



SAXALERT



NEWSLETTER AWARDS 09 ~ 17 20

CompassSport

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Winter 2021

SAX NOTICES

SAXONS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Saxons will be 50 years young in 2022. We're looking for a special anniversary logo and ideas on how to celebrate the occasion. Please email suggestions and artwork to chairman@saxons-oc.org

COMMITTEE CHANGES AT AGM

The AGM in October saw a couple of changes to the Committee. See Chairman's Chat for more details.

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Cover photo: HM Submarine Ocelot, Chatham Historic Dockyard, during the SE Regional Sprint Championships on 5th December—see p.44. Can you spot the O-kite in the photo?

EDITORIAL



It's winter again, the end of 2021 is fast approaching and whatever happens next with Covid, at least life managed to regain some normality earlier in the year. Whether things will stay that way remains to be seen, but thankfully our favourite sport survived months of enforced inactivity and rebounded with a strong and healthy programme, if the number of events on Racesignup and Fabian4 are anything to go by.

Saxons have made their own contribution to this resurgence: we kept things ticking over throughout spring and summer with local events, a national at Chilham Castle/King's Wood, and a Summer event series. Now both our traditional KNC and KOL seasons are in full swing, we've recently had a regional event (King's Wood again) and more regionals and some nationals are due over the next few months. And that's just locally—across the country orienteering sprang reassuringly back into life. We have proven ourselves and our sport to be highly adaptable and resilient, in the face of all the challenges thrown at us since—and it seems so long ago now—spring last year, when the world went crazy. I hope you and yours remain fit and healthy.

Now, as mentioned, we are at the end of 2021 so by definition nearly into 2022. And 2022 is a very special year for Saxons—it's our **FIFTIETH anniversary!** The club was formed on 1st January 1972 from its predecessor, Competeers (previously Hastings Competeers). It's no mean feat for a sports club—especially in a relatively niche sport like orienteering—to survive half a century, and we should not let 2022 pass without celebrating thoroughly. You may already have seen on the club website Jean's call for an anniversary logo and ideas for ways to celebrate—please don't be shy, let your artistic skills shine and your imagination run free—we need your support to make 2022 a very special year for Saxons OC.

Graham Denney



Starts at the Scottish 6 Days in August. Ben Nevis in the background.

Credit: Sean Cronin

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

Jean Fitzgerald



At our second Zoom AGM on 22 October, I was re-elected as Chairman for another year. Also at the AGM, Beryl Pring stood down as Secretary and Karen Ransley was elected to this post. Beryl will continue to update and publicise our Permanent Orienteering Courses (POCs). David Kingdon also stood down from his role as land access officer. After the AGM Richard Field agreed to take on this role. We welcome Karen and Richard to the club's management team and thank Beryl and Dave for all they have done for the club in recent years and that they will do in the future.

The club is continuing to hold committee meetings via Zoom so if you are interested in hearing what we get up to just let me know and I will give you a link to 'attend' the meeting.

With Covid still an ever-present issue it has been difficult to get access to some of our 'normal' areas for events, and there have been rather more street KNCs than in previous years. Here's hoping things will be 'back to normal' soon. Also, our committee has agreed to charge 50% of the Saxons component of membership fees for a second year to thank you all for your support over the last couple of years.

You will have seen in emails and on the Saxons website, that 2022 will be our 50th anniversary year. We are hoping to make it a bumper celebratory year. We hope to start the year with a New Year's Day event (check website for updates). We will then have our normal KNC and KOL events, plus a national event at Enchanted Place (Ashdown Forest) on 23 January, an urban event on 6 February at Whitstable, which will be part of the Southern England urban orienteering league (SEOUL), and we are planning a social event during the summer (details to follow).

Avid website users will have noticed Saxons successes in the SE Sprint Championships at Chatham Historic Dockyard, with five class winners. If you haven't seen the pics do check out the winners' podium set up in front of HMS Gannet. As Mark reported, this event was unusual in allowing route choice over a ship and under a submarine!

Since I am writing this in December, I would like to wish all members and their families an enjoyable Christmas and a happy, safe and more 'normal' new year.

Jean

FUTURE EVENTS

A brief selection of forthcoming Saxons events in the New Year through to early February:

Sat 01 Jan	Saxons New Year's Day event	Mote Park, Maidstone
Thu 06 Jan	KNC15: Tilgate Golf Course	Crawley (run by SO)
Sat 08 Jan	KOL5: Scotney Castle Estate	Lamberhurst
Thu 13 Jan	KNC16: King's Wood	Challock
Thu 20 Jan	KNC17: Tudeley Wood	Tonbridge
Sun 23 Jan	Enchanted Place SE League event	Crowborough
Thu 27 Jan	KNC18: Shorne Woods Country Park	Rochester (run by DFOK)
Thu 03 Feb	KNC19: tbc	Tbc (run by MV)
Sat 05 Feb	KOL6: Shoreham Woods	Orpington
Sun 06 Feb	Whitstable Urban—new date	Whitstable

You can find out what orienteering events are coming up locally and throughout the country by app, Web or email:



- Use Neil Bricknell's **Event-O app** ([Google Play](#) or Apple App Store)



- Visit the [Saxons website events page](#)
- Visit [oevents.info](#) and use their online events calendars
- Use the [British Orienteering Event Finder](#)



- Subscribe [here](#) to oevents.info's weekly events list email

Icons courtesy of [Online Web Fonts](#)

Events Further Afield:

The JK:

2022's JK takes place in South Wales, moving between the urban spaces of Swansea University, the foothills of the Brecon Beacons and the hybrid semi-urban area of the MOD training area at Caerwent. Entries are due to open on 5th December: see <https://thejk.org.uk/> for more details.



World Orienteering Day:



World Orienteering Day 2022 will take place between 11th and 17th May. Any activity held between these dates can be registered as a World Orienteering Day event. Register an event/activity or find out more here: [https://](https://worldorienteeringday.com)

worldorienteeringday.com

Sun 16 Jan	South East League Event 4 - Chelwood	Ashdown Forest (National)
Sun 13 Feb	SE League Event - Netley Heath & Effingham Woods	Dorking (National)
Sun 27 Feb	South East League Event - Ashridge South & East	Hertfordshire (National)
Sun 13 Mar	CompassSport Cup Heat - Balcombe	Crawley (National)
Sat 26 Mar	British Orienteering Championships (UKOL) (Put back 2 years) - Golden Valley & Cognor Wood	Haslemere (Major)
Sat 26 Mar	British Trail Orienteering Championships - Highfield & Brookham Schools	Liphook (National)
Sun 27 Mar	British Relay Championships (Put back 2 years) - Iron Hill & Parkgate Rough	Haslemere (Major)
Fri 15 Apr	JK2022 Day 1 - Sprints	Swansea University (Major)

Sat 16 Apr JK2022 Day 2 - Middle Distance **Clydach Terrace (Major)**

Sun 17 Apr JK2022 Day 3 - Long Distance **Pwll Du (Major)**

Mon 18 Apr JK2022 Day 4 - Relays **Caerwent (Major)**

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Since our last issue, a number of new members have joined Saxons:

Senior: Peter Dobra; John Evans; Kevin Day; Karen Bricknell; Victoria Legge; Wendy Neath; Dorian Kopij; Matthew Hockley

Family: Pip, Simon, Lottie, Jake and Darcey Keefe

Welcome to the club! We hope to see you at local events very soon. Please make yourselves known to the organisers and the 'Can I help you?' volunteers at our events. Also our Junior Co-ordinators look forward to meeting new Juniors.

Wendy Neath tells us a bit about how she became involved with orienteering:

"I'm a good friend of Karen Ransley's and I'm another horse rider. Not only that but I am a former neighbour of Heather Brown from the late 60's early 70's when we rode our ponies together and she babysat me and my brothers and sister. Small world isn't it?"

Whilst I couldn't get out on my horse for Trec - our ridden orienteering - I walked out with Karen a couple of times this spring round Perry Wood and Denge. I'll be honest - I will never be running but I enjoyed the extra detail involved in on foot work, and I see ridges and ditches I never spotted before! I'm hoping to get out and do some low key stuff with Saxons this summer but I am also moving house in 2 weeks. I did get away last weekend with my horse to an event near Marlborough where I only got mildly lost!"

And Karen Bricknell also explains how she became involved:

"I used to watch them run off into the woods and wait nervously for their return. Neil would shadow Ffion to start with, when he was still able to keep up.

Eventually Jennifer and Lewis retired from orienteering but, as I'm sure you are



aware Ffion has continued and roped Neil into joining in too.

So I had a choice, either stay at home for the day, whilst they gallivant around the country, or as equally exciting join them and sit in the car.

So here I am. So far I've attempted 3 Orange courses. The first 2 I have managed to complete but if you look at my Strava the routes aren't the

most direct, but at least I got my money's worth. My last event saw me complete 2 controls before retiring and phoning Ffion to come and rescue me, swearing that I was never coming orienteering again. I will however be back!

So now the shoe is on the other foot. Neil and Ffion now watch me disappear off into the woods and wonder how long they have to wait for my return."



SEOA BADGES

Send off for your free colour course badge!

You can get a fabric colour coded badge to sew on your track suit or O-top, sponsored by the South East Orienteering Association, if you beat the par time three times, on any qualifying colour-coded course. Three qualifications at the same colour get you a badge—there is no time limit on when you can get them.



Par time is set at 150% of the winner's time, or within the top 50% of competitors, whichever is greater, except for the White course, where you only have to complete the course three times to qualify.

To obtain your badge, please email details of your qualifying results (organising club, event, course and orienteer's name) to Neil Crickmore from the SEOA website Contacts page (<https://www.seoa.org.uk/contacts>). There is no charge for these badges, and Seniors and Juniors alike are eligible for them!

JUNIORS' PERSPECTIVES

Austin Howe

LAGGANLIA TRAINING CAMP

Lagganlia is a week-long orienteering training week in Scotland organised by JROS, the Junior Regional Orienteering Squad (which looks after all of the UK regional squads). By invitation only, 24 W/M14 souls from across England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland attend the training camp each year. I was the only candidate from SEJS, and Tommy Rollins was the only candidate from South Central.



This year the session was held just outside Aviemore at Badaguish at the end of October. Normally it's held in the summer, but was postponed for some reason I can't quite remember :-)

Training

Each day we had different training activities in a host of different locations. Generally, we trained twice a day - morning and afternoon. In the evening there were class-based activities and analysis of the day's course to undertake.

It was a load of fun. I really enjoyed engaging with my fellow orienteers from around the UK. As well as orienteering, we also had chores to do around the camp.

What did I learn?

One of the most important things I learned was not to take only compass bearings over long-distance legs. Instead I now break the leg up into multiple parts and do each bit individually, but not relying just on my compass.



I became a lot more confident with doing longer legs and also navigating through areas with complex contour detail using simplification.

One of the areas I went to was Roseisle, it was really runnable but had loads of contours. This made it hard to find the key features that I needed to find the controls. Once I had learned how to simplify it, the

navigation became much easier and I found I was hitting the controls well.

I would thoroughly recommend Lagganlia to all juniors. It's a great way to improve your orienteering and a lot of fun in the process.

The skills I have learned at Lagganlia have had a marked impact on my orienteering. I am now competing at the top of each course I undertake, generally Blue. I've had great results at the November Classic, SE Middles, and Michael Brandon Cup.

MAPRUN & POCs

Beryl Pring

WHAT IS A PERMANENT ORIENTEERING COURSE (POC)?

A POC is a set of plaques often on wooden posts or other features spread around a park or woodland and together with a map your challenge is to find these plaques.

Each plaque is called a control which has a number. This number is shown next to a circle on the map which matches the control on the ground. You can write these numbers down so that you know that you have been to that particular control. This is a great learning curve for beginners and can also help if you want to improve your skills.



Your POC plaques could look like this... / Credit:
Graham Denney

Saxons have seven POCs and 5 of these have maps you can download from the new British Orienteering website

GoOrienteering.org.uk.

These are Brockhill near Hythe, Betteshanger near Deal, Milton Creek near Sittingbourne, Mote Park in Maidstone and Whinless

Down near Dover. Bedgebury has 4 courses but you can only get the maps at their visitor centre and the University of Kent have a course with the maps available at their Sports Centre. If you have a map for Trosley, the posts are still there, we are just waiting to update the map before putting it back on line.

We also have 21 VOCs (Virtual Orienteering Courses) spread over a large part

of Kent, from Deal to Faversham, Canterbury to Tunbridge Wells and lots in between. All you need to do is download the MapRun app onto your smartphone. The instructions on how to use this are [on our website together with all the maps.](#)



...or like this! / Credit: Graham Denney

Now winter is upon us and the woods are awash with mud - what better way to go for a run.

All I ask is that if you have any problems regarding the courses you let me know and I will try and rectify them.

COACH'S CORNER

Brendon Howe

R is for Route Choice

In previous articles I have introduced the mnemonic **TOPCAR** as an orienteering 'tool of the trade'. **TOPCAR** stands for: **Thumb - Orientation - Plan - Control - Attack Point - Route.**



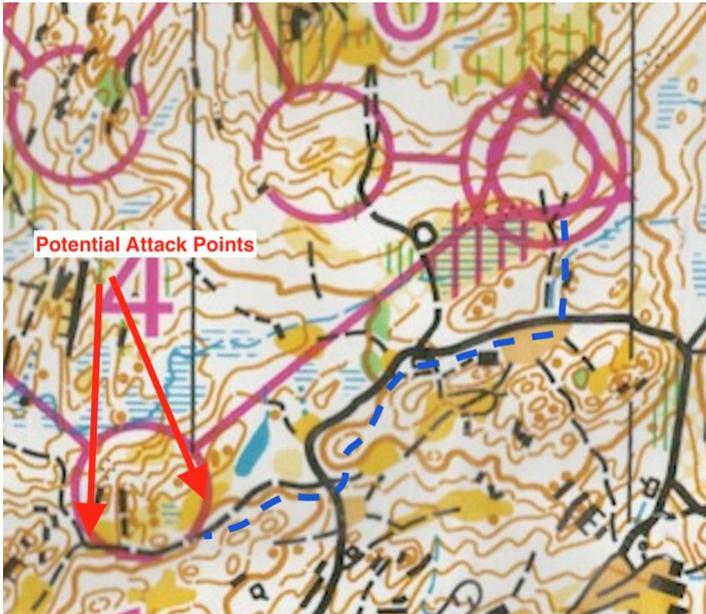
To date we have looked at Thumb, Orientation, Plan and Control and Attack Point. So, we've got our map pointing the right way and we can keep track of progress. We've looked at how we actually go about finding controls by Making a Plan. To do this, we work backwards by identifying the Control feature before choosing an Attack Point. All we then need to do is decide our Route between where we are now and the Attack Point—simple!

For most orienteers and courses Route Choice is probably the easiest part of the decision making process. There is often a standout, obvious choice. Take the map snippet below from Great Tower in the Lake District.

We can see there is an obvious route from our start to the AP (note that the CP number is off the bottom of the map excerpt, so it looks like CP4).

AP choices I've picked are: path junction, or open ground after lake.

The path route choice is much quicker than fighting through the marshy wet ground and would require our attention in order to navigate it well.



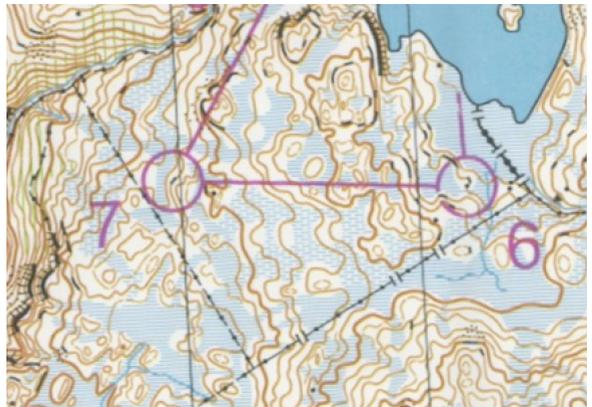
Our route is on distinct paths or tracks. Smooth running might allow use time to plan the next leg too.

Unfortunately, planners are devious beasts and often place controls in locations that require one to make a Route Choice Decision.

Take a look at the

map extract below from Angle Tarn Pikes. Here the choice is go via the broken wall, or navigate direct. Which route would you choose?

Despite the fact that the wall route is much longer and over similar terrain, it would probably be quicker for all but the most experienced orienteer than trying to navigate directly.



Again, the issue of Attack Point is important and might cloud our decision. The direct route approach would appear to have a more obvious AP

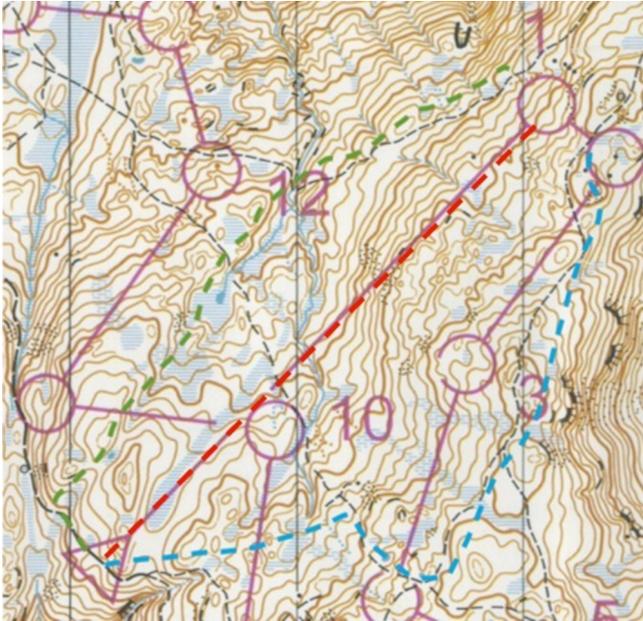
(crag and hill followed by steepening terrain) whereas the for the wall route things are not so clear. Pacing is probably not an option and visual distance estimation might be a challenge in normal Lake District weather. If the wall were a path however, then the choice would be a no-brainer.

As part of an orienteering course I did a few years ago, we tested the path vs direct route in a number of scenarios. In almost all situations running the two sides of the right angled triangle vs direct along the hypotenuse, running the

two sides is quicker.

Sometimes there are no clear Route Choice options. This is particularly true in more technical terrain. We always have the option of 'fine orienteering' all the way to the AP, but this is slow and will quickly lead to brain fatigue. In such situations we need to think about which Route Choices can be easily simplified.

Here's another leg from my run at Angle Tarn (Lakes 5 Days - 2018): Start to CP1.



The leg is about 1km long. The terrain is open fell, but is shown here in white to help with clarity.

I've drawn three potential routes here:

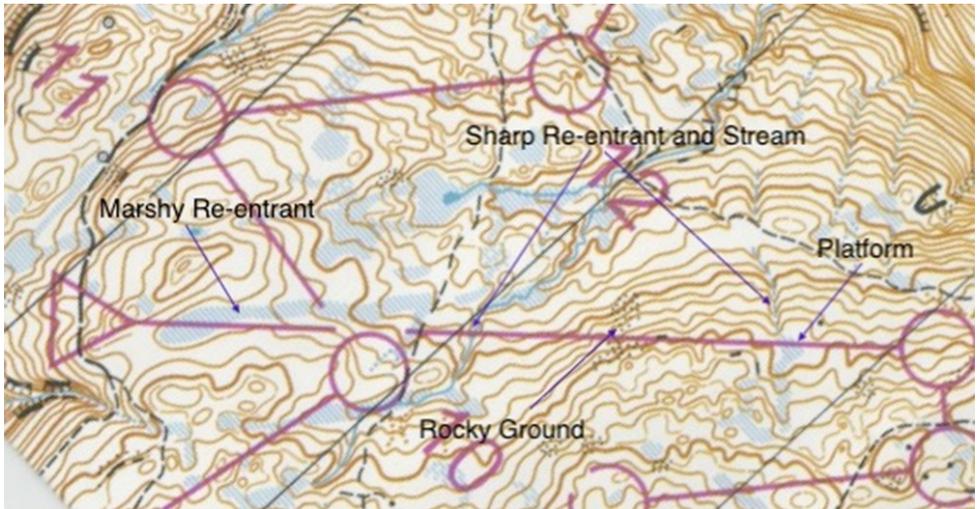
- Green - NW along path to re-entrant. Follow re-entrants to path. Follow path.
- Blue - Compass across and uphill to path. Follow Path.
- Red - Direct

Here I chose the direct route as I was able to

simplify it. It goes:

- Marshy re-entrant NE to path (taking a compass bearing to ensure I didn't drift off).
- Cross sharp re-entrant and stream.
- Check bearing and head slightly uphill contouring to rocky ground.
- Contour to sharp re-entrant with stream. The feature acts as a kind of collecting feature. Its pretty difficult to miss and allows me to follow it to my AP (Platform/Marsh South).
- Head up re-entrant to platform/marsh.
- Take a new bearing towards the control.

- Fine navigation to CP.



By simplifying I was able to travel much more quickly than if I had fine orienteered all of the way. This meant Red was the correct route choice for me. If I hadn't been able to simplify Red then the Green Route would probably have been expedient.

Conclusion

So, what have we learnt? Route Choice is often thought of as the simple bit once we've chosen our AP, however, this is not always the case. Having a clear plan for our whole leg is important if we are to find the CP without drama.

Two sides of the triangle on path are almost always quicker than running direct along the hypotenuse.

Route Choice decisions in technical terrain can be made quickly if we can simplify easily identifiable features on the map.

LETTER FROM THE LAKES

Jerry Purkis, Saxons 2003—2018 now LOC

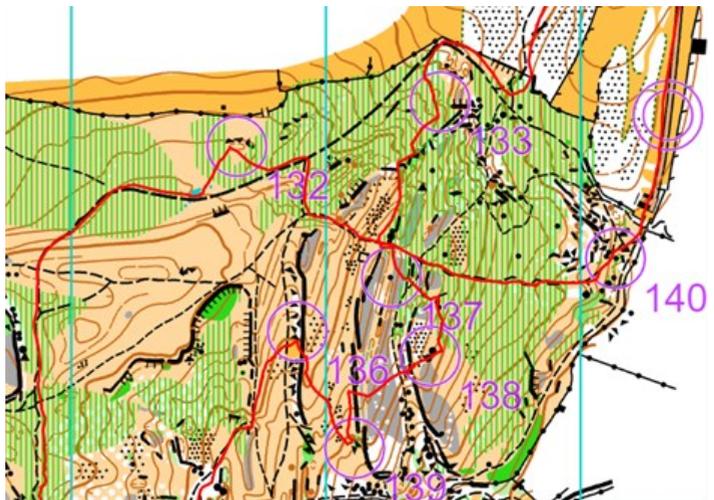
Way back in 2016, Rowan and Jerry had found themselves in Norway visiting son Mark and attending a Blodslitet event hosted by Frederikstad SkiKlubb. According to MVOC and SROC:-
Blodslitet:-- Staged annually by the Norwegian O-club

Fredrikstad Skiklubb since the early 1970's, Blodslitet is a mass start long distance race using several loops with competitors returning to the finish arena after each lap. The literal translation of "Blodslitet" is "Blood Spiller". It has become a cult event attracting about 2000 competitors. SROC introduced a British version in 2002 which is held every 18m. It was renamed the Tim Watkins Trophy after the principal organiser died following a car accident in March 2005. The UK event has not grown to the scale of the Norwegian event but has established a high reputation as a top-quality event attracting some top orienteers from far and wide. It may not produce blood, but it is designed to challenge at each and every entry category. In the South, SLOW hold Blood races:- Full Blood, Half Blood and Half an Armful on the same format.

Rowan's memory of that 2016 Norwegian event was that she was taking much too long on her "short" 6km very technical course so omitted a butterfly loop accidentally on purpose. Jerry manfully completed his 10km course in about 4 hours and Mark his 24km course in about the same time.

Anyway, here we are, 5 years later, now living in North West England and our neighbouring club, SROC is indeed hosting the 2021 Tim Watkins Trophy on some limestone rocky fell on nearby Hutton Roof. Jerry, recalling his 4 hour marathon run in 2016 and mindful of the ankle-breaking limestone pavement, opted for a shorter course. Jerry takes up the narrative:- "The Tim Watkins Blodslitet races were 18, 12, 9km but there was also a 6k Blue which I opted for mainly for the larger map scale, and so that I could finish in less than the 4 hours that it took me in 2016.

"The course immediately took me over the limestone pavements of Hutton Roof where fortuitously we had one of our "Tuesday Runs" a few weeks earlier. On the map extract you can see my route between 137, 138, 139, 136 where the limestone pavements are marked grey. The limestone is steeply angled with many contours, and short cliffs to their west sides, in other words,



areas have stopped being used!

How long before we see Margate Dreamland, Action Watersports at Lydd and (even) London Resort on Swanscombe Peninsula in O-fixture lists.

For an oldie like me, these offer a good alternative to a forest or rough moorland – and although I usually walk rather than run around courses these days these “alternative” orienteering venues offer a good option to me.

So apart from this development in the North, orienteering continues as before. Pre-entries are the norm these days, and whilst some Clubs have introduced their own system, other Clubs like mine (EBOR) have cuddled up to Fabian4 for all events. But the structure of events is pretty-well unchanged. I am organising two events this year and next year, and I have to admit that (Covid driven) changes in the sport have largely left me behind. Fortunately, there are enough people in EBOR to advise me what to do.

So when we go to Kent at Christmas maybe we will get to an O-event if it turns out to be at a Theme Park or a Garden Centre.

Bill Griffiths
Allerston, Yorkshire

WHERE HAVE ALL THE OLD FOLK GONE?

Bernard Wilson

My name is Bernard Wilson. Some of you older orienteers may remember me. I discovered orienteering 50 years ago when my daughter Kathryn was introduced to the sport by her school teacher. As a family, we joined the local club, Airienteers in West Yorkshire, and we were soon all involved in the sport. Our two children, Kathryn and Alan, became members of the Yorkshire and Humberside youth team, my wife Janet took charge of the club equipment, and I became Secretary of YAHOA and eventually a Grade 2 Controller.

We moved south and joined Saxons. After retirement I became the first Development Officer for the South East. But we were getting older, and the time came when I started to give up things. First to go was controlling, and eventually competing became a struggle too. At the age of 80 I decided that, like quite a few others we had known, orienteering was just too much of an ordeal for folk of my age.

Why do the old folk give up orienteering? I had often wondered that when, in my

mid-70's, I was still competing regularly. I remember Peter Hayler, my cousin from Hastings, saying to me at one event, "I don't run anymore! I just walk round." Just walk round! I couldn't imagine that! That's not my idea of orienteering! But as I got still older I began to understand. I found it hard to run too, even a slow jog. But worse was something quite new. Fear! Yes, fear! Fear of what? you ask! Well, just fear of hurting yourself, of ending up in hospital! I found that I could no longer climb a ladder without fear of falling, and now I can't even climb onto a chair to change a light-bulb for the same reason. It's embarrassing, but it's inescapable. It's what happens in your brain when you get really old (I'm 88). So for some years I have not been a member of BOF nor of Saxons. Yet Saxons, in their kindness, have continued to send me "SAXALERT", so I've kept in touch with progress and developments within the club and the sport generally, and I do thank them most sincerely.



Download at Chilham open for business / Credit: Alison Howe

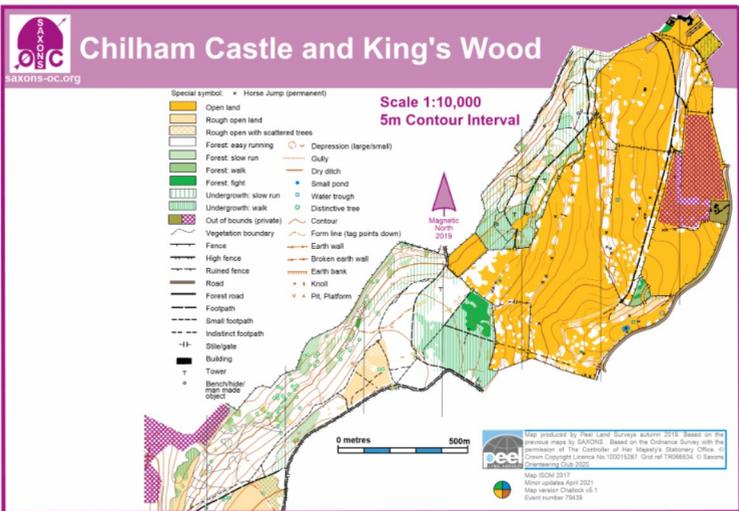
When I saw that there was to be an event in Chilham Castle grounds and King's Wood, I was tempted to have a go! I had planned and controlled in King's Wood several times and competed even more. And Chilham is our neighbouring village. So as IND's, we entered the Very Short Green Course. I wanted the technical challenge, and at just over 3k, it couldn't be too difficult, even for a nearly 90 year old. Of course, I wouldn't run, so I was bound to come last, but so long as we could find the controls and get to the finish, I would feel that we had succeeded.

Obviously, we needed to do a bit of training. I had never stopped using maps and was always seeking new routes in the Kent Downs and woods. Going off the paths though would be more of a challenge. I used to be pretty good at pace counting and knowing more or less where I was in the forest. Could I still do that? What was the factor I used to use in determining how many paces to run? So many millimetres on the map multiplied by a factor—but what was the factor? I had forgotten! But then I realised that even if I could remember that magic number, that was based on a steady jog whereas now I was going to be walking, not running! So that meant spending some time with an old map of Denge calculating a new way of arriving at a figure to aim for—so many double paces at walking speed. I felt confident at taking an accurate bearing.

The big day came! It was a lovely sunny morning, and the first person we saw on arrival at the parking area recognised us with a warm welcome. It was Mike

Solomon. And there was Mark Glaisher. We set off for the start feeling confident that this would be an enjoyable experience. The walk to the start was a good kilometre, on open parkland and gently uphill. We arrived feeling rather less confident, we were weary already! As usual, I let Janet go off first, although unlike the old days, I was not confident that I could keep up with her. She has to wait for me these days! The way to the first control looked pretty straightforward. There was an obvious path route followed by about 50 metres into a “white” area to a small depression. I managed this without any problem. For the next control, I took a circuitous route by paths until I found a large depression on my right. This led me into the control on a gully bend. I found number 3 by pace-counting along the path and then a 90-degree turn across some rough land to a huge depression. This is where fear kicked in for the first time! Could I get down into that hole without

falling? Normally I would have a walking stick which would give me a feeling of security—something extra for support. And if I got down there—would I be able to get back up again? This will probably seem absurd to many of you reading this—but that’s



**NE corner of the extended map—
Chilham Castle is the building at the far top right**

how it is when you reach a certain age! I wondered whether those using the more modern “dibbers” would even need to get down there? How close do you have to be to register the control with a modern dibber? Anyway, I got down, dibbed, and got back up. But I was getting weary!

Control No. 4, a vegetation boundary, was downhill on a bearing, and my pace count brought me right on to it! Now number 5 looked easy, it was a fence corner. A rough bearing NE, no need for pace counting as the fence would be visible ahead, and then it was just a matter of following it to the control. This is where things began to get difficult. The map showed the route to be “easy

running". But in fact, there was high vegetation, and concealed underneath there was a variety of fallen branches and other invisible obstacles. My walk became a stumble and it was with great difficulty that I made it to the control.

The route to No. 6 (a small depression) was uphill all the way and again through "white" terrain on the map. I found this very difficult, I kept changing direction to avoid unseen dangers and for the first time I realised that I didn't know where I was! Eventually I recognised the path that I had used earlier on the way from 1 to 2, and was able to relocate and find the control. By now I was really tired, and yet I was only half way through the course. I felt that I must be way behind the rest of the field and was tempted to give up. Looking at the map now, I realise that I should have taken the long way round by footpath to No. 7, it would have been so much easier. As it was I slogged through "undergrowth, slow run" and "undergrowth walk", falling over several times and beginning to bleed from some trivial wounds. (I take blood thinning drugs, and bleed easily).

The final 5 controls and the Finish were all in the open parkland and technically very easy. Long ago, I could have got round those controls in no time. But in fact I had to drag my weary legs step after step while younger folk raced past me. At one control, it was a drop down a grassy bank, and seeing a family approaching with several children, I called out a warning that there were deep holes concealed by the long grass. They thanked me, and then as I fell almost immediately in the next hole, they called out in concern "Are you alright?" Somehow I made it to the finish. Janet was waiting for me, she had given up after No.3 and had found her way to the finish via the main road from Maidstone!

Of course, I was last as I expected. But to my astonishment, when later I looked at the detailed results I found that up to control No. 6 I was actually in second position! It was only when it got "fast and easy" that my old legs could take it no longer and I dropped back to last place.

So, that was definitely my last orienteering event. The sport had given me and my family much pleasure over the years. It had even (via Chris Brasher) introduced me to marathon running which I had enjoyed in my 50's. And I had made many friends. Sadly, I had attended the funerals of several over the years. Perhaps sometimes you wonder where so-and-so has disappeared to? Where have all the old folk gone? Now perhaps you know! (By the way, Janet and I were the two oldest competitors!)

WATCH YOUR HEART RATE

Sean Cronin

I've owned 3 Garmin watches in my life. The first was a chunky, embarrassing thing that looked like something from the original Star Trek series. But it had a 'killer app', GPS tracking. With this I could plot my actual route on RouteGadget or Strava and see where I actually went and learn from my mistakes.

After a few years that stopped working. Garmin watches had moved on. It was no longer compulsory to buy a really ugly watch, and there was the option of an inbuilt heart rate monitor as well as GPS in the top of the range £200 watches. It didn't seem worth it, and besides I'm not a top of the range gadget kind of person, so I went for a cheaper one with just GPS.

I was very fond of this watch, but (as always with gadgets these days) it died after a few years, and earlier this year I looked to buy my third Garmin watch.



Fenix 6 Pro Solar—intense!

The smartwatch market seems to have gone crazy and there are seemingly dozens of Garmin watches to choose from with a crazy list of new features. For example, there is the 'Fenix 6 Pro Solar' which can distinguish between skiing and climbing, and has 'surf ready features'. RRP £549. Not satisfied with that? How about the Garmin Marq Commander featuring a "jumpmaster feature following military guidelines for calculating the high altitude release point (HARP). The device detects automatically when you have



Garmin Marq Commander—for all your special forces covert infiltration needs...

jumped to begin navigating toward the desired impact point (DIP)". Just £1699.

In the end I decided some of these features may not be necessary for a middle aged man in Kent, went for a Forerunner 245 aimed at runners. It has an inbuilt heart rate monitor and, in comparison, so cheap at just over £200.



Could be handy on night events though...

Having been completely skewered by the Garmin marketing strategy, I thought it best that I actually use the heart rate monitor for my runs and orienteering races. Comparing my heart rate at street orienteering events, forest / park orienteering and training

runs, what did I find?

Type	Heart rate range (beats per minute)	Average Heart rate (beats per minute)
Street Orienteering / hybrid (7 events)	157-162	159
Training Run (10 runs)	140 – 150	145
Forest / Park Orienteering (10 events)	138 - 163	152

I don't know if you are surprised by these stats. but I was. I've always been under the impression that an orienteering event is less intense on the heart than a training run as you have to frequently stop to read the map, or at least slow down to avoid getting too lost. This wasn't the case at all. I've always known that forest orienteering requires strength to get over all the forest debris, but I was surprised it was a more intense aerobic activity than my training runs as well. Perhaps without the motivation of a race, it's easy to take it easy on a training run? Or because Orienteering is so much fun it's easy to forget it's such a hard workout. It turns out Orienteering is a tough sport.



For a real intense heart workout, not surprisingly street orienteering is, well, streets ahead. With easy navigation, it's all about pushing the running as much as possible. I know street orienteering is generally less popular than forest events, but they must be really good for improving aerobic fitness.

The Forerunner 245

So what else is good about the Forerunner 245 compared to older Garmins? Well it seems to pick up the GPS signal much quicker, so I no longer have to wave my arms in the air frantically for 5 minutes before a KNC start. Another good feature is that it measures your average stride length. I think it does this because the watch records the shockwaves as you run or walk, and of course it has GPS to measure the distance. It turns out my stride length when running is almost exactly 1 metre, so that makes using pacing in Orienteering a lot easier to work out and I use it more now.

It has a lot of other features such as being able to read messages sent to your phone, which can sometimes be useful and sometimes really annoying. One thing I wouldn't recommend is the pulse ox measure to measure your oxygen saturation. All interesting stats, but if I catch Covid badly and I'm trying to work out if I need a hospital visit, I'd rather use a more accurate and easy to use dedicated pulse ox device, which costs only £25. Fiddling with the multiple options on a Garmin, or reading the tiny text in the manual may not be what I want to do if properly ill.

So all new and clever stuff, and the new information probably helps to motivate me to train or compete a little more. For me, the main use of a Garmin is and remains GPS tracking to load to Strava and RouteGadget, and learn from mistakes. Oh, and telling the time I suppose.

GEAR REVIEW

Brendon Howe

Higher State - Soil Shaker 2

I'd seen Higher State advertised a few times recently and wrote them off as some dodgy American brand aimed at trail shufflers. However, when I read the review of their Soil Shaker 2 shoe I decided to take another look.



It turns out that Higher State aren't American but a local brand based in Yorkshire. They seem very much to have Inov8 in their sights with many of their outdoor and gym sport offerings in direct completion.

What really piqued my interest was the price tag. The Soil Shaker 2 is selling for under £40. This compares with between £80 and £130 for a similar pair of Inov8s.

At that price I decided to buy a pair. I stuck with my normal euro fitting of 44. These were fine, however the manufacturers have equated 44 to size 10 rather than the usual 9.5, so if you're used to buying shoes in the old imperial sizing format, perhaps go up a half size.

On opening the box I was struck by:

- the impressive open grip pattern. 8mm knobbles with plenty of space in between for mud shedding.
- the smooth finish of the upper. No sticky out bits to get caught up in the undergrowth.
- a nice amount of padding around the heel cup.

- a reinforced toe area and roomy toe box.
- moderately broad of foot. Somewhere between a standard and performance last Inov8. Wider than a Salomon shoe.

The generous 8mm stack height is more akin to a trail shoe, but might be preferred by all but the youngsters as it puts less strain on the calves than the 3mm that Inov8 often opt for.

So, how what are they like to run in? Well, I found them comfortable out of the box. The lacing is a little strange and it took me a few moments to get the laces done up comfortably. Also, for some reason, getting the laces loosened off to get your foot out also is a bit fiddly, though I'm guessing this might just be because they're relatively new.

The 8mm stack height made them easy to run along the trail, though I didn't notice any instability in tougher terrain as they run pretty close to the ground. The soft terrain grip is wonderful—very sure-footed.



I found them a little squirrely on harder slippery surfaces such as brashings. However, this is no real surprise as most non-studded shoes have the same problem.

The shoe fabric shed the mud well and didn't become heavy or saturated with water. They also brushed off most of the undergrowth and didn't get snagged on stuff too much.

The padded heel cup has the additional benefit of keeping detritus out of my socks as I ran.

A quick check of the sportshoes.com website shows that the Soil Shaker2 comes in 8 different colour ways, so there will be a shoe to match your running outfit.

It's difficult to assess how long these shoes will remain serviceable. My Inov8s generally seem to have a short lifespan, often coming apart along the side of the shoe, or the knobby grip wearing away or individual knobbles tearing off. At £36 if these Soil Shakers last more than half as long as my Inov8s then they will

have been a worthwhile purchase.

In conclusion, the Soil Shaker 2 is definitely worth a look if you're fed up with the exorbitant prices of established brands, particularly if you get through a few pairs of O-shoes each year.

Score 7/10

Pros

Cheap, nice padding around the ankle. Plenty of grip in the soft stuff.

Cons

Not so confident over hard slippery terrain - brashings.

OUR CHANGING DIGITAL LANDSCAPE

Graham Denney

Following two major lockdowns and immense social upheaval caused by Covid-19, much has changed - possibly forever. Existing technology trends in particular have been pushed ahead far faster than would have happened without the pandemic. We're all familiar now with living our lives digitally: working from home; reporting Covid test results online; shopping online; and paying contactlessly. Before Covid though, orienteering was already a sport heavily influenced by technology. How has the pandemic affected the digital landscape of orienteering?

On the surface it appears not much has changed. The orienteering scene picked up again this summer as restrictions were relaxed, and is now going strong. But subtle changes have occurred, and are unlikely to go away any time soon.

Firstly, and most obviously, the pandemic has pretty much seen the end—though whether temporary or permanent remains to be seen—of good old EOD: Entry On The Day. BO Covid guidance advises allowing participants to pre-register/pay, in order to reduce potential Covid vectors such as queueing and handling cash. This has resulted in EOD largely disappearing entirely with events requiring online pre-entry for everybody. This has unfortunately removed any spontaneity that the sport had. We all now have to plan ahead, which removes some flexibility from our lives, although one could argue that this is balanced out by a certainty of being able to run the desired course. Turning up to find that all the maps for your preferred course have gone and you have to run

down (or, possibly worse, run up!) should theoretically be a thing of the past.

Event organisers have benefited from this too, as I know well from recent experience. At King's Wood in October, we had no early queues to register, we didn't handle any cash (and I didn't have to pay it in at the bank afterwards), and it reduced the number of helpers needed at the event shelter early on. It may also have helped spread out arrivals, as participants were under less pressure to get there early to enter—they could just turn up and run. Pre-entry took quite a lot of pressure off the setup phase of the event, as the laptops didn't need to be up and running as early as in the past. This was particularly helpful given the weather conditions!

Out on the courses, one of the more subtle changes—and one that was gaining momentum anyway, pre-pandemic—was that all the controls were SIAC-enabled. Now, SIACs have been around for some years already but



I think as a club we were resisting the move to always having controls enabled for contactless punching. Thanks to Covid and the pressure to minimise contact between people and surfaces as much as possible (regardless of the actual science on that), we have little choice. Whatever Saxons event you go to now, all controls are always SIAC-enabled. Personally I prefer it (believe me, I need every second I can get!) though some may still prefer contact-based punching—but at least they have not been entirely dispossessed by the new tech, as it supports both methods of dibbing.



Given the move to pre-entry it's no surprise really that Lockdown 1 gave birth to a new challenger service, Racesignup, which Saxons are using extensively. We used it

for King's Wood and my experience as Organiser was that it was very slick, modern and easy to use. As a participant it's been the same experience. Racesignup already seems to be popular—although judging by the number of events live at any one time it seems it has a way to go to overtake Fabian4. But to my eye the user interface is soooo much better than Fab4's, and even has the edge over SI Entries as well—not just modern but well-designed and uncluttered, so that I always know what I'm looking at. In my opinion, Fabian4 in particular is in danger of being left behind because of this. The user experience is paramount.

So would Racesignup have emerged as a contender if it hadn't been for lockdown? I suspect it would, due to its competitors' more dated interfaces leaving a potential gap for fresh entrants in the marketplace. It's just that it would have taken longer as without a wholesale move to cashless pre-entry there would have been far less impetus for it. In my view Racesignup has undoubtedly benefited from the consequences of Covid and its associated lockdowns.

Which neatly brings me to possibly lockdown's greatest orienteering digital winner—Maprun.

Maprun has its origins several years before the pandemic, as very much a niche training app popular in its native Australia but barely on the radar elsewhere, particularly in the UK. I



I recall that that was starting to change just before Covid hit: NGOC, I think it was, had pioneered a clutch of local courses and Saxons were beginning to show interest. With the imposition of the first lockdown, of course, traditional organised orienteering came to an abrupt halt—but not our addiction to the sport! Suddenly Maprun was the saviour of our O-cravings, and enterprising individuals and clubs—across the world, not just in the UK—began creating and uploading courses en masse. I don't know how many courses are available now, but there are 49 'countries' (including individual states of Australia) featured on the Maprun database. Saxons alone have 21 virtual courses, DFOK 37. There's even a specialist events series—the Southern England GPS Orienteering League. Most seem to be in urban areas or urban parks of course, as how many rural landowners would have given permission for a course during the pandemic? But Maprun has allowed us to make excellent use of what resources were at hand during lockdown—and it has enabled us, and our sport, to survive. It should also have considerable long-term longevity now—possibly greater than if there had been no pandemic. I for one have greatly enjoyed doing Mapruns: I've used them as training runs, and an excuse to go to parts of the county I would rarely visit (Faversham, Tunbridge Wells, Leybourne & West Malling, Canterbury, Walderslade, Tonbridge, Maidstone, Hythe, Deal and Betteshanger have all felt the pounding of my feet—although I haven't necessarily always posted my times on the Maprun server!)

But is there a downside to Maprun? All digital technology has cons as well as pros, and that's often in terms of what it displaces. Will we in fact see the end of the traditional Permanent Orienteering Course? They are complex—and

therefore expensive—to set up and maintain, involving considerable and lengthy negotiations with landowners. The marker posts and maps have to be funded somehow, and arrangements need to be made to provide the maps. The marker posts themselves are vulnerable to vandalism—the first time I tried the Mote Park POC for example, control 8 had gone AWOL and two posts there are missing at the moment. Variations to a POC are also difficult and time-consuming to create, those to a Maprun are not.

For a more informed view, the best person to ask was our POCs Officer, Beryl Pring. Despite the problems inherent with POCs she is firmly of the view that they have their place in contemporary orienteering. Beryl pointed out to me that Maprun's key drawback is that it doesn't work well in woodland—the two (now withdrawn) training courses in Hemsted Forest by Brendon Howe being prime examples. This alone ensures reasonable prospects for POCs, although now our latest offering Whinless Down is live it's unlikely we will be adding to them. Again, the costs and time involved in both setup and ongoing management mitigate against them. The future therefore is likely to be hybrid, with both virtual and permanent courses having important roles to play.



POCs: relics of the past...? / Credits: Graham Denney

Away from the courses, technology has infiltrated the management of orienteering as well. Our club committee meetings went virtual very quickly once lockdown started, moving to Zoom—where they have stayed, and been joined by the AGM. Despite the absence of physical interactions, Zoom—another of the pandemic's great technology winners—has proven to be startlingly convenient. In-person meetings clearly have to be held somewhere—if a committee meeting in somebody's home, then there is a degree of intrusion and inconvenience; if an AGM, then there is a cost to hire a venue and the effort involved in making all the arrangements. The sheer savings achieved by

keeping your Editor away from the biscuits at AGMs is surely worth the lack of face-to-face contact!

As with Zoom, clubs and BO were quick to exploit



Once upon a time, AGMs looked like this...

the training potential of the Internet during the first lockdown. BO set up a range of online resources, from challenges (such as the London Streetspace Challenges) to conferences (the 2021 Virtual Coaching Conference) and eLearning courses. Club contributions that I'm aware of included a Virtual Lockdown Challenge from Quantock Orienteers, and technical and physical coaching sessions from Southdowns and, of course, ourselves. With the ability to stream the recordings of online sessions on demand for as long as is desired, I think that this is likely to become a permanent staple of clubs' and BO's training/coaching and communications programmes.

Talking of communications, your beloved SaxAlert has not been immune from the considerable changes wrought by the pandemic either. Lockdown forced



Cover of the first digital-only SaxAlert—it seems so long ago now

our printers to shut up shop as I was starting to put issue 185 together, leaving me with the only option—for that issue at least—to go fully digital. I had already been producing a downloadable PDF of the print version anyway so this was a natural and easy decision to make.

There are a number of advantages of a digital edition over a print one, some of which we haven't actually realised yet. Clearly, it's easier, quicker and cheaper to produce and distribute a PDF. Printing was not just quite expensive but time consuming, with trips to the printers to firstly check the proofs, then to pick up the finished copies, and printing labels, stuffing envelopes and posting adding to the complexity of it all.

Digital also allows us to do more with SaxAlert. It can be full colour throughout, not just on the cover, which would be prohibitively expensive in print. PDF is interactive, which means that it can contain hyperlinks outside the document not just to websites but also downloadable assets—such as other PDFs or images of maps (see recent issues), as well as audio and video files, which I haven't done yet but would like to in the future as they extend the magazine's capabilities and range of content. As you're undoubtedly aware, this is now the fourth digital-only issue of SaxAlert, and it's unlikely that it will be reverting to print at any point in the near future.

Two things do concern me though about this switch to a PDF-only SaxAlert. They're useful examples as they encapsulate some wider concerns I have about the headlong rush to adopt new technology that we have experienced during,

and because of, the pandemic.

Firstly is whether we are disadvantaging any sections of our audience—namely those which are less digitally-literate than average. I think this is unlikely: as orienteers we are probably all fairly tech-savvy anyway—after all we manage with dibbers, downloading and online entries on a regular basis, as well as mobile phones, satnav and (more recently) What3Words. Certainly I haven't heard any adverse comments about losing the print version of SaxAlert, though I am open to hearing any (whilst being aware of the irony inherent in asking this in a digital-only magazine...) But technological advances can exclude certain parts of the population, often the oldest or the poorest—a good example being the trend by banks to close branches on the assumption that everybody wants to do online banking. I feel that we should take care to ensure we are not excluding anybody from enjoying the sport just because we want to use technology to benefit a core segment of orienteers. We need to be more inclusive as a sport anyway, and whilst technology can be an attractive draw for some it may inadvertently bar others.

Related to this is the loss of income for traditional businesses, such as the printers whom we are not using at present (though I'm pleased to say they are still open). There are losers as well as winners whenever technology displaces existing activities, and I fear the damage this can cause to small, local businesses with whom we should have good relationships. I am torn on this issue: I believe in the positive power of technology, particularly where it can do things more efficiently, faster, and for lower cost than traditional methods. But having been in a previous life a Business Adviser at Business Link Hampshire, I know the threats that technology poses to these firms. I don't have an answer, other than a stock (and rather weak) mantra that they must evolve and adopt technology themselves in order to survive. The printing world has had to do this anyway for a couple of decades—small printers in particular have largely moved from offset litho to digital presses—so perhaps there's my answer.

It's awkward to end on a negative note, so let me conclude that my view overall is that orienteering has benefited from the march of technology, both during the pandemic and before. (Anybody really want to go back to using punch cards and copying your route onto your map with a leaky red pen?!) It is however very much a double-edged sword which we have a responsibility to wield wisely, to benefit as many people as possible and to minimise the disadvantages. There have been a number of encouraging new uses of tech in orienteering during and as a result of the lockdowns, and it is to be hoped that they will continue into the future.

PHYTOPHTHORA RAMORUM

Simon Greenwood

Phytophthora ramorum is an algae-like organism called a water mould that causes the death of a wide range of trees and shrubs. The greatest impact so far has been on larch plantations, leading to thousands of hectares* of felling around the UK.

*A hectare is an area a hundred meters square and is equal to 2.47 acres. An acre is an area one furlong by one chain or 4,840 square yards. A furlong is 1/8 of a mile or 220 yards and a chain is 22 yards or the length of a cricket pitch. An acre is the area that one man and horse can plough in a day. A physical chain, of a hundred links, was used to accurately measure the base line from which triangulation could be used to produce a map.

Common name: *ramorum disease*, ramorum blight, sudden larch death

Scientific name: *Phytophthora ramorum*

What does it affect?: Larch, sweet chestnut, North American native oak, beech, sycamore, horse chestnut, cherry, ash, birch, *Rhododendron ponticum* etc.

A comprehensive list of plant species susceptible to *P. ramorum* infection is available on the [UK Plant Health Information Portal](#).

Areas affected so far: throughout the UK but most severe in the west

Origin: unknown

What does *Phytophthora ramorum* look like?

Symptoms include:

- Blackened base of the leaf near the petiole (the stalk that joins a leaf to a stem) and along the midrib of the leaf.
- Withered and blackened leaves or needles leading to dieback of the outer branches.
- Areas of black “bleeding” on the trunk.
- In larch, the disease progresses very quickly so whole trees will be dead within a short period of time.



Photo 1

- bleeding cankers on Western hemlock branch (Photo 1)
- wilted, withered shoot tips with blackened needles (Photo 2)

In the picture below (Photo 3), the trees with brown, grey and ginger foliage are larch trees with *ramorum* disease.



Photo 2

What is *Phytophthora ramorum*?

Phytophthora species are microscopic fungal-like organisms closely related to algae. Their name literally means 'the plant-destroyer' and they have been responsible for some of the worst plant disease epidemics in history, including potato blight which led to the disastrous Irish potato famine in the 1800s.

What happens to the tree?

Phytophthora ramorum spores spread via wind-driven rain. When they land on a leaf they grow into the tree by breaking down the cell walls in the leaf. This leads to the initial blackening symptoms. It then grows within the tree and blocks its water transport system leading to dieback and eventual death. While this process is happening the pathogen will also be spreading onto other nearby trees and shrubs.



Photo 3

Where has *Phytophthora ramorum* impacted?

Trees in the wetter parts of the UK are particularly susceptible because the pathogen requires water to spread and infect its host. Major outbreaks on larch have occurred in south-west Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and Cornwall.

Phytophthora ramorum moves around within plant networks very easily because it can't be easily detected and is therefore hard to stop any spread. As a result, it is now widespread worldwide. It has had a particularly severe impact in western parts of the US where its host is the native tanoak (*Notholithocarpus densiflorus*).

A map showing distribution can be found at

https://www.forestresearch.gov.uk/documents/7768/Pr_Outbreak_map_at_Feb_2020.pdf

How did *Phytophthora ramorum* get here and what impact will it have?

Phytophthora ramorum was first discovered in the UK in 2002 on an imported Viburnum plant. It can spread naturally in wind-blown rain (up to 4 miles) but it is the plant trade that spread this disease across the globe.

This disease is here to stay. Before its discovery there were approximately 154,000 hectares of larch planted in Great Britain, 5% of the total woodland area. Most of this has been lost and larch can no longer be used as a timber species. There is also a risk that this pathogen can become aggressive on other hosts; this would be devastating to the natural environment. For example, in 2015 infected sweet chestnut trees were found at a small number of sites in South-West England, mostly in Devon and Cornwall.

What is being done about it?

If forestry authorities identify *P. ramorum* in an area the land owner is issued with an official notice to fell all larch. This slows the spread by taking away the pathogens host and preventing spores from spreading.

- An UK and Ireland Sourced and Grown assurance scheme has been developed to make sure that trees are available to plant that are produced in the UK.
- The government has been lobbied to improve biosecurity at border points to stop new pests and diseases entering the UK.
- Observatree, a tree health citizen science project which trains volunteers to spot pests and diseases, is helping tree health authorities identify and manage outbreaks early.

Suspected cases of *ramorum* disease on trees or other woodland plants must be reported to the forestry authorities. If you think you have seen *ramorum* disease on a tree or other forest or woodland plant, please check the guide to identification and symptoms in [this *Phytophthora* manual](#) before making your report.

- In England, please [email the Forestry Commission](#) or call 0300 067 4321. Please attach at least one clear, well-lit photograph of the symptoms with your email report if possible.
- In Scotland or Wales, please use the [Tree Alert](#) online tree disease

reporting tool.

- In Northern Ireland, please use [TreeCheck](#), the all-Ireland tree disease reporting tool.

Note that Tree Alert and TreeCheck require photographs of symptoms to be uploaded.

Extensive annual aerial surveys are undertaken with follow up ground visits to any suspected diseased trees.

Preventing and minimising spread

The public

Visitors to woods, forests, parks and public gardens can help to minimise the spread of *ramorum* disease and other plant diseases. They can do this by brushing soil, mud and leaf debris off their footwear and wheels - including the wheels of cars, bicycles, mountain bikes, baby buggies and wheelchairs - before leaving the site. They should then wash these items at home before visiting another similar site.

Many mountain-biking trails are sited in larch forests, and bikers are strongly encouraged, before they leave, to use the on-site washdown facilities available at many trail centres. If you do arrive with a dirty bike then use the washdown facility before entering the forest.

Where possible, park motor vehicles on hard-standing, such as tarmac, concrete or gravel, rather than on grassed surfaces when visiting such sites.

LEAGUES

Kent Night Cup 2021/22:

This year's KNC League is going strong, with 12 events having already been run by the time this issue is published, which will be a total of 14 by Christmas. Attendance has been good, averaging just over 35 per event, and ranging from 27 to 45.

The [full league table is here](#), but the top five at time of publication consist of: Sean Cronin (SAX) just in the lead with 236 points overall, with Neil Crickmore (SO) close behind with 226, then Neil Speers (DFOK) third with 218, Alan Hickling (SAX) fourth on 213, and Mark Glaisher (SAX) hot on his heels with 212 points. Saxons' top ladies are Sam Prior (16th on 149), Heather Brown (17th on 142), Ffion Bricknell (19th on 132), Sarah Howes (=21st on 129) and Karen

Ransley (25th on 111).

But with the season not even halfway through at present, there's still everything to play for. 14 events remain, 12 of them after New Year. With locations spread across the area from Blean to Tilgate (near Crawley), this season's final results could depend as much on who turns up to which event, as on how well they do.

Stay tuned to the Saxons website for the latest news!

Kent Orienteering League 2021/22:

This year's KOL season is also in full swing as we go to press. Four well-attended events have already been run—Hargate (11th September), Hucking (23rd October), Trosley Country Park (13th November) and Darenth Country Park (11th December). A further six events are planned between now and June: the next is Scotney Castle Estate on Saturday 8th January.

Full results of the first four events including Routegadget GPS routes are available here:

[KOL 1 Hargate](#) | [KOL 2 Hucking](#) [[Routegadget here](#)] | [KOL 3 Trosley CP](#) | [KOL 4 Darenth CP](#) [[Routegadget here](#)] | [League tables](#)

MapRun Series:

As both KNC and KOL series are going ahead at present, a Winter MapRun series has not been planned for this year. However all maps, control descriptions, briefings/information and leaderboards for each existing Saxons MapRun can be accessed from <https://www.saxons-oc.org/maprun>. DFOK also have an extensive series of these virtual orienteering challenges: see [their MapRun page](#) for details. All Saxons and DFOK MapRuns can be found in either the Kent or Southeast London folder of the app.

South East League:

2021/22 League:

This year's League is well under way, with five events having already taken place, and another seven scheduled through to May next year. The various SEOA Championships are also in progress.

[Club results](#) (to Oldhouse Warren on 13th Jun) [PDF]. At this point Saxons were

equal 4th in Division 1, tying with HH.

[2021 Individual League](#)—latest results (to Long Valley N on 14th Nov) [PDF]

Well done the following Saxons—keep the effort going!

W10—Holly Howe (13th)

W18—Ffion Bricknell (1st)

W40— Karen Ransley (1st)

W45—Alison Howe (6th), Sarah Covey-Crump (8th), Lisa Blair (=9th), Catherine Slade (11th)

W50—Gaby Roch (=12th), Lisa Fulcher (=14th), Karen Bricknell (20th), Gill Sinclair (=21st)

W55—Marion Bond (16th)

W60—Sarah Howes (3rd) and Fiona Wilson (17th)

W65—Jean Fitzgerald (8th)

W70— Heather Brown (=3rd)

W75—Beryl Pring (1st)

M12—Thomas Bates (=3rd)

M16—Austin Howe (2nd) and Ben Cronin (5th)

M18—Dorian Kopij (9th)

M21—Peter Dobra (10th) and Matthew Hockley (22nd)

M40—Simon Evans (4th)

M45—Stuart Williams (10th)

M50—Neil Bricknell (6th), Brendon Howe (7th), Simon Deeks (11th) and Andrew Derrick (15th)

M55—Mel Taylor (15th), Sean Cronin (16th), Alan Hickling (17th), Brian Henry (37th), Nick Betts (39th)

M60—Steven Elliott (18th), Bohdan Rainczuk (21st), Simon Chapman (26th), Adam Fulcher (27th), Peter Rogers (35th)

M65—Simon Greenwood (13th), Simon Blanchflower (16th), Richard Whitaker (30th)

M70—Peter Martin (1st), Mark Glaisher (2nd), David Kingdon (8th)

M75—Mike Solomon (8th), Roger Pring (10th)

M80—Doug Deeks (=2nd), Jeremy Oldershaw (=2nd), Tony Connellan (5th)

Note that League Events are dependant on the Covid-19 situation.

[More info about the SE League and SE Orienteering Association is available here.](#)

UK Orienteering League:

The start of the 2021 UKOL season was delayed until early June by Covid-19 restrictions, meaning that only 16 events have been possible (instead of the usual 20).

In the 2021 Club League, Saxons currently lie 27th (out of 109) with 2513 points. The leaders at present are BOK with 4750 points. Only one more event remains—the Southern Championships at South Ashdown on 12th December. Saxons lies only a few points behind Interlopers (Edinburgh) and Swansea Bay OC; with a strong turnout on what is essentially home turf could we overhaul not only them but also Wessex, Southampton OC and Devon? Could we even make the top 20? If we could repeat the storming success of the November Classic—where we had 13 heavy hitters, most scoring in the 30s and 40s and one with 50 points—anything's possible...



Saxons' top 5 to date in the Individual League are Sarah Howes, Jeremy Oldershaw, Alison Howe, Mark Glaisher and Austin Howe.

[2021 schedule of events](#)

[2021 Club League](#)

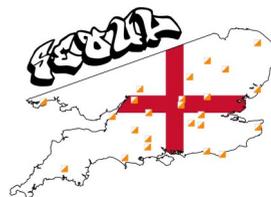
[2021 Individual League](#) (filter by setting Club to SAX to view individual Saxons' results)

[More info about the UK Orienteering League is available here.](#)

SEOUL and SEGOL:

Southern England Orienteering Urban League and Southern England GPS Orienteering League:

The Southern England Orienteering Urban League (SEOUL) ran a near-full programme for 2021, in parallel with the GPS-based SEGOL League.



SEOUL saw 14 events between May and November, culminating in the Salisbury City Race as part of the annual November Classic. League positions are calculated from each individual's 5 best scores. Saxons were not well represented this year, with just Brendon Howe (86th out of 159) and Alan Hickling (137th) on the board.



The SEGOL League has only featured 1 event this year (Taunton West) with a second event by MV in Woking not having been made available yet. However the organisers welcome additional courses;

please email them on seoul.orienteering@gmail.com if interested.

[SEOUL website](#) | [SEGOL website](#)

SAXONS OUT & ABOUT

Saxons At Home

[View the latest KNC league table here!](#)

Chilham Castle & King's Wood—30th May 2021

SE League event

After a very long wait, the sun rose on Saxons at Chilham Castle and King's Wood and we were finally able to run our South East League event which had been postponed from March 2020. The day was hot and sunny for the 240 competitors, Tom & Julie's catering van was doing brisk business against the backdrop of Chilham Castle, and the woods were still in fantastic condition given the very chilly start to the year.

Simon Blanchflower had planned some excellent courses, with Andrew Evans as Controller (DFOK). Starting from the Chilham Castle end of the forest gave a different perspective for competitors with the Stanners Wood addition and the



Chilham Castle / Credit: Alison Howe

Ridge Wood into Chilham Estate adding to the navigational challenge.

The split starts both remote from the finish and assembly added to the logistical challenge, but thanks to a willing and happy bunch of Saxons Volunteers, the event ran seamlessly. The Organiser, Alison Howe, very nearly had a nervous breakdown though when 2 horses entered the competition area at 9am for cross country training with promises of more to come. Some frantic telephone conversations followed, and thankfully the stables were able to cancel the rest of the planned riders, with the horses leaving the grounds before the courses were declared open!

A special thank-you to the events team at Chilham Castle for being very understanding and flexible, in particular managing to squeeze our event into the calendar in between equestrian events, enabling our many visits to check the courses and control sites, and also for helping to prepare the site for the event—thanks Greg for mowing the route through the brambles on the route to the start!

Looks like we will be back to King’s Wood later this year for the SE Middles, so hope to see you all there.

Alison Howe, Organiser

[Event results](#)

Whinless Down & High Meadow—9th Sept 2021

Summer Series No. 4

The final event of our Summer Series followed the same format as the previous ones with two courses, one a simple score and the other using the same controls but split into two sets with an obligatory change-over control. Since the previous (and only other) event at Whinless Down the area has been extended to include High Meadow, an area of pasture extending along the ridge to the east.

The assembly was in the middle of the area which gave



Previous event at Whinless Down /
Credit: Graham Denney

immediate access along the ridge line east and west which gave people the option of enjoying the view from the top of the ridge without venturing too far down the steep slopes. As people reported “Dover is very hilly”.

It turned out to be a hot day for the Dover hills but people enjoyed surprisingly good orienteering, great views to the castle and docks along with abundant wild flowers and butterflies.

We were pleased to have a surprise visit from Bernard Wilson who created the first map in 1993. He was delighted to learn that the POC he helped create then is still maintained and used.

Simon Blanchflower, Organiser

[Event Results](#)

King’s Wood—Sunday 31st October 2021

SEOA Regional Middle Distance Championships

Well, that was a wet one! October clearly refused to go out with a whimper, and so threw everything the weather had left at us. Our regional Hallowe'en event at King's Wood turned out to be a veritable witches' brew of driving rain and wind, fortunately minus the flying monkeys and airborne farmhouses



(this time). Setting up in those conditions was a challenge, but the team of hardy and resolute helpers were determined not to be beaten and cracked on with whatever jobs needed to be done, with smiles and a sense of humour. All went smoothly and by 1pm the skies had cleared and the sun was putting in an appearance - just as the Start closed.

We had some very positive comments throughout the day and afterwards, both for the quality of David Kingdon's full range of courses and for the organisation. Some people were just grateful that we went ahead with the event: I know that we picked up entrants in the last few days who had been due to do the OMM up in the Lake District. Although we clearly benefited from the OMM's cancellation, it was nice to be able to give them a (wet and windy) substitute closer to home.

One of the nicest compliments came from a novice family, a couple with their W10 daughter who did Yellow all together. They had previously only done

Simon Blanchflower's Whinless Down event earlier in the year, so this was just their second orienteering event—and they absolutely loved it despite (or even because of!) the weather. When I hear people say things like this, it makes all the effort and the struggle with the weather worthwhile. Full credit to the helpers for their contribution that led to these newcomers' smiles.



Parking on the forest track at King's Wood / Credit: Graham Denney

Numbers were slightly below what we had hoped for: 150 entries would have been great, but in the end we were close with 133, of whom 120 (including Juniors and non-competitive adults) turned up, along with about 5 billion tons of express-delivery rain. That's a 90% attendance rate on a day with a foul weather forecast. We must be doing something right!

It was a championship event too, of course, and it's great to be able to say that Saxons were prominent on the medals table, across a wide range of age categories. Congratulations are in order to:

M16—Austin Howe (Gold)

W18—Ffion Bricknell (Gold)

M20-40—Simon Evans (Bronze)

W20-40—Sam Prior (Bronze)

M45-50—Brendon Howe (Gold), Peter Martin (Silver)

W45-50—Alison Howe (Silver)

M55-60—Alan Hickling (Bronze)

M65-75—Simon Greenwood (Gold), Steve Waite (Silver)

W65-75—Heather Brown (Gold)

M80+—Jeremy Oldershaw (Gold), Tony Connellan (Silver)

Thanks to Simon Greenwood, as Chairman of SEOA, for presenting the medals.

I'd particularly like to thank Forestry England, for allowing us to park on the forest track. With the number of cars that we had, using the main public car park was simply not viable. Thanks are also due to David Kingdon, for planning a full range of high-quality colour-coded courses, and to Andrew Evans (DFOK) for controlling.

Graham Denney, Organiser | [Event Results](#)

KNC 8 Mote Park—Thursday 11th November 2021

The 8th Kent Night Cup organised by Sean Cronin proved one of the most popular of the season with 37 participants. Most were familiar with Mote Park and organiser Sean did his best to make it as challenging as possible with the novel technique of hiding a building constructed to commemorate the visit of the King and Prime Minister to Mote Park in 1799. George III and William Pitt would not have been amused to find out that some competitors were scratching their heads as to why an entire Doric temple wasn't on the map. The answer is that it was, just hidden by the number 9 in control number 109. Sorry.

Sean Cronin, Organiser/Planner

[Event Results](#)

KOL 3 Trosley Country Park—Saturday 13th November 2021

KOL #3 took place on Saturday 13 November, planned and organized by Neil and Ffion Bricknell. There were 109 entries, not accounting for the others that made up the family groups.



The weather was good for the time of year, quite mild with little to no breeze, though it did get cold manning the start and download when you are not moving, luckily we had made up a batch of chilli and hot chocolate to keep us warm.

Ffion and I started putting out the controls about 7am and had finished by 9am, and yes I had to climb the hill too. Twice in fact, once when putting out the controls and a second time when collecting, you only did it once!

There were many compliments from both experienced orienteers to total newbies and a few minor issues:

Experienced orienteers commented that they enjoyed the courses with the route choice options and variation in leg distance, “less path running than normal at Trosley”. Nobody liked the hill, but who does, at least we only made you climb it once. It was also commented by one lady that she enjoyed the Orange course as it was, in her opinion, of Orange standard (her husband runs Blue). Apparently, she has done Oranges with her own club which, in their opinion, were too hard. Hopefully we got it about right.

Hopefully, we got the controls in the right places, if they hadn't been I would be blaming Ffion!

Some of the issues identified were:

- The Blue maps were double sided and were in the box with the Start side face down.
- There were two gates north of control 58 on the Blue and Green course which were cable tied shut. Sorry, but we weren't aware of this.
- The control descriptions on the map hid the scale of the map, unfortunately this was not spotted prior to the maps being printed.

Brendon is putting on training after KOL events for anyone to take part in. So next time why not brush up on those skills and have a go.

Hope you enjoyed the event.

Neil and Ffion Bricknell, Organisers

[Event Results](#)

Saxons Further Afield

Travels into East Anglia – Autumn 2021

Where no other Saxon dared to tread! OK I'll admit it, I had the offer of free dinner, bed and breakfast from the widow of a school friend so it was just a little extra fuel and some flowers.

9th and 10th October there was an East Anglian weekend based on Mildenhall (the very edge of Thetford Forest Park) and Bury St Edmunds organized by WAOC and SUFFOC. Saturday was at Bush Heath Woods, a virtually flat area but with enough features to provide some reasonable courses though there was an area of long tussocky grass that caused some people trouble. The excitement was provided by three young vandals who I'm pretty sure had smashed up an SI unit with the spade they were using to build jumps for their bikes. The controller decided not to void the course and gave the non-dibbers the benefit of the doubt. I was affected by such trouble and actually told the planner which control it was as he had been given the wrong number and couldn't understand how the number he had been given could have been damaged. I was 4th/26.

The urban event in Bury St Edmunds did involve a little bit of climb (40m in 4km) and I managed to go down the wrong parallel road at one point which cost me a couple of minutes. There was a slightly unsatisfactory start with a long leg

beside the river in meadows before getting into the urban part. The Abbey gardens and ruins provided the technical aspect late in proceedings after a fairly standard first part with limited route choices. 7th out of 15 on Course 5, mainly beaten by W65s, but 2nd on MHV.

30th October in Cambridge was a completely different matter for me. I suppose it's habit but one doesn't really use a compass in an urban event although I always carry one and this was an occasion when I should have used it. However I came across the market in the middle of my course and didn't relate it to an area of out-of-bounds on the map thinking it was a building site. Lack of concentration or trying to avoid the shoppers I don't know which but it caused me to make a 90-degree error. And that was that as they say; I was completely confused and ended up asking a young lady selling tourist maps where I was! I lost 12 1/2 minutes on that one control and as "any fule kno" that doesn't help in the results. But I wasn't last!!!

Jeremy Oldershaw

A Grand Couple of Days Out: Chatham Historic Dockyard & Epping North

The weekend of 4th and 5th December was one of those great occasions that really demonstrate the variety of disciplines within orienteering. Saturday saw the SE Regional Sprint Championships at the wonderful location of Chatham Historic Dockyard, followed by a more traditional forest run in lovely Epping Forest on the Sunday.

In its heyday, Chatham was one of the three principal dockyards of the Royal Navy, the others being Portsmouth and Plymouth. The suitability of this part of the River Medway as home for a large part of the fleet was recognized as far back as the mid-1500s; the dockyard remained in continuous use until it was finally closed in 1984.



The remaining core of the site, which is essentially Georgian in architecture, is now owned by the Chatham Historic Dockyard Trust. And what a site it is. Planner Andrew Evans' (DFOK) courses had us racing all over the 80 acre area. Across two events, using heavily different courses, we visited most of the buildings, minor and major, from the outside, the remaining Mast Pond, ran round and between the lengthy ropewalks, visited a very pleasant walled garden, took in the lifeboats museum (both downstairs and upstairs, though I admit it took me a while to work that one out...) and crossed over a ship and underneath a

submarine. Some of us didn't need to go under the sub—it would have been rather quicker to run around it—but did it for the sheer fun of it anyway. Orienteering has taken me to some unusual places in the last few years—I've dibbed controls on Neolithic and Iron Age hillforts, inside a helicopter, next to two tractors, an abandoned trailer in the woods, charcoal burners' kilns and, on one memorable occasion, a pink inflatable cow (an image I won't forget in a hurry)—but a submarine has to be right up there at the top of that list. And more than that, this sub—HMS Ocelot—was the last Royal Navy vessel built at Chatham (launched in 1962). Very special—thanks Andrew, Organiser Ian Catchpole (DFOK), Controller Janet Biggs (HAVOC) and the Dockyard Trust for being incredibly helpful in allowing us to run safely there.

As this was a regional event, medals were on offer across all age classes, and Saxons did rather well, with 5 podium positions, all Golds. Congratulations to:

Alison Howe—1st in W45+

Sarah Howes—1st in W60+

Beryl Pring—1st in W70+

Austin Howe—1st in M14+

Mark Glaisher—1st in M70+



The keen-eyed amongst you will notice that that's 3 Gold-winning, podium-standing generations of the same family in there—well done the Pring/Howe family!

By the time medals had been presented, as Simon B pointed out the sun was well over the yardarm and it was time to close the



hatch on the first grand day out of the weekend.

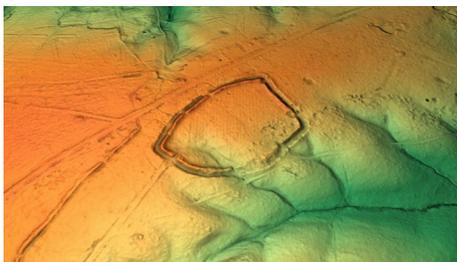
By Sunday morning the weather had unfortunately turned for the worse, and rain set in on the way over to Essex for CHIG's Michael Brandon Mitre National Event at Epping North.

Over 230 runners ran across a full colour range of courses in the part of Epping Forest adjacent to Theydon Bois, a small community which despite being very much Essex commuter belt manages to retain its village atmosphere. CHIG had

secured the spacious and modern village hall as the parking and event centre, a wise move given the weather.

Courses took in a large chunk of the far NE corner of the Forest. Terrain ranged from large expanses of highly-runnable woodland (mercifully free of brambles—how do they do it?!) to much denser forest in and around a fairly complex stream and contour system. On Blue for example, despite controls 17 and 18 being just 200m apart in a straight line, it was far easier to run around on the path network, even though it was twice the distance!

It's a great privilege to orienteer in Epping Forest as it is literally running through history. The sheer number of pits and earthworks in our event area are mute testimony to usage of the landscape here over the centuries, as are the pollarded beeches, a method of tree pruning to stimulate growth that is rarely seen on our side of the Thames.



3D digital terrain model of

Ambresbury Banks / Credit: Rouven

Meidlinger, CC BY-SA 4.0 licence

At the far SW end of the Forest is the mid-sixteenth century Hunting Lodge of Queen Elizabeth. There are also two Iron Age forts in the Forest, of which Ambresbury Banks was in our event area though out of bounds. Legend claims this was where Boudicca was finally defeated by the Romans in AD61, although it must be said that the same claim has been made for at least nine other places as far away as the Midlands. More likely is that the line of Essex hillforts which includes Ambresbury was an Iron Age tribal boundary.

Saxons again proved their mettle despite the rain, with Holly Howe coming first on White, Jeremy Oldershaw third on Short Green, Mark Glaisher third on Green, and Alison Howe second on Short Blue. Great performances all, against considerable competition from a wide range of clubs. A second grand day out made for a Grand Weekend of orienteering—it doesn't get much better than that.

Graham Denney

[SE Sprints results](#) | [Routegadget—morning](#) | [Routegadget—afternoon](#)

[Michael Brandon Mitre results](#)

More Grand Days Out

Graham Denney

The highly enjoyable SE Regional Sprints at Chatham Historic Dockyard were a great opportunity to—literally—run through a museum. Which reminded me that a number of times after orienteering events I have gone on to visit a museum or other historic attraction. This has particularly been so where I've travelled some distance, either within Kent or further afield, and felt it was worth making a full day out of it.

It almost goes without saying that our part of the world is chock full of heritage. There's no shortage of places to visit—in fact the problem is deciding which and when. Apart from the obvious major sites such as those owned by the National Trust and English Heritage, however, there are plenty of less well-known and small museums and buildings in Kent alone which deserve your time and attention. [Wikipedia](#) lists over 120, ranging from the most obvious—Knole, say, or Ightham Mote—to the more obscure. The British Cartoon Archive at the University of Kent, anybody? Or a pumping station in Chatham? How about a Cold War bunker in Gravesend? Or a collection of 3500 ceramic teapots at—perhaps unsurprisingly—Teapot Island near Yalding?

In addition most of the county's towns have their own dedicated local history museums. Most are fairly small—Tunbridge Wells' surprisingly so for the size of the town—but in my opinion uniformly excellent. Over the last few years I've visited a good number of them, and a number of unusual objects or collections stand out: Saxon and Jutish finds in Maidstone Museum; a Subbuteo set at the Eden Valley Museum (in Edenbridge—Subbuteo was made at nearby Chiddingstone Causeway for many years); Tunbridge Ware (an early type of holiday souvenir) in the Tunbridge Wells Museum; a model of a WW2 aircraft fuel drop tank made of paper (seriously!) in Sittingbourne Museum.

Kent is particularly rich in military-related heritage as well, of course: castles, forts, ports and dockyards, underground bunkers, and much more besides. Aviation museums are particularly well represented within the county—with a total of six that I know of (including two at Manston)—not surprising given the county's central role in the Battle of Britain.

Industrial and maritime heritage are strong in Kent as well, ranging from a number of wind- and watermills to agricultural museums by way of railway and transport museums. Two of my top picks on this topic would be: firstly the little-known Chart Gunpowder Mills in Faversham, for the insight it gives into what was formerly an industry of major importance not just locally but nationally, and

Whitstable Museum. Why Whitstable? Because it now houses *Invicta*, one of the world's earliest steam locomotives, which ran on part of the Crab & Winkle Railway from here to Canterbury in the early 1830s.

We are truly spoilt for choice in Kent for fascinating places to visit. Combining one with an orienteering event beforehand comes highly recommended, and makes for a truly grand day out.

Christmas Gift Ideas

Graham Denney

Christmas is coming, the goose is getting fat, please to put a tenner in the SaxAlert Editor's hat (or something like that!) A couple of emails recently from the online shops below inspired this article. Hopefully it will reach you just in time to get any purchases delivered before the Big Day itself. The two shops featured are both non-profitmaking British outdoors institutions, so likely to be close to the hearts of most orienteers.

Ordnance Survey:

A quintuple (?!) of map-related books certain to pique the interest of any map-lover:

[The Ordnance Survey Great British Treasure Hunt](#): £14.99

[The Ordnance Survey Kids' Adventure Book](#): £12.99

[The Ordnance Survey Puzzle Tour of Britain Book](#): £11.99

[The Ordnance Survey Journey Through Time Puzzle Book](#): £16.99

[Map Of A Nation: A Biography of the Ordnance Survey](#): £10.99

And a few bits and pieces that could be useful:

[Rechargeable Hand Warmer](#): £24.99

Useful for keeping you warm while on car park duties at Saxons events! Also functions as a power bank to recharge USB devices like mobile phones or GPSs.

[Dorrigo A4 3D Map of SE England](#): £9.99

Identify the locations of all your favourite orienteering events in the SEOA region.

[Lifeventure Hydroseal waterproof phone case](#): £10.49

Keep your mobile phone or other electronic devices safe from the rain (and any streams you have to wade on orienteering events!)

[Black Diamond Moji Lantern](#): £18.00

Pocket-sized lantern that could be useful when changing at the back of the car on KNC events! Uses 3xAAA batteries (not included).

British Mountaineering Council:

[Boot Bananas](#): BMC Members £10.00 / Non-members: £11.67

Specially designed to absorb moisture from wet footwear and equipment using silica - can dry footwear in 4–6 hours. No heat or electricity needed.

[Wild Nature Calendar 2022](#): BMC Members £9.00 / Non-members: £10.00

Produced in conjunction with the John Muir Trust to help raise awareness of the very special wild British landscapes that the JMT helps protect.

[Geo Puzzle World](#): BMC Members £14.17 / Non-members: £15.83

One for adults as well as kids - each piece is shaped like a country, learn (or re-learn!) geography in a fun and engaging way.

[GSI Stainless Steel Mini Espresso Set - 1 Cup](#): BMC Members £34.88 / Non-members: £38.75

A lightweight, portable espresso maker that fits on top of a hiking gas stove. Inspired by your Editor's addiction to decent coffee...

Don't forget also that our very own **British Orienteering** offers [member discounts](#) to a range of online and traditional stores and services—which might help to make Christmas that little bit more affordable!

Credits:

Cover photo: HM Submarine Ocelot, Chatham Historic Dockyard—Graham Denney.

Other photo credits: Sean Cronin, Karen & Neil Bricknell, Brendon Howe, Graham Denney, Alison Howe, Garmin, Higher State, Simon Greenwood, Roger Pring, Rouven Meidlinger and other contributors as credited.

Thanks to contributors to this issue: Jean Fitzgerald, Wendy Neath, Karen Bricknell, Austin Howe, Brendon Howe, Beryl Pring, Jerry Purkis, Bill Griffiths, Bernard Wilson, Sean Cronin, Graham Denney, Simon Greenwood, Alison Howe, Simon Blanchflower, Neil Bricknell, Jeremy Oldershaw.

Apologies to anybody inadvertently missed off this list—let me know and I'll credit you in the next issue—Ed.

Disclaimer: Please note that maps are used for events with the landowner's agreement

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Fiona Wilson	Membership	membership
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