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Looking forward to 2025

The first two events in the 2025 West Midlands League will be in February. Preliminary details about the other six events are on the [West Midlands OA website](#).

Brandon Wood – new date 2nd February, OD

The rearranged date for the postponed event is Sunday, 2nd February 2025; [more information is on the Octavian Droober's website](#). Pre-entries open via [Fabian4](#) until 30th January (while pre-printed maps are available). Short Green, Green, Blue and Brown are now full, to be put on a waiting list for a possible space please email entries@octavian-droobers.org



Wrockwardine Wood – 9th February, Wrekin

Information is on the Wrekin website: <https://wrekinorienteers.co.uk/2025/01/08/wrockwardine-2025-02-09/> and pre-entries are open [via Fabian4](#).

West Midlands Schools Championships – 17th May, POTOC

Venue: APEDALE COUNTRY PARK

Starts: 10.30-12.00am

Directions (what3words) cowboy.themes.grant

Courses Y5 - Y11+ (schools or individuals can enter, pairs are allowed)

Trophies and Medals to Class Winners etc.

Instructions

- Wear tracksuit bottoms and trainers or studs.
- Bring waterproofs, if raining.
- Bring a whistle in case of emergency (POTOC have some to lend).

For further information contact Henry Morgan - shenrymorgan@yahoo.co.uk or 07910 859932

Springtime in Shropshire 2025



Next year's event will take place over the late May Bank Holiday weekend, 24th – 26th May, based in Ludlow. There will be a social event in Ludlow on the Sunday evening, and the three orienteering events offer a variety of formats.

Ludlow is a delightful place to visit. It has an ancient castle, fascinating and varied architecture, excellent restaurants, a plethora of independent shops and much more. It is set in glorious Marches countryside with ample opportunities to walk, and cycle and run.

[More information on the SINS website.](#)

- **Day 1 Saturday 24th May** – Urban event in Ludlow.
- **Day 2 Sunday 25th May** – Middle style event on Rorrington & Stapeley.
- **Day 3 Monday 26th May** – Long race on Titterstone Clee.

Looking back on December 2024

What did we all get up to over the holiday period?

Laurie Bradley New Years Day



Harlequins Orienteering Club on the win; the [results are available on the Walton Chasers website here](#).

Club	Score
HOC	3500
WRE	3380
WCH	2640
OD	2230
POTOC	1560

Congratulations to

Score



The Trophy is awarded to the club winning a 60-minute score event held every New Year's Day in memory of Laurie Bradley, one of the pioneers of orienteering in the region and organised by WMOA clubs in turn.

Lucy Chadwick (WRE) won the TSB Mirror for Junior women, and Peter Blackmore (HOC) won the TSB Trophy for Junior men.

Wrekin Choc-O

A highlight of the Christmas period for many of us, this year's offering gave us glorious sunny but crisp days and bonus snow on the Long Mynd. Many thanks to Wrekin Orienteers and the Weaver family for the courses and the chocolate.



There were 147 entries in the book, with the short course being by far the most popular. Many of the entries represent more than one person.

The largest group was Shrewsbury Colleges Outdoor Course who completed the medium as a class activity! There were also visitors from Shropshire Young Ramblers (including one at night), Croft Ambrey Running Club and HOC.



OD Christmas Relays

The most informal event of the year took place between Christmas and New Year at Rough Close Scout camp

A handicap relay with four legs of varying length and difficulty, teams of one, two, three or four people – just complete all the legs in the right order.

Prizes for first handicap team, fastest overall team and fastest solo runner and others at the organiser's discretion, great food and a chat afterwards. It's both deeply competitive and extremely relaxed!



Walton Chaser's Mungo Bone Handicap Race



The annual Mungo Bone Handicap Race took place on Saturday 21st December. This is their annual get together for a run followed by mince pies and mulled wine. A great start to the festive break.

Looking Back even further

Many thanks to Rod Postlethwaite for digging into his archive and providing more information about the history of both the West Midlands league and West Midlands Relays.

[The WM relay "Roll of Honour" page](#) now has the full information about the area an organising club for every year that the competition has been held

and

[The WM league "Roll of Honour" page](#) now has the winning club for every year (proving that 2024 was indeed the first time Wrekin had retained the title"!)