

## **Sue Gard (1948 - 2019)**

It is with great sadness that we heard that Sue Gard passed away on Maundy Thursday after a short illness. Sue was a keen orienteer, and had been an active member of Devon Orienteering Club in the 1980s and 1990s before moving to QO. She actively supported Junior orienteering, and supported the South West squad at National Events.

When she and Bill moved to Hemyock she became a member of Quantock Orienteers and was soon actively involved as a double act with Bill in organising, planning and controlling events in the Quantocks or Blackdown Hills. In these roles she will be sorely missed.

Sue travelled widely competing at all levels representing England and taking part in World Masters and other major events in Europe. The Scottish Six Days was another favourite event but the mid-week rest day was anything but that. I can remember two separate occasions when Margaret and I were at the peak of a Munro and Sue and Bill appeared from the mist for a totally unplanned meeting.

Away from orienteering Sue was a keen gardener and at one time worked at Bicton Gardens. Among her other interests were badminton and butterflies and walking with her dog Millie and before that Ben.

Sue fought bravely against the illness which eventually claimed her. Our thoughts are with Bill and her family at this sad time.

Mike Crockett, President QO and friend

The details of Sue's funeral are on the QO website, it will be held on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2019.

We are now looking forward to the final events in this year's Galoppen League (which, from September, will be called the SW Orienteering League). We have the WSX Galoppen at Rushmore on 5<sup>th</sup> May, and the BOK Galoppen at Wavering Down on 12<sup>th</sup> May. On some of the colours, the contest to win is going to be a close-run thing.

SW Middle distance Championships are looming – on 19th May on Braunton Burrows. If you haven't already entered, YOU NEED TO DO SO.

Ditto for the SW Sprint Championships on 2<sup>nd</sup> June at Exeter University. Online entry for both Championships on Fabian4.

I'm sure you were all very pleased to see that the SW featured significantly in the Annual Awards ceremony, held after the 2019 BOF AGM. SWOA members won three of the major awards and the new Stockhill map won a mapping award.

Please send news of your training courses, publicity for future events, and anything else from clubs that needs to be seen across the region, to :  
christine.vince2@btinternet.com

Christine Vince KERNO

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**Courses**

None at present.

**Colour Coded Awards**

To qualify you must be within the first 50% of all starters or within 1½ times the winner's time in the results on the same colour course, 3 times in any 2 years.

For WHITE courses you only need to complete the course 3 times.

STRING COURSE (PURPLE) is for any young person who does not already hold any other colour award, and who has completed 3 string courses.

To obtain a colour coded badge award please let me have the 3 dates on which you qualified (anywhere in Britain). Badges cost £1.50 for Juniors (20 & under) or £2.50 for Seniors (21 & over) – please note the change in price, as SWOA has ordered some new badges (these prices are subsidised by SWOA). If applying by post, please make cheques payable to SWOA and enclose a stamped addressed envelope. My address is: 34, Westfield House, Cote Lane, Bristol BS9 3TJ. Sorry no E-mail.

Anne Donnell BOK

### **SWOA News**

The next SWOA committee meeting will be held on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2019 at The Corner House Hotel TA1 4DQ in Taunton.

Grants. All clubs and members are reminded that requests for SWOA grants must be made to the SWOA treasurer before the event.

### **Level B Events – Why Are They Important?**

**I mean, they're just slightly larger Level Cs, aren't they?**

A properly staged Level B event should be on one of the club's better areas, run by a more experienced Organiser, ditto for the Planner, and controlled by someone from another club.

**But are they worth the faff – you need a Start List (groan)!**

The entry fee for a Level B event should be more than for a Level C and, if you've got a selling point (for instance, money has been spent on revising the map), then the entry fee should be about £16. There should be pre-entry using one of the online entry system providers, who will do a seeded start list for you for a reasonable fee per runner.

**But will more people come?**

Good publicity will help, and there is support on the BOF website for this. Also, there are only a limited number of Level B events held – so keen orienteers look for these – plus they get priority in the Scheduling Diary over Level Cs when it comes to bagging a date.

Level Bs are scheduled up to two years in advance, so the club committee needs to consider well in advance which areas should be reserved for their Level B events, and who they will ask to organise and plan the events.

## **I'm only an average orienteer – is there anything else?**

Yes, there is, and this is where your club committee needs to be paying attention! Event officials do not grow on trees... in particular, Controllers at all grades must meet criteria set by Events and Competitions Committee – which have to be got by officiating at events.

There are three grades of Controller, to match the three levels of events. To advance to Level B, a Level C Controller needs to plan a Level B event to be appointed, and continue to plan at Level B to maintain that qualification.

To advance to Level A, a Level B Controller needs to organise at least one Level B event, plan at least one Level B event, and control at least two Level B events (within the time periods in the BOF Rules).

***If clubs fail to stage Level B events, then they are disadvantaging their own controllers, and those in their neighbouring clubs.***

In case you think I'm just fussing, ***SWOA already has one member who cannot become a Level A controller until he has organised a Level B event – and his club only very occasionally puts those on. So BOF is short of a perfectly good Level A controller at the moment.***

One club chairman has said to me that SWOA should be addressing this problem... how? SWOA cannot force clubs to put on appropriate events, it can only inform and persuade. The ball is very definitely in YOUR court.

*Written by Christine Vince KERNO, SWOA chairman – action from last SWOA committee meeting*

## **BOF News**

**World Orienteering Day 2019.** This year, events to celebrate World Orienteering Day can be held at any time during the week of 15<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> May. More details on the BOF website [here](#).

## **British Orienteering Volunteer and Mapping Awards for 2018**

Congratulations to all the winners in this year's Awards ceremony, held after the 2019 BOF AGM.

**Young Volunteer of the Year 2018** – Holly Stodgell of Walton Chasers

## **Volunteer of the Year 2018 – Alan Honey of Bristol Orienteering Klub**

In 2018, Alan has been Chairman of Bristol Orienteering Klub (BOK), organised the British Sprint Championships at Bath University, initiated the successful Track to Terrain project, started a training course for new coaches and volunteered numerous club events and activities. Alan put huge amounts of personal time and effort into these projects and, together with the team he leads has been responsible for BOK's continuing successes.

## **University Club of the Year 2018 – Loughborough University Orienteering Club**

### **Peter Palmer Coach of the Year 2018 – Jason Falconer of Wessex Orienteering**

Jason is Head Coach of Wessex Orienteering and regularly delivers the Tuesday evening club training for all members. In addition, Jason works closely with Active Dorset to promote Orienteering, delivering a series of coached sessions over 6 weeks (half a term) to groups of Key Stage 2 children. The sessions progress through all skills of the sport and include a competition finale using S.I. kit; often off-site on one of WSX permanent courses. In Autumn of 2018 Jason worked closely with Beat the Street to link families in the Poole area to the club.

## **Club of the Year 2018 – South Yorkshire Orienteers**

### **SILVA Award 2018 – John Warren of Wimborne Orienteers**

John has been an active member of Wimborne Orienteers since 1976 and in the years following has been involved in all aspects of orienteering. John took on the assistant organiser role for the JK in 1979 just 3 years after starting in the sport and didn't look back organising, planning and controlling events at all levels over the past 42 years including organising the World Orienteering Championships Relays at Avielochan in 1999. Yet John has a particular passion in working with newcomers, helping introduce them to the sport and he is always on hand to offer skills advice and encouragement. He works closely with the local council to deliver Activate events and acting as lead coach for club activities on permanent courses he helped map, plan and install. To quote John: *"Volunteering' hasn't been so much of an effort, it has mostly been a real sense of satisfaction and I hope that in a small way has contributed to a lot of people having enjoyable experiences taking part in the sport that we love."*

## **The SILVA Trophy for best map produced by professional mappers 2018 – Peel Land Surveys for the British Middle Championships 2018 map of Stock Hill**

## Events

### **British Orienteering Championships 2019**

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May – Mixed Sprint Relays, University of Bradford

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May – Long Distance, Kilnsey North & Arncliffe

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May – Relays, Middleton Park

Hosted by YHOA

5<sup>th</sup> May – WSX Galoppen, Rushmore nr Shaftesbury

12<sup>th</sup> May – BOK Galoppen, Wavering Down nr Winscombe

19<sup>th</sup> May – DEVON – SW Middle Distance Championships, Braunton Burrows

2<sup>nd</sup> June – DEVON – SW Sprint Championships, Exeter University

8<sup>th</sup> June – WSX Poole Out Of Town Race, Canford Heath Estate

### **BOK Blast**

**15-16 June 2019**

Day 1 – University of the West of England – UKUL

Day 2 – Thornbury - SEOUL

22<sup>nd</sup> June – WIM SEOUL Urban Event – Ringwood

14<sup>th</sup> July – NGOC League, Knockalls Enclosure, Forest of Dean

### **Scottish 6 Days 2019**

**28 July to 3 August 2019**

Entries are now open for Strathearn 2019

## **SWOA OFFICIALS**

### **CHAIRMAN**

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Christine Vince KERNO

### **ASSOCIATION COACHING REPRESENTATIVE – vacant**

### **SW JUNIOR ORIENTEERING SQUAD**

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### **COMMITTEE**

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Judith Holt DVO

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