

**Quantock Orienteers****Report on the AGM of Quantock Orienteers held on  
Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2012 at the Prince of Wales, Ham Hill Country Park at 14.30****1. Apologies for absence**

Andy Rimes, Rosie Wych, Jim Mallinson, Chris Phillip, John Trayler, Graham Hartley

**Present:**

Mike Crockett, Jeff Pakes, Roger Craddock, Mark Maynard, Bob Lloyd, Bill Vigar, Richard Sansbury, Robert Green, Chris Hasler, Judy Craddock, Adrian Edwards, Norman Harvey, Jenny Tennant, Sarah Maynard, Spencer Modica, Brian Charters

**2. Minutes of the 2011 AGM**

The minutes of the last AGM had been posted to the website on 8 August 2011. Mike Crockett's proposal that the minutes be accepted as correct was seconded by Roger Craddock.

**3. Matters arising from the 2011 AGM**

There were no matters arising that required or produced a discussion.

**4. President's report**

In the absence of a chairman and hence a chairman's report, Mike Crockett this year read a president's report as follows:

"This has been a very challenging year for Quantock Orienteers. At last year's AGM we were unable to find a chairman. Hence I am giving this report in my capacity as club President. To overcome the lack of chairman the committee adopted a rather novel approach of rotating the role at the committee meetings and that person carrying on the responsibility until the next meeting. This approach worked well and I congratulate the committee on the amount they have achieved and thank them on your behalf. I am sure none of them will feel aggrieved if I give a special mention of Jeff and Roger who do so much to keep the club running. Added to the nominated committee there are many others, too numerous to mention, who have given their time to enable us to enjoy our sport. Many thanks to them.

At one time QO was a very outgoing club. Events in Scotland Wales Ireland and even further afield would find a large group of our members gathering. However recently, although a few members still travel, we have become a much more parochial club, with competition centred on the QOFL series. I am pleased to say that we attract entrants from most clubs in the south West which is very pleasing, even though some of our terrain can be described as challenging, to say the least.

I mentioned that a few still travel to major events and fly the flag for QO. I thank them all. In this respect I congratulate Bill Vigar on his 2nd place in the British Classic Champs in the Lake District and first place on Day 2 of the JK at Perth in Scotland.

One area which is thriving is the Saturday afternoon series of JOG events. Roger and Judy work tirelessly to organise these and now Nick Fernandes has come on board as chief coach. Bill and Dave produce maps, sometimes at very short notice, for these events. Parents are becoming more involved which can only be good for the future of QO. At the moment Dave is in hospital in Bristol receiving treatment. I am sure you would wish us to send our best wishes to Dave and to Jan.

A couple of years ago Will Kromhout introduced us to QOADS (Quantock After Dark Series) and more recently Urban Events. Night events now make a regular appearance in the QO fixture list. These are low key events with a social trend. Night is not as foolhardy as it seems. For a start you can walk around and do quite well. Careful navigation is required, but there are fewer distractions to cause lack of concentration. Bob Lloyd (permissions) and Mark Maynard (fixtures) have taken these events on board in addition to the QOFLs and the Junior Orienteering Group (JOG) and produced a full and varied fixture list.

What of the future? Firstly, a matter dear to my heart. With postal charges rising, Adrian, our newsletter editor and I have been discussing reduction of distribution costs. As you will have read in the May edition of QuOnicle our distribution dates were governed by the need to distribute with SINS\* which at times were not very convenient for hand distribution i.e. walking around a car park field or worse still along a forest track handing them out to club members. I discovered that QO were the only club in the South West taking a large number of SINS; the rest were distributed by electronic means.

It was felt that we that the best course of action was to produce and distribute QuOnicle at a time convenient to us e.g. QOFLs and to send SINS separately to the few who would like hard copies which at the time of writing this was two. One other thing I would ask is that members consider a "buddy" system. Members who live near each other or meet regularly take for the others on the group. This already happens at the Hydrographic Office and I am sure that others could do the something similar.

Finally, our club, like many others in the country, has an age range which is moving upwards. However we also have a potentially large bulge at the lower end, giving us an hourglass profile. I think this may become even more pronounced with the British Orienteering (BOF) decision to abandon Family membership. And so I ask you, "please try and straighten the hour glass".

Mike Crockett

\* SINS = Southern Independent News Sheet

## **5/ 6. Treasurer's report and accounts for the year ended 31 May 2012**

Roger Craddock distributed an income and expenditure account, a 2012-13 budget and an event summary to each attendee.

The Income & Expenditure Account showed income as mainly being from events, activities (JOG) and subscriptions and development course fees and grants. Comparison figures were shown with 2010/11. Roger noted that a large amount of income is received in cash and that the account includes petty cash balances.

Roger read out the following comments attached to his report:

“Income:

1. Membership. The committee recommends no change in fees this year. The subscriptions more than covers QuOnicle and administration expenses.
2. Analysis of net income from entries shows the importance of the QOFL series.
3. 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of entries are from juniors. Often 50% of QOFL entries are from Juniors.
4. JOG is almost self-financing. It also helps the club because:
  - a. It is a source of new members, both families and juniors – even Committee members!
  - b. Source of map updates, events, clothing, and equipment.
  - c. Source of grants from BOF / South West Orienteering Association (SWOA) for promoting Community Orienteering, Development / Courses.
5. £2,500 has recently been transferred to the deposit account.

Expenditure:

1. Event expenditure is likely to increase this year with increased levies, mapping costs, and access fees. The comparison of levies for this year, and for next year’s increase by BOF and proposed increases by SWOA is shown on a separate sheet.
2. Replacement SI units, a thermal printer and laptop have been purchased. JOG has invested in maps, equipment, badges, and clothing.
3. Grants have been used to enable First Aid, Coaching and Purple Pen planning courses for members. To encourage JOG planners, mappers, and coaches it is proposed to offer vouchers in a similar way to the rewards offered to planners and organisers of QO events.

The accounts show an increase in funds of approximately £3,880 this year. We are building up a reserve of funds to protect the Club against a future need to pay for surveying, mapping, publicity, and replacing equipment.

The club’s thanks are due to Norman Harvey for giving freely of his time and efforts to verify our accounts.”

A discussion followed on the merits of family membership. BOF had decided to dispense with its family membership category at its AGM. Judy said she had had productive discussions with Mike Hamilton, Chief Executive of BOF, resulting in QO being allowed to retain its family membership category. It was noted that Mr Hamilton was not aware that there was such a thing as a SWOA membership charge. Richard is to put forward a motion at the SWOA AGM that SWOA no longer charge membership fees and recoup costs through event fees instead. If that motion is not carried, a further motion will be tabled that SWOA family membership is retained.  
*Action Richard Sansbury*

Roger’s proposal that membership fees should be frozen this year was seconded by Mike Crockett and carried by vote.

Mike Crocketts’s proposal to accept the accounts was seconded by Jeff Pakes and carried by vote. A copy of the accounts can be obtained from the Treasurer on request.

## **7. Membership Secretary's report**

Judy Craddock read her report as follows:

“Membership this year has shown an:

- increase in family membership 23 up to 26
- a decrease in senior membership 46 down to 40
- a decrease in junior membership 9 down to 7.

This makes 73 membership units of these 46 are local members. It is interesting to note that in the last five years, our local membership has doubled and national membership halved.

Our fees are made up of three component payments to

- BOF
- SWOA
- QO

During the year BOF decided to change membership categories for 2013, removing the distinction between local and national members, removing family membership (leaving only individual membership). They have made the cost of membership a minimal £5 per adult and £2 per child.

SWOA now have to decide what they will do and Richard Sansbury reported this from their committee meeting:

*SWOA will be recommending to the AGM that a zero membership fee is adopted. However, although this is the probable outcome, this is subject to a vote. I suggest therefore that someone proposes a motion that in the event that the meeting decides to keep a membership fee, SWOA retains the family membership option.*

In our opinion this is vital, for if SWOA doesn't accept a zero membership fee, and removes family membership there is the possibility that in the future individual membership fees could escalate and make it too expensive for families to join.

Of the 26 families in QO, 14 have joined through JOG where the emphasis is on the family. We must ensure that we keep SWOA membership fees within their ability to pay.”

## **8. Fixtures Secretary's report**

After three years in the role, Mark Maynard announced his intention to step down as fixtures secretary when a volunteer could be found to replace him. Mark would be liaising with Judy Craddock to refresh the three teams used to put on the QOFL series.

He presented a report, which appears as an appendix.

### **9.1 Schools Report**

Brian Fletcher, nominally QO's schools rep, had not submitted a report this year.

### **9.2 Junior Orienteering Group (JOG) Report**

Judy Craddock read her and Roger's report as follows:

"JOG has had 30 events since the last AGM not including the five QOFL events that have also been included in the JOG calendar. On average over this period, we have had 53 people at each event, although numbers at any one event vary between 22 and 84.

Twenty-one QO members planned JOG events during the year, of those eight did two events and one person did three! So, many thanks to everyone who gave their time to do this. As you can see from the numbers we are getting, it's certainly appreciated.

Nick Fernandes, our Coach Educator, is now extending his coaching to six evening sessions of two hours once a fortnight at different venues around Taunton. They are for all interested QO and JOG members.

We are now in the process of developing a coherent coaching policy for JOG. The people attending JOG fall into different categories and we need to identify those wishing to progress through systematic and focussed coaching and those wishing to use the events for family enjoyment of a purposeful outdoors activity. Many of the latter progress to the former as their children get older!

The skills badges are still popular and Amy Hallett is the first person to be awarded the Fox badge, which is the fourth level out of five.

A total of eight Hare, 12 Squirrel and four badger badges have been awarded this year.

Mike Crockett has agreed to run another JOG planners' course in the near future and I hope that as many planners as possible will come along. I hope even those who have already attended would welcome a refresher course.

The QOAD series will continue to link in with the JOG fixtures making permissions easier and planning more efficient.

We applied for funding through a Community Orienteering initiative organised by BOF and although our format is very different to the one they proposed they have been happy to produce a contract to suit our situation.

O tops continue to be a problem, junior tops are very expensive at £20 and although we have an alternative T-shirt for about £8, the children prefer the O top. We are investigating other suppliers at the moment.

Without the active support of so many QO members, JOG would be unable to function so we would like to thank everyone who has given their time in: planning, coaching, drawing and printing maps, helping at registration, turning up to support and being roped in to help coach! We also appreciate that many people offer help on a very regular basis and are grateful for this."

Mike Crockett read out a proposal made by Chris Philip in advance of the meeting, that Roger and Judy be given a "standing ovation" for their work. One was duly given.

**10. Amendments to the constitution.**

No amendments had been proposed.

Bill Vigar asked whether the combining of the club championships with the AGM in early summer, as it has been for three years, had been considered a success. Bill also queried the effects the change had had on attendance and hence the ability to generate a quorum and also the state of the competition areas at certain times of summer. AGMs were previously held on midweek evenings separate from an event. A discussion followed. The matter would be discussed further by the committee before the next AGM.

**11/ 12. Election of Officers/ Committee**

Jeff Pakes announced he was resigning as secretary for personal reasons.

The officers and committee were elected as follows:

<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Proposed by</b>	<b>Seconded by</b>	<b>Vote result</b>
President	Mike Crockett	Jeff Pakes	Roger Craddock	Carried
Chair	(no nominations)			
Secretary	Richard Sansbury	Judy Craddock	Jeff Pakes	Carried
Treasurer	Roger Craddock	Norman Harvey	Jeff Pakes	Carried
Committee 1	Bob Lloyd	Mike Crockett	Jeff Pakes	Carried
Committee 2	Bill Vigar	Mike Crockett	Jeff Pakes	Carried
Committee 3	Mark Maynard	Mike Crockett	Jeff Pakes	Carried
Committee 4	Rosie Wych	Mike Crockett	Jeff Pakes	Carried
Committee 5	Robert Green	Mike Crockett	Jeff Pakes	Carried
Committee 6	Jim Mallinson	Mike Crockett	Jeff Pakes	Carried
Committee 7	Chris Hasler	Roger Craddock	Jeff Pakes	Carried

In the absence of any nominations for club chair, a rotating chairmanship would continue. No one had yet volunteered to take the first duty for the new committee's first meeting in September.

Club members wishing to bring anything to the committee's attention should continue to do so via the secretary, until a new permanent chairman is found.

**13. Any other business**

Norman Harvey asked whether charges for events needed to be discussed. Roger replied that setting the level of event fees was a committee decision not an AGM one.

Chris Hasler suggested club shirt sponsorship and he volunteered to approach the Quantock Brewery, Wellington. Other potential sponsors were suggested. It was noted other South West clubs benefit from sponsored shirts and hence subsidised shirts for members. Judy said many people were currently put off buying shirts at £40 each. *Action:* discussion for next committee meeting.

The meeting closed at 15.50.

Jeff Pakes (outgoing Secretary)

## Appendix

### Fixtures report for AGM

### Review of year's Events

Since the 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2011 AGM, the following events have taken place:

Date	Event	Venue	Organiser	Planner	Controller
2 <sup>nd</sup> July 2011	Club Champs	Neroche	Will Kromhout	Will Kromhout	Will Kromhout
1 <sup>st</sup> /2 <sup>nd</sup> October 2011	Long-O	Doone Valley (St Audries for Saturday Score)	Andy Rimes (day 1); Rose Wych (day 2)	Andy Rimes Rosie Wych (day 2)	Bill Vigar
20 <sup>th</sup> November 2011	QOFL1	St Audries	Adrian Edwards	Graham Hartley	Richard Sansbury
26 <sup>th</sup> November 2011	QOAD1	Dead Women's Ditch, Quantocks	Brian Pearson	Brian Pearson	Richard Sansbury
10 <sup>th</sup> December 2011	QOAD2	St Audries	Graham Hartley	Graham Hartley	Richard Sansbury
18 <sup>th</sup> December 2011	QOFL2	Lydeard Hill, Middle Hill, Aisholt Common and Muchcare Wood, etc	Jeff Pakes	Jim Mallinson	Bill Vigar
1 <sup>st</sup> January 2012	Xmas Novelty	Blackborough	Robert Green	Will Kromhout	Will Kromhout
14 <sup>th</sup> January 2012	QOAD3	Holway (Taunton Streets)	Will Kromhout	Will Kromhout	Richard Sansbury
29 <sup>th</sup> January 2012	QOFL3	Crowcombe Park gate/Dead Woman's Ditch	Roger Craddock	Rose Wych	Andy Rimes
12 <sup>th</sup> February 2012	QOFL4	Cothelstone Hill and Twenty Acre Plantation	Richard Sansbury	Andy Rimes	Rose Wych
18 <sup>th</sup> February 2012	QOAD4	Triscombe Stone	Jim Mallinson	Jim Mallinson	Roger Craddock
3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2012	QOAD5	Castle Neroche	Chris Philip	Chris Philip	Roger Craddock
1 <sup>st</sup> April 2012	QOFL5	Priors Park Wood	Mark Maynard	Sue Gard	Bill Vigar
15 <sup>th</sup> April 2012	Galoppen	Croydon Hill	Rosie Wych	Richard Sansbury	Alan Simpson
13 <sup>th</sup> May 2012	QOFL6	Staple Hill	Ian Husband	Richard Sansbury	Graham Hartley

**Planner and controller comments for the QOFLs are on the website so I will not repeat them here.**

**I have not included all of the JOG events as these are so numerous these days! JOG has put on approximately 30 events this year in a variety of locations around Taunton. A fantastic achievement.**

**Future Events**

The diary (not including all future JOGs and 'Living Well' events) looks like this:

Date	Event	Venue	Organiser	Planner	Controller
30 <sup>th</sup> June 2012	Club Champs	Ham Hill (TA14 6RW ST478169)	Robert Green	Robert Green	Robert Green
23 <sup>rd</sup> September 2012	QOFL1	Ramscombe (TA5 1HW ST164377)	Roger Craddock 01823 323850	Mark Maynard	Jim Mallinson
29-30 September 2012	Long –O	Croydon Hill / Pinkery TA24 6TA SS974412/ TA24 7LL SS720411	Andy Rimes (day 1); Rose Wych (day 2) 01823 451942	Andy Rimes (day 1) Martin Longhurst (day 2)	Rosie Wych (day 1) Bill Vigar (day 2)
18 <sup>th</sup> November 2012	QOFL2	Buckland Wood EX15 3TR ST182171	Adrian Edwards 01823 325119		
16 <sup>th</sup> December 2012	QOFL3	Hart Hill / Floorey Down TA5 1HJ ST167365		Andy Rimes	Rosie Wych
1 <sup>st</sup> January 2013	Xmas Novelty	Kingscliff Wood (TA6 6PH ST267320)	Graham Hartley	Graham Hartley	Graham Hartley
20 <sup>th</sup> January 2013	QOFL4	Broomfield and/or Wind Down (TA5 1AX ST211326)		Rosie Wych	Andy Rimes
3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2013	QOFL5	Blackborough North (EX15 2HE ST102084)	Mark Maynard 01823 251262	Bill Vigar	Sue Gard
7 <sup>th</sup> April 2013	Galoppen	Rectory Wood / Ashley Combe/ Great Bear / Bin Combe (TA5 1HN ST181379)		Sue Gard	
5 <sup>th</sup> May 2013	QOFL6	Ham Hill (TA14 6RW ST478169)		Tony Milroy/ John Trayler	
TBC	Club Champs	TBC		Chris Hasler?	

**QOADS.**

Date	Event	Venue	Organiser	Planner	Controller
24 <sup>th</sup> November 2012	QOAD1	Culm Davy ST128161, EX15 3UX	Bussell Family	Bussell Family	Roger Craddock
8 <sup>th</sup> December 2012	QOAD2	Castle Neroche ST273156, TA20 3JZ	Will Kromhout	Will Kromhout	Roger Craddock
12 <sup>th</sup> January 2013	QOAD3	Keepers Combe ST187366, TA5 1AW	Richard Sansbury 01823 288405	Richard Sansbury	Roger Craddock
16 <sup>th</sup> February 2013	QOAD4	Lydeard Hill ST180339, TA4 3DY	Jim Mallinson 01278 784714	Jim Mallinson	Roger Craddock
9 <sup>th</sup> March 2013	QOAD5	Crowcombe Heathfield ST127343, TA4 4BP			Roger Craddock

The summer urban series is planned as follows

Date	Event	Venue	Organiser	Planner	Controller
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> June 2012	Urban 1	Taunton Green/Welsprings	Judy Craddock 01823 323850	Will Kromhout	Will Kromhout
Sat 14 <sup>th</sup> July 2012	Urban 2	Blackbrook TA1 2RH, ST248239 <i>Note start time of 2.00 to 3.00pm as normal JOG</i>	Judy Craddock 01823 323850	Jeff Pakes	Jeff Pakes
Thurs 2 <sup>nd</sup> August 2012	Urban 3	Queens Collage/Galmington TA1 4LX, ST214233, <i>Start time 6.30pm-7.60pm</i>	Judy Craddock 01823 323850	Jim Mallinson	Jim Mallinson

## DISCUSSION

Actions to be undertaken before next meeting:

- Organisers/ Planners/ Controllers for next season.
- It is my intention to stand down as fixtures secretary after three years as I wish to concentrate on doing more planning and organising of events and gain experience of putting on events.

Mark Maynard 30<sup>th</sup> June 2012