

THE FORTH COLUMNIST

Issue No. 117 November/December 1996

Editorial:

It's nice to see we're at last getting to grips with the technology and entering the information age with a page on the Internet- it's frightening though, isn't it, when you dread the change of the clocks because you can't adjust the clock on your Video?



Technology is changing the face of our sport too, - with global positioning systems, radio linked controls, 'smart' control cards and digital displays of competitors' progress looming over the eastern horizon from over the North Sea. What a thought!

It's nice to see that even in Orienteering, though, common sense will eventually prevail.

The central bureaucracy has relented on its flawed edict on qualification requirements for Event Officials. Not that the idea's a bad thing - but in these apathetic days, we need all the voluntary help we can get - qualified or not!

Maybe we aren't approaching the problem of training from the right angle. Instead of trying to strangle the sport with rules, we need to be encouraging people to 'have a go', and to be 'supportive' rather than critical (even 'constructively') when things don't work out.

There have been a few rumblings from the undergrowth that not enough is being done for the members, so maybe this year we'll have some sparks at the AGM(?) and get some people volunteering to do things.

You can't change the ship's course by sitting in your cabin.
Merry Christmas!

Ed.

FVO COMMITTEE 1996

PRESIDENT	Jonathan Oxley	24 Eastcroft Drive POLMONT Falkirk FK2 0SU (01324) 718428
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President's Column

Well, Autumn is here once again, and you might think it is time to hang up your orienteering shoes (washed of course!) and your well worn trainers. Don't do it - well, not yet at least. We have the FVO Club Championships at the end of November, and the Scottish Score right on our doorstep at Devilla.

As if that was enough! We've got action for your orienteering shoes, your dancing shoes, and your aerobic shoes and body-hugging leotards (!?). Indoor training is again underway in the school gym at Lornshill Academy, Alloa. There's action for all abilities: the training is structured such that you can do as much or as little as you like.

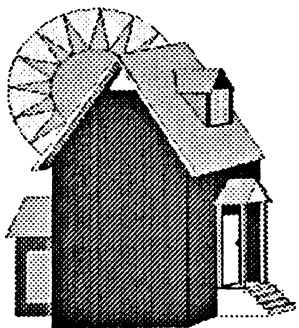
Dancing shoes? Yes, it's the party time of year approaching once again, and with it, the FVO Dinner Dance on Saturday 23 November. We're at the Stirling Management Centre this year, with the very highly rated **Forbes MacFarlane Band**. With a four course dinner (choice of menu + veggie options), and a prize-draw raffle, there's something for everyone from 6 to 96!

Well done to those who attended the FVO Car Treasure Hunt; I believe it was pure coincidence that our Club Secretary was on the winning team (honest!). Look out for more social events coming soon, including a Street'O' from Stirling Castle later this month.

Some of you may have heard that the British Orienteering Federation (BOF) have shelved their plans to insist on qualifications for event organisers and planners. (As you will see from the Notice Board) This decision has been welcomed by the FVO Committee who had drafted a letter of (mild) protest just before word was recieved about the change of heart. In many respects, we felt it unfair that BOF had passed on the task of compiling event histories for each organiser and/or planner to the clubs, given that BOF had ready access to past Event Registration forms! BOF have been pleased that several members have returned forms through club secretaries (including some of our own members), and will keep these forms on file, should the scheme be resurrected at a later stage.

Finally, a plea I routinely issue in this esteemed publication. **YOUR** Committee exists to run **YOUR** club. We try to organise events and activities that will interest and enthral **YOU**, but we can only be successful if we know what **YOU** want. For instance, the Activities Questionnaire issued at the begining of this year drew a responce from less than a quarter or the club membership. Help **US** to help **YOU** - tell us what you want!

Jonathan



Cathy Tilbrook & Doug Flint
have moved and their new
address is Balgray Cottage
The Milton
Comrie
Crieff PH6 2LS
Tel: 01764 679747

Fraser Purves has moved
and now lives at
55 Abercrombie Drive
Menstrie
FK117DE
Tel: 01259 762460

*Best wishes to you
all in your new
homes & may you
have many happy
times in them.*

Ed.

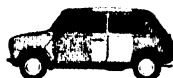
EVO CAR TREASURE HUNT - 14 SEPTEMBER 1996

It seems ages ago now that this took place, it was like the wacky races, wheel spins etc., fortunately there were no accidents or speeding fines. The course followed a circular route to the West of Stirling visiting villages such as Gargunnock, Thornhill and Doune before returning for a final tour of Stirling.

The winning trio of Susan, Hazel and Lindsey from the well known Sinclair clan scored 890 points. They whizzed round a certain roundabout not once, not twice but three times -no wonder they had the highest mileage.

Cathy and Doug were the runners up with a score of 720. Our vice president showing her true colours, drove up Causewayhead Road towards the Rugby Club, slowed down just enough for Doug to open the door and pick up a road traffic cone, Cathy was so concerned she had to put it back again, once she had collected her points of course! Congratulations to everyone who completed the course, I hope you all had a good time.

Peggy



NOTICE BOARD

OUT OF BOUNDS AREAS

As of 1st October 1996 the following areas are out of bounds for ALL Orienteering Activities:

" The Area (in both 1:10 & 1:15 formats) covered by the map known as CRAIGBUI as used at the Scottish Six day event in 95. - Restrictions released after 24th May 1997.

The Area (in both 1:10 & 1:15 formats) covered by the maps known as DOCHARN & DEISHER and CRAIG LAITH as used for the World Vets in 94. DOCHARN & DEISHER as used for the Scottish Six Day event in 95. - Restrictions released after 6th June 1998."

Qualifications for Planners & Organisers

The BOF council has decided not to go ahead with the proposed requirement that from 1st Jan 98 all organisers & planners at events of level 4 (CC events) and above must hold the appropriate level of BOF qualification. Qualification forms already recieved at BOF Office will be retained as will any further ones recieved. This will allow the scheme to proceed if it is agreed at some future date.

JK & British Relays 1996

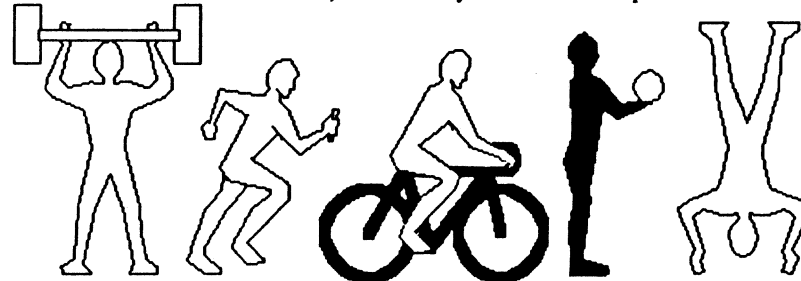
There are some of you reading this who still owe money for the above mentioned events (In total over £200.00) Fraser Purves is trying to sort this out so if you are unsure of the amount that you owe and want to settle your debts then please give Fraser a call on 01259 762460. **THANKYOU**

SKIING

Unfortunately we have not been able to get the number of people needed to book the skiing this winter so there will not be any. Sorry to those for you who were interested. We may try again next year !

Indoor Training

Remember the Weekly Sweat Session has started again for those long winter nights so come along to Lornshill Academy (B9096 between Tulibody & Alloa OS Grid ref: NS873948) on Tuesdays at 6.00 - 7.00 pm.



FVO Club Championships

on the
23 November 1996
at
BARR WOOD

Venue : Carparking will be sign posted from the A872 Stirling to Denny road.


Courses :	Girls	W 10/11/13
	Boys	M10/11/13
	Junior Women	W15/17
	Junior Men	M15/17
	Women	W21/35
	Men	M21/35
	Vet Women	W40+
	Vet Men	M40+

Reg: Control Cards and start times will be issued at registration from 10am.

Starts: 10.30 to 11.30 for Club Members.

Fees: £1.00 payable to FVO

Entries: Before 20th November 1996 to:
Fraser Purves
55 Abercrombie Place
Menstrie FK11 7DE Tel: 01259 762460

 (In writing please. -Fraser)

Trophies: Could last years winners please bring their trophies along on the day or hand them to any member of the committee before hand. Thankyou.
The Trophies will be presented at the Dinner Dance at night.

Forth Valley Orienteers Dinner Dance

23 November 1996

**Stirling Management Centre,
Stirling University
7.00pm 'til late!**

Four Course Dinner with choice of
menu and vegetarian options.

Dance to

The Forbes MacFarlane Band

Tickets: £15.00 each from your
FVO Committee.

Top Hat & Tails
& that's just for the women.



*Donations of raffle prizes will be
gratefully recieved
Contact Susan on 01259 213310*

REMEMBER THIS CHALLENGE THAT RESULTED FROM LAST
YEARS CLUB CHAMPS...

I, Simon, am going to beat
you, Kenneth, in the 1996
FVO club champs.

AND I KENNETH, HEREBY PLED,
TO RUN YOU INTO THE GROUND
IN THE 1996 FVO CHAMPS.

Kenneth Porteous

In Your Dreams

Simon Finch

WITNESSES:- Finch

Keith Smith

WE LOOK FORWARD TO FINDING OUT
WHAT HAPPENS !!!!

RESULTS...RESULTS...RESULTS...

Scotlands galoppen 5 - Sept 8th 96, Pulnagashel Glen

M21E 11.1Km		M40L 7.7Km	
3 Fraser Purves	110.15	4 Ted Finch	88.16
W21E 7.7Km		W45L 5.1Km	
1 Hazel Dean	82.00	3 Maurcen Brown	85.02
M10A 2.7Km		W45S 3.3Km	
5 J. Porteous	36.39	2 Val Finch	69.58
W15A 4.3Km		M45L 6.5Km	
1 Lisa Brown	42.23	8 Brian Porteous	81.18
10 Fiona Finch	99.47	M50L 6.5Km	
M15A 5.9Km		6 John Brown	97.31
1 Douglas Porteous	69.41	W60L 4.2Km	
8 Steven Porteous	88.14	1 Hilda Astbury	82.21
M17A 6.6Km		LT Green 3.7Km	
5 Neil Brown	104.03	1 Graham Martin	55.38
W21L 6.6Km		3 Jayne Martin	79.10
1 Peggy Chambers	87.00	String Course	
M35L 8.8Km		Ellen Dean	4mins
1 Martin Dean	74.00	Martin Dean	8mins

Congratulations to all of you who took part - I hope we
didn't miss anyone out.

SORRY, we don't have the results for SG 6 or 7.

Something Different - Wednesday evening meeting place has
changed - It's now The Portcullis Hotel (beside the Castle) at 8.30pm
and once again everyone is welcome to come along.

STREET O

Something for all you keen orienteers out there - there may not be
any wednesday evening events but how about a Street O?

Venue: Stirling Castle Carpark

Date: 13th November 1996

Time: 7pm

For more details contact Fraser Purves on 01259 762460

Techno-Wizardry

Calling all those of you with access to the internet!

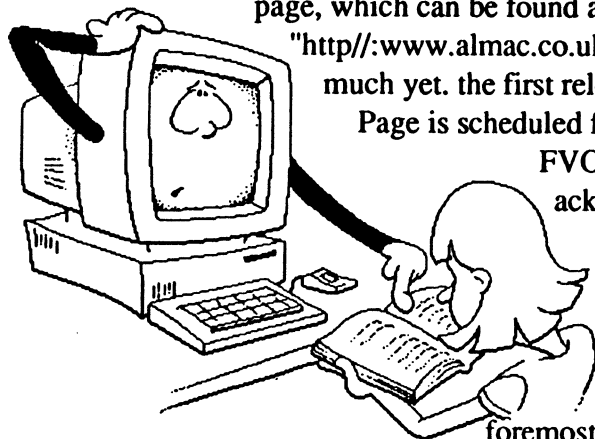
Look out for FVO's very own Home Page coming soon to a PC screen near you! Point your servers to "<http://www.almac.co.uk/soa/fvo>". The

SOA have also just started the release of their own home page, which can be found at

"<http://www.almac.co.uk/soa>". Don't expect too much yet. the first release of the FVO Home Page is scheduled for November 20.

FVO and SOA gratefully acknowledge the generous assistance of ALMAC. ALMAC were one of the first companies to offer Internet access in the UK, and are still one of the foremost Internet service providers.

You can contact ALMAC on 01324-666336.



Event Supplies



Organisers of events of all kinds can now purchase goods through Makro. Makro have kindly provided a membership card for use by the club for the purchase of all sorts of goods for FVO related events.

Makro are located on the Sighthill Industrial Estate, Edinburgh, and the Hillington Industrial Estate, Glasgow.

Contact Jonathan Oxley for further details on 01234-718428

SUB-AQUA

The inaugural meeting of the FVO sub Aqua club was held at Barr Wood on Saturday 12th October. When Susan and I arrived we found Fraser sitting in his car staring gloomily at the belts of horizontal rain lashing across the countryside.

Shortly after, Jon and Ali Oxley turned up and we formed a protective circle of cars against the weather.

Fraser (the hard man) stood outside clad in his GoreTex Foul weather gear exhorting us to get out and run about, but since he hadn't put out any controls, none of us thought much of the idea!

Dave Nicol breezed up and got out of his car to keep Fraser company! He was thoroughly soaked in seconds and began muttering "well I'm wet anyway!" and for a horrible moment or two looked as though he might actually venture out into the wood!

However, common sense at last prevailed, and since the full Committee was quorate, we unanimously decided to re-convene at the Granada Services, where we had our first formal Meeting. (the danish pastries were smashing!).

Apologies to those who turned up later, to find the place deserted (well we were getting a bit concerned about the height of the burn at the foot of the hill! - and anyway - YOU WERE LATE!!!!).

For those of you who are interested in Scuba Diving, we will hopefully have a second meeting sometime early next year. Possible training topics will include "Spear fishing in Airthrey Loch" and "Collecting Corals in Minewoods".

Ed.

What's On in and Around FVO

NOV	17	ESOC Badge Event, Gullane Dunes & Archerfield	(NT500850)
	17	GRAMP CC Event, Crathes, Banchory	(NO733968)
	23	FVO CLUB CHAMPS - BARR WOOD	(NS796866)
	23	FVO DINNER DANCE - STIRLING MANAGEMENT CENTER	
	24	MOR CC Event, Lossie Forest, Lossiemouth	(NJ256670)
	24	PO Local Event, Knock of Crieff, Crieff	(NN868225)
DEC	1	INVOC CC Event, Carse Wood & Fort George, Ardersier	(NH811562)
	1	WFO, Lothian O League 4, Blairadam, Kelty, Fife	(NT128545)
	8	LINOC Scottish Score Champs, Devilla Forest, Kincardine	
	8	GRAMP Local Event, Drum, Aberdeen	(NJ796005)
	15	PO Local Event, St Magdalene's Hill, Perth	(NO108217)
	29	ELO Festive Frolic, Yellowcraigs, Nr Gullane	(NT515855)
	29	STAG Rudolf O. Fun Event, Chaterhault C.P. Hamilton	(NS738539)

And Now Somethings for Next Year

JAN	4	SOLWAY Knoll Bagging Comp. Mabie Forest Dumfries	(NX950710)
	5	STAG Antique O Fun Event Cathkin Braes C.P. Glasgow	(NS614583)
	9	STAG CC Event, WOSOL 1, Cathkin Braes Country Park	(NS617584)
	19	LINOC LOL5 Beecraigs C.P. Linlithgow	(NS997742)
	24	FVO AGM, Burns Supper, 7pm, Dumyat Leisure Centre, Menstrie	
FEB	9	STAG CC Faskally Woods, Pitlochry	(NN937582)
MAY	24	ESOC Scottish Champs, Anagach, Grantown on Spey	(NJ046267)
AUG	3-9	BREADALBANE 97, SCOTTISH 6 DAYS	

**ADVANCE
NOTICE :**

**The
Annual General Meeting
of**

FORTH VALLEY ORIENTEERS

will be held on

Friday January 24th 1997 at 7.00pm

in the

Dunyat Leisure Centre, Menstrie

**The meeting will be followed by a
Burns Supper.**

**Nominations for Committee Membership to
Susan Sinclair (Secretary) by 22nd January Please.**