

# JUNE 1998 DOCUMENT

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OC Events Calendar 1998.

Date Place Status Planner Controller Organiser

Jun 14 Kuri Bush Otago School Champs Alan Carman Helen Carman M Tagg P Ehrhardt

Jul 26 Town Belt South Jane Forsyth Margaret Tagg

Aug 16 Allans Beach Julie Grant Bunny Rathbone

Sep 13 Street Event

Oct 18 Berwick Forest

Nov 7-8 Akatore Christies Gully Otago Champs Lindsay Smith

Dec 6 TB Advised Club Relays

Other Events.

Date Club Place

Jun 27 PAPO 12 Hour Rogaine

Jul 17-18 Silva NZ Sec Sch Champs New Plymouth

Jul 19 SOC Fosbender Park

Sep 26-27 PAPO Sth Island & Cant Sch Champs Bottle Lake

Nov 21-22 PAPO Cant Champs Acheron Dalethorpe

DOC Contact People.

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## NEXT EVENT

The next event is the Otago School Championships which are to be held at Kuri Bush on June 14. Club members will be able to compete after the school pupils (probably early afternoon). The starting area is 9 kilometres south of Brighton. To ascertain the start time look in the ODT Sports Draw on Thursday June 11.

## EDITORIAL.

First, a big thank-you to Jennifer Hudson who has agreed to co-edit this magazine. Much appreciated Jennifer, and I also hear that Grant sometimes gets to do the proofreading. Thanks

both of you. Also thanks to Pat Taylor for getting together a current membership list, it's great to have an up-to-date one for all those little phoning sessions.

An apology - in last month's Nationals results we recorded that Michael Tagg got 2nd place in M18A on both days. In fact he was first in both the Classic and Short-O, the other person not being eligible to hold a national title. Sorry Michael - I did know about this but it didn't get through into the results list we printed.

So Hugh Dickson spent 15-20 minutes in the carpark at Christies Gully, in the rain, wearing only his jocks, without getting hypothermia. This goes to show that hypothermia and exposure are not the same thing, you obviously can have one without the other. I'm just sorry I missed it Hugh. Do you have any photos? We could do a centrefold.

Cheers,  
Jane Forsyth

#### THE PRESIDENT'S THOUGHTS.

Last month we received the current membership list with DOCUMENT. I quickly counted the names and was a little dismayed to find only 77. Since then we have gained four more members and there may be one or two who have yet to pay their subscription, but the present membership is over 20 less than three years ago. It is encouraging to see new names and without them the Club would be well in decline.

Orienteering is a labour intensive sport and consequently a large membership reduces the workload on each of us as individuals. But - how are we to attract new members? The most accessible group is those who come to events regularly, particularly families, but do not join the Club. The major barrier for these people is the subscription; particularly the \$100 per family does deter. The simplest solution to this is to offer a local membership, which does not include the NZOF levy. These people would then be part of the Club and would I am sure, be willing to help at events. Through increased interest and involvement in this way, some would no doubt become NZOF affiliated members also. Several clubs throughout New Zealand offer this type of membership; for example TOPS (Nelson), which had the largest increase in membership last year and has a total that exceeds ours! Taranaki has over ninety members, of whom almost half are not NZOF affiliated. These are just two examples and both draw their members from smaller populations than Dunedin's. Although some members have been opposed to "social" membership in the past, if we continue to be purists, then our membership will continue to decline.

I suggest that we act on this now and that we have a General Meeting in the near future to formalise a local member category.

Bob Cunninghame.

#### HONOURABLE MENTIONS.

Tanya Ronson has been included in the NZ team to compete in the international Chemistry Olympiad in Melbourne later this year.

Hayden Peter was pictured riding a farm bike (they call them ATV's now) at a farm skills day at Telford Rural Polytechnic

## MEMBERSHIP LIST.

Corrections and additions to the membership list.

Jennifer Hudson phone 454 4981 (Grant and I do not have separate numbers!)

Tagg family phone 467 5460

New Members - Welcome.

Mary and Sarah Miller, Judy and Isaac Firestone. phone 467 9937

## FROM NOC TO DOC – THANKS!

On behalf of the NOC committee, may I pass on very sincere thanks for all who helped in the lead up to and at Nationals. Because of the relatively small size of our Club, everyone had to pitch in and help. You all helped make the Easter '98 Nationals a success.

There are too many to name individually, so thank you one and all.

Over the three or so years that NOC'98 committee has been active; DOC has funded the mapping costs – a considerable burden. Next month when NOC completes its activity it will be a pleasure to pass a cheque back to the club. No doubt this will be used to help fund the development of future maps.

Another major benefit in running this champs has been the upgrading of our equipment – new flags, controls, race numbers and start and finish signs – to name a few items. Also, many of our members are now considerably more skilled in all aspects of running events. This will help spread the load for the future.

To the NOC committee – you were wonderful. Your knowledge and skills made the 1998 Nationals work! A great team and a great effort, allowing DOC to celebrate Otago's 150th in great style.

Thank you again,

Bruce McCormick

## YODA PAGE FOR APRIL.

This Yoda page is covering two meetings. This is due to the fact that I (Amanda) have been thrown heavily into the world of tertiary education. ANYWAY, apologies aside, Yoda has been quite busy recently with the Nationals and Naseby not to mention the endless gossip about (who would have guessed it) Andy J and Franny. SHOCK HORROR!!!

The first of the two Yoda meetings we had was at my house where my mother made sure there were many (too many) types of finger food available to feed the hungry hordes of Yoda members. This proved unnecessary as no-one appeared to be hungry.

The second meeting was held at Franny's house, as a last minute problem meant we couldn't go to Andy J's. This was the Thursday before the Nationals and saw the addition of Lachlan (Invercargill) and Paul (or Frank(Christchurch)) for the night. We were all preoccupied and the meeting when off into many different paths.

I was pleased to hear that some Yoda members competed well in the Nationals and later in Naseby events. I will look forward to seeing the results.

I hope to see you all next meeting.  
Bye from Amanda

#### LETTER FROM ANITRA.

Hi

Currently we are in Perth. Not sure for how long - could be 2 more weeks or 2 years. So, until we know there is not much I can do about work. We are in temporary accommodation in South Perth organised by Ken's firm and have a rental car - paid for by them also. I have been looking around for somewhere a bit more permanent to live but again until I know what we are doing there isn't really much point. Has been interesting to see what you get for various costs though. Have looked at some great apartments with grand river views and all mod cons - a bit out of our price range if we have to pay - the latter depends on how long we are here.

So I have revised my CV at least 10 times and I am just waiting to see what our movements will be for the next year or two. Almost all the employment agencies are in one street so I won't have to do much walking.

Perth is a pleasant city - if cities can be pleasant. It's rather like NZ cities in comparison with say Sydney or Melbourne. Perhaps that's why NZers seem to like it. There are quite a few here. The amount of development is amazing - huge new housing subdivisions going up everywhere and lots of ads for miners and engineers. I have just read an article in the Australian (about West Australia seceding from the rest of Oz) and the info there about WA's growth, the income it generates compared with the rest of Oz is really interesting. Unlike the South Island, it really could afford to secede.

We are about 100m from the Swan River that flows through the centre of Perth. All along the banks are parks and reserves with tracks for running, biking, roller-blading etc. Much further than I could hope to run in my current unfit state - but I am getting better now that I have the time! With the temps in the mid twenties still, it's ideal for a woman of leisure! Haven't had to wear a jersey since we've been here.

The caf, restaurant, night-life scene is pretty hectic. One part of the town seems to exist for nothing else.

We have been to 2 orienteering events so far and they have been good. There are 4 clubs in Perth and events average about 3 times as many people as Dunedin. We have noticed (thank goodness) that all the organisers of events seem to be allocated for the remainder of the year.

The terrain is a bit different. The forest has head high undergrowth - scattered - reducing the visibility and because of the gentle contours it makes it quite tricky in parts - hard to be sure that you are on the right track if there aren't many features around.

We didn't make much contact with others at the first event we went to. But a bit like Dunedin, the names on the results stood out as not local. So we chatted with quite a few in our (temporary?) club after we had run the second weekend as they were interested to know who we were. It is quite a small club (Kulgun Orienteers) and Kulgun means "good path" - quite appropriate in aborigine.

I am still a bit rusty and unfit - Ken beats me currently - but that won't last for long.

Right now I am sitting in the sun down by the river watching the hobie cats go by. The wind never seems to be more than "light" (at this time of the year anyway) and so they don't go nearly as fast as they would on Otago Harbour. Across the river (that widens out to a large bay here and then narrows again on its way to Fremantle) is the central business district of Perth. There are about a dozen really high rise buildings and at night it looks quite pretty across the water.  
Cheers.

Anitra

LETTER FROM JAMIE.

Dear DOCument readers,

To those of you who thought, yes we've heard the last of him arrogant sod, well I'm back at least in this article.

Thanks for the Nationals they were good, I got a hiding cause I'm soft, but that's just tough luck.

Thanks for the 7 or 8 of you that turned up to Naseby [there were more than that Jamie, don't exaggerate - ed] it is good that at least you can support the efforts put in by the juniors of your club. Naseby Results are on the internet, yes that's right the internet. [Not sure if this is true at the time of reading - ed/Jane.]

Maybe next year DOC proper could run the Naseby 2-day and hill-billy challenge. My hope was it would become a regular event. This is the best map in New Zealand why waste it with a Masters games day every second year. You would get at least thirty/forty Papo's coming down for this now legendary event.

PAPO is good we have competitive orienteers to the max, we should have an interclub challenge.

Bad-luck losing Mark to Red Kiwi's. He is good. Bruce McLeod is a legend, who would've thought. Will Wayne Patrick ever get a decent hair-cut? Is Evelyn Spittle really DOC secretary or was that a misprint? Look after your juniors they are precious and wonderful and slightly skewed towards the vertical axis. Get the juniors to pay for a map, and make them work more, they don't work enough, all take no give, 90% of the events is not enough, be reasonable but be hard and authoritarian.

I think the new Start / Finish banners are pretty but awkward. Take care of the caravan, it is involved in many of my childhood memories. If America nukes Korea maybe Akatore will never be chopped down, however much some of us might want it to happen.

I have never meant any offensive in anything I have said to any of you, I just enjoy stirring the porridge.

To get help click on the flashing question mark. [at this point Jamie's letter tailed off into incomprehensibility so I have ended it here - ed/Jane]

From Jamie

GREAT NASEBY 2-DAY 1998.

Glorious Naseby! Snow on the tops and frost in the gullies, one of those wonderful autumn days that you only get in Central. 60 or so of us mustered at the Swimming Dam for the first day's start - a series of short to standard-length events.

Partway round the 3.4 km short red course, I got into an area of waist-high matagouri and spaniard, mapped as "rough open". Although I know the planners are nasty-minded sorts of people, I don't think they really intended us to be there. However there I was, trapped! Fortunately (for me but not for him) there was another bloke in the same predicament - we helped each other out and round the next few controls otherwise I would probably still be there. Even the light green forest at Naseby is pretty thick, and much of the yellow is not very runnable.

Sluicing the blood off in the shower later, I decided to wear my lycra tights next day. Problem is, they tend to creep down as I run along. But Steve Gurney wears them, so there must be solution. Pondering this, I realised that if your bottom is bigger than your leg muscles, there is nothing to stop your tights slipping down. However, if your thigh muscles measure more around than your bottom, like Steve Gurney, and better still if your calf muscles are bigger again, the lycra will stay up. Lacking time and access to an emergency body-building facility, I came up with a technological solution that I thought ought to work.

After dinner Wayne and Jamie presented some spot prizes, mostly things like hotties, light bulbs and wooden spoons. The highlight of the evening was a video, "Return of the Jed-O", made during the development squad's training camp the previous week, and starring Jamie Stewart as the really rotten baddie Min Gai (try saying it with an Australian accent). Former NZ champ Darren Ashmore, a Luke Skywalker lookalike, was the good guy in this O-wars morality tale of the eternal clash between good and evil. Evil consisted of picking up the control and hurling it into the lake, and I must say Jamie made an impressively dishevelled renegade. After this, I headed off to my tent in the freezing dark and went to bed with all my clothes on.

Next morning there was a light frost on the ground but I put on lots of warm gear and the lycra tights. These were held up by my shorts, worn over the top, and by tying the tops of my gaiters tightly. At the briefing (8 am!) I couldn't see my friend of the matagouri, but I did see about 60 other people in the mass start. Trotting after them (well after most of them), I gradually warmed up enough so that at the transition (after the first 7 controls), I could ditch the polyprop singlet and gloves. Since this was a long-O, we each had 2 or 3 courses, coming back to the transition to get a new map and a drink at the end of each. The courses had wonderful names, reflecting the warped humour of the planner - so that my short red course was called "Green with Envy", with legs one and two called respectively "Flat White" (it was neither) and "Long Black". Kinkier were "Ewe in Mind", "Hogs A'burning" etc. These courses took us into some truly interesting parts of the forest, seldom visited I suspect, and with good reason. But there was heaps of challenge and I thoroughly enjoyed most of the 2 hrs 50 it took me. Thanks, Wayne and Jamie and the other YODA-ites, for a wonderful time!

Jane Forsyth.

#### HOW DO WE ORIENTEER?

Notes from my Observations at the Pyramids.

It was so enjoyable on a fine warm autumn day using a technically difficult map to run a well planned course at the Pyramids.

As a first time ever planner Suzanne Clegg produced excellent courses at all four levels. I liked the different length of legs between controls, some short, some long and the route choice especially on the leg between six and seven on the Red Course.

The map is now produced on OCAD at a scale of 1:10,000 instead of using the offset printed one updated in 1986 and now out of date mainly because of the vegetation and runnability changes.

The size has been reduced to the land owned by Bob Clearwater now that the Yellow Eyed Penguin Trust have bought the rest of the Sanctuary and buffer zone for the protection of the penguins.

It's great to be able to use the very runnable forest in the SE corner. When we first used the map in 1983 this area was full of gorse, and you couldn't see any contour features and had to use the

tracks to get through it. Now, for the red courses, the tracks are not needed as the contours can be used to assist in navigation. The new forest on the block directly north of the runnable lot has some older trees (8 years) already grown enough to make visibility and runnability harder plus some young trees where visibility and runnability are as for open farmland. Some interesting decisions were made by competitors in this area. Short legs, long legs - both kinds were on the Red and Orange courses and the competitor had to know where he/she was at all times. Part of the "knowing where I am" is the distance estimation - how far have I come, how much further to go - and this knowing is dependent on how slowly or how fast we can travel through the terrain. We often find that we rely too much on one set of circumstances and forget to use other orienteering skills, for instance at the Pyramids we can be passing by a marsh which unfortunately by its size and shape looks just like other marshes and could also be a marsh that we want it to be in a certain position on the map when all the time it isn't! Oh dear - it can be a muddle. Hopefully when we have finally sorted out our mistakes to get out of our predicament and gone on to the Finish, we can something learn from our mistakes.

Did you take the opportunity to talk to others about how you did your course and compare notes. Pat Ehrhardt had arranged for coaches to be available at all levels so I hope you took advantage of this. A lot of our learning on how to do things better is picked up when you have these discussions after your run. Experienced Club members are usually very willing to help others who need help so don't be shy to ask, it's another way of getting to know each other too.

Are you still practising the basic procedures like CAR - C = control feature and placement plus distance from where you are, A = attack point, a large feature you can identify when getting close to C, R = route choice to take to find A and ultimately C. Practising aiming off and using traffic lighting are other basic procedures to use also.

One final point - sometimes can be safety in numbers if you team up with someone else out on the course when you think you are lost but be aware that taking notice of someone else's decisions could make you even more confused. Of course you wouldn't be doing that teaming up during a championship event when conferring is not allowed and could cost you a placing if a protest was made - just observing!

Bunny Rathbone.