

The AUCKLAND ORIENTEER



MARCH 1991

EDITORIAL

Hi folks

The summer series is drawing to a close but not the summer weather I hope. It seems to have been very well attended at least judging by the few events I have been to. I hope that new club members will continue their enthusiasm and interest and come along to some of the OYs and promotion events.



I hope Bruce Henderson's note will inspire some of our top orienteers into action and ensure that we beat the Ozzies in May.

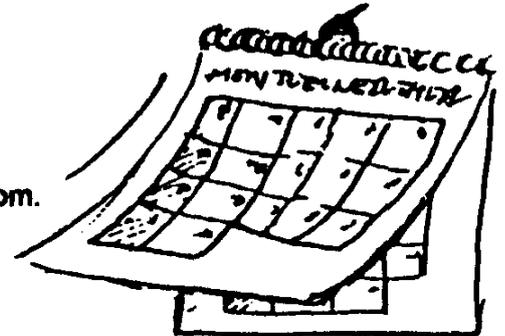
Now that the new season is starting I will be pleased to receive any event reports which people feel inspired to send me. I am now working in Ngatea and so have less time in Auckland in which to do the magazine. That means that the published deadline is more critical and any articles received after that date may not be published.

Rowena Grenfell

COMING EVENTS

MARCH

- | | | | |
|------|---------|-------------|---|
| 2 | Sat | SA | Summer Series. Taurangaruru. 4-6pm. |
| 3 | Sun | NW | Summer Series. Ambury Park. 10am-12.30pm. |
| 5 | Tue | C | Summer Series. Self's Farm, Papatoetoe. 5-7pm. |
| 9 | Sat | NW | Auckland Night Champs. Kiwitahi. Signed from State Highway 16, north of Waimauku. |
| 10 | Sun | C | OY1. Paehoka. Signed from State Highway 16, north of Waimauku. |
| 12 | Tue | C | Summer Series. One Tree Hill. 5-7pm. |
| 17 | Sun | R | CDOA OY1. Highland Station. Signed from State Highway 5 (Taupo-Rotorua Road), 20 minutes from Rotorua. |
| 17 | Sun | C | Promotion. Temu Road, Woodhill Forest. Signed from State Highway 16, Rimmers Road. |
| 24 | Sun | SA | Possible training for Secondary School Champs, probably Mt Richmond. Contact Jeanette Boswell 299 9671. |
| 29-1 | Fri-Mon | SA/Pine/Ham | Easter 4 day. Entry form in Map Sport. |



APRIL

- | | | | |
|----|-----|----|---|
| 7 | Sun | SA | OY2. Pollock. 15-20km north of Waiuku (turn right at Waiuku for Awhitu Peninsular). |
| 11 | Thu | C | Auckland Secondary School Champs. Surprise location. |
| 14 | Sun | NW | Promotion. Moire Park. |

- 21 Sun C Promotion. Western Springs.
- 21 Sun T CDOA OY2. Paetataramoā. From Rotorua, take State Highway 5 (Taupo Road) to Reparoa Dairy Factory, turn left into Reparoa and right along Broadlands Road. Signed from Broadlands Road past Ohaaki Power Station.
- 28 Sun National Coaching Day.

MAY

- 4/5 Sat/Sun D NZ Secondary School Champs, Dunedin.
- 5 Sun WOC Squad
Woodhill Forest Run
- 11/26 Sat/Sun Auck/Ham
ANZ Challenge & 'O' Carnival

START TIMES

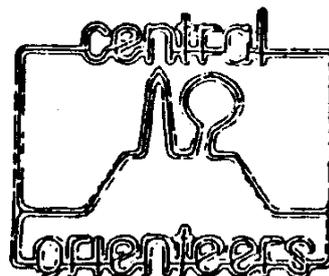
For all Auckland events you can start any time from 10am to 12.30pm. Central Districts club events vary from area to area but their OY's have start times from 11am to 1pm.

DEADLINES FOR NEXT ISSUES

Please send all contributions for the April issue to reach the editor (50 Konini Road, One Tree Hill) by Wednesday 20th March.

Deadline for May issue is Wednesday 24 April.

THE CENTRAL SPY REPORT



* It has been great to see the subs starting to come in. But there are still a vast number of you that have not yet returned the renewal form that you were sent with last month's newsletter. So, come on, get those cheque books out and send those subs in. Remember that to gather points in the OY competition you first have to be financial. The first OY is coming up on the 10th March so you haven't much time left. If you have lost your renewal form then either get one from the registration van at our Summer Series events or give Eddie a ring. This will be the last newsletter you receive until you are financial again.

* A very warm welcome to our new members: Fiona Crawford (looks like we can at last field a W21A team at the relays); Jill Dalton; Neal Harrington; Joanne Henderson; Roger Hiscock; Russel, Robyn, Rebecca and Matthew Howard; Bob, Hamish and Jeremy Lindop. Nice to see some of them helping at events.

* Paul Potter has just renewed his subscription from Chile. Paul, a mining engineer, is living in Arauco (500 kms south-east of Santiago) and hopes to be back in Auckland later this year.

* The Summers Series of events have been blessed with better weather in the main than last years. Great turnouts at recent events.

* The Auckland Secondary Schools Orienteering Champs are to be hosted by our club on Thursday, 11th April. For all the Junior members - please make sure that your school has entered some teams. For all the Seniors - helpers are wanted for this midweek event. If you will be free on this day please contact Leon Mc Givern (Ph 564-567). He will be grateful of any help you can offer. Volunteers from other clubs would also be greatly appreciated.

* The club is running a survey to find out how all our new members became acquainted with the sport. We now would like to extend this survey to all our members. This will give us some idea of where to pitch our membership recruitment. So please take the time fill in the form found elsewhere in this newsletter and send it to Eddie Reddish, 12 Pooley Street, Pakuranga.

* The next meeting will be on Wednesday 6th March at Peter Johnson's Place, 11b Guildford Place, Glen Innes beginning at 7.30 pm. All club members are welcome and encouraged to come along.

* The next social event will be held on Sunday, 25th March at the Reddish's, (address above) starting at 4pm. Bring your running gear, BYO food and drink. Format as before: Run, BBQ, talk, games, what ever..

* If you have any news (including gossip) for this column please contact Eddie on 569-147 as THE SPY still hasn't got his phone connected.

THE SPY

NORTH WEST NEWS

- Another Kaweka Challenge has been and gone and the O'Brien family kept North West's flag flying this week-end. Lorri and Chris came fourth in the mixed pairs on Course 3 while David teamed with Thur Borren (Kapiti) to be third juniors home on course 2.
- Geoff Mead has landed the plum job of Club Captain for 1991. If you haven't volunteered yourself for any tasks during the year Geoff will definitely be getting in touch with you. How about making the job a little easier and ringing him with an offer to assist at one of the North West events this year. Phone 454 555.
- Have you answered the questionnaire sent out to you? We would like to have a number of social occasions this year, so it would help to know what your interests are.
- Congratulations to Donna Cooper who has been appointed head girl of Rangitoto College. Donna is still troubled by her ankle injury, and is not able to do any orienteering as yet. Life is going to be pretty hectic from now on, I guess.
- Peter Godfrey took part in the Masters Games recently, and came away with a gold medal in his grade. Well done!



NORTH WEST
ORIENTEERING CLUB

- Don't forget the Club meetings held on the first Thursday of the month: 7.30pm, everyone is welcome. 7th March is at Stan Foster's, 70 Waimari Road, Whenuapai; 4th April at Stone's, 8 Agathis Ave, Mairangi Bay.
- Welcome to the club to Ian Gunthorpe from Albany, Phillip Goss from Torbay, and Christer Abrahamsson from Sweden (who will be a member of the Stone family for a year). Hope you enjoy your orienteering with North West.
- Judy Martin and Lorrie Baxter are at present in Nelson helping to establish Kiwisport orienteering in that area. From all reports it seems to be going well. A club in that province would have some great areas to map.
- While on the subject of Kiwisport, is there anyone out there who would be willing to lend Leslie Stone a hand with some of the sessions that are held throughout the year? We are missing out on quite a bit of exposure because of a lack of available people. You don't even have to know much about orienteering; the manual is fairly self-explanatory. Please ring 478 8224 if you want to know more.

North West Newshound

SOUTH AUCKLAND NEWS

- Good to see some of our old members: Keith Hatwell and Family, Geoff & Sally Pilbrow.
- Rosehill College is taking advantage of local events with many new teenagers under the guidance of Barbara Batty and Jeanette Boswell.
- Ian Curry is back in action and on the comeback trail. Watch out M40's, as his fitness returns!
- Ralph Boswell mapped and drew a great map of his parents' farm after the event had to be moved at the last moment. A lot of favourable comments on running on a black and white map with no contours. Beginners found it easier, and experienced a change. Maybe we should have more of these simple events for promotion.
- After agreeing early in 1990 to set one day of a four-day event in conjunction with Hamilton club, the SA Club found that we were only setting a warm-up event when we read the Easter information (set up as a short-O, i.e. one event in the AM, one in the PM). In order to be able to hold this event, we must have a reasonable number of entries or else we will be forced to cancel the day. So when you enter for Easter, remember to also enter the short-O. Ross Brighthouse promises great courses and a fun day to those who enter.
- Remember, membership subscriptions are due NOW.
- Next meeting: March 4, Robinsons' Pukekohe. April 1, Lewis' Papakura. It's not an April Fool — all SA members welcome.
- Want to learn about course setting, controlling or organising an orienteering event? Learn the practical way. Ring Murray Tremain 298 3797.



Unni Lewis

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SUMMER SERIES COURSES

In 1973 when the International Orienteering Federation circulated all member nations about TRIM orienteering which, similar to the aims of our Summer Series in Auckland, was to encourage and promote social orienteering it was stressed that equal attention should be given to both TRIM and competitive orienteering.



It is therefore essential that, having national selection trials coming up at Easter, the experienced orienteers are entitled to expect to be catered for at Summer Series events as well as newcomers and learners. This can be done in several ways provided that controllers for Summer Series events are experienced controllers so that the trainee course planners are introduced to planning across the spectrum.

After all, many of our best orienteers are the ones who bring along friends to introduce them to orienteering. Were we not to cater for those people and they in turn decide not to attend, we should not have nearly as many newcomers.

Set a line event, for example, or a Norwegian memory event.

So come on you course planners. I would rather see all our top orienteers along to summer series events rather than have them go off on their own for long training runs in some other area than the Summer Series venue simply because the intention of the IOF is misconstrued, or blatantly ignored.

Here is my suggestion:

- A long, technically difficult course for the experienced orienteers
- A shortened version of that course (two courses for the price of one).
- A B class course, similarly divided to cater for the experienced and progressive learners.
- A C grade course and the usual Kiwisport course.

Ralph King

CLUB SECRETARIES

NORTH WEST ORIENTEERING CLUB	Lorri O'Brien	The Avenue RD2, Albany	415 8932
CENTRAL ORIENTEERING CLUB	Clive Bolt	20 Camwell Close Bucklands Beach	534 2946
SOUTH AUCKLAND ORIENTEERS	Rosemary Gatland	2 Jill Place Manurewa	267 5087
AUCKLAND ORIENTEERING ASSOCIATION	Barry Tuck	14 Estelle Place Pakuranga	567 414
NEW ZEALAND ORIENTEERING FEDERATION	Liz Nicholson	PO Box 30714 Lower Hutt	

SECONDARY SCHOOL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Jeanette Boswell would like to organise a coaching day for secondary school pupils to prepare for the championships on April 11. This training day will be held on Sunday March 24 10AM. Venue will be within the Greater Auckland area (still to be finalised).

If this is to become a reality, she will need assistance from all experienced orienteering pupils (and any other orienteers willing to help on the day).

There will be a charge for this event. All profits will be divided between the pupils from the Auckland area going to the NZ Secondary School Champs in Dunedin on May 4 and 5.

If you can help, ring Jeanette 299 9671 immediately. If your school is interested in sending pupils to the training day, ring Jeanette immediately.

Jeanette is also co-ordinating the travel for Auckland area to the NZ Secondary School Champs on May 4 and 5. The larger the group, the better the discounts. If you or your school is interested, please ring Jeanette now.

Pupils do not need to be a member of an orienteering club.

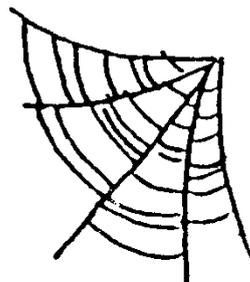
FROM THE ARCHIVES

February and March 1981 were months of three trials for the Australia/NZ series.

At Ngaumu (part of the Telescope Creek and Kuamahanga maps used in last year's multi day events) Steve Key (Australia), John Rix and Roland Offrell (Sweden) filled the first three places with Anitra Dowling, Cathy Hartwell and Trish Aspin top women.

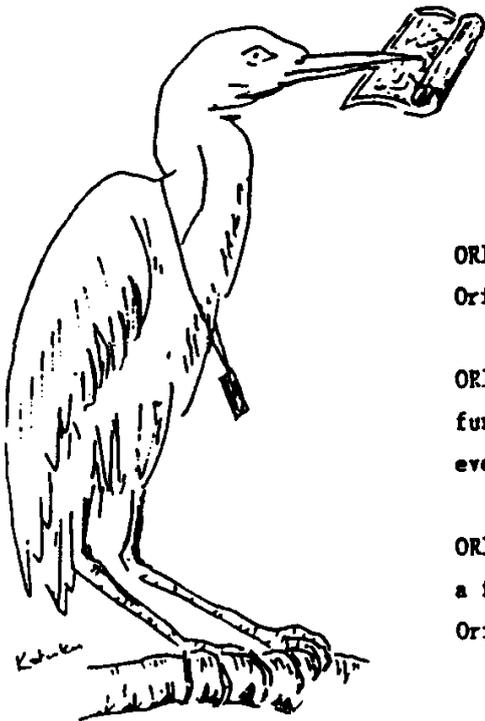
A second trial at Claypit Road (near the Woodhill entrance) was won by John Rix from David Melrose and Colin Battley. Among the other grade winners were Don Rolfe M43, David Morrison M56, Julia Fettes W15-16 (there were twelve entries in this grade) and Barry Shucker M35.

Waimarama (now flattened by a storm) had almost 200 entries. Who remembers Geoff Bendall M43, Karen Sheldon W12 and Robin Moore 3rd in W21A?



From Ken Browne





OK CERTIFICATE

ORIENTEERING - Kivi Certificate - for completing 5 Orienteering events. sponsored by the A.O.A.

ORIENTEERING KEA Certificate - for completing a further 5 Orienteering events - making it 10 Orienteering events sponsored by the A.O.A.

ORIENTEERING KOTUKU Certificate - for completing a further 5 Orienteering events making it 15 Orienteering events sponsored by the A.O.A.

There is no time limit on the completing of the required events for any certificate. Competitors may participate alone - or in pairs.

It is accepted that a competitor may be accompanied by an adult, on the understanding that the Junior tries to do most of the navigating.

The application for the certificate must contain the events (dates and places).

Applications for the certificate to be sent to :-

Leon McGivern
46 Hope Farm Avenue
Pakuranga
Phone 564567.



ORIENTEER OF THE YEAR COMPETITION

The 1991 OY competition will be run much the same as last year, with only a few changes in grade/course combinations and course lengths.

There are seven events during the year which are designated as OY's and in which competitors earn points based on their placing and time. The best five performances of each competitor are counted to determine the orienteer of the year in each grade. The 1991 OY events are -

OY1	March 10	C	Paehoka
OY2	April 7	SA	Pollock
OY3	June 9	NW	Mt Auckland
OY4	July 7	NW	Woodcocks
OY5	August 4	WH	Phoebe's Lake
OY6	September 1	SA	Waiuku Forest
OY7	September 29	C	Paparoa

The competition is open to all financial members of orienteering clubs. Points will only be awarded to competitors who have paid their current year's subscriptions.

There will be ten courses as follows -

	Winning time	Average distance
Difficult technically and physically		
Course 1 M21E	65 mins	9.0 km
Course 2 M21A, M35A W21E	55 mins	5.9 km
Course 3 M17A, M19A, M40A, M45A	50 mins	5.1 km
Course 4 M15A, M21B, M50A W21A, W35A	45 mins	4.5 km
Difficult technically, moderate physically		
Course 5 M35B, M40B, M55A W17A, W19A, W40A, W45A	45 mins	3.7 km
Difficult technically, easy physically		
Course 6 M45B, M60A, M65A W15A, W21B	45 mins	3.4 km
Course 7 W35B, W40B, W45B, W50A, W55A, W60A	40 mins	2.5 km
Medium technically and physically		
Course 8 M13A, MNLong WNLong	40 mins	3.4 km
Easy technically and physically		
Course 9 M11A, MNShort W11A, W13A, WNShort	40 mins	2.5 km
Course 10 M-10 W-10	30 mins	1.6 km

In addition to the above courses a Kiwisport course will be available which may use the Course 10 controls but should start and finish at a different place from the OY competition.

The difference in physical difficulty is more important on farmland maps which tend to be hilly or on forest maps with large areas of green. Such areas should be avoided on courses 6 to 10.

The average distances are based on OY courses set in 1990.

Grade Details:

Grades in orienteering are based on the age you will be on 31 December in the current year, i.e. 31 December 1991 this year. M-10 and W-10 are for all ages up to and including 10 years, other junior grades move in 2-year steps, 11A for 11 & 12 years, 13A for 13 & 14 years etc. The 21 Grades are open to all ages, "E" for elite orienteers, "A" for less ambitious and "B" for less experienced or less fit. Then the grades move in 5-year steps, 35A or B for 35-39 years, 40A or B for 40-44 years etc.

There are four new grades this year, Men Novice Long (MNLong), Women Novice Long (WNLong), Men Novice Short (MNShort) and Women Novice Short (WNShort). These grades are specifically for beginners and those who do not wish to compete on the more difficult courses.

Juniors may compete in an older grade e.g. a 15 year old may run in 15A, 17A, 19A, any of the 21 grades or in either of the Novice grades, while a senior may compete in a younger grade e.g. a 43 year old may run in 40A, 40B, 35A, 35B, any of the 21 grades or in either of the Novice grades.

Competitors can only register points in one grade and the grade in which you first run in an OY competition each year determines the grade in which your points will be recorded. If you subsequently wish to change grades you must advise the OY Statistician who will remove any points earned in the previous grade and record points earned in events run after notification of the change has been received.

Trophies

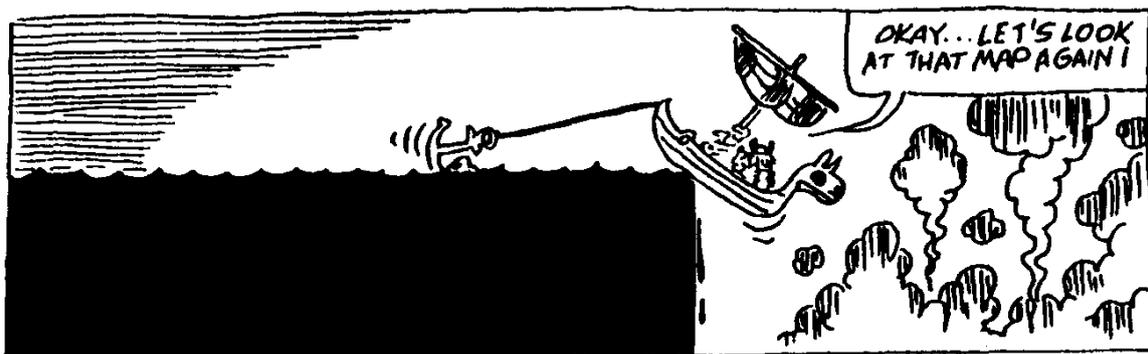
To qualify for an OY trophy or certificate competitors must have run in a minimum of four of the seven events or earned more points than others in the grade who have run in at least four events. Trophies are available for all grades but will only be awarded when this qualification is met.

Joker

No changes have been made to the *Joker* concept introduced last year. Each competitor can select any one of the first six events to play their *Joker* which will earn them double the usual points. In the final event (OY7) all competitors will earn double the usual points. The course planner and controller of OY7 will use OY6 as their final event and must select their *Joker* event from the first five events.

Competitors must register their choice of *Joker* event by completing the special form which is available at OY events. The forms may be registered at any time prior to the selected event but no later than 10.30 am on the day of the selected event. The *Joker* choices will remain confidential to the OY Statistician until the final event when the *Jokers* and their respective points will be revealed.

The OY Statistician is Keith Stone, 8 Agathis Avenue, Mairangi Bay, Auckland 10. Telephone 478-8224.



HEAT 'N' GRILL

He appeared over the sanddune with chilling suddenness. "Are you doing a course?" he asked, "as if I were an alien from outer space. "Yes," I replied, startled. "Which course?" he continued, still looking puzzled. "Course 2," I returned. "Have you got a start time?" he persisted, to which I replied, "1.56". "Well, I know nothing about you," he declared, "and I should, because I'm collecting the controls!"

My life flashed before my eyes. How I had arrived at the starting area in the forest at Heaton Park at 1.40 p.m., to find the last of the medals for the inaugural 'O' event at the NZ Masters Games being handed out to the three dozen participants. How I had ridden in the 40k cycle road race at Wanganui earlier in the day. How earlier on in the week I had explained my logistical problems to event coordinator Graham Teahan, who had given me permission to arrive when I could, even if it was 2 o'clock instead of the 11.30 start allotted me. It all seemed a long time ago now, and to my increasing dismay, it was!

On my way to the pre-start I had been told by one of the competitors that although she had taken close on two hours for course 2, she had walked it and furthermore Liz N. had zipped around it in 49 minutes. When I checked in Graham T. had informed me that the only other entry in my grade, Hub Carter, who had convincingly beaten me into fifth place in the 1500m two days earlier, had decided to run course 1 and compete in the M40. Graham had then taken me down the track to the start triangle and sent me on my way.

The first control on the 1:15 000 map was so close that the circle touched the triangle. It was just over the adjacent low dune, across the parallel forest path on the other side and in an area of vague topography with masses of barbed grass seed-heads and blackberry. The only trouble was that the control that kept finding me stubbornly maintained the wrong markings on it. Beating my head against a nearby pine tree, I wondered [not for the first time, and probably not for the last] why I was always like the trotter who breaks at the start and loses all chance. Finally, after 16.26 the correct control suddenly popped up and beckoned. I was in business, after a fashion.

Number 2 was only 200m away, a depression high up in the main forest dune. Then it was 450m along the contours to a control perched on the steep dune face overlooking a pretty little lake in a mown setting. The last two in under nine minutes; we were over the teething problems and on our way! The only worrying thing now was an intermittent thumping; had the cycle race a couple of hours before taken too much out of me and was a heart attack imminent?

The fourth control was only 300m away, across a gentle downslope leading to a steep drop into the broad valley at its foot. I checked along the dune-foot for some distance. No sign of the control! I reversed and checked in the opposite direction. No sign! I widened the search further out into the valley floor. A control — but not the right one! I re-examined the map; the control must be there right in front of me! But the only control anywhere near remained obstinately the wrong one. Panic time again! I checked the map for the zillionth time: although the center of the circle clearly coincided with the contour at the foot of the dune, I decided to search along the dune face and, miracle of miracles, there it was! Not in the center of the circle, but at least revealed! But 29.54 of precious time had been conceded and it was now 2.51 p.m. — and the course was due to close at 3 p.m.

An easy 600m run along the grain of the land led to control 5, a knoll near the forest edge again, from which a glimpse could be caught of Duddings Lake, where a rock festival was under way. Suddenly a weight lifted from my shoulders as I realised that the heart-beat that had been worrying me was merely snatches of the band's rhythm section recreating the Eagles and the Stones.

Then on towards #6, a depression in a complex area littered with prunings. I had just found the elusive control at 3.06 p.m. when the surprised control-collector hove into view. After the conversation quoted above, he delivered his verdict: "Keep ahead of me and you'll be OK!"

The seventh leg, a 550m one, led out of the forest and onto the farm section. A steep drop to the map's only stream found me inching deeper into an impenetrable belt of gorse. From behind came the voice of the control-collector confirming my fears about the wisdom of my current course. I backtracked and skirted the gorse to emerge onto the scrubby duneland harboring #7. There was no longer any protection from the broiling sun: the depressions and valleys were airless and oven-like, while the odd rotting sheep carcass testified to the fact that some who ventured out into this inhospitable terrain would never return to tell of their adventures. [I had also, though I didn't know it then, moved from one control-collector's area to another's.]

While trying to locate myself on the map, I wondered why the nearby trig station wasn't marked on it. Finally I realised the trig was marked but was almost off the map, and I was well uphill from the control. As I started down I noticed movement in the vicinity of my target, and as I arrived at the control a figure announced that he too was a collector of controls. However, as long as I kept ahead of him well, you know the rest! Dominic T. also had a water bottle and what a life-saver that was! However, control 7 had taken almost 24 minutes, and with only the first half of the course completed, 94 minutes had elapsed. With the time now 3.30, was there any point in continuing? I decided to carry on, even if it went down as a DNF.

The next leg, across similar outback scrubland, went smoothly and was followed by a plunge into a cool, grassy-floored exotic plantation. What a relief from the hot, parched lupin hills! Then it was out onto a high longitudinal dune on another 600m leg. A straightforward run, but the marram grass made it seem like a run through a field of needles as it penetrated even running shoes with effortless ease.

Having now punched control 10, I turned in the direction of the finish for the first time. Grassland all the way in! The 500m-plus leg took me down off the ridge, past the thankfully docile bulls and around the end of the boxthorn hedge to the stream where the control was placed. Interpreting the arrow symbol as "on the western side of the stream" I sloshed through the reedy, thigh-deep water to the western side, where after a short search I spotted the control leering insolently at me — from the eastern bank. I made a note to revise the meaning of international symbols as I completed a totally unnecessary double crossing of the stagnant water.

Two controls to go! The first appears in a shallow reentrant to my left. Then it's the final crossing of The Stream. This time it's totally covered in green slime, and it proves just as deep. Finally, up onto a low ridge to pull in the last control.

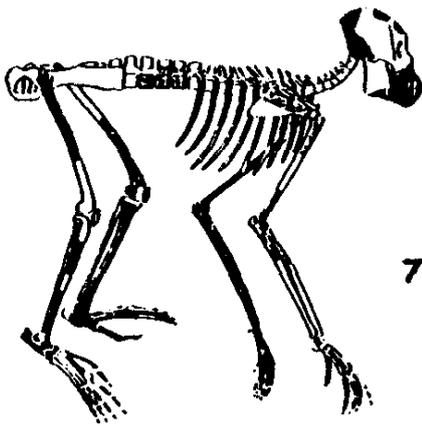
Left wheel, and there's the finish banner, 300m away at the end of a grassy corridor. It seems to take an eternity to reach, although it's only 1½ minutes. The finish is unmanned (unpersonned?) — not surprising since it is just after 4 p.m.! I stop my watch at 126.19. Over by their vehicles are G.T. and Control-Collector #1, enjoying a few cold ones.

"I guess you want your medal," G.T. murmurs.

"I don't deserve one," I reply.

"You've done the course," he returns. "You deserve it."

I wander off, clutching my medal. I am not convinced. It feels hollow. Anyway, it's time for lunch.

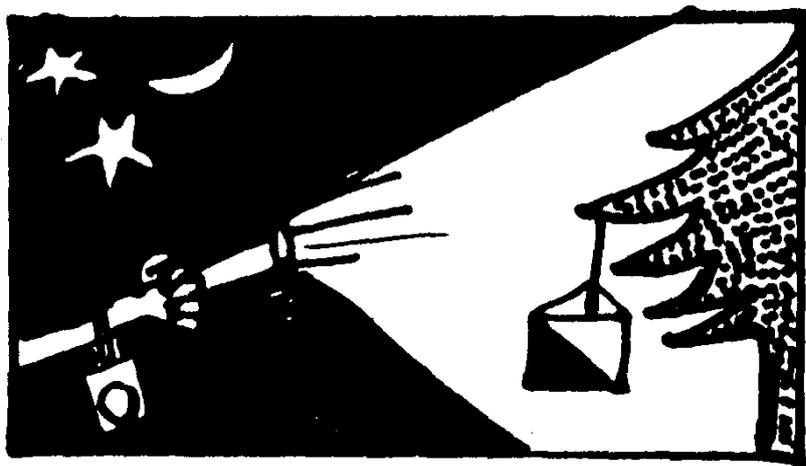


The Survivor

Orienteers do it in the dark!

AUCKLAND NIGHT O CHAMPS

Saturday 09 March '91
KIWITAHI - Farmland Map



ENTRY ON THE NIGHT - ALL WELCOME

Start times from dark (8.00 pm - 9.30 pm)

Choice of 3 courses - 2 km.
4 km.
6 km.

For the not-so-brave - pairs/groups permitted on short course.

B.Y.O. Torch & Entry fee

\$5.00 individual / \$12 family.

Sign posted from State H'way 16, north of Waimauku.

MEETING THE CHALLENGE -KIWIS BEAT AUSTRALIA IN 1991 CHALLENGE

The above headline is no mere fancy on my part; in the trees of North Woodhill it is to become reality in May of this year.

The terrain we will be competing on is classic NZ sandhill terrain -the sort overseas orienteers get excited about when they visit our shores. And on our own terrain we should be very difficult to beat.

Because the trials for this year's challenge are fairly close to the challenge itself, anyone who is serious about winning has to ^{be} well advanced in their preparation before the trials happen. Competition is going to be very hot in every grade.

By now your mileage should be well built up, and for those who are able to, speedwork, intervals and so on should also be part of the schedule. I won't try to advise you on what is best for you; if you're not sure, have a long talk with an experienced coach or competitor -your club coach, maybe a senior or member of the WOC Squad. If they can't help they'll know who can.

I can make some strong suggestions as regards terrain and technique training. Firstly, both the Individual and Relay events are in Woodhill Forest -as I said, classic NZ terrain. Complex sand-dune pine forest; intricate contour, some larger slopes, soft but dry underfoot. Aucklanders know they have an advantage -so many of their events are on one Woodhill map or another; but other areas can if they look around find a good substitute. Central Districts have several areas with complex contour such as Perimeter Road, Mamaku, some of the Taupo erosion gullies; Wellington has Sandhills, Scotts Ferry, Waitarere; PAPO may be able to train on their new Chaney's Forest map, Dunedin on Pyramids, Southland on their sand-dune maps out towards Bluff.

The important thing is to get out and practise in these areas. Get a group of you together, borrow some club controls and get into it. Take turns at setting exercises (again, a coach could help with ideas) in the evenings while there's light, on Saturdays, Sundays if there's no event. Drive out and run these areas, mapreading as you go. Talk about technique, push each other, encourage each other. The more you do the more you'll gain.

Also, track down previous Woodhill maps, especially the more northern ones such as Otakanini Topu and the "New Sixteen Mile". Go over courses, discuss routes, attack points, catch features. Ask those who have run there to comment. Armchair set and mapread, take maps out on training runs and mapread as you go.

The point of all this is simple. Last October I stood on a rock on a map near Cootamundra in New South Wales, handed the Challenge Trophy (reluctantly!) to the Aussie manager and predicted that in 1991 on classic Woodhill terrain the result would be very different.

It will be. This year New Zealand is going to win, not by just a grade or two but convincingly, across the age-range. We have the talent, the experience and the commitment to do it; all it takes is solid application of good old-fashioned effort and the trophy is ours. Where it should be.

A note on meetings, uniforms etc:

Order forms for badges, uniforms etc will be posted out to all team members as soon as the team is announced. Time will be tight, so prompt return will be important. I'm planning meetings for team members at suitable events between Easter and May, and there will be full team meetings (including a special one for all Juniors) before the Challenge events and close to where people are staying. These meetings will be an important part of the team effort, so please plan to be there. More info on the meetings closer to the time.

Regards,

Bruce Henderson

Team Manager New Zealand 1991.

Auckland Orienteer

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