

The Legend

Number 214



Newsletter of
North Gloucestershire Orienteering Club
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www.ngoc.org.uk



NEWSLETTER AWARDS 08 13 14 17 19

CompassSport

NGOC Committee

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Mapping Officer Pat MacLeod mapping@ngoc.org.uk	Development Officer Post vacant
Communications & Publicity Officer Rosie Taylor communications@ngoc.org.uk	Fixtures Secretary & Permissions Officer Greg Best permissions@ngoc.org.uk
Club Coach Post vacant	Club Captain Vanessa Lawson captain@ngoc.org.uk
	Newsletter Editor Alan Brown legend@ngoc.org.uk
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SI & Results John Fallows john@greveye.co.uk	Additional Member Andy Creber
Volunteer Coordinator Ian Prowse volunteer@ngoc.org.uk	Additional Member Paul Taunton paul@ngoc.org.uk
Other Useful Non-Committee Contacts	
Club POC Manager Caroline Craig pocs@ngoc.org.uk	Web Administrator Steve Lee webadmin@ngocweb.com

The above shows the committee structure following the 2024 AGM

Front cover: Dave Jones, one of the stalwarts of NGOC during the 1990s and 2000s, has died. Read about Dave on pages 5 and 6.

Chair's Chat

I wish you all a Happy New Year! May you be running in forests that are sunlit and with every control where you expect it to be.

The start of the year has been eventful. There was concerning news that club member John Miklausic was admitted into hospital last week with a quite severe illness. If you don't know John, you will recognise him as a stalwart of the string course taking the time to set it up and host it at many recent League events. At the last report John is receiving good treatment and our thoughts and hopes for a speedy recovery go out to him and his family.

We are a busy club and less than three weeks into January we have already put on a New Year's Day score event and our first League event of 2025. Both were well organised and the blue course at the League event had this Chair bamboozled more than once.

A highlight from the League event was the presence of a loo! In case you were not at the AGM last October or did not read the minutes, there were several very lively discussions and one of them was about bringing in toilets to our League events. It can be logistically difficult to get a portable toilet deposited at some of our events, but club members were of the firm opinion that we do what we can; experienced orienteers can cope with most things but we might put off new runners who find there is no toilet facility at their first foray into the forest orienteering scene. Many thanks to Andy Creber for his determination to make it happen. And also for the stylish arrangement including flowers that greeted users on Saturday (see photo on next page).



2025 is promising in other ways too. I hope many of you will have signed up for the CompassSport Cup round on 23rd February at Croydon Hill near Minehead – we're keen to get enough points to progress to the Final in October to race in the sand dunes near the mouth of the River Tees. We have some great plans for training and coaching, with several different formats to help club members develop as suits them best. Right at the end of last year the club hosted an outdoor first aid course attended by a number of club members which will help support both races and training events. We are lucky, following dedicated training last year, to now boast three qualified coaches to support the training efforts and an accumulation of significant experience within the club. Please keep an eye out on your emails and the club website for more information as plans develop.

Ian Jones

Dave Jones



We regret to report that Dave Jones died on 25 October after a long battle with Alzheimer's. He was a stalwart of the club during the 1990s and early 2000s and was still orienteering up to the Scottish Six Days in 2017 until memory problems made navigation too difficult.

Ian Jones

REMEMBERING DAVE JONES

For those heading for dotage who still have the remnants of a memory Dave was a very integral part of our orienteering age. This was not just because of the shared love of the sport or indeed the sharing of the highs and lows of any event. Dave was also one of the most laid back people you could meet. His very disarming wry smile could always be guaranteed to get any complaint into perspective and by complaint I mean the general orienteer's moan. He was for many years an active member of the Western Night League, both running and organising. Dave's approach to planning and competing was a very unflustered 'what will be will be'.

His attitude is best understood by a couple of anecdotes. The first is, on passing him at a Scottish 6-day event where he was leaning against a rock on some high point in the Cairngorms. On asking if he was OK he said yes, he had just a bit of an injury but he was alright and would get back. The next we heard was that he was taken off by helicopter and flown to hospital.

The other memory of Dave's enlightened attitude to what others would consider a crisis was the unique nature of his basement floor. On lifting a floorboard he highlighted the permanent sump of water beneath. Again that wry smile when he stated that he never really went down there so it didn't worry him.

Finally there is the hospitality shown by Dave, Janet and all the Jones family at the Scottish 6-days where for several years NGOC members were invited around to their holiday home for food and drink and an evening social, an event taken in his stride by Dave.

Dave was a truly lovely man with the character tailored for a beautiful sport.

Tom Mills

I have fond memories of Dave, who was a proper gentleman and a lovely, unflappable man. I recall Dave driving Steve Williams and me to a Harvester Relay about 10 years ago on a tortuous route along lots of narrow lanes. I got terribly lost on the first night leg and poor Dave was the unfortunate soul to be on the second leg, having to wait for ever at the hand-over on a cold night, before I finally returned from my run just as the birds were waking! He took it all in his stride of course and completed his run much quicker than me with the minimum of bother. And remained his cheery self.

Greg Best

VHI 2024 – PLENTY TO WRITE HOME ABOUT

by Ginny Hudson

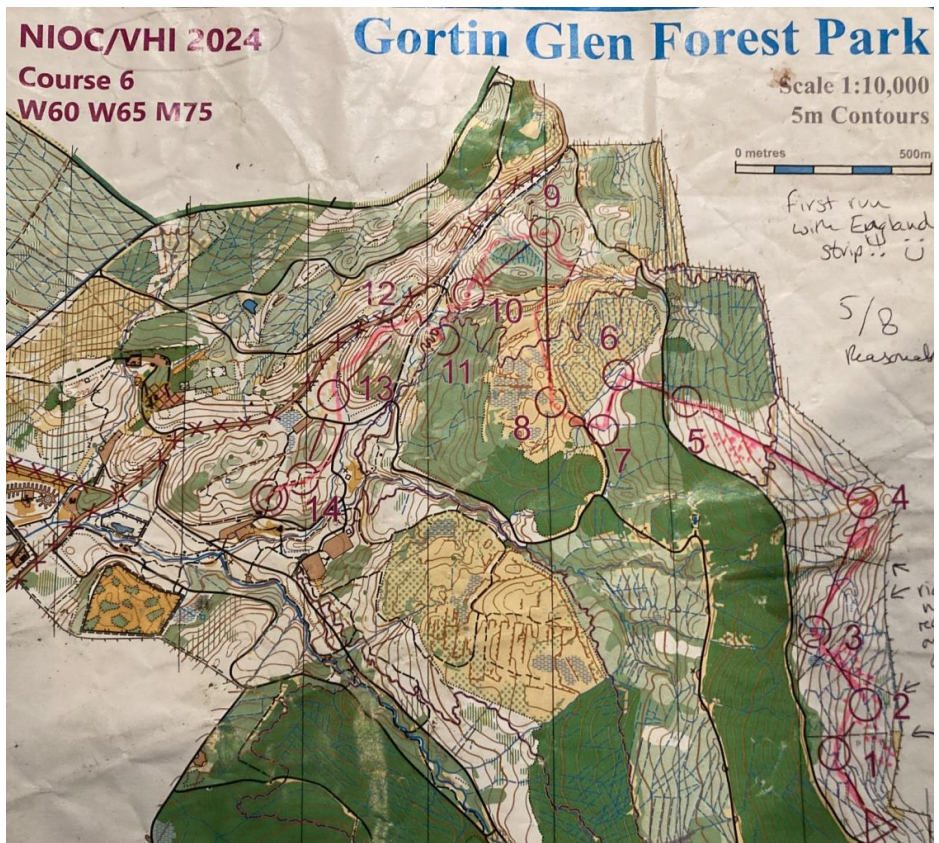
It was with enormous surprise that I opened the email inviting me to represent England in this year's Veteran Home Internationals. Surely some mistake?! Certainly a fluke. But I was happy to grab the opportunity and the stash - a lovely badge to sew on something, haven't decided yet, and the unmistakable red and white shirt, to be treasured despite the already indelible grass stains. My family were both astonished and proud. And many people were very kind in their appreciation of my selection.

I travelled with my BOK friends Alison Simmons and Jackie Hallett, both highly experienced and competent, to the village of Gortin, near Omagh in Northern Ireland and met with the team in our youth hostel. Nothing glamorous here: bunk beds in dorms complete with a dodgy loo and mournful cows in the sales yard outside our window, just separated from their calves. Not a lot of sleep that night!



Ginny & Andy – on opposing teams!

The rain kept at bay for the Individual event, held in Gortin Forest. Before the start, I was very pleased to bump into Andy Creber, running for Wales, and he reassured me that everyone makes mistakes under pressure, even the old hands. I didn't feel any particular pressure to excel, being the newbie, just to get round safely with no mispunches or horrendous time losses. And really it was just like any other forest event. Super fun, no glory, plenty of silly mistakes but solid. I contributed a couple of points at most, being 5th out of 8, but was delighted to take part. Andy was 4th out of 8.



This was my map, annotated with pink dots meaning I was totally lost! But it shows the enormous variety of terrain: starting in mossy ditches, through lovely beech, a large patch of

treacherous marsh & horrible spiky grasses, and more steep-sided beech. Andy also had open peat trenches to contend with.

Andy writes:

The VHI in Northern Ireland had two quite contrasting areas for its Individual day and the Relay competition. Day one was a mixed forestry area, with steep sided valleys, above which the longer courses got to explore the open moorland. Interestingly, my course started quite high up in the forest with a substantial walk to the Start. Although finishing much lower down, there was still a reasonable degree of climb on the course.

I would add that the mapping of the heavily ditched areas was not a patch on Greg Best's highly commended Mallards Pike network and I heard a few mutterings about putting controls on features that aren't mapped correctly!

I was also much reassured by the familiar nerdy post-race analysis, all the same stock phrases as usual: "For some reason, I went.....", "I don't know why I did that", "I should've....." I particularly love "For Some Reason..." (Might that be a good column title in the Legend? Or just FSR?)

The celebration meal with all the teams that evening was excellent and I very bravely introduced myself to the Scottish ladies at the top of my age ranking table, names I had long imagined to belong to fearsome, awesome athletes. Awesome they are, indeed, way out of my league, but they were very friendly and courteous to this cheeky upstart. I will certainly say hello again.

The rain was not at all kind the next day, for the Relays, and we drove back to the airports in various bedraggled and bloodied states.

Andy writes:

The Relay day's map may not look particularly interesting, but it was fast and furious. The scale (1:5000) caught myself and others out, although my biggest error was caused (twice) by the control numbers being too far away from the controls to which they referred. This led to a number of people going off to the wrong control. Ginny has enclosed a piece of her relay map. 60% of the control numbers are too far from their circles. When your map is folded, chaos ensues.

I also had so much trouble with reading my map in the rain, that I booked an appointment to get some contact lenses on my return! I don't like relays. I've had both blistering runs and also mispunched several times. I tend to get lured into going too quick.

I disagree, Andy! Relays are great fun, as it turns out, and I particularly enjoyed running alongside another highly-esteemed lady, Alice Bedwell, ducking and diving, and crucially not complacently following her when our courses split. I was not as sharp as I would've liked, and she lost me fair and square, (stuck in a ditch actually, For Some Reason!) but I managed to get round without mispunching – I was SO careful about that. I did come a cropper with the mapping detail, I have to say. FSR, the numbers printed on the map were sometimes unhelpfully closer to a different control and had me running round in circles! Some muttering could be heard, but another lesson repeated: look at the map, again!

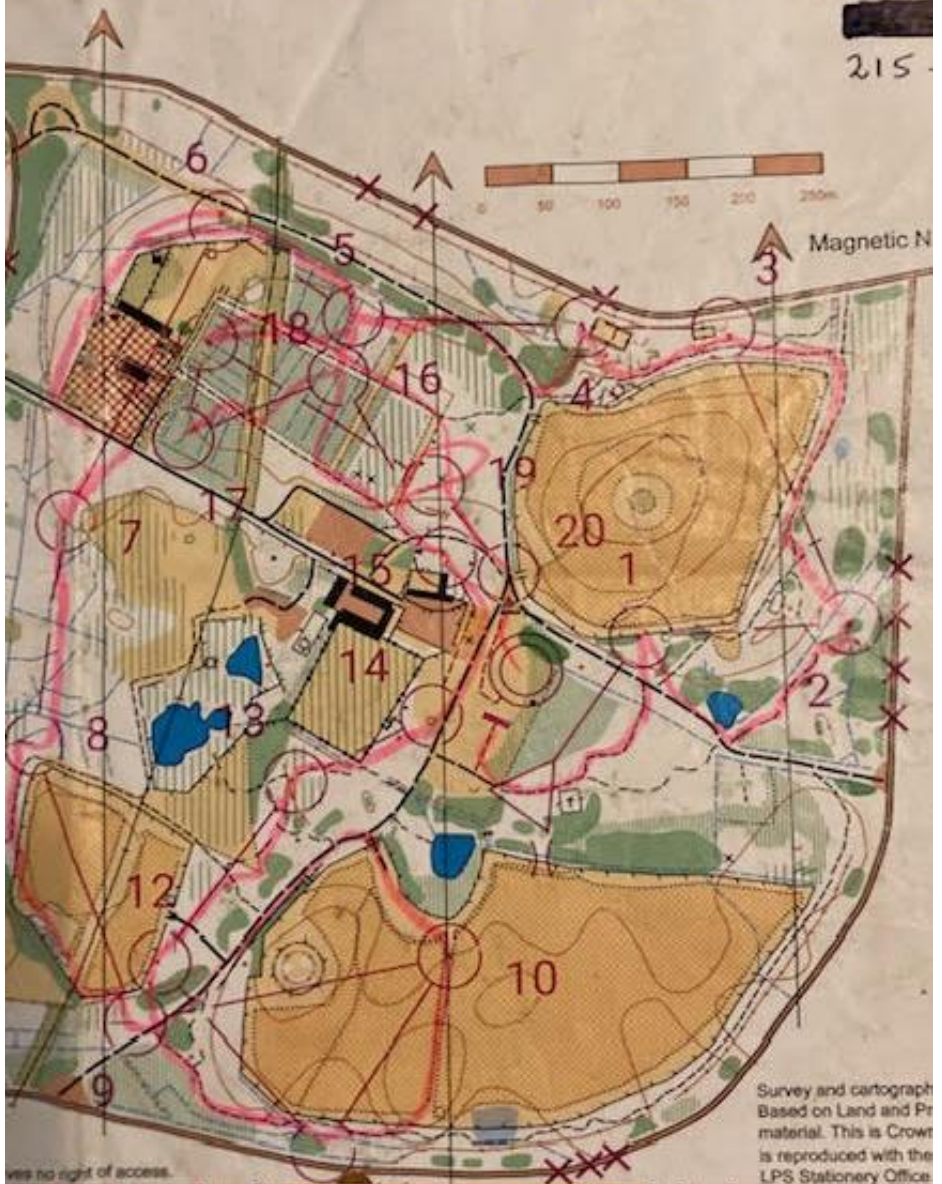
For Some Reason, then, a great opportunity to compete for England came my way. I may not get another chance, but I thoroughly enjoyed it and will grab it if it comes again.

P.S. England did win both events...

Ginny

VHI 2024 Relay

215



Which one is control 18? Obvious now of course!

Changes to Rules of Orienteering and Event Guidelines

- important for NGOC event planners

A controllers' newsletter has been issued, outlining some of the changes to the Rules of Orienteering and event Guidelines from 1 January 2025. There's an updated rule about the finish which planners need to be aware of for our League events:

- Rule 27.2: "The precise location of the finishing line or point must be clear to all competitors approaching it. The route to the Finish from the last control must be taped for the whole route unless the Finish or the Finish funnel is clearly visible to the competitor from their last control".

And some of the guidelines relating to Sprint and Urban events have been amended:

- Rule B10.4.6: "When a control is sited on one side of an impassable linear feature (e.g. a wall) that can be approached from both sides, the control circle should be offset so that it is clear from the map which side of the feature the control is located. [BOF Special Rule only applicable to this format]".
- Rule B10.5.2: "For control descriptions, course lengths must be given as optimum distances. For clarity, it is recommended that event information explicitly states that optimum distances are being provided".

Paul Taunton



John Fallows, Hilary Nicholls and David Lee at Lightning Tree Hill on 14 December 2024. David was the planner on this area in 1987

A day at the seaside for Bertie

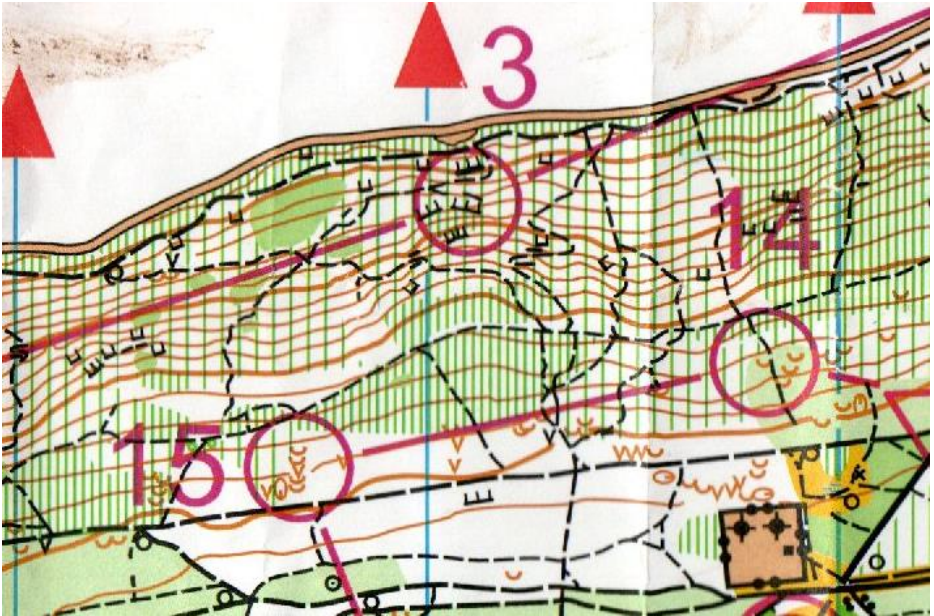
Well, not exactly at the seaside but the official title of the map is Weston Woods and Worlebury Hillfort 1:7,500 5m contour. Just to the north of Weston-super-Mare, don't you know.

Another Sunday morning and Sunday, as we all know, is when train drivers have a bit of a lie-in, the idle blighters. So it meant Bertram started about an hour and a half after the first punter. I didn't even get a train the whole way as I had to take a replacement bus as far as Gloucester. I mean to say! At Temple Meads I jumped out of the train and rushed to the indicator board. Rather than give a platform number for my connection to W-s-M it merely said "cancelled". In a rather gloating typeface, I thought. Luckily there was another train twenty minutes later and this actually turned up.

From the station in Weston it was a mile or more to Registration and the Start and Finish. Now, if I had been travelling by car I would obviously have approached along a road and not impinged, if that is the word I want, on the competition area. However, to get there in time, Bertie had to walk through part of the competition area. Now I don't want my readers to think that I am not above a little sportsmanship but I did keep an eye out for any controls that might be lurking about. I saw just the one, I still remember the number – 128, but it turned out not to be one I wanted.

Quickly changing and leaving my rucksack at Download, I made my way to the Start where there was a lonely-looking fellow who was rather chatty and gave me a hint or two on how to get to number 1. I suppose most punters had already started and he was just waiting until his duty finished at half twelve and he could pack up and rush off to his club for a quick one before his Sunday roast.

I found the first control quickly, thanks to his advice, and carried on. There were plenty of tracks marked on the map but plenty of what might have been tracks marked on the ground. So one had to be careful.



Control 3 was up a steep hillside, above a small parking place for dogwalkers' cars. Struggling up said hillside I was aware of a small white van leaving the parking area and next there was a loud crashing sound like a trailer carrying tin cans being towed over a large pothole. Looking back, with some difficulty due to the trees, I saw the white van at right angles to the road but not actually on the road. At first I thought he was driving into a field but, on second thoughts, it appeared that he was trying to turn round and had gone a bit too far, ending up a couple of feet down a bank a bit too steep to drive back up. There was then the sound of a loud voice explaining to a couple of interested onlookers what had happened. I couldn't see what I could do to help so carried on.



I made my way very steadily round the course and eventually made the Finish, being last back apart from one other slowcoach. Another enjoyable course from BOK but much more difficult navigation than I had expected.

PPen Pointers – No.1 “Event Audit”

The first in an occasional series of tips, intended to assist planners using Purple Pen to plan NGOC events

Part 1 - Paul Taunton

The free Purple Pen software (PPEN) is the first-choice planning software for most NGOC planners, because OCAD planning is not as user-friendly. The club doesn't have a licence for the popular commercial programme Condes that is used by BOK and many other clubs. It's relatively easy for novice planners to find their way around PPEN and prepare a set of draft courses for an NGOC event. Once you have done this, it's worth using some of the built-in audit features within PPEN to check and improve your courses.

Go to the Main Menu, select “Reports”, then, from the Dropdown menu that appears, select “Event Audit”. An audit report similar to that shown below will pop up, giving comments on aspects of your controls, courses and event:

Course Item Reports Help

Add Control
 Add Finish
 Add Descriptions
 Add Map Flip/Exchange
 Add Variation
 Add Special Item

nge Short Green Green Blue Brown

Event Audit ? X

Event Audit for NGOC League 1 2026

Missing Items in Courses

Course	Item	Reason
Yellow	Climb	Regular courses should indicate the amount of climb

Close Together Controls

The following table shows all control pairs that are within 100 meters of each other. The same symbol column shows whether the two controls have the same primary symbol (column D).

Control codes	Distance	Same symbol?
33, 34	54 m	No

Legs Run in Both Directions

Leg	Courses
48 → 49	Blue
49 → 48	Green

Missing Description Boxes

Code	Column	Reason
51	D	All controls must have a main feature in column D

If you are an unusually efficient planner the report will simply read **“No problems found”** but it’s more likely that your report will appear similar to that above, with several concerns identified. Two of the sections, “Missing Items in Courses”, and Missing Description Boxes” are self-explanatory and easily rectified by inserting the missing information, but two of the items in the report above require more thought:

Close Together Controls - The latest rules regarding minimum spacing of controls are given in Section 19 of the January 2025

Rules of Orienteering. Note that these rules are more complex than the simple distance check used in the PPEN audit, as they vary dependent both on the scale of the map and the technical difficulty of the course. For large scale (sprint) maps the Rules also specify a minimum running distance that is greater than the straight-line control separation. The control separation of 100m used by the PPEN check is conservative and so will always highlight any control pairs that do not comply with the rules, **but some controls identified as “close together” may well be acceptable.** If the event audit identifies some of your controls as potentially too close you must read Rule 19 and satisfy yourself that they meet the specific rules on spacing. Particular care is needed to consider whether controls with ostensibly different descriptions do actually appear distinctly different in the terrain, or whether they could be confused by competitors. For example, the report above identifies controls 33 and 34 as being only 54m apart, but not having the same symbol. For this League event, with a 1:10,000 scale map, Rule 19.3 requires a minimum spacing of 30m between controls, **or 60m if they are on similar features.** The spacing of 54m shown is probably adequate, provided that the planner is satisfied that the two features are sufficiently different.

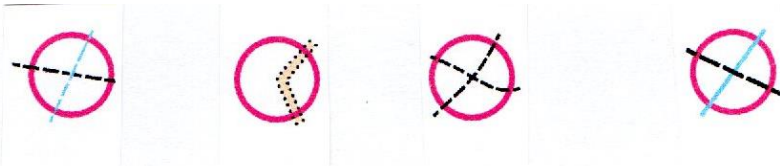
Legs Run in Both Directions - It is not uncommon to find yourself on a leg in the forest with a stream of runners approaching you in exactly the opposite direction. **Whilst there is no rule that specifically forbids legs run in both directions, it is certainly not good practice.** Contraflows do make finding control sites easier during busy times in the event window, but will have much less effect early and late when few people are likely to be running the leg at the same time, so can lead to unfairness. If PPEN identifies contraflows in your courses try to remove them, or at least restrict them to a single leg. It's not good practice to plan two different courses that have a series of identical controls, but in the opposite direction.

Paul Taunton

How good are you at control descriptions?

Map	Terrain	Control Descriptions	Text Description
		1 <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	Terrace

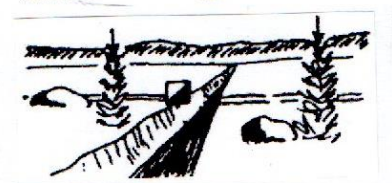
Above is an example of a control description, showing a section of map, a line drawing of the feature, the symbol description and a text description. Below are four of these that have been deconstructed (and five more on the next page) – all you have to do is reconstruct them! Answers are in “Brashings”.



87	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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84	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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85	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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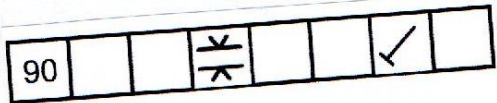
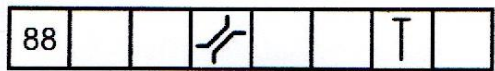
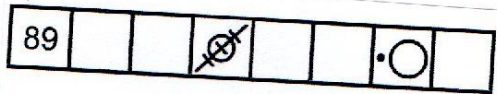
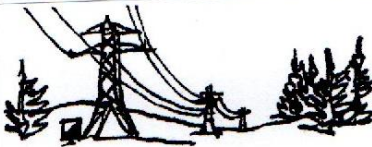
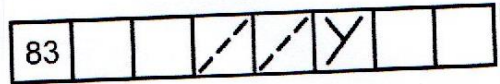
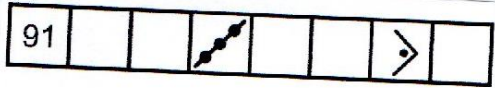
86	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Ride bend,
west side

Path/stream
crossing,
north side

Path/ditch
crossing,
west side

Path crossing



Tunnel,
south-west end

Bridge, north end

Wall, east corner
(inside)

Path junction

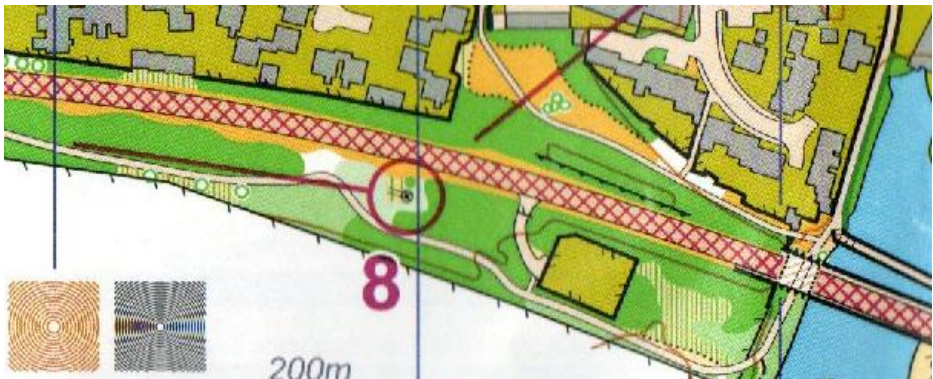
Power line,
pylon, west side

Is this a control I see before me?

or

Bertie versus the Bard

Well, I mean to say, I'd been to Stratford-upon-Avon before but not to go orienteering. A Sunday morning and Jeeves had advised an early start to avoid those bally tourists. So, getting wet feet due to going the wrong way across waterlogged grass to the Start I arrived with a yawn a two. But I was soon away, taking a compass course to the first control on the bank of the river. Nearly there when I saw a control nestling behind a tree some yards off my direction. Thinking I must have made a bloomer with the jolly old compass I headed towards it to find it was not the one I wanted. That's a lesson for all you rush-around types: check the control number!

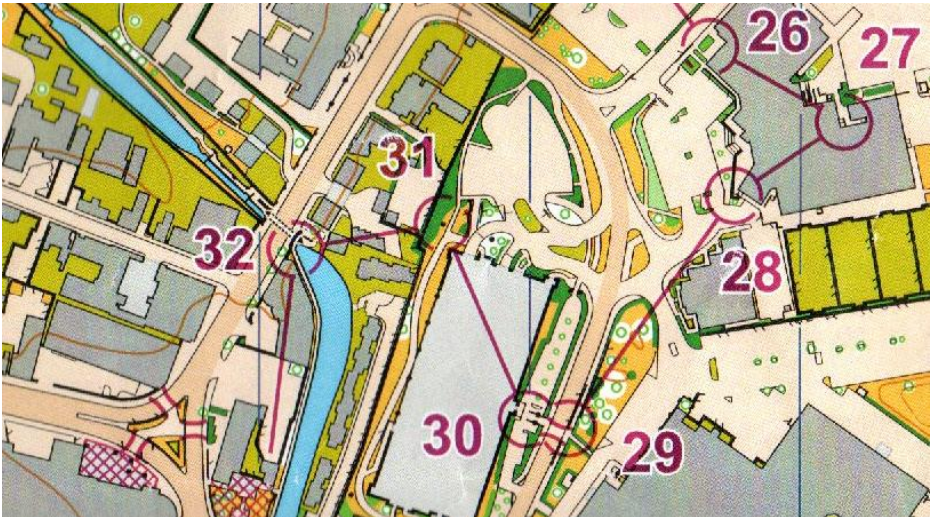


Control 8: length of old railway track and buffer stop

After this slight setback I carried on without any problems. Approaching number 8 I observed a strange squiggly thingy on the map and wondered what it was. I arrived to see a length of old railway track and a buffer stop sporting a red and white kite

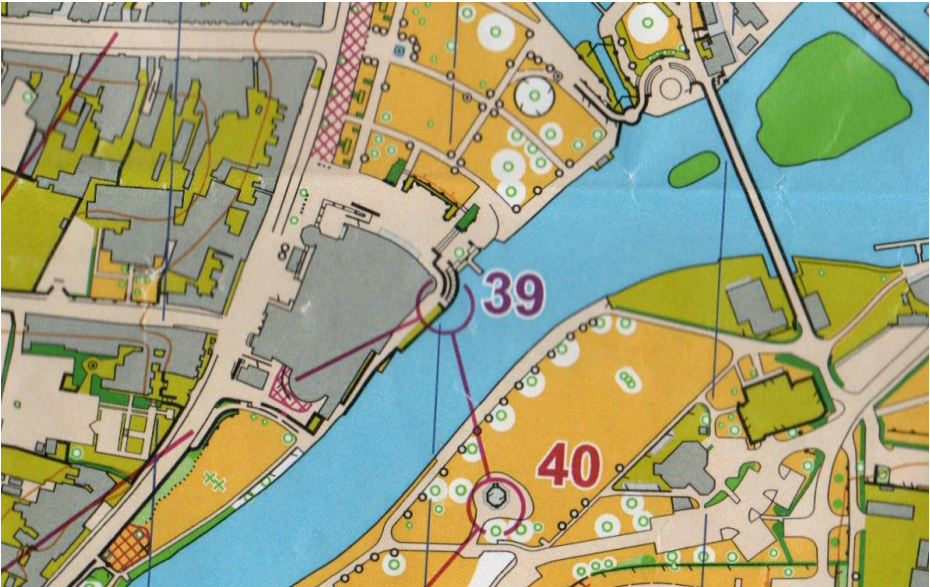
and control box. I concluded that I must have been running along the route of a closed down railway, a jolly nice little touch I must say.

Well, I carried on, going round lots of areas new to me and some familiar ones, including the RSC theatre, whatever RSC stands for. I must ask Jeeves.



Control 30: Bertie's undoing.

There were 42 controls, which may seem excessive to some of my readers, but several were timed out road crossings. At the last one I went across and heard someone behind me trying to attract my attention, saying that he hadn't heard my dibber beep. I assured him, with a certain amount of hauteur, that I had dibbed correctly and continued; but the further I went the more a nagging doubt grew. It rather spoiled my enjoyment of the run.

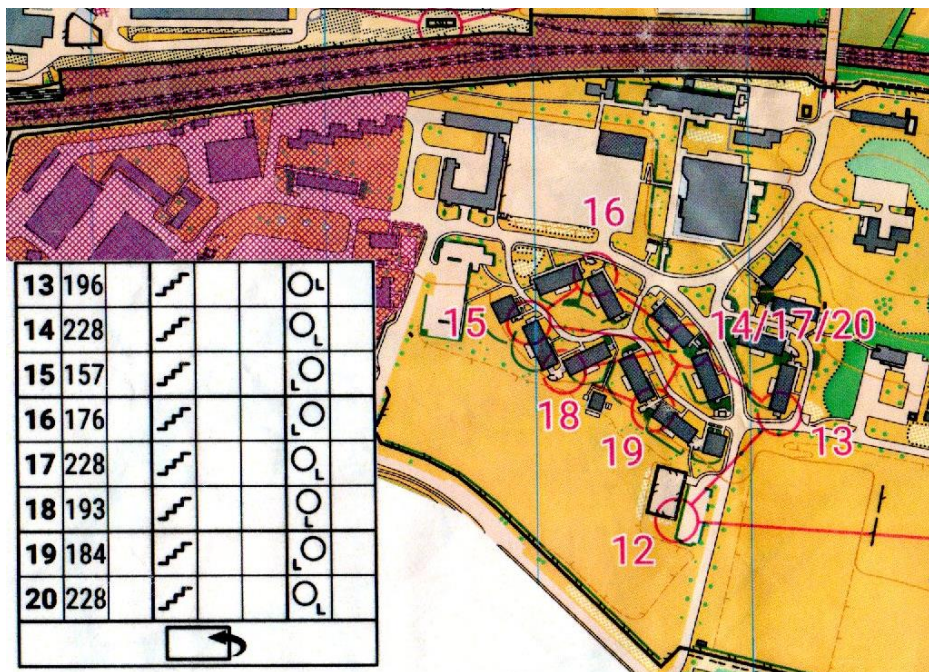


The RSC, Control 39, the River Avon and enough map to work out how to get to 40

But by the time I had reached the Finish (getting my feet wet again on some waterlogged grass after they had almost dried out) I had forgotten about the alleged mispunching and went, all unsuspecting, to Download. Here I had a nasty shock when that nasty little slip of paper had a row of dots, instead of a time, for number 30.

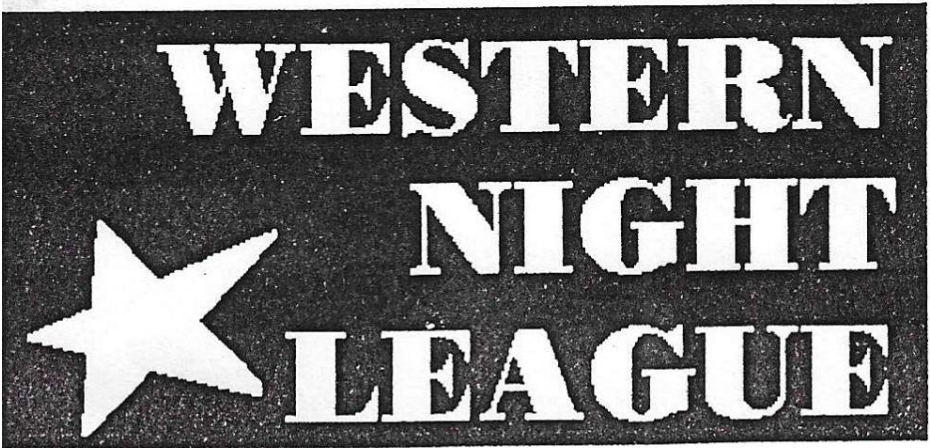
Well, it had been a pleasant run and I would have been last anyway. The only thing is that it is the third time in recent urban runs that I have messed up the punching - and easy controls at that. Is it a sign of Bertie losing his marbles? I'm too young . . .

BAOC FINDS A NEW USE FOR SPIRAL STAIRCASES!



Yes, these fire escapes on the ends of barrack blocks are ideal for attaching controls – and for confusing competitors. If you turned over the map controls 21, 23 and 24 are also spiral staircases; 22 spoils the effect by being the corner of a hedge.

The event was the Military League South of 27 November at Warminster Garrison.



The rise, demise and rebirth of the Western Night League in three instalments

Have you ever wondered how something that you are regularly involved in got started? Perhaps you are curious enough to wonder how everything got started, like the Universe for example or something more meaningful like the Western Night League? As far as I am aware it was the first night league in the U.K. So, who were the visionaries who put it together? In this first instalment you can enjoy the wit and reminiscences of the original founders and it is with thanks to Mark Blackstone who in 1997 took the time to capture the origin of the league.

Tom Mills

Terry Rutty writes: *Whilst principally a doer rather than a writer, Mark Blackstone's persistence has enabled me to concoct the following excerpts from my report in SINS in 1984. I think the words reflect the nature of night orienteering, its technicality and its pleasure. I hope you get the bug from reading this history stemming from my original organising.*

"With the goodwill and hard work of many NGOC and BOK members we have completed the first Western Night League. I backed this idea largely out of selfishness (!) Being one of many keen "night owls" who feel the need for some competition prior to the Night Championships.

We kicked off on the 22nd September at Blakeney Hill on a fine evening with more than 50 competitors. The very complex terrain at the south end of this map was a merciless introduction to the art of night orienteering. We had wondered if some had nipped off for a pint mid-course.....

.....Finally to Leigh Woods, and clearly the toughest forest we had used -- steep terrain and very rough underfoot. Inside information as to the nature of this forest had persuaded a number of our regular patrons to opt for the soft option of the Karrimor instead.

Well, I hope everyone enjoyed the competition and that it will have proved to be of value. To all the volunteers - many many thanks ! Next years venues and dates will be published in due course.

So just y'all come back."

Terry Rutty

The need for the WNL by Lin Callard, long-standing NGOC WNL coordinator

Thirteen years is a long time for someone with a memory like mine. Some people can remember things like what year they got married, and the year that Auntie Ruth fell in love with an Arabian Sheikh but I'm damned if I can, so what I can recollect about the early days of the WNL is not a lot.

One of the few things that does stick in my mind is that one of the prime movers was Terry Rutty, not a bad description of him, now

I come to think of it. He certainly was one of those pushing small night events but whether it was for training for the Regional Night Championships or for the Harvester, I cannot remember. I am sure that the Harvester did loom large in those days, as Terry used to work very hard to raise and motivate NGOC teams, culminating in NGOC winning the handicap class. I can also remember him advocating that we hold the night mini-league events in the autumn so that we were ready for the Regional Championships, and that doesn't tie up with preparing for the Harvester. You can see how confused I am.

The early events used to have about 25 to 30 entries, were cross-country, none of this score event nonsense where the brain has another degree of freedom to worry about and were generally put on by two people who very often had little experience of night events which not infrequently resulted in long winning times.

My most treasured memory of that time is putting on an event somewhere in the Forest of Dean and on returning to the start, having put out the last control in the gloaming, coming very quietly (not deliberately, well not very ...) up behind a group of Territorial Army guys, who were standing and lying just inside the edge of the wood looking out and away from the direction of my approach. Their reaction when I coughed when about 10 feet away was quite entertaining: fortunately I don't think they were old enough to be allowed real ammunition!

I also remember a Great Barnetts event in 1984 I think, put on by Dudley Budden and doing quite well, mainly because I found a route along a road for about a kilometre and through someone's garden, but don't tell Dudley, he might disqualify me!

And that really sums up the need for the WNL, or any other O event come to that - "Entertainment".

The competitor's view - by Tony Noott, now M55 BOK

It was autumn 1984, I was going down the M5 to a Devon galloper in a mini-bus hired by Don Jones BOK for the benefit of a few selected friends. We were talking about the latest crazy fad being pushed by NGOC for night orienteering. "Not in a million years for me!", I said. "You can borrow my spare headlamp" replied David Lee. "The next event is Friday week" chipped in Mike Nelson. "Absolutely not" was my final word.

One or two weeks later saw me at the next night event. The balmy Bristol weather had given way to a damp and misty evening during the drive to Sallowvallets. My anxiety level was mounting rapidly as I prepared to venture out amongst the wild bears and ghoulies that come out at night in forests. I knew this to be a fact because my children's books all said so. The OFF whistle blew and panic slapped me in the face. So did the thickening mist, spiders' webs, unseen branches, bats and all those horrible things described in my children's books. I stumbled over brashings that rose under my feet, ditches which moved as I leapt them and reflective strips that ran away as I approached. The blessed relief of seeing the finishing line cannot be described! I loathed every second! How did I get round? Never again!

One or two weeks later saw me at my second event, fully equipped with the latest Ken Broad Army & Navy surplus 12 watt parallel beam searchlight backed up by a 6 watt handheld ray gun and all the latest gen on handrails and following techniques. Apart from checking where Terry Rutty was, I didn't look back after that.

Terry was the driving force behind those early night events. The basic aim was for a series of autumn events held every two weeks to give orienteers the experience to tackle the regional and national championships. To this end, Terry was most

successful: BOK and NGOC subsequently fielded many orienteers who performed well at the highest levels.

Terry was also very keen to obtain success for NGOC in what was, for him, the supreme event - the Harvester. Of course, BOK had like ambitions and each club then entered one or more teams every year. The rivalry was intense!

The night atmosphere was magic! A new dimension to orienteering had been discovered which honed those skills which so obviously read across the all-important day-O. The initial night trepidation rapidly disappeared. The mate-baiting grew. Lamp technologies advanced, Would Lin Callard's twin super-beam halogen headlamp give him an advantage or would he run out of power halfway round? We all prayed. Why did Clive Hallett run in Wellington boots one night? And still win? What sort of secret weapon was this? Why did Terry Ruddy - him with legendary stamina - enter the Harvester as a one-man team, doing all 54 km himself? Were the rest of us not really trying?

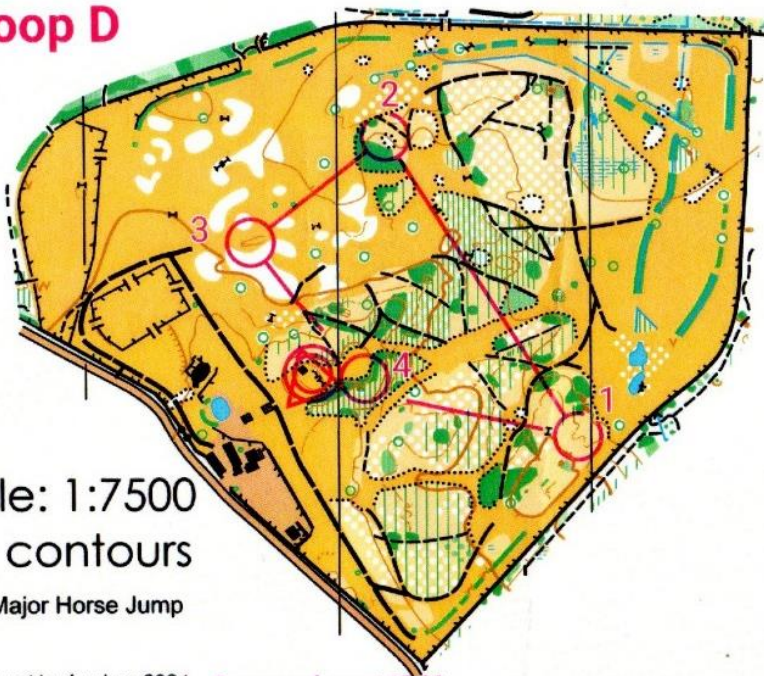
Yes, it was great fun - and will always be so for the intrepid orienteer.

(To be continued in the April edition of Legend)

Spot the difference

At the MLS (Military League South) long "O" at Tweseldown on 2 January the courses used loops of the area e.g. the Brown course had five loops where you first ran the "X" loop, dropped your map in the basket and then picked up the "A" loop map etc. The "A,B,C,D" loops used maps that had been printed for a September event that had been cancelled and the "X" loop was added to some courses to extend them to a long "O". The interesting point is that the "X" loop used an updated version of the map. Naturally I didn't notice this until I was studying the maps after the event! How many differences can you spot?

Loop D



scale: 1:7500

5m contours

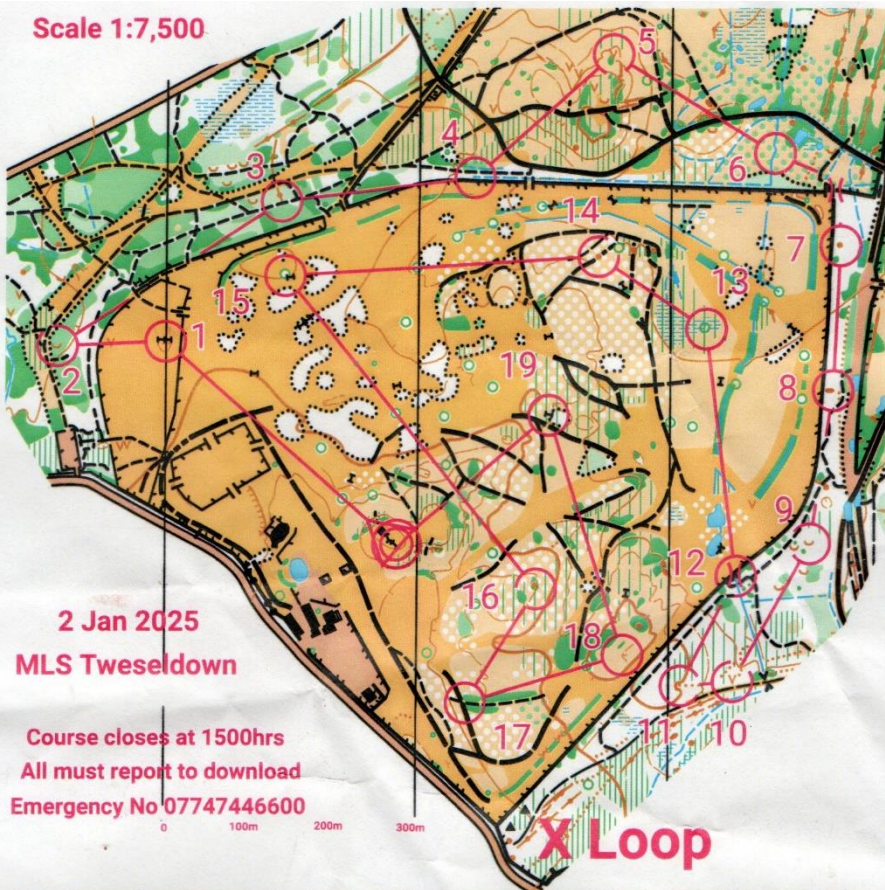
▸ Major Horse Jump

© Southern Navigators 2024 Courses close at 15:00

You must report to the finish even if you do not complete the course

Only a few of the more prominent horse jumps are mapped

Scale 1:7,500



2 Jan 2025

MLS Tweseldown

Course closes at 1500hrs
All must report to download
Emergency No 07747446600

X Loop

MLS Tweseldown 2 Jan 2025			
X Loop	4.6 km	50 m	
▷	○	◡	◡
1 119	⋈	◡	◡
2 153	∪		
3 154	⦶	⊥	
4 155	⚡	⊥	
5 172	∨		
6 156	⚡	<	

7 157	•		◡
8 158	•		⊥
9 159	↗	∪	
10 160	∨		
11 161	∧		⊥
12 162	⚡		↙
⊗	⊗	⊗	⊗
13 122	⚡	⦶	◡

14 109	•		◡
15 105	⚡	⦶	◡
16 165	↗	⚡	◡
17 166	↗	⚡	⊗
18 167	⋈		◡
19 130	⊗		◡
240 m			
Course closes at 1500hrs			

Brashings

To read about the City of Gloucester's version of maprun to get people exercising click on:

[Street Tag: City turns into 'virtual playground' to encourage exercise - BBC News](#)

A warm welcome to new members: -












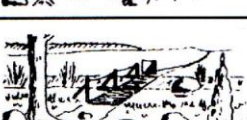

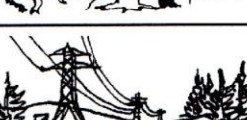




- * Grace Davies
- * James Hartley

British Orienteering incentive scheme Awards

Congratulations to the following members who have been awarded incentive scheme certificates for their performances at orienteering events.

Alexander Harlock-Askew	Racing Challenge: Bronze Award **** Navigation Challenge ****
Zebedee Harlock-Askew	Racing Challenge: Silver Award ****
Sebastian Lyne	Racing Challenge: Silver Award ***** Racing Challenge: Bronze Award ***** Navigation Challenge *****
Matt Sanderson	Racing Challenge: Silver Award ***** Racing Challenge: Bronze Award ***** Navigation Challenge *****

How good are you at control descriptions? Answers:

Map	Terrain	Control Descriptions	Text Description							
		83 <table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"><tr><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px; text-align: center;">/</td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px; text-align: center;">/</td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px; text-align: center;">Y</td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td></tr></table>			/	/	Y			Path junction
		/	/	Y						
		84 <table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"><tr><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px; text-align: center;">/</td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px; text-align: center;">/</td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px; text-align: center;">X</td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td></tr></table>			/	/	X			Path crossing
		/	/	X						
		85 <table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"><tr><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px; text-align: center;">/</td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px; text-align: center;">~</td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px; text-align: center;">X</td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px; text-align: center;">○</td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td></tr></table>			/	~	X	○		Path/stream crossing, north side
		/	~	X	○					
		86 <table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"><tr><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px; text-align: center;">/</td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px; text-align: center;">-</td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px; text-align: center;">X</td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px; text-align: center;">○</td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td></tr></table>			/	-	X	○		Path/ditch crossing, west side
		/	-	X	○					
		87 <table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"><tr><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px; text-align: center;">...</td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px; text-align: center;"><</td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px; text-align: center;">○</td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td></tr></table>			...	<	○			Ride bend, west side
		...	<	○						
		88 <table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"><tr><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px; text-align: center;">/</td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px; text-align: center;"> </td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td></tr></table>		/						Bridge, north end
	/									
		89 <table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"><tr><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px; text-align: center;">⊗</td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px; text-align: center;">○</td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td></tr></table>		⊗		○				Power line, pylon, west side
	⊗		○							
		90 <table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"><tr><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px; text-align: center;">X</td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px; text-align: center;">X</td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px; text-align: center;">✓</td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td></tr></table>		X	X	✓				Tunnel, south-west end
	X	X	✓							
		91 <table border="1" style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"><tr><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px; text-align: center;">/</td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px; text-align: center;">></td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td><td style="width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td></tr></table>		/		>				Wall, east corner (inside)
	/		>							

For the full list of examples see: [OneDrive \(live.com\)](https://www.live.com)

Have your say!

Are there any matters that you would like the Committee to consider? Contact the Club Secretary or any member of the Committee.

Articles for Legend

We are always looking for articles and photographs on anything to do with orienteering. Send your article/pictures to legend@ngoc.org.uk. Thanks to everyone who contributed to this edition of Legend.

Disclaimer

Views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the North Gloucestershire Orienteering Club.