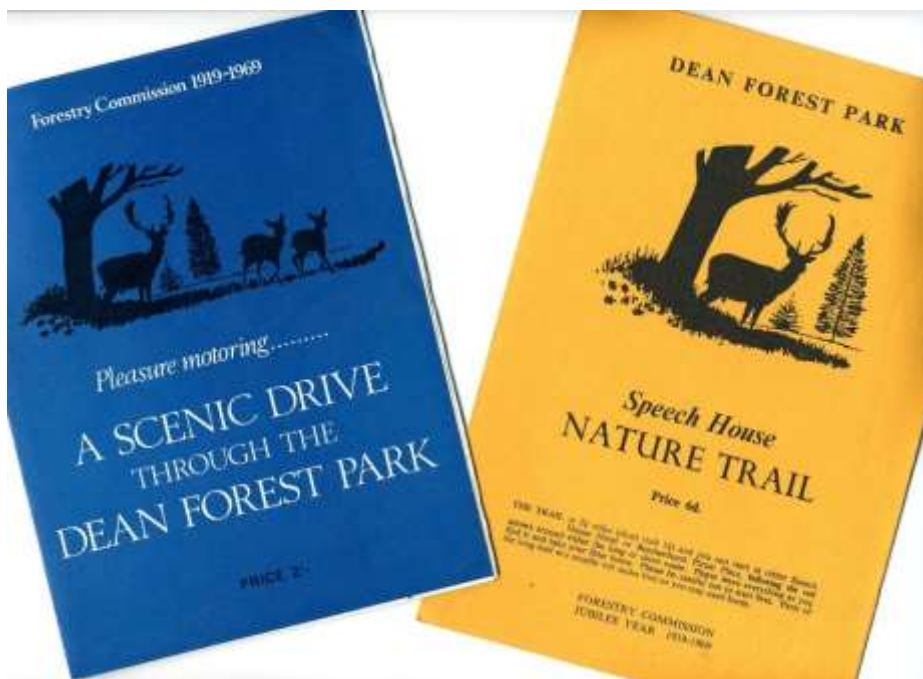


The Legend

Number 187



Newsletter of
North Gloucestershire Orienteering Club
April 2019

www.ngoc.org.uk

NGOC Committee

Chairman

Tom Mills

chairman@ngoc.org.uk

Secretary

Kim Liggett

secretary@ngoc.org.uk

Treasurer

Carol Stewart

treasurer@ngoc.org.uk

01242 514988

Membership Secretary

Simon Denman

membership@ngoc.org.uk

Mapping Officer

Paul Taunton

mapping@ngoc.org.uk

01594 529455

Equipment & Development

Pat MacLeod

equipment@ngoc.org.uk

01594 528128

Logistics Support

Stephen Robinson

Stephen.robinson61@btinternet.com

m

01594 841743

Welfare Officer

Ashleigh Denman

welfare@ngoc.org.uk

Volunteer Coordinator

Kevin Brooker

ngocvolunteer@gmail.com

Fixtures Secretary & Permissions Officer

Greg Best

permissions@ngoc.org.uk

Legend Editor

Alan Brown

legend@ngoc.org.uk

Captain

Shirley Robinson

Shirley.robinson18@btinternet.com

Vice Captain

Hilary Nicholls

Committee1@ngoc.org.uk

Committee Member

John Fallows

john@greyeye.co.uk

07971 782729

Committee Member

Steve Lee

Committee Member

Caroline Craig

caroline.craig4@gmail.com

Cover: Looking through his collection of trail guides Paul Taunton realised that 2019 marks the 100th anniversary of the Forestry Commission; read Paul's article inside.

Chairman's Chat

As I start to write we are heading for another Regional event this time at Cleeve Hill. The terrain is in super condition and the map has been updated by Greg Best to provide perfect running conditions (see comment at bottom). Greg has sought and received permission for NGOC to run the British Night Championships on this area therefore it will be embargoed after this weekend.

Looking to the future we now have Soudley Ponds professionally re-mapped by Nick Nourse. The terrain contains a large amount of white woodland and will provide a great venue for one of our events next year. Also on the target list is Lydney Park. To manage expectancy I should say that although Paul Taunton and I had a very constructive meeting with the land manager and arrived at an outline agreement in principle, this is just the first step. This will now be taken to the landowner to see if we can get the go ahead. Beyond this we will still have to re-map the area.

Nothing can be taken for granted but it is not unreasonable to assume that with an area this size, it will be suitable for both Regional and National events. As with all land access there will be a fee that will be levied by the landowner and this will inevitably increase entry charges. Having said this, the club will keep this to a minimum but we will need to claw back our costs and hope to do this with a National event.

The club enjoyed a very social and well attended CompassSport Cup at Bentley Woods. At first we looked very well positioned but this did not take into account the fact that we were the first club off in the context of number of runners out on the terrain. As the day progressed OD's big guns took to the field and we were well beaten. Hey Ho that's life but it was still a very enjoyable club day out.

Two events followed this, Savernake being relevant in that, apart from being a very good event, Nick Nourse had remapped it. A big improvement on the older previous map so it bodes well for Soudley. Our big event recently was this weekend's event at Cleeve. Very well attended with around 230 entries all told, a significant rise on our usual numbers, the big surprise being 31 entries on the Brown. We have no real analysis of why so many, particularly since they came from as far afield as Sheffield.

As controller I must hang my head in shame for letting one site on the short green catch me out. It was a short notice change of 5 days earlier and I had no time to do a diligent check. Whilst 'only' 30 metres out that is 100 feet in old money so it slowed many runners down. It will rankle with me for days to come. Finally, Pat continues to provide a trail running course at our events which we hope will find some converts in the years to come. If you know of anyone who enjoys trail, park or road running please advertise this excellent format.

Tom



Profile - Carol Stewart, W75



Introduce yourself: As someone who is currently ranked a fantastic 5225th (I think based on the one ranking event I attended last year, the CS cup heats at Nesscliff) I was a bit surprised to be asked for a profile by Alan, but here goes. I'm one of those who come early and goes late at NGOC events, the person who looks after the money and the tuck shop/café and who has a Tardis-like car that seems to swallow any amount of bits and pieces. I orienteer only occasionally nowadays, but used to go to lots of events including galoppens and regional/national events, though I've never made it to any multi-day or overseas ones.

When did you first start/how did you learn about the sport?

My first event was in 1982, in Queens Wood near Ross. I was introduced by David King, a work colleague and club member (who sadly died recently). I'd come across the sport some years earlier in the margins of the annual interdivisional athletics competition we used to have at work, when a fellow competitor told me about it and how he wore hockey boots to compete. It sounded fun but as my only transport then was a bike I didn't follow it up, and in any case at that time I was playing netball regularly, both in a local league and for the county second team, so weekends were fairly full. I'd always liked maps, could use a compass and was an experienced walker so thought it would be easy.....I soon found that navigating with the precision needed for orienteering was rather different, but despite the brambles in Queens Wood I was instantly hooked. Some four years later I was chairman (blame Lin Callard), and five years after that, treasurer, which I've been ever since (see ambitions).

Favourite area: No particular preferences, but as well as our own Forest I like Brown Clee, the New Forest, the limestone pavements of Ogof, other moorland areas, and have enjoyed battling with the sand dunes at Braunton Burrows. Although I know areas of the Lakes well for walking I've never orienteered there or in Scotland - a whole different experience I'm sure.

EMIT or SI: SI - no matter how I hold an EMIT brick it always seems to be facing the wrong way at the punching station. Might be OK with a contactless version - we'll see how I get on at the CS Cup heats this year.

Baseplate or thumb compass: Baseplate - the physical setting of the bearing gives me a (probably totally false) sense of control. OK so it takes a second or two, but for those of us who measure our progress in terms of average minutes per control rather than minutes per km that doesn't make too much difference overall.

Proudest or most enjoyable moment: No one thing stands out, but over the years I've always been pleased when people have said they liked courses I've set on Informals or League events. I did win an NGOC T-shirt at a Chairman's Challenge on Cleeve many years ago!

Worst moment: Probably one of my most memorable/worst events was a Harvester at Clumber Park, Nottingham, in 1988. I was part of a non-competitive team of leftovers - a couple of us without a team plus 5 running for a second time. I was on the first leg, it was pouring with rain, the leg was over 7km and I'd never done a night course of that length before. After nearly an hour when I hadn't found the first control I almost gave up but battled on and eventually made it to the Finish after four and a half hours, by which time it was light (and the rain had stopped). A year later I achieved a Championship time there but I reckoned it was because I'd visited every possible feature before.

Ambitions for yourself (or the sport): Personal - find someone to take over as treasurer (over 20 years and counting) and/or café manager. Although the joints are creaking a bit now I'd like to do some more actual orienteering while I still can. For the sport - accept that the way people choose to take part is changing and find a way to accommodate those who enjoy coming to events - and may be happy to help - but don't necessarily want the formality of joining an organisation. Simplify - I don't understand the logic of Short Blue and Short Brown courses - aren't they just Green and Blue by a different name? Be less risk-averse - do you really have to be over 16 before you're allowed to cross the road on your own?

Any other interesting facts: I earned an unofficial quarter-blue for Tiddlywinks for an Oxford/Cambridge match in the mid 60's. I think we (Oxford) won but I can't really remember!

.

Harris Relay

A325

Bordon Harris apr 19				
long harris				
1	107			
2	101			
3	108			
4	103			
5	109			
6	104			
7	105			
8	110			
END OF SPINE CONTROLS				
9	111			
10	106			
11	113			
12	115			
13	114			
14	129			
15	132			
16	116			
17	117			
18	128			
19	118			
20	119			
21	131			
22	102			
23	121			
24	122			
25	123			
26	124			
27	125			
28	126			
29	130			
30	127			
31	120			
32	112			
490 m				

Have you ever wondered why a Harris Relay is called a Harris Relay? If you guess that it is named after a chap called Harris you will be correct. A lieutenant colonel in the Army, he devised the format to add leadership and teamwork to the usual orienteering format.

(Thanks for this information to Alan Honey who served with Lieutenant Colonel Harris)

For those who don't know about the Harris Relay format it's more of a team event than a relay – the great advantage is that you all start together and don't hang around getting cold and bored waiting for someone else to finish before you can get going.

Also it's like a score event in that you can visit the controls in any order. Some controls (the spine controls) have to be visited by all three members of the team but the rest just have to be visited by only one member each. If a team misses out a control they are not disqualified, they are given a hefty time penalty: you are not going to win by leaving out controls.

Deciding who is going to visit which controls is done after the start so it is best to agree on a captain to divvy up the controls and not to waste time arguing about who does what. The captain needs to have an idea of the capabilities of each team member so that

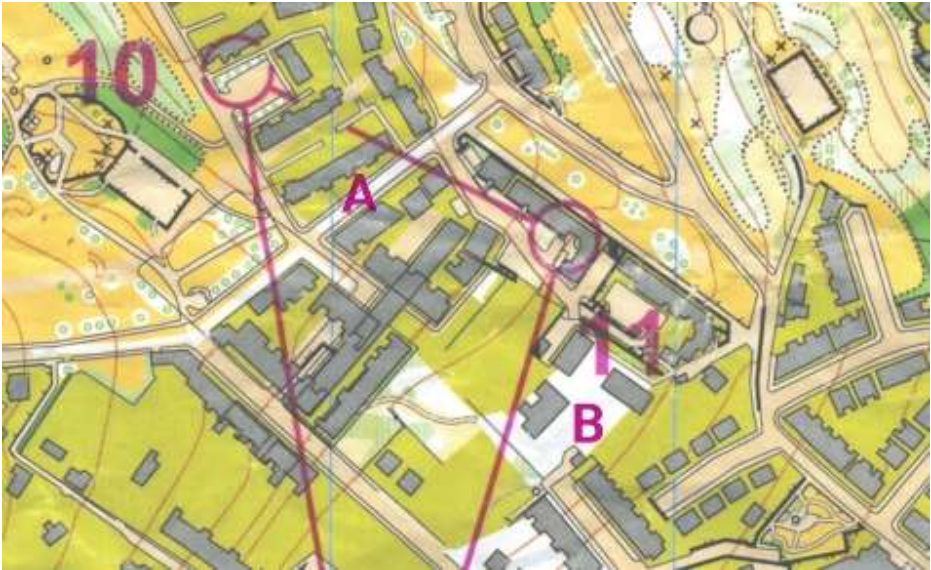
he can give the more difficult, far away controls to a stronger orienteer and give fewer, easier controls to a weaker orienteer. It may be, in extreme circumstances, a good idea to give only the spine controls to the weakest member. If the captain has done a good job all team members will arrive at the finish at exactly the same time!



Message to NGOC planners

Remember, the final printed maps and descriptions should always be checked before the event. The 1:4,000 scale map extract below is taken from a competitor's map (somewhat degraded by rain) used at the recent SYO National Urban event in Sheffield. Some of the features were inadvertently moved by the planner when making last minute map amendments. Confusingly for competitors, a narrow runnable forest is shown along the street marked "A", and white forest areas have appeared in several places (e.g. at point "B"), causing uncertainty

whether there were legally passable routes between some buildings, or not! Additionally, no loose control descriptions were issued, as they were found to be different to those printed on the map.



As well as human error, there is also scope for software/ computer/printer errors. I have occasionally noted small blank areas when printing documents on the club printer. I have never yet found this problem when printing maps, but the possibility cannot be totally ruled out.

So, please send me your map files for printing at least two weeks in advance of the event, to allow plenty of time for all the phases of the print process. The planner should then receive the printed maps and descriptions far enough in advance of the event to check that they do look exactly as expected, and if not, allow time for a last-minute reprint.

Paul Taunton

CAPTION COMPETITION



Ann came across this picture on the web – send your captions to legend@ngoc.org.uk

Codeword puzzle no. 2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
				W		X						

14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
										Y

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U ~~V~~ ~~W~~ ~~X~~ ~~Y~~ Z

NGOC's latest orienteering challenge. You may already have seen this type of puzzle in newspapers and the Radio Times. The idea is to fill in each square with one letter; the number already printed in the square always represents the same letter. The words on the grid are all associated with orienteering, some used in control descriptions and others the names of orienteering areas (11 named areas altogether in this puzzle although several have not been used recently).

Once you think you have identified a letter (say 13 stands for U) write in U in each box on the grid with the number 13, cross off U in the A-Z bar above and write U next to 13 in the box above that. This helps you keep track of how far you have got.

To start you off you have been given the letters **W**, **X** and **Y** and these have been added to the grid. The letters **V** and **Z** have not been used.

The answer is at the end of the newsletter in Brashings

14	3	9	9	17	2	2	17	9	11	22	
10					3						
23		11	8	14	23	11	12	17	12	22	
14					9						
19		13			22		9		2	23	4
6		12			W ⁵		23				
8		3		19	23	11	9	3	6	6	22
Y ²⁴		10			14		8		23		4
18		10			19		W ⁵		16		3
23		Y ²⁴					8		18		9
6			19	9	17	6	6		4		11
6							6		9		23
							22		23		22
	22	3	11	11	6	8			9		18
									16		
22	Y ²⁴	1	17	9	11	22	Y ²⁴	3	4		
									10		21
14		20	23	X ⁷	22	6	3	11	8		12
17									8		9
9	17	10	4	18	W ⁵	8	22	4			14
23											4
15	6	3	X ⁷	6	8	Y ²⁴					23
8											17
10	17	20	23	9	22	W ⁵	17	17	11		9
17											
12	9	11	8	10	16	10	17	W ⁵	4	18	
22			3								
			10								
	W ⁵	3	4	8	10	14	17	12	10	22	8
			18								

MLS



A natty MLS buff, the property of one B. Wooster Esq (photo credit: R. Jeeves)

MLS? I can imagine the question marks floating up to the ceiling from my readers' heads. What is Wooster on about? Has he gone completely off his chump or was it too much of the sauce the night before?

Well, it's like this: that blister, the Legend Editor, wants me to persuade more people to go to the MLS. I suppose that I'd better start by explaining that MLS stands for Military League South (as opposed to Military League Central, Military League North and so on). It's run by another set of initials, the BAOC (British Army Orienteering Club) and takes place on Wednesdays; Wednesdays, Jeeves tells me, is sports day for the Army and some of the chaps go orienteering (which Jeeves asserts is a cerebral sport, whatever that means) instead of playing rough games for hooligans like rugby or football.

So what I say is why not give it a go? You don't have to be a retired old duffer (or is it buffer?) or someone who doesn't need

to work like Bertram – you can use up a day's holiday – and take Bertram's word for it, you won't regret it. Absolutely.

Where are the MLS events held? Roughly in the Aldershot area or on Salisbury Plain. It may be a bit of a trek but the chaps do something called car-sharing; this means a good chinwag on the way and everyone telling everyone else what a good run they are going to have. On the way back results slips are studied and the times for individual legs compared: a good laugh for the more successful and for others a chance to display some chagrin and maybe a bit of humility.

What is the terrain like? Well, for a start you fellows can forget about brambles, there are hardly any. It might be something to do with sandy soils but my theory is that, as these are nearly all Army training areas, young brambles, aspiring to be a bane to orienteers, get squashed by soldiers lying on the ground waiting to ambush others soldiers walking past on patrol.

That reminds me that one has to be aware of what are called a trip hazards: squaddies in camouflage clothing lying in ditches and lurking behind bushes. Also, charging up a hill in search of Control 13 you might find some tents or a big lorry parked in the way. Once I was nearly sent base over apex by a trip wire but I was going slowly and just touched it lightly with my ankle so I managed to stop before putting enough pressure on it to set off a flare or a bomb or suchlike. It has just occurred to me that I could do a separate article on all the amusing and interesting things that have happened to me at the MLS that make it such spiffing fun. Good value from B. Wooster – two articles for the price of one. Watch out for the July edition of Legend hitting your doormat or inbox.

Other things to look out for that one doesn't see at civvy (that's pejorative Army talk for civilian) events are: helicopters landing and disgorging heavily-armed troops, armoured vehicles

whizzing around, old tanks partly submerged in watery holes in the ground with control flags tied to them,

What sort of courses do they have? A good question from that man over there in the front row. Well, they usually have Brown, Blue, Light Green, Short Green, Orange. At Greenham Common recently they even had a mountain bike course – see photo below.



Stephen and Shirley Robinson getting ready for the mountain bike course at Greenham Common (photo credit: R. Jeeves)

Entry fees? Another good question from that man; I can see that we've got you interested. Senior civvies £6, junior ditto £5 but if you are a military type it's only £3.50. They use EMIT at nearly all events so if you don't have your own EMIT thingy you'll have to pay £1.50 to hire one.

Facilities:

Tom's burger van is at most events, has the top hygiene rating of 5 and also the Wooster seal of approval as to value for money.

As well as the to-be-expected sausage/bacon/egg roll type of thing you can also obtain a jolly good vegetarian spicy bean dish and there is tea/coffee/slice of homemade cake just like mother makes at £1 a throw.

Ultrasport mobile shop for those careless people who are always losing their compass or spendthrifts who want a new pair of running shoes each week.



Greenham Come on, you lot, don't be shy, plenty of maps left. A quiet time when most punters have already set off (photo credit: R. Jeeves)

Portaloos. A word of caution here. Sometimes they don't arrive on time and, to add insult to discomfort, after going without going (if you see what I mean) you find them plonked next to the old jalopy when you get back from your run. At one event they were very nicely placed about half a mile away from the parking with the Start nicely situated half a mile in the opposite direction. Some of the geezers who deliver them seem to make a speciality of placing them on uneven ground so that they wobble about disconcertingly. At times I have felt quite seasick.

Parking. Most events have pretty decent parking, don't you know. Mainly it's on what they call hardstanding (concrete or asphalt to you and me) or a wide open field; very rarely does one need to do sardine impressions on a muddy forest track.



The BOK Army logo showing one old buffer using his stick to trip up another old buffer. Apart from the obvious artistic merit it is widely believed that the person being tripped up is The Colonel, making this even more popular. Moves are afoot to apply to the College of Arms to have the device officially recognised.

BOK Army. NGOC's arch rival, BOK, sends a large contingent to the MLS each week and you can see lots of familiar faces infesting the car park. But don't let this put you off, some of them are quite good chaps really. If you go to more than one or two MLS events in a row you will be considered a member of BOK Army. You don't have a choice in the matter but it's all very informal and there's nothing to pay. It does have its own logo and you can buy a sweatshirt with the logo at what we have been told is a reasonable price. The head of BOK Army, a real tough egg known as The Colonel (Bertram keeps a low profile when he's in sight), orders some of the chaps to organise several events during the year. These include a BOK Army championships and a Christmas binge involving a walk and lunch at a high-class

hostelry with speeches thanking The Colonel and handing him presents. The Colonel then makes his own speech reviewing BOK Army – and his own – achievements after which we all wake up again and go home.



Ginny and Tom deep in discussion; looks like they've both had a bad run. (photo credit: R. Jeeves)

Now that I've persuaded you all that MLS is a **Good Thing** all you have to do is take a gander at the BAOC website to see when and where the very next event is: <http://www.baoc.info/>

For car share contact my man Jeeves at legend@ngoc.org.uk

Toodle pip,

Bertie

In search of the railway that never was...

Most orienteers will be aware of the Dean Forest Railway, a remnant of the former Severn & Wye line. If you've run on the NGOC Mallard's Pike map you're probably also aware of the family cycle trail which now follows some disused sections of the Severn & Wye, including much of its mineral loop. But did you know that another significant line once ran through the Blakeney and Mallard's Pike areas?

The Forest of Dean Central Railway (FODCR) was proposed in the early 1850's to run from the Severn near Awre, through Blakeney, to serve collieries at New Fancy and Foxes Bridge. If you came to the recent Galoppen at Blakeney you may well have noticed some of the more obvious remains of the eastern part of the line as you approached the event: the substantial masonry viaduct on the left soon after leaving the A48; the steep rocky cutting crossed just before the road left the village into the forest; and of course the former route of the railway at Wench Ford, used as the event parking. If you left the parking by the northern exit you might also have seen the beautifully-constructed ashlar masonry of the railway bridge over the minor road near Blackpool Brook?

Some time ago, having seen these remains, I was inspired to look up the history of the line. Samuel's maternal grandfather was a railway enthusiast, but surprisingly there was no detailed published history of the line among the (several hundred!) railway books Samuel had inherited from him. I did find an article in the June 1958 issue of *The Railway Magazine* which interested me, as it included a map (reproduced below) showing the northern part of the FODCR as "*Not completed*". The closing paragraph of the text states that a short distance north of New Fancy Junction "*the course the line would have taken is so densely covered with trees and undergrowth that it cannot be followed*". **As an orienteer, I took that 60-year-old statement as a challenge, and decided that I should go in search of the uncompleted**

line! I later found a reference to the line in ‘The Great Western Railway in Dean’, by Paar, published in 1965. He refers to a description of an inspection of the uncompleted line dated 1869: *“The slight embankments and earthworks had been formed; he had seen part of it ballasted, then a gap, then more ballast and grass growing in places”*. If that was all that was visible 150 years ago, then it would certainly be a navigational challenge to find any evidence of the line today!

Map of the Forest of Dean Central Railway and its associated lines

On the completed part of the FODCR line from Blackpool Bridge, via Howbeech Sidings, to New Fancy Junction the orienteering map shows the route clearly by deep cuttings, distinct embankments and forest tracks or paths. But I was surprised to see that the route of the **uncompleted** section of line was also visible on the O-map for a significant part of its length, as it was defined by gently curving drainage ditches cutting across the natural drainage pattern of the area! Ros and I decided that we would explore the area to see if there were any other physical remains.

We had previously discovered the location where the FODCR once crossed the Blackpool Brook at Howbeech Sidings over a substantial masonry arch - ***this was at the western end of our “Go Mole” route, as described in the November 2016 issue of Legend!*** This time we decided to start our exploration at Mallard’s Pike, trying first to find remains of the section of line that was completed, before heading further north to the much more challenging uncompleted section.

About 200m from the entrance to the Forestry Commission Mallard’s Pike parking area, we drove across a small bridge over the Blackpool Brook. Looking into the forest both to the NW and SE from the bridge it was clear that whilst the bridge was on a sharp bend in the road, it was also on a straight line between two cuttings! This is obviously a disused railway bridge that was re-used for the access road when Mallards Pike lake, and the associated visitor facilities, were constructed by the Forestry Commission.

Looking at the bridge, it’s clear that the parapets, formed of roughly built rubble masonry are modern, whilst the lower part of the bridge is well built using dressed stone. The FODCR certainly built their structures well!

Walking north from this bridge the course of the line is clear, through a shallow cutting. The route is indistinct for 100m or so past the toilet block, but it then underlies the track running northwards past the “Go Ape” office. Following the track northwards for about 200m from Go Ape, the O-map shows a re-entrant on the right of the track and a depression to the left. It appears that there was once a large structure here, as dressed



stones lie alongside the track, and a small masonry culvert is visible at the foot of the east side of the embankment.

Continuing northwards for another 450m the site of New Fancy Junction is marked on the map as a ride/track junction. The map also shows a gap in a stream as it crosses the tracks. Investigating the stream crossing, the western part was not a modern concrete pipe placed by the FC, but instead a small but very neatly constructed stone culvert. The completed FODCR ended 200 yards past this junction, allowing trains to reverse round the curve towards New Fancy. **Beyond this point we were following a railway that never was!**



We followed the forest road northwards, and then kept straight ahead onto a small path when the main track bent to the right. After about 350m from New Fancy Junction we came to another crossing of Blackpool Brook. Here was a larger culvert, unusually



crossing the path at a skew, rather than at right angles. The stones forming the barrel of a skew arch need to be individually cut to the correct angles, and those here were beautifully made. It's surprising how much effort was expended on something that very few people were ever likely to see and fewer (*other than those, like myself, whose PhD studied masonry arch bridges*) would appreciate.

We found a second, smaller square culvert, about 800m further on, and some evidence of a stone retaining wall between the brook and the shallow embankment nearby. At this point the path faded and was overgrown, but our way ahead was clear: a high bridge, built to carry the Severn & Wye railway over the FODCR, and now re-decked, carried the cycle trail across the route.



Continuing northwest beyond Central Bridge the route is not clearly defined on the O-map, but after about 350m it can be pinpointed by a black “V” on a ditch! It was hard to find this small feature in the rough felled area, but it proved to be the eastern end of a small rectangular masonry culvert, under a low railway embankment. The general direction of the line is clear from the artificially straight ditch and bank.

Unfortunately Speech House Lake, built in 1975 by the Forestry Commission, obscures the course of the line not far beyond this culvert. But beyond the lake, the O-map distinctly shows artificially straight and parallel banks and ditches leading north-north-eastwards, clearly constructed for the line.

We found our last evidence of a masonry structure some 500m north of the lake. Another crossing of the Blackpool Brook was met, flowing in a masonry-lined channel, at right angles to the assumed track bed. This was obviously a culvert that had collapsed.

Foxes Bridge Colliery was abandoned before going into production, hence no structures were found at the end of the line, just a clear embankment near the abandoned shaft locations. No

other structures were identified on the route, but as the exploration was carried out during August it's possible that a repeat visit, in winter vegetation conditions, could reveal other structures. We can concur with the 1869 report that the preparatory earthworks and drainage were largely completed. Much physical evidence remains, but we saw no sign that ballast, sleepers or rails were laid.

Paul Taunton

Postscript: *If this article has whetted your appetite for more detailed examination of the O-map than usual, you might notice that the course of the uncompleted extension of the Brookhall Ditches tramroad, also planned to serve Foxes Bridge colliery, is discernible on this map!*

Further Reading: *Discussion with Cecile Hunt of the Forest of Dean Local History Society led me to speak to Ian Pope, an authority on railways in the Forest, who was very helpful. He referred me to his article on the FODCR published in **Railway Archive Issue 12, March 2006**, which provides a detailed history of the line.*

Letter to the Editor

Just minutes after sending out the January Legend Pippa Wickson emailed with the answer to Hils's question below:

At our Woodchester event, whilst I was checking where not to put my feet, I noticed some rather beautiful red fungi. Does anyone know the name for this particular species and is it edible?

Yours

Hils Nicholls



These are called red elf caps and are edible. There are several youtube videos about it.

<http://www.gallowaywildfoods.com/scarlet-elf-cup-identification-edibility-distribution/>

pic.twitter.com/lsCN4hImQ0

And the next day Paul Taunton came up with:

Were the mushrooms you saw at Woodchester fly agaric?



From the Woodland Trust website: "Due to its psychoactive and hallucinogenic properties, this fungus is inedible" and "Reports of human deaths resulting from its ingestion are extremely rare".

Hopefully BOF don't require us to put "**Don't eat the mushrooms!**" in the risk assessment.

A now confused Hils says she will be just looking and not eating.



SYO National Urban Event, Ponderosa, Sheffield, Saturday 9 March: Ros Taunton smiling broadly as the run-in was downhill and the rain had (at last) stopped! (photo: Paul Taunton)

Sheila raises £500 for Wear A Hat Day



Sheila (with hat) at Bordon Heaths

Wear A Hat Day is in aid of Brain Tumour Research and Sheila Miklausic has raised nearly £500 - through *Just Giving* or money given directly to her or put in the collection box at the MLS event on Wednesday 3 April at Bordon Heaths. So well done and many, many thanks from Sheila.

The vision of Brain Tumour Research is to find a cure for brain tumours. Brain tumours are indiscriminate; they can affect anyone at any age. What's more, they kill more children and

adults under the age of 40 than any other cancer... yet historically just 1% of the national spend on cancer research has been allocated to this devastating disease.

Brain Tumour Research is determined to change this. It is building a network of experts in sustainable research at dedicated Centres of Excellence whilst influencing the Government and larger cancer charities to invest more nationally. Brain Tumour Research is the only national charity in the UK that is dedicated to raising funds for continuous and sustainable scientific research into brain tumours and it is a leading voice calling for greater support and action for research into what scientists are calling the last battleground against cancer.

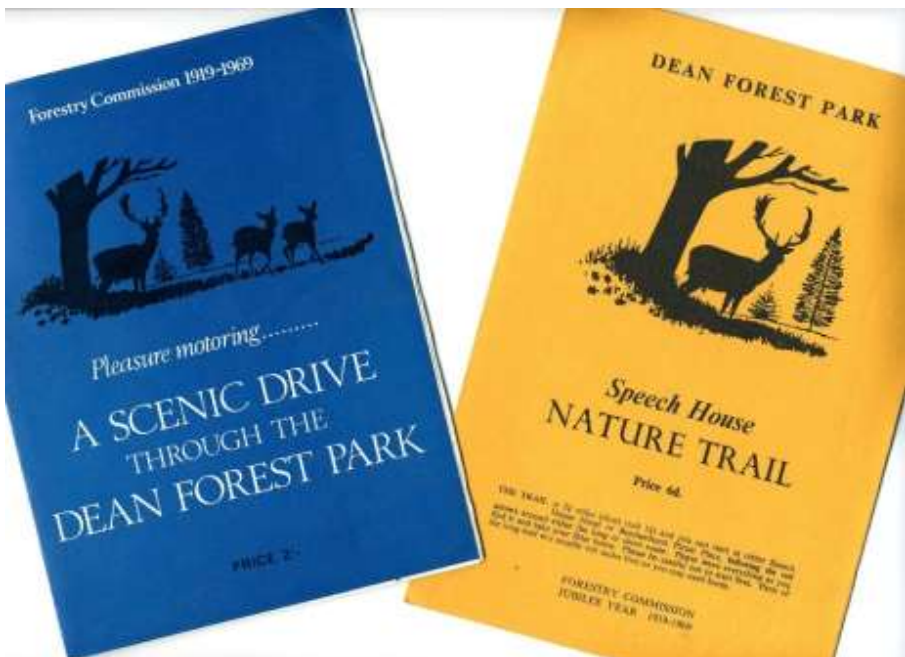
It's not too late to give! Visit:

<https://www.braintumourresearch.org/about/our-vision-mission-and-values>

Thank you one and all!

100 years of the Forestry Commission

Ros and I occasionally use old Forestry Commission trail guides, mostly dating back to the 1970's, as a basis for walks, as they include observations on viewpoints, history of the area, tree species and dates of planting. So long after the guides were produced, they are sometimes not completely correct, but are still interesting. And occasionally the numbered trail marker posts can be found, maybe 40 or 50 years after they were installed! Looking through our collection of guides I came across two dating from 1969, which I noticed say they were produced for the golden jubilee of the Forestry Commission, so this year must be its 100th anniversary!



Checking their website I found the 100th anniversary will be in September, but there is little local recognition of this. They do list the “Forest of Dean 10k”, one of their “Forest 100” running series, starting from Mallard’s Pike on 8 September, costing £20. That makes NGOC events look good value!

Whilst on the website I downloaded their Mallards Pike & Wenchford trail guide. Although this has a much better map than the old trail guide, **it contains no interesting information at all**. The principal content is safety and emergency information, and a list of what you are not allowed to do! The old guides are far better, some even including sketches of views, such as that below, looking westwards across the Cannop Valley from the northern part of Russell’s Enclosure. Sorry to say, the fire tower is no longer there.



I have many of these old trail guides, mostly dating from the 1970's or early 1980's, but there are still a few missing from my collection. If you have the one for Tidenham Chase I have some spares of forest areas that I'd be willing to swap!

Paul Taunton

Brashings

Codeword answer

Across (from top left): Cannop Ponds, deciduous, north, Kidnalls, knoll, saddle, Symonds Yat, Bixslade, northwest, pit, Flaxley, Robinswood, undergrowth, watercourse.

Down (from top left): Crickley Hill, Painswick, quarry, Ninewells, Lightning Tree, Standish, junction, coniferous.

British Orienteering incentive scheme Awards

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

Doug Wilson	Racing Challenge: Gold Award ***** Racing Challenge: Silver Award ***** Racing Challenge: Bronze Award ***** Navigation Challenge *****
Ian Phillips	Racing Challenge: Bronze Award ***** Navigation Challenge *****
Reuben Lawson	Navigation Challenge ****

Bob's/NGOC's trig pillar - correction

Although the O.S. paperwork calls the area "Tidenham Park" it is more generally known as "Tidenham Chase" or locally as "Poor's Allotment". Also the correct grid square is 5599 and

not the other way round as I put it in the January Legend: if anyone knows of an NGOC member who went missing in late January we now know where to send the search party.
(Thanks to John Wickson for putting me right - Ed.)

A useful way to remember which numbers to put first when working out a grid reference is that when you enter a house you go "along the corridor" before going "up the stairs".

We have also found out that O.S. have now discontinued the adoption scheme but they don't appear to have told anybody unless there has been a specific enquiry. Also it's not clear what they do with the hundreds of postcards which they presumably still receive each year reporting on the condition of the pillars.

<https://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/blog/2013/06/triangulation-trig-pillar-art/>

(Thanks to Nick Barrable of CompassSport for this information - Ed)

Historical O.S. maps

If you are an orienteer, then it's quite likely that you are interested in maps. If so, have you seen the National Library of Scotland website? Historical editions of almost all Ordnance Survey maps, including those at very large-scale (1:10,560 and 1:2,500) are available to view. A good introduction to the website is the "Side-by-Side" function, which allows you to place the cursor on a modern map and zoom in to a feature of interest, whilst a second cursor marks

the same spot on an historical map of your choice shown alongside.

Link: <https://maps.nls.uk/geo/explore/side-by-side>

(Thanks to Paul Taunton for this information - Ed)

Have your say!

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

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 14 May 2019 at 1930

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 - and especially Paul Taunton.

Disclaimer

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

