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ORIENTEERING in NEWCASTLE

THE NEWSLETTER OF NEWCASTLE ORIENTEERING CLUB INC.
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Editor ties the knot



Whilst much of the world is getting ready for the Royal wedding, two Newcastle club members got the jump on "Will and Kate" by getting in early and celebrating their nuptials on Sat 12th March. Newsletter editor Daniel Orr and fiancé, Kathy Grace were married in a traditional church wedding at St Columbans, Mayfield. Fellow club members & siblings Tamara and Alex Orr were attendants. Proud parents Peter and Maria Orr scrubbed up very well with Peter sporting not only a new suit but a new slim figure for the occasion. The wedding cake was less traditional, featuring a small orienteering control stand and flag for the active bride and groom. Daniel and Kathy will honeymoon for a week, before returning home for the night champs next week, which they dare not miss. Congratulations Daniel and Kathy and we wish you a long and happy life together.

Note: In Daniel's absence this newsletter compiled by Geoff & Margaret Peel.

Membership Renewals

Renewals for 2011 membership are now due. The process for renewing your membership is slightly different for this year. You will need to download the renewal form from the OANSW website and email it back to the OANSW office.

Details for payment of the membership fee by direct deposit or cheque are on the renewal form. Those that do not have internet access should contact club secretary, Peter Newton or ask at an event to obtain a form.

Five O'Shea's in a Row

Seems like Josh Blatchford doesn't mind winning a cake or five. At this year's O'Shea 2-Day he successfully defended his title and now has a staggering five wins in a row with various partners. This Central Coast club pairs event is famous not only for its fun and relaxed competition but also for its yummy and delightfully decorated cake trophies that feature trees made with spearmint leaves and winning one of them is paramount. Another feature of the O'Shea is that winning teams must split and get new partners for the following year. This year Josh teamed up with Daniel Hill, a Garingal youngster. The lads converted a less than 1 minute lead into a healthy 8 minute gap during the Sunday Score event to take the win over a hot second placed team that had flown in from QLD especially to contest this event. Peter and Maria Orr were the best placed of the Newcastle "Short Pairs" teams taking out 4th in that category. This year many of the teams dressed up, a tradition started by our own Kris Todkill & Lisa Punzett, with Rhianna Roberts & Nicola Blatchford (pictured right) taking honours for the most outrageous costumes. Make sure you put this event on your calendar for next year.



Small Change

At last week's AGM the committee had a bit of a bo-peep at the current event fees schedule. Increased costs have been putting pressure on our ability to keep them as low as they currently are but we have decided that the only increase would be to raise the Street Series fees by \$1, beginning in the next series. Fees for local club bush events will remain unchanged.

Newcastle Orienteering Club

Presidents Report

MARCH 2011

Since 2004 I've started these reports with a silly quote on the off chance that I might grab your attention and hopefully maintain it for a few milliseconds. This year I've decided to finally end that tradition. Basically it's dead and buried. A lot of people might say "if it aint broke then don't fix it", but I'm not sure if this ploy has actually been working. Hang on was that a quote sneaking in there? I think it was and what's worse is the fact that I think it was used in my 2005 report. At least if it's recycled I probably haven't increased my carbon footprint too much. Oh well lets get on with it....

General

2010 was a year of bum up - head down, and with a lot of time & attention spent on the detail, we may have been a little less focused on the big picture. In 2011 we hope to take a closer look at how our club is run and where improvements can be made. That's not to say we haven't been doing things right. We are one of NSW leading clubs on many measurable parameters, but that's not to say there isn't room for improvement. Earlier this year the club executive meet over two nights to discuss how we might tackle this task in the attempt at further enhancing the orienteering experience for all of our club members.

One of the early outcomes of this process is the "mapping workshop" set down for 16th April. This workshop will be an opportunity for some of our current mappers to impart some of their knowledge on to the next generation of map makers. One of the other many initiatives is "course setter workshops" which will give the less experienced an opportunity to learn the theory of course setting and the ideals one strives for in this undertaking. There was also a suggestion that club members may wish to take up stewardship of a nearby mapped area. The steward would check the area for changes (tracks, vegetation etc) to ascertain it's current suitability as orienteering terrain and do so at reasonable intervals. This would allow for

regular map updates such that "surprises" weren't discovered closer to actual event dates. More details about these and other initiatives will be forthcoming throughout the year.

Financial

Whilst we are in a strong financial position it must be mentioned that the forecast budget for 2011 is in deficit and an increase in event fees must be considered at the AGM.

Performances

Some of the outstanding performances of the 2010 season were....

2010 WOC

Our "remote" club member Rob Preston has never been far off selection as an Australian senior representative and in 2010 he finally cracked it for a berth on the team competing at WOC in Trondheim, Norway. Congratulations Rob, well deserved after years of outstanding performances. Rob also competes at world level in adventure racing and achieves feats of endurance that we mortals could not begin to comprehend.

2010 JWOC

Joshua Blatchford was once again selected as a representative for Australia at Junior World Championship level. This time he competed in Aalborg, Denmark. He then spent several weeks in Norway training and competing whilst being hosted by a local family that Bjorn Mella had put him in contact with. This was a great experience for Josh providing him with not only a great orienteering opportunity but a fabulous life experience where many new friendships were forged. Josh proved that this Scandinavian training was beneficial as he took out the Men's Junior Elite category in the prestigious Australian Long champs at Tanunda Creek, SA in October.

"Darby Munro Award"

This was only the second presentation of this award and I must say that the recipient, Greg Bacon was a deserved

winner. Greg's enthusiasm and workload shone throughout the season with mapping, course planning and organising activities spread throughout the bush and street seasons. One week saw Greg organise a Wed afternoon street event followed by a Sunday morning MTBO. Greg seemed to be the go-to man when something needed doing, jumping in and helping out whenever he could.

2010 Newcastle Park Tour

A Grade: Steven Todkill

B Grade: Scott Tayler

C Grade: Grieg Scott

D Grade: Duncan McLeod

E Grade: Margaret Peel

F Grade: Peter Newton

G Grade: Kathy Grace

2010 Hunter Schools

Male: Glenn Charlton

Female: Sally-Ann Henderson

2010 NOY series

Men: Alex Massey

Women: Jenny Enderby

2010/11 BOSS Series

Men: Steven Todkill

Women: Nicole Haigh

2010/11 Summer Street Series

Men: Steven Todkill

Women: Kim van Netten

Men Rookie: Scott Simson

Women Rookie: Gayle Quantock

Miscellaneous Ramblings

Mick Kavur is the new legend of the street series with 82 consecutive events after Tony Hayes finally missed an event after many years of unbroken attendance. Thrilled with the record 88 competitors for BOSS3 at Killingworth. Finally, I'd just like to say how pleased I am with the progression of our juniors into event planning, organisation and even mapping. I also thrilled to say its not been just the lads either. Great to see the girls getting involved and doing a great job at it as well. Seems like our club's future is in good hands.

Geoff Peel 10 March, 2011



Lake Macquarie Masters – BUSH ORIENTEERING

Sat 19th March

Newcastle Orienteering Club is staging two events as part of the Lake Macquarie Masters Games. While primarily for Veterans (30 & over), under 30 year olds will be able to utilise the same courses. Both of these events will be fundraisers for our junior squad so we are looking for support from the orienteering community. The Masters entry form suggests place getters will receive gold, silver and bronze medallions (subject to number of entries).

Terrain: Typical bush orienteering courses on spur gully terrain.

Location: Glendale **Map:** Brush Creek 1:10000

Directions: Go to Glendale High School – parking in School grounds.

Punching: Sportident punching will be used - If you have a stick bring it, others will be allocated one.

Starts: 12:00 noon – 2:30 pm (select own on arrival)

Classes: Masters

Long Red - M30-34, M35-39, M40-44, W30-34, W35-39

Medium Red - M45-49, M50-54, M55-59, W40-44, W45-49 W50-54

Short Red - M60-64, M65+, W55-59, W60-64, W65+

Orange – Open B

Others Blue/Green, Orange, Short Red, Medium Red & Long Red

Fees: Masters - there is a \$20 masters rego and then \$5 each for the two events
Under 30's - Will pay regular club prices for this event

Course Closure: 3:45 pm **Presentations:** 3:30 pm

Entries: Masters - by phoning Dianne Pascoe on 02 49210238
Under 30's should register their interest via Bob Gilbert
ENTER on the DAY will be extremely limited.

Organisation: Bob Gilbert 49521967 or 0420349993



Lake Macquarie Masters – URBAN SAFARI

Sun 20th March

Newcastle Orienteering Club is staging two events as part of the Lake Macquarie Masters Games. While primarily for Veterans (30 & over), under 30 year olds will be able to utilise the same courses. Both of these events will be fundraisers for our junior squad so we are looking for support from the orienteering community. The Masters entry form suggests place getters will receive gold, silver and bronze medallions (subject to number of entries).

Terrain: This Street style event offers café opportunities, a few surprises and a chance to splash in the Lake.

Location: Warners Bay and beyond

Directions: Make your way to Feighan Park, Seaman Ave, Warners Bay.

Starts: 6 hour event: 9:00 am
2 hour event: 9:00 am, 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 12 noon

Classes: 2 Hour or 6 Hour duration

Fees: Masters - there is a \$20 masters rego and then \$5 each for the two events
Under 30's - will pay \$10 per competitor

Presentations: 3:30 pm

Entries: Masters - by phoning Dianne Pascoe on 02 49210238
Under 30's should register their interest via Bob Montgomery
ENTER on the DAY will be extremely limited.

Notes: Younger participants need to be street safe. Compete solo or in a small team.

Organisation: Bob Montgomery 49549877



Newcastle Night Championships

Wed 23rd March

We return to Brush Creek, but this time in the dark.

Terrain: Typical spur gully terrain.

Location: Glendale

Map: Brush Creek 1:10000

Directions: Head west from Glendale crossroads, turn right at the lights into Frederick St. After 500m (at TAFE entrance) go straight ahead on to a gravel road. Proceed a further 250m.

Starts: After dark (from 7:30pm) **Course Closure:** 9:00 pm

Courses: TBA

Entries: Enter on the Night

Notes: Don't forget to bring a torch (and maybe a spare) and insect repellent

Organisation: Colin Bailey



Newcastle Orienteer of the Year - Event 1

Sun 10th April

Our premier bush competition returns.

Terrain: Typical spur gully terrain with some complex erosion features.

Location: Kitchener

Map: Shotgun Avenue 1:10000

Directions: Parking will be along Quorrobolong Rd about 1.3 km south of junction of Quorrobolong Rd and Abernethy St (in Kitchener). PLEASE NOTE – use extreme caution when pulling off this road as it is 100 km/hr

Starts: 9:30 am — 11:30 am **Course Closure:** 1:30 pm

Courses: Standard NOY range of courses (7) available.
Blue, Green, Short Orange, Orange, Short Red, Medium Red, Long Red

Entries: Enter on the Day

Organisation: Stuart Kurtz



Mapping Workshop

Sat 16th April

This workshop, with input from Ian Dempsey, Denis Lyons and Russell Rigby, is designed for inexperienced orienteering mappers who want to learn basic mapping skills. However, more experienced mappers are welcome to attend to share their expertise.

Venue: 138 Tiriki St, Charlestown and bushland at Whitebridge

Time: 10am sharp to around 3pm
2-hour theory session in the morning - 2 hr practical activity in the afternoon.

Notes: At the end of the day, participants will have

- Been introduced to basic mapping techniques for orienteering
- Used those techniques to map some local bushland.

You'll need the following things

- A mapping board around 30 x 30cm. This needs to be firm but lightweight and could be Masonite, Perspex or polystyrene (the latter covered with adhesive sheet).
- Mapping pencils that roughly correspond to an orienteering map's main colours of black, brown, blue, yellow and green. Clutch action pencils with 0.5mm coloured leads are good, but sharp coloured pencils can also work.
- A baseplate or thumb compass, a short ruler, an eraser and masking tape.
- Lunch.

You can bring a GPS unit that reads grid refs from a topo map, but it's not essential.

Organisation: Please let Ian know you're coming ian.dempsey@newcastle.edu.au or 49435790



Newcastle Club Minor

Sun 24th April

A chance to brush up on your navigational skills

Location: Wakefield

Map: The Farm 1:10000

Directions: Turn into Archery Rd off Wakefield Rd. Follow gravel road for 1.5 km (beware of drainage humps) Follow signs into property.

Starts: 9:30 am - 11:30 am

Course Closure: 1:30 pm

Courses: Blue, Green, Short Orange, Orange, Short Red, Long(ish) Red

Entries: Enter on the Day

Planner: Sam Howe

Organisation: Peter Newton

Note: Asbestos has been detected in small sections of this property. Courses will be set to avoid the suspect areas and these areas will be marked on the map as "*out of bounds*". While course setting will minimise this risk we cannot guarantee that other undetected samples may exist. You enter this event at your own discretion and as always at your own risk!

Rob Preston: OA Website Communications Manager

Victorian resident but current and long standing Newcastle club member, Rob Preston, must be doing something right, both on and off the map, as has just been appointed an additional role



at the upper levels of our sport's administration and scored an impressive win in ACT. Here is the web article explaining his latest position.

From OA website.....

Orienteering Australia is pleased to announce that High Performance Operations and Promotions Manager Rob Preston has been appointed to the additional position of Orienteering Australia Website Communications Manager. Preston (pictured winning Sunday's Silva National Orienteering League Long Distance event on Mt Ainslie in Canberra) will primarily be responsible for website maintenance and documentation, coordinating news bulletins on the OA website and social media, and production of a regular OA E-news bulletin.

Russell pings it!

State junior coach and avid St Kilda AFL fan, Russell Blatchford, can add another achievement to his already impressive sporting resume; a hole-in-one!

Russell missed the O'Shea 2-day due to his other passion, playing a round of golf and its lucky he did as he bagged his first ever hole-in-one. Unfortunately Russell didn't get to see it go in the hole but it was witnessed and verified by his fellow players.

Easter WA or NZ?

Good luck to those venturing to Western Australia for the Easter 3-days, especially those hoping for good performances for representative team selections. The tyranny of distance appears to have limited the number of club members travelling to WA with some even deciding to go the other way to a closer destination also offering a top quality 3-day orienteering experience, New Zealand.

Newcastle Orienteering Club

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