



Berkshire Orienteers

“very, very nearly” CompassSport Award-winning

Club Newsletter

March 2009



2nd in the Ad Hoc relay: BKOol: Dan Straka, Andy Straka and Chris Mosley

2009 AGM – Chairman's report.

Events

2008 was another busy year for the club. The highlight of the year was the British School Championships that we hosted at Hawley in November. I can remember sitting in the Car Park at Rushall Woods at one of our Saturday events about 3 years ago and Liz saying they were looking for a club to host the event in 2007 and a group of us discussing whether we should volunteer. Our work in the schools in the area was just starting to show some promise and we thought that having the British Schools being held locally would be a good target to aim at for getting Orienteering into the local schools. There were 13 Berkshire schools at the event with St. Andrews and Broadmoor Primary coming 3rd in their respective classes and other notable performances including Crowthorne Primary who tied with Broadmoor but came 4th on individual countback.

This event has its own complexities compared with other major events and I was really grateful for Bryce Gibson agreeing to take over the co-ordination of the event at a relatively late stage. He had an excellent set of officials with Tim Booth and Liz Yeadon doing the planning, Alain Wilkes the on the day Organisation and Lynne Moore the entries. Hawley is a really good venue for this type of event and we received lots of compliments about the whole event.

The 2008 Concorde Chase, which I reported in detail last year, was held at Burghfield Common on Jan 27th. Katy Stubbs planned and I organised. We used Burghfield again for a District event and a round of the Yvette Baker trophy in October with Dan Straka planning. In the Spring we put on a District event at Swinley East. Keith McCarthy planned and Brian Burt organised. Reg and Parker decided that it would be a good idea put on Score event on New Years Day and Neil Frankum planned an event that was very well received.

This year's Concorde Chase was held on January 25th on Yateley and Minley. Martin Wilson planned and Ken Ricketts organised the event. Our thanks go to Jon Steed and Colin Dickson who helped us with the permissions for the MOD land and the Car Parking. Yateley has only recently come back into use after a long time of us not being allowed to use it. Unfortunately quarrying work is going to start on it soon so its use will be curtailed. The quarrying work on Warren Heath opposite Yateley is coming to end and we are looking at if, and when, it might be possible to bring that back into use. Martin has developed good link with the local Forestry Commission people and they are being very helpful.

The event went very well- the main issue being the weather which was predicted to be very bad but fortunately wasn't so bad on the day though it did seem to put off a few of the pre-entries and the EOD was also down. The previous few days' rain had made the car-parking field almost unusable. Ian Cooper, Peter Bennett and the rest of the car parking did an excellent job in managing to get everyone in.

The Saturday events that we put on once a month are proving extremely popular both with the people who attend and group of people who put them on. The numbers at the events are increasing with more interest from local schools.

The Summer Wednesday evening events attract a small but committed number of people. Thanks to all those who put on these events. We do need people to volunteer to plan these.

Berkshire Orienteers

In July, 12 BKO runners assembled by Martin Wilson and assisted by some able support staff gave a very creditable account of themselves in the Dorset Coastal Path relay competing against clubs with much bigger teams. The BKO team 4th out of 7 in the Handicap class.

Schools Work

The Schools Orienteering projects are still going well this year. Last year the Berkshire Youth Games had Orienteering as one of its main sports. The event was held at Bulmershe School which is not an ideal Orienteering site. The Bulmershe event was a final with schools coming through from Festival rounds held in each of the Berkshire Unitary authorities. The club was involved with putting on and running most of these festivals with some excellent attendances from the local schools. We get very positive feedback from the schools and the sports administrators in Berkshire on the commitment and organisation of the club members.

This year there is not going to be a single Berkshire Youth Games but each of the sports is arranging its own programme of Festivals and a Final. Orienteering has a high focus in Berkshire and has again been chosen as one of the major sports. This year the final will be held at St. Andrews school with Festivals in each of the Unitary authorities.

Tim Booth is currently mapping Pangbourne College. We have got a grant from British Orienteering and the College PTA is also providing funds. The map will be available for use by the club and the local schools and community. One of our members, Clare Westall, is employed as a Community Sports Coach (partly funded by Sport England) in the Adventure Dolphin Team at Pangbourne. Clare's role is 50% related to Orienteering and she has been working on providing Orienteering into schools in West Berkshire and Reading some of whom who have come to our Saturday events. The club has supported Clare in obtaining a grant from BO to put on a series of weekly events at Pangbourne College for 4 local schools starting at the end of February. Pangbourne College is also planned to be used for next year's schools final.

Finances / Equipment

- As Peter will report the clubs finances are in a very healthy state. This years Concorde Chase should boost the finances as we were able to use the area without having to pay for a complete resurvey. As the club has usually to pay for professional remapping of our larger areas this was a considerable saving
- We now have 80 EMIT controls and around 50 EMIT cards. We are planning to buy another 40 cards as the numbers attending our Saturday events has increased.
- We introduced the new Club O tops last year. If you haven't got yours yet contact Sue Wilkes

Maps

- We had Swinley East professionally remapped last year – it was used for the District and Score event and is also used for Schools events. Martin Wilson updated the map of Yateley and Minley as he was planning. Swinley West is used fairly regularly and the map is continually updated as it is used
- Hawley was updated for the British Schools Championships and Burghfield had been remapped for last years Concorde Chase
- As part of the ongoing schools work we have recently updated the map of Prospect Park. The Reading Parks are keen for it to be used again.

Berkshire Orienteers

- In 2010 we plan to use Upper Star Posts for the Concorde Chase so will be getting it remapped

Events for 2009

- SCOA are hosting the British Championships at the end of February at which many of the club members will be helping.
- We will be holding a District event at Cold Ash on May 10th. Andrew Graham is planning but we still need an Organiser
- We are also going to hold a District event at Hawley on September 27th. We need an Organiser and Planner for this event.
- Next years Concorde Chase will be held at Upper Star Posts on 31st Jan 2010. We need volunteers for officials at the event as well
- The club's events only take place because of the volunteers who give up their time. We are fortunate that we have an experienced and willing set of helpers who will help on the day but we also need people to volunteer for the organiser and planning roles

And finally thanks to:

- All the committee members and the officials who put on the events this year and to all the helpers who willingly give up their time to help. It was good to see new people coming forward to plan and organise events;
- Andrew Graham for producing the newsletter;
- Reg and Anne Parker and Di and Glenn Wass for their work in coordinating and organising all the Saturday events;
- Neil Frankum for coordinating the relay entries;
- Liz Yeadon for coordinating the Summer training events.;
- and last but not least to Reg Parker who has been the club Secretary for the past few years but has decided that he wants to retire (again). Our thanks to Reg for all the work he has put in, and still continues to do, for the club.

Eric Harper

Help!

The Berkshire Schools Festival of Orienteering final will be held on Monday, March 30th from 10 am till 2 pm, and is being very generously hosted by St Andrew's School, Pangbourne.

Berkshire Orienteers will yet again be running this competition, for which we will need a number of helpers. Please contact Denise Harper if you can spare a few hours to volunteer; your help will be greatly appreciated.

Contact email: denise.harper@ntlworld.com Tel. 01189 482934.

Concorde Chase at Yateley and Minley: Jan 25th

It was nearly 20 years ago that BKO last used Yateley. I joined BKO in about 1988 and can remember doing some summer evening events parking at the West side of the map. For reasons, which I can't recall, we then lost the use of the area for a few years. Liz and I discussed with the FC getting back into area and they were, in theory, happy for us to approach the landowner to get permission. Our requests seemed to go into a black hole and we somewhat lost interest as about the same time we were just getting Hermitage back after an even longer interval and were busy thinking about a National Event.

However it had never been completely forgotten and the Army were keen on getting it back into use as they thought they could combine it with Minley. With a change in personnel at the FC they managed to get them to agree to it being used and so it was brought back into use first at an Army mid week event and then for a round of the Compass Sport Cup. As there was an up to date map we rearranged our Concorde Chase event schedule and decided to make use of the fact that the area had been brought back into use. When I had been to Minley before I had always thought that the fields to the South of Minley would be a good parking area and so we decided to go ahead and put on a Regional event using both Yateley and Minley. I managed to persuade Martin Wilson to plan another Regional event after he had a break of around 10 years and Ken Ricketts agreed to be the organiser of the event after he had successfully organised a district event. Minley is Army land and so we were grateful for the help in arranging all the permissions for the area and the parking from Jon Steed and Colin Dickson.

This year there was another potential added complexity in that, for reasons that don't seem entirely thought through to me, we are trialling new event guidelines. The basic summary of these ideas is that age classes are done away with and people enter courses using an extended range of colour courses. In practice there is a virtual one-to-one mapping of the old age class courses to the new colours. Both Ken and Martin were keen to use the new guidelines and as the controller, Charlie Turner, of SLOW, agreed we decided to go ahead using them.

One potential problem was that we discovered that there was an ongoing programme of forestry work planned for Yateley, which would be occurring right up to the time of the event. The FC sub-contracts this work and to a certain extent lets the sub-contractor do things in their own time and also lets them choose which blocks they are going to be working on at any specific time so Martin had the worry of potential sites disappearing. Martin managed to make contact with the local FC manager and so was able to find out more details about the scheduling and so was able to plan accordingly and update the map as needed. Fairly late on in the planning stage the Army informed us that they didn't want us to use certain parts of Minley for safety reasons. This meant Martin had to move the starts and re-plan some of the courses.

Orienteering is at the mercy of the weather, which doesn't usually affect the courses but can be a nightmare for the organiser in arranging the parking. The fields that I had thought would be good for parking had one big disadvantage – they were on a slope with the access road at the bottom and also the water from above seemed to drain down into the fields. There was heavy rain in the few days before the event, which meant that it was virtually impossible to get onto the parking area. This became apparent to Ken when the toilets were delivered so some rapid rethinking had to be done. On the day Peter Bennett and Ian Cooper and their experienced team did a magnificent job. The

Berkshire Orienteers

event day's weather was not too bad but the forecast had been awful which might have put some people off as there was a higher than usual percentage of no-shows and also not as many EOD. Given the problems with the parking this was probably not a bad thing.

The Concorde Chase is always a well-attended event and this year we had about 640 pre-entries and 687 finishers. This contrasts with 614 pre-entries and 740 finishers in 2008. There is quite a significant difference in the number of EOD for the non-Regional event courses. In the old scenario we used to offer Light Green, Orange, Yellow and White as EOD courses. In 2008 we got 126 people entering these courses on the day. In the new guidelines there is only the Long Orange (old Red) and White, which are aimed at being 'Wayfarer' type courses for EOD. We only got 23 people (14 Long Orange and 9 White) entering these courses. There wasn't an increase in the other colour courses to compensate for the shortfall. The weather probably did play some part in this but I don't think explains it all. There was a lively exchange of e-mails between the event officials after the event discussing this and other issues.

I think Martin did an excellent job and provided some very good courses. Charlie Turner was really impressed by his attention to detail and his prompt delivery of everything. Those of us know Martin were not surprised at this. Martin seems to have enjoyed the experience and has agreed to plan again (after a short break). The BKO helpers, ably led by Ken, ensured that the event went off smoothly and fortunately the weather on the day wasn't as bad as had been predicted.

and so on to next year's event

Eric Harper

Junior Squad News

The SCOA Juniors have had a couple of successful months. We held training in January on Avon Tyrrell and Dur Hill in the New Forest; February training saw us at Barossa, near Camberley while the early March training was at Burghfield and Benyons Inclosure near Reading.

The Interland competition was held at Egypt Wood and Burnham Beeches on Sunday, 22nd February 2009. The Interland brings teams together from England, Belgium (both Flemish and Walloons) and The Netherlands to this annual international competition. Congratulations to Katherine Bett **SN** (3rd on W14) and Jane Morgan **SOC** (3rd on W45). Great results also for recent squad member Anne Edwards **TVOC** and **OUC** (1st on W20E).

The Southern Championships were also run at the same event and saw championship wins for several squaddies and helpers - Megan Bett **SN** (W12A), Mark Salmon **TVOC** (M18A), Jane Morgan **SOC** (W45L), Roger Thetford **TVOC** (M45L), Roger Baker **TVOC** (M75L) and recent squad member Anne Edwards **TVOC** and **OUC** (W20E). There were podium results for Daniel Fopma **TVOC** (M18L, 2nd), Kitty Bray **SN** (W20E, 2nd), Peter Bray **SN** (M16A, 2nd), Katherine Bett **SN** (W14A, 2nd), Alex Bett **SN** (M12A, 2nd), James Foord **TVOC** (M14A, 3rd), Katie Blackford **BADO** (W12A, 2nd), Jessica Blackford **BADO** (W12A, 3rd), Sue Bett **SN** (W40L, 2nd), and Sarah

Berkshire Orienteers

Francis SN (W40L, 3rd).

Excellent squad results at the British Orienteering Championships, held at Hampton Ridge in the New Forest on Saturday, 28th February 2009. Our squad's new British champions are Fiona Bunn (W10A), Tim Morgan (M12A), Katherine Bett (W14A), Alex Moore (M18S) and Jane Morgan (W45L). Peter Bray also had a great run to come in 2nd on M16A.

Looking forward, we have several activities planned. Our current training dates and locations are as follows:

Date	Details	Comments
28th March	Saturday SCOA Junior Squad Training	Bloom Wood, Near Marlow
2nd & 3rd May	Regional and National event & FCC Final	Forest of Dean Weekend of competition
6th June	Saturday SCOA Junior Squad Training	Area to be advised
29th August	Saturday SCOA Junior Squad Training	Area to be advised
12th & 13th Sept.	Junior Inter-regional Championships	Northern Ireland
3rd October	Saturday SCOA Junior Squad Training	Area to be advised
28th October	Wednesday Army event organised by squad. All profits go to squad funds	Area to be advised
7th November	Saturday SCOA Junior Squad Training	Area to be advised
28th & 29th Nov.	Hawkshead weekend in Lakes District. For 15s and 16s	Lake District
5th December	Saturday SCOA Junior Squad Training	Area to be advised

We welcome all SCOA juniors of about Orange standard and above and aged 10 or so to 18 years, to join us at the Saturday training days. We meet at 10:15hrs and finish about 15:00 hrs. You need to bring your lunch, a drink, £1 to cover map and access costs, and your orienteering kit. Please contact Dave Rogers [SCJS Squad Manager, Tel: 01344 628 623, Mobile: 07799 075 236, E-mail: rogersda@pbworld.com] if you want to find out more or would like to come along. You can also visit the squad's website at: www.scjs.org.uk

Club Kit!

The new Berkshire Orienteers club O-top comes in long and short-sleeved versions and still comes at a subsidised price of £20. There are also supplies of certain sizes of the old style top available. Please give Sue Wilkes a call on 01635-522-356 and she will be able to get you kitted up.

Welcome

Welcome to Andrew Southward who has recently joined the club. Andrew lives in Marlow so hopefully we can look forward to seeing him at the 28th March Saturday event in nearby Bloom Wood.

The British Schools Orienteering Championships 2008

Nov 16th at Hawley and Hornley Common: Hosted by BKO

The BSOC weekend is the highlight of the schools orienteering year, being held annually in November at different locations around the country. This event is promoted by British Orienteering to suit pupils from a wide range of ages and abilities. It also aims to provide opportunities for participation and to reward performance in schools' orienteering by providing a good level of competition.

In 2008 BKO and SN staged this event jointly, with the main championships being held at Hawley and Hornley (where it was held previously many years ago), and a training event on the previous day at Frith Hill. It required a huge input of organisation, manpower, helpers and equipment to cater for a major event which attracted in excess of 1,000 competitors over 2 days, and involved a separate selection race for the World School Championships in 2009 to be run alongside the mainstream event.

Bryce Gibson volunteered to be the overall weekend organiser/coordinator, with SN running Day 1 and BKO running Day 2. Tim Booth and Liz Yeadon were the Day 2 planners, with Alain Wilkes as the organiser on the day. As ever, the experienced team of BKO helpers aided by assistance from other clubs worked tirelessly to provide a hugely successful event. I heard a great many complimentary comments over the weekend on how well organised the event was, how much the children enjoyed it, and for children and parents who had only been involved in a very basic way previously in school orienteering, it was a huge eye-opener to see how a major orienteering event attracting competitors from all corners of the country is run. Graham Gristwood was on hand to show off his gold medal, sign autographs, pose for photos with competitors and he did a great job as an inspiring ambassador for the sport. Not even the heavy drizzle encountered during the prize-giving ceremony dampened the enthusiasm of those who had stayed to cheer their teams and winning pupils.

As BKO has put substantial efforts in recent years into improving our links with local schools, we were hoping to encourage as many as possible to participate in these championships. This competition certainly acted as a huge incentive to encourage them to participate, with many entries from schools that have not orienteered before. From Sandhurst and Crowthorne alone, there were entries from 7 schools. As a major part of my work beforehand had been to encourage and support the BSOC 2008, this was very gratifying – indeed one school, Broadmoor Primary, were so thrilled by the experience, that they immediately starting talking about getting a team to BSOC 2009, up in Northumberland. In all there were entries from 13 Berkshire schools, with strong teams from St Andrew's, as always, Broadmoor Primary and Colleton. Congratulations are due to St Andrew's who were 3rd in the Prep/Middle schools category and Broadmoor Primary, whose Year 6 boys' team were placed 3rd.

Three months on, it has been very gratifying to see a number of those local school competitors attending our BKO events and also participating in the SN Junior League. One parent at our Dinton event commented to me on how much his 9-year-old son was enjoying the sport, which he took up entirely as a result of publicity in school before BSOC so that he would have the necessary experience to be part of his school's team. This just proves that events such as these can be the impetus to encouraging participation, even for novices. It was a huge achievement for these children to compete

Berkshire Orienteers

successfully in a national championship, one that they will long remember and which would not be possible in most other sports.

Denise Harper

(My first) **British Orienteering Championships 2009**

These were held over the weekend of 28 February – 1 March in fine spring-like weather at two locations in the New Forest. BKO was there in strength assisting with organising and running the event as well as participating in both the individual and relay events.

The first day was in the northwestern corner of the forest not far from Fordingbridge. As a relative newcomer to orienteering this was only the second big event that I had attended having just about survived the JK in 2008. I know the weather helped, but being involved, even in a small way, in helping to run the day really added to my enjoyment of a great weekend.

Helping in Liz's team on the East start gave me ample opportunity to:

- a) marvel at the diversity of kit shapes, sizes, combinations and colours that flowed through the lanes;
- b) use my ingenuity to try to come up with new answers to the frequent complaints about EMIT bricks being used rather than SI;
- c) meet other BKO members;
- d) learn how to get changed in a gorse bush while being laughed at by your fellow helpers.

As an early starter I felt sympathy watching all the people who, like me, fell foul of the fiendishly-positioned muddy morass immediately in front of the map boxes. Not what you want right at the start – though it was no excuse for my failure to find the first control for an embarrassing length of time. Still there was plenty more wet and mud to come.

The marshes were bigger than I'd expected from the map and there were plenty of icy streams to cross. It took ages for my left foot to thaw out. But the landscapes – open heath, bosky glades, black pools and thick woods were lovely. I think I would have had quite a reasonable time had that aggressive pony not got in the way and forced me into a detour that lost me 10 minutes on the 9th leg.

As you will see from the list below, other BKO members did significantly better.

The second day was down near the Motor Museum at Beaulieu. The relays. I have not run a relay before and was originally down as a (last ditch) reserve. On the day I found I was actually in a team and, befuddled as I was from an early start, took quite some time to register that when each of the three team members were nominated as S, M, and L it meant Short, Medium and Long. Oh goodee! I'm Long.

Not knowing how it all worked, and rather daunted by a handover area/finish where industrial quantities of red and white tape were strung across a good part of Hampshire, I watched the others coming in and handing over and realized how important it was to be in the right place at the right time. So I was well prepared when Susan Straka came

Berkshire Orienteers

haring down the slope to hand over to me. Struggling to release my map from its brown paper bag as it flapped in the slipstream of my (hem) sprint away from the handover, I was reminded of those games where you have to don hat, scarf and gloves and then cut up and eat as much chocolate as possible before someone else gets a go. Sometimes I find thinking about chocolate helps in time of crisis but in this case it must have distracted me because, on my way to the first control I had an immersion experience which taught me the difference between “Marsh” and “Uncrossable Marsh”. I really must look into some cheap bifocals.

Anyway, apart from the odd goof I was doing ok. Alex Moore had got our team off to a good start finishing 17th. Susan Straka then put in a storming run to bring us up to 4th. I am though sorry to say that I was unable to emulate these performances and we slipped back to finish 11th. But it was great fun and I will certainly want to have another go. I really must train more (or at least a bit. Ed.) BKOol and BKOz certainly did well to get 2nd and 4th.

At the end of the day, watching other BKO members receive their awards from Graham Gristwood was very satisfying and the BKO team of helpers was praised for their efforts.

A hugely enjoyable weekend.

Some of the BKO members' individual results (those finishing in the top 20)

Class	Position	
M18S	1	Alexander Moore
M21S	9	Simon Thomas
M55S	20	Alan Springett
M60S	19	Alain Wilkes
M65L	12	Ian Cooper
M65S	2	Peter Bennett
M70S	1	Bryce Gibson
W18L	8	Andy Straka
	12	Susan Straka
W35L	10	Lynne Jilbert
W45S	5	Lynne Moore
W50S	2	Catherine Springett
	3	Katy Stubbs
W55S	11	Denise Harper
	12	Susan Wilkes
W65L	8	Janet Gibson

Some BKO Relay results (those finishing in the top 20)

Team	Position	Members
BKOol	2	Dan Straka, Andy Straka, Chris Mosley
BKOz	4	David Jukes, Simon Thomas, Lynne Moore
BKOzy	11	Alexander Moore, Susan Straka, Andrew Graham

Andrew Graham

British Orienteering Rankings

The ranking system

Following your position, and that of your rivals, in the British Orienteering ranking list can provide an additional dimension to your enjoyment of the sport. The organisers of National and Regional events, and some international events, can choose to include their event in the calculation of the rankings. Each competitor is awarded ranking points for each ranking event they complete and your highest six scores over a rolling 12 month period are added together to determine your place in the list for your age class. You will be included in the list even if you have not done six events, but clearly you will be less high up the list.

I am not statistician enough to comment on the complicated way in which the ranking points for each event are calculated. The calculation takes account of all sorts of factors such as the number of competitors from a particular class and how highly they have been ranked in previous events. The vagaries of the formula can make it quite hard second guess just how many points one is going to get after a particularly good (or bad!) run. But if you do well at a well-attended event with plenty of 'stars' participating you will get better points than if you do well at a poorly attended event.

I keep hearing people say that the restructuring of Regional events into a series of colour-coded courses in place of age classes means the end of the ranking system. This is incorrect. There may be some transitional glitches, but the new courses translate readily into age classes, so competitors wishing to be ranked just need to have a care to enter the appropriate course as follows:

Colour	Age Classes	Short Classes
Black	M21	
Brown	M35, M40	
Short Brown	M20,M18,M45,M50,W21	M21S
Blue	M16,M55,M60,W35,W40	M35S,M40S
Short Blue	M65,W20,W18,W45,W50	M45S,M50S,W21S
Green	M70,W16,W55,W60	M55S,M60S,W35S,W40S
Short Green	M75,M80 W65,W70,W75,W80	M65S,M70S W45S,W50S,W55S,W60S
Light Green	M14,W14	
Long Orange		
Orange	M12,W12	
Yellow	M10,W10	
White		

The intention is in due course to re-cast the ranking system so that you can be ranked regardless of the course you run. But for now the table above applies.

BKO and the 2008 ranking list:

In the next few paragraphs I set out some ranking data for 2008 relating to BKO members. The data was taken from the ranking web page on 14th January 2009 which I hope contains all of the 2008 ranking events.

Berkshire Orienteers

BKO has about 190 members and in 2008 62 (33%) took part in ranking events. Those 62 competed in 28 out of the 44 available age classes, with 22 people running in two or more age classes.

In total the Club can claim 411 successfully completed ranking events, an average of 6.6 runs for each participating Club member. The orienteers who competed most regularly at ranking events were (and this was not why I started writing this article, honest!):

W50	Catherine	Springett	27
M55	Alan	Springett	21
M65	Peter	Bennett	19
M60	Richard	Rae	17
W65	Janet	Gibson	17

If you look at runs completed in a single age class Catherine still comes out tops with 26 and Richard moves up the table:

W50S	Catherine	Springett	26
W65L	Janet	Gibson	17
M60L	Richard	Rae	17
W55S	Sally	Collins	14
M65S	Bryce	Gibson(M70)	14

So, congratulations to Catherine.....and me too, since this was the year in which I had a major heart attack and two lots of heart surgery!

But I guess what really matters is not how often people compete, but their overall position in the ranking list for their age class. For this purpose, where people have run in more than one age class I have just used the data relating to the age class in which they were most highly ranked:

Class	Name	Ranking	Points	Runs
M65S	Peter Bennett	1	7802	10
M65L	Ian Cooper	3	7663	14
W50S	Catherine Springett	4	7289	26
M75S	Darrell Cruickshank	5	2856	2
W50S	Katy Stubbs	5	7153	11
W50S	Debb Bouch	6	7083	9

Many congratulations to Peter on winning his age class! Congratulations too to Catherine, Katy and Debb who dominated the top of W50S! Darrell deserves a special mention also. He usually runs M75L, which he did 8 times in 2008, achieving a ranking of 34th.

The differences between this table and the previous one also demonstrates that relatively few good runs are what it takes to achieve a good ranking, although the vagaries of the calculation of ranking points introduce many more variables such as the number of runners at each event and how well they have done in previous competitions.

I am sure there are a lot more interesting observations to be squeezed out of the British Orienteering rankings, but perhaps this is enough to demonstrate why it contributes to

the pleasure we take in the sport. If you want to learn more about the ranking scheme go to: <http://ccgi.orienteeing.plus.com/rankings/html/rankhome.html>

Some Local Fixtures Jan – May 2009

As usual every effort has been made to make this information accurate. Please check the event has not been cancelled or arrangements changed on the appropriate website.

MARCH 2009	
Sunday 22nd	SARUM REGIONAL EVENT, SARUM SAUNTER. Fonthill Woods, Hindon. ST909307. Organiser: Dave & Denise Mullins, 01963 33579 denamul@aol.com EPS-Emit. String course. Dogs in car park only on lead and not allowed in the woods. Full Badge Courses EOD Colour Coded White to Light Green Postal Entry: Stephen Robinson: Sarum Saunter, 18 Hanson Road Andover, Hants SP10 3HL 01264 396655. Closes 12th March 2009 www.sarumo.org.uk
Sunday 22nd	SLOW LOCAL EVENT. Holmwood Common, Dorking. TQ171451. Organiser: Ruth King, 07795 411219. ruthdorisking@yahoo.co.uk £7.00/£2.00 Members discount £2. EPS-SI. String course. Range of colour-coded courses from White to Brown. www.sloweb.org.uk
Sunday 29th	BADO COMPASS SPORT CUP FIRST ROUND. Pamber Forest, Tadley. SU615610. Organiser: Mike Broderick, 01256 351624. wbroderick@lineone.net £7.00/£3.00. EPS-Emit. No dogs. Competing clubs only. Senior Emit hire £1.00; there is no fee for Emit hire for Juniors. www.bado.org.uk
APRIL 2009	
Sunday 5th	MV LOCAL EVENT. St Leonards, Holmbush, Leechpool & Owlbeech & Buchan CP, Crawley/Horsham TQ223327 Organiser: Bill Alexander 01737765299 SI Full range of courses including Black. Newly extended area not used for over 10 years. www.mvoc.org
Friday 10th – Monday 13th	NATIONAL EVENT: JAN KJELLSTROM ORIENTEERING FESTIVAL 10TH JK SPRINT: Newcastle University 11TH JK Day 1: Kyloe Woods, Berwick-upon-Tweed 12th JK Day 2: Detchant, Shiellow, Greensheen Hill & Cockenheugh, Berwick-upon-Tweed 13th JK Relays: Dipton, Hexham. Coordinator: Boris Spence, 01670 860897. coordinator@jk2009.org.uk

Berkshire Orienteers

	<p>Entries: entries@jk2009.org.uk CD 20/03/09 www.jk2009.org.uk</p>
<p>Sunday 19th</p>	<p>SO CHARITY REGIONAL EVENT & SE League Goodwood Winkins, Goodwood, nr Chichester SU897113 Organiser: Barrie Pearson 01403 752338 SI EOD - Light Green, Orange, Yellow & White Postal Entry: Jaquie Drake, East Cottage Vuggles Farm Newick East Sussex. BN8 4RU 01273 400603 Postal Entry Closes 13th April 2009 www.southdowns-orienteers.org.uk</p>
<p>Sunday 26th</p>	<p>SARUM LOCAL EVENT. SW Galoppen & SCOA league Collingbourne Woods Ludgershall SU271528 Organiser: Heather Haskins 01980 600879 EMIT www.sarum.org.uk</p>
<p>MAY 2009</p>	
<p>Sat 2nd – Monday 4th</p>	<p>TRIPLE O SEVERN WEEKEND 2nd – NGOC REGIONAL EVENT & FCC Cup Final. Mallards Pike, Cinderford Glos. SO629092 Organiser: Roger Coe, 01594 510444 randvcoe@btinternet.com. SI White, Yellow & Lt Green 3rd – BOK NATIONAL EVENT & FCC FINAL New Beechenhurst, Forest of Dean SO619121 Organiser: Howard Thomas, 01225 334611. howard@cotswolds5.demon.co.uk SI 4th - SWOC SCORE EVENT Cannop Ponds, Cinderford SO629092 Organiser: Kate Balmond, 07811 942762 SI www.swoc.org.uk</p>
<p>Saturday 16th</p>	<p>SOC LOCAL EVENT Hut Wood, Southampton SU427184 Organiser: Simon Bevan Limited Colour Coded Courses TBC www.southampton-orienteers.org.uk</p>
<p>Monday 25th</p>	<p>MV LOCAL EVENT at The Nower in conjunction with Surrey Hill race Dorking. TQ157487 Organiser: Neil Lewer 01737 769453 SI Yellow, Orange & Green courses only www.mvoc.org</p>
<p>Sunday 31st (Revised date)</p>	<p>TVOC REGIONAL EVENT Chiltern Challenge Christmas Common, Watlington SU714933 Organiser: TBA. All courses White to Black (Excl long orange). Emit. Entries: online via Fabian4.co.uk. CD 17/05/09. EOD for all courses while maps last. www.tvoc.org.uk</p>

Saturday Series and District Events

Below is a list of this season's Saturday Series events. As usual registrations will be from 10:00 am with starts between 10:30 and 11:30 and there will be White, Yellow, Orange and Light Green Courses. The cost of Saturday events is £3.00 for Seniors and £1.00 for Juniors. Results are posted on the BKO website soon after the event.

Note that events may have to be changed at short notice due to weather conditions - especially in deep winter - please check our website the event to make sure that nothing has happened. Please contact Reg Parker on satudays@bko.org.uk if you need more details.

There are also two upcoming BKO District Events. Further details in the next newsletter.

Saturday Series		
Date	Location	GR
28 March	Bloom Wood	SU 861890
(date change)	West side of Wood - Enter Parking at SU856891 down narrow lane, past The Three Horseshoes pub	
25 April	Upper Star Posts (location change) See www.bko.org.uk for details and GR	
16 May	Rushall Wood	SU 576735
District Events		
10 th May	Cold Ash, near Newbury	TBA
27 th September	Hawley and Hornley Commons	TBA

CompassSport Cup

This takes place at Pamber Forest near Tadley on 29th March, Entries are via Reg Parker (reganne@talk21.com) and cost £7 Seniors, £3 Juniors with £1 for Emit hire. Apparently Pamber is a nice bit of wood. BKO never do very well because we struggle to put out a large enough squad so don't worry about beating the world come along and have a run and your points will contribute to BKO competing against other local clubs. If you want a run please send Reg the following details:

BOF no. (if you have one), Age class, Time approx for start, Emit number or hire and course you want to run if it is not that expected for your age class. Or contact Reg.



Andrew Graham, Chris Mosley and Dave Rogers at the BOC Day 2 in Beaulieu

Berkshire Orienteers Officials

Chairman: Eric Harper Telephone 0118-948-2934
eric.harper@ntlworld.com

Secretary: David Jukes

Treasurer: Peter Entwistle Telephone 01628-635278 :
peterentwistle@btinternet.com

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