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# Forth Columnist

**Issue 174** 

**May/Jun 2006** 

# Forth Valley Orienteers

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Craig Thomson, at speed, on the run in at the British.

Photo by Mark Thomson

Copy date for next issue is Saturday 1st July

First of all an apology, again! The text in the last two issues seemed to change dramatically, but only for some issues! We think it is a problem with Gary's printer and hopefully it will not happen again.

April was another hectic month with the British, JK, JOK sprint and Graythwaite. Nice to see so many club members at these events with some excellent results.

Contributions have been very thin on the ground this time. Please can you get your articles in early next issue as we are in Sweden from the 9th July, so not too long after copy date! Included with this newsletter is a copy of the new FVO Information leaflet. If you would like any further copies please contact Gary Longhurst.

Hope to see you at the Scottish Champs or the Harvester. Remember to get your name to Jon if you want to run in the relays.

Mark Thomson

On the JK run in!

Photo by Will Hensman



Please send articles, pictures or gossip bits to:

Mark Thomson
55 Hawton Crescent
Wollaton Park
Nottingham
NG8 1DD

markthomson55@yahoo.co.uk

We're on the web. Check out www.fvo.org.uk 11th SOA RR Regional Event & SOL 5. Teviothead, Hawick. NT404053. Organiser: Robin Sloan, 0189 682 2548. ROBIN\_SLOAN@ROSEISLE.DEMON.CO.UK Entries: Lindsey Knox, Riversdale, Slitrig Crescent, Hawick, Roxburghshire, TD9 OEN, 01450 377383. Iknox46426@aol.com CD: 26/05/06. £8.50/£3.50. Lim EOD +£1.00/£1.00. Chq: Roxburgh Reivers. EPS-SI. Parking and camping same as for Harvester Relays. Harvester will start in daylight to allow later leg runners more time before League race. Please specify E/M/L start time when entering. Dogs on leads in car park and camping fields only. Parking £1.00. www.roxburghreivers.org.uk/

13th SOA TAY Local Event. Crombie Country Park, near Monikie. NO528402. David Sloan, 01383738631 adixon@watt64.freeserve.co.uk Starts 1730-1900

14th SOA FVO Local Event. Gartmorn, Alloa. NS911940. Neil Kitching, 01786 824595. Starts 5 to 7pm. £2 adults, £1 children.

15th SOA TNS Local Event. Corstorphine Hill, Edinburgh. Andrew Brown, 0131 466 4378 brooner@euoclegends.co.uk Mass Start 19:00.

17th SOA ESOC Local Event. Corstorphine Hill, Edinburgh. NT202747. Janet Clark, 0131 225 7771 janetclr@aol.com

18th SOA TAY Local Event. The Hermitage, South Craig Vinean, Dunkeld. NO012422. David Sloan, 01383738631. adixon@watt64.freeserve.co.uk £4.00/£2.00. Start 11-12.30, White, orange, green and blue/brown courses only. www.taysideorienteers.org.uk/

24th SOA ELO Local Event & BBQ. Hedderwick Hill. NT364679. Trina Rogerson, 01368 864922

25th SOA INVOC Club Championships. Rogie, Contin. NH443592. Ake Inghammar, 01463 782424 www.invoc.org.uk.

25th SOA MAROC Local Event. Bellwood, Aboyne. NO537987. Steve Spencer, 01330 823566 spencers\_banchory@btinternet.com

27th SOA BASOC Local Evening Event. Dalnavert (Inshriach North), Feshiebridge. NH852047. Mike Atherton, 01540 661069 mike@atherton.go-plus.net

28th SOA ESOC Local Event. Glentress, Peebles. NT284397.

Janet Clark, 0131 225 7771 janetclr@aol.com Start times 6 - 7.30pm £2/£1,

Starts: Buzzard's Nest car park.

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3rd SOA TNS Edinburgh Sprint Series. Edinburgh Parks, Edinburgh. NT258740. Stewart Caithness, 0131 3375495. wattok@nopesport.com £9.00/£6.00. SI hire 50p. EPS-SI. Dogs on leads in car parks. 3 Races, New Format, 1 Great Days Racing! for more information and to enter visit website. www.edinburghsprintseries.co.uk

4th SOA ESOC Long-O. Pentland Hills Regional Park, Edinburgh.

Organiser: Margaret Dalgleish, 01968 675737. Margaret@dalgleishfamily.net
Entries: Ron Nolan, 17 Viewfield Road, Juniper Green, Edinburgh, EH14 5BE, 0131 453 1497.
ron.nolan@hulley.co.uk CD: unknown. Fees TBA. Chq: ESOC. No dogs.

4th SOA MAROC District Event. Corsedarder, Finzean, Banchory. NO597939. Jane Elder, 01330 822966. bobelder@mail.com £4.00/£2.50. EPS-Emit.

5th SOA AYROC Local Event. Eglinton Country Park, Kilwinning. NS319418. Theresa Perry, 01292 443719 tptheresa@hotmail.com

6th SOA INVOC Local Evening Event. Venue to be decided, Inverness Area. Iain Shepherd, 01463 871289 springbank@btinternet.com www.invoc.org.uk.

6th SOA GRAMP Summer Evening Series Event. Newmillhill, Aberdeen. NJ818011. Peter Lawrence, 01569 766866 Peter.Lawrence@sita.co.uk Start times 6:30-7:30pm www.grampoc.com.

7th SOA FVO Local Event. Bantaskine, Falkirk. NS871789. Neil Kitching, 01786 824595. Starts 5 to 7pm. £2 adults, £1 children.

10th SOA SOLWAY Scottish Sprint Championships & UK Cup Sprint Race. Barhill Plantation, Dalbeattie, Dumfries. NX834615. Organiser and entries: Helen O'Donoghue, Maidenholm House, Barrhill Road, Dalbeattie, Kirkcudbrightshire, DG5 4HT, 01556 610235. thai.od@dsl.pipex.com CD: 02/06/06. £6.50/£3.50. No EOD. Chq: Solway Orienteers. EPS-SI. Mid-late afternoon start times (1430 - 1630) allowing onward travel to the Harvester. Also Light Green course - £4.00/£3.00. Dogs in car park only. www.thai.od.dsl.pipex.com/events.htm

10th SOA RR Harvester Trophy Relays. Teviothead, Hawick. NT404053. Organiser: Robin Sloan, 0189 682 2548. ROBIN\_SLOAN@ROSEISLE.DEMON.CO.UK Entries: Lindsey Knox, Riversdale, Slitrig Crescent, Hawick, Roxburghshire, TD9 OEN, 01450 377383. Iknox46426@aol.com CD: 26/05/06. Class A (7 laps) £70, Class B (5 laps) £50, junior teams on B, £25. No EOD. Chq: Roxburgh Reivers. EPS-SI. Club Secretaries please download entry form from RR website or contact organiser. Parking and camping also suitable for Scottish League race on Sunday 11th June. Harvester will start before midnight in daylight, League Race start times from 11.00am. Dogs in car park and camping fields only on leads. Parking £1.00. www.roxburghreivers.org.uk/

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#### President's Piece

The orienteering season has certainly got underway again, with events on most weekends and the Wednesday evening events having started again.

A number of us went to the British Champs in West Sussex and the JK in Yorkshire last month; and there were a number of successes both for individuals and in the relays - more on this in Jon's piece. I enjoyed running on new areas and the socialising that went on during and after the events.

We have also just organised a very successful short race at Gannavan, near Oban, in conjunction with a SOL and the FCC final – thanks to David Nicol for organising, Marcus for planning and to everyone in FVO who helped. The meal afterwards that most people attended was also very enjoyable.

It will soon be the weekend of the Scottish Champs, followed a couple of weeks later by the Harvester relay, which this year is in Scotland. Hopefully we will get a good turnout for both of these and some good results.

The Weds evening events continue, with a new area, Bantaskine, being used on 7<sup>th</sup> June and the final event the following week, at Gartmorn Dam, including the usual BBQ before the summer break.

Included with this newsletter is a copy of the poster for the evening events. Please help to publicise these, putting copies to on notice boards at your place of work, local library, sports club etc. If you think an event would be suitable for a group of non-orienteering friends or work colleagues, why not encourage them to come along. If you want help to show them what to do or to take a group round a course just ask and we can organise some 'coaches' to be on hand.

Gary Longhurst



Louise at the British Relay

Photo: Karen Thomson

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## Club Captain's chat

Jon has been very busy lately so his latest Club Captains chat is a little shorter than usual. Ed

Hasty chat from me this time as you are all keeping me far too busy signing up to the Scottish Relays and the Harvester!

Particular thanks to everyone who ran in the large numbers of FVO relay teams at the British and JK relays - British Champs prize winners in M40+(Gary Longhurst, Steve Barrett and Duncan Francis) and M14- (Jack Barrett, Craig Thomson and Abi Longhurst) in particular! Photos on the FVO website showing Abi on the podium surrounded by boy......

Things are looking good for the Scottish Relays too - we already have eleven teams entered and several of you have signed up since the closing date(!). These are following the same complicated handicap system as last year so no late drop outs please, it will probably cause me to make multiple team changes!

Things are also looking fairly healthy on the Harvester front, but I still need a couple more people to sign up to help me complete a fourth FVO team (A course teams are seven people, B course and women's teams are five people). So please get in touch and let me know you would like a run - doing so will make sure all the people who have signed up so far definitely get a run.....

Advance warning also for the 11-person relay on September 9th at Achlean Forest near Aviemore. This is combined with a SOL the next day at Loch Vaa so should be a fantastic weekend of orienteering. The Sunday also one-day international cricket between Pakistan and England in Birmingham, and I have a ticket - a dilemma approaching I think! Let me think, Loch Vaa, fantastic scenery, superb woodlands, brilliant orienteering or watching England loose at cricket in Birmingham! No contest, Jon, sell your ticket! Ed

We still also have space for people to sign up for the Compass Sport Cup final on the weekend of 14/15 October near Newbury. Lots of you have signed up already and it is looking like a great club weekend, but the more people the better so please get your name down if you have not already. Still plenty of cheap flights to Southampton available!

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24th SOA TNS Local Event. Holyrood Park, Edinburgh. NT280731. Andrew Brown, 0131 466 4378 brooner@euoclegends.co.uk Dunsappie Loch Car Park, Mass Start 19:00.

25th SOA TINTO Local Event. Altarstone, Broughton. NT154366. Blair Young, 01555 661955 Club Event, Starts from 1800 hours.

27th-28th SOA NATIONAL EVENT & SCOTTISH CHAMPIONSHIPS & UK CUP 27th - NATIONAL EVENT & Scottish Individual Championship. Glen Dye, Banchory. NO662907. Organiser: Andy Oliver, 01561 378902. andyolvr@aol.com 28th - Scottish Relay Championships. Bogendreip, Banchory. NO662907. Organiser: Chris Low, 01330 825087. chrisj.low@btopenworld.com www.grampoc.com Entries: Jon Musgrave, Gardens Cottage, Dess, Aboyne, Aberdeenshire, AB34 5BA, 013398 84447. jon@big-jon.demon.co.uk CD: 07/05/06. Individual: £12.00/£5.00. Late entries & Lim EOD +£5.00. Special entry form for Relays: £21.00/£12.00 per team, Individual runs (ad hoc) £8.00/£4.00. Chq: MAROC. EPS-Emit. String course. Lim CC courses on Day 1 only - W, Y, O & LG - £5.00/£3.00. Day 1 Starts 1200 - 1500. Dogs on lead in car park only.

27th SOA SOA AGM. Banchory Scout Hall.
o5p Melvyn Perry secretary@scottish-orienteering.org 16:00 or so after Scottish Champs.

30th SOA BASOC Local Evening Event. Moor of Alvie & Speybank, Aviemore. NH831057. o5 Mike Atherton, 01540 661069 mike@atherton.go-plus.net NEW EXTENSION.

30th SOA TAY Local Event. Newtyle Hill, Near Dunkeld. NO055411. David Sloan, 01383738631 adixon@watt64.freeserve.co.uk Starts 1730-1900

31st SOA FVO Local Event. Abbey Craig, Bridge of Allan. NS808958. o5 Neil Kitching, 01786 824595. Starts 5 to 7pm. £2 adults, £1 children.

#### June

1st SOA TNS Local Event. Blackford Hill and The Hermitage, Edinburgh.
Andrew Brown, 0131 466 4378 brooner@euoclegends.co.uk Mass Start 19:00.

2nd SOA STAG Scottish Schools' Festival. Scone Palace, Perth. NO115264.

Organiser: Terry O'Brien, 0141 7708671. Terry@tobrien1.wanadoo.co.uk

Entries: Lorna Young, 7 St Ninians Lanark ML11 8HX, 01555 661955. CD: 31/05/06. Junior £2.00 School Affiliation £5.00. No EOD. Chq: SSOA. EPS-SI.

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# What's On May/Jun 2006

#### May

14th SOA CLYDE Regional Event & SOL 3. Dunrod Hill, Greenock. NS247722. Organiser: Donald Petrie, 01505 613094. donald@scottish-orienteering.org
Entries: Steve & Rachel Wilson, 64 Bailie Drive, Bearsden, Glasgow, G61 3AQ, 0141 942
9907. r.m.wilson@ukgateway.net CD: 30/04/06. £8/£3 Lim EOD+£1.00 Chq: Clydeside
Orienteers. EPS-SI. String course, Lim CC courses. Dogs on leads.

16th SOA ECKO Local Event. Glendaruel, near Dunoon. NS017817. Lynne Walker, 01369 702607 info@ecko.org.uk EPS-SI. yellow & red/green courses; starts 18:00-19:00; £2.50/£2; www.ecko.org.uk.

16th SOA TAY Local Event. Knock of Crieff, Crieff. NN864226. David Sloan, 01383738631 adixon@watt64.freeserve.co.uk Reg 5.30-7pm. Courses white/yellow, orange/light green and green.

17th SOA FVO Local Event. Dollar Bank, Dollar. NS963994. Neil Kitching, 01786 824595. Starts 5 to 7pm. £2 adults, £1 children.

17th SOA TNS Local Event. The Meadows and Newington, Edinburgh. NT259727. Andrew Brown, 0131 466 4378 brooner@euoclegends.co.uk Mass Start 19:00.

18th SOA TINTO Local Event. Happendon Wood, Douglas. NS855335. Lambert Allan, 01899 308029 Club Event, Starts from 1800 hours.

20th SOA TAY Local Event. Kinnoull Hill, Perth. NO145236. David Sloan, 01383738631. adixon@watt64.freeserve.co.uk £4.00/£2.00. Starts 11-12.30. White, orange, green and blue/brown courses only.

20th SOA ELO Local Event. Gullane Bents, Gullane. NT479831. Trina Rogerson, 01368 864922

22nd SOA AYROC Local Event. Rozelle Park, Ayr. NS337192. Theresa Perry, 01292 443719 tptheresa@hotmail.com

23rd SOA ECKO Local Event. Inverawe, near Oban. NN021316.
Niall Urquhart, 07776 237646 EPS-SI. yellow & red/green courses; starts 18:00-19:00; £2.50/£2; www.ecko.org.uk.

24th SOA FVO Local Event. Minewoods, Bridge of Allan. NS789980. Neil Kitching, 01786 824595. Starts 5 to 7pm. £2 adults, £1 children. Issue 174 Page 5

Finally, congratulations and well done to Stuart Thomson on his selection for one of the summer tours for the GB Start Squad. Must be nearly time to step up into one of the FVO Men's Open teams and give all the M35s a rest!

Jon jon.cross@tinyworld.co.uk 07803 796773



Amy on the run in at the British Relay. *Photo Karen Thomson* 

Steve and Kirsty at JK relay Photo Will Hensman





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Congratulations to the following especially Brian on his forth title (see below) and a copy of the article from the Orienteer magazine.

M12A

4 Craig Thomson

W14A

2 Abigail Longhurst

W16B

1 Amy Barrett

M35L

4 Jason Inman

M55L

1 Brian Bullen

I've won a British title 4 times now! These were the then 'Intermediate' and 'Junior' titles in 1968. I had to wait a long 10 years for the senior title to fall my way in June 1978, and after than an even longer 28 years for a vets title!

The 'Intermediate' title was the first year for 'The Climber' trophy (now M20) (donated by the magazine of that title) and I was presented it by the late A. Harry Griffin (if my memory is right and/or if I can find the copy of the climber which had an article about the event).

The Climber trophy is an elegant one - the outline of a swift within a circular compass-points type frame - someone had put some thought into it!

My victory at Tentsmuir in 1978 was slightly marred by my main rival being disbarred from entering by BOF in a dispute about membership, some things never change then Ed and also by the race being moved from The Trossachs (as the controller thought the Trossachs would be too tough for most competitors-of course he was right at that time). Anyway I got to beat Gareth Bryan-Jones and to run a reasonably swift time (for those times). I knew I had run hard, as I could only manage to jog in from the last control and I was tired all the following week. It remains one of the cleanest (and fastest) runs I've ever had. One thing that comes to mind - is that I travelled up to Tentsmuir on the

He flies through the air
With the greatest of Ease
He fell off his Bike
And onto his Knees

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His knees weren't bad Compared to his arms But now with the plasters He can't scratch his charms!

While he lay on the track
Waiting help to appear
Uppermost in his mind
Was the state of his gear!

Two guys came to help Him back to the car And raced him to Stirling (It wasn't too far)

He sat in the ward
Dripping blood on the floor
And stayed sitting there
For three hours or more

Eventually though
He got back home
Got his wounds scrubbed
clean (with hardly a moan)

So if you go biking Remember this tale As you try a big jump And skywards you sail

No matter how high you get from the ground At some point it hurts When you come back down!

GET WELL SOON!

Sandy & Elizabeth



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#### Get Well Soon Will

An ode or two to Will, the first one from Craig the second from Sandy and Elizabeth. Hope you back up and running soon! Ed

If you go cycling with a guy called Will you better watch out when you come down a steep hill If you brake too hard off you will fly over the handle bars towards the sky

You will hit, very hard, as you fall, the ground lie there for ages until you are found broken both arms, cut and bloodied knees at least you don't have to change, those smelly nappies!!

Craig



Thursday and stayed at Falkland Youth Hostel, With another of my rivals, we had a 'pre-victory' celebration pint or two on the Friday night as we knew one of us could win, and there would be an opportunity to celebrate on the Sunday!

RESULTS

B Bullen

M Down

C Hirst

P Haines

R Plumb

T Goffe

.I Pearson

S Parkin

C McNeill

R Coates

A Stewart

1. J. Farmer

K Inch

K Etherden

1 Schofield

M Robertson

A Heyworth

3.4km

S Brannins

Y Hague

10. J Williams

W19A

WIDA

W/11A

W13A

G Bryan Jones

I Bochford

Brian

CH 53 98.49

WCH 54 101.29

FVO 58 106.45

BOK 59 110.56 EBOR 60 112 39

AIRE 65 113.34

CH 61 115.09

WRE 63 117.27

WRE 48 74.52

EPOC 51 77.09

GUOC 52 87.30

MDOC 58 90.02

WFO

WCOC

WACC

ROC

CUN

INT

MCH

CUN

PEO

SOC

MDOC

SOC

WEO

WIM

DVO

SROC

SLOW

LOC

SROC

SROC

SROC

PFO

WCH

WCH

EYOC

BOK ROC

TVOC

MDOC

INT 49 79.10

CO 56 86.08

6 controls

7 controls

8 controls

9 controls

11 controls

15 controls

30.07

31.30

32.34

31.25

33 36

37.10

41 16

43 23

75 31

78.45

63.08

70.22 11 controls

71.35

7751

52 13

65.18

67.39 10 controls

12 controls

10 controls

7 controls BL

8 controls

10 controls

28.59

40.59

41.43 15 controls

64.13

16 controls

CLOK 62 118.23

# WILLIAM YOUNGER BRITISH CHAMPIONSHIPS

#### Tentsmuir Forest, Fife 11th June

#### Report by Arthur Vince

Some planners used to believe - a few still do - that the longer the course the better value for the entry fee. These championships certainly gave, by that reckoning, value for money, with longer courses and winning times than we are accustomed to in many classes.

The fern had a lot to do with the times achieved; had the event taken place a month or even two weeks earlier they would have been faster. As it was it was often faster to run on paths and tracks rather than take the direct route. And for (short) juniors the fern seriously reduced the visibility of the control flags. However, many juniors, the M15s for example, were pleased to have a course long enough to test their stamina as well as their

Bill Aitken's small and hardworking team created an excellent competition with an efficient and friendly organisation, but one point of the organisation puzzled me. There were several small - very small - B classes. W10B and M10B had one competitor each, and M11B only three. Whatever one may think about the provision of B classes at championships, this was surely ridiculous and provided no mean ingful competition for the competitors concerned, just as there seemed little point in an M21D class with 11 competitors.

One of the points made in defence of an unrestricted championship is that it is then possible to compare one's performance directly with that of the champion. This is only possible it one runs the same course. In M21 the number of competitors make this impossible but in most other age classes it is possible, and would make the planner's life a lot easier

so many age classes for competition, and is presented as such to the public. Long may this remain so. However, it is worth pointing out that in the press session before the main prizegiving the only winners of interest seemed to be those of W19A and M21A.

Chris Hirst of Eborienteers, 5th in M21A, was presented with the William Younger Cup for his outstanding performance in the William Younger British Relay Championships in April.

#### PRINCIPAL DEFICIALS

Co-ordinator - Bill Aitken Mappers - Allan Cooper, Joe Sherriff,

Steve Terry Planners - Ed Harvey, Fiona Jolly, Colin

Controllers - Martin Bibby and Tony Pennick, NWOA



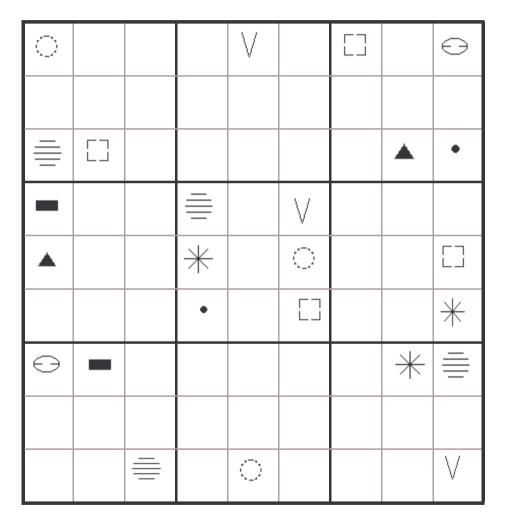


Jenny Pearson and Brian Bullen, W19 and M21 champions (Morris Conlan)



Puzzle Corner or -Sod-u! loosely based on Sudoku

Back by popular demand, well one person asked for them back!! This time a harder puzzle (described as diabolical!)



# Congratulations

Jack, Craig and Abi 2nd in the British Relay M14 class......



M14 2nd Place Photo: Louise Longhurst

....and to Marcus Pinker who turned in strong performances on both Saturday and Sunday at the Irish Orienteering Championships.

# Late News

Congratulations to Stuart Thomson who has been selected to run at the M/W15 summer tour at Glenmore for the GB Start Squad. I'm sure a full report will follow! Or maybe not!! Ed



Photo: Will Hensman

