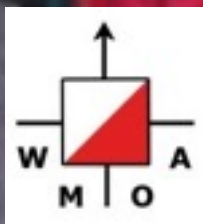


The West Midlander

Winter 2014-15



**The Newsletter of the
West Midlands Orienteering Association**

Association Officials

Chairman	Bob Brandon (OD)	chair@wmoa.org.uk
Vice-Chairman	Ray Collins (WCH)	vicechair@wmoa.org.uk
Secretary	Delia Kingsbury (WRE)	secretary@wmoa.org.uk
Treasurer	Barry McGowan (HOC)	treasurer@wmoa.org.uk
Fixtures Secretary/Rep.	Allan Williams (WCH)	fixtures@wmoa.org.uk
Newsletter Editor	Rod Postlethwaite (WRE)	newsletter@wmoa.org.uk
Coaching Rep.	<Vacant>	coaching@wmoa.org.uk
Colour Badge Awards	Hilary Simpson (OD)	colourbadges@wmoa.org.uk
Controllers' Co-ordinator	Henry Morgan (POTOC)	controlling@wmoa.org.uk
Data Privacy Officer	<Vacant>	dataprivacy@wmoa.org.uk
E-mail Tree Co-ordinator	<Vacant>	emailnews@wmoa.org.uk
Handbook Editor	Rod Postlethwaite (WRE)	handbook@wmoa.org.uk
Junior Squad Co-ordinator	Melanie Elkington (OD)	juniorsquad@wmoa.org.uk
League Results Co-ordinator	Lesley Ross (OD)	league@wmoa.org.uk
Webmaster	Lesley Ross (OD)	webmaster@wmoa.org.uk

Club Representatives

British Orienteering	John Woodall	britorep@wmoa.org.uk
COBOC	Barry McGowan	cobocrep@wmoa.org.uk
HOC	Barry McGowan	hocrep@wmoa.org.uk
OD	Barry Elkington	odrep@wmoa.org.uk
POTOC	Brenda Morgan	potocrep@wmoa.org.uk
WCH	Ray Collins	wchrep@wmoa.org.uk
WRE	Graham Hardy	wrerep@wmoa.org.uk
All Committee/Officials		committee@wmoa.org.uk

Website: <http://www.wmoa.org.uk>

Cover Photo: Start of the Laurie Bradley Trophy Score Event at Sandwell Valley (by Adrian Bailey)

Editorial

Happy New Year everyone.

The New Year got off to a somewhat cold start at Sandwell Valley and Hilltop and Manwood, courtesy of HOC, with Octavian Droobers retaining the Laurie Bradley Trophy.

There are a number of exciting events to look forward in the early part of the year starting with WCH hosting the Midland Championships on Cannock Chase on 15 February. The West Midland League kicked off on 11 January at Hartshill Hayes, an area which hasn't been used for a number of years and an area where I last orienteered in 1986! The second event is in the Wyre Forest at Longdon Wood which, I believe, was last used for orienteering at BOC 1985 (it was certainly the last time I ran there). This year there are 12 events which count towards the League. Can anybody challenge OD for the title?

The West Midlands Urban League enters its second year and will, hopefully, attract larger attendances to this fast and furious form of the sport.

Finally, it's a SinS year with HOC and WRE hosting three events over the Spring Bank Holiday (no Urban event this time). One to add to your diaries.

This year also sees two clubs, WRE and POTO, celebrating their 40th anniversaries with special events to mark the occasions.

On a more sombre note, the region lost two of its stalwarts in the Autumn, Toby Norris (COBOC) and John Bennison (WRE). Obituaries appear later in the newsletter (pages 11 and 13 respectively). Our condolences go to their families - they will be sorely missed.

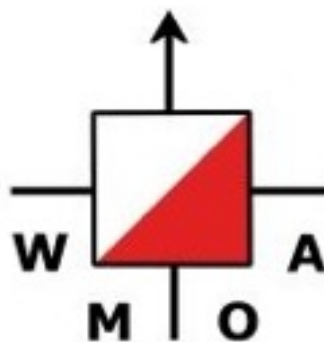
Happy Orienteering

Rod

Copy date for the next issue: 14 March 2015

Inside this Issue

2	Association Officials
3	Editorial
4	Chairman's Report
5	Meeting Minutes
9	Laurie Bradley Trophy 2015
10	West Midlands Championships
11	Toby Norris
12	Officials Courses
13	John Bennison
15	Quiz No. 2
16	Junior European Cup
16	National Squad Selections
17	Orienteering from a Non-Orienteering Mum's Perspective
18	Quiz Answers
18	British Schools Score Champs
19	West Midlands League
21	West Midlands Galoppen/League Past Results
22	West Midlands Urban League
23	Fixtures



WMOA Chairman's Report December

Bob Brandon

As you will be aware the region has lost two of its membership.

By the mid-sixties, Toby Norris was already something of an orienteering icon. Based in the South East at that time, Toby became a member of the Mole Valley Map & Foot Racing Society. Later Toby moved up here to join the staff at Aston University and became a member of the City of Birmingham Club. Toby was founder member of the national 'Old Codgers' O Club, a dining society which meets twice a year - the JK and again at the UK Summer multi-day events.

We also lost John Bennison who I first met in the 1970s when he was providing valuable support to the WMOA as Schools Liaison Officer. John, at that time, was also doing great things with his Tividale School Orienteering Club. Upon leaving teaching, John became a whiz with the new technology, and must have advised and/or acted as trouble-shooter for many in the region when their personal computer needed some TLC. I could only admire when any Word document of John's came my way. He had the knack of understanding and using every formatting feature that Microsoft had put in the product. John's WMOA handbook is legendary, each edition containing more and more useful information that included who was who in (and surrounding) the region with every useful name and associated telephone number (and later email address) that you needed. John was a Grade A Controller, controlling a recent CompassSport Cup Final in the Forest of Dean. It seemed that each year John would join a different Club within the WMOA. In this way John could build up a working knowledge of good practice invented by each club and thus he kept all of us on the straight and narrow.

A celebration of John's life was held in the afternoon of New Year's Day. Carol Sparke, assisted by Ruth Lockley and family, had put together a vast array of just part of John's 'O' archives. Several spoke of how John had helped them over the years. I can only fully support the suggestion that has been made to name one of the Region's annual events in



Photo by Margaret Willdig (OD)

memory of John. Following further discussion within the membership, a proposal will be brought to the March Committee meeting for consideration.

I can report that Andy Yeates (WCH) has been upgraded to a Grade A Controller. Ernie Williams, BOF's Major Officials Officer has provided a glowing report of Andy's achievements within the events that he has been involved with. Andy's appointment is subject to attending an Events Safety Course. Such a course will be taking place one evening early in March. The course is suitable for those involved with Level D events upwards. Further details will be available early in January. Please contact me if you would like to take part.

The final 2014 League events have been put on by Wrekin and Walton Chasers. The latter being the WMOA Championships - congratulations to our 2014 Champions. We now look forward to a very full programme of League events for 2015. In addition, on 15 February, Walton Chasers are staging the Midlands Championships on Cannock Chase. With Springtime in Shropshire in May also to look forward to, may I wish you a happy new year of orienteering.

Minutes of WMOA meeting on 8 December 2014, Great Barr Hotel

Present: R. Brandon, R. Collins, B. Elkington, G. Hardy, D. Kingsbury, B. McGowan, H. Morgan, A. Williams, J. Woodall.

1. **Apologies:** M. Elkington, D. Jacks, B. Morgan, R. Postlethwaite.
2. **Declarations of Interest:** None.
3. **The Minutes of previous meeting** were accepted as a true record.
4. **Matters Arising:** None.
5. **Correspondence:**

Details of a BOF Coaching Conference to be held 24/25 January had been circulated - to be held in Swindon. Booking is through Fabian 4. This had been forwarded to clubs.

The latest 'Mike's e news' had been forwarded on.

6. **Chairman's Report:**

R. Brandon opened his report with his personal memories of both Toby Norris and John Bennison, both of whom had recently passed away. John's life and contribution to orienteering were set to be celebrated at the forthcoming New Year's Day event and suggestions had been put forward for a Regional event to bear his name.

A. Yeates (WCH) had been proposed as a Grade A Controller pending completion of an Event Safety Course.

The final events of the 2014 League had taken place with events put on by WRE and WCH, the latter event had also included the West Midlands Championships; there was a new season to look forward to, starting with the Laurie Bradley New Year's Day Score event.

There was some discussion about naming an event after J. Bennison or other options for ensuring that his contribution to orienteering will be remembered. It was felt that the number of people present was only a small proportion of the West Midlands membership and that this should be discussed at the Laurie Bradley event where the views of many more people could be heard and taken into consideration.

7. **Treasurer's Report:**

The level of levy receipts was modest. B. McGowan had heard nothing about the final accounts from the British Sprint and Middle Championships (Both PTOC and WCH reported that they would make a donation of £200 from these events once any monies had been transferred to them from BOF). It was hoped that levies received from 2015 events would be in the region of £3000. There is currently £1552 in the bank and the Junior Squad have £200 remaining.

The costs relating to the hire of the meeting room at £55 per meeting were reviewed. When combined with mileage for officials to attend the meetings (excluding the AGM), total costs per annum are about £600. It was felt that the room hire was good value and the facilities were very good and secure. It was also very central and easy to reach and it was recognised that some committee members travelled a long way to attend meetings. The possibility of meeting in members' houses was raised although it was felt that this did not create a professional feel. Also meeting after an event would not be successful, due to waiting around in the cold for others to finish their runs. It was agreed to continue the current arrangements.

8. Fixtures:

West Midlands Urban League

A. Williams had reviewed the attendance at the four events and there had been little travelling by members to other club's events. The 2014 League scores are all updated and can be found on the Nopesport platform.

A. Williams and R. Postlethwaite to produce certificates for the class winners of the 2014 League.

The programme of events for 2015, at present, is Lichfield (WCH), Ludlow (Wrekin), Redditch (HOC) and possibly Sutton College (COBOC). The latter is a Sprint event using a 1:2500 map and course alignment needs to be resolved. L. Phillips (OD) had proposed a five course structure for the Warwick University event planned by OD as being more appropriate to the numbers of participants.

WM League 2015

The clubs had put forward 14 events which was too many. After some discussion it was decided to ask HOC to choose three of their five proposed events. This would still leave 12 events.

It was noted that the weekend of 7/8 February had events from both HOC and WRE and was also clashing with the Southern Championships which was a selection race.

A. Williams to check with L. Ross to see if the software for the League points/ placings will work with 12 events rather than 10.

JIRC2015: preparation is progressing.

BOC 2016 Brown Clee: It is believed that Controllers have been appointed.

JK 2018: David Pal (WOA) had been quite open to the proposal for WMOA to further explore the possibility of staging this event in Wales. A co-ordinator is needed. We need to explore areas and see what the permissions situation is like. It was felt that holding this event in Wales might attract a larger attendance than if it was held in the West Midlands.

Peter Palmer Relays: This event was clashing with The British Schools Orienteering event, in terms of both events wanting to use Sutton Park in 2016 which was not feasible. It has been decided that the area would be used for the British Schools Championships in 2016 and the Peter Palmer Relays in 2017. The requirements for an area for the 2016 Peter Palmer Relays had been referred back to M. Cope for resolution.

9. West Midlander:

The following update had been received from R Postlethwaite: *"The last issue was pleasing because I had a lot of articles by other people. I have only had positive comments so I will try to maintain the standard for future issues. For the next issue could someone please send me a list of the West Midlands Champions? The next issue will be out about New Year after I've received the minutes."*

(It was noted that the list of West Midlands Champions can be found on the WCH website.)

10. Development:

Mapping Training - there was no progress to report, but interest had been shown by several members of WRE, focussing on ability to make small updates to maps.

Event Safety and Welfare Course - this was being focussed around the event officials for BOC 2016. Chris Phillips from EMOA has agreed to put this on early in March if there is sufficient demand (6-12), three participants from OD and one from WCH have been identified. It is likely to be held in Coventry. B. McGowan said WMOA could subsidise this

and R. Brandon stated that this might well be funded through BOC 2016, which was driving the requirement. More details will be circulated in the New Year once dates are confirmed.

Local Event Officials Courses: Requests for an Organiser's course have come from both WRE and WCH. B. McGowan confirmed that funding would be available to support this. There had been one request for a Controller's course so this would be considered at a later date. Any further interest in these courses to be fed back to R. Brandon, H. Morgan or D. Kingsbury.

R. Postlethwaite to include a note in West Midlander asking for those who require Official's courses to contact one of the WMOA committee as above.

11. Events and Competitions Committee

Minutes from the ECC are to be sent to Secretaries of the Regional Associations in an effort to increase the level of communication and awareness of this committee's work.

For future BOF events the Major Events agreement will only be signed between BOF and Regions, not individual clubs.

Where Safety Officers need to be appointed it is important for them to have attended the relevant workshops.

It was noted that 3 members of WCH had been appointed as Controllers for major events in the coming years.

The Midlands Championships is a Level A event. East Anglia can only offer Level B events at present, otherwise they have difficulty with embargoed areas. Thus this competition will alternate between EMOA and WMOA until such time that EAOA can offer an area compatible with a Level A event requirements. It has been noted that Level A events don't have commentary, which is generally required.

The ECC are aware that under 16s are running on roads unaccompanied in Urban events, which is contrary to BOF Rules and invalidates event insurance. It was made very clear that Organisers and Planners of Urban events will be held to account personally for any incidents that might arise. The same applies to evening Street events. Applying the under 16 rule is recognised to be difficult, especially for those with birthdays in their 16th year, as they register as M/W 16, whilst aged 15. It is recommended that Junior registrations are dealt with by a single person so that they have more time to query ages and courses and ensure that youngsters run an appropriate course or are accompanied. If a suitable course for youngsters is not available this should be clear in the flyers.

12. West Midlands Junior Squad September 2014 to December 2014 (Mel Elkington & Sarah Dredge)

Junior Inter Regionals in NWOA took place on September 27/28 weekend. The team consisted of Aimee Morse, Gemma Cairns-Smith, Rhiannon Cope, Heather Craig, Ellie Bales, Stephen Elkington, Nathan Lawson, Harrison McCartney, Will Heaton, Alfie Bullus, Ewan Lloyd. They were very impressive in both in their behaviour and the way they tackled some very challenging courses. The courses are at the top end of the range of difficulty for the colour.

Both Iain Embrey and Mel attended the Junior Regional Orienteering Squads AGM on behalf of the West Midlands Junior Squad in Hathersage on the 8 November 2014. The Summer tours have now been announced and details can be found on the Junior Regional Squad website: www.jros.org.uk. Both Jackie Newton and Mike Hamilton attended part of this meeting to explain how the GB Talent Squads, etc. will work in future.

Matt Hartland has just been selected for World Schools in Turkey in April 2015, so please support him if he does any fundraising for it.

The annual trip to Hawkshead took place on the 28/29/30 November for Matt Hartland, Gemma Cairns-Smith, Heather Rogers, Heather Craig, Holly Hughes and Ellie Bales. The coaches were Iain Embrey, Mel Elkington, Matt Elkington and Nathan Lawson. This was, yet again, an outstanding weekend of training at TD5 level. Those that attended benefitted hugely. They trained on Bishops Wood and Holme Fell on the Saturday followed by Dale Park on the Sunday.

The Squad currently has three members that are part of the GB Talent Squad: Julie Emmerson, Harrison McCartney and Nathan Lawson.

In 2015 OD have offered the Junior Squad training for the JK Sprint at Warwick University on Saturday 28 March 2015.

13. Publicity Suggestion:

Adrian Bailey had proposed an email messaging system, going out weekly, to get information directly to orienteers, e.g. results of the previous week's events and details about the event the following week. This was prompted by disappointing turnouts for smaller events and recognising that not all orienteers are keen enough to keep an eye out for forthcoming events.

This was discussed and there was some positive support for this suggestion. Feedback from HOC felt that this might be an intrusion to some members given there are multiple channels of communication already in use by them. OD reported that they send out emails advertising their local events, which is essentially one line with a link, so is very quick to read or delete. This is successful for them but the point was made that this is used for local events, their members would not necessarily be interested in WRE Summer evening events. POTOc reported that they use Facebook as a means of communication.

So, it seemed that those clubs using regular updates via electronic media were having success by targeting local events and thus it is appropriate for such initiatives to be club driven.

14. Email tree

A. Williams had not had the opportunity to speak to J. Bennison so our position in relation to accessing the WMOA domain and email tree was not known. Nor is it known how the domain names can be updated e.g. secretary@wmoa.org. B. McGowan stated that he is not aware of any charges for wmoa.org. It was suggested that C. Sparke or R. Lockley be contacted to see if they can assist.

In terms of **data protection** issues, WMOA do not keep a database from which personal data may be extracted so we have no compliance requirements. We do have a small number of WMOA email addresses for conducting WMOA business and need to safeguard individuals' email addresses where used e.g. use of Bcc. The WMOA email tree is believed to be a list of named contacts in clubs, who then circulate the information on to the club members. Thus there was no requirement for WMOA itself to register for data protection purposes. It is the clubs who have a defined obligation to control data.

J. Woodall was asked to seek BOF advice for the clubs relating to any data protection issues surrounding extracts of the BOF database that they might hold, or use.

15. AOB

H. Morgan reported that the West Midlands Shield had been donated by POTOc 25 years ago and that the last space for engraving would be taken this year. Suggestions were sought about how to record next year's winner. From discussion it seemed that general practice was to move the older shields to the back, so leaving space for new ones on the front.

R. Collins had noted that the UK League fixtures listed in the last edition of Focus were all in the North or South or Ireland, but nothing in the Midlands, yet the principle was for these events to be country wide. B. Elkington responded that they needed to be Level A or B events and it was for the organising clubs to submit their events for consideration to be included in the League but this process is not yet being fully followed. The ECC put in the Level A events and then look for groupings e.g. if there is an Urban event in the Midlands on a given weekend they would ask clubs to nominate a second event for inclusion in the UK League, etc. However, WMOA clubs tend not to stage many Level B events. There had been little co-ordination for the 2015 League so M. Cope had selected a range of events from the fixtures list. With fixtures being confirmed for Level A events into 2017 and beyond, it is now easy for clubs to see where there are gaps alongside a Level A event and to plan accordingly.

16. Next meeting - 9 March 2015.

Further meeting dates for 2015 are:

8 June, 14 September, 14 December; and the AGM will be on 12 October.

Laurie Bradley Trophy

2015 started in the traditional West Midlands way with the New Year's Day Score Event held by HOC at Sandwell Valley and Hilltop and Manwood.

After the event a special gathering was held at the Sandwell Valley Farm Education Centre to celebrate the life of John Bennison. Hilltop and Manwood was a special place for John and part of the Laurie Bradley Trophy took place on the map which he had recently revised.

Team Scores:

OD	4750
HOC	3900
WCH	3650
WRE	3430
POTOC	960
COBOC	770

Leading Scorers:

Matthew Elkington	M20	OD	300
Andy Emmerson	M55	OD	260
Colin Lynch	M45	SYO	250
Clive Richardson	M45	WRE	250

Lead Scoring Junior Male:

Matthew Elkington	M20	OD	300
Matt Hartland	M18	WCH	220

Lead Scoring Junior Female:

Florence Lunn	W12	OD	110
Tabitha Lunn	W12	OD	110

West Midlands Championships 2014

The Championships were held by WCH on 30 November 2014 at a new venue, Chillington Hall, and also incorporated the final round of the League.

The area, new to orienteering, was supposed to have been used for a League event on 30 March but the event was postponed because of a waterlogged car park. As the maps had already been printed, it was decided to use the same courses for the Championships. Unfortunately, there had been a significant amount of growth in the undergrowth which made the courses a bit tough underfoot. Congratulations to all the winners.

Winners

M10	Alexander Evans Sebastian Mitchell (Tied)	POTOC HOC	W10	Catherine Bailey	HOC
M12	Felix Lunn	OD	W12	Pippa Smart	OD
M14	Alfie Bullus	OD	W14	Jessica Parker	WRE
M16	Not Awarded		W16	Not Awarded	
M18	Stephen Elkington	OD	W18	Not Awarded	
M20	Mateusz Podiadly	OD	W20	Not Awarded	
M21	Iain Stamp	WCH	W21	Emily Garside	WCH
M35	Alistair Powell	OD	W35	Lesley Ross	OD
M40	Chris McCartney	OD	W40	Cath Williams	WCH
M45	Clive Richardson	WRE	W45	Judith Hughes	WCH
M50	Ian Hughes	WCH	W50	Elizabeth Bales	POTOC
M55	Barry Elkington	OD	W55	Carol Dredge	WCH
M60	John Robinson	WCH	W60	Margaret Willdig	OD
M65	John Pearson	HOC	W65	Sheila Carey	OD
M70	Brian Morris	WRE	W70	Barbara Farr	POTOC
M75	John Riley	WRE	W75	Hilary Simpson	OD
M80	Norman Hall	WCH	W80	Not Awarded	

Toby Norris (COBOC) 18 April 1937 - 15 October 2014



It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Toby on Wednesday afternoon 15 October 2014 at home peacefully. During 2014 he had become increasingly breathless and despite entering the 2014 Swiss Multi day event felt the need to withdraw after just one day.

Toby was very well known in the early days of English and British Orienteering from around early 1965 when working at the CEGB Electrical Power Systems Laboratories (CERL) in Leatherhead. He became Professor of Electrical Power Systems at Aston University, Birmingham with the privatisation of the electrical industry and was subsequently given the title of 'Emeritus Professor' on reaching retirement.

He was a founder member in 1966 of the Mole Valley Map & Compass Foot Racing Society (Mole Valley) in Surrey when he

became the first Clerk (Hon Sec). The extended name came about, apparently, due to the company providing personal insurance not covering 'racing except on foot', so Toby wished to ensure that there was no doubt that the club he raced for raced on foot.

Being involved with the foundation of Mole Valley and creating something just a little different was so typical of Toby. I remember one of his early local events where he labelled one control as 'Site of Neolithic Find'. In practice this was a mark on the OS map in the middle of an open field. To the orienteer there was nothing present except the kite. One will realise that we still used black & white photo copies of the OS in those days.

After a enjoying an evening meal at his bachelor pad in Coldharbour one day I regretted accepting his unusual tea, for after it I could just not get to sleep that night!!

Toby was quick to accept the opportunity to try orienteering in other countries. We both went to the Euromet in 1966 organised by Byron Lagerfelt of Swedish Orienteering. As newcomers we were duly amazed by the forests, the superb accommodation and the TV coverage. Toby was stopped mid course and asked how he was finding the event. He responded "Splendid but aren't these flies dreadful!" Of course this was all televised so we could all enjoy Toby at his best. During the same trip we were relaxing and swimming at a Lake or inlet and there was Toby in Victorian Bathing Trunks with straw boater aloft wading across the water clothes under arm.

He was a member then of the 1966 English team to compete in the first World Championships at Fiskars, Finland. We had taken a team of 10 men for, as we thought, 6 would compete in the Individual and the other 4 in the Relay. Of course we all know now that this was not in the rules but after a very strong protest they did permit the 4 to compete non-competitively in the Relay. In practice neither

Toby nor I actually went into the forest as the team was timed out; something that we corrected at WOC 1976.

Toby's elder brother Tom and his wife Patricia were also heavily involved in those early days. Sadly Tom is not enjoying the best of health these days. However Patricia Norris became the first person to receive remuneration for acting as Secretary to the English Orienteering Association. I remember Tom saying that his younger brother was a confirmed bachelor and would never get married. Well, fortunately, he was proved wrong when Toby met Joan. I knew otherwise and was very pleased to be invited to call a Barn Dance at their wedding celebrations August 1978 at the 'Reading Rooms' in Westcott, Dorking.

In 1975 Toby was elected as Vice Chairman of the Federation and then Chairman of the Federation in 1978. That year the BOF AGM was held in St Andrews, Scotland, prior to the BOC in Tentsmuir on the Sunday. The two of us decided to be different and to arrive by bicycle having taken the train to Leuchars Junction from Kings Cross. As the new Chairman he enthusiastically encourage everyone to build upon the doubling of the membership that occurred in his tenure. In

recent years Tony was a staunch supporter of the Orienteering Foundation by encouraging BOF members to help finance the overseas trips for the top Juniors.

In 2004 along with the late John Colls they formed an Orienteering Diners Club call the 'O-Codgers'. It first met on 11 March 2004 during the 2004 Lakes JK at 'The Wheatsheaf' in Brigsteer. Since that first meeting the group has met at most JKs and the Summer Multi-day events with Toby as Chairman and Joan as Treasurer. They later stood down leaving Mike Elliot in charge. Toby was keen to give long-standing orienteers chances to meet socially and had suggested that 25 years be the minimum experience until I pointed out to him that this would include my children Peter and Jenny (Peel). The criterion was raised to 30 years. In practice such a bar has not really been enforced as friends and families have also joined. He will be remembered as the epitome of the English Gentlemen, a little eccentric but thoroughly likeable. Our thoughts go out to his wife Joan and children Calah, Robert and Emily all of whom were with him at the end.

Chris James (NGOC) with assistance from Mike Elliot (MV)

This article first appeared in CompassSport Vol. 35 No. 5

The article about John Bennison (page 13) first appeared in CompassSport Vol. 35 No. 6

Officials' Courses

There have been requests for an Organiser's course from both WRE and WCH and one request for a Controller's course in the region.

There is funding in the budget to hold the Organisers course now and, maybe, the Controllers course at a later date if there is sufficient demand.

If you are interested in attending either of these courses please contact either Bob Brandon, Henry Morgan or Delia Kingsbury (e-mail addresses on page 2).

John Bennison (WRE) 17th July 1944 - 17th November 2014

John Bennison has very sadly lost his 9 month battle with stomach cancer. He bore his illness stoically, privately and with tremendous strength of character. He decided to fight back with good diet and positive thinking. John was a life long vegetarian and teetotal and, on diagnosis, he started an in depth analysis of foods that were good for cancer. Given what he considered an appallingly bad diet sheet he crossed deleted 90% of it and handed it back to the hospital dietician with his research of what was suitable for a vegetarian.

Born in Wickham, Hampshire, the family spent time moving between England and South Africa/Southern Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) until they settled in Sutton Coldfield in 1956; John's father having been in the Royal Navy. John went to Bishop Vessey Grammar School where he excelled at high jump but it was not until his final years that he seemed to take up running. He was also a member of the school's philatelic society and maintained that interest in collecting stamps in his later years.

John graduated in 1966 from Liverpool University (Mathematics) and then did a PGCE. He retained his links with the University as an elected Convocation member of the University Court (a representative and consultative body used to keep the wider community informed of the University's work) and served on Court from 1968 to 2013.

John taught Maths at Waterloo Grammar School near Liverpool (1967-72), organised the school cross-country team and ran himself for Waterloo Harriers. John played baseball in the Summer and started orienteering at Thurstaston Common on the Wirral on 9 May 1971; an event to which he took a coach party from his school. That party included Graham Nilson (a founding member of MEROC, now with DEE) and Andy Taylor, who now does his orienteering in New Zealand. It was during this period that John met Dick Keighley (WIM) and John Burrows (KERNO) (JSB) who were also teachers at the school. It was JSB who was responsible for introducing JB to orienteering. In Oct 1968 JSB says that



when teaching at Kirby (just outside Liverpool) he went on a weekend course for teachers staged in the Lake District by Gerry Charnley to introduce orienteering. JSB immediately took the sport up. In Sept 1970 JSB moved schools and joined JB and Dick at Waterloo Grammar School. They both learnt of the sport from JSB at Waterloo Grammar School.

John did mountain leadership courses and moved to be deputy head of Maths at Tividale Comprehensive School in the West Midlands (1972-76). He introduced orienteering at this school and took groups to Arran in the Summer holidays.

In 1972 undertook a CSE in Computer Science and in 1976 he left teaching to pursue a career in IT. He had a year as a freelance programmer before being appointed as Programming Manager and Lecturer in Computer Science at Warley College of Technology in Sandwell.

Between 1982 and 1990, John was in a partnership called 'ABM computers' on the Warwick Road, Tysley. The business was an Apple dealer and had its highs but some terrible lows as well. At the end of 1989, John bought out his partner and started John Bennison Computer Services. He extended from Apple support into Windows support, the latter being more profitable as Windows failed so often to deliver. Only in the past few years did he reduce his workload and start calling himself 'retired'.

John had an eye for detail and an ability to read, digest and summarise that most of us can but envy. He produced 'O' Club yearbooks, Regional hand books, Controllers' and Planners' check lists and detailed event safety briefings. He was an experienced Grade 1 Planner and Controller and he taught on the Major Event Officials courses. He also organised and presented WMOA courses for Grade 2 and 3 Planners, Controllers and Organisers and for those needing to programme or use the SI kit. Whilst John did organise events; he excelled at planning and controlling. He was an early supporter and enthusiast for 'Trail-O' and the day that he died, Dick Keighley (WIM) and Pat McLeod (NGOC) had discussed asking John to control the British 'Trail-O' Champs at BOC 2015. For the WMOA John served as the Co-ordinator of Controllers, email tree manager and the Data Protection/Privacy officer for many years. His last controlling activity was the Compass Sport Cup Final on Moseley Hill, Forest of Dean, in October 2013.

John sought to contribute to BOF and was short listed for the post of Assistant Secretary General in 1999 and then again for the post of Executive Officer Administration in 2004. As a teacher, John was interested in Junior development. He worked with Peter Palmer (WCH) on the development of the WM Schools' OA and trained as an orienteer instructor (the original BOF Coaching qualification). In 1992 John organised the HOC Juniors, led by Amy Fauset in running the first orienteering event at Woodgate Valley on a map produced by Chris Shaw (BUOC). He gave the Juniors all the training they needed for managing the event and he was the only adult helping at the event. John

also organised a number of Junior tours in the UK and abroad. Mapping was something that John also undertook including training others in the use of OCAD, PICOVER and Condes. His last mapping project was Hilltop and Manwood in 2013.

John competed in many KIMM events starting, I believe, in 1972 and he was still competing as late as 1995. He ran the A class with Wendy Dodds (BUOC) for 5 of these events and his best result was as the first mixed pair on the A course in the Cheviots KIMM in 1974.

Wendy noted, *"I have been reminiscing about the 1974 KIMM in the Cheviots with John as it was returning there 40 years on in 2014, though it had been there in 1988 and 2002 also. That was the night you filled the pan with water so we would not have to get out of the tent in the morning. We thought it had tipped over in the night as we couldn't see any water in it the morning till we realised it had frozen solid! At least in 2014's OMM the pan of water did not freeze on Saturday night but it was very windy."*

Having only started orienteering in 1971, it seems amazing that John controlled the KIMM on Arran in 1980. As well as controlling, John was responsible for introducing computers to this event for entries and results and I believe he did the programming for the event himself. Although the results were significantly delayed in their appearance, he nevertheless established the value of using computers for such events.

John was introduced to Nordic skiing by his good friend Alan Mason who was the Manager of the BOF Squad between 1975 and 1981. With little snow in the UK, it was to Norway that they went. John took part in a number of KIMM ski events in Norway (1979 and 1980) and organised one himself too.

As well as skiing, John holidayed in Norway, including a HOC Junior tour. He stayed at Rod Tuck's lodge at Kvitavatn and also went to the Midnight Sun orienteering races in northern Norway. John had a long standing love for Norway and had hoped to move there permanently when his family commitments permitted.

Carole Sparke (HOC)

Quiz No. 2**John Heaton (POTOC)****Questions**

1. What is the link between The Potteries, The Black Country and The National Memorial Arboretum?
2. In the Memorial Arboretum there is a large copse planted by Tilhill Forestry. It comprises entirely of Sessile Oak, representing each of the 2535 British Merchant vessels that were sunk in conflict during Second World War. When would you say they were planted? (the RH photo is this Summer).



3. I would guess that Staffordshire must be the most popular county for orienteering clubs on the basis of the number who have a mapped area within the county. How many?
4. On a clear day it is possible to see the summit of Snowdon from The Wrekin. True or False?
5. Where are these Open Orienteering Maps showing?



6. The Oak family is not the most common broadleaf British Tree. True or False?
7. A compass purchased in UK will not work in Australia. True or False?
8. Jan Kjellstöm's father founded Silva Compasses. True or False?
9. At a recent BOF endorsed 'Red Bull' sponsored Adventure Orienteering Score event at Sherwood Forest competitors had to use Archery skills to gain bonus points. True or false?

(Answers on page 18)

Junior European Cup (JEC) October 2014**Julie Emmerson (OD)**

This year Great Britain took a full team to the Junior European Cup which was held in Belgium. GB don't usually take a team because it is a weird time of year for racing (it does not sit well with most orienteers' annualised training plans) so it is mainly an opportunity for experience. On the Friday we did a model training event in the morning in preparation for both the Long and the Relay. The terrain was lovely, runnable, forested sand dunes. In the evening the Sprint race took place in the town of Lommel. It was fairly straightforward but I didn't have the speed to compete with the top runners. I was running up to W20 because there were more W18s than 20s in the GB team, and maybe I would have had a better result in the W18 class.

The next day was the Long race. The terrain was fairly flat and runnable so the courses were very long: 10.2km straight-line for the W20s; rather less for the W18s! It was also very hot and there were some large areas of sand that were very hard to run through. Altogether it was a very tough race. I was amongst the many who made silly mistakes in the final loop through exhaustion. Another average result but lots of positives to take away. The final race was the Relay (18s and 20s mixed). I ran 2nd leg and went out in 6th

place (but 1 team had mis-punched so we were actually 5th), about 30 seconds behind 4th/5th and 2 minutes behind the top 3 with plenty more right on my tail. I led a small group for the first 3 controls and then we caught some runners in front and I settled into the pack before leading the whole pack for a few more controls. It is very satisfying to lead a pack of Scandinavians! It was very hard to tell what was going on as there were lots of people around and lots of 'gaffling'. After the spectator control the pack split slightly on 'gaffles' and my half got ahead. The girls in front had a small miss at the second to last control so I was 1st into it! I handed over 2nd in the pack and 3rd overall - there was a Swedish team with a big lead. My last leg then did a great job to bring us home in 5th, only being beaten by one team each from Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Switzerland (countries can have up to 4 teams). It was such a fun area for a relay, a really exciting race and an amazing result! It was a mixed weekend but at this point I hadn't even started my Winter training so I wasn't expecting much and it is more valuable international experience.

(This article first appeared in 'The Droober' November 2014).

National Squad Selections

British Orienteering has announced the names of the 2015 Talent and Performance Squads. Congratulations to the five Octavian Droobers who have been selected to receive additional sports specific training to become world class athletes.

Matthew Elkington (M20) is in the Watch Squad.

Harrison McCartney (M16), Nathan Lawson (M18) and Julie Emmerson (W20) are in the Talent Squad.

Will Gardner (M21) is in the Development Squad.

Orienteering from a Non-Orienteering Mum's Perspective

Kimberley Lunn

On a cold, wet and muddy Saturday in November 2 years ago, I was on the sidelines at a school cross country race. Watching Felix and Oliver sprint towards the finish line their head teacher mentioned that she thought orienteering might be a sport for them both to consider. She said to me: "there's a local club, it's got a funny name which I can't remember, 'Google' it and go along."

Orienteering? I didn't know anything about orienteering apart from a vague recollection of unsuccessfully running through a wood looking for numbered posts during a PE lesson many years ago. However, always up for a new challenge and offering my family new experiences, I took the head's advice and 'Googled'. Octavian Droobers appeared on the screen and, as fate would have it, their next event was just 2 miles up the road at Abbey Fields!

We arrived on the said day, registered and were made to feel so welcome. Felix was the only one game for the course that day and after we'd waved him off, the rest of us headed to the park, not really sure what time he would arrive back - 1 hour? 2 hours? Or was this an all day event? I really wasn't sure!

Within 15 minutes I could see him heading towards me... this couldn't be a good sign... I looked for signs of distress or panic on his face.... all I could see was a large grin... What would possibly be wrong, why was he back so early? He thrust a 'shopping list' type print out into my hands- 13 minutes 11, I found all the controls! Can I do it again? he gasped breathlessly. In the weeks that followed, we slowly learnt the ropes and one by one all four of my children 'got bitten by the orienteering bug.' And what an infectious bug it is....

We have seen breath-taking parts of the Midlands and travelled as far as the Scottish Borders. Places we would never have had the opportunity to visit, never mind compete at. Christmas and birthday lists are now full of

orienteering kit essentials, weekends are planned around events or training sessions and tactics are discussed in the car on the way. The chat on the route home tends to be a dissection of the course and how they would run it differently next time. I believe that there is a plot amongst the four of them to persuade us to take them away to the Lakes for Easter next year!! We most probably will oblige because even as non-orienteers, we enjoy it all too. I still can't quite believe that on New Year's Day, I found myself running through knee deep puddles, in the pouring rain, motivating a 9 year old at a score event after only 3 hours sleep!

The freedom and independence that orienteering offers Felix, Oliver, Tabitha and Florence has been so good for them to develop skills that support other parts of their lives. They also love being part of such a close knit, supportive, friendly, competitive team who take an interest in their performance and encourage them along the way.

A friend asked me why I let my children run off into the woods on their own with only a compass and a map for company. Was I not worried about their safety? Momentarily, I felt like the most negligent mother on this planet- what was I doing? However, the rational side of me kicked in and we have always gone home with the same number of children that we started with and isn't that what a whistle is for?

Over the last couple of years we have had our fair share of disappointment, mis-punches and map frustration but we have also had plenty of 'highs' with sheer exhilaration, podium places, team participation and successful finishes.

Orienteering and Octavian Droobers have become a wonderful, enriching part of our lives and you never know, one day Philip and I might actually be brave enough to try an Orange!

(This article first appeared in 'The Droober' November 2014).

Quiz Answers

1. The River Trent from Stoke and the River Tame, the principal river through Birmingham , join in the grounds of the Arboretum.
2. The Trees were planted in 1999.
3. There are 8 clubs in the county. As well the West Midland club (excluding COBOC.....at least I don't think they have one) some of the neighbouring clubs sneak over the border. There may be others but DVO have at least one, at Ilam on the Staffordshire side of the River Dove, MDOC have a map of The Cloud (they call it Bosley Cloud) which straddles the Staffordshire/Cheshire border, and finally BAOC have several areas of Army land mapped including the Leek Moors map which POTO have used.
4. False, although the viewpoint monument may say differently. The 2000' + Berwyn Hills block the view . However, I do know that the mountain can be seen from Shining Tor on MDOC's Goyt Valley map.
5. The first is Buckingham Palace and the second is the Forth Bridges, showing the construction site of the second road crossing. 'Open Orienteering Map,' for those who do not know, is an online map converted from the 'Wikipedia Open Street map'.
6. It is difficult to say. The latest Forestry Commission data is 15 years old and this is based on acreage of dominant species. Using those parameters the Oak is the most dominant at 23%. So you could say True is the answer to the question.
7. In a way this is true. The North side a of needle has a tendency to tip downwards slightly due to magnetic pull of the earth. When produced the South end of the needle will be counterbalanced to offset this. However, lower down in Southern Hemisphere the gravitational pulls in on the South end of needle. Hence the needle will be a the best very slow to respond.
8. True. Alvar Kjellström was one of the three co-founders of the company in 1933 with his brothers, Arvid and Björn.
9. True. 126 people turned out. There may have been more but for an area embargo for anyone wishing to compete in 2015 CompassSport Cup Heat to be held there. There was an amazing £2000.00 prize fund on offer.

British Schools Score Championships

The BSOA Score Championships were hosted by HOC at Arrow Valley Country Park on 11 October 2014.

Team Winners.

Primary Boys	Oakridge Primary School	Primary Girls	Oakridge Primary School
Middle Prep Boys	St Andrew's School, Pangbourne	Middle Prep Girls	St Andrew's School, Pangbourne
Lower Secondary Boys	Torquay Boy's Grammar	Lower Secondary Girls	Walton High School
Upper Secondary Boys	Torquay Boy's Grammar	Upper Secondary Girls	King Henry VIII Senior

The West Midlands League 2014

Final Positions

1. OD 7240				2. WCH 6953				3. WRE 6803			
A	Sam Leadley	M14	500	A	Holly Craig	W12	458	A	Molly Parker	W12	457
A	Stephen Elkington	M18	500	A	Charlotte Cairns-Smith	W12	433	A	Jessica Parker	W14	440
B	Alistair Powell	M35	500	B	Iain Stamp	M21	500	B	Clive Richardson	M45	491
B	Chris McCartney	M45	490	B	Allan Williams	M45	491	B	Tony Callow	M45	475
C	Barry Elkington	M55	484	C	Andrew Yeates	M50	500	C	Richard Pay	M50	483
C	David Leadley	M50	466	C	Ray Collins	M55	452	C	Andrew Clough	M50	425
D	Anne Straube	W35	500	D	Cath Williams	W40	492	D	Delia Kingsbury	W45	499
D	Suzanne Humphries	W50	500	D	Tracy Craig	W45	444	D	Diane Jacks	W45	470
E	Peter Carey	M70	500	E	Hazel Waters	W60	500	E	Brian Morris	M70	467
E	Roger Hailey	M75	500	E	Jonathan Howell	M60	472	E	Derek Turner	M75	459
F	Florence Lunn	W10	500	F	Bob Dredge	M60	469	F	Sharron Richardson	W40	443
F	Sheila Carey	W65	500	F	Chris Boycott	M70	461	F	Jamie Grimsdale	M18	437
F	Hilary Simpson	W75	496	F	Carol Dredge	W55	437	F	Noreen Turner	W70	427
F	Felix Lunn	M12	492	F	Matt Mardling	M45	423	F	Steve Parker	M40	417
F	Robert Brandon	M65	492	F	Alison Yeates	W45	421	F	Roy Lindsell	M70	413
4. HOC 6470				5. POTO 4649				6. COBOC 2022			
A	Sebastian Mitchell	M10	500	A	Enys Lloyd	M10	304	B	Ian Gamlen	M45	255
A	Arthur Mitchell	M10	451	A	Ewan Lloyd	M14	300	B	Andrew Sadler	M21	78
B	Ian Hopkins	M45	461	B	Martin Pigott	M35	376	C	David James	M55	84
B	Adrian Bailey	M45	364	B	Graham Pigott	M21	240	D	Yvonne Feasey	W50	158
C	John Embrey	M55	496	C	Dave Bales	M55	248	E	Ruth Lockley	W60	364
C	Paul Hammond	M50	366	C	Gerry Riley	M55	239	E	David Arnot	M65	301
D	Barbara Ford	W55	293	D	Ianka Petrova Evans	W45	367	F	Joan Norris	W60	281
D	Julia Wilkinson	W55	232	D	Elizabeth Bales	W50	270	F	Mick Sadler	M65	225
E	Alison Sloman	W75	500	E	Jean Rostron	W70	441	F	Toby Norris	M75	109
E	John Pearson	M65	491	E	Henry Morgan	M60	422				
F	Colin Spears	M75	490	F	Judy Douglas	W70	379				
F	Geoff Trewin	M60	481	F	Barbara Farr	W70	292				
F	Barry Houghton	M65	471	F	Peter Yoxall	M65	289				
F	Michael Baggott	M60	449	F	Marian Denham	W65	268				
F	Brian Hughes	M65	425	F	John Pigott	M65	214				

2014 Events

Jan 12	Brandon Woods	OD	Jun 8	Titterstone Clee	HOC
Jan 19	Sandwell Valley	HOC	Jul 13	Bructon & Malvern Park	OD
Feb 2	Beauesert	WCH	Oct 19	Dudmaston	HOC
Apr 27	Breakneck Bank	HOC	Nov 23	Nesscliffe Country Park	WRE
May 11	Mansty Woods	WCH	Nov 30	Chillington Hall	WCH

Individual Class Leaders

M10	Sebastian Mitchell	HOC	500	W10	Florence Lunn	OD	500
M12	Felix Lunn	OD	492	W12	Holly Craig	WCH	458
M14	Sam Leadley	OD	500	W14	Jessica Parker	WRE	440
M16	Harrison McCartney	OD	398	W16	Gemma Cairns-Smith	WCH	390
M18	Stephen Elkington	OD	500	W18	Beatrice Falga	OD	200
M20	Matthew Elkington	OD	199	W20	Harriet Lawson	OD	160
M21	Iain Stamp	WCH	500	W21	Katie Lewis	WRE	331
M35	Alistair Powell	OD	500	W35	Anne Straube	OD	500
M40	Tom Jeffries	OD	446	W40	Cath Williams	WCH	492
M45	Clive Richardson	WRE	491	W45	Delia Kingsbury	WRE	499
	Allan Williams	WCH	491				
M50	Andrew Yeates	WCH	500	W50	Suzanne Humphries	OD	500
M55	John Embrey	HOC	496	W55	Carol Dredge	WCH	437
M60	Ian Prowse	OD	490	W60	Hazel Waters	WCH	500
M65	Robert Brandon	OD	492	W65	Sheila Carey	OD	500
M70	Peter Carey	OD	500	W70	Jean Rostron	POTOC	441
					Sue Bicknell	OD	441
M75	Roger Hailey	OD	500	W75	Alison Sloman	HOC	497
M80	Norman Hall	WCH	300	W80	Beryl Pay	WRE	240

2015 Events

Jan 11	Hartshill Hayes	OD	Jun 21	Brockhampton	HOC
Feb 7	Longdon Woods	HOC	Oct 4	Chatterley Whitfield	POTOC
Feb 8	The Wrekin	WRE	Oct 25	Shoal Hill	WCH
Mar 8	Highgate Commom	HOC	Nov 1	Haughmond Hill	WRE
Mar 29	Satnall Hills	WCH	Dec 6	Brandon Wood	OD
Jun 7	Shuckborough Hall	OD	Dec 13	Badgerslade	WCH

West Midlands Galoppen/West Midlands League Past Results

Year	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1979	WCH 1999	WRE 1987	OD 1812	POTOC 1620	HOC 1210	SOLOS 1090	
1980	OD 3294	WCH 3281	WRE 3193	HOC 3100	POTOC 2653	SOLOS 1697	
1981	WRE 3417	OD 3261	HOC 3169	POTOC 3097	WCH 3008	SOLOS 1477	
1982	OD 3550	WRE 3481	WCH 3255	HOC 3218	POTOC 3139	SOLOS 1896	
1983	OD 3358	WRE 3328	WCH 3281	HOC 3211	POTOC 3171	SOLOS 1896	
1984	OD 3263	POTOC 3239	WCH 3187	WRE 2959	HOC 2926		
1985	OD 3275	WRE 3263	WCH 3142	POTOC 2919	HOC 2899		
1986	Not Held						
1987	WCH 1745	WRE 1687	HOC 1654	OD 1632	POTOC 1338		
1988	WCH 4763	WRE 4663	OD 4661	HOC 4362	POTOC 2751		
1989	WCH 4866	WRE 4749	OD 4735	HOC 4700	POTOC 3747		
1990	WCH 7133	OD 7038	WRE 6967	HOC 6851	POTOC 4297		
1991	OD 7348	WCH 7288	WRE 6970	HOC 6959	POTOC 5964		
1992	OD 7242	WCH 7238	HOC 6989	WRE 6917	POTOC 5498		
1993	OD 7175	WCH 7015	HOC 6800	WRE 6733	POTOC 5099	WYE 4768	
1994	WCH 7216	HOC 7187	WRE 7118	OD 7009	COBOC 4719	WYE 4654	POTOC 4589
1995	OD 7303	HOC 7211	WRE 7195	WCH 6767	WYE 5689	COBOC 5239	POTOC 3402
1996	WCH 7167	WRE 7095	OD 7034	HOC 6998	COBOC 5094	WYE 4307	POTOC 2982
1997	WCH 7372	OD 7044	HOC 7013	WRE 6022	POTOC 5128	COBOC 4956	WYE 3956
1998	WCH 7352	HOC 7052	OD 6911	WRE 6432	COBOC 5063	POTOC 4905	WYE 2973
1999	WCH 7399	OD 7248	HOC 7160	WRE 6551	COBOC 5576	POTOC 4535	WYE 3480
2000	WCH 7146	HOC 6997	OD 6890	WRE 6657	COBOC 4774	POTOC 4117	WYE 1814
2001	WCH 4371	HOC 4271	OD 4035	WRE 3932	COBOC 3120	POTOC 2504	WYE 372
2002	WCH 7020	HOC 6957	OD 6644	WRE 5951	COBOC 4991	POTOC 3985	WYE 607
2003	HOC 6888	OD 6688	WCH 6532	WRE 6008	COBOC 5612	POTOC 3178	
2004	HOC 7011	OD 6850	WCH 6714	WRE 6040	COBOC 4522	POTOC 2858	
2005	OD 7208	HOC 7079	WCH 6965	WRE 5834	COBOC 3336	POTOC 2943	
2006	HOC 7252	OD 6964	WCH 6632	WRE 5686	POTOC 3904	COBOC 2273	
2007	OD 7161	HOC 6947	WCH 6232	WRE 5418	POTOC 2631	COBOC 1849	
2008	OD 7202	WCH 6854	HOC 6497	WRE 5765	POTOC 3857	COBOC 2080	
2009	OD 7242	WCH 6921	HOC 6368	WRE 4792	POTOC 3558	COBOC 2779	
2010	OD 7203	HOC 6350	WCH 6188	WRE 5288	POTOC 3967	COBOC 2169	
2011	OD 7088	HOC 6657	WCH 5982	WRE 5980	POTOC 5186	COBOC 1423	
2012	OD 7234	HOC 6785	WCH 6566	WRE 6521	POTOC 5516	COBOC 2392	
2013	OD 6970	WRE 6719	HOC 6314	WCH 5987	POTOC 3862	COBOC 1703	
2014	OD 7240	WCH 6953	WRE 6803	HOC 6470	POTOC 4649	COBOC 2022	

SOLOS were the Solihull Orienteering Society and WYE were Wye Valley Orienteers.

West Midlands Urban League



2015 Events

Date	Event Venue	Club
21 March	Sutton Campus	COBOC
28 March	University of Warwick	OD
17 May	Lichfield	WCH
28 June	Ludlow	WRE
6 September	Redditch	HOC

The first West Midlands Urban League was completed in October with the final two rounds being held at Stafford and Redditch by WCH and HOC respectively.

Rather disappointingly nobody competed in all four events and many of the junior categories were shared between up to 3 competitors.

Full results and tables can be found on the UK Urban League website at:

<http://urbanleague.nopesport.com/scoring/>

2014 Events

Date	Event Venue	Club
21 May	Kenilworth	OD
31 August	Bridgnorth	WRE
12 October	Stafford	WCH
25 October	Redditch	HOC

2014 Winners

Junior Men (M12-)	Matthew Durman Adam Mardling	IND WCH	Junior Women (W12-)	Holly Elliott Nick Maynard Holly Stodgell	IND WRE WCH
Junior Men (M16-)	Alfie Bullus George Hughes Callum Pearson	OD WCH OD	Junior Women (W16-)	Ellie Bales Holly Glover Jessica Parker	POTOC OD WRE
Open Men	Tom Lewis	WRE	Open Women	Anne Straube	OD
Veteran Men (M40+)	Chris McCartney	OD	Veteran Women (W40+)	Delia Kingsbury	WRE
Super Veteran Men (M55+)	Rod Postlethwaite	WRE	Super Veteran Women (W55+)	Lesley Brown	HOC
Ultra Veteran Men (M65+)	Peter Carey	OD	Ultra Veteran Women (W65+)	Sheila Carey	OD

WMOA Fixtures

January to April 2015

Please note all Fixtures are correct at the time of publishing. Please check club websites for further details.

January

17	WRE Level C	WRE Local Event Telford Town Park	Telford	SJ704079
22	HOC Level D	HOC Winter Evening Event (WEE) Worcester Woods Country Park	Worcester	SO878542
28	COBOC Level D	COBOC Night Street Event Clifton Road Outdoor Learning Centre	Sutton Coldfield	
31	OD Level D	OD Local Event Itchington Holt	Long Itchington	SP366558

February

5	HOC Level D	HOC Night Street League King George V Fields	Worcester	SO862562
7	HOC Level C	HOC Event & WMOA League 2 Longdon, Wyre Forest	Bewdley	SO753779
7	POTOC Level D	POTOC Leisure and Training Event Apedale Country Park	Newcastle	SJ822483
8	WRE Level C	WRE 40th Anniversary Event & WMOA League 3 The Wrekin	Telford	
12	HOC Level D	HOC Winter Evening Event (WEE) Shire Oak Country Park	Walsall	SK057039
14	HOC Level D	HOC Western Night League Hope End	Ledbury	SO720416
15	WCH Level A	Midland Championships Cannock Chase	Cannock	
19	HOC Level D	HOC Night Street League West Bromwich	West Bromwich	SP004910
21	OD Level D	OD Local Event Elmdon Park	Solihull	SP161828
25	COBOC Level D	COBOC Night Sevens Clifton Road Outdoor Learning Centre	Sutton Coldfield	
26	HOC Level D	HOC Winter Evening Event (WEE) Final Burlish Top	Kidderminster	SO808738

March

7	POTOC Level D	POTOC Leisure and Training Event Consall Scout Camp	Longton Stoke-on-Trent	SP06276
7	COBOC Level D	The John Bennison Memorial Event Hilltop and Manwood	West Bromwich	SO776421
8	HOC Level C	HOC Event & WMOA League 4 Highgate Common	Wombourne	SO838902
14	WRE Level D	Madeley Court 40 Challenge Madeley Court	Telford	SJ694051
15	COBOC Level D	CompassSport Cup/Trophy Heat Eastnor & South Malverns	Ledbury	SO730360
19	HOC Level D	HOC Night Street League Spennels, Kidderminster	Kidderminster	SO845745
21	COBOC Level D	Sutton Campus Short Urban Event BMET Sutton College	Sutton Coldfield	SO845745
22	OD Level B	OD Level B Event Bentley Woods	Atherstone	SP291966
25	COBOC Level D	COBOC Twilight Sevens Clifton Road Outdoor Learning Centre	Sutton Coldfield	
26	POTOC Level D	Staffordshire Schools Championships Hanley Forest Park	Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent	SJ886487
28	OD Level C	OD Local Event & WMOA Urban League University of Warwick	Coventry	SP298766
29	WCH Level C	WCH Colour-Coded & WMOA League 5 Shugborough & Satnall Hills	Stafford	SP298766

April

11	WRE Level C	WMOA Park Championships Lilleshall National Sports Centre	Newport	SP298766
12	HOC Level C	HOC Event Kinver Edge	Stourbridge	SO837828
15	OD Level D	OD Local Event Memorial Park	Coventry	SP321772
22	OD Level D	OD Local Event Borough Hill	Daventry	SP583617
25	POTOC Level D	POTOC Leisure and Training Event Hanchurch Hills	Trentham, Stoke-on-Trent	SJ839398
26	WCH Level C	Yvette Baker Trophy Heat Mansty Wood	Cannock	
29	COBOC Level D	COBOC Sevens Clifton Road Outdoor Learning Centre	Sutton Coldfield	
29	OD Level D	OD Local Event Rough Close	Coventry	SP265785