



JULY 1991

EDITORIAL

Editors: The Fowler Family, 8 Lowscates Drive, Cokermouth, 0900 825682

Holiday time is here again & no doubt many of us are heading off for the continent or even further afield. Some have already been away such as one or two to the Swiss 6 day 'O' festival. Perhaps some fodder for the next newsletter. Hint! (There may be others going to various other orienteering venues and we would love to hear from you.)

We would like to thank all the contributors to this and other WCOG News with amusing, informative, nostalgic and poetic musings. In general the contributions are from only a handful of club members and without them there would be no WCOG News. In particular we would like to thank Tony B-B for his evening results service & to Rob Holder for his comments on the evening events. Always the diplomat he smooths out the wrinkles which sometimes occur at these events. It is a pity that more planners don't bother to send in comments, good or bad, about their own events.

Contributions can be accepted hand written (readable please), typed, word processed or on a floppy disc (3 1/2" or 5 1/4") as long as it is in MSDOS format. They have also been received over the phone but complete accuracy is not guaranteed.

We have included a new section, in this edition, entitled 'Those Were The Days!'. Vi Nelson, who admits to being a hoarder, has unearthed several old back numbers of Northwest News for us to browse through. They make very interesting reading and from time to time we will include extracts which will not doubt bring back memories to many and perhaps red faces to others. If anyone has old back numbers of WCOG News that we could make use of then let us have them.

Victory in the Golden Gauntlet on Binney was superb. It all boils down to the wonderful support of WCOG members & families and the dedication of the team manager. Well done Rob. Now did anyone take any photographs, especially of the prized trophy - well it's all heard about but we would like to see the trophy we have won? We did see the Battered Boot on Rob's bonnet but we would like to think that we will be seeing more of the GG. Stirling turn-outs will be needed when we defend the trophy next year. Dick Whitworth wishes to make it known that it is only on short term loan!

We shall soon be saying goodbye to our Chair person - Sue Kysow who is off on her travels to distant New Zealand via a Whitehead Yacht, none of the comforts or speed of air travel for Sue, which she will help to sail there from London. Her plans from then on are uncertain but she assures us that she is coming back eventually. Certain club members hope so, they are minding some of her plans among other things. Another club stalwart, Sandy Burgen, is carrying the message of Orienteering to a school in Bath but we shall hopefully see something of him around the country at various events. We all need the encouragement of his 'dry' Scots humour? We wish both of them every success in their new ventures.

Deadline for next edition is Thursday 12th September.

July 1991 question
Name the place in Eskdale according to Paul Watson's crossword.

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BOC 91

1.00pm Saturday May 4
Although it has been twelve years since Don Searrott first introduced me to the delights and frustrations of orienteering, this is my first ever British Championship, and nervous isn't it word. From the club tent I watch self-assured 10 and 11 year olds heading for the start and wish I had their composure.

1.09pm
For what we are about to receive.....

2.46pm
Grass, snail, sulk. It's been one of those days. I've made the fatal mistake of letting my legs get too far ahead of my brain (not difficult I'm afraid). By my standards, a good run involves making just one or two major errors, today I've made four, including one so embarrassing I'm not going to divulge it here. Back at the club tent sob stories and excuses are exchanged. Mike Pearson is disappointed: he had a 'bad' run and made a mistake. Just one? I think, with more than a little envy. I jog the 2k back to the car, change, quickly wash down a banana, apple and a yoghurt and set off for Holy Island.

3.45pm
Now this is more like it: rows of sand hills and a beach so wide and flat its white sand seems almost to slope up like the sea. At the waters edge I stand hypnotized by the head over heels tumble of white and grey. Looking down I find the wave crests. When eventually I turn to retrace my steps, the wind has already filled my footprints with sand.

6.30pm
Haggerston Caravan Park is about the size and population of Cokermouth. Even with the map it takes me 10 minutes to find the right caravan. I've been Charent 20 minutes silently driving in circles on the off-chance of seeing a familiar car! The evening passes quickly: tea, round a camp, an enormous and quiet excellent Chris take-away, great tales from Chris (some sounding about as tall as Dave Downes and Howard Leslie combined).

11.00pm
I roo up off the day in suitable style by cracking my foot on the iron top of the caravan in the darkness then cleaning my teeth with germlene - well I had two to choose from, it was bound to be the wrong one.

8.30am Sunday
Yawn. I'm going to be as much use as a chocolate teapot today: my right Achilles tendon is stiff as a poker and I'm beginning to think I may have been overdoing it last night. At least I'll be a poker and I'm advancing guard consisting of Roger, Sandy, Annette and myself set off for limp evenly. The advance guard consisting of Roger, Sandy, Annette and myself set off for limp evenly. The advance guard consisting of Roger, Sandy, Annette and myself set off for limp evenly. Unfortunately the other part of our tent does not arrive until several hours later when we have suffered about as many inane comments about our collection of aluminium poles as we can bear. It is described variously as being 'green', 'environmentally friendly', 'having an observation room' and most mysteriously as 'Zen'. (I don't understand that either.)

1.00pm
I'm still waiting for my takeover in the M35 relay. Fortunately the other members of my team have noticed the state of my health and have kindly taken all the pressure off me by arranging to have the takeover in the M35 relay. Fortunately the other members of my team have noticed the state of my health and have kindly taken all the pressure off me by arranging to have the takeover in the M35 relay.

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Event 1 Statefinal 2nd May Planner Dick Warrick
A brilliant turnout for this first evening event of the summer series. Many thanks to Dick for the imaginative planning and also to Mike Pearson for helping at registration. It is amazing what you can do with a small area to get an interesting orienteering event out of it. You certainly had to be on your toes with this one, it was very easy to lose the same control as the relay. We arrive early. Needless to say the starts have been put back. Unfortunately the other part of our tent does not arrive until several hours later when we have suffered about as many inane comments about our collection of aluminium poles as we can bear. It is described variously as being 'green', 'environmentally friendly', 'having an observation room' and most mysteriously as 'Zen'. (I don't understand that either.)

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Event 2 Ling Foll 9th May Planner Dave Downes
Over the years from last weeks event to Ling Foll, there Dave Downes was in charge. Anything can happen when Dave's brain gets going but at least this time we got a map! It would have been said if we hadn't, since not to use Colin Webb's superb effort would have been a shame. A score event was on offer and even with lots of controls out, it was possible to get them all. Master map copying is most certainly an important feature of the sport. I failed to copy No 15 down, therefore lost 40 points being a 1 set off runner, very disappointing when you have 10 minutes to spare at the end. Never mind. Lateness was heavily penalised - all points lost, a sad end to all that running. Thanks again Dave, Ling Foll is one of my favourite areas.

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Event 4 Bowness Knott 23rd May Planner Rhys Stanwix
Our ever cheerful Rhys, aided adequately by his dad, emerged from the thick drizzle to send runners and planders alike into the rough and tumble of Bowness Knott in Ennerdale. To quote Rhys "no nappy baby sight tonight - this will show them what orienteering is about!" Indeed it did, the washings, steep hills, climb, thick forest, headgear up to the eyeballs, but we cannot blame Rhys for that. He did his best to make use of the map where other planners drank Rhys and to you dad that running. Thanks again Dave, Ling Foll is one of my favourite areas.

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Event 5 Pansobly 30th May Planners Don McWilliam, Sue & Chris Emerson
Clear blue skies for this one in a pastoral scene of cows, sheep and Ennerdale. Our planners tonight managed with the dangerous dog of Miterdale gave all a good run for their money. Some competitors managed to stay out well after the course closing time of 9pm, as new attendees are not aware of this threshold. Could planners please stress that all must return by 9pm. This side the evening was very pleasant, Don having his first stab at organising and planning an event, so well done him. Will it ever be possible for us to have an event inside Sealfield?

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Event 6 Borcondale 6th June Planner Chris Bland
What more could one want than a marvellous evening of weather, good orienteering in the most peaceful and beautiful setting of Watendall usually free from 'grockles' but alive with midges. A car arrived bedecked with balloons announced the start of the evening which included Emma Bland's birthday celebrations. The event on offer was a massed start event using a very large black and white map of unknown scale. From the massed start it was left to runners, as in any score event, to choose their own route but had the restriction that the first and last control sites had to be visited otherwise automatic disqualification would result! Unfortunately I couldn't stay for the birthday refreshments in the local cafe as I had young Jan to get off home to bed. Many thanks for the superb event and to all the Bland's for, what I believe was, a good evening. Certainly an area worthy of a bigger event.

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Event 7 Miterdale 13th June Planner Phil Ashby
Many thanks to Phil for planning at Miterdale. Club members do spend a lot of time working on these events, and it is often the first planning that an individual has taken on. Undoubtedly mistakes may occur, since course and organisation are not overseen by a controller. Because we call these PRACTICE events, it can be expected that there will be a variation in standard of course, which should be accepted by all standards of runner in a manner of good sportsmanship. Progression in the sport will only come through experience and controlled advice. Lets hope these events are the start for all interested planners. A physical evening Phil - again many thanks.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS JULY TO OCT

If you have any doubts about an event then ring Rob Holder (evening events) on Keswick 75933 or Vi Nelson (course codes) on Cleator Moor 810462.
All evening event starts from 6.30-7.30 unless otherwise stated.

Thursday July 26th Evening event at Blakely Raise. Planner Walter Harrison.
Parking:- Full road Ennerdale Bridge to Bolder Bridge

Thursday Aug 1st Evening event at Lowswater. Planners Peter & Joyce Hemmingsway.
Parking:- GR.141209

Sunday Aug 4th Colour event at Semturthy. Planners M Bibby & P Colley.
Parking:- GR.165313

Thursday Aug 8th Evening event at Flat Fell. Planner John Starbuck
Parking:- GR.042139

Thursday Aug 15th Evening event at Coledale. Planner Steve Pollington.
Parking:- Brainthwaite - look for signs

*** SPECIAL EVENT ***BOGART TARN***BOGART TARN***SPECIAL EVENT***
"SUE AND SANDY'S LAST EVENT" Thursday 22nd August
This is a normal, flat but possible, evening event followed by a party afterwards at Birkett Wood Farm. Bring some food but contact Sandy (0900 820232) beforehand and he will suggest what food to bring. (He also has a very good house for sale going cheap) Beer is provided but bring a bottle. Floor space is available free if you want to stay the night but bring your own sleeping bag and stirred etc.
The event will start from Birkett Wood Farm (GR. 027253). At the Keswick roundabout on the A66 take the A591 and after 5 yards turn right (signposted Ormatheave, Undercar). After 1/2 mile turn right down the narrow track before the big barn. Cross the ford (very shallow) and you should now be at Birkett Wood Farm.

Thursday Aug 29th Evening event at Threlkeld Knotts. (Joint future with BL) Planner Bob Barnby.
Parking:- Look for signs off BS322 - St Johns road.

Sunday Sept 1st Colour event at Bowness Knott. Planner Pete Atkinson. Controller Rhys Stanwix.
Parking:- GR.110153

Thursday Sept 5th Evening event at Harrot & Graystones. Prizes in Coledale afterwards.
Parking:- GR.167257

Thursday Oct 6th Colour event in Eskdale. Planner Howard Loughlin. Controller Vince Fussell.
Parking:- GR.14068 (colour event for parking)

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HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR FELLOW WCOG MEMBERS ?

The answers to the clues are all club members - except one (first names unless stated) fill them in in the row and the name of a place in Eskdale will appear in the highlighted Column. Most of the clues can be solved by knowing the persons job etc. or by reading this and recent newsletters. The clues are not in order.

He enjoyed our company at the JK (both names)
Our smiling junior star we haven't seen around for a bit.
She could take your call if your getting hot.
Brand new dad
Heard saying "I don't like p r i z e g i v i n g s" at the JK (he has attended quite a few)

Our most distant lady member (both names)
FTTH 200 / X / X / X (both names)

One of the 'Bros'! - he gave us some fine songs in the minibas at the JK (both names)

She is in something for WCOG, and works for those who are in one most the time.

Hero at British relays - ran 2 x 6k legs in neck high heather.

Seen with the following shopping list - 'Port, Gin, Picture, Cat food'.
He manages very well (both names).

We behave like animals to make him feel at home.
-----Free run on Clowbridge for first correct answer.-----
-----Second prize, yes you guessed it!-----PCW

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be slightly out of contention for the medals. The sun comes out just in time for me to amble off into the knee deep heather and multiple re-entrants. For once I enjoy my run: there's no pressure, and despite my various ailments I manage to maintain a brisk trot throughout. Coming into the finish I raise something approaching a sprint in an unsuccessful attempt to get my photograph taken.

2.15pm
And sadly that's it. I'd love to stay another day but my family are expecting me back tonight. There's only time to thank Rob for a great weekend and say my goodbyes before I hurry back to the car thinking quite wrongly, as it turned out, that my navigational nightmares for the weekend were over. (Someone I managed to end up doing a tour of the less salubrious parts of Newcastle. But of course I was getting used to it by now.)

Colin Webb

CALLARY - NOT ALL HEATHER

This is the British Orienteering Relay Championships, but British Aerospace could set up a wind tunnel to test their planes here - about the same speed and temperatures a high flying aircraft has to endure. So once the club tent is secured, wrap up well and off to the mass where we can huddle together for warmth like emperor penguins.

Strange really, once onto the 'exposed' felidside the wind drops off and things hot up. The courses are designed to make maximum use of the heather. The clever mapper has mapped some areas as 'difficult to run', 'better avoid those, the bit I'm on is bad enough'. Then the blinding realisation these areas are broken - which is dead (well, lurking underground) at the time of the year - and so are 'comparatively easy to run' unfortunately there isn't much of it - its mainly heather.

Back at the tent at last, I remember Sandy saying that the run to the last control was the best bit, and it was. Where is he anyway? Off getting something to eat I suppose, no he's what? running another leg - what a guy! So Rob managed to fill almost all, if not all, of the relay places.

Thoughts turn to the next day, and the chasing start event on the same area, 'I'm not coming here again' is echoed around the tent. In fact most people do, and it's much better with the longer courses going out onto the small but excellent Callary woodland. Oh well, it was well worth the effort after all, but don't tell those that didn't bother turning up.

Paul Watson

P.S. If you didn't like the heather, try the tussock grass down here.

The Golden Gauntlet 4th July

No doubt our friends from the Borders assumed it was just a matter of turning up for the annual walk-over with West Cumberland, but as our car appeared on the 25th of families from W.C. (Rob's term not mine- Ed.) locations their spirits deteriorated and full blooded competition was on. The format devised by Ray Wren & Geoff Atkinson provided a fair scoring system for the inevitable mis-match of numbers between the two clubs. However whatever you do, it will always favour the club who provides the shorter route. In this case it was West Cumberland who were triumphant in this respect. Full details of the scoring system can be given on request.

MANY THANKS TO YOU ALL FOR THIS SUPPORT

The evening and location were superb. The first day of summer's, perhaps gave further incentive for people to enjoy an evening on the fells, but Ray's planning of a long, medium and short courses, provided a standard that was within the capabilities of all who turned up. The new map of the area drawn by Geoff Atkinson of BL gives me the urge to ask for another joint feature in the future. Results for individuals are given elsewhere in the newsletter, however whatever position you hold, feel sure it was a club contribution and all was valuable in winning this trophy. Lets try again next year.

Special congratulations to Richard Wren from BL in winning the long course. I think he has a great future in the sport (and maths).

Rob Holder (Team Manager)

FOR SALE

Due to my forthcoming travels - the following items are for sale - preferably in August!

Suite of bedroom furniture (double wardrobe, tall chest of drawers £100
and dressing table (no mirror)
Double bed with mattress £20
Cane headboard for double bed £20
3 seater 3 piece suite with loose cotton covers £60
Zanussi Tumble Dryer with flexi-hose (excellent condition) £100
Oval kitchen table (melamine 4' (2 wings fold down to stand 6' wide) £25
Gas fire poker and gas bottle £20
Dining wardrobe 5'x2'x18" £25
Carved round-wood table (stands 15" high) £25
Dynastar skis 175cm with Salomon 727 bindings and double ski bag £20
Konica Pro camera £20
Black & Decker 20m flat garden hose £20

plus lots of little things I can't think of but would probably sell!

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