LOC NEWSLETTER

A NEWS-SHEET OF THE ORIENTEERING CLUBS OF LEINSTER

No 2 JULY 1977

BIRTH OF THE LOC NEWSLETTER

SINCE THE BREAK-UP, INTO A NUMBER OF SMALLER CLUBS, OF THE DUBLIN BASED 'IRISH ORIENTEERS' THERE HAS BEEN A SOMEWHAT DISHEVELLED APPEARANCE TO ORIENTEERING IN THE REGION.

A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF TEETHING TROUBLE WAS TO BE EXPECTED WITH THE NEW CLUBS, BUT COMMUNICATION BETWEEN CLUBS AND THE DISSEMINATION OF REGULAR INFORMATION TO MEMBERS WAS ONE OF THE MORE SERIOUS PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED.

IN AN EFFORT TO REMEDY THIS SITUATION THE ORIENTEERING CLUBS IN THE REGION HAVE DECIDED TO PRODUCE A TWO-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER. THE LAST CIRCULAR RECEIVED BY MOST MEMBERS WAS THE FIRST IN THIS SERIES.

IT CAN BE ARGUED THAT THE RETURN TO A COMMON NEWSLETTER IS A REVERSAL TO THE IDEA OF A SINGLE CLUB. THIS, HOWEVER, IS NOT THE INTENTION AS THE ARGUMENTS FOR THE SPLIT-UP ARE STILL VALID AND IF THE LOC NEWSLETTER IS NOT TO PERISH ON THE SAME ROCK AS IRISH ORIENTEERS, VIZ. OVERWORK BY A SMALL NUMBER OF PEOPLE, IT WILL BE ESSENTIAL THAT EACH CLUB ENSURES THAT REGULAR CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE FORM OF ARTICLES, NOTIFICATION OF EVENTS, LETTERS ETC. REACH THE COMPILER IN GOOD TIME.

SUMMER ACTIVITIES

AS IS CUSTOMARY, ORIENTEERING ON THE HOME-FRONT HAS GROUND TO A HALT FOR THE MIDGE/BRAMBLE/HOLIDAY SEASON AND WILL NOT RESUME IN EARNEST UNTIL SEPTEMBER 4 WHEN 3ROC STAGE THE FIRST EVENT OF THE NEW SEASON AT HOLLYWOOD GLEN. IN THE MEANTIME OUR ATTENTIONS ARE FOCUSED ON CLUB MEMBERS TRAVELLING ABROAD TO EVENTS. THE MOST NOTABLE OF THESE IS THE SWISS 5 DAY BEING HELD IN THE BASEL AREA IN WHICH THERE WILL BE 9 IRISH COMPETITORS AMONG THE EXPECTED 5,000+ PARTICIPANTS. OTHER EVENTS BEING ATTENDED BY MEMBERS ARE HIGHLAND //, SEVEN DAYS OF

ORIENTEERING IN SCOTLAND IN AUGUST, THE SWEDISH 5 DAY, FRENCH 3 DAY, AUSTRIAN 2 DAY AS WELL AS A NUMBER OF MAJOR EVENTS IN DENMARK. WE CAN LOOK FORWARD TO INTERESTING ACCOUNTS OF THEIR EXPERIENCES BY SOME OF THE PARTICIPANTS IN LATER ISSUES OF THE NEWSLETTER.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

SEPT. 4 : HOLLYWOOD GLEN, CO. WICKLOW.
SIGN-POSTED FROM MAIN BLESSINGTON-BALTINGLAS ROAD ABOUT 3 MILES SOUTH OF BLESSINGTON.
GRADE 2 CROSS-COUNTRY EVENT.
USUAL CLASSES.
5 COLOUR MAP. 1:10,000
ORGANISED BY 3ROC
STARTING TIMES: 11.00 - 13.00
COURSE CLOSED 16.00

OCT. 9 HOLLYWOOD GLEN, CO. WICKLOW.
LSOA - JUNIORS ONLY.

OCT. 2: CRUAGH, CO. DUBLIN.
TAKE L.201 FROM RATHFARNHAM TO TIBRADDEN CAR PARK.
GRADE 2 CROSS-COUNTRY EVENT.
USUAL CLASSES.
NEW MAP: 1:10,000 - 5 COLOURS
ORGANISED BY MACTIRE.
START TIMES 11.00 - 13.00
COURSE CLOSED 16.00

OCT. 9 DERRYBAWN, GLENDALOUGH, CO. WICKLOW.
SIGN-POSTED FROM LARACH VILLAGE.
GRADE 2 CROSS-COUNTRY EVENT.
USUAL CLASSES.
5 COLOUR MAP. 1:10,000
ORGANISED BY SETANTA.
START TIMES 11.00 - 13.00
COURSE CLOSED 16.00

IOA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

IRISH ORIENTEERING ASSOCIATION
TORCA LODGE,
DALKEY.
14TH JULY, 1977

TO: ALL IOA AFFILIATED
CLUBS AND
ORGANISATIONS.

IOA - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. 1977

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE IOA HAS BEEN ARRANGED FOR SUNDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER AT 5.00 P.M. IN THE DOWNSHIRE HOUSE HOTEL, BLESSINGTON, CO. WICKLOW. THIS WILL COINCIDE WITH 3ROC'S GRADE 2 EVENT AT HOLLYWOOD GLEN.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION, PEN PORTRAITS OF CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION AND PROPOSALS WHICH IT IS DESIRED TO PUT BEFORE THE GENERAL MEETING MUST BE RECEIVED BY ME ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 6TH.

THE AGENDA WILL BE CIRCULATED TO ALL CLUBS IN EARLY AUGUST.

P. MCCORMACK,
CHAIRMAN.

3ROC SLIDE COMPETITION

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 26TH. 8.00 P.M.

OPEN TO MEMBERS OF ALL CLUBS.

SLIDES FOR INCLUSION SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO JOHN MCCULLOUGH OR ANY 3ROC COMMITTEE MEMBER DURING SEPTEMBER.

SLIDES MAY BE SUBMITTED FOR ADJUDICATION IN TWO CATEGORIES: (1) ORIENTEERING (2) GENERAL. A MAXIMUM OF 6 SLIDES WILL BE PERMITTED PER PERSON, WITH NOT MORE THAN 4 FROM ANY ONE SECTION.

AWARDS WILL BE PRESENTED TO BEST SENIOR AND JUNIOR SUBMISSION IN EACH SECTION.

(SENIOR = 18 YEARS OR OVER).

JUDGING WILL BE BY AN INDEPENDENT BODY OF CONNOISSEURS.

VENUE: GLENALBYN HOUSE, STILLORGAN (BEHIND THE SHOPPING CENTRE CAR PARK ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF KILMACUD ROAD LOWER.

CLUB AGM : 3ROC WISH TO ANNOUNCE THAT THEIR AGM WILL BE HELD IN GLENALBYN HOUSE, STILLORGAN ON WEDNESDAY 26TH OCTOBER AT 19.30 HRS.

ALL CLUB MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND. SLIDE COMPETITION WILL BE HELD AFTERWARDS. (SEE NOTICE ABOVE).

RELAY CHAMPIONSHIPS 1977 ADVANCE NOTICE.

THESE ARE BEING ORGANISED BY TRINITY IN HOLLYWOOD GLEN ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH.

THERE ARE SIX CLASSES;

CLASS A	M21	LEGS ABOUT 4-5 KM.
B	W19	3-4 KM.
C	M35	3-4 KM.
D	M10-20	2-3 KM.
E	W10-18	2-3 KM.
F	ANY	1ST LEG 4KM, 2ND 3KM, 3RD 2KM.

EACH CLUB SHOULD ENTER TEAMS OF THREE IN THE ABOVE CLASSES BY NOVEMBER 15TH. TEAMS NOT FROM THE SAME CLUB MUST BE APPROVED BY THE ORGANISER. CLASSES A,B,C,F - £1.20. CLASSES D,E - 50P. MASS STARTS IN EACH CLASS WILL TAKE PLACE AT TEN MINUTE INTERVALS, STARTING FROM NOON. FURTHER MASS STARTS FOR WAITING 2ND AND 3RD LEG RUNNERS WILL TAKE PLACE 90 MINUTES AND 180 MINUTES LATER.

ENTRIES TO EOIN ROTHERY, WOODSIDE, SANDYFORD, CO. DUBLIN.

LOST PROPERTY. BLACK AND WHITE BANTAM ORIENTEERING SHOES, SIZE 8. FOUND AT HOLLYWOOD EVENT, NOVEMBER 7TH, 1976. OWNER CAN RECOVER SAME BY CONTACTING PAT FLANAGAN, EQUIPMENT OFFICER, 3ROC, 38 THE GLEN, WOODPARK, DUBLIN 16.

BOOK REVIEW.

"ORIENTEERING FOR SPORT AND PLEASURE" BY HANS BENGTSSON AND GEORGE ATKINSON.

THIS IS AN AMERICAN PUBLISHED BOOK AND RELATES PARTICULARLY TO ORIENTEERING IN THE U.S. AND CANADA, BUT THIS DIMINISHES ITS GENERAL USEFULNESS ONLY SLIGHTLY. THE BOOK IS PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED WITH PHOTOGRAPHS AND DIAGRAMS OF ALL ASPECTS OF ORIENTEERING AND CONTAINS A 1:15000 5-COLOUR MAP AS AN EXAMPLE OF A COMPLETE O-MAP.

THE BOOK IS AIMED LARGELY AT PEOPLE WITH SOME AWARENESS OF, OR CONTACT WITH, THE COUNTRYSIDE BUT WITH LITTLE OR NO KNOWLEDGE OF "AMERICA'S NEW CROSS-COUNTRY SPORT". THEREFORE IT IS UNLIKELY TO BENEFIT ESTABLISHED ORIENTEERS UNLESS THEY ARE INVOLVED IN INTRODUCING THE SPORT TO NOVICES - IN WHICH CASE THE INTRODUCTORY CHAPTERS AND THOSE ON TECHNIQUE TRAINING, O-TECHNIQUES, AND METHODS FOR DISTRIBUTING INFORMATION WOULD PROVE USEFUL. THE CHAPTER ON O-TRAINING AS OPPOSED TO STRAIGHT FITNESS TRAINING, IS THE BEST I HAVE SEEN AND CERTAINLY THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE.

A GREAT DEAL OF THE BOOK IS APPLICABLE TO ORIENTEERING EVERYWHERE, BUT SOME OF THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN ORIENTEERING HERE AND IN THE USA ARE NOTABLE: THE PREPONDERANCE OF BLACK AND WHITE MAPS, THE POSSIBILITY OF SKI-O, THE COLOUR CODING OF COURSES, AND MINOR THINGS LIKE THE USE OF THE WORD "MEET" WHERE WE WOULD SAY "EVENT".

HOWEVER, THE MOST NOTABLE THING ABOUT THIS BOOK IS THE QUANTITY AND QUALITY OF ITS ILLUSTRATIONS, AND IT IS THIS WHICH IN MY OPINION MAKES IT AN EXCELLENT INTRODUCTION TO ORIENTEERING FOR THE BEGINNER OR THE COMPLETE NON-ORIENTEER. IT MAY BE DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN HERE, BUT IT IS OBTAINABLE BY POST FROM THE PUBLISHERS: THE STEPHEN GREEN PRESS, BRATTLEBORO, VERMONT 05301, USA AT $5.95 + $3.00 AIRMAIL (30c SURFACE) FOR PAPERBACK OF $8.50 FOR HARDBACK (PLUS POSTAGE).

JOHN MCCULLOUGH.

PS. ITS CHEAPER FROM NEW ENGLAND OC. 5.00 FOR PAPERBACK + $3.00 AIRMAIL OR 30c SURFACE, $8.50 HARDBACK + POSTAGE.

NEOC. C/O HANS BENGTSSON, GARRISON HOUSE LANE, SUDBURY, MA 40056, USA.

SCOTTISH CHALLENGE MATCH

In the last newsletter there was an announcement of the impending departure of a joint North-South team to compete against Scotland (in a challenge match) near Glasgow. Despite minor problems; such as the discovery by the Southern team on Wednesday 11th May at 9 p.m. that the event was taking place on Saturday 14th and not, as they thought, a week later; and the closure of the Port of Larne because of the Northern strike, the Irish contingent made it successfully to Scotland. The closure of the Port of Larne turned out to be a blessing as we had to fly out instead of going by ferry and bus to Glasgow and due to the generosity of the Northern Ireland Sports Council and the sponsorship of Volvo trucks travel cost very little.

The teams were made up of 5 M21, 3 W19, 4 M18, 4 M17, 3 W17 - M21 - Pat Healy, Declan O'Callaghan, Eoin Rothery, W19 - Eileen Loughman, Monica Turley, Yaire Walsh, W17 - Jane Sheil, M19 - Barry Warner, M17 - Brendan Cryan, Ronan Cleary. There should have been 4 on W19 but due to the sickness of the N.I. competitor, Sue Patton, only 3 travelled. We stayed in a Scout Hall in Milngavie, north of Glasgow, very near to the site of the 1st event in Mugdock Wood which would have been more aptly named Muddock Wood as the area was exceedingly and even disgustingly marshy - it was a mixture of open moorland, crisscrossed with hundreds of confusing little paths, and unpleasant wood. The event was a relay with a difference - each competitor ran all three legs, but in a different order and each class started with a massed start so that the first back was the winner. Psychologically this caused most of us great strain, as one had to run through the finish and back out uphill through the start twice with loudspeakers announcing one's position and curious spectators watching one stumble through the mud, trying to focus on the map. Despite this some of the Irish did very well, though overall we lost to the Scottish. Eileen Loughman in W19A came second. In the W17, a Northern girl, Alison Smythe was third. The men's teams didn't do so well, but redeemed themselves in a badge event next day, over much pleasanter terrain, mostly open moorland with some rather thick forest. In this Eileen came 1st in W19 and Alison 1st in W17.

Some unfortunate team members, i.e. the writer of this report, realised too late their lack of fitness, which meant they were

completely outclassed in this event, but in the main, it was obvious that Irish Orienteering standards have really risen. Eileen and Pat Healy, in particular, are nearly up to the standard of the top British Orienteers now. At junior level the Northerners' standard is presently higher than the Southerners'. In the last year they have made tremendous strides. Training is far superior in the North, of course, with the grants available to them. They have far more possibilities of travelling to events in England and Scotland. However, we do have some very promising juniors, but they need more of the kind of experience gained on this trip to Scotland.

Dowbs Walsh

WE HEAR .....

.....that the Olympic Sports Council has accepted Orienteering as a permissible Olympic sport. It remains to be seen whether the Russians will take the opportunity of making the 1980 Moscow Olympic Games the first to include Orienteering.

.....that Eileen Loughman of CEN is looking for a man ... to accompany her in the Karimor (Carry more - presumably rucksack etc.!!) Mountain Walk in August.

ORIENTEERING IN NORTH AMERICA

Ciarán Mulligan

Orienteering does exist in North America. In fact, the sport is at quite a healthy young stage and shows every sign of growing just as it has in Britain over the past 10 years. There are clubs scattered from New England to Southern California and Michigan to Mississippi, and there were almost 400 competitors at the recent U.S. Championships with representatives from all over the States and some from Canada. The most successful meet ever held was last August when 1000 competitors (including 700 from Scandinavia) took part in a 5-day event in Quebec. Nor are American orienteers lagging behind the rest of the world - the U.S. team performed better than Ireland in the World Championships last year, and the Canadians were better again.

One of the reasons contributing to the success of orienteering here is the variety and suitability of terrain available. In theory one can orienteer over terrain from flat desert to prairie to high sierra, but in practise we have so far confined ourselves to hilly, wooded terrain. The terrain in New England and Quebec is very much in the Scandinavian style. Point features are common but line features very rare, and as a result there is usually very little trail-running and instead one must stick to cross country routes which involve careful map reading. An additional obstacle is the wild nature of much of the vegetation. This means that there are frequently no defined changes in vegetation and certainly none of the simplicity found in high planted forests. Most of the eastern seaboard is alike in these respects, being dominated by the Appalachian Mountains. Further inland around Southern Illinois and Missouri - an area with the highest concentration of clubs in the U.S. - the terrain is not as rugged, but nevertheless it is still challenging with small, steep hills, 50-70m high. Again there are very few line features and the vegetation is quite wild.

Despite the ideal nature of the terrain for orienteering, in most cases the quality of maps available does not do it justice. In the New England club our standard maps are black and white and these vary in their quality of drawing and the representation and quality of fieldwork. For a 6-year old club we should be more advanced and two new colour maps are under way. We have one 5-colour map which was drawn by some Swedes for the 1975 North American Championships in New Hampshire but this map is not as good as it could be. The main reason for this lack of good colour maps in NEOC is a lack of people to draw the maps and reluctance to produce 2 or 3 colour maps, the general tendency being to go directly from black and white to 5-colour maps.

As regards maps in other areas I can only talk about those I have run on, which have been maps produced for specific events. In general the Canadian maps are of a higher standard than those in the U.S. The map used at this year's U.S. Championships typifies the style used for many colour maps. For these maps the U.S. Geological Survey (equivalent to Ordnance Survey) maps are used. In many cases they are left at 20' - the USGS standard - and fieldwork appears to consist only of putting in boulders and other major features. The result is that the maps tend to be unreliable especially when contour-work is needed, which it frequently is.

An aspect of orienteering here which does not occur in Ireland is the many hazards. Part of the pep-talk before the first day of the U.S. Championships might illustrate this. The organiser warned that there were a number of pits marked which in fact were old mine shafts some 40 feet deep. He advised us not to fall in. Apart from that we were told that the poison ivy was in full bloom (and therefore at its most potent), and that the only snakes around were copperheads (poisonous), and although none had yet been seen, some care was necessary. I had visions of falling down a 40' mine shaft into a bed of poison ivy housing a family of copperheads! Despite these, and the odd bear (in Canada) orienteering has been relatively free of natural disasters.

An interesting feature of meets here concerns the way courses are organised. At local meets we discard the usual age classification and substitute a colour-coded system. Usually four courses are set and these are designated red (6-8 km, advanced) orange (4-6 km, intermediate), yellow (2-4 km, advanced beginner) and white (1-2 km, beginner, waiters). At bigger events an extra "blue" (elite) course is sometimes offered. This system has some advantages in that it reduces the confusion usually associated with age-classified courses and it allows a quick and easy comparison of results between men's and women's classes.

The different climates in the U.S. mean some changes where orienteering is concerned. Orienteering shoes durable - this is essential because of the high temperatures and humidity.

(continued on back page)

FIXTURE LIST 1977-78

DATE:	GRADE:	CLUB:	VENUE
Sep 4	2	BROC	Hollywood Glen
Sep 17	3	NIOA	(Come and Try It)
Sep 18	2	MO	Doneraile
Oct 1	2	NIOA	Cairn Wood, Dundonald
Oct 2	2	MAC	Pine Forest
Oct 8	2	NIOA	Castlecellan
* Oct 9		LSOA	(Schools event)
Oct 16	1	CO	Kinnitty, Offaly
		(Irish Championships)	
Oct 22	2	NIOA	Antrim
Oct 23	2	GEN	Trooperstown
Oct 30	2	DUO	
Oct 30		MO	(Closed Relays)
Nov 13		LSOA	(Schools event)
Nov 19		NIOA	(Irish Junior Champs.)
Nov 20		NIOA	" " "
Nov 26	1	CO	Stranahely
		(London Challenge)	
Nov 27		DUO	(Hollywood Glen
		(Irish Relay Championships)	
Dec 3	3	NIOA	
Dec 4	2	SET	
Dec 10	1	NIOA	(2-day event)
Dec 11	1	NIOA	(")
Dec 11		LSOA	(Schools event)
Dec 11	2	MO	Ballyhooley
Dec 31	3	NIOA	Wind up event
Jan 8	2	MO	Salem
Jan 22	2	GEN	
Jan 29	2	LO	Cratloe, Limerick
Jan 28		LSOA	(Schools event)
Feb 5	1	BROC	Callow Hill
Feb 12		CO	Relays and Score
Feb 19	1	MO	Knockacullata
Feb 26	2	DUO	
Feb 26		LSOA	(Schools event)
Mar 5	1	MO	Drumleagh
* Oct 9	2	SET	Derrydawn

DATE:	GRADE:	CLUB:	VENUE
Mar 12	1	MAC	Glendalough
Mar 19	1	SET	
Mar 26		(Jan Kjellstrom)	
Apr 2	2	MO	
Apr 16		LSOA	(Schools event)
Apr 23	2	MO	Scartnamuck
May 7		LSOA	
May 14	1	GEN	Donedea
May 20	1	MO	Slenday
May 21	1	MO	Slenday
		(Irish Champs. 1978)	
May 28	3	MAC	
Jun 21	3	GEN	Midsummer Madness

This fixtures list fixes the dates on which events will be held next season. Clubs should regard the dates as fixed and final details must appear in the Leinster Newsletter preceding the event. A Grade 1 event is a normal type (cross country) event of a high standard - equivalent to the old 'Badge' event. Grade 2 events should also be cross country type, but may be of the Norwegian or Score type. The latter cannot be used in the ranking list. Grade 3 events are Novelty events, like the Line or Route type, or Training events.

LEINSTER RANKING LIST

SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF ALL THE CLUBS IN THE LEINSTER AREA IT IS PROPOSED TO RUN A RANKINGS LIST TO BE APPLIED TO ALL COMPETITORS IN LEINSTER EVENTS, FROM LEINSTER CLUBS. ALL GRADE 2 EVENTS WILL BE INCLUDED, AND GRADE 1 EVENTS WILL BE GIVEN DOUBLE CREDIT, I.E. THEIR RESULTS CAN BE USED TWICE. SINCE THERE ARE 9 GRADE 2 EVENTS, AND 6 GRADE 1 EVENTS SCHEDULED FOR NEXT YEAR, A COMPETITORS BEST TEN EVENTS FROM AUGUST 1977 TILL JULY 1978 WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT FOR THE FINAL RANKING LIST. IT IS HOPED THAT RANKING POINTS OBTAINED AT EACH EVENT WILL BE PRINTED WITH THE RESULTS, TO MAKE THE PROCEEDINGS MORE OPEN. THREE DIFFERENT SYSTEMS WILL BE USED;

M21A THE AVERAGE OF THE FIRST THREE IS TAKEN TO EQUAL 100 AND EACH PERSON'S TIME IS CALCULATED AS A PERCENTAGE OF THIS. TO MAKE THE RESULTS MORE PRESENTABLE AND EASIER TO WORK WITH THE POINTS ARE THEN ROTATED ABOUT 100, I.E. 99% - 101, 149% - 51 ETC. ALL POINTS WILL BE WORKED OUT TO THE NEAREST HALF POINT. AT LEAST 10 PEOPLE MUST COMPETE FOR THE EVENT TO BE INCLUDED.

W18A AS ABOVE, EXCEPT THAT THE AVERAGE OF THE FIRST TWO WILL BE USED, AND AT LEAST 5 PEOPLE MUST COMPETE.

ALL OTHER CLASSES 20 POINTS TO THE WINNER, 19 TO SECOND, 18 TO THIRD ETC. AT LEAST FIVE PEOPLE MUST FINISH ANY CLASS FOR AN EVENT TO BE USED. IF THE GAP BETWEEN ANY TWO COMPETITORS IS LESS THAN 1 MINUTE THEN THE SAME POINTS WILL BE AWARDED. IF, HOWEVER, THE GAP EXCEEDS 10% OF THE WINNERS TIME, THEN 1 POINT WILL BE DEDUCTED, 2 POINTS IF 20% ETC.

EVENTS MAY BE DISCARDED FOR THINGS LIKE MISPLACED OR HIDDEN CONTROLS, FAULTY MASTER MAPS ETC. IT IS HOPED THAT THIS WILL PROVIDE AN INCENTIVE FOR PEOPLE TO COMPETE AND TO COMPETE OFTEN. IT SHOULD ALSO SERVE AS A RUDIMENTARY GUIDE TO FORM, POSSIBLY FOR SELECTION FOR THE LONDON CHALLENGE MATCH.

COLIN ROTHERY

WELSH ORINGEN '77

THE CHALLENGE OF THE WELSH FORESTS AND HILLS IS HARD TO RESIST AT ANY TIME, BUT WITH ADVANCE PUBLICITY SINCE XMAS THE O-RINGEN PROMISED TO BE BETTER THAN EVER THIS YEAR. WITH AN ENERGETIC WREKIN ORIENTEERS TAKING OVER THE ORGANISATION, AND THE SWITCH OF DATES TO COINCIDE WITH OUR LONG WEEKEND, IT WAS INEVITABLE THAT FRIDAY EVENING SHOULD SEE THE "O" PEOPLE GATHERING AROUND THE CAR FERRY, AND EVEN HERE THERE WAS A BONUS I.E. A BRAND NEW BOAT.

THE SOCIAL CENTRE WAS THE NOW FAMILIAR TANAELDROCH FARM CAMPSITE NEAR BETWS-Y-COED, WHERE ALL OUR ACQUAINTANCES IN LOK AND EOF GATHERED THIS YEAR AROUND THEIR OMNIPRESENT JUBILEE BONFIRE.

NONE OF YOUR JK EARLY MORNING MADNESS HERE - A LEISURELY FIRST START AT 12.30 IN HAFODGWENILIAN FOREST, AND YES THE MAP WAS 1:5000 PREMARKED IN IN GLORIOUS TYVEK. ONCE OUT ON THE COURSE ALL WAS REVEALED AND THE INTRICACIES OF THE CRAGGY, WHOLLY GROUND DID FULL JUSTICE TO THIS SIZE MAP AND GAVE SUPERBLY INTERESTING ORIENTEERING. STAMINA YES! BUT ABOVE ALL FINE ORIENTEERING. A VERY FINE RUN BY WALLY YOUNG SAW HIM HOLD DOWN POSITION 2 AT THE END OF DAY 1 WITH PAT HEALY RIGHT ON HIS HEELS AGAINST A HIGH CLASS FIELD OF 97. MICHAEL LUNT WAS ALSO IN 2ND PLACE IN M35 AGAINST 60 OTHERS, AND BRIGID FLANAGAN WAS SIMILIARLY PLACED 2ND IN W35 IN A FIELD OF 40. THESE PERFORMANCES SHOWED HOW IRISH ORIENTEERING HAS COME ON AND CONFIRMED THE JK FORM.

DAY 2 DAWNED WITH FRESH STRATEGIES READY TO BE PUT INTO ACTION AND THE CHASING START MADE THE COMPETITION VERY INTERESTING AS WE WERE ALL RIGHT UP WITH THE FRONT RUNNERS. THE SHOWERS OFFERED AN ADVANTAGE TO THOSE WHO EXCELL UNDER DIFFICULT CONDITIONS, THOUGH TYVEK ELIMINATED THE MAP DISINTEGRATION HANDICAP. THE VERY KEEN COMPETITION TOGETHER WITH THE NOVEL APPROACH OF OFFERING THE FIRST FIVE CONTROLS IN ANY ORDER SAW TONY THORNLEY WIN THE M21A WITH WALLY YOUNG IN 3RD POSITION. BRIGID RETAINED HER 2ND PLACING. FOR THE REST OF US IT WAS THE ROLE OF ONLOOKERS AS THE PRIZES WERE PRESENTED.

DAY 3 SAW US CLIMBING UP TO THE FOREST ABOVE PENMACHNO FOR A VERY WET RELAY ON A 1:20,000 MAP. A SCENE REMINISCENT OF SEAN ROTHERY'S EVENT IN HOLLYWOOD UNFOLDED, I.E. 120 ORIENTEERS FOLLOWING

EINER LIDEWA OF OTTA DYKE RAIDERS DEEP INTO THE FOREST TO A POINT 'X' FOR THE START. AT THE GIVEN SIGNAL ALL TOOK OFF FOR THE SAME CONTROL 500 METRES AWAY, (WE WERE ASSURED THAT IT HAD 12 PUNCHES). ONE PROBLEM WAS TO AVOID BEING CLOBBERED BY SWINGING TREE BRANCHES EVERYWHERE. SUFFICE IT TO SAY THAT BY CONTROL 4 I WAS ALONE AND REMAINED SO. WE DIDN'T WIN ANY PRIZES THOUGH 'N. YOUNG AFTER STARTING BEHIND THE PACK WAS FIRST HOME.

A QUICK CHANGE AND FULL SPEED FOR HOLYHEAD, PASSING FLASHES OF MEANDERING TOURISTS IN CAPEL CURIG, CLIMBERS ON TRYFAN, SCRAMBLERS AT LLANBERIS, LLANFAIRPWLLGWYNGYLLGOGERYCHWYRNDROBWLLLANTYSILIOGOGOGOCH, AND JUSTLEE FLASHES EVERYWHERE, AND THEN THE IRISH SEA, AND HOME FOR TEA AT 7.

YES, THE ORINGEN LIVED UP TO ITS PROMISES AND HIGHLIGHTED THE PRESENT COMPETITIVENESS OF IRISH ORIENTEERING - WE ACTUALLY BROUGHT HOME PRIZES - ALL IN ALL A TERRIFIC "O" WEEKEND.

PAT FLANAGAN

M21A

		DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3
1.	T. THORNLEY	112.53	61.18	69.08
2.	A. BRADLEY	120.15	65.35	67.39
3.	N. YOUNG	121.55	64.34 CO	73.36
12.	P. HEALY	152.50	65.01 CO	76.08
			4. P. FLANAGAN SNOC	133.33

M18A

		DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3
1.	A. SALISBURY	112.27	63.53	69.08
2.	S. BANNER	113.47	60.19	73.36
			3. N. MCKINNON	151.01
			2. P. FLANAGAN SNOC	126.47
5.	K. ETHERTON	122.55	60.04	61.47
13.	E. LOUGHMAN	154.31	81.56	76.08
			5. N. REYNOLDS	134.58

M16

		DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3
1.	J. ALLEN	101.15	75.50	10. M. LUNT GLN 154.45
2.	M. CLARKE	149.27	71.54	M. QUINN CO 188.43
3.	D. CAUSNELL	147.11	75.29	

A SPIRITED PERFORMANCE AGAINST A BACKGROUND OF BEING SICK THE PREVIOUS WEEK.

Supplier / Compass	ALPHA BARGAINS LIFFEY ST.	BRAMAC STORES LIFFEY ST.	GREAT OUTDOORS CHATHAM ST.	CA KAVANAGH HARCOURT Rd.	MARINE SALES DALKEY	MOUNTAIN HUT STEPHEN ST. DRURY ST.	SCOUT SHOP FOWNES ST.	VENTURE SPORTS BLACKROCK	ENGLISH rec. retail price
SILVA T.1	[6.50]	9.15	9.01	8.40 (S)9.60	10.29	—	(S)7.47	—	9.27
" T2NL	—	5.50	—	—	—	—	[5.16]	6.20	4.98
" T.3	[4.50]	4.99	5.30	4.80	5.61	5.45	4.68	5.60	4.42
" T3NL	—	[3.15]	—	3.84	—	—	—	—	3.46
" T.4	—	6.90	6.80	6.72	—	—	[6.46]	—	6.12
" T.4S	—	—	8.01	[7.80]	—	—	—	—	7.21
" T.2NL	2.95	—	—	—	—	—	[2.94]	3.50	2.71

Cheapest price for each type of compass is circled.

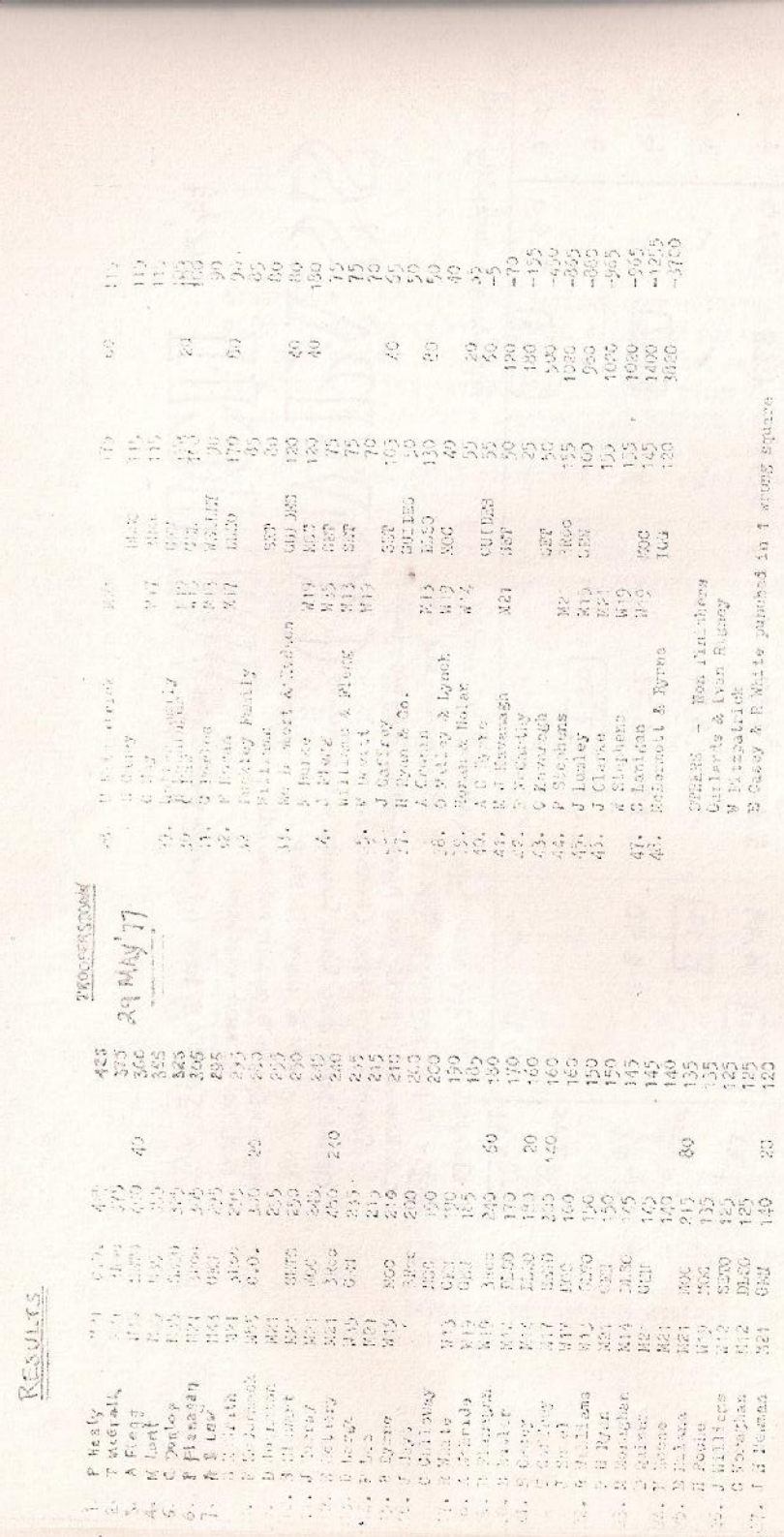
Prices correct June/July 1977

Notes: Alpha bargains Type 1 is 1974 model, but OK.
C.A. Kavanagh's prices are Approximate. They also import Suunto compasses (Finnish).
Marine sales also have Suunto — sometimes.
No shop had a complete stock.
Venture Sports Type 2 is not an NL and so is more expensive.
Type 1S and 4S have interchangable scales

COMPASS WHICH

J.McC '77

RESULTS



Killruddery 29 MAY 77

| | | |

Results of Mountain Marathon. Glenmachnass. 3rd July 1977. Mactire O.C.

A Course 14 miles.

W. Young	CO	3.18.20
P. Healy	CO	4.07.05
N. Rice	SetO	4.09.25
M. Quirke	CO	4.23.00
S. Byrne	CO	5.15.00
N. Mulligan New England CC		5.53.10
P. O'Brien	IMC	6.14.30
D. Gilmuys	GEN	6.55.15
T. Masterson	3RDC	7.10.00
Joe Ryan	GEN	7.27.00
J. Ryan	SetO	7.27.00
J. Murray	MOC	7.52.00
J. Newman	GEN	9.02.00

8 controls.

D. Rankin	LVO	4.21.45

7 controls

C. Rice	SetO	3.49.45
S. Stewart	SetO	5.20.15

Seven non-finishers.

B Course 8 miles.

P. Walsh	SetO	3.39.00
T. Caffrey	SetO	4.17.20
J.Sriel	MOC	4.19.25
Kevin Devine		4.28.05
S. Brewitt		4.26.50
U. Dregan	SetO	4.37.30
N. Rice		4.37.40
P. Ryan	GEN	4.37.40
M. Torpey		4.37.40
D. Large	GEN	5.25.40

6 controls

Ivan Rigney		4.24.25

Five non-finishers.

C Course 5 miles.

P. Flanagan	3ROC	1.39.00
E. Niland	MOC	1.39.00
Lars Falck OK Pan Sweden		2.05.00
B. Flanagan	3ROC	2.17.00
E. McAuley	DLSC	2.24.00
R. White	MOC	2.48.00
G. Scott	IMC	2.52.20
M. Sriel	MOC	3.20.00
N. Gilmuys	GEN	3.21.30
H. Masterson		3.39.00
P. Stephens	3Roc	3.40.00
K.Dent/M.Rice & co.	SetO	3.48.00
J. Hanan & Co		3.58.20
E. Mullin		4.23.50
C.Leonard	SetO	4.23.50
H. Newman	GEN	5.10.10

Two non-finishers

The organisers wish to apologise for an inaccurate control description and also for one control on A course marked out of position on one Master Map.

Letters from Readers

RESULTS - WHY DOES IT ALWAYS TAKE SO LONG FOR COMPETITION RESULTS TO APPEAR IN PRINT? THERE HAVE BEEN EXCEPTIONS, BUT NORMALLY ONE HAS TO WAIT SEVERAL WEEKS FOR RESULTS TO ARRIVE - IF THEY DO SO AT ALL - AND BY THAT TIME ALL MEMORY OF THE EVENT HAS FADED. IF THE RESULTS ARE UNIMPORTANT, WHY DO SO MANY COMPETE SO FIERCELY? IF THEY ARE IMPORTANT WHY DON'T THEY APPEAR SOONER? IN WHAT OTHER SPORT DOES ONE HAVE TO WAIT SO LONG FOR RESULTS TO BE PROCESSED? I CAN THINK OF NONE.

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO THE ENVELOPE WITH THE 10P PIECE INSIDE? AS AN OPTIONAL SERVICE I THINK THAT EVENT ORGANISERS SHOULD PROVIDE THIS RESULTS SERVICE TO COMPETITORS FOR (SAY) 10P EXTRA TO THOSE WHO REQUIRE IT - FOR ANYONE WHO WANTS RESULTS MORE QUICKLY. WITH A CENTRAL CIRCULAR APPEARING EVERY TWO MONTHS IT CAN MEAN QUITE A WAIT FOR RESULTS OF AN EVENT JUST BEFORE OR AFTER THE PUBLICATION OF THE PREVIOUS CIRCULAR, AND A RESULTS SERVICE COULD BE USED TO SPREAD ORIENTEERING PROPOGANDA TO PEOPLE WHO HAVE COMPETED BUT WHO ARE NOT IN A CLUB AND SO DON'T GET A CIRCULAR (OR WHO ARE IN A CLUB AND DON'T GET ONE!).

SO LET'S NOT FORGET THE RESULTS - PROCESSING AND PUBLICATION OF RESULTS SHOULD BE AS MUCH PART OF RUNNING AN EVENT AS TAKING IN THE CONTROLS, AND SHOULD BE CONSIDERED JUST AS ESSENTIAL FOR THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF AN EVENT.

JOHN McCULLOUGH

ORIENTEERING IN N.AMERICA (FROM P.S)

IT CAN BECOME VERY UNPLEASANT IN EARLY SUMMER TOO, WHEN MOSQUITOES AROUND IN THE FOREST AND STOPPING IS A SURE INVITATION FOR THEM TO BITE. IN WINTER ORIENTEERING STOPS IN NEW ENGLAND AND CANADA, DUE TO THE SNOW, BUT NOT FURTHER SOUTH WHERE SNOW COVER DOES NOT LAST LONG. IN NEW ENGLAND WE RUN CROSS-COUNTRY SKIS AND GO SKI-ORIENTEERING. SKI-O USUALLY INVOLVES FOLLOWING MARKED TRAILS TO EASILY LOCATED CONTROL POINTS AND IT IS SKIING ABILITY RATHER THAN ORIENTEERING THAT IS TESTED. NEVERTHELESS SKI-O OFFERS A GOOD WAY TO KEEP IN SHAPE AND WHILE AWAY THE WINTER.

ORIENTEERING SO FAR IN THE U.S. IS CERTAINLY DIFFERENT FROM THE HIGH ROUNDED HILLS OF WICKLOW. IN MANY RESPECTS ORIENTEERING IN NEW ENGLAND IS LIKE ORIENTEERING IN SCANDINAVIA - THE NEED TO BE VERY CAREFUL IN MAP-READING AND TO FOLLOW CONTOURS IS THE BIG DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ORIENTEERING IN THE U.S. AND IN IRELAND.

---o---

ORIENTEERING IN NORTH AMERICA- THE NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS IN WENTWORTH, NOVA SCOTIA. OCTOBER 8 & 9.

PRECEDED BY A WEEK'S O-FEST IN NOVA SCOTIA, NEW BRUNSWICK AND PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

LOC NEWSLETTER

A "NEWS FROM THE CLUBS" SECTION WILL BE INCLUDED IN FUTURE ISSUES OF THE NEWSLETTER. THIS WILL PROVIDE A COLUMN FOR CLUBS TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THEIR MEMBERS.

COPY FOR THIS AND OTHER ARTICLES MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE

- - SEPTEMBER 18 - -

TYPED RESULTS AND ARTICLES PLEASE, PREFERABLY USING DOUBLE SPACING SUITABLE FOR REDUCTION. UN-TYPED ARTICLES MAY BE SUBMITTED AS A LAST RESORT.

ALL SUBMISSIONS TO THE COMPILER - B. McGRATH, 42 CLONARD DRIVE, SANDYFORD ROAD, DUBLIN 14.