

THE AUCKLAND BLABBERMOUTH

April 1999



The newsletter of the Auckland area orienteering clubs:

Auckland Orienteering Club

NorthWest Orienteering Club

Counties Manukau Orienteering Club

Waikato and Auckland Campus Orienteers

EDITORIAL

Now the serious O stuff has started for the year. And wasn't it good to have the Easter 4 Day as an entree to it all? Good to see the large number of entries - 246 - for the 4 Day, the National Orienteering Squad's fundraiser for their trip to Scotland for the World Cup events.

One noticeable fact about the programme was the large number of entrants in W50. Can someone tell me why W50, W55, W60 and W65 are all lumped together in one W50 class, when there are separate classes for M50, M60 and M65? It's a bit tough on the sprightly W100s having to run against those aging W50s, of course, and after the hills on days 1 and 3 some felt they were running W100, no matter what the grade was called.

Noticed on the start line were at least two six year olds. Well done Oliver Watson and Duncan Morrison and the little Kings.

Wouldn't it be a good idea if entry forms for big events had a space to note if you would like a start time within an hour of others travelling in the same car? Starting two hours apart doesn't matter much on a normal day's event, but on a multi day it does stretch out the days. Does anyone have some tips on bushwhacking gardens, meeting deadlines, visiting grannies and the other weekend musts-dos without actually putting time into it?

Chris Rowe has offered to help with the newsletter so expect her input from the next issue. I'll keep going until we head for the World Masters early in July. Perhaps by then I'll have found where page 18 went in last month's mag.

It's come to our notice that some people do not like the name Blabbermouth. Who has the best idea for an alternative name? Send in your suggestions, please.

See you soon.

Jill

JOHN EVERETT 1939 -1999

It is with deep regret that we report John Everett's death. Although John was a late-comer to orienteering he took to it with great enthusiasm. He loved running and if you saw his brown O suit taking a long route through the forest you knew you'd get a smile and a cheerful comment as he ran past. He had a great sense of humour and wonderful courage. Sometimes in the past few years he wanted to come out to a forest event but his illness stopped him feeling up to it. He was a willing volunteer at the Auckland Champs last October.

The Auckland orienteers will miss him. Our deepest sympathy goes to Jackie and their children.

CALENDAR

Please call Club Secretaries for final confirmation of these details: (A) Auckland: Robert Jessop 09 828 4907; (CM) Counties-Manukau: Aidon Nelson 09 232 8448; (E) Egmont: Suzanne Scott 06 758 4739; (H) Hamilton: Linda Flynn 07 889 6751 (NW) NorthWest: Jill Smithies 09 838 7388; (P) Pinelands: Chris Jackson 07 886 5313; (R) Rotorua: Peter Fitchett (07) 345 6786; (T) Taupo: Alison Mensen 07 378 0577; (WACO) Waikato and Auckland Campus: Melissa Edwards 09 634 8104; (Wh) Whangarei: Dick Rankin 09 434 6499; (NOS) National Orienteering Squad: Alistair Cory-Wright 445 9960.

Unless otherwise stated, start times are 10 am to 12 midday. See map page 20 for location of Auckland events April to June.

April

- | | | |
|-------|-----|---|
| 11 | WHO | Gumtown, entry on Kokopu Road, about 1km from Pipiwai/Ruatangata Road end. Signposted from there and from end of Kara road. 11am-1pm starts |
| 16-17 | D | SILVA Secondary School Champs, Dunedin |
| 18 | CM | Autumn Series 1 Huriwai SH1 to Tuakau, over river to Port Waikato, left 20kms |
| 25 | A | Autumn Series 2 Beautiful Hills, Woodhill Forest - off SH16, signposted from Waimauku. Full body clothing advised. |
| 25 | T | Club Event – Karapiti |

May

- | | | |
|-------|-----------|--|
| 2 | WHO | Mangawhai - Long, Long, O. West from Wellsford or south from Mangawai heads. |
| 9 | CM | Autumn Series 3 - Taurangaruru,, South Auckland. West from Waiuku Extra-ordinary Meeting of AOA, 1 pm, following this event. We need a quorum! |
| 15/16 | H & EG | CDOA OY3 & OY4 Pio Pio On main road ½ way Hamilton to New Plymouth |
| 22 | Wairarapa | Autumn Mist Challenge 12 hour Rogaine, south of Martinborough. 6-hour and 3-hour options. Entry form in this newsletter. |
| 23 | NOSquad | Woodhill Fun Run/Walk and Mountain Bike Events, Muriwai. Major fundraiser for the National O Squad. 5 or 10km run/walk starts 10 am. Mountain biking 11 or 22 km, starts 11 am. Entry forms from O events or your local bike shop. Further info call Phil on 634 8104 or 025 291 0005. |
| 23 | T | Club Event – Tukarangi |
| 30 | NW | Autumn Series - 5 Beautiful Hills. SH16 Forest Headquarters north of Waimauku |

June

- | | | |
|-------|-----|---|
| 5/6/7 | HB | Queens Birthday 3-Day including Wellington Champs, Havelock North. <i>Entry form in this newsletter. Closing date for entries 20 May.</i> |
| 13 | WHO | Kioreroa Road |
| | P | CDOA OY5 |
| 16 | CM | Auckland Secondary Schools Champs - 4 Seasons |
| 20 | A | OY1 Pot Luck, Woodhill Forest, SH 16, entry from Rimmers Road. |
| 27 | CM | OY2 Taurangaruru |

July

- | | | |
|------|-----|--|
| 4 | NW | Promotion Onepoto |
| 9/10 | NW | North Island Secondary School Champs, Turkey Ridge, Woodhill Forest |
| 11 | NW | OY3 Turkey Ridge |
| 18 | WHO | Winstones |
| 25 | A | OY4 Deaks Head, Woodhill Forest. SH16, entry from Rimmers Road. |
| 31 | | O-Ringen, 5 day event, Halmstad, Sweden
Closing date for discounted entries, World Masters Orienteering Champs, NZ. Entry forms available from WMOC 2000, PO Box 180 Feilding, ph 06 323 0803 (day), 06 323 8987 (evenings), fax 06 323 08722, email WMOC2000@xtra.co.nz. |

31-August 8		Highland '99, Scottish 6 day event and World Cup, Inverness.
August		
8	NW	OY 5 Otakanini Topu
15	WHO	Mairtown
22	WACO	OY 6
September		
5	WHO	OY 7 Omu Creek
	T	Club Event – Opepe W
18	CM	Auckland Short O Champs, Waiuku
19	CM	Auckland Champs
19	HAM	OY 8 & CDOA OY 6
October		
3	NW	Ralph King Score Champs, Beautiful Hills, Woodhill Forest
2-3		Canterbury Champs - Christchurch
9/10	T	CDOA Champs - Taupo
17	CM	OY9 Four Seasons
23/24/25	NW	Labour Weekend NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
27	A	Auckland Primary Schools Champs
31		Closing date entries World Masters Orienteering Champs NZ. Entry forms available from WMOC 2000, PO Box 180 Feilding, ph 06 323 0803 (day), 06 323 8987 (evenings), fax 06 323 08722, email WMOC2000@xtra.co.nz.
November		
7	A	Auckland Relays, Deaks Head
13-14		South Island Champs - Dunedin
27/28	CDOA	OY 7/8
December		
28	A	World Masters Orienteering Champs pre-event, Otakanini Topu, Woodhill Forest
29	T & ROT	World Masters Orienteering Champs pre-event,, Opepe East, Taupo
January 2000		
1-2		Millenium event Feilding and All-comers public race, Manawatu
3		World Masters Orienteering champs, Manawatu, model event and opening ceremony
4		WMOC qualifying race #1
5		WMOC qualifying race #2
7		WMOC A and B finals
10		WMOC post-event, Christchurch
12		WMOC post-event, Dunedin
Easter	Wairarapa	National Championships

NB CHANGED DATE FOR EGM

The Extra-Ordinary General meeting announced for 25 April will now be held after the Autumn Series # 3 at Taurangaruru on 9 May. This meeting is called :

To wind up formally the Auckland Orienteering Association Inc.
To distribute the funds held by the Auckland Orienteering Association Inc.

NORTHWEST NEWSHOUND

Hard to believe that Easter - and the National O Squad 4-day event - is almost upon us, and there has been only **one** forest event to get us into an orienteering mind-set! Thanks go to Robin Ambler and Lesley Stone for some challenging courses on the perennial Muriwai map, which attracted large numbers of regular orienteers and school students. We also need to follow up with and retain the interest of the several newcomers, for whom this was an introduction to one of the most attractive and accessible of the Woodhill maps.

We fielded three (with a few borrowed WHO runners) teams at the Katoa Po night relays hosted by Taupo O Club, with the magnificent backdrop of the three Tongariro National Park volcanoes. The NW contingent set up camp by a strategically placed dung heap, bundled up against the distinctly non-Auckland climate. There was a great turn-out of junior runners on the first leg at dusk, with Nick Mead (7.5 yrs) debuting for the club in 9th place (out of 21). Mark Lawson ran second only to Rob Jessop (AOC) to pull the official team up into 4th place, and we conceded the trophy to WACO. Everything looked vastly different on Sunday, as we ran the OY on the same map, but minus the fenceline handrails and venturing into the green stuff! A great weekend.

Several NW people competed in the 1999 Kaweka Challenge, a gruelling test of fitness, stamina and a showcase (any excuse for new sports equipment, Geoff!) for gear-freaks. The arduous long one-day course (41 km, 3600m climb) saw Mark Lawson the best placed orienteer (5th) in 6 hrs 56 m, with Geoff Mead (style setter in inside out O top - dressed in the dark for early start) finishing 1 hr 30 m later. Jonine and Michelle Nash were 3rd women's pair on the short two day course.

NW People

** It sounds like Lorri O'Brien and Dave Middleton were just about run off their feet at the veterans' weekend training camp held in Rotorua in late March, with non-stop training in the heat from 9am to 5.30pm. each day. May the hard work pay dividends in the new millenium!

** Lise Moen recently climbed Mt Egmont

** Di Michels has gone into mass-manufacturing - two double and now single wooden sea kayaks for the family. Perhaps kayak-O is on the agenda in the future ... linking the Long Bay and Weiti maps.

** Bert Chapman revealed hitherto unsuspected talents - taking a medal in ten-pin bowling at the Masters Games.

** Gary Little, married to Asta Wistrand and often seen walking/jogging at O events, recently won the Auckland 5000m walk champs.

Club meeting

The next committee meeting will be held at 7:30 pm at Dave and Glenn Middleton's home, 24 Shanaway Rise, Glenfield, on Wednesday 14 April - all welcome.

Lisa Mead
445 4555

Sharpen your pencils and your brains and answer this one:

Open Letter to the Technical Committee

Is there one among you New Zealand technocrats who can, with complete authority, resolve a little conundrum for me?

When I run with grim determination up hill and down dale, a hazy picture of a wee 4 x 5 depression, west end, wavering before me, what am I first, foremost and pre-eminently looking for ?

A feature?.... Or a marker sporting a specifically allocated number?

If I succeed in locating a precisely located control in a patch of really well mapped terrain and, being an A grade orienteer (even if prone to making mistakes) am absolutely sure my map, the feature and I are all in complete agreement but the control code is not that which is supposed to be on the marker there what then should I do?

Clip and proceed?

Not clip and take the chance that there is an error which will later be recognised?

Clip any way and go look for a (nearby?) feature with the correct code?

Give up?

I know what I did. I harked back in my mind to a report by a Swedish protest committee I had read a year or two ago when asked to explain its ruling. It said - more or less - an A grade orienteer should always know where he or she is. If he/she, the map and the terrain agree, it's the code that's wrong. The orienteer should clip and proceed. Orienteers navigate to find features, not code numbers. Protest disallowed. Those who showed that they visited the mapped features acted correctly; all others were disqualified.

Signed,

One of the grey haired shorts brigade.

(Ed's translation: A***I *on**ale)



AUCKLAND O CHAT

We understand that AOC held another club meeting at the tail end of the Night Os. Our best place was 7th. On the basis that we must work harder at winning, Rob Jessop is seeking indications of interest by golfing members wishing to form a team to take on the other clubs at Kaipara's Southhead golf club - near the nut farm. If he can put together a really strong team he will issue a challenge to North West and Counties Manukau. This invitation may also be extended to WACO if enough of the young guns are out of town.

Tom Clendon remembered the historic clean out of North West's eight top scrabble teams by a scratch AOC group a few short years ago. He says he is planning to organise a pan-club competition this winter, if he can locate a set of 1960s question cards.

Alistair Stewart has lost the club orienteering banner. If anyone has seen, or spots, a banner about seven metres by one in bright red with ORIENTEERING in GREAT BIG white letters would they please let Alistair know. It was last seen at the Panmure basin event. Would all attendees, especially anyone that helped dismantle the gear after dark please look in their O bags and amongst their O gear. Alistair believes it was stolen, but who would want it other than WACO?

The summer series finished with a bang. Perhaps 350 entries at One Tree Hill, far more than expected. Numbers, which are unknown because maps had to be recycled, were boosted by it being a schools' event and by scouts. Numbers have build up steadily throughout the period of Stewart management, aided by publicity organised by Mark Roberts and Rob Jessop in local papers. Although it is not possible to be precise, there were lots of new faces at the beginners event at Muriwai.

The summer season ended with a barbecue Chez Stewart celebrating the achievements of the juniors who put so much effort into the setting of courses during the series. A great series, well planned and executed with style.

Antoinette Fotherby has left for Cheltenham, Gloucestershire where she will work with adult disabled people under the GAP scheme for six months. She's joining the North Gloucestershire O Club. Antoinette has just completed her Gold Duke of Edinburgh award and is hoping it will be presented while she is in the UK.

David Stewart has gone through three events at the schools O competition without a loss. He also came third in the 2000 m steeplechase in the Auckland secondary schools athletics competition.

Katharine Bolt and Sarah Beaumont are both competing in the Secondary School nationals in Wellington in mid April. Their families are furiously collecting fly-bys.

Leslie Hodder is not just a pretty good orienteer from the JWOC squad. She's also head girl at Macleans College for 1999. Later this year she is heading to the Himalayas on a school trek.

Mark Stewart was involved in one of the most successful, perhaps the most successful, outdoor theatre seasons ever held at varsity. Mark was manager of front of house for Shakespeare's Midsummer Night's Dream.

The Bolt family kept up their power training over summer with serious treks in the Kaimanawa and Kaweka ranges.

Met on the Abel Tasman track - Andy and Jill Brewis heading in one direction and Scott Vennell in the other.

Mark Roberts, with the aid of his insurance company, is once again back into the CD bulk buying business. Which is fine as buying CDs is his most compulsive hobby.

Jill Mains (beneath it all a Clendon) joined battle at the Easter four day by entering W21A. Both Tom (M60) and Heather (W60) were running the same course. May the best woman win. Much to the pleasure of all Clendons, Jill's husband Gordon also entered.

Bryce Davies is sailing for the Mercury Bay Sailing Club and not in P class either. It is amazing what orienteers will do to rub up against winners.

Nicola Kinzett (ph 520 5993) has started her new service for newly joined club members. She will act as advisor and mother hen to new members, contacting them to find out if, say, they need a one-to-one introduction to the sport or transport to events (this can be vital with younger members). If club members do their bit when Nicola seeks their help, new members will feel part of the club and quickly build confidence that they can cope with orienteering. It is a tragedy if we lose new members and, with Nicola's and your help, we hope this will not happen. She will also ensure that new members are aware of any social events and are encouraged to attend and meet and talk to you all. It's a big job she has taken on: please help.

The next club committee meeting is at Andy and Jill Brewis's place on Wednesday May 5 at 7.30 pm. Everyone's welcome.

Andy B
575 6989

COUNTIES-MANUKAU NEWS

Our Summer Series event held at Totara Park went well with a great turnout. This was Martin Barber's first attempt at course setting with Graham Hattie controlling. Courses presented many a challenge with abundant route choice around the various tracks and vegetation. Many bystanders were inquisitive and asked what the orange and white flags were for. One idiot went so far as to aerosol tag a remote flag placed right beside a popular water hole. Surely a first for New Zealand orienteering! On the other hand, two local papers wrote large articles about the event, generating interest from six families who are now keen to compete, if concerned by the distance to events.

Most of you will have read in NZ Orienteer the achievements and major placings of those competing in the Kaweka Challenge. Although some of us considered entering but

doubted an ability to finish, two CMOC orienteers, Ian Hunter and Chris Rowe, did compete and achieved second placing in the 'Couples' short two day event. Congratulations for a remarkable effort.

CMOC presented two teams for the Katoa Po all night relays. Light drizzle in the afternoon soon cleared, making for a very pleasant evening. There was some concern when one of our leg six runners, Wayne Aspin, set out before the seventh leg runner, Aiden Boswell, arrived from Auckland. Things worked out in the end, but Aiden's car was almost airborne as it negotiated the entrance to the event. Our runners achieved some very good positions, culminating with a creditable third place, just ahead of North West.

As most of you will know, Val Robinson has been teaching orienteering throughout the Franklin and Papakura District schools. In recognition of the fine work that Val has put in promoting sport in schools, Val received recognition from the Franklin District Council at a special function held at the Franklin Sports and Recreation Centre. Val's work enables us to apply to the Hillary Commission for funding for coaching of juniors and teachers.

Our thanks to the members of the National Squad for the Easter Four Day event. We enjoyed great courses on technical maps. By the fourth day most of us were feeling tired and were grateful that the courses were somewhat shorter on the Wilson Road map. This event precedes the Development Squad Camp headquartered at the Albany Outdoor Education Centre.

The next club meeting will be at Bob and Sonia Hattie's residence on Wednesday 5 May. All members are welcome.

Bob Hattie
299 6394

Room 1
Mangatangi School
RD 1 Pokeno

Dear Mrs Robinson

I would like to thank you for your time and effort in coming down to set up the courses and showing us how to use the orienteering maps. I'm sure every one enjoyed it because I certainly did! I learnt lots more than what I already knew.

I think out of the two courses that you set up the second one you did was the best. The second one you did was the alphabetical order from a to j.

Thank you for giving up your time to come and show us the skills of orienteering.

Yours Sincerely

(signature illegible - or did they forget to sign it?)

We might be entering the orienteering course at Pukekohe because everyone is keen.

* * * * *

KATOA PO 1999 TO WACO

Congratulations to WACO on their first place in this classic night orienteering event. After 4 hours the WACO team (Carl Larson, Felicity Anderson, Annie Sanderson, Jamie Stewart, Stu Barr, Neil Kerrison and Brent Edwards) was just 46 seconds ahead of second placegetters Taranaki Turkeys. Unofficial third place went to another WACO team, one in which Matt Tuck appears to have run the first, second and the seventh legs (with Marquita Gelderman, Michel Glowaki, Melissa Edwards and Ben Boccock assisting). Official third place winners were Counties Manukau (Ben Hattie, Robert Iles, Trish Aspin, Graeme Hattie, Chris Rowe, Wayne Aspin and Aidan Boswell).

Hawkes Bay won the prize of a large Silva headlamp for the best-supported club.

NOS in Fashion

A novel way to support the national squad is to purchase a NOS designed black T-shirt and/or singlet. They have a forest design (I think) on the front and on the back is I SUPPORT THE O BLACKS.

Give them to your kids. Send them to your friends and family overseas. More exclusive, more stylish than an All Black jersey.

WEIRD AND WACO

1999 Subscriptions

It's that time of year again everybody! Yes the orienteering season is beginning, and it's time for everyone to pay their WACO subs.

Most of the current WACO members should have received subs forms in the mail, but if you haven't please contact me on 634 8104. Everyone is welcome - both full and social members. Support our club!

All current members please note: this magazine will be the last you will receive until your subs are paid!

Katoa Po

WACO had a great result at this years All Night Relays in Taupo. The map we ran on was "Taurewa", near Turangi. Our teams were placed 1st and 3rd, however the team that placed 3rd was unofficial. The teams consisted of:

1st

- 1 Karl Larsen
- 2 Felicity Anderson
- 3 Annie Sanderson
- 4 Jamie Stewart
- 5 Stuart Barr
- 6 Neil Kerrison
- 7 Brent Edwards

3rd

- 1 Matthew Tuck
- 2 Matthew Tuck
- 3 Marquita Gelderman
- 4 Michal Glowacki
- 5 Fraser Mills
- 6 Ben Bocock
- 7 Melissa Edwards

We also had Rachel Smith run leg 7 for NW, and Phil Wood run leg 6 for Egmont. Other social members of WACO ran for other clubs.

A Katoa Po Tale

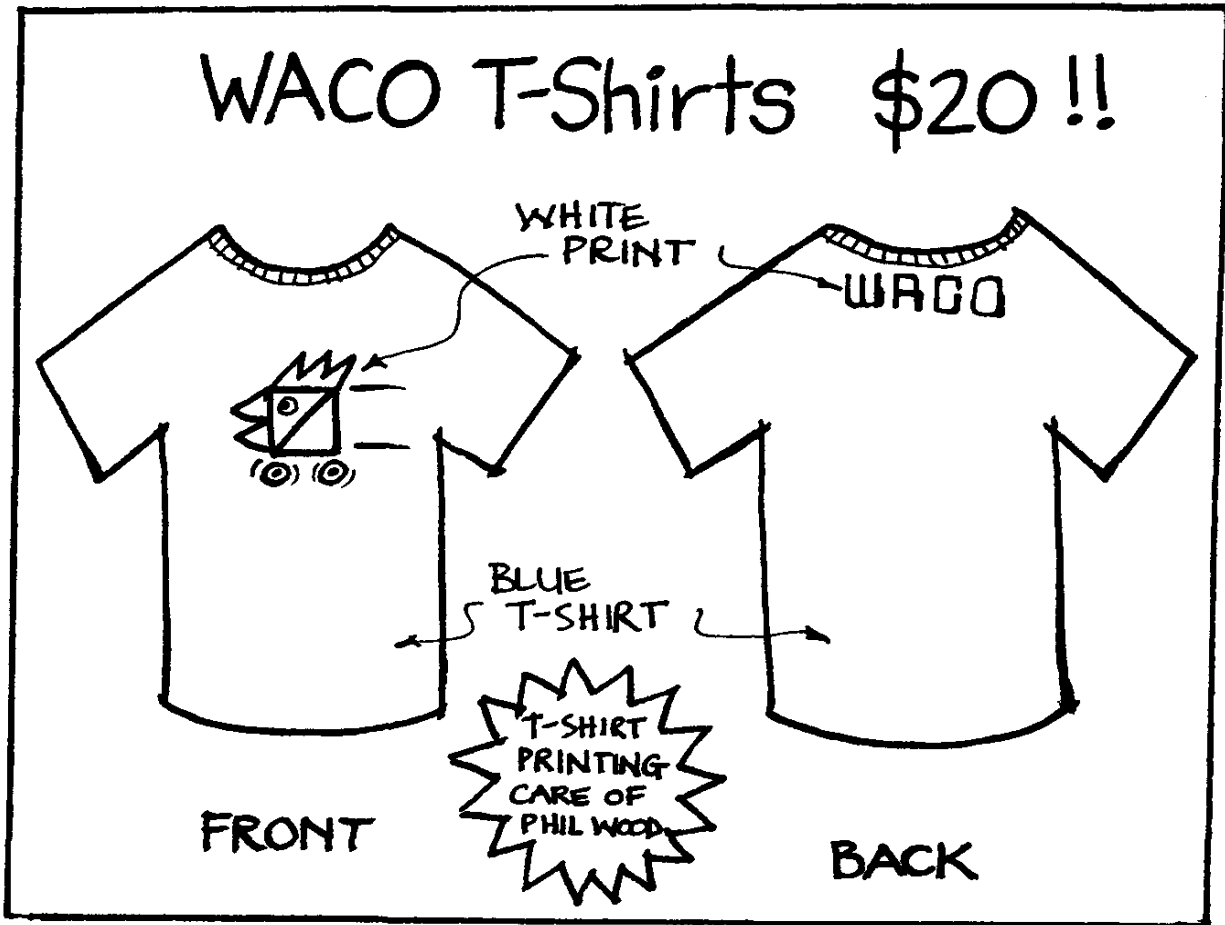
Phil Wood hadn't orienteered for a while, and so he had trouble remembering what to take along on his run. A few minutes into his course at Katoa Po, he realised that he had forgotten his compass. Luckily he had started at the same time as Ben Bocock. However, Ben had borrowed his compass off Michal, and it turned out to be a northern hemisphere compass. Both of them had good races apart from that however, and Phil said it was a good kickstart back into orienteering for him.

Other stand out runs came from Neil Kerrison, Brent Edwards, and Matthew Tuck (who really kicked some novice butt!).

T-Shirts

WACO now has a club t-shirt. It is a high quality Hanes Beefy T in blue with a white print. These cost only \$20. You can also supply your own t-shirts, and Phil will print them for \$5.

The WACO t-shirt is available in M, L and XL, and the prints can be small or large. Please place orders through Phil on 634 8104.

Leppin Orders

Matthew Tuck at Leppin Sport International Ltd has generously offered a 20% discount on his sports nutrition products to all WACO members. Please place any orders through me.

Cheers

Melissa

6348104

Get Your Private, Free Email at <http://www.hotmail.com>

NOSING AROUND FOR SUPPORT

You too can join the National Orienteering Squad! Associate membership is now available for everyone who wants to support NOS in its bid for the World Cup. NOS coach and manager Alistair and Jean Cory-Wright, really appreciate the support from the orienteering fraternity for their Easter fundraising event.

For the World Champs in July the Squad will spend two weeks in the Scottish Highlands training immediately prior to WOC . The associate membership subscription will help fund their accommodation and transport costs during this time.

Membership entitles you to:

- NOS Associate Membership starter pack (a surprise parcel full of NOS info, training tips and free goodies)
- Subscription to NOSing Around (squad magazine)
- Discounted entry to NOS-organised events
- Opportunity to train with the squad at NOS training sessions if space permits
- Discounted NOS merchandise.

Please fill in the following form and send it to the squad manager.

NATIONAL ORIENTEERING SQUAD Associate Membership Application Form

Name:

Address:

Phone number:

Fax number:

Email address:

I agree to my name being reproduced in publicity of the National Orienteering Squad and Associate Members club.

SIGNED -----

Please send with \$30 to National Orienteering Squad Manager:

Alistair Cory-Wright
74 Calliope Road
Devonport
AUCKLAND

Ph 09 445 9960

email: al@ak.carsongrp.co.nz

Please make cheques payable to National Orienteering Squad.

CYCLIC SAGA 1999 - TWO DAYS TOUGH GOING

John Counsell gets on his bike for a score event.

Cyclic Saga is an annual mountain bike score orienteering event, now in its fifth year, held on the Banks Peninsula just south of Christchurch.

Competition is between teams of two, three or four riders and lasts over two days with a time limit of seven hours for the first day and six hours for the second. There is an entry limit of 300 hundred competitors and due to the rising popularity of the event this had been reached a month before the closing date.

The event begins from Akaroa early on Saturday morning with the teams receiving their maps just twenty minutes before the start. This means engaging the brain at high speed to make decisions about broad strategy for the weekend, the main decision being "do I go south or north on day one?" There are 38 controls in total with scores varying from 10 to 40 points depending on their difficulty. As most of the controls were to the north and the time limit on Day 1 was an hour longer most competitors opted to head in this direction.

One of the key aspects of the event is the need to be self sufficient (at the briefing the organiser's words that constantly ran through my mind during the tougher parts of the weekend were "we are trying to provide people with a backcountry experience"!) so each team has to carry all essentials for the day including adequate clothing, drink, food and tools to repair bikes. The overnight is at a campsite with your tent, sleeping bags and other essentials being carried by the organisers.

The weather on the first day was overcast with occasional drizzle; at altitude a fair amount of wind and cloud made navigation quite challenging.

The first few controls were fairly straightforward to locate. However, all controls were "secretised" as they were mostly close to public access, this being necessary to prevent theft.

By the end of day one we were pretty exhausted after two big climbs and several smaller ones. There was also a sting in the tail with a 260m climb to the finish - just what you needed after seven hours of hard riding! This in fact ensured that many teams received penalties (1 point per minute delay) with the biggest being 125 points ie over two hours late!

At the highest point on the course I managed to come off my bike scoring some severe bruising to my left arm (still keeping me off swimming three weeks later) which felt like a break at the time. I could still ride on the flat and uphill but, unfortunately, due to the jarring I was forced to run the downhills. This was going to be a long weekend!

Shortly after setting up camp it began to rain and this pretty much set the tone for the rest of the weekend. Thankfully our new tent proved itself up to the job - but cooking our trough of pasta proved interesting. I consoled myself while sitting in my tent, not without some considerable pain from my newly acquired injury thinking one day this will be five years ago.

The next day began with it still raining hard so by the time we set off we were already soaked. The old saying "when the going gets tough ... where's the nearest public transport?" was never more apt.

The first control of the day involved a climb of 250 m in driving wind and rain, only to find that a friendly farmer (as we subsequently discovered) had taken the control. At this point the main thing that kept us going was that we had no choice as there was no other way to get back to Akaroa than to cycle!

After successfully finding three more controls we then had to endure a 7km, 650m climb which took us well over an hour. The prospect of a shower, hot food and dry clothing were taking on overwhelming proportions!

The prizegiving was a well organised affair with some impressive results and stories. One of the more humorous was about a vet rescuing a sheep that was visibly shaking and in distress - as he took hold of the sheep he discovered the problem as the shock he received confirmed that the sheep was entertaining itself by clinging to an electric fence!

The winners were a mixed pair (Keith Murray and Andrea) with a total of 555 points. The record for the course is over 600 points but the difficulty will vary from year to year and certainly this year the wind and rain made things difficult.

Michael Wood did well winning the veteran's category with a points total of 455.

There was also an award for the team that were most lost - impressively this went to a threesome that had managed to find themselves 15km off the map!

All in all a great event, very well organised and an excellent adventure in one of New Zealand's spectacular places, but you need to have a good level of bike fitness - we estimated we climbed over 10,000 ft during the weekend!

THE ORGANISER'S NIGHTMARE

It was enough to make you jump on the next plane to Tahiti and leave them all to it. The organiser of the Frivolous Five Days was having a terrible time trying to allocate jobs to helpers without asking anyone to work on more than one day. It had gone smoothly enough to begin with, but now she was down to the last five jobs and five helpers from five clubs. Sometimes the people with the expertise just weren't available when they were needed - and some people were fussy about what they did to help.

For example, while David was extremely amenable, neither Fred nor the helper from Evergreen OC were prepared to do car parking, which was the only job needing to be filled on Day 4. The helper from Blow Me Down Klubb, who volunteered to organise the toilets, wasn't Fred.

Bill from Afterthought Orienteers said he would do anything to help, anytime - except car parking - and then he remembered he was washing his O-kit on day 2. Graham was very sorry but he couldn't come on Day 2 either.

Murray, who had previously been a member of the Blow Me Down orienteers, was only available on Day 5 and the helper from Occasional Orienteers could only come on Day 3, but he wouldn't work with the traders because it meant getting up too early.

The helper who said he would allocate spaces to the traders, could come on Day 1 and neither could the computer expert. The final straw came when everyone in the local playgroup went down with measles, so she now had to find someone to run the creche.

Can you help her to work out which helper from which club did which job and on which day?

FINNS OUTNUMBER KIWIS FOR WMOC 2000

With the World Masters Orienteering Champs fast approaching, 450 entries have now been received.

At this point, there are twice as many Finns as there are New Zealanders. While locals may not have the same impetus to register in advance (since they don't have the same travel concerns), accommodation options will diminish steadily towards the millennium. Also, the fees go up after the next registration deadline of July 31, so there's a distinct advantage to early enrolment.

Among the notable entrants to date are:

- * Jorgen Martensson, the former World elite and former M35 Masters Champion.
- * Jonathon Musgrave (Scotland), winner of the M35 grade in Minneapolis.
- * Former Olympic Champion, Peter Snell and his wife Miki from USA.
- * Rick McGregor, past member of the PAPO (Christchurch) club who now resides in Sweden (IFK KIRUN Club) and will be returning home to compete in the M40 grade.
- * Janne Salmi, (world short course champion) does not qualify for the masters, and is entering the 3-day public race.

Other orienteers have come out of the woodwork. Typical of these is Brian Stewart of Waikanae (M50) who has been orienteering for years. Although seldom seen at events these days, he has entered because he can't resist such an opportunity.

The oldest competitors are two men entered in the M85 grade. The oldest woman is in W80. All of these people are from Finland, proving that neither distance, nor age, are impediments to entry.

The youngest entrants in the public event are Oliver Watson (age 6) of the Hawkes Bay Club and Emily Dinsdale (age 7) of Wellington. Since most families will want to be together at this historic time, it's nice to know that everyone can be involved. Those who don't want to run need not feel left out, as volunteers will be welcome at all events.

The Feilding Millennium Committee is organising a joint millennium celebration to include orienteers. The town is keen to support this and is liaising with WMOC 2000 management to make the event a memorable one for everyone. Local primary schools are already emailing our overseas entrants with a welcome and supplying information about Feilding and New Zealand.

Training maps will be available from the beginning of June. These will be of similar terrain to WMOC 2000 maps and controls will be positioned for anyone wishing to train. Further details will be sent to clubs in due course and training camps on these maps will be encouraged.

Margaret Richardson

Orienteer of the Year Competition 1999

There has been a change in the OY competition this year, with M40A moved to a red course. Otherwise the status quo prevails.

The Auckland Orienteer of the Year (OY) competition is a series of events open to all financial members of clubs in the Auckland Orienteering Association and Central Districts Orienteering Association. This year there are eight events in the series, starting in March, and competitors in these earn points based on both their placing and time. The best seven performances of each competitor will be counted to determine the winner of the Orienteer of the Year award in each grade.

Entering the competition

You do not have to do anything to enter; you will automatically earn points in the grade in which you first compete. Competitors can only register points in one grade, so if you wish to change grades later in the competition, you must advise the OY Statistician (Keith Stone, 14a Melandra Road, Whangaparaoa, ph 09 424 2640). Once this advice has been received, points will be awarded in the new grade and any points earned in the previous grade will be removed.

Pre-start

A pre-start of six minutes will operate at each OY event. The start time entered on your clip-card will be the time you enter the pre-start to copy your course from the master maps. You then start your course six minutes later.

Course setters must consider the number of competitors on each course and the length of course to be copied in order to provide an adequate number of master maps.

OY points

The points awarded in each grade are calculated in two parts —
Place points are awarded to the first 20 in each grade; 10 for 1st, 9.5 for 2nd, 9 for 3rd and so on, down to .5 for 20th (if there are that many)

Time points are awarded according to the following formula:

$$10 - \frac{\text{Your time} - \text{Winner's time}}{\text{Winner's time}} \times 10$$

This means that you lose one time point for every 10% of the winner's time that you are slower so that no time points are earned when your time is double the winner's time.

Each competitor's best seven points earned from the eight events will be totalled to determine the series results.

OY awards

To qualify for an OY certificate, senior competitors must have run in a minimum of four of the eight events or earned more points than others in the grade who have run in at least four events.

Results

Cumulative results are displayed at each OY event and in the Auckland orienteering newsletter.

Grade and course combinations

Ages as at 31 December 1999 determine one's 'official' grade but competitors may still be eligible to compete in a different grade if they wish. Grades designated '21', e.g. M21E or W21B, are open to everyone. Junior grades (below 21) mean "up to and including this age" while senior grades (above 21) mean "this age or older". Grades designated 'S', e.g. M21AS or W40AS, provide a shorter course for that age group. If you choose to run on a course which does not provide a grade for which you are eligible you should enter "unofficial" in the grade box on your clip-card.

This year there will be 7 courses and 29 grades —

Course	Men's grades	Women's grades	Technical difficulty	Winner's time
1	M21E		Red	65 mins
2	M21A M40A	W21E	Red	55 mins
3	M18A M21AS M50A	W21A W40A	Red	45 mins
4	M40AS M60A M70A	W18A W21AS W50A W60A	Red	45 mins
5	M16A M21B	W16A W21B W40AS	Orange	40 mins
6	M14A M21C	W14A W21C	Yellow	35 mins
7	M12A Kiwisport	W12A Kiwisport	White	25 mins

Technical difficulty

The following guidelines apply to typical forest maps and might change at other venues:

Red courses can be described "as technically difficult as possible". They are intended for experienced senior orienteers.

Orange courses have controls near attack points but away from handrails, and offer some route choice. They are for experienced juniors and inexperienced seniors.

Yellow courses have controls near handrails, little route choice and no reliance on understanding of contours. They are for inexperienced juniors and novice seniors.

White courses have controls on handrails, all routes directly along handrails, no route choice and no contour features. They are for novice juniors.

Club officials

The OY Statistician relies upon lists of financial members prepared by the participating clubs — if competitors are not listed, they are considered non-members. It is important that clubs advise the statistician before each OY event of any new financial members otherwise they will not be included.

Course lengths and climb should be included in the published results for each event so that the competitor's times can be compared with other events.

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RULES FOR NZ FOOT ORIENTEERING EVENTS 1999

The Technical Committee of NZOF have issued the final draft of modified O rules due to be ratified at the AGM April 25. It's a great read, clear and simple and essential for anyone involved in setting an event. The changes from the existing rules are as follows:

- a) The System of event Classification has been changed from "Major" events to A level, B level and C level competitions. Only A level competitions are required to have NZOF approved controllers. Some A level competitions may be run at a lower level if unavoidable. Refer rule 2.1
- b) National Short-O Champs are now eligible for badge credits
- c) NZ Secondary School Champs individual Classic race is now a badge event.
- d) Order of National Champs relay legs has been changed refer rule 5.7
- e) Handrail panel for checking of courses is now deleted.
- f) Block starting rather than mixed starting is mandatory with exceptions for organisers, adults with young children. This clarifies a hazy area.
- g) Residency period for eligibility for National Champs and National Interclub Relays reduced to 3 months.
- h) Where two short distance events are run in one day they shall be designed for no more than 40% of the single day times. Previously they were approx. 33% for E classes and 50% for other classes. The reduction is to bring all classes in line and to accentuate the different nature of short O events from classic events
- i) The new rule regarding water is "Water will be provided at the finish, and on the courses at least every 30 minutes based on the winner's speed. Disposable cups must be provided" This clarifies an area where there is some variance.
- j) The control card punching rule is modified to clarify the one acceptable mistake to be when "not having at least a part of the marking in the correct box" occurs.
- k) The location of the start triangle on the ground shall be marked by a control flag but no marking device. This brings NZ in line with IOF rules. Competitors must now pass within touching distance of this control flag
- l) There is a new procedure for protests with initially a "complaint" ruled on by the Event Controller. There is no fee for a complaint. If a competitor is not happy with the controller's decision then a protest is lodged which is ruled on by the Protest Jury.
- m) The 10 course combination for events of less than 200 persons has been rationalised into 10 year age groups.
- n) The "Principles of Course Planning" used to be a separate booklet but is now included within the IOF rules so has been included in the NZOF rules as an Appendix.
- o) A checklist for organisers of events has been included in an Appendix.
- p) NZ specific symbols for maps and control descriptions has been included in an Appendix.

ANAGRAMS OF THE WORLD UNITE, UNTIE

An Anagram, as you know, is a word or phrase made by transposing or rearranging the letters of another word or phrase. The following are exceptionally clever. Someone out there either has way too much time to waste or is deadly at Scrabble.

Dormitory = Dirty Room
Evangelist = Evil's Agent
Desperation = A Rope Ends It
The Morse Code = Here Come Dots
Slot Machines = Cash Lost in 'em
Animosity = Is No Amity
Mother-in-law = Woman Hitler
Snooze Alarms = Alas! No More Z's
Alec Guinness = Genuine Class
The Public Art Galleries = Large Picture Halls, I Bet
A Decimal Point = I'm a Dot in Place
The Earthquakes = That Queer Shake
Eleven plus two = Twelve plus one
Contradiction = Accord not in it
Princess Diana = Ascend in Paris (freaky, right?)

This one's truly amazing:

"To be or not to be: that is the question, whether tis nobler in the mind to suffer the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune."

And the Anagram:

"In one of the bard's best-thought-of tragedies, our insistent hero, Hamlet, queries on two fronts about how life turns rotten."

And for the grand finale:

"That's one small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind." - Neil Armstrong

The Anagram:

"Thin man ran; makes a large stride, left planet, pins flag on moon!"
- On to Mars!

The AUCKLAND ORIENTEER...

...is the monthly newsletter of the Auckland Orienteering Clubs, Auckland, Counties-Manukau, NorthWest and Waikato and Auckland Campus Orienteers. It is edited (for the moment) by Jill Brewis, AOC and distributed by Lisa Mead, NWOC. It is published at the beginning of every month

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Editorial contributions very welcome. Mail them to 32 Dingle Road Auckland 5, phone 575 6989, fax 575 6916 or email to abrewis@iprolink.co.nz.

Deadline is last Friday of every month.

May issue deadline: Friday 30 April.

Disks or email please, if you can with rtf or Microsoft Word 7 (not Office 97!), on DOS 3.5" disks for preference.

If you can't supply on disk I can type contributions if necessary.

Distribution

If you change your address, please contact your club membership officer or Lisa Mead on 445 4555. If you want a back issue of The Auckland BLABBERMOUTH, please contact your club membership person or Lisa Mead.

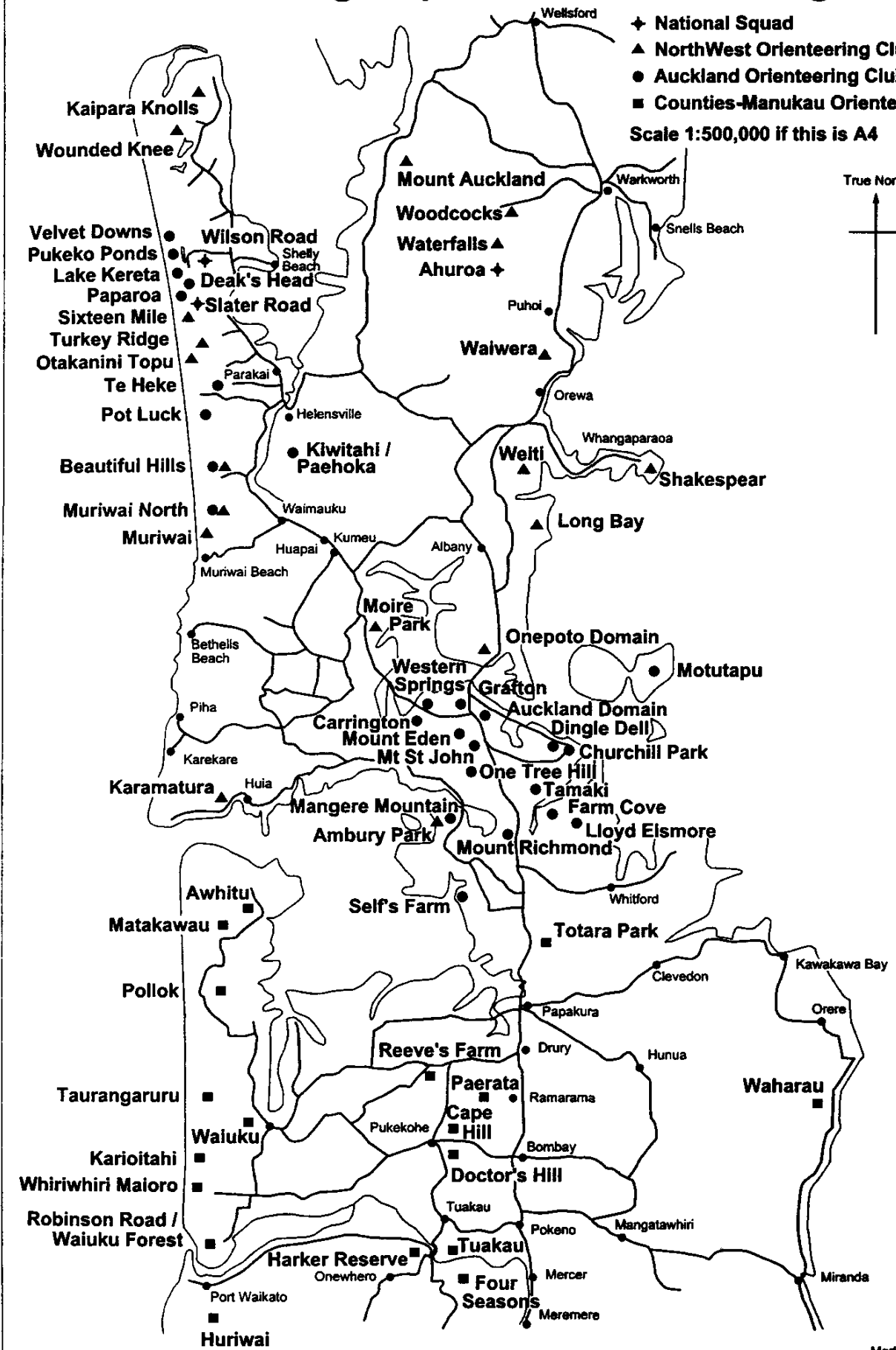
Credits

The New Zealand Orienteering Federation gratefully acknowledges the support of the Hillary Commission.

The Auckland orienteering clubs wish to thank Carter Holt Harvey for the use of its forests.

Orienteering maps of the Auckland region

- ◆ National Squad
 - ▲ NorthWest Orienteering Club
 - Auckland Orienteering Club
 - Counties-Manukau Orienteering Club
- Scale 1:500,000 if this is A4



**Sender: Lisa Mead
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