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cover photo:

Richard Purkis nobly agrees to reenact his run-in at Chalford for the camera, despite having just won the Brown course!

GDPR - I mean. Seriously?

Following the recent introduction of the new GDPR rules (remember? When you got dozens of emails asking you to re-subscribe to mailing lists, which you ignored after the first three?) the club has had to change the way it does things. The first change didn't seem too onerous to me - that committee members must delete all the old copies of the membership list, and work from a single encrypted current copy. However, it seemed to cause a fair bit of disruption for others: "I've got a very useful printed copy from 1992 which I refer to all the time" was the gist of one committee member's response, and another pointed out that this new requirement would mean going through all computer back-ups and deleting old membership lists from those as well.

But things were going to get worse. BOF issued a statement detailing how GDPR was to be applied to photography at orienteering events. Notices must now be displayed informing participants that photographs may being taken, and providing a point of contact so that they can request copies of photographs and/or ask for them to be erased. If a photo is to be used for publicity purposes - in Legend, for example, or on social media - permission must first be sought from each person featured.

A committee member (who shall remain nameless!) suggested that perhaps we should ask any photo-sensitive souls to wear a sweaty, fluourescent plastic tabard emblazoned with the wording, "Don't photograph me!". I thought that perhaps such folk could orienteer with a paper bag over their head. Of course, in some cases this would seriously impair orienteering performance, but in others ... perhaps not so much ...

I'm sorry/not sorry to report that Legend is not yet compliant with this particular piece of legislation. Life is too short for that many emails. I try to make sure that you all look like svelte athletes in the prime of life, honed to physical perfection (cough). But seriously - if you don't like photos of you being included in Legend, or used on the website, please do contact legend@ngoc.org.uk or any of the committee members. It's not a problem.



HUGE thanks to this issue's contributors: Greg Best, Ashleigh Denman, Chris Harrison, Alan Honey (BOK), Jim Lott (BOK), Pat Macleod, John Miklausic, Tom Mills, Hilary Nicholls, Richard Purkis, Pete Ribbans (SWOC), Steve Rush (BOK), and last but definitely not least Paul "Pulitzer" Taunton!

Pete Ward rankings!

and is currently 25 points clear at the top if you're interested in taking Legend on. of the M45 table. Pete said, "It's only taken 40 years!" - and it's all the more ... and it's all change on the deserved for that! He is soon to star in Committee CompassSport Magazine subject of the "Know Your Class done. Pete!

Club captain still sought ...

In case you hadn't noticed, the club is still minus a Captain. If you can give up some of your time to support the club in this essential role, please email secretary@ngoc.org.uk or chat to any committee member. The club is also looking for someone to join the committee to look after Marketing & Publicity, if that's more your thing. parkruns! Please note that being a good orienteer is not essential for any of the committee roles.

... and a Legend editor ...

might not happen so Legend needs a well done! pronto. The editor main requirements of the role seem to be

national access to a computer and a tolerance Meanwhile, and a long, long way away, Huge congratulations to Pete Ward, for heartfelt thanks to everyone who has New Zealand ... being the Number 1 ranked M45 sent in such brilliant articles, photos and orienteer in Britain! Pete reached the generally helped me during the past 20 top of the ranking charts back in May, months. Talk to any committee member

In this apparent time of change, it's Leader" feature, so watch out for it. Well great to be able to welcome new committee members. Rhiannon Fadevibi has temporarily taken on the Volunteer Coordinator role and Steve Lee has come on board to take on adhoc finite committee tasks. Kim Liggett has taken on the mantle of Secretary. and Hilary Nicholls has joined as a commitee member. Thanks to all of them for volunteering to help out the Sad 2018 R2T2 cancellation club.

Birthday Holiday

Many club members - as well as fellrunning and road-running friends joined Richard Cronin on 16th June to celebrate his birthday at Lydney parkrun. A good time (and much cake!) I was planning to continue editing was had by all, and to top it off Richard Legend until the end of this year, but got himself a new parkrun PB as a spent on events which are more likely to due to unforeseen circumstances that birthday present! Happy birthday, and

for reading through lots of orienteering Ashleigh and Simon Denman flew the results, so really anyone can do it. My NGOC colours whilst Parkrunning in



Sadly, Pat Macleod has decided to cancel the planned 2018 series of R2T2 (Run, Ride, Tracks, Trails) races, which combined trail running, orienteering and mountain biking. Pat said, "These events involve a huge amount of work to plan and set up, but the pre-entry has been negligible, and I feel that our scarce volunteer resources are better attract more participants." Let's hope that R2T2 can make a welcome return in the near future!

volunteers needed!



Some club members may not be aware that NGOC is helping to host two national championship events this year: the British Sprint Championships at Bath University (pictured left) and the British Middle Championships at Stockhill, on 1st and 2nd of September. We're supporting our neighbours BOK in putting on these prestigous races and need volunteers from the club to help out on the day. We're very lucky in having two national events practically on our doorstep, so please do come forward to help out if Contact Tom can. (chairman@ngoc.org.uk) or Rhiannon Fadeyibi (volunteer@ngoc.org.uk) to express interest!

chairman's chat

past couple of months have been yet another good time to Orienteering.

Chalford was a great success thanks to all the work put in by Greg Best and who continues to work on an extended map. This was followed by our presence at the OMM Light held at Speech House where Pat Macleod provided an R2T2 for any OMM competitors wishing warm up for the following day's competition. The next day saw the successful Ross urban planned by Richard Cronin which tailored nicely into Sunday's BOKTrot.

Although our calendar of forest events has been somewhat thin over this period, not helped by the forestry restrictions, there have been some super events elsewhere. The first that comes to mind is the Tamar Triple. Exeter University, Broughton Burrows West and Broughton Burrows East (might have been North and South but you get the

picture). Everyone who I spoke to felt that the University was an excellent event. The 2 days in the Burrows were, in my opinion, outstanding. That is of course if you were not one of the people camping the night before. Thunder and abounded as did accompanying rain. Suffice to say that this did not herald the beginning of an energetic race for those who survived. This is an Army training area and has the advantages of lots of open space without too many fence lines or handrails or at least handrails you can trust which makes it great orienteering training terrain.

The next is of course the SBOC 3 days at Merthyr Mawr, Oxwich Burrows and Cefyn Bryn. What a cracking weekend! Hillary Nicholls put in a lot of work to try and engage NGOC members in a club competition and social at an enviable venue. Having

Photo: Hilary Nicholls "Shall I?" John holds the Beer of Damocles over Chef Tom

> have commented that the club needs a group, for those that did go, it was brilliant. swim, Oxwich beautiful weather. orienteering and more swimming in the social atmosphere.

On the other side of the coin, and well with the forestry commission. Tom. Despite agreeing to give us options for parking this has not materialised. Both NGOC via Greg and BOK have pressing for some response and hope this will soon be forthcoming. brighter note can be found in that we are covered by our BOF insurance to both travel and park on forest tracks. Hopefully this will alleviate some of the FC's concerns.

Between trawling through the implications for the club regarding insurance issues. insurance cover for independent orienteers and GDPR it is fair to say that we are pretty much up to the back teeth bureaucracy. When

worked closely with the SBOC one committee member is singled out to organisers and sending out a number of sign an NDA where he could be held well explained emails to our club personally accountable for some minor members things were well in place to oversight in the security of data (what accommodate a decent response little we hold) things have gone from Unfortunately we only had 10 turn out annoying to lunacy. Your committee is which is a salutary lesson for those who doing all it can, as a small volunteer to ensure we meet more socially centric aspect. This said, requirements, hitting the key measure of showing intent. This is very time More technical running at Merthyr Mawr consuming. If anyone would like to join on the Friday evening and a beach for a us, as a committee member without on the Saturday, portfolio to assist, you will be very technical welcome. Contact me at any time.

sea, however I do not wish to steal Finally and back on a brighter Hillary's thunder where she expands on note, Pat is working on a large the 3 days in her article. Sunday 2x2 forestry area last used in circa relays offered really good fun and good 2002'ish. Lightning Tree Hill has been used for the Championships many years ago hope we now things have not progressed too recommission the area for 2019.

accessibility in orienteering

My friend Jonathan Brough has interest orienteering. He is 30 years old, and has quadriplegic been for 11 years after contracting meningitis while training as a ski instructor in Canada.

Following bible study me and Jonathan discussed orienteering and looked what is into TrailO. involved, and the frequency of events. We also looked into how accessible the events are.



event planners. mostly orienteering, urban, or orienteering with mixed results on orienteering british championships course accessibility.

are suitable for wheelchairs but these events. unfortunately Jonathan has been unable to make it on some occasions. There are

Trail orienteering events are far less orienteering team member and coach) and JK GB soon. TempO 2018.

A year on I have contacted several In the future if the forestry commission foot will allow (Pat MacLeod and myself put street out some flags where the 2015 trail where held in January in preparation for an NGOC league event that was In the Summer urban NGOC sucesses postponed) this area could be used have been Bishop's Cleeve, Gloucester again. Also hopefully a good number of city, Winter street Stroud, Tewksbury. foot orienteering events will be suitable Also BOK have been helpful in checking for wheelchairs which might encourage Westonbirt arboretum and Wells urban other wheelchair users to take part in

more international fixtures domestic than fixtures, frequent, so far Jonathan has taken part according to Tom Dobra there are in Dursley and Clifton downs(BOK only 2 of 3 slots taken for the GB events), some TempO trail orienteering para olympic class so potentially training with Tom Dobra (British TrailO Jonathan could be representing

Jonathan read Media Studies at the University of Plymouth and has been involved in making films for TV. He is committed sportsman, having recently become involved with Boccia (similar to boules) and Special **Olympics** Gloucestershire. remains a keen skier, taking on Black runs during a recent trip to Chamonix. You can find him on Facebook, Youtube and his blog at thornburycommunityservices.co.uk





mapping news



this would make sense.

With a league event scheduled there for I only had a couple of months to make also very popular with the public for particularly for larger events. the new map. This is a much shorter recreation! We only found out recently assess the vegetation in June with the opinion, this greatly improves the area occupied in the meantime ... luxuriant summer growth distorting my from an orienteering perspective, as we

normal long-distance event.

found when Painswick has a great deal of The new map does include a few orienteering at Painswick that I complex detail, as a result of iron-minor extensions, but nothing too somehow manage to get badly age fortificstion and years of exciting. The largest of these is the unusual quarrying. Hence, the lidar data was extension into an adjacent nature there, I hear you say! Perhaps not, essential in being able to represent this reserve, owned by conservation charity but one or two others had mentioned to accurately. What's more, I have chosen World Land Trust. I am also hopeful of me that they thought the current map is to use the scale of 1:7500 to allow this eventually being allowed to extend into getting long in the tooth and needed re- detail to be more easily legible. My hope the runnable woods at Prinknash mapping. Since we are blessed with full is that this will mean the area will now be Abbey. First, I need to talk nicely to the lidar coverage of the area, I agreed that really quite suitable for a sprint or resident monks to ask permission, so I middle-distance race, as well as a hope they're not the silent type! If they do allow us to pass through their woodland, it will open up the possibility September, I set myself the task of A major problem when planning events of being able to use their large car park having it completed in time for at Painswick has always been how to for parking, as we did for the Coopers Christophe Pige to be able to plan on the avoid the golf course. The course is Hill Galoppen a couple of years back. new map. As Chalford had taken more squeezed into a very narrow strip of The shortage of parking has always of my time than I expected, the start of open land and this is potentially guite been a limitation for events at this project was much delayed, meaning dangerous, as the same strip of land is Painswick, so this would be a bonus,

period than I was used to, but after a that no golf is played there on Sunday As I'm sure you won't be able to concerted effort and 15 days surveying, afternoons, so it makes great sense that wait to use the new map in it is now ready. One of the draw-backs of all of our Painswick events from now on September, here's a little game of the delayed start was that I had to should be held at that time. In my spot the Difference to keep you



pat wins award!



Pat Macleod receives his deserved Certificate of Recognition for services to Orienteering. As many will know Pat dedicates an astronomical amount of time into developing the sport. His initiatives such as R2T2 (Run, Ride, Track and Trail), Map Run and so many others has helped the club to raise its membership and its overall profile within the sport as a whole. Whilst doing this he is one of the club's most active mappers and as if that was not enough he is also equipment officer. The club is very fortunate to have such a devoted member without whose commitment we would not have the range of events we now provide. British Orienteering received nominations for Pat from several different sources.

- Tom Mills

exclusive JK event ...

There was an extra "closed" event at the JK this Easter, arranged by Joe Taunton (currently NOC) for the other members of the Taunton family. It was an indoor orienteering course set at Tixall Gatehouse, the Landmark Trust property where we were staying. Joe prepared a handdrawn map, then hid one set of paper control markers, in cupboards and behind furniture around the house. There were three different handicapped courses, the main difference being that Samuel (M21) had to run up and down the steep narrow stone spiral staircase that connected the three floors of the house a lot more than Ros and me. Touch-free punching was used by a simple method: Joe shadowed each runner to make sure they visited all the controls! The handicapping was excellent, allowing me to win in 6mins12secs – though the prize, a large easter egg, was shared by the whole family.



Photo and report by Paul Taunton

mallorca ironman 70.3



I know I'm not the first on this club now and then when there were no Fast forward to May 2018. There and how it went.

Some of you will know that for the past a fairly average cyclist, and I was Port d'Alcúdia. 19 months I've been training with my looking for a new challenge and

had been doing swimming as crosstraining in 2016 when I had a hip injury and had noticed I was swimming at the same time as the triathlon club were coached having а session. In the end I joined them as I thought I could learn a lot, not just with swimming but how to stay injury free.

I found the tri club's running sessions weren't for me but I was now swimming regularly and doing a long cycle every

to enter dip their feet into the orienteering events on. Before I had had were 16 of us in the group from world of triathlons and I'm sure I the chance to compete in my first Tewkesbury Tri Club competing won't be the last. Back in May I triathlon race, I found out that members (10 individually, and 2 relay teams). competed in what they claim is the of the club were planning on entering the When we flew out to Palma I got an world's largest Half IronMan event 2018 Mallorca IronMan 70.3. This impression of just how big this event so I'd thought I'd tell you how I sounded like fun and was appealing as was by seeing the number of bike boxes came about entering such a race I knew wouldn't be alone in doing it. With that had been taken on the plane it being a year away, it would give me including mine. The race was the other time to train for it given at the time I was side of the island starting and finishing at

local triathlon club. It started because I something to look forward to in 2018.

The day before race you had to check in

your bike transition zone and seeing that many bikes racked was amazing. I could also tell that I would be up against some serious competition, looking at the sheer number of top-end bikes racked beside mine (which is fairly average). I sorted out my transition bags and race day gear then tried to get some sleep.



The race began at 7:00 but with around 3500 entrants a mass start is not possible. Instead it was beach start with 6 swimmers running into the water every six seconds. The course was 1.9km long. forming rectangle out to sea. After extrapolating the time from my recce I thought that 32:30 was achievable

The stunning bike route

32:30. This would also mean i started target of 3 hours. 5-10 mins earlier. I found I made the right decision as was swimming I had a massive adrenaline surge with people roughly my pace and starting the run, overtaking people with Excluding transitions I was only recorded a time of 29:45 - 5 mins ease. It was a 3 lap flat course round the 1:40 over my target time which I under my initial 35 min target. streets of Port d'Alcúdia. Settled into a am very happy with for my first Well chuffed. Good start.

effort level that felt comfortable. The Active Root (a ginger-based sports perform to my full potential. Maybe a course was 90km with 23km flat, 22km drink) to calm my stomach, like I had on race later in the calendar though as it

opted for the start pen 32:30 - 35:00. Lluc then 45km flat-ish back. I found I point though I thought that it could be Waiting in the pen though i grew couldn't keep up with the fast bikes on heat exhaustion so I kept taking water impatient and judging the people the flat but caught a lot of them back up and had another two gels. Pace was around me I thought I was quicker so I on the hill and was very pleased when I slipping now all the time and I was very hopped over the barrier to the 30:00 - rolled in at 3:00:35 - bang on my initial relieved to finally reach the finish 6:20

nice pace and the first 10km went by attempt as there are many places and I was still on for my target time of where things can go wrong. Lots of My transition was fairly speedy onto the 1:25. My mistake though was I ate lessons learnt if I ever do another one bike. I settled into a nice rhythm at an another gel at this point and with no which I am tempted to do as I felt I didn't

over target but it could have been

up and down via the mountain village of the bike, I started to feel sick. At this would give me more time to work on my cycling once the weather and light is better. I haven't "caught the bug" as the say, I still prefer finding flags so expect to still see me at o events in the future.



What is Ironman 70.3?

For those who feel the word "Ironman" alone is enough to make us need a sit down, it is:

a 1.2 mile (1.9km) swim ...

immediately followed by a 56 mile (90km) bike ride ...

immediately followed by a 13.1 mile (21.1km) run.

A "Full Ironman" race covers double these distances. The "70.3" bit of the half-Ironman's title refers to the total race distance in kilometres.

celtman revisited



A year ago I wrote a piece for the magazine about the Celtman Extreme Triathlon in Wester Ross. I'd taken part and battled extreme Scottish weather and finished, however there was unfinished business.....

Celtman involves a 2.1 mile sea swim, a 124 mile hilly bike ride then a 26 mile off road run across the hills. [Editor's note: This is the same as a full Ironman.] There are no feed stations on the bike leg, you have to provide your own support. If you reach a point 11 miles into the run before 11 hours has elapsed you get to complete the 'high' course which takes in two Munros in the final 15 miles of the run, for this you receive the blue finisher's shirt. If you fail to meet the 11 hour cut off you complete the same distance but on a low level course and receive a white shirt. Last year however the weather was so bad the organisers decided it was simply too dangerous for anyone to tackle the high course so everyone followed the low course. I failed to reach the 11 mile cut off within 11 hours so received a white shirt, those making the 11 hour cut received the blue shirt even though they did not tackle the Munros.

More information on Celtman can be found here https://cxtri.com/

The entry for 2018 was submitted last autumn and I was lucky enough to get a place. Like many races these days the organisers operate a ballot system and Celtman was oversubscribed four times. This year Norseman, the Norwegian equivalent of Celtman, had 4000 entries for 200 places. When I competed in Norseman in 2008 I simply entered online, without any fuss, and got a place, how things have changed.

I believe this type of event is all about the bike and to improve my chances Victoria and I had a week in cycling Mallorca in March and two weeks cycling in the Alps in May, where I concentrated on big long climbs to build endurance. I also invested in a new bike, for those interested a Pinarello Dogma F8W, this is a high end road bike with SRAM eTap gears (basically blue tooth gear change rather than cables). I have tri bars fitted and 'blips or switches' on the tri bars that allow me to change gear without having to move my hands. A huge part of cycling fast is aerodynamic efficiency so every time you move off the tri bars the drag increases. The reduction in

drag riding in a peloton can be as much as 40%, in most triathlon races though drafting is banned.

So, the event. Loch Shieldaig looked inviting as we arrived in transition at 3am however the wind was starting to pick up. Nevertheless my swim time was better than last year at 1 hour 5 minutes, helped by the incoming tide pushing us towards the finish. Not brilliant but swimming is my weakest discipline.

The bike leg started well but it started raining after about 25 miles and the wind was against me. Despite the course following the coast road and turning increasingly east the wind remained a problem. At 80 miles my average speed was well below what I needed and I said to Victoria that unless the wind direction improves the blue shirt looked unlikely. However I knew a 90 degree turn east was coming and things should improve. Then it got difficult.... At the turn I found myself pedaling directly into the wind again and the next few miles were uphill, the average speed continued to drop. It's very easy for your head to drop in these circumstances, it was still raining, my hands were so cold that I couldn't use

the blips on the tri bars to change gear, I had to use the main switches on the levers, if I had a puncture my hands were so cold I wouldn't have been able to fix it and the wind was getting stronger by the mile. I just kept telling myself we're cycling a loop so the wind must soon be with me. When I crested the next hill I pushed as hard as possible for the next 10 miles, the wind seemed less of a problem and I was able to travel at 20mph or downhill.

At the next 90 degree turn west I was suddenly being pushed along by the wind and I was able to sit at over 20mph for mile after mile. In the end I averaged 17.4mph for the 124 miles, this was over 7 hours of pedaling but I had given myself 2 hours and 10 minutes to run the 11 miles to the cut off. It was at this point

that Victoria discovered how lucky I had been. As she loaded my bike and clothing into the car she could head a psssss noise, the rear tyre was punctured. Some of you may know the viewing point on the A832 that looks down the valley to Kinlochewe, this road had been resurfaced three days earlier, I say 'resurfaced' but it was actually a smear of wet tar and chippings. I was flat out on this section downhill with a tail wind so probably doing over 40mph, I suspect I punctured on the chippings but the puncture was slow enough not to be an issue, at those speeds it is never pretty if there is a sudden complete tyre deflation.

Those of you who know me as an orienteer would probably rate my running as 'significantly better' than my navigational skills and under normal circumstances this For the remaining part of the race you



showing 2mph going up the climb. Once again though I knew the course and that there was an equal descent so I pressed on and then sprinted down the other side of the hill and ran steadily along the flat to the 11 mile point. As I arrived Victoria was waiting for me and the smile on her face said it all, I think I had about 20 minutes to spare. Assuming I could get to the finish the blue shirt was mine! However the weather had deteriorated throughout the day and the organisers decided to close the high course for safety reasons. The first 41 runners did follow the high course the remaining blue shirt runners used the low course.

have to have a buddy runner, this is for safety reasons. Victoria was my buddy for the remaining 15 miles and she pretty much led the way as I felt increasing sick. Sometimes on the these long distance races I get an upset stomach from all the sugary fuel I take on board during the race, just one of those things really. Sometimes the nutritional plan works, sometimes an identical plan doesn't.

We made it safely to the finish in 14:49:36. I was actually the only M60 (or as Celtman say, Male Vintage) in the race so I did win my age group :o) When I looked at the results for all previous Celtman races there have only been 2 other M60 blue shirt finishers, both in the first race in 2012, so I am very proud of this achievement. Without a doubt it was the

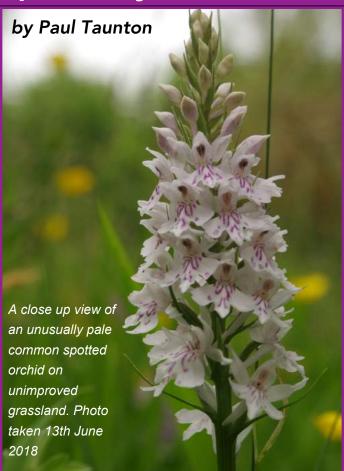
run would not present a problem. preparation for the bike leg that made However I had 124 miles of hard the difference, it only goes to show what cycling in my legs and the route took you can achieve when you really put in a huge climb, partly through heather, your mind to it and you have the time to and I was worried as my Garmin was invest in such an activity, retirement helps!

Thank you Victoria, best support team in the world xx

Victoria and I are now both looking forward to getting back to our sport of choice, orienteering. Only my recurring Plantar Fascia problems could get in the way. If anyone can explain to me how I can complete Celtman with only minor muscle soreness but one orienteering event has the capacity to leave me unable to walk the next morning I would be most grateful.

See you in the woods, Chris.

"probably an orchid"



The "League Latest" report in last September's edition of Legend included a photograph of a pink flower, captioned by the Editor as "probably an orchid". Yes, it looks like a common spotted orchid to

Orchids are found in many of the areas that we use for orienteering and not surprisingly protection sometimes affects our events. designated areas reserves, such as the Cotswold Commons and **Beechwoods**

flowers are dormant, Bee orchids: attractive flowers, or sometimes have been asked to avoid particular parts of our areas in the summer.

Although environmental restrictions are often viewed by orienteers as excessive, this is not necessarily the case: the red helleborine, one of the country's rarest

orchids, thought to remain on at most THREE sites in England, has in recent years flowered within one of our mapped orienteering areas! I have searched - but have yet to spot it.

Perhaps if I tell you a little more about our native orchids you will feel more kindly

> disposed towards landowner restrictions? Most of us are familiar with orchids as pot plants consisting of a single flower spike bearing several complex, sometimes brightly-coloured blooms.

The fifty-odd native species orchid found Britain are not as immediately striking as of each of the small individual flowers on

their the spike is just as complex as their showier relatives. And although the In flower spikes of some species such as the musk orchid are tiny, perhaps just 50mm tall, the unusual shape and complexity of the flowers warrants a National closer look. There are a few native Nature Reserve, we are species that can occasionally produce often restricted to holding an impressive flower spike up to a metre events in winter when tall and others with quite large flowers.



One distinctive example is the bee orchid, which has a flower which looks like a large bee resting on a pink flower.

Most species of orchid are very sensitive to their environment and will only thrive if all the factors affecting their growth are correct. These may include the underlying geology, aspect, light levels controlled by shading by other vegetation, grazing, moisture. presence of appropriate fungal partners in the soil and probably other factors too! Nevertheless, some orchids, such as the common spotted are indeed relatively common, and may be found in vast numbers where conditions are right.

orchids have flowering period, so unless you visit a suitable site during the right





Flower spike of photograph, are probably the areas this country. I saw several robust where you are most likely to see orchids. Some species such as the paler and darker forms being found. You may also see pyramidal, fragrant and bee orchids in these open grassland areas. And possibly rarer species too? Interestingly,

when Pat planned the Harvester on Cleeve Flower spike of a Hill, he was forbidden lizard orchid, on a site controls in road verge also depressions minimise footfall locations where concentrations musk orchids were present.

You are less likely to see crossing the M4 orchids in our forest areas, near Bristol. though butterfly orchids Photo taken 13th

are sometimes found in partial shade under beech trees over limestone. They flower regularly at Knockalls in June/July. In deeper shade nearby you might find the bird's nest orchid, not a particularly attractive flower, but easier to find than many, as they are often found in otherwise bare areas and the flower spike sometimes persists as a dry stem for the entire year.

spikes up to 700mm tall on a roadside on the outskirts of Bristol in common spotted vary in colour, with early July of 2013 and 2014 but have been unable to find any since. The individual flowers are particularly unusual, having the appearance of tiny lizards with 50mm long curly tails!



couple of weeks you won't see them. Another quite large species, the twayblade, is green, so you are likely to overlook it. Unlike daisies, even the commonest orchid species are not found everywhere all year round - it's always a challenge to spot them. So even if many flower spikes are present on a site one year, it may be that very few are present if conditions are slightly different the following year.

Our open grassland areas overlying Cotswold limestone. such Minchinhampton Common where Vanessa took previous

Three flower spikes of the bird's nest orchid, in deep shade under beech trees at Knockalls Enclosure. Photo taken 16th June 2012.

Each orchid flower, if fertilised, can produce millions of tiny seeds that are widely dispersed by the wind, but new flowers take many years to develop from seed. The lizard orchid is relatively common in Europe but appears onlyerratically in

PRIZE COMPETITION!

A lizard orchid has, in the past, been seen somewhere on National Trust land at Minchinhampton Common. A bottle of wine is offered to the first person to find one in Gloucestershire in the next few weeks and let me know where it is, so that I can verify

Remember to look where you tread!

Paul Taunton

All photos: Paul Taunton coll. What a visual treat they are!

NGOC summer social



I was looking forward to a Green, Light Green, Orange, Yellow. ask for much else.

three events and received an email the bites, advising runners to wear full leg cover. I thought they'd better warn the adders that Richard C might get his camera out!

NGOC's Chairman, on the Friday through the M4 Friday traffic and 8th out of 51. arrived at Porthcawl with loads of time to spare.

The first event of Swansea Bay Club's Orienteering (SBOC) Midsummer on Gower weekend was at Merthyr Mawr Warren, next to the beach. I should add at this point that I have never orienteered on sand or in sand dunes, and was certainly going to find out how different it was the hard way.

Gill Lock had planned four courses -

weekend away on The Gower. Tomand I were among the first runners Our family holidays had included to venture out onto Green. Wearing the a number of 70's summer trips to o-shoes I use for the forest was my the area's caravan and camp sites downfall: two thirds of the way around I of which I have very fond felt a blister forming on my left heel and memories. And this time the visit I struggled to keep up my fast walk would include my favourite momentum in the latter stages of the hobby of orienteering. I couldn't course. I found out that not only did I need to use a different pair of shoes, but also to approach sand dune I'd paid in advance on Fabian4 for all orienteering with a completely different mentality to forest. Oh, how important day before warning of the risk of adder is the ability to read contours! It was a useful training exercise.... but most importantly good fun. I took three times as long as the winner, but I hadn't come last which made a change. I enjoy map I travelled down with Tom Mills, reading so much that it doesn't dampen my spirits when I finish low down the list afternoon. After a close shave with - happy and smiling still! Richard some sheep before Lydney, we made it Cronin was NGOC's highest finisher:

Back in the car, Tom and I started our journey to The Gower with a brief stop off on the outskirts of Swansea to eat fish and chips in a car park - boy, you know how to treat a woman, Tom! We then made our way to Oxwich campsite on the southern edge of The Gower peninsula, with a stunning view over the bay.

Chris & Gill James were already there, having driven over the day before in their camper van. Ginny & Simon Hudson had already pitched their tent and were out for dinner; Bob Teed set up in his camper van, as well as the Tett family of four creating a home from home next door. It was such a shame that Vanessa, Reuben and Seth couldn't come in the end due to the youngest's broken arm - they would have enjoyed the swimming pool and ice-creams.





my equipment to work.....

Liggett pause here to unfortunately, due to blister, I did not run this course,

With an hour or so daylight to spare, I'd hot. I imagine the image of ice my 'colleagues' to pass by after their creams on the sandy beach at the runs. They found and joined me for a end of the course helped many push through!

> on their courses I chatted for a while at the Start and then had a wander around to the lovely sandy beach which was filling up rapidly with families and water sports. An ice lolly from one of the two beach shops disappeared promptly whilst I was perusing the interesting menu of the AA Restaurant of the Year for Wales 2018: Beach House which was right on the beach at Oxwich Bay. I hadn't bought any suitable clothing!

Simon for the kettle and electric best result of the day, finishing in an coolbox. I was too impatient for impressive 10th place out of 81 finishers.

An early morning start by Kim One SBOC member was very glad Club she'd heeded the pre-race warnings. Secretary) saw her arrive at the An adder took a liking to Ann Mitchell's campsite in time to set up her gaiters and she ended up in hospital tent before Event 2 at Oxwich having tests. Luckily there was only a Burrows, planned by Steve trace of venom in her blood and she Jones. A 15 minute easy stroll was given two courses of antibiotics. from the campsite, down the She wishes she had run faster! But on lane and through some ferns. I a serious note, we're given advance say warnings of risk, and advice, for a the reason.

preferring to save myself for I'd been reading my book outside in the the relays the next day. It was shade at the local shop/café waiting for few minutes R&R. Another tent (and **NGOC** another Committee member) to join our group – John



managed to put my tent up. A number of decades had passed by since I'd performed this activity so I was quite pleased with myself. A new airbed had been acquired ... but I'd forgotten to While all around were hot and sweaty check the pump valve. Luckily Ginny came to the rescue, ably assisted by Chris and Bob. Note to self: check before you leave & buy one before next time. Finally, I moved all my worldly possessions into the tent including my suitcase. And then to sit down with a cider and have a natter around the camp table ...

I had a relatively comfortable night. There were some strange noises, but I found out in the morning it was in fact Ginny & Simon pumping their airbed up Richard Cronin again achieved the as it had completely deflated! I also worked out that the noise that I had heard earlier that sounded like a dinosaur roar was in fact the noise of the roof of a camper van opening and closing, thankfully...

Saturday

Note: always camp with friends with campervans with an electric hook up so much easier to get that first required coffee in the morning. Thank you, Chris & Gill, for the coffee, and Ginny &



Fallows arrived, having run on the Burrows.

The afternoon was our own, be it off for a walk, having a swim in either the campsite pool or in the sea, relaxing on the campsite. It was a beautiful day in a beautiful place – good for the mind. As the afternoon progressed, more orienteers arrived to pitch up for the evening and for the SBOC barbeque: BOK, SWOC, UBOC, ERYRI to name a We all gathered around and started up our barbeques - it was quite a picture!

Simon Hudson and Tom Mills took on the mantle of barbequing NGOC's food and Ben Mitchell (very good, young, - thank you both, and to Gill James who made up some salad in her 'kitchen'. NGOCers Tom Cochrane and Richard Cronin turned up after their foray around the headland to join us for food.

Then into the next field along for a game of rounders which rounded off Another warm day. We all had to meet evening verv nicely encouraged good sleep, so much so I was last to rise Sunday morning...

morning coffee! The final event on one and three and Ginny legs two and the Sunday: 2x2 Relays on Cefn four.



British orienteers who run for our national squad). Cefn Bryn is basically the high ground in the middle of The Gower: open moorland with marshes, gorse, and ferns growing rather too well.

before the mass start for instructions. Myself and Ginny formed our two-man team. Before we left the more bearable. Phew! campsite, I had my blistered heel **Sunday:** Thank you again for my strapped up by 'Nurse Gill'. I ran legs Courses were handicapped

1.9-3.5km. We all lined up for the start and were given our first sealed map. When I finished the first leg, I had to tag Ginny who already been given her first map. While Ginny ran the second leg, I downloaded and cleared, received my second leg map, and recovered from the heat before Ginny returned too promptly and tagged me to start the third leg by which time, thankfully, a bit of a breeze had got up which made it

The hardest part was trying to find controls in depressions in two foot high fern growth! Pacing





wandering person who exclaiming: "Get off my land!"

It won't surprise you to hear that we didn't win .. but we did enjoy the camaraderie. SBOC had set up a prize giving at the end which included random raffle prizes as well as winners and placing trophies/prizes.

It was great fun to take part in an event and be one of a team for a change. If Hilary Nicholls you haven't taken part in a relay yet, do

Having been warned in the details have a go when the opportunity arises. about wild horses and sheep, a few of There are relays at the annual Easter us were surprised to bump into a JK, the Peter Palmer relays in kept September for juniors, as well as at many of the big events. There are also specific relay events/competitions.

> And so, back to the campsite to change, pack up camp and drive home. What a thoroughly good weekend in a beautiful place with likeminded people. I hope you will join us on the next occasion.

NGOC Committee Member

GOWER RESULTS SUMMARY ...

Well done to all 11 NGOC members who ran, ate and drank their way through the Gower social weekend! On Friday at Merthyr Mawr West, Richard Cronin was our top performer, finishing 8th on Green, with Tom Cochrane in 15th, Tom Mills 33rd, Bob Teed 45th and Hils Blyton 49th.

Richard C continued his good form into Day 2, with a top 10 finish at Oxwich Burrows. Tom Cochrane was 29th, also on Green, with Ginny Hudson 52nd, Tom Mills 56th, John Fallows 59th and Bob Teed 79th. Gill James was 9th on Light Green and William Tett 4th on Yellow.

Top NGOC'ers in the Day 3 Relays

were "Tom and Ted" (Tom Mills & BOK's Ted Macdonald) in 12th place, "Coch-Cro" (Tom Cochrane & Richard Cronin) in 20th and "Kew Oh!" (Kim Liggett & Andy Rimes) in 22nd. Sadly "orienteeriNG OCcasionally" mispunched - no doubt worn out by all that socialising! (Well prioritised, girls!)





Thanks to Margaret & Niall Reynolds of SBOC who organised the weekend, as well as their many Club volunteers in all guises, and also to Carol at Oxwich Camping Park who was the best, most accommodating host.



chalford rural urban

It goes without saying that all Green had 180m and the Orange NGOC League events are great course certainly wasn't a pushover with orienteering out days with excellent courses. Chalford "rural urban" on the 29th April was particularly memorable.

As reported in the last issue of Legend, the Chalford league event introduced a new format to the world of orienteering - the rural urban. Essentially an urban event, on a large-scale map, but in an exceptionally picturesque and historic rural village. Competitors enjoyed courses which took in the winding, steep network of paths between guintessential Cotswold cottages, as well as visting the lovely canal path and varied areas of newer build.

Planner/organiser Greg Best put on the standard range of colourcoded courses from Brown to Yellow. The "rural" part of the event description really kicked in with the course climbs: runners on Brown faced an estimated 315m over 8.3km, Short

175m of climb over 3km.

In total, 169 runners came along to enjoy the beautiful scenery and unique location. In his post-event report, Greg Best said, "The idea of mapping and holding an event at Chalford has been lodged in my head for about 5 years now. The original inspiration came from Gill Stott's 2012 Christmas Treasure Hunt, set in St Briavels' myriad of lanes and paths. I started wondering if I could find a similar rural area with a huge network of rights of way. I poured over of Gloucestershire before maps identifying Chalford as the place I was looking for. I felt certain that I had discovered a gem of an area, with great potential for urban orienteering."

"Urban orienteering can never be properly technical, so maximising route choices to keep people thinking is key. Chalford's ample contours will have added to the challenge of finding the quick look routes. Α Routegadget seems to show that people have chosen to go a number of different ways, which is pleasing to the planner in me! There is plenty of scope for other events on this large map, so look out for the next one!"

Huge thanks are due to Greg for his patience and persistence in bringing his event idea to fruition. He was supported by a large team of volunteers, not least of whom were Sophie and Cathy, who made the splendid cakes on offer as post-run nutrition. Thanks to all of you!





chalford photos



2019 event programme

You might be thinking that The 4 event strands: we've only got half way through this year, so why are we worrying about next year. Well, if you look at the BOF Fixture list, you'd probably expect to see all the big events for next year already lined up, but you might be surprised to see how quickly it is already filling up with lower level events. In order to ensure that we can fit in programme around the big well our events as as neighbouring clubs' programmes, whilst also taking account the growing

constraints we face on access to some terrain, it is important that we put down our markers early. So, over the last few days the self-styled Development and Fixtures Subcommittee has met to draft an initial programme for 2019. What follows is a summary of a lot of discussion and analysis, very hot off the press, and so very prospective, published both to give us something to work towards, for permissions etc, and to let you have a chance to comment if you wish to.

As background:

- 1. The 2018 league so far has been very successful in terms of entry numbers, but by general consent has also been a bit fragmented, with an early forced cancellation and a long gap through the late spring.
- 2. Attendance regular we at the Thursday evening events (either maprun or traditional SI races) has been disappointing - significantly below last year. It's not clear why this should be: attendees rate these events highly, both maprun and SI, so they should be attracting people. R2T2 hasn't taken off, with pre-entry almost non-existent, leading to all events being cancelled.
- 3. Constraints on access to the forest have increased significantly, and despite a lot of effort we have seen no sign of movement from the Forestry Commission towards relaxing the bans

Strand	Aimed at	2019 programme 12 events: 7 classic forest races, 2 middle distance forest races, 2 purely urban, Chalford/Toadsmoor as a 'mixed' race. Of these ideally half at Regional level if possible. Same format as 2018, but with a 10k trail race - a very long yellow - run in parallel, separately organised, as an R2T2 replacement.					
NGOC League	Existing orienteers, and providing development path for newer ones. Also athletic club members - at whom the 10k trail is aimed						
Weekday series	Already active or wannabe active adults, as well as providing regular events for club members, and building interest in maprun as a resource light capability	Winter series: November - March, first Thursday evening of each month, Maprun only, format probably score, but could be linear. Summer series: April - October, up to and usually 2 per month, one SI, one Maprun, all linear courses, no score courses.					
Junior and beginner series	Providing follow on/development opportunities for the schools programme	TBD, but based on a regular series of park type events on weekday afternoons					
All the other stuff we do	Everyone	The usual New Year's Day, Galoppen and Chairman's Challenge events, plus 3 Western Night League events, plus at least one larger event if possible. In 2019 this will be a National level warm up event for the Southern Championships, probably either a middle distance or an urban race.					

4. Our partnership with Active Gloucestershire, aimed at developing orienteering in schools, is beginning to take shape, but needs to be managed so that we are not drawn into doing a lot of work for potential long term but no short term benefit.

on night orienteering and track parking.

Out of all this emerge 4 event 'strands' (see table above). Dates and potential venues have been identified for most of these events, and will be published shortly as a draft fixture list for next year.

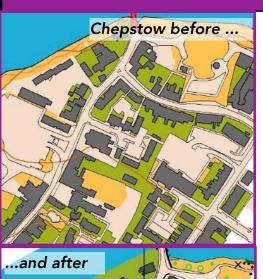
This is an ambitious programme, and it will require all of us to do our bit to help make it happen. We aim to schedule at least one more planner/organiser probably a controller course, and need ensure that planner/organisers prospective also attend an event safety workshop if they have not already done so. The other thing we'll need is some help with mapping.

We now use 3 basic map formats for our events - traditional forest maps, detailed urban maps, and urban 'stick' maps for maprun. The first of these takes quite a lot of effort to create, but less to maintain, and you don't have to be an expert cartographer to help do

that. Below is a sample of part of Knockalls Enclosure that we aim to use next year for a middle distance race. It shows what a largely non-mapper has done to make an initial assessment of the state of the area. This allows us to work out the feasibility of using the area, and the amount of work needed to update the map.

You may have read an article in an earlier edition of legend on how we generate base maps for urban areas. Once this is done, you start with the "Before" image shown opposite, and it





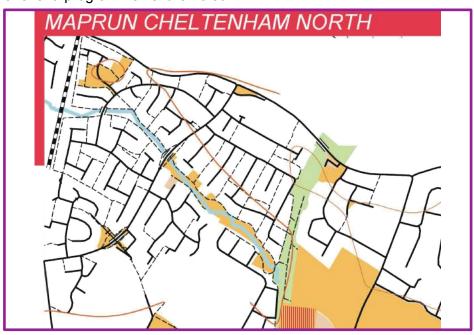
becomes a relatively straightforward process to develop the base into a usable urban map (the "After" image). Again, not a high level of mapping experience required.

For stick maps (see example below) the process is easier still, provided you know how to use Google Earth, Maps and Streetview. You still have to check that the base data (in this case Open Street map) is reasonably good, and update it if needed, but thereafter producing a maprun map is very straightforward apart from one key step which requires OCAD 11, and which I can do for anyone who wishes to generate a maprun map.

The event programme is the raison

d'etre for the club. We have been evolving it progressively over the last few years, and in my view this is a further evolution, designed to appeal to existing orienteers, already active potential orienteers, and the young. Let us know what you think about it, on facebook, via email to anyone on the committee, or better still face to face at upcoming events.

Pat Macleod Development Officer



orientizz - ngoc social

It was a typically British Spring the biggest producer of oil in the world. Article & photo: Hilzz Nixzz made their way into the saloon and took their places. Was this a good of us..... idea....?

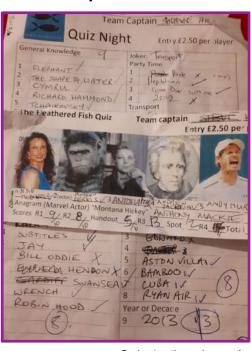
It was the first of two quiz evenings spent place by four points. eating and drinking at The Feathered Fish bar in Cheltenham. We decided it would be best to increase our chances by having just one team of 9 made up of: Greg Best, Richard Purkis, Rhiannon and Peter Fadeyibi, Paul and Ros Taunton, Steve Williams, John Fallows and myself.

Well, the Quizmaster, Paul Wheeldon, wasn't giving us an easy evening but we were well equipped with two extremely knowledgeable couples in the Fadeyibis and Tauntons who knew such things as

9 intrepid orienteers And who'd have guessed the colour of Bridget Jones' soup was purple?!!! None

> Unhampered by our lack of soup knowledge we powered on to win first The prize a Feathered Fish voucher for drinks/food. Two weeks later, minus the brains (and Greg) we revisited – to polish off the bar tab! And, as expected, we finished 'a bit' further down the pecking order, slightly hampered maybe refreshments.....

> We'll have another Quiz Social in the next couple of months, maybe this time west of the Severn. If you know of any pub quiz nights, let me know. And hope to see you there:))



Quiz 1 - the winners!

ross-on-wye urban



the prestigious UK Urban League, which resulted in a quality field across all courses. Planner Richard Cronin made the most of Ross's picturesque and historical town centre Junior class by almost 5 minutes. to create interesting route choices for this urban event. A total of 225 competitors took part, with some making a weekend of it with the OMM event at Speech House.

Ben Potter (BOK) took the day's top honours with victory on the M21 course in a time of 49:07. Ben Mitchell (SBOC) was a very close second, with just 10 seconds separating the two. NGOC's Richard Purkis finished an excellent third, with Tom Cochrane 5th. Andy Monro (M45) finished 4th in the very competitive Men's Vet class, and Andy Stott (M55) was 17th on Super Vet. Ian Prowse (M65, 11th) and Bob Teed (M75, 3rd) were our top finishers in the Ultra and Hyper Vet categories. Reuben Lawson (M12) had an excellent run to win the Men Young Junior, with brother Seth (M10) finishing 5th.

Megan Carter-Davies (W21, MWOC) was the unsurprising winner of the Women's Open, ten minutes clear of her nearest rival. Vanessa Lawson

5th May was selected as part of in a close Women's Vet category, and Ginny Hudson (W55) finished a superb 2nd in Super Vet. Ros Taunton (W65) took 12th place in Ultra Vet. Rebecca Ward continues to go well and won the

Congratulations to organisers Gill & Chris James, planner Richard controller Cronin and Lite in the Forest of Dean and the R2T2 Ribbans (SWOC) for an excellent event, and huge thanks to the stalwart team of helpers.



league latest

Due to the onset of summer vegetation and the peak National-level event period, there has been only one League event during the past three months, at Chalford on 29th April. Greg Best's demanding courses certainly required peak performances, with considerable amounts of height gain across all courses.

On the Brown course, Richard Purkis (M21) took first place with an impressive time of 56:02, beating Richard Mawer (M45, BAOC) and Owain Jones (M35, BOK) into second and third places. Tom Cochrane and Richard Cronin (both M21) were NGOC's next finishers in 5th and 6th places.

Clive Hallett (M55, BOK) positively flew

Brown:

around the Blue course to finish in 46:36, over three minutes clear of Andy Monro (M45) in second place. Christophe Pige (M45) had a good run to finish in 6th, with Paul Lane (M60) also making the top 10.

Scott "I'm just having an easy run today" Johnson took the top spot on Green, marginally ahead of Alison Simmons (W60, BOK). Hannah Bradley (W45) had a good run to finish 8th.

Laura Britton (W35) won Short Green in 34:16, over 9 minutes clear of Andy Pedder (M60) in 2nd. Claire Garai and Jess Miklausic (both W35) were the top two on Orange, whilst Seth Lawson (M10) was a clear winner on Yellow.

The next League event is on 14th July at Coopers Hill. It's a Regional level event, and with Andy Monro as planner it'll be one not to miss!



league standings after 4 events

Short Green:

Brown.					51101	e Green.					
	1	Nick Gracie	BOK	M45	2705	1	Roger Coe	NGOC M70	1798		
	2	Owain Jones	BOK	M35	2013	2	Peter Maloney	NGOC M70	1796		
	3	Richard Purkis	NGOC	M21	1865	3	Laura Britton	BOK W35	1277		
	4	Keith Agmen	BOK	M35	1663	4	Jack Giltrap	UBOC M21	1222		
	5	Anders Johansson	NGOC	M45	1593	5	Andy Pedder	NGOC M60	1008		
	Blue:					Orange:					
	1	Paul Horsfall	NGOC	M35	2958	1	Claire Garai	NGOC W35	3026		
	2	Nick Dennis	BOK	M55	2624	2	John Wickson	NGOC M70	2019		
	3	Russell Finch	SWOC	M50	2621	3	Rose Taylor	HOC W12	1893		
	4	Mike Goldthorpe	SOC	M60	2594	4	Reuben Lawson	NGOC M12	1660		
	5	Robert Atkins	HOC	M35	2555	5	Sam Roderick	NGOC M15	1106		
	Green:		Yellow:								
	1	Alex Evans	NGOC	M55	2072	1	Seth Lawson	NGOC M10	2098		
	2	Dave Hartley	NGOC	M65	1842	2	George Gracie	BOK M11	1890		
	3	John Fallows	NGOC	M60	1832	3	James Agombar	NGOC M10	1879		
	4	Steve Harris	NGOC	M40	1802	4	Katie Agombar	NGOC W10	1795		
	5	Martin Evans	BOK	M55	1759	5	Sam Horsfall	NGOC M4	1727		

rankings

NGOC's national ranking Top 10 on 30th June 2018 were ...

1	Richard Purkis	1993	M	8009
2	Peter Ward	1970	M	7921
3	Tom Cochrane	1986	M	7754
4	Andy Monro	1969	M	7682
5	Richard Cronin	1989	M	7620
6	Lawrence Jones	1996	M	7521
7	lan Jones	1966	M	7402
8	Andy Creber	1958	M	7365
9	Andy Stott	1959	M	7331
10	Andrew Hartley	1988	M	7304
	,			

There's been little change in our club Top 10 since March. Richard Purkis and Pete Ward are still flying high in the rankings (at 67th and 92nd respectively in the national standings), with Tom Cochrane and Andy Monro not far behind. Ian Jones and Andy Creber have switched places in 7th and 8th - partly due to Andy rupturing his Achilles tendon, which has unsurprisingly curtailed his running activities somewhat. Our top-ranked female runner is Georgia Jones, 14th in the club.

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