

COMING CLUB EVENTS

- Sun 24 May NELSON CITY Using the Fairfield map with its many parks and reserves. (Yes the date has been changed from the 17th)
- Sun 21 Jun RABBIT ISLAND The planner promises something different
- Sun 19 Jul ROUGH ISLAND Next door to Rabbit Island
- Sun 16 Aug MAITAI VALLEY
- START TIMES Between 10am and 2pm at Club events unless otherwise advised
- HELPERS Members are expected to help about every third event for 1-2 hours either before or after you compete. Ring planner about 7 days before

EVENTS OUTSIDE NELSON

- 30 May/1Jun WOODHILL (AUCKLAND) 3 Day Badge event. Full details of courses and entry form with Doug. Late entries close soon.
- Various The Secretary receives other orienteering club newsletters from Southland to Hamilton and most points in between. A complete list of contacts for all clubs throughout New Zealand is also held. If you intend travelling and may have time to go to another club event give Doug a ring for further information on dates and venues.
- 24/26 Oct CANTERBURY 1992 **National Champs**

OTHER HAPPENINGS

- Mon 8 Jun Committee meeting 7.30pm at the Mackintosh's
- 6/7 Jun The NZOF Technical Officer will hold an instructional mapmaking weekend in Nelson. Dates are confirmed. Sat evening will be devoted to course setting.

Copy for the next Newsletter to the the Editor by 8 June please

Secretary & Newsletter: 548 9314

RESULTS - ROTOITI MORAINÉ 3rd MAY

GREEN Course 2.7km 17 controls

Martin Etherington	TOP M21	50.20
Jurgen Jankowski	GER M21E	58.51
Andrew Harrington	TOP Gp	59.10
Crampton & Marriott	TOP Gp	61.15
Eric Verstappen	TOP M35	63.50
Paul Harrington	TOP M16	65.15
John Davies	PAPO M45	67.42
Doug Mackintosh	TOP M55	73.10
Graeme Andrews	TOP M35	77.15
James Upton	TOP M35	80.03
Colin Hope	TOP M35	83.00
Robyn Davies	PAPO W50	83.42
Bill Howat	TOP M21	85.02
Don Stanton	TOP M40	95.30
Margot Syms	TOP W40	103.25
Peter Syms	- M	111.53
Gary Renwick	TOP M40	M3C

YELLOW Course ? km 14 controls

Wendy Barker	TOP W35	23.30
Andrew Petheram	- M	25.15
Anne Stanton	TOP Gp	26.00
Haddock & Simpson	- Gp	37.20
Paul Wastney	- M21	43.23
Upton & Stanton	TOP Gp	45.50
Cathy Harrington	TOP W40	47.00
Fran Andrews	TOP W35	47.30
Jackson Group	- Gp	49.52
Heather Verstappen	TOP W35	51.45
Chesney Group	- Gp	53.30
Julie Reid	TOP W35	53.45
Stallard Group	TOP Gp	58.47
Chris Mackintosh	TOP W40	68.38

Results are provisional as some clip cards were not available for checking.

M3C = missed 3 controls

We knew that the 1:3250 map that we have used before would be a bit tricky for the Yellow course. It was a pleasant surprise to see so many handle it well, with not a single DNF. Chris M on the Yellow and Colin H on the Green did well to hobble round the courses with their leg injuries. A couple of controls were a bit suspect and were adjusted before too many got to them, thanks to Anne and Fran.

The new extended 1:8000 map was nearer to the usual scale used for orienteering, but with the fine detail on this piece of ground it is unlikely that a much smaller scale would be appropriate, at least on a black and white map. The map is not finished and still needs more work on the vegetation boundaries (edges of clearings) and field checking. With the very limited visibility in most places it would take quite some time and patience to complete the field check to ensure every prominent rock was in the right place and the boundaries of every little clearing were just right.

The inaccuracies of the map and some control placing added a bit of luck or rather bad luck in some cases, which was unfortunate and would not be acceptable on a badge (higher level) event. Taking this into consideration the results on the Green course were better than could be expected and the performance of our visiting M21E (E means elite) proved that experience and ability can overcome difficulties.

Martin Etherington turned in an excellent performance, as did Andrew Harrington who was followed round by Tim and therefore comes into the group category, Ian Marriott and Janis Crampton also handled the course very well. John and Robyn Davies from PAPO are experienced orienteers and give an indication how well many of you are performing.

On the Yellow course Anne and Scott Stanton will not be to displeased at finishing just 2 mins behind an ex NZ World Champs team member.

After carefully explaining how to fill out a clip card to a group at the start Doug was completely out of character in being at a loss for words. He had just learnt the person he was helping was Wendy Barker, who represented New Zealand at the World Champs in Switzerland in the early 1980s. Well perhaps clip cards have changed a bit since then.

HILLARY COMMISSION LOCAL FUNDING SCHEME

This scheme is the Hillary Commission's major programme for assisting local sport, fitness and physical leisure organisations. This year the commission distributed \$1 per head of population to local councils throughout New Zealand for distribution to clubs etc in their areas.

70% of the funds are made available to support existing or new programmes and obtain equipment vital to development of the activity. The remaining 30% is targeted at supporting training volunteers associated with running the activities (coaches, administrators etc). The rules covering the grants are quite strict and make it quite clear what the money can be used for and not used for. Luckily orienteering appears to be one of the activities which fulfil most of the requirements.

Our club covers two council areas, Nelson City and Tasman. We submitted an application to each council for different items. The Nelson application is being considered now, and we should get a reply in the near future.

Tasman District Council have made their decision and we were very pleased to be granted \$749 for volunteer training and \$1,000 for mapmaking and equipment. We are required to use this money by 31 March 1993.

The volunteer training grant can be used to assist our coaches, mapmakers, kiwisport instructors and similar people by sending them on courses or by bringing in an instructor to run training here. Sometimes it should be possible to involve other club members as well. Perhaps the NZOF coach will teach our coaches who will require 'students' to practice on.

The mapmaking and equipment grant was requested to assist with purchasing compasses. Obtaining a shelter for the master maps and mapping. With black and white maps the major cost is not only materials but also transport, the fieldwork required to check the area for a large map can take hundreds of hours and many visits, we will now be able to assist with paying for petrol. The Commission require the club to demonstrate they are doing their part and in our case this is done by providing the labour free, hours spent on the job will not be paid for.

We have ten months left to spend the money sensibly, we have already purchased the compasses after getting four quotes. An instructor from NZOF is coming here on 6/7 Jun to run a course for our volunteer mapmakers. The NZOF are paying most of the costs, our grant will assist with any loose ends. We are also investigating sending one club member to a national controllers seminar in August, when he or she comes back the knowledge gained will be passed on to our controllers.

Anyone who is interested, is welcome to read the club's application for grants (all thirtynine pages)

We will eagerly await the reply from Nelson City Council.

MAPMAKING and COURSE-SETTING

The basis of our sport is the map. Without good maps it is difficult to imagine good and enjoyable orienteering. When the sport started seventy years ago Swedish government maps of 1:100,000 scale were used which were very crude and inaccurate by modern standards. Controls had to be sighted on very large features e.g. the church or the crossroads. The last leg of over 1,000 metres on a National event had no detail at all except for 'slope of large hill'. In New Zealand we are lucky to have more accurate government maps but they are of ^{poor} use to orienteering, on a 1:50,000 map there is not sufficient detail or accuracy. Orienteers have to make their own maps.

The maps we are using at present in the Nelson area have been made by orienteers, but were made in a hurry to introduce new people to the sport. Perhaps the next biggest step in orienteering for this area is to produce better maps. Hutt Valley club has only a few more members than us yet two years ago 17 of their members got together and produced a first class map used for badge events. It was the most enjoyable area used at the recent Easter four day event. Nearly anyone can become part of a map-making team.

Top needs its own team, on the weekend 6/7 June Ken Holst the NZOF Technical Officer is coming to Nelson and with the assistance of our Colin Hope will run a mapmaking course for us. Already seven members have indicated they will take part, if you want to join them give Ian a ring and book a place. At the end of May a letter will be sent to those attending giving more details. You can expect to be busy most hours of daylight on both Saturday and Sunday. Some theory work inside but likely to be mostly outside starting to produce our first major map quite close to Nelson City and Richmond.

On Saturday evening we will take a break from mapmaking and Ken will hold a session FOR ALL CLUB MEMBERS on Setting Courses. As you know orienteering is only enjoyable if the setter knows what he or she is doing. It is not a secret art kept only for the few, everyone should be capable of setting a course. You might start off by planning a yellow course or perhaps being the controller and checking one is correct. It will make your orienteering more interesting if some of the mystery is removed, and oh what enjoyment when the first panting mud spattered person comes up to you with a smile and says "I liked that course" Remember it is for ALL club members, bring a pen/pencil, some paper or notebook and maybe a plate. The venue has still to be confirmed so ring Ian or Doug about 27 May to find out where and what time.

THIS IS LIKELY TO BE THE ONLY CHANCE YOU WILL GET OF ATTENDING EITHER THE MAPMAKING OR COURSE SETTING SESSIONS RUN BY THE NZOF SO DON'T MISS OUT

STOP PRESS: Congratulations to Paul Harrington for being runner-up in the National Course Setting Competition (junior grades)

THE ROTOITI WEEKEND

Way back in November of last year the committee decided to hold an orienteering weekend at Lake Rotoiti. One of the needs of orienteering is to encourage the social side of it. Quite often our sport can develop into arriving at an event, registering, dashing off on a course, handing in the clip card, jumping into the car and disappearing until next month. Half the enjoyment in our sport can be mixing with others who enjoy the same type of things.

A weekend together at the Lake seemed to fit the bill. This is where the club was formed last year, when about 55 who had their interest raised by Kiwisport enjoyed their first real taste of orienteering. We thought most people would like at least one event as well as a chance to pick up orienteering tips to make future events more enjoyable.

The Lodge was booked and the deposit paid, we got 55 last time before a club was formed, so filling the Lodge with 80 should be no sweat this time. It didn't work out that way, after two months of advertising just one entry had been received - utter gloom. We persevered, surely we would get 6 or so from Wellington who had indicated they were interested and another 6 from Christchurch. The five Secondary schools in our area were also invited to send a small contingent to start orienteering. Maybe half our own members would go. We needed at least 19 adults to stay at the Lodge before we broke even, and a total of 40 would get us a rebate, 80 was becoming unrealistic.

Two months to go. The cut-off date to get our deposit back had arrived, the numbers had increased to a grand total of three who had paid up, and a lot of good intentions. Realistically we should have cut our losses and cancelled it. Luckily we didn't, a total of 43 not counting those under 8 years old came along, with 25 staying in the Lodge and the rest in baches in St Arnaud just 5 minutes away. Robyn and John Davies who have been orienteering for many many years came up from PAPO (Christchurch) and Jurgen Jankowski a German M21E now based in Switzerland and on a short visit to New Zealand made up the three visitors from outside the area. 26 of the total were our own club members, which is over half our membership and the remainder a mixture of members friends, some who have orienteered for a while and not joined and a few complete newcomers. None of the Secondary schools were represented.

The maps we used had both been made by the Baxter/Martin partnership. The year old 1:3250 was quite well known to a few of us, but the new 1:8000 was of unknown quality. About half the 8000 map included the 3250 area and it was a bit of a worry to see how many differences there were between the two maps. The 8000 is still not finished and needs more fieldwork especially on determining exactly where the vegetation boundaries between open (or semi-open) and forest are. But as the results show both maps are quite usable, not perfect but still very enjoyable to run on. I hope they can be finished and redrawn legibly.

Several months ago, Bunny Rathbone of Dunedin the South Island Regional Coach and Michael Wood the National Coach had been contacted and they provided some advice, training material and orienteering videos.

After some arm-chair planning, Ian, Doug and Chris walked over the area a week before to site the training activities. We moved one large rock which must have been 3 metres high and over 20 tons, it did not take too long as we only moved it about 5mm on the map. Our original programme held together very well with only minor changes, a relay was dropped from the Saturday afternoon as it was a bit cold to be waiting around for your team mates to come in. The other welcome changes were the addition of a talk on orienteering in Germany and Switzerland by Jurgen, it brings it into perspective when you learn that Germany with a population of 80 million? has only 3 thousand orienteers or about twice ours. Then John and Robyn organised a very popular map memory relay, thanks very much, all three of you are welcome back any time.

Friday evening was low key to allow for late comers, a video and a wee talk. Saturday morning we divided into a Newcomers group led by Chris, we had allowed for 10 but closer to 20 joined. Doug took the Intermediate group of about 20. Then both groups got stuck into technical training from what happens at the master maps to fine bearings and pacing. Eric demonstrated stretching exercises which would have pleased the ACC. Both groups made rapid progress and by mid afternoon Ian took over and held a score event for everyone. After tea we stayed inside and the programme took us to 10pm after which most headed for the bunkrooms very quickly.

First thing on Sunday Chris had her group considering traffic lights, attack points and aiming off. At the same time Doug let his group free to practice relocation. At 10am Ian took over again and let us loose on cross-country courses which are reported elsewhere in this newsletter. It made an instructors day to hear one member report that "pacing works, it really works", and no real DNFs. Even on an unfinished map with a bit of know-how you can still get around.

Then we hurried back to the Lodge for the big clean-up before we could depart for our homes. Before Doug could get the jobs written up on the board, mops and buckets had been found and people got stuck in. The Lodge got a fright, it must have been one of the most efficient clean-ups it has ever had. Doug was truly surprised and very thankful at the way everyone worked so very efficiently and without supervision - Well Done!

I think most of you will agree the Lodge is an excellent facility set in a lovely spot. A good Hall, big kitchen, hot showers, plenty of bunk rooms (not sure if the heating was working) and all located on the map less than 90 minutes from Nelson.

Should we do it again? The committee is considering booking the Lodge again, perhaps for sometime April 1993. We could ask Michael Wood the NZOF Coach to come down and supervise our own instructors. Let the committee have your thoughts soon.

HINTS FOR NEWCOMERS - 2

ON THE COURSE -

1. Do not sprint away from the master maps. Plan your route first. Take the first two legs slowly and more carefully than usual, it gives you time to get used to the map. Take a longer safe route rather than a direct fast route.
2. Use a compass if necessary, but slowly and carefully. Haste could send you travelling 180° in the wrong direction!
3. Visit the controls in the correct order - except on a score event.
4. Keep your map oriented, i.e. hold it the way you are going or always keeping the magnetic lines on the map pointing north. The features on the map will then correspond with the features around you - check them off as you go. Mark your position on the map with your thumb and as you pass each feature move your thumb accordingly. This will help you see where you are at all times.
5. Get familiar with the terrain and the way it has been interpreted on the map by the mapmakers before you start running fast. Pace yourself; do not use up all your energy early. Lack of concentration and mistakes develop with tiredness.
6. Learn to judge how far you have travelled by comparison with a known distance you are familiar with, perhaps a rugby pitch or a netball court. Later learn how to pace count.
7. Do not be dismayed by the speed at which other orienteers in fancy suits charge around the place. They have probably been in the sport for a long time, or are just as likely to be lost. Concentrate on how to navigate properly. Speed, if you want it, can come later.
8. Have confidence in your decisions. Do not be confused by other orienteers running in different directions, even if you know they are on your course. They may be lost, taking a different route choice or even giving up. Do not follow anyone! They may be on a different course, or if an experienced orienteer, may lead you astray on purpose before dashing away into the forest.
9. When you find a control, check with your control descriptions that you have found the right one. Only then should you punch your control card. Punch the correct box - once and hard. Each punch makes a different pattern of holes. Having two or three goes at clipping merely produces a jumble!

Summary - Slow at first, orient map, thumbing, ignore others.

To be continued

(Acknowledgements to PAPO)

EASTER FOUR DAY A SUCCESS

280 orienteers from Auckland to Dunedin and including eight from TOP enjoyed the Easter 4-day Badge Event in Wellington and the Wairarapa. The elite grades were won by Greg Barbour of Egmont (New Plymouth) and Katie Fettes of NorthWest (Auckland). Our own Andrew Harrington won the M-12 grade.

Wellington Orienteering Club provided the first two days close to the city; steep farmland below the TV transmitter on Mt Kaukau near Johnsonville, and more steep farmland combined with pine forest on the edge of Whitby close to Porirua. The third day was just east of Masterton and was organised by the Wairarapa Club on more rolling farmland, and then the final day on a very picturesque area 30 km east of Masterton, where the Hutt Valley club have a map of mixed hilly pasture and patches of bush. Thirty five different grades were offered on 13 courses, numbers in the different grades varied from 1 to 16.

Our own club results are shown below. Note the way of showing grades, with a hyphen before the age meaning 'and under', and a hyphen after the age meaning 'and over'. M and W21 stay without a hyphen, and are open to all ages. The best three out of the four day results were added together and counted as one 'badge credit' of either gold, silver, bronze or iron. After three credits within a two year period a badge can be claimed.


M-12A	Andrew Harrington	1st	Gold
M-16A	Paul Harrington		Silver
M35-A	Graeme Andrews		Bronze
M40-A	Tim Harrington		Bronze
M55-A	Doug Mackintosh		Silver
W21S	Fran Andrews		Iron
W-40A	Christine Mackintosh		Iron
W-40B	Cathy Harrington		Iron

In four days a lot of experience was gained, apart from the obvious individual competition and the postmortems to figure out why you went wrong and dreaming up ways to avoid repeating the same faults, there were plenty more things learnt. At badge level clubs have to take a lot more care to ensure everything is just right. The full rules must be adhered to and every leg and control site fair to all competitors. Only experienced course setters and controllers are used on accurate maps, and everything is checked twice and more. Occasionally small faults do creep in despite the checking, but on this four days the accuracy was at least 99% in my opinion.

The ideal of route choice was there on many legs and long boring legs with very easy navigation were seldom met. Siting of the controls was also usually good, the occasional control appeared to be hidden and was easier to locate from some approaches which introduced an element of luck which is not part of true orienteering.

The organisation was good, string courses, creche facilities, food stall and helpful people manning the registration, results were also posted quite quickly, especially on the last day, no doubt this was due to the assistance of Graeme A who gave a hand. (Acknowledgement to WOA for parts of above)

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NATIONALS '92

Labour Weekend - Christchurch

Peninsula and Plains Orienteers invites all orienteers to Christchurch for Labour Weekend for three days of national competition on forest maps.

Make your plans to travel south soon - its 8 years since the New Zealand Orienteering Championships were held in the South Island.

DAY 1: Saturday 24 October 1992
EVENT: Short Distance Event. Two races
MAP: Chaney's Forest. 1:10000, 2m contours
Used for SI Champs 1991, Canterbury Champs 1992
TERRAIN: Sand-dune pine forest, a number of roads and tracks
LOCATION: 20 minutes NE of Christchurch

DAY 2: Sunday 25 October 1992
EVENT: INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP
MAP: NEW MAP! Omihi Forest. 1:15000, 5m contours
TERRAIN: Coastal pine forest dissected by streams and gullies. Moderately steep.
LOCATION: Near Amberley. 50km north of Christchurch

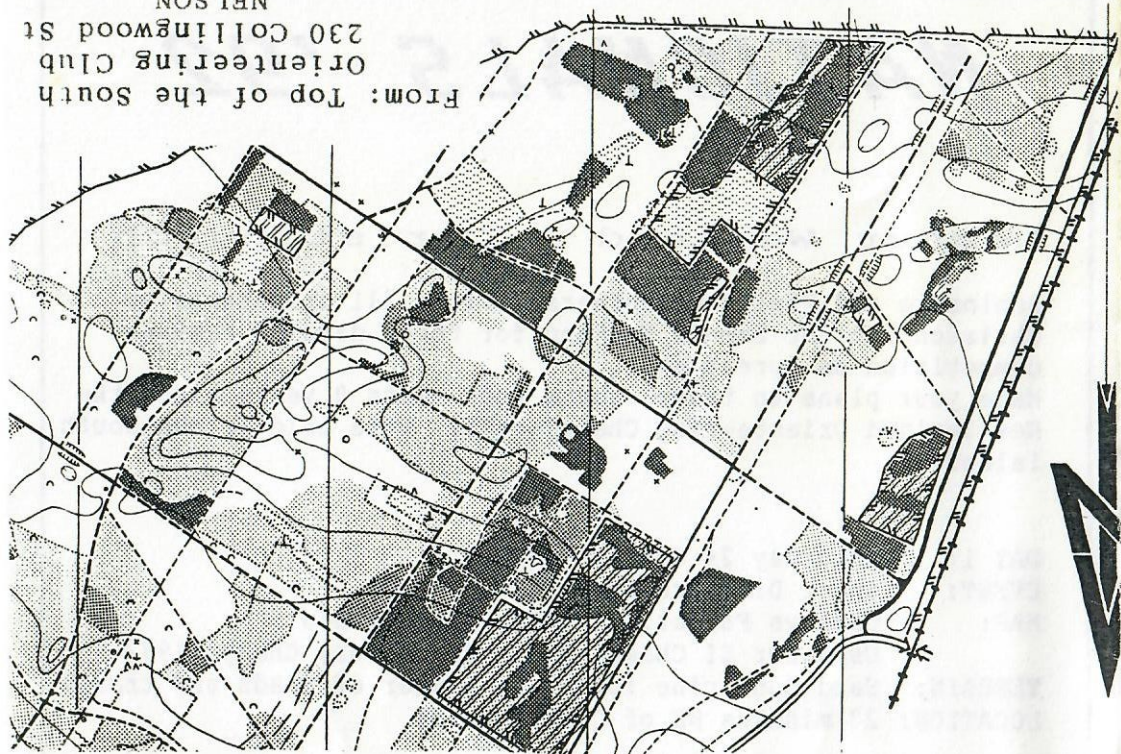
DAY 3: Monday 26 October 1992
EVENT: National Club Relay
MAP: RE-MAP. Bottle Lake Forest. 1:15000, 2m contours
TERRAIN: Sand-dune pine forest, with a system of roads and tracks
LOCATION: 10 minutes NE of Christchurch

ACCOMMODATION:

Accommodation arrangements will be co-ordinated by Sparks Marketing Services. Block bookings for Labour Weekend are held and advice will be included with the entry form to be sent out in June. Any early enquiries or group bookings should be directed to: David Sparks

Sparks Marketing Services
Ph or Fax 0-3-352 4084

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NELSON



Hillary Commission
FOR RECREATION AND SPORT

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