional stalker.

Other interests- O.T.C., nightclimbing and streaking.

**ALLYSON REED -** 3rd year Chemist from Newnham.

Home club - Derwent Valley Orienteers.

Started orienteering with Walton Chasers longer ago than she wishes to remember. Ex British Ladies Champion and on the way back to the top although things like Chemistry, lectures and exams tend to impair her training somewhat. Drives a white Viva.

Other interests- Chemistry

**GRAHAM NILSEN-** 2nd year Natural Scientist from Fitzwilliam

Home club - Deeside ..... Favourite food- bacon and egg

Dedicated orienteer who started with Manorienters in Liverpool many moons ago. Best runner left over from last year after Charlies departure but he might find some more opposition in the club this year. Affectionately known as Grumble to his friends. OTHER INTERESTS- orienteering, beer.

**ROBERT WEDGEWOOD-** 3rd year Engineer from Sidney Sussex.

Drives a green Triumph and wears red shorts and sunglasses.

Other interests- Gliding and beating Keith at orienteering.



## EVENT REPORTS

### British Championships - Cannock Chase 21st/22nd May

Although it is only five months ago, my memory of this event is rather dim. Still I will try and recall my impressions of the weekends events. The training event on the Saturday was at Brindley Heath - new map, old area as used for the J.K. 1972 training. The courses were informal with just a series of controls placed in similar sites to those to be used on the Sunday. I actually visited all the controls but had some difficulty with the second one so my time was very slow (as usual). Jacker Wilson on the other hand, sped round a handful of controls and considered this to be sufficient training.

The decision to either go to the B.O.F. A.G.M. or to go back to Macclesfield and watch the cup final hardly needed a second thought and we were soon installed in front of the television despite the fact that our road map of the Cannock area did not appear to fit in with the terrain.

The scene of Sundays event was Cannock Forest - otherwise known as Sherbrook valley as used in the J.K. individual 1972. The terrain was similar to Brocton (last years Varsity match) but more complicated in detail. My major mistake (excuses again) was to look on the wrong spur for a control and then to proceed in the wrong direction looking for it. Graham, despite injuries finished well and was 7th in M19, 7 minutes behind the winner, D.Hill. I finished badly (literally, since I fell over on the run in and nearly broke my neck) and was placed well down in M21C. Our other representative (others being busy with exams, revising etc.) was Jean Mackenzie who ran under an alias in M19B and came Third only three minutes behind the winner. Lets hope they alter the date of the Championships next year so that more people will be able to attend. Although having a bad run, it was a gorgeous day and another great orienteering weekend that became a feature of our programme last year. I.M.B.

### Octavian Droobers Badge Event - Bentley Woods 29th May

A pleasant enough badge event over some varied terrain, although some of the vegetation was a bit tricky to negotiate and at least one of the controls seemed to be du'ously placed. Undoubtedly the best part of the proceedings was the stopping at Allysons house for an absolutely superb tea - lets hope there is an event near Rugby again very soon.

As to the results themselves, Charlie and Graham contrived to draw in sixth place in M21A and Rob was listed as being a member of OUOC, is he defecting?

|             |                  |      |        |             |                  |            |
|-------------|------------------|------|--------|-------------|------------------|------------|
| <u>M21A</u> | 1st A.Dog        | OUOC | 73.14  | <u>M19A</u> | 1st A.Reed       | 58.26      |
|             | 6th= G.Wilson    |      | 75.01  |             | 10th J.Mackenzie | 68.46      |
|             | 6th= C.Daniel    |      | 76.01  |             |                  |            |
|             | 11th R.Wedgewood |      | 81.12  | <u>M19A</u> | 1st M.Carey      | WAOC 60.59 |
|             | 30th I.Bratt     |      | 95.21  |             | 5th P.Haynes     | 83.03      |
|             | 32nd K.Tomkins   |      | 102.09 |             |                  |            |
|             | 33rd D.Kingham   |      | 103.16 |             |                  |            |

Other notable performances - Pete Haynes in M19A beat all the OUOC blokes (dogs) to come fifth and Allyson won M19A by almost five minutes. I.M.B.

### Suffolk O.C. event - Santon Downham 5th JUNE

Having been involved in the organisation of this event? I would rather someone else had written this rerort, but no doubt no-one else could be bothered.

This club event, at the venue of Icenian II, attracted a modest ninety people. If the weather had been better and publicity more widespread Im sure that htis figure could have been doubled. Four members of CUOC, set of early from Cambridge and braved the conditions to run and help at the event. Graham ably helped me control the event and ran round the long course in a creditable time, since he was still feeling below par (exam fever I think). G.Lee and D.Philbidge had good runs on the B course and also



helped - many thanks.

Two points which I raised in my report at the time, might be worth reporting here. A stray control, left over from the Suffolk Junior Championships a few weeks previously, nearly caused havoc but was caught in time and only affected a few people. Believe it or not the control still had its code letter and punch attached and had escaped the notice of three of us putting the correct controls out as well as the people who searched for it after it had gone missing.

Secondly, beware of Suffolk Police Cadets. They all overestimate their ability and took an average of over three and a half hours to complete the long course and then arrived back in a large group. A time of over four hours for 9km. is not really on and is slightly worrying for the organisers.

|          |     |              |     |      |       |
|----------|-----|--------------|-----|------|-------|
| B Course | 1st | P. Ruthven   | M2I | Nor. | 42.55 |
|          | 6th | G. Lee       | MI9 | CUOC | 71.50 |
| I.M.B.   | 8th | D. Philbodge | MI9 | CUOC | 84.40 |

#### SLOW RELAYS - Devils Punchbowl 26th June

Despite the fact that this event was in the holidays after a hard years orienteering, we managed to enter a team of three in the A relay. It was a gorgeous day and the setting was the superb "depression" known as the Devils Punchbowl. The start/finish/Changeover area was peculiarly situated in the trees at the bottom of the South end of the bowl.

Pete Haynes ran the first leg, after which our position was nothing to talk about. Then Rob Wedgewood produced a storming run to put us in a good position. Ian Bratt ran the last leg after which we finished in second place. This result is unofficial as I possess no results. However it was another good performance from a CUOC team, which although not our strongest, managed to beat all the other teams but one. This shows again that a team with three good orienteers can do well in relays although the members of it might not win individual events. CUOC has done particularly well in relays over the past year especially in J.K. and B.U.S.F.

I.M.B.

#### OTHER OCCURENCES

Just a brief(?) mention of two non-orienteering orienteering club events (work that one out) to show our new members (have we got any?) that life is not all hard training and competing in the club.

Someone suggested an end of year meal (not just another visit to the Eros - but somewhere a little better). Despite the proximity of exams about eight people decided to come and the venue chosen was the Green Man at Grantchester.

After sherry at Keiths we enjoyed a pleasant walk to Grantchester which gave us all a good appetite. I went go into the gory details of the smashing feast we all devoured but suffice it to say I am sure all those who attended enjoyed an excellent evening. I suggest that we go there every Sunday evening as long as I dont have to pay.

Continuing the theme of enjoyment, more people turned out on the 4th June for the second annual punt trip. Despite the overcast skies and threat of rain (it had been raining for the previous 24 hours) two punt loads of intrepid explorers, complete with raincoats, food, wine, women and song set off to explore the upper reaches of the Cam.

Again I went go into details, but the water we were expecting didnt come from the sky but from the opposite direction. I think everyone fell in/was pushed in at least once and yours truly went in three times. Again everybody seemed to enjoy themselves.

After a drying-out period we all went to Allysons for an indoor barbeque - the weather didnt look as if it would last out to hold it out of doors. We just about managed to fit everyone into Allysons room and she managed to produce enough food to satisfy everybody.

These are just some of the social events that we had at the end of last term. Similar ones are planned throughout the year.



### YET MORE EVENTS

During the long vacation course, three of our members Allyson Dave K. and Ian provided an event (planned by Charlie) for Chris James (B.O.F. Chairman) firm who were holding their AGM at Churchill College. A similar event had been organised the previous year by Dave Jukes and this year the number of people attending nearly doubled to 26.

We used Santon Downham (in fact the same courses as will be used for the introductory event). Only a few people had orienteered before and so the course started off fairly easily and became more difficult as it progressed. All the entrants completed the medium course and some went on to complete the long course. Chris James went round giving advice and still managed to complete the long course in less than half an hour.

Afterwards we all retired to the Bull at Barton Mills for tea and cakes. After all their hard work Dave and Ian managed to eat four plates of cakes between them. On arrival back in Cambridge I discovered that I had left my keys behind a tree in the forest so we had to make another trip to fetch them (seems to be catching-see mapping). We finally arrived back in Cambridge at about 9.00pm and Allyson thought we had been in the pub all that time.

I.M.B.

### MAPPING - JUNE

First of all, many thanks to all who went out to Santon Downham and helped with the mapping, however little or much you did. We had very good weather on the whole (when Graham was nowhere near the forest) and managed to complete the survey in the time required. I'm sure all those who took part enjoyed their days in the forest - I can't think of any better way to relax after the exams (yes I know I didn't have exams but everyone else did). I'm sure you will find the effort has all been worth it next week when the map is ready.

Some amusing (well probably) anecdotes about mapping:-  
The only bit of the draft map that I let Charlie draw he made a complete mess of so I had to redraw.

Graham didn't draw his bit of map on the base map but drew it (as he thought) on a blank piece of paper with the result that when I came to put it on the draft map there was a gap of  $\frac{1}{4}$ " all the way round of blank space. Was there an area of Thetford forest that had absolutely nothing at all in it? It was also the best drawn bit of base map - shame it was at the wrong scale.

Charlie and I were out one day mapping. We had arranged to meet by the level crossing at 6.00pm and duly did so. When he arrived he put his bag down and got into the car for a chat. We decided to go to the picnic area car-park and do some more mapping so we set off. Only when we got back to Cambridge did we discover that we had left Charlie's bag in the clearing. After a quick pint we set off back to Santon where despite searching high or low we failed to find the bag. The following day Charlie rang the Forestry Commission but they didn't even know where the level crossing was.

The story has a happy ending though, because two weeks later we discovered that the bag had been handed in at the Forestry Commission office so I collected. However it's still in my cupboard - come and collect it Charlie, wherever you are, or I'll sell it.

I.M.B.

You may have noticed by now that all the articles written so far have been done so by me. This is your newsletter and it should be full of your stories. So get writing, if everybody wrote something we would be able to have a large newsletter every month. I don't mind what it is - an event report, criticism, suggestions or letters to the editor - GET WRITING NOW.

The newsletter usually comes out three times a term at roughly equal intervals. Copy should be sent direct to me or via any of the committee members. The copy dates for this term are (hopefully) 21st October and 18th November although actual publication dates may vary depending on the amount of news that is ready for press. One other point, the newsletter may be used as a way of criticising or praising the way the club is run - we have no censorship.



### CHAIRMAN'S NOTEBOOK

Welcome back everybody for a new and fully packed term. I hope everybody had a good vacation and all are ready to prepare for wresting the Varsity Shield back from O&E"?) (or Hanging on to the Ladies shield). The main event for this term is Iconian III on November 20th (see page two).

Sorry it is so short this month, but Ian wanted to get the newsletter duplicated as soon as possible so there wasn't time for much else.

P.S. Any compliments about the Iconian Map to Ian.

K.T.

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Whether or not you read the rest of this rubbish please read the notes below concerning the general running of the club.

#### NOTICE BOARD

The club notice board is situated at present, just inside the front gate of Christs College. It is essential that members keep themselves acquainted with the news on the board since the newsletter does not come out often enough to impart all event details. This is the place to sign up for events and to learn final details. Please sign up for events as soon as possible after the lists go up so that transport can be arranged.

#### Lunches

Orienteering Club Lunches take place on Thursday lunchtimes at DD 27 Queens college at 1.00pm. A cold buffet is provided for the moderate cost of only 30p and one is able to chat about orienteering amongst other topics.

#### SUNDAY EVENINGS

Usually after events on Sundays some people go out for a meal at the Whin/Eros/Corner House and then retire to a local hostelry (more often than not Queens Par) for some liquid refreshment and a discussion of the days events. Those not attending the event are also welcome to attend but would do as well to check with somebody who had been as times and places of such meetings are often decided on the day in question.

#### TRANSPORT

For transport to events we rely on members cars. If you are bringing a car to Cambridge or have one please let the committee know. We might even be able to arrange to get a Proctorial permit for you (essential for car owners).

#### TRAINING

Always a sore point. If the club is to do well this year then the top orienteers must train to keep fit. Many people prefer to train on their own or play another sport. However if people want to train with someone else I'm sure there are other people in the club willing to help.

Fenners Gym (Gresham Rd.) is open from 9.00am to 5.00pm. every day for all those masochists who wish to do circuit training.

### YET EVEN MORE AND MORE EVENT REPORTS

#### NORTHERN CHAMPIONSHIPS KERSHOPE FOREST SEPTEMBER 25th.

A few intrepid orienteers made the journey to the Border country for the Northern Championships with the only notable achievement being Dave Kinghams possible Championship standard in M21A. It was the first time in ages we had run in the rain and I claim to have wrung out 1 pint of water from each sock after the event, thanks mainly to hidden wet ditches along supposedly major rides - its not many places it is easier to run through brashings in the forest than along rides. Still it was a good w/e and it only goes to prove that Nick Roses trick of drinking 4 pints the night before a race doesnt work for everyone.

K.T.

Isnt Tyvek great for reading in the bath? It doesnt go soggy.