

Reports February 2023

Name: Paul Taunton
Role: Chair
Report: February 2023

- Offset-litho mapping booklet (printed by BML) passed to Ian, and much e-mail correspondence re map colours and ink adhesion (now improved).
- Presented the Terry Bradstock Trophy to the 2022 winner, Vanessa Lawson, just before the start of our New Year's Day event.
- Contributed "Chairman's Chat" to January Legend - detailed some actions following the December Committee meeting (*including ultimately unsuccessful efforts together with Pat to set up Planner/Organiser training*).
- Resubmitted NGOC comments re Caddihoe Chase to SWOA Committee (*but sent my apologies to Zoom meeting on 17th Jan*).
- Passed on SWOA "Club reps report to Clubs" to appropriate Committee members.
- Completed recent virtual Trail-O event, the Hungarian TORUS Trophy
- Site meeting with Controller, Organiser and Mapper for Veteran Home International relays, and ongoing email discussions.
- Principal effort of late has been preparation of an initial set of VHI relay courses, now submitted to Controller for agreement of concept.
- Updated OCAD map of Forest School, Cinderford, for Steve Harris.
- Responses to many e-mails

News:

- Congratulations to Vanessa Lawson and Pete Ward, both of whom were selected as reserves for the England Team for the Interland Cup 2023 on 5 March at Kattenbos, near Lommel in Belgium.

Name: Suzanne Harding
Role: Captain
Report: February 2023

CompassSport Cup

I have started collecting names for our qualifying heat. Currently there are only 29 people interested in running. Enough for a full team but down on normal. Entries don't need to be in until 19th February so hopefully a few more will still sign up. The parking is not suitable for a coach but Kerina has confirmed a minibus would be ok.

British Relays

Only 6 people have expressed an interest in running so far following my club wide email. When the first entry deadline for the individual has passed I shall contact the people running in the individual competition directly to see if they would like to run. Then approach others to try and make up teams for those that want to run.

JK Relays

The closing date for entries for these is not until 19th March so I shall wait to send something out after the 2nd entry deadline for the individual competitions on 26th February.

Yvette Baker Trophy

Still waiting to hear whether NGOC will be eligible for the trophy or shield competition this year.

Cotswold Way Relay

Entries for this are now open and close on 28th March so I shall start collecting names this month.

Name: Ian Phillips
Role: Mapping Officer
Report: February 2023

- I have provided our treasurer with a cost for maps for all events since the AGM so that he can include them into his figures.
- Level C event at Newent Woods incorporating the Yvette Baker trophy heat scheduled for 30 April 2023.

Name: Alan Pucill
Role: Treasurer
Report: February 2023

- Current balances (at 01/02/2023)
 - Current Account £8,211.22 (Prev. report £9,214.31)
 - Deposit Account £11,535.89 (Prev. report £11,523.75)
- Summary of larger items since last report on 01/12/2022 (rounded figures):
 - Income
 - Income from Fabian4 for November and December
 - League £1668
 - NYD Score £807
 - Maprun £339
 - WNL £290
 - Total £3104
 - EOD income £133
 - Sale of O-tops £80
 - Membership Income £84
 - Expenditure
 - BOF/SWOA/WNL levies £951
 - Landowners (Forestry England, Penn Wood Scouts) £395
 - Printerbase £520
 - BML Paper £328
 - Planners/Organisers/Controllers expenses £183
 - SPORTident – Purchase of 20 Control Stations £2062

- Income from Fabian4 lags a month behind.
 - Expected income at end of February (from entries made in January)

▪ League (Welshbury, Knockalls)	£721
▪ WNL (Selsley, Symonds Yat)	£361
▪ Mapruns	£165

Notes:

From previous meeting minutes:

- 5.a.i – Event breakdown now includes map printing costs.
- 7.i – After discussion with Martin at SPORTident, we decided to buy 20 control boxes and send our defective boxes to him for possible repair. There is no discount for quantity on the purchase and no charge for unrepairable boxes, so we will buy more when we know how many more we need.

The club's finances remain healthy.

Name: Greg Best
Role: Fixtures/Permissions Officer
Report: February 2023

IN ROLE:

Tasks Completed

- Liaised with Forestry England at short notice to re-arrange the postponed Welshbury event

Tasks Progressing

- As always, lots of event permissions and fixtures issues on-going.
- Officials. Still need to recruit a couple of controllers, plus organiser/planners for the December league event and those in early 2024
- Changing the date of Selsley event to a week later to fit in with scout centre where we intend to park. Permission received from Woodland Trust

Tasks Planned

- More of the same

NOT IN ROLE:

Mapping Work Completed

- Cirencester. I have now completed the significant extension to NWO's map, so the whole of the town centre is now included in readiness for the event there in June.
- Painswick extension. After permission given by Prinknash Abbey, much of their grounds have now been added to the map, and this should be used for the event there in March.

Mapping Work Progressing

- Mallards Pike. This is my current major project and has so far involved 16 full days in the forest and the same on the computer at home after each visit. The Lidar has identified plenty of further changes/additions to check out, so still plenty more days to be spent there.

- Selsley extension. Permission received from the Woodland Trust, so have made a start on adding the adjacent Penn Wood to Tom's map for the event there in August. This will also entail changing the scale of the map from 1:4000 to 1:7500 in order to fit the enlarged area at A4. Steve Lee has made an agreement and paid a deposit with the Scout Centre in those woods, so we will be able to base ourselves there. Rental of scout centre is for the whole weekend!!

Mapping Work Planned

- NTR

Other Tasks Completed

- Christmas Maprun. From the front door of our new house, with mulled wine and Caroline's Christmas goodies served afterwards in our kitchen.

Other Tasks Progressing

- Caddihoe Chase/VHI Weekend. This will take place at Mallards Pike at the end of next September and I am planner and map updater for both days. Making good progress, but still much to do.

Name: Pat MacLeod
Role: Equipment Officer
Report: February 2023

IN EQUIPMENT ROLE:

Tasks Completed

- Sent 12 SI units to Sportident for repair
- Purchased 20 new BSF9 controls, not the 40 agreed at the last meeting. In discussion with SI they suggested we send our 'dead' and defective units back for review and repair if practical, so we bought 20 new ones to cover the repair cycle.
- Purchased 2 new boxes to hold controls and the new mini-printer. Overall cost about £63. The existing BOB Teed boxes will still be used for subsets of controls for events, with the new larger box able to accommodate all controls, which Bob's boxes do not.

Tasks in Progress

- In contact with Woolaston Guides to try and dispose of their tentage from my garage. This might mean loss of one of the two large mess tents that we use from time to time, but I will try to keep it, if necessary buying it from them. As they have not used any of the tentage for several years, we might just be able to keep that tent free of charge.
- Probably need to buy more kites. Our supply has become rather tatty, and we seem to lose the occasional one, so now have fewer kites than controls, though enough for most of the size of events we put on.

Tasks Planned

- None

NOT IN ROLE

Tasks completed

- Started TD3 coaching for the Harlock-Askew twins – new members transferring from TVOC – at Welshbury

Tasks in Progress

- Discussion with Gill Stott on how to provide ongoing support to specific schools sports coordinators – as ex development officer, and pending finding a new one
- Further TD3 training at Knockalls – shadowing the Askew twins on Orange rather than providing separate training exercises, due to lack of suitable terrain
- Liaison with Peter Maliphant, BOK, re SWJOS training attached to the Knockalls event
- Ongoing MapRun UK coordination and support
- Initial discussion with Croeso 2024 organisers and WOA re NGOC involvement – this a legacy of my involvement with JK2022. See report below
- Ongoing organisation of Caddihoe/VHI weekend

Tasks Planned

- Update of Knockalls map following the forthcoming event, planning for which by Alan P has indicated that it needs a complete review and update.
- Update of the website beginner info to include excellent material collected by Tom Mills at the O-Ringen – not yet started

Croeso 2024

We have given agreement in principle to be involved, in recognition of WOA's lack of resources to organise the event without the support of English clubs

Early proposals are as follows:

Day 1 Sunday 21st: Merthyr Mawr (MM) (Long, NGOC?)

Day 2 Monday 22nd: Cribarth (Long, SBOC plus support from ERYRI/MWOC)

Day 3 Tuesday 23rd: Carrech Goch (Long, SBOC plus support from ERYRI/MWOC)

(Days 2 & 3 to share same Parking, Assembly & Finish with Yellow & Orange to take place adjacent in Country Park in valley bottom)

Wednesday 24th: Rest Day

Day 4 Thursday 25th: Cadair Fawr (Long, SWOC) *or Crychan North (Middle SWOC/??)*

Day 5 Friday 26th Crychan North (Middle, BOK?) *or Merthyr Common (Long BOK??)*

Day 6 Saturday 27th Abergavenny (Urban HOC?)

This is highly likely to change, but the expectation is that MM will be day 1 or day 6, reflecting the fact that it is separated geographically from the other areas (which are mainly around the Brecon area), and so people go there on arrival for the week, or when leaving.

It's also likely that it could move to a 5-day format, as the Scottish 6 Days has done, to remove the inconvenience of having to check out of accommodation and then run a day before travelling home. In that event the urban could well switch to the rest day, again as at S6D 2023.

There is clear recognition that communication and organisation at JK2022 were sub-standard, and Croeso need to fix that, which is good news from our point of view. WOA do face a lack of experienced central role officials, so we should be prepared to help out there as well as running a day. Ideally the outcome of that would be an easier job running our day.

Finally, it's worth saying that permissions are going to be perhaps the biggest issue.

Name: Ian Prowse
Role: Volunteer Co-Ordinator
Report: February 2023

- My first event at Welshbury was 'a baptism of fire' with a last-minute cancellation of the event and its quick rescheduling, requiring a rapid re-recruitment and re-shuffling of volunteer list, whilst still getting used to the vagaries of MailChimp. Fortunately I had more volunteers than were needed and as far as I am aware all went to plan on the day.
- However the preparation of the initial volunteer rota did bring to light the issue of 2nd shifts for the start, parking and road marshalling teams. I had simply followed on from the system previously in operation by my predecessor, and expected by the event organisers, in nominating personnel to 2nd shifts in those roles. It was pointed out to me by Greg Best that there had been a previous Committee resolution that, for those winter events with a 90-minute start window, a second shift would not be used for the start and car parking teams, on the basis that it put undue pressure on the 2nd shift individuals to complete their run and be available to commence their shift in the available start window. It was expected that the event organiser would in due course relieve the start team to allow them to run.
- It would be fair to say that a number of the second shift volunteers did express to me some anxiety about being ready for their shift in view of the short start window. Whereas organisers were worried whether they would be available to relieve the start team as and when required.
- For the rescheduled Welshbury event we went with a single start and parking team and I'm not aware of any issues and that same structure applies to Knockalls.
- However the single start and parking teams may be manageable but the problem of a 2nd shift remains where road marshalls are required (there were three road marshalling teams at Welshbury but fortunately none at Knockalls). The 2nd shift volunteers still need to have completed their runs and be ready to take over within this relatively tight start window (and the marshalling may be some distance from car parking/assembly). When seeking volunteers I've tried to establish anybody who perhaps would not be running at the event and therefore more easily be slotted into a 2nd shift role, but to date nearly all volunteers want to run as well.

Name: Ginny Hudson
Role: Membership Secretary
Report: February 2023

MEMBERSHIP FIGURES

As at 1.2.23

Category	Current	Lapsed
Senior	121	15
Junior	29	6
Total	150	21

Name: Alan Brown
Role: Newsletter Editor
Report: February 2023

- Next Legend due April 2023

Name: Tom Cochrane
Role: Communications Officer
Report: February 2023

- Continued emails and occasional website updates.
 - Remap of National Star College nearly complete. It looks unlikely that we'd be able to use the more interesting section for an event, so they'll be making a donation to the club instead.
 - MapRun 2023 series is underway, with locations through to spring.
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