

## Fixtures

### Club Events

28.9.08	QO Galoppen	Ramscombe	ST165378	R Craddock 01823-323850
5.10.08	Long O Day 2 of the Two Moors Challenge	Wootton- Courtenay	SS 936434	M.Longhurst 0117 9516145
17.10.08	AGM	Ruishton Inn	ST264250	Ted Heath 01823 251985
19.10.08	QOFL 1	Culm Davy	ST128161	TBA
16.11.08	QOFL 2	Triscombe	ST164359	TBA
7.12.08	QOFL3	Priors Park	ST221161	TBA

TBA - Please see Website or ring R. Sansbury for details

### Other Events in the South West

4.10.08	Devon Long O Day 1 of Two Moors	Okehampton	SX 589931	R Green 01392 278512
12.10.08	Wessex Regional	Holmsley & Dur Hill	SU199000	I. Middlebrook 01305 778412
26.10.08	BOK Long O	Ashton Court, Leigh Woods etc	ST557718	Katie Dyer 01179 684173
23.11.08	BOK Galoppen	High Meadow Forest of Dean	SO546136	KatieDyer 01179 684173



You are advised to check event details before travelling.

Edition 122 of Quonicle will be distributed at  
 The Galoppen- 23rd November  
 Copy to me by 15th November please.



## The Newsletter of Quantock Orienteers

### No. 121 September 2008

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## Quantock Orienteers Committee

Chairman	Bill Vigar	01823-680679	Mapping
Secretary	Ted Heath	01823- 251985	
Treasurer	Roger Craddock	01823-323850	
Committee	Bob Lloyd	01823-333251	Permissions
	Brian Pearson	01823_252407	Club Captain
	Richard Sansbury	01823-288405	Fixtures
	Brian Fletcher	01935- 424569	
	David Holmes	01823-451343	
	Nick Fernandes	01935-424128	
Other Club Officials			
	Ted Heath	01823- 251985	Website
	Tony Milroy	01278-427875	QOFL
	Mike Crockett	01458-445540	Membership Quonicle

### **Editorial**

The new season is now with us. What does it have in store? There are several factors which may well affect our sport.

1. Will the credit crunch and fuel prices affect the numbers at events?
2. There seems to be more environmental issues coming to the fore. The British Championships next year have been brought forward and the Furrow Hoppers relay this year was cancelled due to these issues.
3. We hear that funding to minority sports is likely to be reduced and the monies used for funding of the Olympics 2012.
4. Will the prosed new fixtures structure benefit the smaller clubs?

As I write this, the season for QO is now underway. The Club Champs were held on an extended Wind Down map, yesterday. Our Galoppen is at the end of the month closely followed by the Long O and then the all important AGM. Please come along and have your say.

At the time of writing this I haven't been inundated with news of your summer activities but I think there may be one or two by the time we go to press.

One of the most common clichés used by editors is “May you all run in sunlit forests”. Hardly appropriate at the moment, so may I close by saying that whatever you do and wherever you are, enjoy yourselves.

Mike Crockett

### **Chairman's Chat**

Still not much to 'Chat' about, so I thought I would finish my history of the Quantock Long-O by covering the 'Andy Rimes' years 2003/7.

As I recall it, when Arthur announced his 'retirement', Andy was quick off the mark with his offer to continue the series. For his first event he chose the western end of the Quantocks using the village hall at Bicknoller for the event centre. We had a short course that year for the first time. Arthur had previously declined to provide one, as he felt it not in keeping with the spirit of the event. Having taken delivery of our E-punching equipment just before the event, we decided to trial it on the short course. A certain person remembers this well, as I managed to clear his dibber before reading it, and to make matters worse, although his start time was known, his finish time had not been recorded!

Ifor Powell was going well that year and took over ½ hour off Andy's expected winning time for the long course to finish in 3:31:20. Pete Maliphant won the medium in 3:03:30. The total entry was 66 with only 6 on the new short course.

For 2004 we returned to Holford. For some reason my records for this year are a bit weak. I seem to remember it was very hot, the drinks point ran out of water due to people refilling their camel- backs, and 13

out of the 19 starters on the long course retired, perhaps it was the 1410m of climb that did it, as only 5 from the 37 starters on medium retired. Simon Beck completed the long, over an hour ahead of the next competitor in 3:29:05, but declared himself N/C. Brian Pearson won the medium in 3:26:19 by 8 minutes from Jackie Hallet. The short was more popular that year with 16 starters of whom only 3 retired. Another N/C, Sue Gard + Millie were the first finishers, 1 minute ahead of Nick Hockey.

For 2005 I had persuaded Andy to use the Blackdowns as a venue. This was not wholly successful, for one thing there was no suitable event centre within walking distance, so a self bussing system was used from the hall at West Buckland. The area was largely wooded, so the event was more like a very long orienteering event than the previous ones. Due to the logistics of the event it was the first one I did not run myself. The number of starters was also down a bit at 50. Again we had a run away winner on the long, Ben Chesters winning by 65 minutes from Richard Sansbury.

It was a return to original style for 2006 using the Dunster area with a new start/finish in the NE corner and an event centre at Carhampton. Simon Beck won the long, but only by 10 minutes in 3:39:33. Arthur V must have had a premonition about the time he might take, he was the first away, but we still had to wait over an hour for him at the end. Millie got two runs on short that year, running firstly with me and later with Sue. 63 started that year.

To conclude, 2007 was another innovation, Exmoor using a special purpose map at a scale of 1:30,000 with the Pinkery centre as the HQ. As there was only 840 metres of climb, Andy had increased the distance a bit to 26.7Km. This was also the first time we combined with Devon OC to make the event part of the Two Moors Challenge. It seemed to work as the numbers were up a bit at 75. There were also more runners from outside the region, Jeff Green of Chigwell winning the long in 3:42:27 from Tim Britton by 7 minutes.

Bill Vigar

## Club News

The AGM of Quantock Orienteers will be held at the Ruishton Inn on Friday 17th October. See Flyer for Agenda.

The next Committee meeting is on 22nd September at Ted Heaths.

**JOG Like to try orienteering? .... do join us!**

Starting this term we'll be meeting on Saturdays at various venues for simple events and training.

These will be on:

**All events are from Midday to 2 pm, except where shown differently\*:**

27<sup>th</sup> September venue Staple Common

4<sup>th</sup> October venue Neroche Forest

11<sup>th</sup> October venue TBA

18<sup>th</sup> October venue Ham Hill

19<sup>th</sup> October (Sunday) QOFL\* venue Culm Davy (11am to 1 pm)

25<sup>th</sup> October venue TBA

1<sup>st</sup> November venue TBA

8<sup>th</sup> November venue TBA (\*10am to midday)

16<sup>th</sup> November(Sunday) QOFL venue Triscombe (11 am to 1pm)

\*Quantock Orienteering Forest League...All welcome!

TBA: To be arranged at one of the following venues: King's College, Taunton School or Fyne Court

ALL training events are free.

Ring 01823 323850 if you are interested and we'll give you more information

OR visit the QO Website: [www.quantockorienteers.co.uk](http://www.quantockorienteers.co.uk)

## SWOA Galoppen

2007/8 series. The prizes will be presented at the Caddihoe Chase .  
QO members who will receive their awards are.

Norman Harvey Top Vet on Light Green.

Ruth Chesters and Mike Crockett Top Vet Woman & Man on Green

John Chesters for a "Full house" ie He scored points at every event in the series.

It is now the Galoppen season again. It seems only yesterday that we were running in the glorious sunshine at Rodborough Common on Bank Holiday Monday. Yes, the sun did shine and it was Bank Holiday. Today the first of the new season was also quite pleasant. The courses were quite reasonable but I gather the Light Green was fairly low technical standard and one comment I heard was that the Blue was too long (8 km) but someone else thought it was OK. You can't win !

## Maps for Club Events (Part 7)

This is the concluding part of this series, which was produced to try to explain to our members what is involved in revising an orienteering map and, hopefully, to inspire some of you to have a go. I did not have much to say about cartography, the process of converting field survey material into an actual map, as I regard this as a separate process which may, or may not, be done by the same person. In the first instance it is more useful to the club, and also much easier, to revise existing maps, than to produce new ones. Perhaps, in conclusion, I should summarise, in no particular order, the benefits of this activity to one's self, and the club .

1/ Maps are one of the few 'must haves' to allow orienteering to take place. An out of date or inaccurate map can produce an unsatisfactory event. Even on a major event, a course can be ruined by the use of just

one control placed in an incorrectly mapped area , as it replaces skill in finding it with luck.

2/ It will improve your ability to relate what you see in an area with how it is depicted on a map. This will in turn improve your orienteering by allowing you to think like the mapper. You will realise that not everything you see on the ground can be shown on the map. It is no coincidence that many of our best orienteers also produce maps.

3/ It will give you an excuse to combine getting some exercise in an area you may not otherwise have thought of visiting, with walking the dog/ children or having a training run, while contributing to the success of our events by providing more up to date maps.

4/ There is no minimum useful contribution, if you are walking in the Quantocks, or any other of our mapped areas, take an old O-map of the area with you. I have plenty if you cannot find one. You may notice an area has been recently felled, or that an area shown as 'Young Trees' has now grown into 'Fight'. Just make a note of this on the map.

5/ Some of you may be thinking that with the various 'online' mapping resources now available, there is no need for the field work I have described in the last five articles – wrong! Although it can be very useful for producing 'sprint-O' maps of built-up areas, there is, I'm afraid, no substitute for visiting the area. Those who have searched in vain for some of the small contour detail shown on event maps of open areas, taken unchecked from PG plots, will appreciate the need to actually visit the area.

One final thing to remember, some of our open areas vary considerably with time of year, due to bracken and other seasonal vegetation. As most events take place during the winter and spring, this is the ideal time to do revisions of these areas. Areas of beech, or mature conifer that has not been over thinned, can be done at any time of year.

Bill Vigar

## Events

### SWOA Relay Series

This series of relays known as the Chairman's Challenge was again won by QO Quicksteps, with a slightly larger margin than last year, but it was very tight at the end. Only four events qualified as Wimborne had to cancel their Furrow Hoppers Relay at a late stage. Only two teams competed in all four events, QO and NGOC, so it wasn't too competitive a series. However both clubs contrived to pass the trophy to the other. One of the Quantock teams had a mispunch at the Devon relays and the other failed to finish, and so with the best three events to count it was all down to the Wessex event. QO had to finish before NGOC to win the trophy. You can read Jeff Pake's account of what happened here.

### **WESSEX HARDY RELAY**

*Relays – surely orienteering is a solo event? What about all the waiting around? What if I slip up and wreck things for the whole team?*

*As a relays debutant, the latter concern was playing on my mind – I'd fluffed two of my last three runs, at Penhale Sands and Ashclyst Forest. Lost in the dunes at a baking Penhale then omitting a control in an otherwise perfect run amidst the sodden track-runs at Ashclyst, the summer was so far proving to be 'silly season' for me.*

*So I was sceptical. Then I discovered the format for the race to be held near Wool, Dorset in late July. Four runners sharing just three maps – this sounded fun. Everyone had to run the Orange and Light Green courses and the best two runners attending would do Green also. Start times would be adjusted according to an age-based handicap, meaning there would be a 'proper' finish with a head-to-head, rather than a notional one involving paperwork and equations. Though only in theory!*

*Drawing up the optimal run plan was going to require some 'critical path analysis.' Mike Crockett showed his experience by producing an elegant diagram, scheduling the runs as a series of bars on an A4 handout.*

*Now 'QO Quicksteps' had the perfect plan it was bound to go out the window. Richard Sansbury reinforced the importance of punching correctly in the wake of the failure of the previous QO relay team. He didn't tell me not to lose my dibber...*

*Each map had a dibber attached with a piece of string. But at least it wouldn't get in a tangle with my overloaded left hand, thumb compass and all, if I left it dangling. No, it'd just break off instead.*

*Somewhere during a 1km track run, perhaps. Or was it lying in that batch of brashings I had just negotiated? I re-ran the 1km of track since I last dibbed, and back again.*

*Defeated and exhausted, suddenly fate intervened when a sympathetic mother kindly lent me her spare dibber. I half heartedly finished the course, guessing Mike would call time on our efforts with disqualification a threat and an hour on the clock for what should have been a 20 minute run. But after some reassurances from the controller – my borrowed dibber had cleared- Mike sped off, despite being barely recovered from completing the Light Green in the sweltering heat.*

*The initial plan lay in tatters but part of the initial plan was not to change it! Without the right maps then, Richard and Ian Bartlett had to make an emergency decision to change the plan. Both were going great guns. Richard later emerged with the Light Green map sweating and panting and advised me to 'stay on the paths more than I usually would.'*

*I did, but by now the Orange map, which I had held up for so long, had replaced Light Green as the 'critical map.' It was with Ian, due to emerge any second now. Hopes soared, only for the last Wessex man to emerge at the finish, with Ian just seconds behind. But no announcement till the boffins did their sums!*

*Twenty minutes later, we learned we had lost the race, but due to nearest series rivals North Gloucs being the last of the teams that completed their courses QO may yet win the series.*

Jeff's lost dibber was found and so the early part of his run was recorded. I'm not sure how the results team calculated his time from the two dibbers but I am assured it was OK.

The other critical thing was that NGOC's first Orange runner missed the last control. We did wonder why he had appeared from the wrong direction and then knew. However not to be outdone he ran the whole course again and so they were able to register a complete set of results. I am pretty sure that we had completed all our courses before he went out on this re run and so we would have beaten them anyway.

I have appealed for more teams to compete next year and the motto should be "Must do better"

In all ten QO members competed in the series and I am sure they will tell you how much they enjoyed it. Let's see if we can help the series by entering more teams ourselves.

### Club Champs

This year as a change from normal the Championships were held at the beginning of the new season. Dave Holmes has added the National Trust area of Broomhill to the Wind Down map, giving much more scope for a one hour score. Dave was away on holiday, as was Ted Heath the planner, but Richard Sansbury very ably deputised and a very enjoyable event was experienced. A good attendance from club members, augmented by others from neighbouring clubs, made it worthwhile.



Ian Bartlett receives trophy from Richard Sansbury

It was good to see Gavin Clegg from Wessex with us. You may remember that he drew QOs first map of Windown about 38 years ago. He won the overall event, but strongly denied that he had an unfair advantage.

### Results

			Conts	Score	Handicap	Penalty	Final Score
1	Gavin Clegg	WSX M50	27	750	.772	0	972.00
2	Ben Chesters	SARUM M21	30	810	.94	0	885.56
NC	Bill Vigar	QO M70	20	530	.568	60	873.25
3	Ian Bartlett	QO M40	29	780	.907	29	831.31
4	Pat Grenfell	BOK W75	11	320	.403	0	794.52
5	Mike Crockett	QO M70	18	480	.568	53	792.26
6	John Chesters	QO M55	21	540	.714	3	753.64
7	Andy Rimes	QO M45	23	620	.835	0	742.08
8	Martin Longhurst	QO M50	22	560	.772	0	725.76
9	Hugh Crawford	QO M50	19	520	.772	3	671.33
10	Brian Pearson	QO M45	20	560	.835	0	670.27
11	J Grenfell-Shaw	BOK M16	22	610	.77	114	669.67
12	Ron Foord	QO M45	22	580	.835	28	666.67
13	Bob Lloyd	QO M65	14	400	.613	0	652.75
14	Richard Hill	QO M21	22	610	.940	0	648.94
15	Joel Llewellyn	QO M16	19	500	.778	3	642.67
16	Jim Mallinson	QO M55	19	540	.71	122	634.57
17	Sue Gard	QO W60	12	350	.515	49	630.86
18	Guy Loader	IND M8	12	320	.480	63	604.17
19	Jeff Pakes	QO M35	22	580	.968	0	599.17
20	Ruth Chesters	QO W55	14	340	.559	23	584.91
21	Rose Wych	QO W50	14	380	.607	43	583.03
22	John Higgins	BOK M70	13	340	.568	21	577.47
23	Tony Hext	QO M60	14	370	.661	5	555.05
24	Graham Hartley	QO M40	15	400	.907	0	441.01
25	Nick Fernandes	QO M40	16	410	.907	21	431.09
26	Keith Bolling	QO M45	15	360	.835	0	430.88
27	Peter Loader	IND M11	9	220	.524	0	419.85
28	John Trayler	QO M60	12	260	.661	0	393.22
29	Neil Clegg	QO M50	10	280	.772	0	362.88
30	Matthew Knipe	QO M45	13	300	.835	0	359.07
31	Matthew Pearson	QO M8	6	140	.480	0	291.67
32	Marian Bartlett	QO W45	7	170	.660	0	257.42
33	Adrian Edwards	IND M21	10	240	.940	0	255.32
34	Eleanor Pearson	QO W12	6	140	.564	0	248.23
35	John Grenfell	BOK M75	12	350	.52	218	247.00
36	Norman Harvey	QO M65	7	140	.613	0	228.46
37	John Paterson	QO M60	6	150	.661	11	216.27
38	Chris Denton	QO M35	12	340	.96	216	135.33
39	Nikki Pearson	QO W40	5	150	.72	114	94.44

The full results from the Championships with Splits can be seen on the Club website.

We must thank Bill Vigar for calculating the results so that the presentation could be made at the event.

And now for something different.

These days there is often a caption competition in a magazine and so I offer you the chance to have a topical one.

What is Bill saying to Marian Bartlett during the presentation?



## Tour of Britain cycle race

Maragret and I spectated at one of the hill climbs in the Somerset Stage of the race. Here is a photo taken at a spot which should be well known to many QO members. Where is it? and more importantly have any of you noticed the error in the picture? That is apart from the fact that they appear to be going down a very steep hill.



Help!

Orienteering events cannot be held without behind the scenes work by a band of dedicated members who plan organise and control the events.

Richard Sansbury, our fixtures co-ordinator, would like to hear from you if you can help with any of these tasks. They aren't too onerous and help and advice is always available to those not sure of the procedures.

Think about it and give Richard a ring on

01823 288405.

The words of General Kitchener can be used

Your Club needs

**You**

### Jottings about future events

The entry date for the Long O is now past but late entries may be obtained by telephoning the planner Martin Longhurst on 0117 9516145

There may also be Entry on the Day for the Short Course. If you would like to be involved, with out the actual strain of running a course, Martin or Rosie Wych will welcome offers of help.

I am told that Wootton Courtenay Village hall is a delightful venue for the event.

The Southern Night Championships for 2008 will be held near Newbury on 22 November.

The British Orienteering Championships for 2009 in the New Forest will now be held on the 28th Feb and 1st March and not as previously announced.

The British Night Championships for 2009 will be held on 24th January near Aldershot.

A National event and Southern Championships will be held on 22nd February 2009 near Slough

The Wessex Region Night league fixture list is now available on the Wimborne Website. The first event is 8th November. Note- Some events will be on Friday nights.

The Western Night league fixtures are now available on the website [www.westernnightleague.org.uk](http://www.westernnightleague.org.uk)