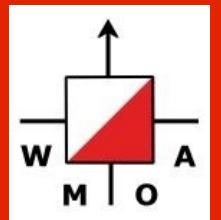


# ***The West Midlander***

**Spring/ Summer 2018**



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



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*Cover Photo:*

*Which way is it? West Midlands Junior Squad Sprint training at Sheffield*

*Photo by Kirsten Strain (OD).*



## Editorial

Firstly, an apology - I missed the Spring edition altogether so welcome to a combined Spring and Summer issue. The reason for missing it was that I have been very busy mapping and just haven't had any spare time whatsoever.

Since I last wrote this column the JK has been and gone and pretty impressive it was too! Thanks to Andy Yeates and everyone else who contributed. I have written a brief report of the event on page 22.

My article on the previous JKs in the Winter issue attracted a bit of attention and appeared in the April edition of CompassSport (Vol.39 Issue2). It also attracted the attention of Chris Boycott (WCH) who was one of the helpers back in 1972 and he highlighted a couple of mistakes I'd made in my research. To set the record straight he kindly wrote an article which appears on page 25.

It's certainly been a scorching Summer so far after all the rain we had over Winter and Spring and things are hotting up in the West Midlands Urban League too. This year there are 6 events on the calendar with every club contributing. The League kicked off at Rugby followed by a run around the historic city of Lichfield. Next was a two part Sprint on the JK reserve area of Birmingham University and then it was great to see the effort put in by the region's smallest club COBOC and, in particular the mapper Bob Scott, in putting on an event at Sutton Coldfield. The League concludes in September with a weekend of Urban by WRE and POTO at Whitchurch and Hanley. I have made both maps for the weekend so you know who to blame!!!

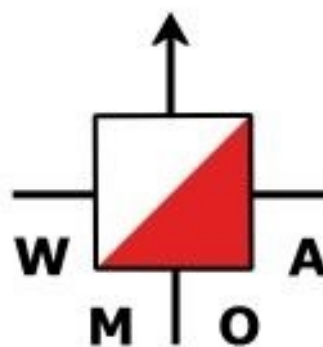
WCH are also holding, and competing in, the CompassSport Cup on 21 September. Good luck to Chasers and POTO.

Happy Orienteering

Rod

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**WMOA Chairman's Chat****Ray Collins**

What a fantastic JK we had in the West Midlands, a great big thank you to everybody who helped in one way or another in a major or minor role for your time and effort. I must especially thank Andy and Alison Yeates, Bob Dredge and Eric Brown for their Herculean effort in putting the whole show together. The accounts are almost settled and your club should be receiving a nice contribution to clubs funds soon. Thank you very much to all of you who helped make the weekend a fantastic success despite the mud.

From the rain, wind and mud of the JK we are now going through a very long, hot and above all dry period. From the wettest Spring to the driest Summer in one bound. All

events I have been to recently have been very hot and sticky, I hope the weather holds for the Lakes 5 Day. I have just looked at the course lengths and M60s have 8km on Day 4!

There is one more committee meeting to go (in September) and then at the AGM in October my term as your Chairman will be over. The WMOA are seeking a new Chairperson to take over from me (surely **YOU** could do a better job). We are also seeking a new Secretary as Delia has decided to step aside as well. Is this a role you could take on? If you fancy either role or just being on the committee I/we are happy to talk to you about the ins and outs of the role.

In case you are wondering what has happened to the West Midland Relays this year they are taking place in Sutton Park at the end of October. Not, in my opinion, a suitable date for relays with all the hanging around waiting and cheering. Can we go back to Summer for the event please?

See you in a forest somewhere but not before I have holidayed at the Lakes 5, two weeks in Spain and two weeks in Italy. Ah retirement!

**Ray Collins**

**Minutes of WMOA Committee Meeting 19 March 2018****Great Barr Hotel**

1. **Present:** R. Collins, B. Elkington, I. Gamlen, J. Howells, D. Kingsbury, R. Lewis, H. Morgan, R. Postlethwaite, M. White, A. Williams, P. Hart (British Orienteering).
2. **Apologies:** M. Elkington, A. Johnson, B. Morgan, K. Strain.
3. **Declarations of Interest:** None.
4. **Acceptance of Minutes (Sept 2017):** The minutes were accepted as a true record.
5. **Matters Arising:** None.

**6. Correspondence:**

Mike's eNews 21 December 2017 covering Governance, GDPR, EGM and Club and Association Conference and insurance.

Notification of the British Orienteering AGM.

Information about Employer Liability Insurance.

Information about GDPR.

All forwarded to clubs as received.

**7. Chairman's Report:**

Peter Hart (British Orienteering) and Jonathan Howells (WCH) were welcomed to the meeting.

The JK is rapidly approaching and it was understood that all preparations were in hand, although there was no-one from the JK organising team present to provide an update. The Compass Sport Cup and Trophy event had recently been staged by WRE at Nesscliffe. Congratulations to POTO for winning the Trophy heat. In the Cup DEE knocked out OD. R. Collins advised the meeting that he was coming to the end of his third term as the Chairman of WMOA and a replacement will be needed this Autumn.

**8. Treasurer's Report:**

I. Gamlen presented the accounts.

There is still £700 to pay to the WMJS by the end of the year. Whilst the WMJS have a healthy bank balance they are now spending this money.

It was believed that the entry numbers for JK2018 were as budgeted and thus some income could be anticipated although it may be some time before JK accounts are finalised.

Income from event levy was ahead of projection.

**ACTION:** D. Kingsbury to ask R. Dredge if he might be able to audit the WMOA accounts.

**9. Fixtures:**

There was no formal update re JK2018; A. Williams reported that he believed preparations were on track and noted that WMOA was next scheduled to host the JK in 2028. The following points were fed back following the ESG meeting held on 10 March 2018:

Some fixtures had been shuffled as NIOA have deferred the British Sprint and Middles from 2021 to 2022. A host club is needed for the 2021 events.

An organising club is needed for the British Night Championships in 2021. This is due to be held by the WMOA and clubs are asked to consider whether they could organise this.

There are several forthcoming UKOL Urban events in the Midlands - ESG are asking for a Classic race.

WMOA are to liaise more widely with neighbouring regions to try to avoid clashing events.

Organisers are required for the Peter Palmer Relays in 2019 and for the CSC Final in 2021.

The meeting was reminded that WMOA should be approving event officials for Level B events.

Adrian Pickles (WRE) has offered his place of work as a venue for the next Major Events Conference to bring together officials, past and future, for JK and British Championships.

The 5 year event forward plan is to be updated, agreed with the Fixtures Group and then circulated.

The next WM League event will be on 6 May, at Shoal Hill and not Mansty as has previously been listed.

The 2017 Urban League was concluded with the Castle Vale event being lost due to bad weather. As it is to be used as the 2017 UKUL Final, runners will retain last year's age classes. As such it is not suitable for inclusion in the 2018 WM Urban League.

The proposed changes in alignment of age classes and colour coded courses to be run for the WM League, as proposed by Barry McGowan, were discussed. Some clubs reported the wish to leave the age classes as they were and others were split. There was no mandate for change. As such the proposals will not be considered further.

The Midland Championship scheduled for the previous weekend had been cancelled due to snow and possibilities for an event to include the championship were discussed. If the regions agree, ESG support will also be needed.

**ACTION:** A. Williams to contact EMOA and EAOA to seek their views.

The proposal from Barry Elkington regarding the carrying of whistles was discussed. The requirement for whistles to be compulsory was made before Urban and Sprint races became popular. A more appropriate approach would be to consider the requirement in the Risk Assessment, much like the wearing of cagoules. However, if it is a requirement to carry a whistle the organisers should ensure that competitors carry one. HOC and WRE reported that their clubs supported the OD proposal. POTOC, WCH and COBOC have yet to discuss this matter.

P. Hart commented that people new to orienteering are likely to start with Urban events and youngsters may face a greater threat in an urban environment. The general consensus was that an effective risk analysis defining the requirement for the event area was key. This is to be discussed further when feedback from other clubs is available and will also be included on the 2018 AGM agenda.

#### **10. West Midlander:**

The next magazine will be post-JK once minutes from the meeting are received. Articles are being sent to the editor, but all articles and photographs are welcome.

**11. WMOA Website:** A. Johnson is no longer able to attend WMOA meetings but is happy to continue to update the website remotely.

#### **12. Development:**

H. Morgan reported that there had been good attendance at the Planner's Course in October. An Event Safety Course had been delivered in December. An Organiser's Course is now needed - possibly in June. It was requested that clubs ensured that there was more emphasis on

ensuring event officials had attended the relevant training courses. There was some discussion about the ability to check the courses that club members had attended - there should be members in all clubs who can access this data on the British Orienteering database. Clubs to check.

H. Morgan knows of some Controllers needing a course and will be seeking the support of Bob Brandon. R. Lewis volunteered to assist running a Controller's Course alongside an established trainer.

**ACTION:** R. Postlethwaite to include information in the 'West Midlander' about accessing data on the BOF database to check for information about courses attended.

OD had requested medals for the Schools Championships - H. Morgan had ordered these.

M. White presented an initiative from HOC to encourage youngsters to participate. Youngsters who successfully complete Colour Coded courses would be given a corresponding coloured wristband for courses white to green. The wristbands would be printed with 'orienteering'. HOC are to proceed with this but wondered if other clubs would be interested as printing larger numbers of wristbands is more cost effective.

The place of the current badge scheme was discussed though the wristbands have benefit as the reward is more instant than the badge scheme. The general feeling was that the idea had merit.

OD fed back that their teenagers' view was that wristbands were no longer 'cool' so this might be better targeted at younger participants.

For Explorer stickers are provided.

The thing to guard against is the youngsters' desire for progression that may not be within their capability.

**ACTION:** All clubs to discuss and feedback to M. White as soon as possible.

### 13. Events and Competitions Committee:

There was no update.

### 14. EOC AGM - R. Collins agreed to attend.

15. **GDPR** - Information had been circulated from BOF and clubs need to heed the advice to ensure that they are compliant. Entry forms may need to be updated to show how the data is used. British Orienteering will be deleting all data apart from name and age after four years. OD had a simplified checklist of requirements - to be circulated to other clubs. For WMOA the key updates are to the Data Privacy Policy on the website and it was agreed that this should be included in West Midlander annual basis.

**ACTION:** D. Kingsbury to update the WMOA Data Privacy Policy.

### 16. West Midlands Junior Squad:

A WMJS report was read out.

In the 'West Midlander' the report will have its own space to give the achievements of the WMJS more prominence, rather than being included within the minutes from this meeting.

## 17. Club Round up:

**COBOC:** had been included on the BBC 'Inside Out' programme and are running schools and newcomers events. There had been a good turn out at Banners Gate, with the Handsworth Park event coming up.

**HOC:** have a 50th anniversary in April but no events are lined up for this yet. The club prefer local contacts for Forestry and National Trust and have some good working relationships.

The club are contemplating the feasibility of an Urban event to coincide with the Commonwealth games in Birmingham in 2022 and getting such an event into the Euro City Tour. OD reported that they have a similar plan for Coventry in 2021, linking to the City of Culture celebrations.

**OD:** noted that the rules for the New Years Day Score need to be corrected on the website to include the situation of sharing points. B. Elkington to contact A. Johnson.

There was some discussion about timing of event entry closing dates, which ideally should be as close to the event as possible - the recent Midland Championship had closed on Saturday and caught people out. All present agreed that the Sunday prior to an event was preferable and even later if possible. Sprint events might be an exception as time is needed for processing start times. The closing dates should be clearly advertised, including premium rate cut-off dates.

**POTOC:** a joint POC has been developed in Stoke. The club has staged the Staffordshire and Stoke Schools Championship. It is a struggle to engage youngsters from Stoke itself. Hanley Urban is part of the UK League. The summer park series is starting soon.

**WCH:** reported increasing difficulty with access. They are encountering high levels of restriction where Natural England are involved. It seems contradictory when high numbers of individuals can enter an area freely, but for an organised activity permission is required and has many conditions attached. Even running clubs are now encountering restrictions to using paths on The Chase.

Peter Hart reported that the Forestry agreement was outdated, but was wary about entering into discussions to revise the National Agreement as this risked increasing the price for access, when many clubs had local contacts and had reasonable access terms. A student will be tasked with revisiting documentation researching the impact of orienteering on the environment.

**WRE:** had just held a successful event at Lizard Hill and the CSC round at Nesscliffe. Consideration is being given to extending another small woodland area to include adjacent urban, which has been successful. The Summer Series is due to start in April. SinS 2019 events were confirmed as Shrewsbury, Brown Clee and The Wrekin.

## 18. AOB:

Peter Hart - Thanked WMOA for inviting him to the meeting. He will be at the JK to give orienteers the opportunity to meet him and to give their opinion about what British Orienteering should be doing, but so far feels there should be more leadership from BOF. Thoughts about where the sport needs to be in 3+ and 5+ years would be welcome. He was



impressed that an event like the JK was being run entirely by volunteers. The importance of GDPR regulations was emphasised as was attendance at the British Orienteering AGM. British Orienteering may bid for 2022 World Sprint and/ or World Masters Championships.

A new strategy to encourage youngsters into sport is required.

The RAF had a Baton Relay commemorating their centenary, which would be held at MOD Stafford the week before the JK. D. Kingsbury to see whether R. Collins required registration for this event. Club representatives were unaware of any likely attendance from their clubs.

## 19. Next Meeting:

4 June 2018.

## Minutes of WMOA Committee Meeting      4 June 2018      Great Barr Hotel

1. **Present:** R. Collins, R. Dredge, B. Elkington, I. Gamlen, R. Lewis, B. Morgan, H. Morgan, R. Postlethwaite, M. White, A. Williams, A. Yeates.
2. **Apologies:** M. Elkington, K. Holder, J. Howells, A. Johnson, D. Kingsbury.  
Barry Elkington informed the WMOA Committee of the sad news that Ruth Bylett has died recently. The WMOA wished to pass on its sincere condolences to Peter Bylett and his family.
3. **Declarations of Interest:** None.
4. **Acceptance of Minutes (19/03/18):** The minutes were accepted as a true record except:  
Under Chairman's Report - Congratulations to POTO for winning the 1<sup>st</sup> round of the Compass Sport Trophy. (*corrected in the above minutes Ed.*)
5. **Matters Arising:** Under Club round up - HOC - the proposed Birmingham Urban Event to coincide with the Commonwealth Games in 2022 will require collaboration with other WMOA clubs to be successful.

## 6. Correspondence:

- 9 April      Thanks received from Keith Marsden for the donation collected alongside JK entries for donation to support JROS - circulated to all WMOA committee and Andy Yeates.
- 15 April      Minutes from the EOC AGM - circulated to WMOA committee for information.
- 15 April      forwarded details of 2019 coaching conference to club chairs and Henry Morgan.

From Hilary Quick:

*I have asked Scott to send out this email to all British Orienteering coaches - so please look out for it and spread the information in your clubs and regions to others who are not coaches and/or those who help with coaching activities or are in training at the moment. I do not have a coaching contact for the NEOA or WMOA so please could my contacts in these regions pass this information on to interested people?*

*Costs, programme etc. are not yet finalised but you can expect the fee (not including accommodation which people organise for themselves) to be likely to be about £60 - 65 for the two days and £35 - 38 for one day. This is slightly higher than 2 years ago but it is an excellent location. I would hope that clubs/ regional associations would pay the fees/ expenses for coaches who are active.*

*Many thanks,*

*Hilary*

### **British Orienteering Coaching Conference 2019**

Advance notice of dates and venue - more information about the programme and how to book will be available in September.

**Dates:** Saturday 12 January and Sunday 13 January 2019.

**Venue:** University of Nottingham Humanities Building.

28 April - forwarded info about this years British Orienteering Club and Association Conference - date 20 October.

WMOA AGM in October - please ask Rod to put the date (15 October) in the next 'West Midlander' and for club reps to ask if there any issues that the clubs would like to add to the agenda, so that there is opportunity to consider this at our September meeting. Please also inform members that both Ray and Delia are intending to stand down as Chairman and Secretary at the next AGM so please encourage members to consider standing for these positions.

### **7. Chairman's Report:**

What a fantastic JK we had in the West Midlands, a great big thank you to everybody who helped in one way or another in a major or minor role for your time and effort. I must especially thank Andy and Alison Yeates, Bob Dredge and Eric Brown for their Herculean effort in putting the whole show together. Thank you very much.

At the recent British Long Distance Championships the WMOA had some good results:

M21E      2nd      William Gardner (OD)

M65L      1st      Andy Hemsted (HOC)

W40L      2nd      Anne Straube (OD)

W75      2nd      Hilary Simpson (OD)

W70L      3rd      Sheila Carey (OD)

The next day at the Relays the OD Ladies on W40 finished in 3rd place.

At the AGM in October the WMOA will need a new Chairman as my three year term is coming to an end. We will also require a new Secretary as Delia has decided to step down. Please ask around your club for volunteers to fill these positions.

### **8. Treasurer's Report:**

I. Gamlen presented the accounts as of 29/05/18. This shows that both the WMOA account and the WMJS accounts are looking quite healthy. Current account balances as of 29/05/18 are as follows:

WMOA account:    £ 3206.72

WMJS account:    £ 2851.48

## 9. Fixtures:

### **JK 2018 Review** by Andy Yeates (JK 2018 Co-ordinator)

Now that the dust has settled on JK 2018, I can report that I am immensely proud of what the West Midlands have achieved over the four days of Easter. It is a testament to the talents of the officials involved that I was largely superfluous over the weekend and their contribution cannot be overstated. Personally, I must single out Bob Dredge and Eric Brown for special mention as they were the people I relied on most for support and advice when things were not going well.

Permissions and restriction concerns seemed to be a continual irritation, growing into something that threatened to either seriously compromise several days, a situation that was only resolved less than five weeks before the event. My fear is that restrictions will only get more limiting in the coming years. I feel that the WMOA needs its own Environmental Officer to stand a chance of counteracting this trend and I would urge the committee to give it serious consideration.

The Relays were within a hair's breadth of being cancelled on the day due to the severe, adverse weather. It is a testament to the parking team that, not only did the event happen, but it happened on time. The competitors were hugely grateful and that enhanced the overall experience of the weekend.

Entry numbers were higher than budgeted for and spending was lower than budgeted for. These two facts have ensured that the overall profit margin for JK 2018 is very healthy and above expectations. The accounts are not yet closed, so I am reluctant to give out numbers just yet. To compensate clubs for general equipment and SI equipment wear and tear, Bob and I have agreed that a fixed sum will be paid to each club for general equipment and a pro rata sum will be paid to for SI equipment. This is outside of the profit sharing.

It has been reported to me that there wasn't enough cohesion between the days. Officials did not know what to do with items being transferred from one day to the next, for example. If I were to do this again, god forbid, I would assign team leaders to be responsible for Enquiries, Entries, Merchandise, etc. for all days, not just one.

Publicity needed a separate and dedicated person. I think I missed a trick by not getting any non-orienteeing media involved. I can only blame myself as the role of Co-ordinator started as a part-time job, then snowballed into a full-time job and the needs of the event meant that I lost sight of this element. Having said that, for a while, there was a strong possibility that Blue Peter would come to the JK and have a presenter take part in the Relays. Why they backed out is still a mystery to me.

The amount of positive feedback I have seen from competitors, BOF and CompassSport has been hugely gratifying and, for my part, I want to thank everyone that played a part, however large or small, for making JK 2018 one of the best that has ever been staged. They are a credit to the WMOA and to the sport of orienteeing.

Bob Dredge (JK Treasurer) updated the WMOA Committee regarding the financial position. He paid tribute to Andy Yeates for his careful budgeting for the event and was pleased to announce that due to this and higher than anticipated entries the JK 2018 has managed to generate a financial surplus. There are still some bills to be paid so the accounts are not yet closed. It has been possible to pay WMOA clubs for the loan of their equipment to the JK and this will be paid out directly to West Midland Clubs. Bob passed the financial details of this onto Ian so that he can notify Club Treasurers about this. It is anticipated that once the

accounts are closed, Bob will pass onto the West Midlands Orienteering Association its share of the financial surplus in due course.

### **Review of Forward Plan (5 years) for club rotation for WMOA events:**

Allan reported that this has been revised at the recent WMOA Fixtures meeting. For details see separate document at the end of the minutes.

There has been a request for better co-ordination between neighbouring regions regarding events to try and avoid clashes. Allan pointed out that around half the available dates for events are taken up by National and Regional events making it difficult at times to fit in more Local events for clubs.

Allan reminded everyone that for Level B Events the WMOA appoint the Controller, Organiser and Planner.

The West Midlands League and Urban League Events seem to be running OK. The upcoming HOC Birmingham University event on 17/06/18 is part of the WMUL this year, however, the Castle Vale Event is not, as it was due to take place in 2017 but was postponed due to snow.

There are currently no plans for a rescheduled Midlands Championships event this year, following the cancellation of the event in March 2018 due to snow. There was widespread disappointment amongst WMOA committee members that it has not been possible for another East or West Midlands event, already scheduled, to be upgraded to enable this to take place later on this year.

### **10. West Midlander:**

Rod apologised for the delay in producing a Spring edition of the 'West Midlander'. He plans to publish a Spring/Summer edition in the coming weeks. Any material for the magazine would be welcome.

### **11. WMOA Website:** A. Johnson is no longer able to attend WMOA meetings but is happy to continue to update the website remotely.

### **12. Development:**

Henry will be running a Level C Organiser's course on 21/07/18 from 9am-12 noon and an Event Safety Course from 1.15pm - 4.15pm at the John O'Leary Centre on Cannock Chase. Information about this to be circulated to all WMOA Reps. Please pass this information onto all Club members as soon as possible. To book a place email: [shenrymorgan@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:shenrymorgan@yahoo.co.uk) or telephone: 07910 859932 asap.

Henry and Richard Lewis will also be running a Level C Controller's course on 03/11/18 at the same venue.

Regarding an up to date list of Controllers, Henry pointed out that all Club Fixtures Secretaries should be able to see who within their clubs are qualified event officials via the BOF website. If you need information about Controllers from other clubs Allan Williams as WMOA Fixtures Secretary should be able to help.

Marian reported that HOC is going ahead with its wrist band incentive scheme and invited other WMOA clubs to take part if they wished. It was mentioned that the BSOA do have a sticker scheme which may be worth also considering.

### **13. Events and Competitions Committee:**

Barry had nothing to report. Brenda commented that at the 2018 British Long Distance Championships the Controller was from the same club as the Planner. She felt that this contravened BOF guidelines. Barry agreed to raise this at their next meeting.



14. **West Midlands Junior Squad:** - Mel Elkington provided a report (see page 17).
15. **GDPR:** Prior to the meeting D. Kingsbury had circulated a revised copy of the WMOA Privacy Policy 2018 designed to comply with the GDPR legislation. Ian added a section regarding the holding of financial information. For details see Appendix 1. It was agreed that we would adopt this policy, subject to being reviewed at the next WMOA AGM.

#### 16. Club Round up:

**COBOC:** continue to run their Schools, Families and Newcomer events. These continue to be successful in attracting newcomers to have a go at orienteering. We have lots of events due to take place in June and July

**HOC:** nothing to report.

**OD:** recently organised the West Midlands Schools Championships in Coombe Park. Entry numbers are down again - around 80 children took part.

**POTOC:** currently running their Summer Park Series events which are proving to be successful.

**WCH:** Lichfield Urban event held yesterday was successful and attracted a large number of EOD.

**WRE:** currently running their Summer Series events on Tuesday evenings.

#### 17. AOB:

Richard enquired whether any club had anyone come to an event with one of the Nestle Kids go Free vouchers – no one was aware of anyone doing this.

Allan queried whether any club wished to hold a WM Park Champs this year. No club appears to be planning to hold this.

#### 18. Next Meeting:

10 September 2018.

### Notification of WMOA AGM 2018

**Date:** Monday 15 October 2018  
**Time:** 7.30pm  
**Venue:** The Great Barr Hotel, Great Barr, Pear Tree Drive, Birmingham B43 6HS

All are welcome to attend.

The Agenda will be circulated closer to the meeting - if anybody has any items for the Agenda please forward them via your Club Representative.

**Please note the following positions will become vacant at the AGM:**

**Chairman, Secretary.**

If you are interested in filling either position please contact either Ray Collins or Delia Kingsbury.

**Appendix 1 WMOA Privacy Policy 2018:**

West Midlands Orienteering Association is a voluntary group whose objective is to encourage, promote and co-ordinate the sport of orienteering in the area of the West Midlands as defined by British Orienteering.

The General Data Protection Regulations 2018 and the Data Protection Act 1998 impose rules and safeguards on those who hold and process personal data, i.e. data relating to living, identifiable individuals. Details of usage must be notified to the UK Information Commissioner, with some exceptions which include not-for-profit organisations whose usage is restricted to specified purposes. WMOA is exempt from notification but the principles setting out rules and safeguards do apply. In the interests of being open and fair, the Association wishes to inform members of the data held and how it is used.

WMOA does not actively maintain membership details. WMOA and its officials may hold some or all of the following data about some or all members and others who compete in orienteering events: name, postal and e-mail addresses, phone numbers, year of birth, competition age class, competition results, offices held, skills and qualifications, courses attended and details of officiating at competitions. Contact data is held for landowners and other organisations with whom we co-operate, their employees, agents and tenants.

To facilitate the payment of expenses and other items claimed, the WMOA Treasurer will require the bank account details of those who wish to be paid by bank transfer. This information will be kept securely by the WMOA Treasurer only for as long as necessary and will be deleted when no longer required.

The data may be held in electronic or paper form. The data may be obtained directly from an individual person or a family member or indirectly from the British Orienteering Federation, clubs or other organisations.

The data is used in organising the sport of orienteering and for social purposes, including, but not limited to, distributing information to co-ordinate the sport regionally, mailing of magazines and other literature, publication of competition results, coaching, team selection, training and appointment of officials.

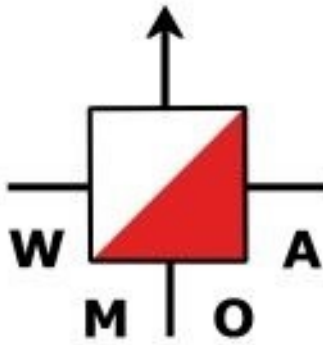
Data may be distributed in paper or electronic form between members, competitors and orienteering organisations.

Publication of personal data in paper and electronic form may occur in membership and contact lists, magazines, competition information and results and other literature. Publication on publicly accessible web sites may include name, age class and club in competition results; names with offices and photographs may be published, but addresses, contact numbers and personal background details will be published only with the explicit consent of the person.

The data is not available for commercial purposes.

Right of access: Any individual has the right to see personal data which WMOA holds about him /her on written request.

This policy will be reviewed annually at the WMOA AGM and published annually in the 'West Midlander'.



**Saturday 3rd November 2018**

**LEVEL C**

**CONTROLLER'S COURSE**

**Venue:** John O'Leary Centre,  
Marquis Drive Visitor Centre,  
Cannock Chase,  
WS12 4PW

**Grid Ref:** SK 003154

Please arrive by 08.45 for coffee/ tea and introductions for a 09.00 start

Pencil / pen and notebook or paper will be useful.

Please bring your British Orienteering membership number.

Please bring with you: TBC

**Course Tutors:** Henry Morgan (POTOC)

Richard Lewis (WRE)

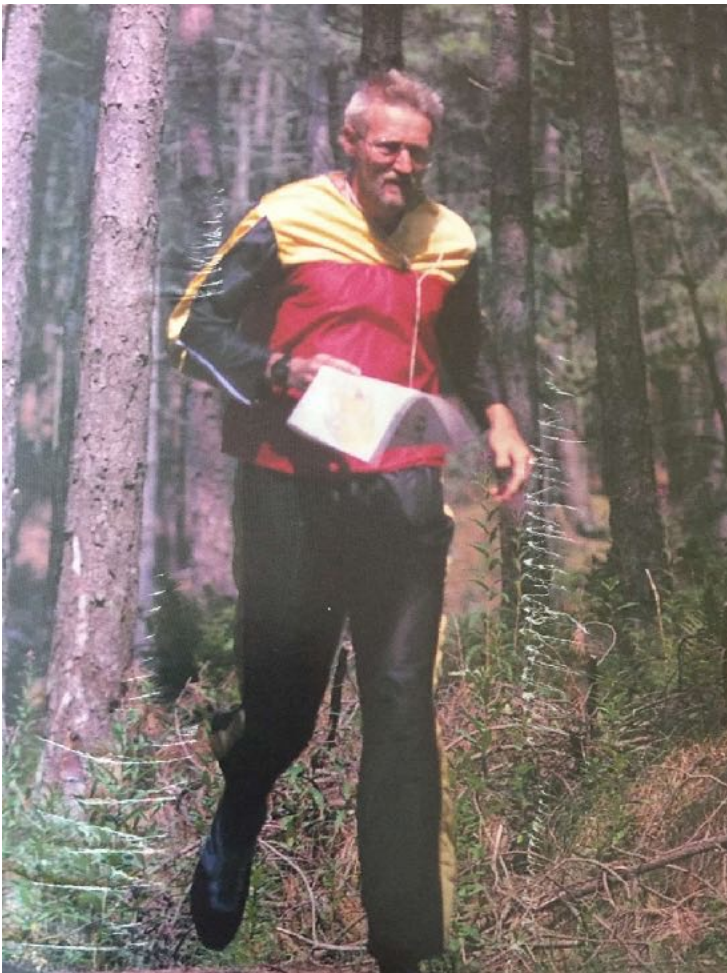
For more info or a chat re eligibility:

**CONTACT:** [shenrymorgan@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:shenrymorgan@yahoo.co.uk) or 07910 859932

Course fee paid by West Midlands Orienteering Association

## Frank Smith (Octavian Droobers)

Frank died peacefully on the 1 May with Janet by his side following a severe stroke a few weeks ago. Although probably not known to the newer members of the club, he was a popular and important club member in its embryonic days and was instrumental in forming the original committee. Prior to that the club was run by just a Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary. He helped develop the club we have today, becoming publicity officer and, for several years, West Midland Fixtures Secretary. He started orienteering in 1973 as an M43 and was initially going to join LEL.



Fortunately, a letter from Bob Brandon persuaded him to join the Droobers. He wrote articles for both 'The Droober' and 'West Midlander' on a range of subjects including use of the compass, orienteering errors, topology, etc. He also gave a talk on pace counting. As an Organiser he undertook the JK relays in Herefordshire in 1994, plus various Regional events such as Bentley, Ragley Hall, Sutton Park and Hay Wood.

His own competition successes ranged from wins at the Welsh Championships, the Caddihoe Chase, the West Midland Championships and, especially, he became British M60 Champion in 1990. He also graced the cover of Compass Sport in 1989. He was consistently Championship standard for several years, being the first Droober to achieve it. Frank's interests were not confined to orienteering. He was captain of athletics at school, specialising in high jump and middle

distance running. Subsequently he pursued a range of sports, including flotilla sailing, tennis, squash and windsurfing.

His career at GEC as a chartered engineer on steam turbines involved him travelling to other countries to commission installations. Outside work, Frank took up various artistic pursuits such as glass engraving and furniture making, but his main interests were in sculpture and ceramics. His work was represented in several exhibitions and there are many examples of his creations at his home.

Frank was one of those people who took up many activities and always made a success of them. The notes above mention the word champion a few times. Frank was just that - a champion. His passing means we have lost a larger than life man whose skills and humour will be sadly missed.

*(This article first appeared in Spring edition of 'The Droober').*



## West Midlands Junior Squad

### September - December 2017

Six of the squad trained at Dudmaston on the 2 September 2017 - many thanks to HOC for all their help with access and allowing us to have use of the map.

This year's JIRCS took place near Guildford, Tracy Craig kindly drove the minibus while Phil Lunn drove a car. The team:

M18 Alfie Bullus, Sam Leadley, Felix Lunn  
 M16 Oliver Flippance, Oliver Lunn, Alex Mitchell, Alfie Spencer  
 M14 Nathan Chapple, Alex Evans, Cameron Stein Williams  
 W18 Ellie Bales  
 W16 Holly Craig  
 W14 Florence Lunn, Tabitha Lunn, Pippa Smart

finished 10<sup>th</sup>. Sadly not as high as last year but most of the squad are in the first year of their age group ..... so roll on 2018 in the East Midlands.

Then five trained on Park Hall on the 7 October 2017 - many thanks to POTO for their help in gaining permission and allowing us to have use of the map. Nine of the squad trained on Sutton Park on the 28 October 2017. In addition Kirsten had her Level 2 assessment with Keith Marsden which she passed.

Kirsten was due to attend the Junior Regional Orienteering Squads' AGM in York on the 11 November on behalf of the West Midlands Junior Squad however she was ill en-route so sadly no one attended. The Selection races for the JROS Summer tours have now been announced and details can be found on the Junior Regional Squad website: [www.jros.org.uk](http://www.jros.org.uk).

The annual trip to Hawkshead took place on the 24/25/26 November for Alex Mitchell, Ollie Flippance, Felix Lunn, Ollie Lunn, Nathan Chapple & Holly Craig . The coaches were Iain Embrey, Kirsten Strain, Mel Elkington. This was yet again an outstanding weekend of training at TD5. This year we travelled in a 9 seater minibus which was great.

### January 2018 - March 2018

January 28 saw 7 of the squad training on Hartshill Hayes accompanied by the new squad flag. The flag was bought with the money we have raised via Easyfundraising. Josie Smart, Matt Bambrook and Lewis Oxtoby joined them for a taster session and were then formally invited to join the squad. Many thanks to OD for gaining permission and allowing us to use the map.

On the 17/18 February Ellie, Felix, Ollie, Ollie and Nathan headed to Sheffield to take part in the SHUOC 16's plus Sprint training weekend. This was based on both Weston Park and the Botanical Gardens. Although it was chilly this was great fun .It was followed up by a talk from Nick Lightfoot, meal in a pub, playing Virtual 'O' and sleeping in a Church Hall. All five ran really well on the Sunday at the SYO Tankersley event. Many thanks to SHUOC and ex-WMJS member Nathan Lawson for a great weekend.

### March 2018-June 2018

We ran an OD Quiz & Raffle night in late March which raised £470 for squad funds.

The following day a number of the squad and ex-squad members trained on Cannock Chase in lovely weather the weekend before the JK. Thanks to Walton Chasers for their help with getting

permissions. Thank you also to Will Gardner, Harriet Lawson & Nathan Lawson who were invaluable in both putting out and collecting controls as well as helping with coaching.

Immediately after the JK Felix, Ollie, Ollie, Nathan, Ellie & Florence headed to High Wray Bunkhouse to stay & train with the Welsh Squad on Tarn Howes, Claife Heights and Holme Fell. We had a great few days training. The end of April saw members of the squad training with both OD & East Midlands Juniors on Cademan Woods. Thanks to Andy Emmerson for organising & planning it.

We have received a donation of £163 from the EMOA from money they took from the cancelled Midland Champs.

Re GDPR: Mel emailed all squad members prior to 25 May 2018 to ensure they all still wanted to hear from the squad, letting them know what information we have and what we do with it.

Anyone that didn't reply has been removed from the squad and all contact details deleted/ permission forms have been shredded.

Florence has been selected for the JROS Lagganlia training Camp.

No other announcements about training camps have been made at this point.



*West Midlands Junior Squad at Hartshill Hayes.*

*Photo by Kirsten Strain (OD)*



## CompassSport Cup/Trophy 2018 Qualifying Round

The West Midlands Round of the CompassSport Cup/Trophy took place on 11 March at Nesscliffe hosted by WRE. OD missed out in the Cup by the narrow margin of 2 points to DEE, and POTOc qualified for the Trophy Final. WCH qualify for the Final as organising club.

The Final will take place on 21 October at Abraham's Valley hosted by WCH. Good luck to POTOc and Chasers!

Area	Cup				Trophy			
Shouldham	NOR	2421			SUFFOC	1282	LOG	1248
Warren	LEI	2399			SOS	1259	SMOC	1221
(EAOA/ EMOA)	NOC	2113			WAOC	1250	CHIG	805
Canklow	SYO	2438			EPOC	1287	EBOR	1239
(NEOA/ YHOA)	DVO	2418			NATO	1252	HALO	1233
	CLOK	2309			CLARO	1248	NN	946
Clowbridge	LOC	2414			SROC	1295		
(NWOA)	AIRE	2407			PFO	1272		
	WCOC	2337			SELOC	1234		
	MDOC	1906						
Balcombe	SO	2390	HH	1907	GO	1277	DFOK	1195
(SEOA)	SLOW	2368	TVOC	1771	MV	1269	HAVOC	1165
	SN	2273	SOC	1089	SAX	1266	LOK	650
	BKO	2235			BADO	1217		
Beecraigs	FVO	2453			INT	1277	SOLWAY	688
(SOA)	ESOC	2349			CLYDE	1250	BASOC	564
	INVOC	2079			BL	1241	ECKO	530
	MOR	1310			RR	1238	AYROC	427
	MAROC	920			TAY	1028	GRAMP	280
					ELO	964	KFO	263
					STAG	784		
The Slades	Postponed							
(SWOA)								
Nesscliffe	DEE	2408			POTOc	1271		
(WMOA)	OD	2406			WRE	1259		
	HOC	2349			WCH	1273		
	NGOC	2296			ERYRI	680		

Qualifying teams in red.



**Colour Awards 2015-18****Hilary Simpson (OD)**

Below are the Colour Awards achieved by Juniors in the West Midlands since March 2015!

Anyone who feels they have achieved their badge and isn't included on the list please contact Hilary Simpson.

Can usually be found at West Midland events in a bronze Renault Espace FE 11 FJU or Tel.: 01789 266343 or email: [simpsonth@ntlworld.com](mailto:simpsonth@ntlworld.com)

A Colour Coded Award is achieved by reaching the colour standard in three different events.

The colour standard is either 1.5 times the winners time or half the number of competitors (including disqualifications and retirals) whichever includes the greater number of runners.

White badges must be claimed quoting the relevant results where the standard was achieved.

A white standard is achieved for completing the course.



Alfie Bullus	M18	OD
Sam Leadley	M18	OD



Ellie Bales	W18	POTOC
Alfie Bullus	M16	OD
Oliver Flippance	M14	OD
Jamie Grimsdale	M18	WRE
Sam Leadley	M18	OD
Felix Lunn	M14	OD
Oliver Lunn	M14	OD
Alex Mitchell	M14	HOC

Ellie Bales	W16	POTOC
Alfie Bullus	M16	OD
Oliver Flippance	M14	OD
Holly Hughes	W16	WCH
Sam Leadley	M16	OD
Felix Lunn	M14	OD
Oliver Lunn	M14	OD
Adam Mardling	M14	WCH
Jessica Parker	W18	WRE
Holly Stodgell	W16	WCH
Henry Webb	M14	WCH





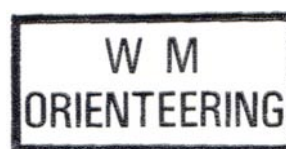
Nathan Chapple	M14	OD
Holly Craig	W14	WCH
Oliver Flippance	M14	OD
Joseph Hadland	M14	WCH
Florence Lunn	W12	OD
Tabitha Lunn	W12	OD
Jacob Oxtoby	M14	OD
Molly Parker	W14	WRE
Pippa Smart	W14	OD
Alfie Spencer	M14	WCH
Holly Stodgell	W14	WCH
Henry Webb	M14	WCH
Cameron Williams-Stein	M14	OD



Alex Evans	M12	POTOC
Nathan Chapple	M12	OD
Finley Flippance	M12	OD
George Hughes	M14	WCH
Holly Lewis	W14	WRE
Lauren Lewis	W16	WRE
Tabitha Lunn	W12	OD
Arthur Mitchell	M12	HOC
Sebastian Mitchell	M12	HOC
Lewis Oxtoby	M12	OD
Josie Smart	W12	OD
Cameron Williams-Stein	M14	OD



Oscar Barnby	M10	WCH
Thomas Chapple	M10	OD
Nathan Chapple	M12	OD
Finley Flippance	M12	OD
Rebecca Hind	W12	WCH
Esther Mardling	W10	WCH
Rupert Powell	M10	OD
Josie Smart	W12	OD
Max Straube-Roth	M10	OD



Grace Allinson	W10	WRE
Harriet Allinson	W10	WRE
Euan Barnby	M10	WCH
Tilly Flippance	W10	OD
Adam Landels	M10	OD
Chris Markham	M10	OD
Max Straube-Roth	M10	OD
Finn Williams-Stein	M10	OD

## JK 2018 (30 March - 2 April)



Without a doubt the JK was the biggest event the region has put on. Many hours of hard work by the organising team, co-ordinated by Andy Yeates (WCH) paid off and there were a great many compliments after the event.

### Day 1: Sprint MOD - Stafford

The Sprint was fast and furious and relatively straightforward. Planner Ray Collins (WCH) set courses which were designed to make the runner try and run hard with no respite. There were plenty of twists and turns in the accommodation area, which had a number of similar looking blocks, to catch out the unwary. Elite winners were Kris Jones (FVO) on M21E and Megan Carter-Davies (MWOC) on W21E. The WMOA had two winners - Sheila Carey (OD) on W70 and Alison Sloman on W80.

### Day 2: Middle Distance - Brereton Spurs

The Middle Distance race was held on the steep terrain of Brereton Spurs which was originally part of the Beaudesert Park and Rawnsley Hills map. It was last used for the British Middle Distance Championships in 2014. Planner Sue Hallett (OD) managed to get some challenging courses out of a very small area which didn't afford many route choices.

### Day 3: Long Distance - Beaudesert

This was the third time that the area had been used for a JK and caused a few headaches for planner Henry Morgan (POTOC). A large number of OOB areas were designated for environmental reasons when permissions for the event were given, followed by a programme of clear felling and thinning. The latter caused problems following the very wet Winter and Spring with huge water filled ruts on a lot of the tracks causing Henry to be forced into replanning his courses as late as March.

Overall Elite winners were Alasdair McLeod (AIRE) on M21E and Jessica Tullie (BASOC) on W21E. WMOA winners were Barbara Farr (POTOC) on W75 and Alison Sloman (HOC) on W80.

### Day 4: Relays - Beaudesert Park

The Relays will be forever etched on the memories of those who attended. Overnight snow which gradually turned to rain through the morning turned the assembly area into something resembling a Great War battlefield. It was only through the heroic efforts of Eric Brown (HOC) and the car parking team that the event actually took place at all. Conditions in the forest deteriorated as the event went on and many of the paths disintegrated in liquid mud.

The JK Trophy was won by EUOC and the Women's Trophy by LOC. The region's only success was in the M/W 210+ category which was won by the OD team of Mike Hampton/ Sheila Carey and Barry Elkington.



*Ian Gamlen (COBOC) and Barry McGowan (HOC) 'enjoying' the weather at the Relays.*

*Photo by Wendy Carlyle (AIRE)*

## **Trail 'O'**

A TempO event was held at MOD Stafford on Day 1 and attracted 80 competitors, many trying it for the first time. The best WMOA position was Anne Straube (OD) who finished 5th.

A more conventional Trail 'O' event known as PreO was held on Day 3 at Beaudesert and attracted 45 competitors only 2 of whom were from the WMOA - Andy Johnson (HOC) and Max Straube-Roth (OD).

## **Biathlon Orienteering**

As an addition to the conventional orienteering and Trail 'O' the organisers wanted to add something different so 'Biathlon Orienteering' was introduced. A 'Come and Try It' format was held consisting of a shoot, a short course followed by a second shoot with penalty loops for missed targets. It was held over the first three days (day 4 was cancelled due to the bad weather). Over 150 took part each day which meant that days 2 and 3 were shortened so that more people could try it.

Equipment was kindly loaned by SOFT (Swedish Orienteering Association) and it is hoped that further competitions can be established in the UK. If you are interested in helping or taking part in any future biathlon 'O' events please get in touch with Bob Dredge (WCH) at [bob\\_dredge@hotmail.com](mailto:bob_dredge@hotmail.com)

Some of the many positive messages received about the event:

*Thanks very much for all your hard work over the years, months and days ensuring that the JK was a great success. It was great to see all the WMOA clubs pull together and organise a great weekend of orienteering.*

*Can you pass on thanks to the Organising team for yesterday's Relays. One of our members aptly described the scene as 'Glastonbury without Music'. The Parking team were magnificent. Given the snow, low mist and rain, the conditions for all helpers must have been pretty grim.*

*Andy, thank you for heading up a successful weekend. The weather could have been kinder but I think that just makes competitors more appreciative of the efforts put in.*

*Just wanted to say a huge and sincere thanks from the Molloy family to everyone involved in hosting this year's JK. We thoroughly enjoyed the events on all 4 days but were aware that the logistics must have been particularly trying on Days 3 and 4 especially. So, well done to all for all the advance planning and efforts and also for the huge shifts that many people put in over the weekend. Thank you also for the lovely range of prizes, a selection of which we were fortunate to come home with. The crème eggs on Day 3 were a sight for sore eyes too! Wishing you all a well-earned rest now.*

*Just to say the biggest thank you to everyone involved in the organisation of this year's JK and to all the volunteers who worked so hard in atrocious conditions to ensure that the races could go ahead. We really appreciated the effort involved.*

*Just to thank you and your team for a brilliant JK, the hard work was appreciated by many. I was helping Ian ( brother in law) with start on Relay day and the Relay team should get great praise for coping with the extreme conditions and liquid mud. I believe you helped them decide to run the day after thoughts of cancellation - in the end the correct decision as the day did improve slightly and somehow you got all the cars parked (most difficult part of many big events). So thanks again, I appreciate the work involved after planning two JKs and being Assistant Controller for another two, I hope you get many positive messages.*

*Please pass on a **MASSIVE** thank you from all at Mid Wales Orienteering Club for a great JK. We all thoroughly enjoyed a brilliant, well organised weekend and really appreciated everyone's input especially on the Relay day with the challenging weather conditions.*

*Thank you very much for what must have been a huge effort by all officials and helpers in making all the different factions of the event come together so successfully. An excellent weekend despite some later trying weather conditions. With my ex- Parking Team Leader's hat on, and bearing in mind the lead-up of poor weather, I was incredibly impressed with how all the parking arrangements were implemented and how well all the marshals coped. In particular I would like to congratulate the organisers and parking team on the Monday for going ahead with the day in what were rather foul conditions and managing to squeeze all the cars into the Beaudesert Activity Centre. Well done everybody and thanks again.*

*Very many thanks to you and everyone in the JK 2018 team for a fantastic weekend! My family ran all 4 days and we enjoyed them all. You and I met in 2016 at Ambersham when you were checking out the area as Controller for JK 2017 Day 2 so I can appreciate how much time and effort you have devoted to the JK overall. Thanks again to everyone for a great JK 2018.*

*A quick note to say well done to the JK2018 team for putting on a quality event despite the challenges of the weather. We have a W18 and a W12 who have just been to their first JK and came away completely hooked! Please pass on a special 'well done' to the car parking team for the Relays, who did a tough job efficiently and good naturedly! We just finished hosing down and drying out the club tents!*



*On behalf of Junior Regional Orienteering Squads (JROS) may I thank WMOA for allowing a 'donation' box to be included in the JK2018 entries script.*

*I hear that the total donations reached nearly £1200 which will be a huge help to supporting the juniors selected for a JROS Summer Training Camp.*

*Members of all 12 Junior Squads benefit from these donations so on their behalf may I thank WMOA, through you, for allowing JROS to benefit from the generosity of those entering this years JK.*

*Thanks again and best wishes*

*Keith Marsden*

*(Secretary to JROS)*

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## **JK 1972**

## **Chris Boycott (WCH)**

I helped at the JK in 1972, being part of the finish team on both days. Unfortunately, the author of the article in the last 'West Midlander' got the venues the wrong way round (*oops, sorry - ed.*). The individual event was held on the Sherbrook and Abrahams Valley areas of Cannock Chase, with the Event Centre at the (then) Army Rifle Range hut complex. The Relay event was held on Beaudesert with the Event Centre at the Scout Camp site.

I'm not sure who actually did the surveying of the map, though I do know from the programme that Richard Haw from OD was involved. The 6-colour maps were produced with the help of finance from the Shell Oil company and were drawn by the Department of Geography at the University of Glasgow. There had been previous 3 and 4 colour maps (the earliest I can remember was of Matlock Moor, drawn by Jenny Tennant, for the Midland Champs in 1970). In those early days most events used maps at 1:20000. Thank goodness scales have changed now!

Rumour has it that, when the overprinted maps were returned, one of the controls on the Elite Mens course (M21A) was marked on a non-existent pit. Whether this is correct or not, I'm unsure, but I do know that Planner, Peter Palmer, had to dig out a large pit which was actually used as a control site.

The actual venues for both days were only disclosed at the last minute, with notices being displayed at 20.00 the night before, at the Event Centre (Nelson Hall, North of Eccleshall), the camp site (Shugborough Outdoor Centre) and below the railway bridge in Rugeley(!). A telephone service was also available. Remember mobile phones and the internet just didn't exist.

Only West Midland Juniors were allowed to compete as the finish procedure and results processing were very labour intensive with everything having to be done manually. I don't know

about other WM clubs but to my knowledge only Carol Dredge (or Johnson as she then was) is still an active orienteer. Electronics have certainly made event organisation a lot easier.

I can't remember much about the Individual event on Sherbrook, but Eric Johnson (Carol's father) tells me that several of the Elite orienteers, from Scandinavia, complained that following was all too easy in the open area of Sherbrook. I still have a copy of the programme (which cost the princely sum of 10p) and some of the left-over maps. There were 118 competitors on the M21A course including Chris James (who then belonged to SN) and John Evans from DEE (who is now an M80). There were a further 200 competitors on the M21B and C courses. There were, however, only a total of 125 competitors on the older Men's courses. There were 60 on the Elite Ladies' course, which was designated D19A (there was no D21 class) plus a further 12 on D19B and a mere 23 on the older Ladies' courses. There were a total of 50 Junior Ladies (in 3 age classes 13-14, 15-16 and 17-18) and 200 Junior Men plus 95 Intermediate Men (age 19-20) including Neil Lawford (who was then at St Andrews University). How things have changed with regard to entries and age groups!

The Relay event at Beaudesert was a nightmare for me. I was supposed to record the competitors numbers as they finished. There was no 'gaffling' in those days so, at the end of the first leg of the 3 leg Mens Open Relay, about half the field arrived at the same time (and there were other finishers mixed in with them). Trying to record the numbers using pen and paper was impossible so I got a rocket from timekeeper Laurie Bradley. At least at the end of the 3rd leg the results were more obvious.

### **Some Notes on the Finish and Results processing**

The timekeeper used a hand held chronometer synchronised to the start clock. Often drift occurred between the two instruments and time corrections had to be applied when the results were eventually printed and posted out to competitors (often at least a month after the event). The timekeeper called out the time as a competitor crossed the finish line. These times were hand-written onto a sheet and divided into numbered slips by the assistant timekeeper. It was very easy to miss filling in a time-slip if several people finished together. A third person was required at large events to make sure competitors moved well away from the finish line, but stayed in finishing order, until their control card was collected. This was done by a fourth person, who also attached a numbered sticker to the card. Checks were frequently made to see that the stickers and the numbered time-slips were still synchronised, usually when a known competitor finished. Often they weren't, because a finish time had been missed. Spare helpers were always needed in case of queries and toilet breaks.

The numbered finish time slips and control cards were then taken in batches by a runner to a processing area. Stubs collected from each competitors control card at the start were similarly returned in batches by another runner. Control cards and stubs usually recorded the competitors Name, Age Class, and Start Time. They were usually printed in a variety of different colours to make sorting easier.

The punch marks on each control card were then compared with a master control card for each course. Problems could occur with wet and/or torn cards, muddy cards (often clogging punch holes) and punch marks in the wrong boxes on the card or overlapping 2 boxes (often corrected elsewhere). To prevent soggy control cards many competitors enclosed the card in sticky

transparent film or polythene bags. This wasn't always successful in very wet weather as water penetrated through the punch holes.

I was disqualified at a HOC event because the poly bag covering my card was so muddy the punch marks couldn't be read. The bag and the attached finish sticker was thus removed and discarded. There was then no means of knowing my finish time. Naturally I didn't find out I'd been disqualified until the results were published.

The Finish Team leader, sometimes with the help of the event Controller, adjudicated on contentious queries. In major events punch marks had to be completely in the appropriate box on the control card unless another attempt had been made in one of the back-up boxes.

Once punch marks had been checked the control card and the stub were married together and finish times were written on both. Elapsed time was then calculated and written on both. The stub was then taken by a runner to the display area. Usually this consisted of string lines, one for each course, and the stubs were attached in time order by either clothes pegs or staplers. Clothes pegs often came undone, as results were examined by competitors, and stubs could get trampled into the mud or blown away. However, this system was easy to use when fresh stubs had to be introduced to the line. Stapled stubs didn't tend to become detached but that method was more difficult to use when new stubs had to be introduced.

Ah well, happy days!

A Badge Event I organised on the Chase in 1989 needed a total of more than 60 helpers, split into 2 shifts, so that most people could have a run (but often the pressure in the processing area meant that some had to forgo that pleasure). There were 4 stub runners, 12 on the finish and 20 processing results plus 2 on display. The other helpers were for car parking, enquiries, entries and squash. Nowadays there are no stub runners, perhaps 2 on a remote finish and 3 or 4 for downloading and display.

### **A Few Recollections from Marlene Palmer (WCH)**

When the overprinted maps returned to us from Glasgow, **THE WEEKEND BEFORE THE EVENT**, a lot of the surveyor's work was missing. I remember the Controller, Lol Clarke from the Lake District, sitting in my kitchen with his head in his hands crying. The mistakes were due to unfortunate electricity failures at Glasgow University and the inexperience of student surveyors who were not orienteers. Peter commandeered a group of Walton High School's new young teachers to go out with spades, wheelbarrows and other gardening tools to alter the ground to fit the map! Unfortunately the 2nd control on the Mens' Elite course, a depression, was in the wrong place on the overprinted maps. No problem we would dig a new one!

A year or two later Jane Christopher and I were out mapping in the area and, looking for this elusive control, found that the large track junction we were trying to use as an attack point was marked on the map on top of the hill not down in the valley where it should have been. A couple of years later this control came back to haunt Peter at an International Planning Course he was attending. It was called the worst 'bingo' control ever. If only they had known!

Overnight the directions for the Beaudesert event were removed from Rugeley Railway Bridge leaving some orienteers with no idea where the event would take place which added to our troubles at this event. My memories of this event were a nightmare of trying to pick up on one disaster after another whilst caring for a 7 and 4 year old and manning our telephone landline.

## West Midlands Schools Championships 2018



The West Midlands Schools Championships were held by OD at Coombe Park on Saturday 12 May 2018.

### Team Winners

Primary	Middle	Secondary
Park Hill	Winterfold House	Kenilworth School

### Individual Results

	Boys		Girls	
<b>Year 11 +</b>	Felix Lunn	Kenilworth	Emily Moore	King Henry VIII
<b>Year 5</b>	Max Straube-Roth	Grange Farm	Tilly Flippance	Park High
<b>Year 6</b>	Edward Davies	Winterfold House	Hannah Wheeler	Stivichall
<b>Year 7+8</b>	Arthur Mitchell	Heathfield Knoll	Florence Lunn	Kenilworth
<b>Year 9 + 10</b>	Nathan Chapple	Kenilworth	Pippa Smart	Myton

### Yvette Baker Trophy Final

The Yvette Baker Trophy Final was held at Arrow Valley Country Park on 1 July 2018 by HOC. Competition was fierce and OD finished a creditable 4th behind strong teams from SYO, WCOC and BOK.

1	SYO	889	6	CLOK	841
2	WCOC	868	7	GO	835
3	BOK	856	8	SN	717
4	OD	850	9	SUFFOC	685
5	LEI	843	10	DVO	464

**2018 West Midlands League Events**

Jan 21	Kinver Edge	HOC	Sep 23	Titterstone Clee	HOC
Feb 4	Brindley (Void)	WCH	Oct 13	Berry Hill (TBC)	POTOC
Feb 18	Lizard Hill	WRE	Nov 11	The Ercall	WRE
May 6	Shoal Hill	WCH	Dec 2	Beaudesert	WCH
May 13	Bentley Woods	OD	Dec 9	Itchington Holt	OD
Jul 8	Burton Dassett CP	OD	Dec 16	British Camp, Malvern	HOC

**Individual Class Leaders**

M10	Max Straube-Roth	OD	314	W10	Tilly Flippance	OD	200
M12	Kieran Rose	HOC	285	W12	Darcy Dunn	OD	80
					Rebecca Hind	WCH	80
					Megan Marsh	OD	80
M14	Matt Bambrook	OD	298	W14	Florence Lunn	OD	400
M16	Felix Lunn	OD	276	W16	Holly Stodgell	WCH	100
M18	Sam Leadley	OD	92	W18	Ellie Bales	POTOC	100
M20				W20	Holly Hughes	WCH	200
M21	Benjamin Rauffet	HOC	262	W21	Kirsten Strain	OD	189
M35	Graham Pigott	POTOC	280	W35	Zoya Alhaswani	WCH	80
M40	Alistair Powell	OD	287	W40	Anne Straube	OD	376
M45	Chris McCartney	OD	362	W45	Sharron Richardson	WRE	200
					Juliette Soulard	OD	200
M50	David Leadley	OD	348	W50	Lesley Ross	OD	387
M55	Phil Hancox	WRE	299	W55	Christine Collins	WCH	253
M60	Barry Elkington	OD	388	W60	Carol Farrington	HOC	200
M65	Jonathan Howell	WCH	376	W65	Jane Howsam	WRE	214
M70	Robert Scott	HOC	378	W70	Sheila Carey	OD	300
M75	Jeff Haycock	WRE	269	W75	Elizabeth Riley	WRE	240
	Robert Vickers	HOC	269				
M80	John Riley	WRE	260	W80	Alison Sloman	HOC	500
M85	Colin Roscoe	WRE	100				



## The West Midlands League 2018 Positions after 6 Events

1. OD 4869				2. HOC 3745				3. WCH 3686			
A	Florence Lunn	W14	400	A	Kieran Rose	M12	285	A	Jonah Hearn	M10	280
A	Max Straube-Roth	M10	314	A	Arthur Mitchell	M12	200	A	Oscar Barnby	M12	200
B	Chris McCartney	M45	362	B	Benjamin Rauffet	M21	262	B	Allan Williams	M45	269
B	Tom Jeffries	M45	297	B	Jason Howell	M45	174	B	Mark Stodgell	M45	194
C	David Leadley	M50	348	C	Alex Morgan	M50	300	C	Andrew Yeates	M55	256
C	Kevin Ross	M55	219	C	Ian Chafer	M50	142	C	Philip Hadland	M55	137
D	Lesley Ross	W50	387	D	Marian White	W55	135	D	Christine Collins	W55	253
D	Anne Straube	W40	376	D	Kirsten Mitchell	W50	128	D	Alison Yeates	W50	231
E	Barry Elkington	M60	388	E	Alison Sloman	W80	500	E	Jonathan Howell	M65	78
E	Bruce Bryant	M60	300	E	Robert Scott	M70	378	E	Dave Smith	M65	291
F	Liz Phillips	W50	300	F	Mike Baggott	M65	340	F	Ray Collins	M60	275
F	Sheila Carey	W70	300	F	Robert Vickers	M75	269	F	John Robinson	M65	254
F	Matt Bambrook	M14	298	F	Barry McGowan	M70	234	F	Chris Boycott	M75	246
F	Peter Carey	M70	291	F	Carol Farrington	W60	200	F	Gary Langstone	M75	224
F	Stan Alexander	M65	289	F	Alexander Mitchell	M16	198	F	Holly Hughes	W20	200
4. WRE 3421				5. POTO 2464				6. COBOC 686			
A	Grace Allinson	W10	159	A	Ellie Bales	W18	100	B	Emils Vainovskis	M21	99
A	Harriet Allinson	W10	151	B	Graham Pigott	M35	280	C	Ian Gamlen	M50	234
B	Jeremy Lewis	M45	184	B	Martin Pigott	M40	262	D	David Arnott	M70	179
B	Thomas Lewis	M21	85	C	Jim Cooke	M55	61	E	Richard Burnett	M60	174
C	Phil Hancox	M55	299	C	Dale Colclough	M55	53				
C	Clive Richardson	M50	254	D	Elizabeth Bales	W55	196				
D	Delia Kingsbury	W50	283	D	Denise Broom	W55	66				
D	Sharron Richardson	W45	200	E	Paul Graetz	M70	366				
E	Peter Howsam	M65	288	E	Judy Douglas	W75	200				
E	Jeff Haycock	M75	269	F	Robert Holdway	M35	200				
F	Andrew Clough	M60	268	F	Gerard Riley	M60	181				
F	John Riley	M80	260	F	Barbara Farr	W75	172				
F	Adrian Griffiths	M50	246	F	Austin Farr	M38	169				
F	Elizabeth Riley	W75	240	F	Henry Morgan	M60	158				
F	Derek Turner	M75	235								

## WMOA Fixtures

### August to December 2018

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

#### 2018

##### August

7	WRE Local	<b>WRE Summer Series 14 Cardingmill Valley</b>	Church Stretton	<a href="#">SO442946</a>
8	OD Local	<b>OD Summer Evening Event Itchington Holt</b>	Harbury	<a href="#">SP369557</a>
12	POTOC Local	<b>POTOC Score Event &amp; Barbecue Park Hall</b>	Longton Stoke-on-Trent	<a href="#">SJ838537</a>
14	WRE Local	<b>WRE Summer Series 15 Plush Hill</b>	Church Stretton	<a href="#">SO452969</a>
15	OD Local	<b>OD Summer Evening Event War Memorial Park</b>	Coventry	<a href="#">SP322772</a>
21	WRE Local	<b>WRE Summer Series 16 Nesscliffe Country Park</b>	Shrewsbury	<a href="#">SJ385199</a>
22	OD Local	<b>OD Summer Evening Event Draycote Water</b>	Dunchurch	<a href="#">SP467691</a>
29	OD Local	<b>OD Summer Evening Event Warwick University</b>	Coventry	<a href="#">SP297768</a>

##### September

8	WRE Regional	<b>WRE Urban Event (WMUL 5) Whitchurch</b>	Whitchurch	<a href="#">SJ539415</a>
9	POTOC National	<b>POTOC Urban Event (UKUL) Hanley</b>	Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent	<a href="#">SJ886487</a>
22	OD Local	<b>OD Saturday Morning Event Coombe Abbey Country Park</b>	Coventry	<a href="#">SP404790</a>
23	HOC Regional	<b>HOC West Midlands League 7 Titterstone Clee</b>	Ludlow	<a href="#">SO598757</a>
30	WRE Regional	<b>WRE John Bennison Long 'O' Long Mynd</b>	Church Stretton	<a href="#">SO451936</a>

##### October

7	OD Local	<b>OD Tony Haw Score Event &amp; Schools' Championships Ryton Pools Country Park</b>	Coventry	<a href="#">SP370724</a>
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13	POTOC Local	<b>POTOC Local Event (TBC) Berry Hill</b>	Stoke-on-Trent	
20	OD Local	<b>OD Saturday Morning Event Pooley Country Park</b>	Polesworth	<a href="#">SK257024</a>
21	WCH Major	<b>CompassSport Cup Final Abraham's Valley</b>	Rugeley	<a href="#">SJ994210</a>
28	OD Regional	<b>WMOA Relays Sutton Park</b>	Sutton Coldfield	

**November**

10	POTOC Local	<b>POTOC Local Event Stone</b>	Stone	
11	WRE Regional	<b>WRE West Midlands League 9 &amp; West Midland Championships The Ercall</b>	Wellington, Telford	<a href="#">SJ640097</a>
24	OD Local	<b>OD Saturday Morning Event Elmdon Park</b>	Solihull	<a href="#">SP161828</a>

**December**

2	WCH Regional	<b>WCH West Midlands League 10 Beaudesert</b>	Stafford	
8	HOC Local	<b>HOC Club Championships (Closed Event) Clent Hills</b>	Hagley	<a href="#">SO939805</a>
9	OD Regional	<b>OD West Midlands League 11 &amp; Club Championships Itchington Holt</b>	Harbury	<a href="#">SP369557</a>
16	HOC Regional	<b>HOC West Midlands League 12 British Camp</b>	Great Malvern	<a href="#">SO763403</a>
26	WCH Local	<b>WCH Boxing day Score Event Brindley Heath</b>		
29	OD Local	<b>OD Christmas Relays Rough Close Scout Camp</b>	Coventry	

**West Midlands Urban League 2018**

Full results and tables can be found on the UK Urban League website at:  
<http://urbanleague.nopesport.com/scoring/>

Date	Event Venue	Club
14 April	Rugby	OD
3 June	Lichfield	WCH
17 June	Birmingham Uni.	HOC
15 July	Sutton Coldfield	COBOC
8 September	Whitchurch	WRE
9 September	Hanley	POTOC