



West Anglian
Orienteering
Club



JABBERWAOC

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December 2009



*And, as in uffish thought he stood,
The Jabberwock, with eyes of flame,
Came whiffling through the tulgey wood,
And burbled as it came!*

Editorial

More success to celebrate this time, at both ends of the age spectrum. Firstly, well done to Ursula Oxburgh for her Bronze medal in the sprint race at the World Masters in Sidney – a great performance! Secondly, the younger members of the club excelled, first by qualifying for the YBT final and second by then coming 5th in the final – in the World Championships that would count as a podium finish. And finally, in November, Blanka Collis retained her Nopesport Urban race title in an exciting finale in a very wet Sheffield. You can read about Ursula's experiences in the next Jabberwaoc, which will come out quite quickly so we can give due notice of the AGM. Many thanks to all the contributors to this edition – keep them coming!

Merry Christmas

Mike Capper

Next Copy Date – February 9th

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Chairman's Chat

The main winter orienteering season is now well under way - I hope that all members of the Club have been enjoying good sport, despite the wet November. The pause for Christmas is fast approaching, but for WAOC members the pause may only be fleeting, as for the first time since 2006 there is to be a Boxing Day event – many thanks to Peter Duthie and the others organising it, at Milton.

The Club's juniors have again been successful in the competition for the Yvette Baker Trophy – making quite a habit of getting into the final, fifth for the second year running, against some very strong clubs! Twenty-five WAOC members took part, from W and M 10 up to W and M 18, the large turnout a great credit to Janet Cronk, our Junior Co-ordinator, whose enthusiasm and organisational skill are very much appreciated.

The Huntingdon 'participation project' continues, with an extra 'Super SMILE' on Saturday 12th December, planned and organised for us by Josh Jenner, the O-coach who has been going into four schools in the area this Autumn to lead post-school orienteering activities, culminating in this morning event in the Country Park, open not just to the schoolchildren but all WAOC members. Beyond that, on Saturday March 20th WAOC is putting on a Town Race, on a new map of the centre of Huntingdon made by Graham Gristwood to ISSOM standards. It should be a great event, boosting the trend towards urban orienteering and city races, hopefully in the Nopesport League but coupled with the more traditional National Event and Midland Championships at Belvoir the next day, to form an attractive O-weekend. After Christmas your Committee will need to decide how to carry this forward, perhaps with a new format, perhaps in a different area.

Away from the forests and competition, our Annual General Meeting, which traditionally is incorporated into a Club Night, has to occur by the end of March. We cannot yet give formal notice of it – that will have to come later – because the venue and date have not yet been finalised. However, the committee has decided to aim to hold it on Saturday 13th March or failing that on March 27th – so please put those dates into your diaries. The agenda will be much as usual, receiving the accounts and reports from officers, making awards and presentations, and electing

officers. However, this year's AGM will be more important than usual, as successors have to be found for all three major Officers of the Club, who are standing down – the committee would be very pleased to hear from anyone who is interested in filling one of these posts. Also, a revised Constitution for the Club will be proposed, mainly because we are asked to specify what happens to assets in the unlikely event that the Club is wound up, but also to tidy things up in various minor ways. The proposed new Constitution, which has been seen by the Committee, will be circulated soon and put on to the website.

Finally may I emphasise the importance of the Club's being able to contact its members. We do of course put things on the website, advertising events etc, but often it is very useful to be able to contact members directly and rapidly, either all of you or selected individuals, preferably by email as it is so easy, or by phone or letter. I realise that people are reluctant – quite understandably – to release their contact details. However, could I ask each member please to make sure that the Club has some way of contacting them, preferably by email – our email group co-ordinator will take very good care and make sure the details go no further – or alternatively by phone or letter.

Chris Morley

WAOC Committee

All details available on the WAOC website

COMMITTEE MEETING

The next WAOC committee meeting will be held on

Wednesday 20th January 2010.

The committee welcomes any contributions from club members.

If you would like to attend the meeting or like copies of the minutes please contact the Chairman or Secretary.

Welcome to new members

Michael and Seonaid Dudley from Huntingdon (from January 1st)
Lawrence Grasty and Hazel Jones and family (Frank M9 and Rosa W7) from Cambridge
Nigel Low and Alice Hodgkinson and family (Edward M7, Eleanor W5 and David M2) from Cambridge
Francois and Sophie Ricard-Boual and family (Antonin M4) from Royston
Madeleine White from Huntingdon

We hope you will enjoy orienteering with us

Anne Duncumb (membership secretary)

Subscriptions for 2009

Unless you are a new member (who joined after September 1st 2009) it is time to renew your subscription. We hope you will all want to stay with us for another year.

British Orienteering members (both National and Local) will already have had a subscription

renewal request, which includes the WAOC sub. Please pay it soon, so that you get your new card by the end of the year and continue to qualify for the £2 discount on adult entry fees.

Club only members WAOC subs for 2010 are: Seniors and Families £12, Juniors £2.50, Groups £15. A renewal form for you is enclosed with Jabberwaoc. Please complete it and send it to me with your payment. If you are an adult who is orienteering more than 3 times a year, you would benefit from becoming at least a Local (East Anglian) member of British Orienteering and so qualifying for the £2 discount on Senior entry fees to East Anglian events. Contact me if you want to know more (memsec@waoc.org.uk or telephone: 01223 843064). It is Club policy that all new members join British Orienteering.

Anne Duncumb (membership secretary)

IMPORTANT: British Orienteering Members, did you 'tick the box' in the data protection section on your BOF membership renewal form?

If you did, British Orienteering will not send your contact details on to me - no address, no email, no phone number, just your name and BOF number.

The Club is very careful with the information you provide, but does need contact details for its members, so if you did 'tick the box' under the data protection heading (very small print) please would you consider reversing your decision?

Please contact the BOF office nmckenna@britishorienteering.org.uk Give your name and membership number, and say 'please don't withhold my contact details from WAOC'.

If you have not sent off your renewal yet..... please read the small print! If you are not clear about what is involved, do please contact me.

Anne Duncumb (membership secretary WAOC)
01223 843064 memsec@waoc.org.uk

WAOC needs your help!

WAOC is hosting 2 large events in the next 3 months – at the end of January there is Day 2 of the Thetford Thrash at Warren Woods and in March, the Huntington Town Race. Both events will need lots of on-the-day helpers. PLEASE try to make sure you are available on those days, even if you could only offer a bit of time. Even better contact Peter Woods or the event organiser to let them know that you are able to help – it will save them having to phone you! Remember, events can only take place if members offer to help.

The club will give a £1 discount per senior helper at both of these events as will CUOC for helpers at Day 1 of the Thetford Thrash.

WAGAL 2009

WAGAL is WAOC's own league, based on performances of club members at open events organised by the club.

The class champions for 2009 are:

Junior Men:	Duncan Cooper	M10
Junior Women:	Sushutra Chandraker	W18
Senior Men:	Ronny Falk	M35
Senior Women:	Anna Falk	W35
Veteran Men:	Dil Wetherill	M45
Veteran Women:	Sue Woods	W50

The rankings are the total of each individual's best 4 scores out of a possible 6 events organised this year: Croxton in February, Rowney Warren in March, Ampthill in April, the Cambridge Urban O in May, Mildenhall in October, and Maulden in November. In fact nobody scored at all 6 events, but a few of you did make 5 out of the 6. The full table of rankings can be found on the website.

Next year, I'd like to be able to publish the league as it stands after each event, so look out for updates on the website more frequently from now on!

This year there have been a couple of new factors to consider: the new structure for Regional (level 2) events where age classes have been replaced by an extended range of colour coded courses, and urban events, which have courses structured differently again. In fact, the colour coded structure for regional events is easy to deal with, since it gives more obvious consistency between scoring these events and regular colour coded events. However, the Cambridge Urban event and also the Chasing Sprints at Ampthill are different in character, with technical difficulty being limited and runnability being good, so that running speed becomes a more important determinant of finishing time. So, the ranking order might look slightly different for these events than for the same individuals at a technical forest event. However, the class champions are certainly the same whether or not these events are included, and the golden rule for improving your standing is to come to the events!

If anyone is interested in how the rankings are calculated, there is an explanation on the website, but it approximates to how the BOF rankings are worked out. The committee is always open to ideas on how we can improve the league, so if you have any thoughts please do get in touch.

Peter Woods

Captain's Corner

It is that time of year again, when the WAOC Club Captain's thoughts turn to the upcoming season of major events, and to encouraging as many WAOC members as possible to take part, and in particular to run for WAOC in the Compass Sport Cup, and in the relays at the JK and the British Championships.

You really don't have to be a superstar to take part in these events, and being some of the premier events in the orienteering calendar, they should have some of the best courses, on some of the best terrain in the country. And if you aren't sure that you are up to running the long course for your age class, why not run the short course instead (B course in the case of juniors)? I often do!

Entry for a number of these events has to be done in advance rather than on the day, and for some of these events has to be through me, Graham Louth, WAOC Club Captain, rather than individually, but please don't let that put you off – online entry in particular is usually very quick and easy!

And, if you are attending either the JK or British Champs, please can I encourage you to stay the extra day and run in a WAOC relay team? Running in a relay is no more challenging than running in any other orienteering event – indeed the courses are usually shorter – but there is the added buzz

of excitement from being part of a WAOC team. Relay events are also a great way to get to know other members of the club better, as we all tend to congregate in and around the club tent (just look for the WAOC club banners), waiting for our own runs, or to see how the other members of our teams have got on. And whilst some teams are trying to win, others are just running for the fun of it, so there is no need to worry, even if you are the slowest in your class!

OK, enough encouragement from me, so what are these events you should all be entering?

Saturday 24th January: Compass Sport Cup Qualifier, Shouldham Warren, near Downham Market, Norfolk (EAOA/NOR)

First up is our qualification round for the Compass Sport Cup. The Compass Sport Cup is an annual inter-club competition, for all ages from Juniors to Super-Vets, and for all club members – everybody scores (well nearly everyone – juniors need to run Orange or above to score, but there will be White and Yellow courses available for those that aren't up to running Orange yet), so it is vital that as many of us as possible run for WAOC, in order for us to have the best possible chance of qualifying for the National Final (as we did two years ago). Courses are standard colour-coded courses, but you need to run the 'right' course for your age in order to score (further details from me if required).

Entry for this event is through me, Graham Louth, WAOC Club Captain (captain@waoc.org.uk; tel: 01223 246145). Please let me know as soon as possible if you will be available to run; otherwise I will be chasing you all early in the New Year!

Sunday 14th March: East Anglian Championships, Colchester (SOS)

This event is an ordinary Regional event being organised by our neighbours SOS (Essex Stragglers), but provided that you enter the right course for your age (and say you are a member of WAOC) you will automatically be competing to be the East Anglian Champion in your age class! For further details see www.stragglers.info.

Saturday 20th March: Huntingdon Town Race (WAOC) and Sunday 21st March: Midland Championships, Belvoir Castle (LEI)

Our very own 'Town and Castle' weekend, being organised jointly with Leicestershire OC. Urban orienteering is a new and exciting branch of our sport which has really taken off in the last couple of years with events such as the London City Race, the Oxford City Race and the recent Cambridge City Race (organised by our friends at CUOC). Well now we are offering orienteers from across the country the opportunity to try orienteering around Huntingdon town, on a new map drawn by World Champion orienteer Graham Gristwood. And on the Sunday you (and they) can compete in the Midland Championships in the grounds of Belvoir Castle in Leicestershire, courtesy of our neighbours LEI. Look out for further details nearer the time.

Good Friday 2nd April – Easter Monday 5th April: JK, Devon

This year's JK – or to give it its full title, the Jan Kjellstrom International Festival of Orienteering – is in Devon, over the Easter weekend as usual, and promises to be the usual excellent long weekend of top class orienteering in first class terrain. This is usually the biggest orienteering event in the country each year, and for the avoidance of doubt this event is for *everyone* – it is a 'festival of orienteering', not an elite competition. On Good Friday there is the JK Sprint race at Bicton College, near Exeter (if you haven't tried sprint orienteering then I would really recommend giving it a go – it isn't about running as fast as you can run, but rather about running as fast as you can think!); Saturday's individual (classic) race takes place in Cookworthy Forest, near Oakhampton, and Sunday's is on the sand-dunes of Braunton Burrows; finally the relays on Easter Monday are

also at Braunton Burrows. The first (cheaper) closing date for entries is Sunday 28th February, but if you miss that the final closing date is 12th March (although rather more expensive). For further details and online entry go to www.jk2010.co.uk.

Entry for the relays on Easter Monday is through me, Graham Louth, WAOC Club Captain (captain@waoc.org.uk; tel: 01223 246145). When you enter the JK, please also let me know if you'd like a JK Relay run (and if you have any preference as to whom you would like to run with, or in which class, then please let me know at the same time); otherwise I will be chasing you nearer the time!

Saturday 1st May – Sunday 2nd May: British Championships, Cannock Chase

You need to be a National member of British Orienteering to enter this event, which this year is on Cannock Chase – the individual competition on the Saturday and the relays on the Sunday as usual. For further details and online entry for the individual day go to www.walton-chasers.co.uk/boc2010/. Entry for the relays is again through me, Graham Louth, WAOC Club Captain (captain@waoc.org.uk; tel: 01223 246145), and again, if you enter BOC, please let me know at the same time if you would like a run in the relays, otherwise I will chase you nearer the time.

For further details of all these events and lots of others, check out the British Orienteering fixtures list by clicking on the Event Information bubble at the top of the British Orienteering web page: www.britishorienteering.org.uk.

If anyone has any questions, and in particular if any newer members of the club would like to know more about any of these events, or any other event that you have seen advertised and wondered whether you should enter, or which course to run, please don't hesitate to ask.

All the best

Graham

Graham Louth
WAOC Club Captain
captain@waoc.org.uk
Tel: 01223 246145

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CompassSport – the orienteers' magazine

I am sure that lots of you already subscribe to CompassSport, and you will probably have received subscription details with your renewal forms from BOF. If you do not subscribe, you are missing a great read – a magazine that is aimed at all levels of competitors, contains many maps (from home and abroad) and lots of helpful information about how to improve. For any committed orienteer, a year's subscription to Compass Sport would make a GREAT Christmas present. ☺

Subscriptions cost £23.00 a year for BOF members and £24.00 for non-BOF members.

Cheques payable to 'CompassSport' and sent to 85 Deacon Road, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey, KT2 6LS or subscribe online at www.CompassSport.co.uk

WAOC success



Ursula and Blanka in Sydney and Sheffield
Ursula's photograph courtesy of www.CompassSport.co.uk



Brief Notes on Mapping East Cambridge and an Urban Night Score

In October 2009 I set myself the double challenge of mapping East Cambridge and organising an evening event to try out this new map. East Cambridge seemed a good area to map as it was an obvious gap between several existing mapped areas. The Historic City Centre is to the West, Midsummer Common to the Northwest, Coldhams Common to the Northeast and Cherry Hinton to the Southeast, so I set myself the aim of producing a map that would join these up.

The map I produced is at a scale of 1:10,000 as this enabled me to map what is quite a large area in the time I had set myself. Mill Road and the Railway divide the area into rough quarters and the urban "terrain" is quite varied including housing from many different eras, public open spaces and commercial areas. Areas such as Mill Road Cemetery and the Railway Station offer particular interest and a variety of cut-throughs and dead ends mean the area is more than a simple grid of



streets.

An extract from the map including the station and the corner of Coleridge Recreation Ground

When it came to planning the event I choose fixed street furniture such as lampposts, hydrants, benches etc. SI punching was suggested as an event format, but (although a fan) I decided against it, as it would have needed a much greater level of organisation.

Although I advised competitors to bring a torch, the majority of controls were under streetlights. Some folks did venture into darker areas but fortunately (save other orienteers) there were no reports of suspicious characters encountered in the bushes.

For the future I hope the area will be used again for small and perhaps some larger events. A Cambridge Long O using a 1:1000 map is a definite possibility, as is extending the Cambridge City 1:5000 map beyond East Road. My thanks to all who came to the event and to Ben Holland, Ian Lawson and Peter Woods for their help and advice.

Andrew Stimson

White Rose 2009

This was the first time we had taken part in the White Rose Orienteering weekend. There is an array of courses but we were already missing the Friday evening sprint as we left Cambridge straight

from work at just before 6pm. After a minor detour to avoid the reported congestion at A14/A1 junction, we sped up the A1 and then up over Scotch Bank with its 1 in 4 hill after a spectacular sunset to arrive in the North York Moors around 10pm.

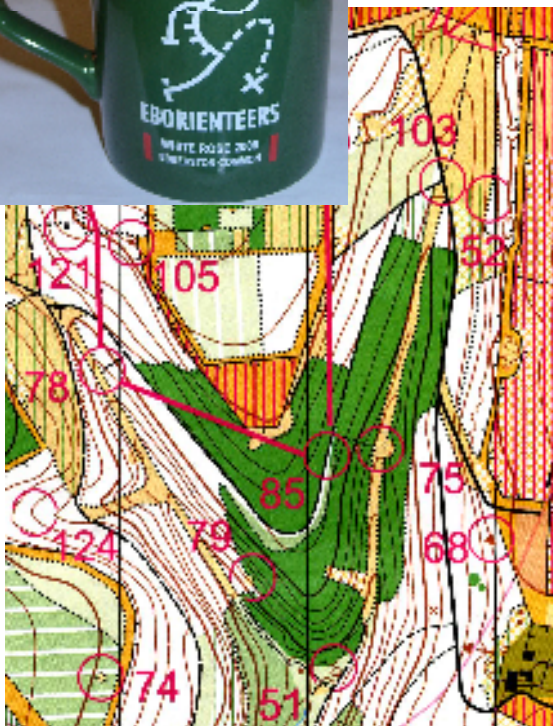
Saturday morning was the first of the regional events. We arrived bright and early complete with club flag but the tent was not needed as most WAOC participants already had their tents pitched on the campsite included in the assembly field. Starts were not allocated by club so we didn't see all the WAOC runners, which led to some detective work in finding partners for the later '3 person team' race on the Bank Holiday Monday. No red van so very sorry to hear Ursula had twisted her knee competing in the previous evening's sprint. This sprint involved 18 controls in a butterfly loops. Catherine Hemingway was not only first W10 in 20minutes 24 seconds but 17th out of all 35 women. The terrain of Dalby Forest at Ebberston Common is physically challenging with steep slopes, areas of woods with thick undergrowth and brambles, some dark green plantations and open rough grass areas often grazed by sheep. The 1:10,000 map has ridges with 7 contours at 5m intervals in 1cm!

Excellent courses making the most of the intricacies and giving plenty of route choice, which is the type I appreciate as it doesn't give fast runners an advantage. Lots of discussion on routes chosen and mistakes made while poring over maps, eating lunch from Wilf's. *Yes Wilf's was there just the same with its new owners.*

We gave the Hill Race held at 2.30pm a miss. This involved a leisurely run downhill to checkpoint 1 and a timed steep race up through checkpoints 2 and 3. It must be noted that Tom Hemmingway did a spectacular time of 6.52 just 3 seconds ahead of his dad. After a heavy rain shower, all was dry again for the Night Event at 9pm. Head torches shining, the mass start meant most had company around this score event and I am proud to announce Helen won the Women's with a score of 180.



More rain in the night but sunny and dry again for the second regional event on Sunday. Different start 2.3km from the assembly area, most courses having a different route into the finish at the assembly area. Great to see the results when you have an early start but the only way your position can go is down as runners, who started later come flying into the finish. We didn't stay for the prize giving at 4.30pm so I missed my moment of glory while Helen was sad to miss her toblerone bar! However, we did collect our mugs on Monday morning. These green mugs (photo) use orienteering symbols to create a runner and I have had such fun in coffee time at work with Mike primed to ask me why I had a new mug. There were lots of excellent places for WAOC runners; Duncan Cooper was 3rd (M10), Catherine Hemingway 2nd (W10), Molly Pocock 2nd (W10B) and Rachel Pocock 3rd (W40).



Monday's team race was a change from a normal relay event. This was a one hour score for teams of three. Each team had to start by dividing up the checkpoints to give three routes while ensuring all visited the 4 compulsory checkpoints (numbers 70,

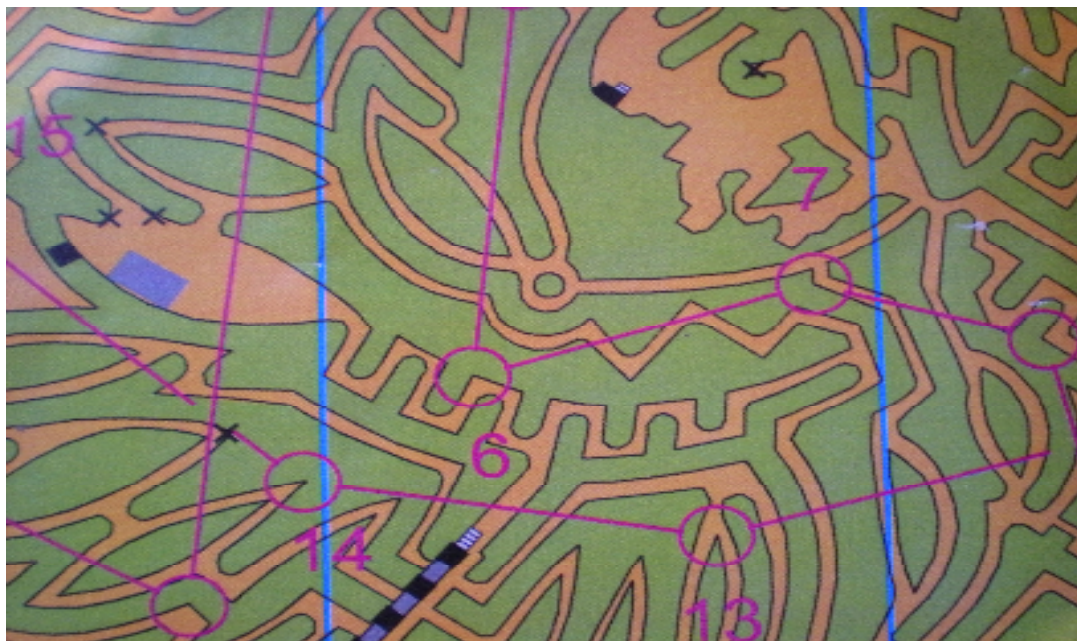
85, 78 and 61) on this score event. As you can see from the section of map, this involved some duplication of route and checkpoints passed. My team was only entering for fun but after a short panic rush when after 25minutes I hadn't collected half my allocated checkpoints, I surprised myself by finishing well within the hour. Now the family are considering rushing \$ across to Yorkshire from the Lakes 5 Day at the end of August for the White Rose 2010.

WAOC results for combined regional events at White Rose

M10 Duncan Cooper 3/7	W10 Catherine Hemingway 2/9
M12 Lewis Cooper (M10) 6/11	W10B Molly Pocock 2/7
M14 Tom Hemingway 9/20, Todd Cooper 12/20	W21S Helen Bickle 4/12
M21 Andrew Stimson 12/17	W40 Rachel Pocock 3/13
M35S Stephen Borrill 6/12	W45 Pam Hemingway 10/13
M40 David Cooper (M45) 11/17	W55S Hazel Bickle 1/12 Cath Pennington 7/12
M50 Mike Capper 14/37 Maurice Hemingway 22/37	
M60 Mike Bickle 10/42	

Amazing orienteering

In October, Ben and I travelled up the A50 to Staffordshire to try a new venture organised by Walton Chasers - the Maize Maze Challenge. The 1:1000 map made for rapid decision making - though the 1km course lengths did not bear much resemblance to the distances actually run - even without errors. Two qualification races were in daylight - the first was dry, minimising the risk of head-on collisions, but rain on clay made the second more than a little slippery, with some potentially bone-crunching encounters.



The final offered a new challenge - dry underfoot but this time we ran in the dark. Bright headlamps were banned! Ben ran well, making 15th in the A-final, ahead of ex-WAOC Mark Collis and Blanka Sengerova. I was content in the end to finish midway in the C-final, after just missing the

cut for the B-final and starting at the end of the list. Relocating in a maze at night was a new skill which I had not practised before.

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The Cambridge City Race (1)

What an event! As I arrived at Jesus Green there was a hive of activity. Helpers everywhere! Some of them wearing fluorescent South Yorkshire Orienteer's jackets. May be it was to do with the free packed lunches which had been prepared for all the helpers? Help came from CUOC, students' parents and WAOC members.

The facilities on Jesus Green made an excellent assembly area. Close to bus routes, a multi-storey car park, and the pavilion providing shelter, electricity and loos.

The preparation had been meticulous. Permissions had been granted for access into five colleges and some other sites. Porters had been pre-warned and there were race marshals stationed at most entrances. All were checking for bone-fide runners and that competitors were not taking shortcuts across their precious lawns. One runner was actually disqualified for trespassing on some grass.

We had a huge turnout of over 300 runners attracting orienteers from New Zealand to San Francisco with 7 elites from the British Senior and Junior Squads.

I was running the 4km Super-Vets class which makes me sound like a real oldie. The first two controls were in the alleys of the Portugal Place area of the city. Coming out of the Round Church I made my only serious mistake. Left Brain had planned the route to No 3 (St John's College), but Right Brain exited the control in a different direction with the result that I went into Bridge Street rather than Trinity Street. Neither Brain was able to make sense of where I was. For someone who knows Cambridge I was surprised that I couldn't recognise any of the buildings.

Leg No 4 offered a choice of routes from St John's to Garret Hostel Lane. One back along Trinity Street; the other crossing the river twice. I dismissed the river option as it seemed the thick black lines didn't allow it. The river option was a feasible route, but as the splits show, not the faster choice.

Control 5 was in the grounds of Pembroke College where some bystanders were keen to show me the flag hidden by some bushes. Then across the road into the Downing Site for a couple of controls.

Control 8 was on the Old Addenbrookes Site and my success depended on the map correctly showing a 1.5 metre gap between buildings. Fortunately, this proved to be the case, and once through the gap, the nearby control flag was my reward.

Control 10 was a long leg all the way across the city centre from Mill Lane to Jesus College. I opted for a route via the Market Square and Sussex Street which I was pleased wasn't too busy with shoppers. Coming along Market Street I could hear a cyclist ringing his bell behind me. Was it for me? Don't know - I just kept running!

The controls in Jesus College were tricky, ready to catch those who didn't read the map and control descriptions accurately. We then emerged from the back of the college onto Jesus Green for the sprint to the finish line.

Notable WAOC performances came from

Tom Louth 1st Men 16-

Anna Falk 8th Women Open

Blanka Collis 9th Women Open

Many stayed on for the prize giving. There were useful prizes for the winners and certificates for the first 3 in each class.

A very memorable event. Thank you, CUOC, for making it a success.

Bruce Marshall

The Cambridge City Race (2)

After much anticipation and after being long in the making, the Cambridge City Race took place on a sunny Saturday in October, acting as a warm up to the Compass Sport Cup final for some, as part of the Nopesport Urban League for others and simply as the long awaited inaugural race around Cambridge for pretty much all the participants. With two Oxford City races having taken place in the past (2006 and 2007), people vaguely knew what to expect with the fun of running round the colleges and were looking forward to running round the other (better?!) of the Oxbridge university towns. The postponement that was forced by the snow and ice in February arguably added to the excitement (the longer you have to wait for something, the more exciting it gets) of the event although I suspect it wasn't appreciated by either planner or organiser. Fortunately neither Ben Stevens (planner) nor Clare Sutherland (organiser) were graduating this year so could both continue in their functions for the postponed event. The limited number of entries (due to restrictions placed on the total by City Council and some Colleges) led to a rush of entry swapping on nopesport in the few weeks running up to the event...

After some investigative journalism (= e-mail to the planner!) I discovered what the wish-list course would have been, which means the "course in an ideal world where all the colleges would give CUOC permission to use their grounds". Had that been the case, you might have started from Jesus Green and been taken on a tour of St John's, followed by a bit of the town centre, then whistlestop tours of Pembroke, Peterhouse and Queens' followed by returning northwards to Trinity, then via part of Sidney Sussex, through Emmanuel (including the road underpass) and then some streets behind Parkside school, finishing off through Jesus and finally onto Jesus Green.

OK, that was maybe a bit ambitious on the obtaining permissions front, but the details of the original February event were acknowledging St John's, Trinity, Pembroke, Queens' and Jesus, as well as the University for the use of the New Museums and Downing sites so the courses looked to be taking the competitors on a grand loop of the city with brief detours through some of the colleges (and from what I hear a control with the description of "whale, foot". As the country came to a stand-still in February due to some (lots of) white stuff, CUOC were rushing to decide whether or not to hold the race as originally scheduled, and in the end had to postpone due to colleges and City Council worrying (justly) about the possibility of people slipping on icy paths and injuring themselves and/or others. The organising team of Clare, Ben and Mike Capper (controller) managed to act very quickly and had an alternative date sorted out ready to fit into the autumn season.

Inevitably, despite the great flexibility of both City Council and Colleges in rescheduling the event, the large number of owners led to some changes in permissions on the new date. As Ben, the planner, explains, "*over the summer we lost access to Queens' College and one of the university sites, so Clare rushed to get permission from Downing College as a replacement, and I had to*

replan the middle of courses 1-4. The gate we were using into Pembroke College changed from the main Porters' Lodge (hatched purple on the map) to the chapel gate, with the result that I didn't notice the quickest route from 5-6 on course 1 – it was meant to be a route choice between going round the bottom and round the top.”

You can see the route choice between controls 5 and 6 on the men's course that Ben is talking about on the picture below. Judging by the routes put up on RouteGadget, none of those who drew their route took the southern route (via Fen Causeway), the vast majority ran through the unspotted route through Pembroke and only Ollie O'Brien and Dan Halliday took the northerly Pembroke Street route.



The general layout of the course took competitors from Jesus Green past the ADC Theatre and into John's, followed by a “round the back or along St John's Street/Trinity Lane” decision to one of two controls in Garrett Hostel Lane. The routes were more similar in length for the W Open/M40+ course than the men's course, where the control was a bit further West, but in both cases the vast majority of runners took the route across the river, so avoiding the busy tourist route. This was followed by a long leg to the Downing site for most courses (except for the Open Men, who got taken onto Coe Fen first), and then by some short snappy legs around the Downing site and Pembroke College.

The shorter courses then had a very long route choice leg across the city from the back of the Careers' Service building (off Mill Lane) towards Jesus College, whilst the longer courses went through Downing before being taken out across Parker's Piece and around the back of Parkside School. Ben says that *“the week before the race, we lost access to Parkside School which meant I*

had to move 137, but this actually seems to have resulted in some nice route choice on [the W Open/M40+] course.” All the courses then finished with a few legs around Jesus College, with the M Open being taken on a loop of Jesus Green to end with. Even the Mini (M/W12-) course spent most of the time in Jesus College rather than on the Jesus Green bit, so it provided a good introduction to city racing for the youngest competitors.



The race attracted a pretty high level entry, probably more so than a bog standard Icenian badge event and both the men's and women's open courses were won by current British Squad members Graham Gristwood and Sarah Rollins. GG (now apparently extending his student days at Sheffield Hallam) held off fellow British Squad member Matt Crane by just under a minute, with third place shared by Cambridge University fresher Matthew Halliday and AIRE's Ian Nixon. Sarah Rollins just (by 18 seconds) beat Australian national team runner Grace Elson (now Grace Crane, but when the original entries were taken she wasn't married yet), who was followed by Oxford University's Anne Edwards. The other courses were won by Martin Ward (SPOOK) on M40+, Alun Jones (TVOC) on M55+, Thomas Louth (WAOC) on M16- and James Errington (HH) on M12- for the men's classes and Jane Halliday (OD) on W40+, Susan Stevens (AIRE, and the planner's mother!) on W55+, Elizabeth Parkinson (NOC) on W16- and Jessica Beresford (DVO) on the W12- for the women's classes.

Blanka Collis

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Fixture List

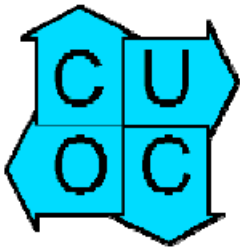
This list was produced from the BOF and EAOA fixture lists as of 15 December 2009. A full list of events is available on the BOF web site (www.britishorienteering.org.uk) where you can find more information on the events listed below. Always check before travelling.

Date	Region	Club	Level	Event Name	Event Venue	Closing Date	Grid Ref
Sun 27/12/09	East Anglia	NOR	Local	NOR Informal Xmas Score Event	Horsford Heath	EOD	TG184176
Fri 01/01/10	East Anglia	SOS	Local	SOS New Years Day Event	Highwoods	EOD	TL998271
Sat 09/01/10	South East	CHIG	Local	CHIG Local Event - Schools League and SWELL	Pishiobury Park	EOD	TL475139
Sun 10/01/10	East Anglia	NOR	Local	NOR Colour Code Event	Cockley Cley	EOD	TF781061
Sun 24/01/10	East Anglia	NOR	Regional	CompassSport Cup 1st Round	Shouldham Warren	EOD O: 01/01/70	TF680105
Sat 30/01/10	East Anglia	CUOC	Regional	Thetford Thrash - Day 1, Icenian Trophy & EA League	Brandon CP	EOD	TL785853
Sun 31/01/10	East Anglia	WAOC	Regional	Thetford Thrash - Day 2	Warren Wood	EOD O: 24/01/10 P: 24/01/10	TL834854
Sun 07/02/10	East Anglia	SOS	Local	SOS Colour Code Event	Chalkney	EOD	TL872280
Sat 13/02/10	East Anglia	SUFFOC	Regional	Punch & Dumpling Weekend - Punch Regional Event	The Kings Forest		TL 825748
Sun 14/02/10	East Anglia	NOR	Regional	Punch & Dumpling Weekend - Single Dumpling Regional Event	Lyndford		TL819940



Milton CP
[TL476621](#)
Boxing Day
Saturday, 26 December 2009

Starts	11.00 to 12.00
Courses	Score event using both the Country Park and the surrounding village.
Refreshments	Mulled wine and mince pies may well be provided.
Organiser	Peter Duthie, 01480 467736



Thetford Thrash 2010
Day 1 - Icenian Trophy
& EA League Event



Enquiries: Entries@waoc.org.uk

Day 1 Brandon Saturday 30 January 2010 Day 2 - Warren Wood Sunday 31 January 2010
Online entry at www.fabian4.co.uk Further details on www.waoc.org.uk