

JUNE DOCUMENT 2008

EDITORIAL

Jane Forsyth

Jennifer is away in the UK (see below) and I'm doing the next issue after this one, so guff to me please by 25th of each month: sandymount@actrix.co.nz

Proof abounds that orienteers also excel at other things! According to the ODT, recent member **Andrew Pohl** has been named in the N Z Cross Country Skiing Team after a good performance in the Canadian National Championships. He has qualified for the World Champs and the Junior World Champs early next year. The Australia NZ Cup will be held at the Snowfarm 14-17 August.

And current member **Gavin Crow** also recently featured in the ODT with his medal from the London Marathon (35,000 starters!). Gavin placed 19,602nd which considering the number of pubs, tourist attractions, brass bands and beefeaters he had to get past was pretty good I reckon.

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to the club **Bill Anderson** from Red Kiwis (in the North Island). Bill has moved south and is living in Company Bay.

Sprint Orienteering

Bunny Rathbone

We have had some great Sprint races at major events this year. I wasn't at Waitangi Weekend so can't comment on that as we had to attend the NZ Masters Games here in Dunedin. The area chosen for the Masters Games sprint was the University of Otago grounds. Although there are the usual massive buildings seen in any large institution they are divided by many very pleasant park-like spaces with real grass, trees and bushes with the odd landscaping to make small hills. With the Water of Leith flowing through the campus site and minimal crossing points over it the map makes a challenging area to hold a sprint as route choice becomes an important factor in having the edge on fellow competitors.

The Otago Champs held at Naseby had an innovative terrain sprint event instead of a town and park map. The map was prepared and the courses planned by Carsten Joergensen. Although the start was on the edge of the Naseby Camping Ground most of the controls were out in the gold mining area and in the forest. This made a more challenging event as fellow competitors were out of sight unless you managed to take the wrong track and see them there.

At the Nationals in the Wairarapa the Sprint was held at the local Recreation Park where there is a large open body of water surrounded by paths and biking trails with a lot of trees and bushes and open grass areas. Here we could see our fellow competitors disappearing into the distance or catching us up.

Just recently the South Island Champs Sprint was held at Leithfield Beach north of Christchurch. Michael Smithson and Carsten Joergensen made the map and Jenni Adams planned the courses. Again, as at Naseby, the controls were in the sand dune terrain out on the beach and in the forest.

These Sprint races used maps at 1:2,500 or 1:5,000 scale with sites at orange to yellow standard. Being short in distance means that times can be fast and sometimes this factor puts competitors off from entering the race. Some competitors say that they can't

sprint so they don't enter especially when to fit races into the time schedule there is another race on the same day. They think that the combined distance for both races will be too long so they'll be too tired afterwards and not have enough energy left to do a more important race the next day. It's time for these competitors to change their minds about the Sprint as it has different attributes about it that can make you a more versatile orienteer. Firstly you can treat it like any other event and not go hard out 100% of the time. You'll find that others who have entered are doing it for the fun of the race and are not too worried about the outcome. You can also enjoy the challenge of navigating on a 1:5,000 map where the control sites show up more readily than on a scale of 1:10,000. It is stimulating to enter a different type of race where you need to think a little differently to complete it. It also helps you to deal with the situation of having a large number of other competitors close by you during the race. You learn how to ignore everyone else or take advantage of what others are doing.

So next time there is a Sprint race, tick that space on the entry form and enter into the spirit of orienteering.

Jennifer and Grant in the UK

Jennifer has been keeping us in touch on their travels! Some extracts:

52 Geocaches (2 in France) 106 Locks

Yesterday was our last day on the canal boat and we left our mooring about 8.30am, finding a geocache 1.2 kms walk from the canal.

We began the 29 locks back to Foxhangers just before 2pm. Nobody else was going down the locks so we had to do them alone. This included the Caen Hill flight of locks which must be done in one go. There were several lots of people spectating and this means just that, "spectating" and not offering to help push the heavy gates open. The wonderful lock keeper helped us with 10-12 of the locks. Some were extremely heavy and very hard to move even with two of us pushing. Some of the locks were overflowing and many leaking badly making the gates challenging to open and close.

We arrived at Foxhangers Wharf at 7.30pm. After eating we walked 550 metres back up to the 3rd lock to find a geocache (magnetic) in the arm of a lock.

Sunday 18 May

13 geocaches today.

Today's geocaches were all part of a series where we had to find 12 caches, inside of each was written a co-ordinate number for the final cache. We did the first ½ on the Wiltshire military side of Andover Road in the morning, returning to the cottage for lunch. These caches were on the top or side of a hill opposite a large military area. We drove along the top of the hill stopping at various spots and walking about +/- 1km down the hill to the caches. While walking downhill we crunched our way on snails. We have never seen so many snails before. They were all over the path.

The afternoon caches were on the other side of the road taking us to many tiny, but interesting villages. Our favourite for the day, had to be a logbook inside a toy frog, which was placed at the base of a tree, and only just visible. The 2nd favourite was a toy rooster up a tree, with the logbook inside his body. At one stage when we were searching for a cache in some rough trees and nettles, a man and his dogs came by. We had to explain what we were doing, poking around in the nettles, while wearing shorts! He said he was off to the pub for a cool drink and to read the newspaper and suggested it was a much better idea.

We have got used to being stung by the nettles. That doesn't mean we are happy to be stung, as it does hurt. Wearing trousers is an option, but would be too hot, so we just try to walk carefully. Grant has leather gloves, which give some protection, when poking in some places.

It was a most satisfying day, finding the 12 caches which gave us the co-ordinates to find the final cache in the series.

Ed's note: the article below was sent last month but I forgot to put it in, woops. Apologies to Tane. It's a little old now but of interest to those who were at the Otago Champs back in March.

PLANNERS REPORT - OTAGO CHAMPS MIDDLE DISTANCE

Tane Cambridge

Late last year Brian managed to twist my arm hard enough to convince me to plan at Naseby. I was a little hesitant at first but soon got into making some grand plans. On my first visit to check out my planned courses I discovered that a significant area over the back of Redwood Road had been and was in the process of being felled. I hit my first wall and had to completely change my courses. Further more felling was to be undertaken so I had to completely rethink the whole thing. This was how I came to use the Wet Gully area.

I was inspired by the World Ranking Event held during Waitangi and really wanted to re-create some of the challenges posed in that race. With help from Carsten I decided to use 3 different types of terrain so that the competitors had no time to be content and comfortable with their navigation. I aimed to make sure competitors had to concentrate 100% for most of the time. I wanted to create a fun course that had lots of change of direction and most importantly, I wanted to make a course that I would find interesting and exciting. In general from the feedback I received I think most people enjoyed their courses...at least in hind sight anyway!

When originally considering this event I noted some things that I would like to find in a course and one of the key things I thought was having sportIDENT punching. I find the split times and analysis really interesting. Also in a way I have just become to lazy to use the old fashioned clip cards!

It was difficult to plan a middle distance course due to the lack of middle distance competition on Naseby. Taking previous year's results for long distance events and translating to middle distance type time was difficult. I assumed that because a middle distance was shorter competitors would run slightly faster. I found that the Percentage guide given by NZOF is not structured well for middle distance events. For example, if Course 1 was to be 4.0km (as it may well should have been), for course 6 which accordingly should be 17% of Course 1, comes out a ridiculous distance of around 700m. So for that reason most of the courses did not follow the percentage guide.

I had trouble estimating how fast people would run through the rough open area. Subsequently Carsten and I didn't take sufficient account into the ability of some of the older competitors. We thought that it was a really cool area and hoped that everyone would enjoy it. Everyone was a bit slower than I accounted for, but this might not have been only for the ability of people over the rough ground. Navigation was tricky in there!

I also realize now that given the times that were posted, I should have put some water out on the courses.

Thanks to Jennifer Hudson for setting up all the entries etc; Carsten for basically everything! He spent a significant amount of time re-mapping the area so that those few Nlers who came down wouldn't complain too much! His experience of good courses and course setting was invaluable. Claire Jordan and Lynn Foote with there help on the day; Barrie and Maggie at the start; Simon Bloomberg for sorting all the sportIDENT stuff out; and those control collectors, Joy Talbot, Aaron and Jamie, Mark Lawson and Chris.

MTBO 3 May 2008

Daniel Johnston

It was pretty grotty weather for orienteering - about 20 odd people braved the conditions and showed up. The hardest weatherable people were Karen, Andy and Bernard who completed the 6hr option together seeing them get right up to the top of Berwick forest and complete half of the controls, which some had a good 1/2 arms length of snow. It would have been awesome as there wasn't much wind around. They were the only group that made it into Berwick which had different controls from last year. 21 markers around Berwick forest which were somewhat hidden white plastic tags with a code (the snow may have made the odd one a bit harder to find) but they seemed to enjoy that type of checkpoints.

Russell had an interesting but freezing time of it for 4 hours, making his way up grueling Law road and across the top, down the dry weather road (which was all but) into Allanton.

The 2 hr option was the busiest with about 16 people competing; a good show of families. There were lots of control points on the flat which kept them busy. Jim Cotter, Ray Hope and Murray Grey blew it out of the water hitting several controls out by Henley hills (no surprise there!). Between showers and heavy showers everyone was pretty waterlogged after their return.

Overall it was a fun day, but the weather literally dampened it a bit. Let's hope next years mtb-O (likely back to springtime) is a bit drier!!

MTBO Results

6hr Karen, Bernard, Andy -- 1020 pts	2hr Charlotte, Georgia, Zara -- 130 Georgia, Samantha -- 140
4hr Russell -- 650 pts	Chris, Aslyn -- 160 Justine -- 160 Sam, Hamish -- 180 Hayley, Emily -- 200-20(late return)=180 Jane F -- 230-40=190
1hr Malachi, Brian -- 160	Linda, Shannon -- 220 Patrick -- 240 Fraser -- 250 Camilla, Richard -- 340-90=250 TL Bellamy -- 340 Jim, Ray, Murray -- 650-230=420

SEACLIFF OY 11/05/08**Planners Report**

Dave Browning

First of all apologies for the lousy weather on the Sunday. What you really don't want to hear is that for the 2 days on the farm planning this event, and the Saturday setting out the controls the weather was fine and sunny. Even on the Sunday at 2.30pm when we started to pick up the controls blue sky appeared and the sun shone. Sorry, folks I had fun in the sunshine but well done to you all that braved the elements.

Even allowing for the wet weather I am sorry that the Short Red course ended up too long. I really wanted more red controls in the bush but I was very disappointed in those areas. The runability under the trees is not good and now that most of the bush areas are reserve the undergrowth has taken over. This is a real shame as scattered bush areas like those on Seacliff can really make for interesting course setting on farm maps. I did try not to take the Short Red course over the ridge, and because I did the course ended up too long – sorry. Also the Long Red was not how I first planned, with those 2 non-descript controls to the west. I ended up having to use these as a couple of more technical controls I had planned over the ridge were unable to be used because the way back was blocked by a large crop paddock. Can't farmers be annoying? I was really pleased to see that we had good numbers on the White and Yellow courses as often a lot of work goes into planning these for very few competitors.

Thanks to Judy Wilson for her controlling and help. It is nice to have someone make sure that everything is in order and Judy's assistance was much appreciated. Thanks also to Judy B and her band of helpers on the day – not easy to put up tents, take times, work out results, take everything down and collect controls in that sort of weather. Thanks to all those that helped.

Finally thanks to all of you that braved the elements and had a run. I had some feedback which was great and I am happy to take in any other comments people might have now that you have thawed out – good or bad. You were all winners on the day.

Controller's Report

Judy Wilson

It was a pleasure to return to this area and control this event. What beautiful countryside to walk and run over. Dave Browning planned carefully bearing in mind the terrain for the length of courses. From the times his calculations appeared to be about right and there were some fast times on the Long Red course. I had no complaints directed to me except a comment that one of the Long Red Master Maps was from a different printing. Yes it was a slightly different shade but the features were the same and I must admit I did not even pick it up when checking the maps.

The rain and sheep made a small part of the course very muddy and slippery resulting in a few muddy seats.

Dave is a meticulous planner and prepared very well for this event making my job easy. Judy Browning is an experienced organiser and again made the event run smoothly. She also had many willing helpers which adds to the fun and lessens the burden on a few. Alan Grant spotted a sheep in trouble while on his course and after getting some cutters, especially went back into the forest to free the trapped sheep. Good on you Allan. All in all a good time was had by all and I was thankful everyone returned safely.

RESULTS of OY SEACLIFF 11th May 2008**Long Red 5.8km 340mtrs climb**

1	Bruce McLeod	42.30
2	Jim Cotter	51.50
3	Jack Vincent	53.37
4	Riki Cambridge	56.15
5	Brian Buschl	56.47
6	Kev Knowles	60.20
7	Ake Fagereng	64.10
8	Rita Homes	65.10
9	Daniel Johnston	65.14
10	Ryan Cambridge	66.33
11	Ciaran Murphy	70.17
12	Allan Grant	99.33
13	Nick Phillips	101.55

Short Red 4.6km 270mtrs climb

1	George McLeod	67.45
2	Bill Anderson	72.25
3	Owen Cambridge	87.18
4	Ray Hope	87.52
5	Jane Forsyth	92.10
6	Maggie Pasek	96.35
7	Genevieve Webb	96.37
8	Bunny Rathbone	105.25
9	Linda Hope & Murray	114.55
10	Kate Cotter	138.42
11	Tim Webb	157.40
12	Michael Lawrence	DNF

Orange 3.0km 140mtrs climb

1	Jenni Pelvin	39.49
2	Jane Cloete	44.01
3	Annie Grant	48.51
4	Michelle Grant	60.42
5	Nicky Crawford	61.25
6	A. Carrick	61.26
7	Karin Staufenbiel	67.55
8	Sam Hope & Mike	80.20
9	Don Gordon	93.50

Yellow 2.2km 80mtrs climb

1	Aggie O'Leary & Caroline Cook	29.34
2	Jack O'Leary	37.13
3	Hamish Cotter	48.16
4	George, Shannon & Tabitha	67.32
5	Julie Carrick	75.22
6	Sarah Gauthier	76.30

White 1.6km 50mtrs climb

1	Grace & Georgia	24.54
2	Mathew Ogle	26.17
3	Lucy & Grace Cotter	33.34
4	Anna O'Leary	34.36
5	Malachi Buschl	35.05
6	Moss & Craig Pelvin	42.33

NZOF NOTICES

Selection announcement - New Zealand Schools Team 2008

A New Zealand Secondary Schools Team is to be selected to compete for the Southern Cross Trophy against the eight Australian states in the 2008 Australian Schools Championships. The championships will be held at Maryborough, Queensland as part of the Australian Championships carnival which runs from 20 September to 1 October.

The specific schools championship events are:

Individual championship, Tue 23 September

Relay championship, Wed 24 September.

Further event information is available at the [Australian Champs Website](#)

The team will be 16 in size (four each of senior boys, senior girls, junior boys and junior girls). Senior grades have a birthdate of 1992 or earlier.

Selection for the New Zealand Schools Team will be based on performances in major events in 2008 up to and including the NZ Secondary Schools Championships on July 18-19. All known form will be taken into account, but most weight will be placed on performances at the major schools championships. The team will be announced by 3 August, 2008.

Jeff Greenwood

NZOF Convenor of Selectors

NZ Teams for World MTBO Champs 2008 and Junior World MTB Orienteering Champs 2008

Both competitions to be held in Ostróda, Poland, August 24-31, 2008.

The New Zealand Team:

Men

Greg Barbour Orienteering Taranaki

Chris Forne Peninsula & Plains
Orienteers

Women

Kath Copland North West OC

Marquita North West OC
Gelderman

Emily Wall Peninsula & Plains
Orienteers

The New Zealand Junior Team:

Women

Georgia Whitla Peninsula & Plains
Orienteers

Team Manager: Rob Garden

Jeff Greenwood

NZOF Convenor of Selectors