

SOUTH MIDLANDS ORIENTEERING CLUB

issue 135

MARCH 2010



SMOC Signals

Chairman's Chat

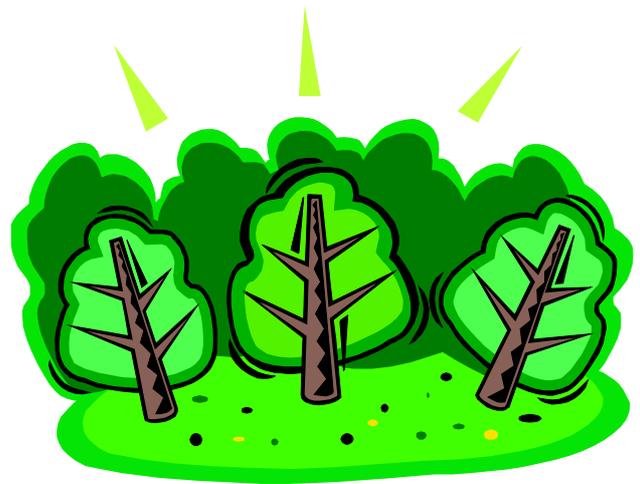
Last Sunday featured the first Keyne-O of the season. A beautiful, if chilly, spring day, an area new to orienteering and the lure of the SMOC championships brought out record numbers of participants. There were 78 entries which, as there are lots of families and groups of friends, represented over 120 people taking part. The area while apparently a bit scrappy contains a wide variety of terrain including not only typical Milton Keynes parkland and suburban mazes but also enormous depressions, substantial crags, abandoned furnaces and a small area of real forest, all linked by the Grand Union canal and the Railway walk.

This is all excellent but it is something of an embarrassment of riches. The event was run by just three of us and with that number of competitors there is scarcely time to draw breath. And, all too often, it's the same small group of people who are running the events. However, things are starting to improve with a few more people offering to plan and organise events. But there are still all too many slots to be filled. In the near future I will be contacting those regular Keyne-O competitors with some Orienteering experience (and you don't need much) to encourage them to organise or plan an event or, at least, to provide some on-the-day help. Don't feel you have to be asked though, volunteers are particularly welcome! And if you've never planned or organised an event plenty of help and advice will be available. Do please email me if you'd like to help.

Hopefully I will see a number of you at this years JK and, failing that, at the next Keyne-O in April,

May you always run in sunlit forests,

Steve



We are pleased to offer a warm welcome to the following new members:
the Fisher family from Oakley,
the Gosling family from Milton Keynes,
Adam Joesbury from Milton Keynes,
Tim Miles from Bletchley,
Deb Badgery from Shillington,
the Lack family from Milton Keynes
and the Matthews family.

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Club Dinner, Prize Giving and AGM

Friday 14th May

at the Old Red Lion, Great Brickhill

Booking form and menu will be on the website nearer the time

Want to improve your Orienteering?

Interested in receiving some Coaching?

SMOC are thinking of putting on a weekend of **Orienteering Coaching For Improvers** possibly in the Autumn in the Peak District. As in the past, we would be based in a Youth Hostel for the weekend but you're welcome to make your own accommodation arrangements. Interested? If you are let Helen know so that she can gauge the sort of numbers involved. h.nisbet@virgin.net

Congratulations ...

to **James Nisbet for winning M10 at the Midlands Championship** at the Beaudesert National Event in November. It came as a complete surprise as he didn't know that SMOC was included in the 'Midlands'! He also had what he thought was a poor run as he struggled to find one of the controls and lost vital minutes. It later turned out that some hooligan thought it would be funny to move some of the controls on Yellow and Orange courses. **Well done James!**

GRADE-3 PLANNERS COURSE

EAOA are holding a course for people new to Planning orienteering courses. It is aimed at people with limited experience who have not attended a formal course. The two-day course will cover the BOF grade-3 planner's syllabus and is aimed at anyone who wishes to plan local orienteering events like KeyneO.

You don't need any formal training or qualification to plan a course, but many planners got started after a course like this one. This will give any orienteer with experience of Light Green or above, the confidence to plan an event, and is aimed at those new to planning.

Some knowledge of orienteering and an understanding of the colour coded system used for courses would be useful. Experience of competing at events on courses at Light Green standard or above is sufficient for acquiring this knowledge. More details on the SMOC website <http://www.smoc.info/news.htm> along with extra details about funding.

SMOC in the NEW rankings

In January British Orienteering introduced a new single ranking list to replace the age class lists. The new ranking list includes everyone in a single list which can then be filtered by age and gender. However the notion of Short and Long has disappeared (so those of us who enjoyed competing against our fellow Short course competitors are a bit disappointed!)

	Ranking Position	Name	Points	Number of events
1	435	Richard Pownall	6998	6
2	574	Stephen Hardy	6831	6
3	767	Mike Jones	6581	6
4	791	Roger Williams	6542	6
5	1225	Keith Downing	6028	6
6	1261	Dorien James	5978	6
7	1581	Karen Vines	5539	6
8	1894	John Shaw	5022	6
9	1956	Rosie Shaw	4892	6
10	2149	Helen Nisbet	4536	6
11	2590	Ann Harris	3452	6
12	2822	Robert Dove	2792	5
13	2866	Neil Carter	2655	5
14	3174	Toby Fisher	2019	2
15	3235	Rachel Edwards	1907	4
16	3321	Sacha Fisher	1750	2
17	3857	Dryden Williams	959	1
18	4133	Ros James	705	5
19	4194	Colin Nicholson	627	4
20	4320	Kelly Gladstone	429	1
21	4333	Terry Penny	394	3
22	4355	Rachel Thomas	341	2
23	4402	Lois Matthews	203	1

as at 4th March 2010

More information about the new single ranking scheme can be found on the BOF website

<http://www.britishorienteering.org.uk/news/news.php>

SMOC Signals

As we now have such an active web site we have decided to make SMOC Signals a three-monthly magazine. So please check the following details for issue dates and copy deadlines

SMOC Signals deadlines

issue date	copy deadline
June 2010	May 23rd 2010
September 2010	August 22nd 2010
December 2010	November 21st 2010

Don't forget to check the website for fixtures,
results, SMOC personnel,
SMOC Signals deadlines
or any other information you require
<http://www.smoc.info>

