

# HALO NEWS

The Newsletter of Humberside & Lincolnshire Orienteers

[www.halo-orienteing.org.uk](http://www.halo-orienteing.org.uk)

*September 2008*

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Mark Tyszka Winner of 70L on Days 2 & 3 (with his badges) receiving the overall third prize at the Welsh 6 days.

Photo : Dinah Tyszka



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Mary Carrick at the finish of Day 6 of the  
Welsh 6 days - photo Dinah Tyszka

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## POACHER 2008

After a wet start at Hendale the 2008 Lincolnshire Poacher Trophy turned out to be one of the best ever. The 11th year saw a significant increase in numbers with well over 50 people regularly taking part. The age range was huge - from 7 up to nearly 80! An encouraging feature was the rise in the number of juniors entering, many of them from the local area. Several Caistor Grammar orienteers showed real promise. Hopefully their parents will continue to bring them to local events. A New-comers Course was introduced for the first time at most of the events. Although the take up was somewhat disappointing it should smooth the transition on to the Short Course.

Two different areas were incorporated into the fixture list - Elsham and Spur Chase Woods. Elsham has been used before in the Poacher Series but it was back in the late nineties when the entry was multinational - Finns, Swedes, and Swiss appeared courtesy of some major capital developments on the Humber Bank. After protracted discussions with Elsham's Land Agents a more realistic fee for access was agreed resulting in an additional date for the 2009 Series. Spur Chase Woods proved to be a welcome addition to the areas that Poacher can choose from. Kind permission from the Earl of Yarborough combined with Mike Smith's mapping gave a great evening's orienteering.



Liam Harrington receiving the Lincolnshire Poacher Trophy

For the first time a simple flat fee system was implemented to help planners with expenses incurred on travel, planning, minor map revisions and printing maps for their event. The upshot of this was that Poacher experienced a very small deficit - only the second time this has happened - the first in the inaugural year of 1997 when the entry fee was an exorbitant 30 pence! Next year the entry fee will be £1 - so Poacher should again return a surplus for HALO to help with

the use of club equipment and mapping of new areas.

Competitors should note that in 2009 there will be a change in the number of events counting towards the League Table. It will be the best 8 out of 11 - allowing one Planner's event, one disqualification, and one duff run! Hopefully this will result in the outcome of many of the Trophy Categories being resolved at a later stage of the Series.

Poacher 2009 begins on Wednesday 15 April - Everyone is again welcome.

Pete Kullich

## THE POACHER SERIES OF ORIENTEERING EVENTS

Organised by the HALO Club

What is there to say about it?

Over the last eleven Wednesday evenings I have flogged my way through shoulder high nettles, man-eating brambles, ankle breaking tussock grass, cowpats and a herd of cows.

I've been lost a few times running around like a headless chicken but eventually found all the controls

Nearly lost my virginity on a hidden wire fence.

Hit the deck several times tripping over hidden brambles.

Stood in a large depression where I knew the control should be but couldn't find it (it was down a well)

Got to the next to the last control after having a good run (for me) and found that someone had pinched it.

Set off to a flying start (well sort of) then realised that I had forgotten my compass which meant I had to climb back twice over a horse jump.

I have set off first (the privilege of seniority) and been out longest almost every time.

I've certainly had my monies worth.

Where in this day and age can you get a series of eleven events with electronic punching, computer results, route gadget and pre-printed maps for £6.60 in total? I wouldn't have missed it for anything

Thank you all members of HALO Club, planners, mappers and helpers and friends for a wonderful series

Keep up the good work. Here's looking forward to 2009.

All the best, Keith

## **2008 : Poacher Preparation, Participation, Post-performance, Pensive ponderings; Promotion**

I'm starting this article **eight** days before the Olympics opening ceremony on **08-08-08**, following an enjoyable summer of orienteering during the HALO Poacher Series and more recently at a LOG summer Series event in Ostlers Plantation, Woodhall Spa, the nearest O venue to where I live near Horncastle, and an area in which I used to regularly train and mapped in the mid 1970's.

**Eight/8** is highly significant for the Chinese apparently, a lucky number, and it must be for me to some degree since on several occasions during the summer I have been hit by a wave of nostalgia with respect to dates, including the number **8**.

**1968**....first attempt at Orienteering while a PE student at St John's College, York, at a score event in Wass Forest organised by the York Youth Service, the forerunner of Eborienteers I think. I travelled there on a Honda 50 motorbike which I had at the time, took part in a 90 minutes Score event on a photocopied '6 inches to a mile' black & white map, controls sites were indicated by home made plywood kites and we proved visits to sites with self-inking markers.

**1978**....having taken up orienteering as a Yorkshire and Humberside Regional member in the mid 1970's, following the premature end to my track and field athletics pursuits when moving to Horncastle to teach, I later became a member of SYO. I think around this time was the first White Rose weekend at Broxa, where I met Pat and Ann O'Grady. Progress had been made in orienteering with the use of multi-coloured maps, kites as we know them now and punches! I remember at this first White Rose helping Pat and other members of SYO digging large holes on the camp site for wet and dry pits. One of the club's relay teams was called 'The Latrine Operatives'. Some time after this I met Mark Tyszka and Fred Fraser, Vikings OC was founded and eventually combined with EYOC to form the present HALO club.

**1988**....first comeback : after a break from the sport to concentrate on teaching, coaching athletics, getting married and starting a family; this event was in Broughton Woods, the scene of the first HALO event previously, and I think was called 'The Ermine Street Badge Event' and started/finished in the northern part of Rowland Plantation, originally mapped by Mark Tyszka.

**1998**....second comeback : after another lengthy break for reasons I can't recall, this event was a Colour Coded event in Pillar Wood, an area that I had regularly driven through when travelling between Scunthorpe and Horncastle.

At this event I discovered information about the clubs Poacher Series from Pete Kullich and my orienteering has resumed since, specifically in the Poacher Series with an occasional trip to other club events.

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2008...the Poacher Series is now very professionally organised and co-ordinated, with pre-marked maps of well planned courses, the latest electronic systems and web site results within a couple of days. It is also great value for money, with a good humoured atmosphere amongst all competitors and this year with the addition of many newcomers.

This summer I was determined to match or outdo my performances on the Short Course in previous years. Inspired by the club's event in Pillar in February, I set about improving my personal fitness to a more acceptable level, by regularly walking after breakfast in the morning and dieting along with other family members. As the evenings became lighter, my evening session after work included a combination of walking and jogging, as well as terrain training in a nearby copse and on adjacent farmland and tracks. This has obviously helped, since I feel I have performed more consistently than previous years and have been able to walk-jog-run in the areas used despite my dodgy knees. I have tried to maintain this daily routine since the conclusion of the Poacher Series and successfully completed the technical course in Ostlers at the recent LOG event, but local knowledge must have helped! I am now determined to keep this going though the rest of the summer and into the autumn/winter, with the Primrose Warren event in December targeted.

During several Poacher events, and in recent editions of the HALO news, there has been much discussion about publicizing and promoting the club's activities to attract new members. Whatever happened to previously successful 'Come and Try It' events? I like Mark's suggestion of 'SMILE' events : why not have a series through the winter/spring specifically aimed at newcomers, using easily accessible areas to the public, like Brumby Woods and Central Park in Scunthorpe or Weelsby Park in Grimsby, for example, with large scale black & white maps? Club members could teach/instruct newcomers through a course until they are competent enough to manage independently, and/or move on to a traditional event. Publicity could be tried through the local press and radio; at local Leisure and Fitness Centres and sports shops; targeted at cross-country and road runners, ramblers clubs (remember Wayfarers Courses?), as well as schools and youth groups.

**HALO** could be used as follows : **H**elp **A** Learner **O**rienteer; helpers could wear bibs/tabards to identify themselves, a bit like selected staff in your local Tesco!! ( Our neighbouring club could adapt **LOG** to **L**earn **O**rienteering **G**radually.)

(I have patented/trademarked these two ideas but they can be loaned for a small fee!!!)

Finally, I would like to second previous correspondents in thanking Pete Kullich as co-ordinator, all the Planners and Brian Slater, the results maestro, for their continued efforts annually in the Poacher Series. Long may it continue to prosper.

Geoff Holmes, HALO, previously Semloh Ffoeg, Viking OC & SYO

## HALO Development and 'Clubmark'

There has been a great deal happening during the past year in an attempt to achieve 'Clubmark' accreditation. A lot of hours by a few people have gone into trying to meet this 'target'

[I'm not sure that there is evidence that the national obsession with target setting has improved standards anywhere]

What is Clubmark? .....A National Accreditation scheme for all Sporting Bodies

Why should we work towards it? .....

It was said that it would enable us to achieve funding ..... .but we have in fact received substantial funding in the last two years.....

It is suggested that we will attract new members if we are accredited .....?

Mike, Dorothy and Ken have attended 4-hour 'Equity in Coaching' and 'Club For All' Courses and Brian Slater has attended a Child Protection Course and is the Club's designated Child Protection Officer. [a requirement]

Mark Tyszka, Kim Walton and Alan Brown attended a one-day course to earn the Level 1 Coach Award. Neil Harvatt and Brian Slater attended this course and, with Mike and Dorothy Smith, also attended a further two-day Level 2 Coach training course. [ Their Level One course having taken place last year].

4 hour First Aid courses had to be attended and subsequently 2 hour Orienteering assessment sessions had to be planned and executed and assessed by BOF assessors before the awards were confirmed.

All of the above and more are necessary to achieve 'Clubmark'

During the summer, coaching activities have taken place at Belton Primary School, Normanby Park for St Norbert's Primary School and at John Spendluffe School in Alford.

Mike has continued to produce Schools' Orienteering maps at their request or in response to a request from a School Sports Partnership Coordinator but there does not appear to be much use made of these maps..... no one from the schools he has dealt with sent anyone to the Poacher events.

Many people have expressed a keen interest in what we had to offer but like everyone else, once back in their own environment they forgot about the course they had attended, or had too much paperwork to get back in touch with us. So all to no avail so far – we have not attracted new members by these activities.

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Other meetings have been attended in an effort to introduce more people to orienteering. A presentation made to 30 Scunthorpe PE teachers was greeted with enthusiasm – but the ‘come and try it event’ [ advertised to these teachers ] at Normanby 3 weeks later attracted 4 children. Meetings for an ‘Active Futures, Active Lifestyle’ project in North Lincs has led to the remapping of Central Park, Scunthorpe and the promise of the reinstatement of the Permanent Posts. Also mapped were Belton Amenity Area and Brigg Town centre. This was funded by the Council.

Requests for coaching days to be provided in July were received from schools in Hull and Grimsby but they came too late to be accommodated. Some of our qualified coaches are still working and those of us fortunate to be retired do have other commitments too.

This summer’s Poacher Series again attracted new participants but whether their enthusiasm continues, we shall have to wait and see.

On 2 Thursdays in August, members already named here plus Pete Shew and Dinah Tyszka gave up time to attend a Health Fair organised in Brigg to advertise HALO and the benefits of orienteering to a healthy lifestyle. Again some interest was shown and we await future events.....

We have committed to provide six coaching sessions for ‘beginners of all ages’ in the Scunthorpe area from October to December leading up to the Club Event at Primrose Warren. Three coaches will organise the mornings, but would welcome other club members as helpers, plus there will be a short event after the coaching. See Details on the web-site

Dorothy Smith

## **Committee Activity**

### **(Extracts from minutes) 16th July Meeting**

The next ‘Lincolnshire Bomber’ Weekend Meeting is next Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July. Brian Slater to attend and report back to committee. The last meeting had agreed to share all profits/losses 3 ways between organising clubs [LOG, RAFO, HALO] One club to organise/plan each of the 3 Events – Relay, Long O and District event. [April 25/26 2009]

The committee wish to congratulate Pete Kullich on yet another Successful Poacher Series, with greater participation than ever.

Despite this the Treasurer indicated concern that there was in fact an overall loss to HALO accounts of £64.39. This did not reflect a further loss, of £58.00 which had been paid for SI Dibber Hire and not paid to the HALO SI Maintenance Fund. Also the loss of one SI Control box.

The £25.00 paid to all Poacher event Organisers was unexpected as this is not a normal Orienteering practice and will be repaid to HALO by one Poacher organiser who had already claimed expenses.

The Committee accepted the recommendation of the Auditor and it was resolved that an expense claim procedure will be instigated for all future events as soon as practicable (claim form posted onto the HALO website?). All receipts of HALO monies (irrespective of their source) to be sent to the Treasurer, without prior deduction of expenses. All receipts for hire of HALO SI equipment (incl. dibber hire for HALO events) to be paid to the SI fund.

There was discussion as to whether it was beneficial to pay **Club Insurance** for our equipment. [Currently in excess of £300 per year] The general agreement was 'probably not'.....this will be reviewed when the premium next becomes due Public Liability is covered by BOF Insurance and all events are registered with BOF for this purpose.

Ken wished it to be recorded that the Schools' Event which had been arranged for Burton Constable in May was cancelled by the Schools and not by HALO

**YHOA 'JKProfit'** - HALO has finally received £350. This is for development work.

An application for funding for the Course, organised by HALO, for Level 1 and 2 Coaches in February will be sent to YHOA as £2000.00 was retained by them for Development A request will also be made for 1/3 funding of Approved Coaching Kit for our 7 newly qualified Coaches, with a further 1/3 being met by HALO [from the £350] and the other 1/3 paid by the coaches themselves. DS to supply a list of our SI Equipment for YHOA records [as they have requested].

**The school mapping programme** continues by Mike S Brigg Town Centre map completed and a Score Event was enjoyed – see web-site. Successful Coaching morning held in June at Normanby Park with St Norbert's Primary School pupils.

**Autumn Series of Events** – the committee had been asked to submit ideas for this prior to the meeting so there were various formats to consider

Ken started by posing the questions

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Why are we doing this?

Who are we doing it for?

### Responses

- to provide an introduction to the sport for beginners of all ages
- To build on the contacts made at this year's Poacher Events
- provide local orienteering for those not wanting/able to travel further afield
- orienteering with less organisation [in theory!]
- Something for experienced orienteers.
- HALO hasn't the manpower for 6 District and a Regional Event, which we would have staged in the past.
- We do not get the numbers to these events to justify the effort.
- We have 7 qualified coaches with more ideas than before.
- Events have to be regular and easy to get to, to keep newcomers' interest.

So it was agreed in principle to put on a Series of events in the Scunthorpe area [as those who would lead it were present] on 6 alternate Saturday mornings leading to participation in the Primrose Warren event in December.

Might a similar series be organised in Grimsby/Caistor on the alternate Saturdays?? Further details will be worked out and published on the web-site. Advertising will be planned and certain schools and groups targeted.

Brian W had submitted ideas for a Park Race Series which would be for experienced orienteers. The suggestion was welcomed and will be discussed by 'north bank' members to see if there is manpower to organise this.

### **10th September meeting:**

**Coaching series** - DS to pursue various funding sources available – But – They are either for projects to develop Junior Orienteering and HALO is pursuing a policy of encouraging 'All-Age' participation; or sources require 'matching funding' to be obtained from elsewhere which is too time consuming and HALO has sufficient funds at present to carry out planned developments

### **Finance**

- ⇒ The Annual Accounts show a healthy balance of £2,024.92
- ⇒ The committee would like an SI account set up from September 2008. Income would be from Hire of SI equipment to other agreed Clubs and/or Club members for outside activities and from Dibber Hire at all HALO events.

- ⇒ On-going concern that Poacher Event expenses are not balanced by Income. (Increased participation now on some events incurs BOF Levy £1.25 per adult and 25p per junior in excess of 50 participants) Up to about 10 *regular* participants on any evening may not be members of any Orienteering Club so there are no HALO fees to offset additional expense.

*Suggestion* – As with non-BOF Members at Regular events, non O-club members should be charged £1.00 extra or encouraged to join HALO [cheaper option!]

This would not apply to members of other Orienteering clubs

There needs to be a strategy to ensure that HALO funds are not subsidising any events unless they are for Development Purposes.

Put on Agenda for next Meeting.

### **Events:**

Neil circulated the list of planned fixtures to April 2010 as last Meeting.

- ⇒ No one has come forward to volunteer to fill vacancies. Therefore committee members have again had to assume the roles if HALO is to stage events.
- ⇒ It would be increasingly appreciated if YOU would volunteer your help to the Organisers of December [Neil] and March [Ken] Events before having to be contacted

EBOR have asked if they may stage their Club Championships at HALO's Event at Primrose in December. The Committee agreed. They will do their own results calculation (Liaise with HALO SI team )

- ⇒ Brian W is planning a Series of Sprint Races at Driffield / Bishop Burton. Details not clear. Mary to verify format, fees, target participation, equipment needs. Events need to be registered by Neil when he has information.

### **Autumn Series**

- ⇒ Autumn Series for newcomers/beginners is advertised on web-site and local schools [Scunthorpe and Isle of Axholme have been informed] Information also given out at Brigg Health Fair in August.

Mike, Dorothy, Neil organising. Offers of help from Mark and Ken. Anyone else? There will be a short 'O' activity for helpers at end of training part of morning. ALL entries via web-site Cost for all participants £1.00

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# YHOA Galoppen

## - Results after Seven Events (best 6 to count)

Position	Fname	Sname	Club	LSJ	Class	Tankersley
1	Zachary	Field	EBOR	JM	M14	888
1	Alice	Leake	EBOR	JW	W18	861
10	Charlotte	Ward	HALO	JW	W16	970
35	Amber	Harris	HALO	JW	W16	
1	Richard	Spendlove	EPOC	ML	M60	856
5	Neil	Harvatt	HALO	ML	M50	776
14	Paddy	Neligan	HALO	ML	M60	
51	Peter	Kulich	HALO	ML	M65	
52	Mark	Tyszka	HALO	ML	M70	814
55	Patrick	O'Grady	HALO	ML	M70	
64	Mike	Cope	HALO	ML	M60	
75	Brian	Ward	HALO	ML	M45	795
94	Brian	Slater	HALO	ML	M60	503
130	Phil	Gray	HALO	ML	M45	
139	John	Chaney	HALO	ML	M70	
147	Rod	Williams	HALO	ML	M60	
149	John	Fulwood	HALO	ML	M55	641
153	Vernon	Davis	HALO	ML	M65	590
1	Steve	Corrigan	EBOR	MS	M50	1053
13	Michael	Smith	HALO	MS	M65	
31	Matt	Richards	HALO	MS	M21	625
47	Brian	Ward	HALO	MS	M45	
69	Kenneth	Hutson	HALO	MS	M55	
72	Malcolm	Humphrey	HALO	MS	M60	
77	Andrew	Houlden	HALO	MS	M35	
78	David	Siddle	HALO	MS	M50	
79	Peter	Harris	HALO	MS	M50	646
82	Alan	Robinson	HALO	MS	M60	
1	Amanda	Crawshaw	EPOC	WL	W35	748
24	Mary	Carrick	HALO	WL	W55	
64	Dorothy	Smith	HALO	WL	W55	
1	Pam	Brown	EBOR	WS	W45	798
9	Amanda	Ward	HALO	WS	W45	665
11	Helen	Smith	HALO	WS	W21	762
35	Dorothy	Smith	HALO	WS	W55	
43	Sue	Chaney	HALO	WS	W65	

## YHOA Galoppen

<b>Fname</b>	<b>Sname</b>	<b>Pillar</b>	<b>Brim</b>	<b>Val of D</b>	<b>CawKeld</b>	<b>wr1</b>	<b>wr2</b>	
Zac	Field	771	858	1046	792	991	1025	5600
Alice	Leake	1002	829		933	896	928	5449
Charlotte	Ward	<b>960</b>	782		809			3521
Amber	Harris	620						620
Richard	Spendlove		754	937	880	907	834	5168
Neil	Harvatt	932	848		832	717	629	4734
Paddy	Neligan	790	598	860		671	650	3569
Peter	Kulich	867			680	687		2234
Mark	Tyszka	860	552					2226
Patrick	O'Grady	610	561			500	540	2211
Mike	Cope	765	500	760				2025
Brian	Ward		939					1734
Brian	Slater			670				1173
Phil	Gray	723						723
John	Chaney	684						684
Rod	Williams	643						643
John	Fulwood							641
Vernon	Davis							590
Steve	Corrigan	1095	1082	0	995	1080	981	6286
Michael	Smith	1181				873	735	2789
Matt	Richards	914						1539
Brian	Ward				1037			1037
Kenneth	Hutson	775						775
Malcolm	Humphrey	747						747
Andrew	Houlden	705						705
David	Siddle				681			681
Peter	Harris							646
Alan	Robinson					632		632
Amanda	Crawshaw		697	758	684	730	825	4442
Mary	Carrick	724			552	500	538	2314
Dorothy	Smith	637						637
Pam	Brown	671	760	884	666	580	845	4624
Amanda	Ward	699	616		693			2673
Helen	Smith	744				553	574	2633
Dorothy	Smith					500	500	1000
Sue	Chaney	850						850

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## **AGM / HALO Championships**

HALO championships [often held prior to AGM in past to be deferred to Primrose event. There would be too much work to organise this in addition to the Coaching event. There will be an informal 'O' activity at approx 12.30 – 1.00 but members must indicate intention to attend at least 5 days beforehand

There was discussion of format of HALO Championships Mike and Neil will give this subject some thought

This year produces vacancies on the committee for a Chairman, and the Secretary will not object if any one would like to take over that responsibility. Membership Secretary is also vacant.

### **HUMBERSIDE AND LINCOLNSHIRE ORIENTEERS** **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

This Meeting will be held on

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2008**

In the Park Education Room, Normanby Park

At 1.30 pm approx

Following the Coaching Event for beginners

Open to all HALO Members

An Informal Orienteering Event for members will precede the meeting

#### **Agenda**

Minutes of the AGM held on December 16<sup>th</sup> 2007

Matters Arising

Chairman's Report

Presentation of Trophies

Treasurer's Report

Election of Officers

# From the Chair

## Whose club is it anyway?

Well, the answer is obvious – its members, but why ask the question?

Clubs are essentially associations of people with a common interest or purpose. Ours is Orienteering; nothing more, nothing less. Out of that common interest may come many peripheral activities but the club is bound together by the common interest. In order to manage the association, a club usually has a constitution and an elected committee to lead and take it forward. Most clubs, like ours, are purely amateur and are run on an entirely voluntary basis. The committee of volunteers is charged with overseeing and co-ordinating all that happens (or is proposed to happen) in the name of the club, in addition to ensuring financial propriety, health and safety, safeguarding and host of other responsibilities that enables the club to function effectively. It may delegate tasks but not the ultimate responsibility. The committee therefore must act in, what it considers to be, the best interests of the club.

All members have a right to a view and have access to members of the committee to express their views. Such representations are reported in committee meetings and taken into consideration when decisions are made. Members are also welcome to present their views in person at committee meetings, by prior arrangement with the Secretary. At the end of the day, the committee is a constituted executive body and members have to accept and abide by its decisions.

Which brings me back to the original question, the simple answer is, its members, but like the government of the country, it is not possible to please everyone all of the time. Accepting membership of HALO requires acceptance of its constitution, without that, we have no club.

On 11<sup>th</sup> October the club will be holding its AGM at which a new committee will be elected. It likely that some positions will be not be contested by existing incumbents (the Chair for one) and I would ask all members to attend so that HALO will have an executive that continues to act in the club's best interests with the support of its membership.

Ken Hutson

Note: The Constitution states that the Chairman can stand for no more than 3 consecutive years. Ken has done his term in office, so cannot therefore stand as Chairman at this year's AGM.

John Fulwood

## If only ..... White Rose 2008

Langdale Forest and Barnscliff were the venues for this year's Ebor festival and unlike the similarly named horse racing event, this went ahead, despite all the recent rain.

**Day 1** began just north of the event centre at Low North Park, having crossed the freely flowing headwaters of the River Derwent on a solid foot-bridge. At the start we were warned that we would have to ford this river at various points and that suitable places would be marked!

On my 60S course, the first control involved crossing a steep tributary valley to a control at the top of the other side. Here I first encountered the ankle/knee deep muddy tracks that had been puddled near to most controls and 'popular' routes. A passing lady competitor commented vehemently "This is ridiculous!"

From here, my orienteering deteriorated ..... I set course to C2, crossing an open patch and paused to choose the best route. Having selected that, I proceeded to a ride and after 150m began searching for my control in light green on the left: only it seemed very thick!! To cut explanation of a 20 min error short, I had taken the best route, but had used the map as though I was on the alternative ride and had plodded straight past the control I wanted.

Use this as a new start I thought and then compare splits at the end with other competitors ..... C3 was nice and easy and less muddy and I orienteered well to C4 cutting the corner through some planting lanes. Then a downhill leg to C5 in a marsh – what else! – by which time I was in a small valley with masses of horrendous 'wind blow' heading for C6. Unlike the others who had gathered at the last control and ploughed into this obstruction, I turned off line back into forest – the best decision I made – and soon gained a forest road, leading me very close to C6.

From 6 to 7 another run through planting lanes (though the map had them 90 degrees wrong) led to a paddle down a stream to the main river. As promised, the crossing point was marked, but not with a stout rope – just a flimsy tape – however, C8 was soon found, a *Mickey Mouse* at the side of the track. Two more river crossings and a steep cliff allowed access to the plateau containing the motor circuit for C9 and two simple legs later I was at the Finish.

Download revealed that I had taken a rather long time, but little else, as it was suggested that a Clear station had been placed as one of the controls?? and this meant that no splits were or would be available.

DAY ONE down to experience!!

For **Day 2** we parked in view of the start, but had a late start which meant the course would be even more 'puddled' than the previous day.

C1 & 2 were negotiated successfully, but then a small building proved rather elusive as it seemed I did not quite go far enough and wasted time going back before finding it. C4 was a success (first on the splits) and 5 & 6 acceptable as we now came to a traverse across a steep slope.

Today's mistake was managing to go straight past C7 to such an extent that I decided to find C8 and work back from there. Duly turned, C7 was found and not unexpectedly I was first split to C8 - but 15 minutes later than I should have been! By now I was used to major errors, so ploughed on regardless to and through C9, up the slope, over a path to a crag for C10. As luck would have it, I was at the top of the crag and the only way to it was down a muddy slope of 60-70 degrees. Undaunted, having wasted so much time, I sat down and skidded down slope, luckily stopping just before a tree which would have done me damage!

C11 involved a contouring or slightly uphill 250m leg searching for a boulder and seemed to go on for ever – was it really only six minutes? And that was sixth best!! Now turning for home, a boulder diagonally down slope C12 proved no problem and two crossings later with a run along the river, I was feeling good at C13 in the open.

Not far to go now ..... leg 13 to 14 was around a spur, so I climbed a little and contoured to take a straighter route, paying dividends as I overtook most of those who were with me crossing the river. Up the slope to the plateau was no problem as long as you could keep your feet and a paddle to the finish completed things.

DAY TWO more experience, but good running after the big error and splits that would have placed me much better if .....

Reflection – had been in (physical) training for a month, but there is no substitute for time with the compass and in a forest. Perhaps I should have gone to the Welsh? At least I would have learnt how to deal with muddy tracks.

Mike Smith

## **Team HALO secure Relay Gold!**

At the Summer Relay event held at Shipley Glen, Charlotte Ward ran in the winning team to complete a fine run of relay form! A very wet day greeted runners who were still determined to show their metal! Shipley Glen provided technical orienteering along the wooded valley sides of the glen making the selection of which controls team members had visit critical. Charlotte ran with Dave Bowman and Beth Woodley to secure another impressive title - AIRE Summer Relay champions -

## Croeso 2008

There was mixed fortunes for team HALO at this year's Welsh 6 days: The only prize winner under the HALO banner being Mark Tyszka third overall in M70L

There was plenty of running across moorland on a compass bearing: trudging through tussock grass and heather on a bearing: one day when we saw trees: only two days of driving rain.

The Welsh Clubs did a great job putting on this multi-day series. The volunteers remained cheerful despite the weather. The one aspect which I found disappointing was the relative lack of variety. Apart from one day, the orienteering was across open moorland. Many legs had little or no route choice, as the techniques being tested were the ability to run on a compass bearing, and good fine navigation near the control. A little more variety in terrain next time please!

**Star of the week was Mark Tyszka.** Running M70S on Day 1, he realised there were only three on his course, so not much competition, ran up on M70L from then on, and promptly won the next two days. Thus was the only HALO winner of the week. Well done Mark!



Mark Tyszka at the last control on Day 5 Mynydd y Garn

**Day 1:** Merthyr Common: High level open moorland, and a typical feature of the week described in the official booklet “hundreds of large pits and depressions in the area”. The typical moorland area had few paths, the straight line route being the optimum. The down side was the difficulty relocating due the relative lack of line or distinctive features. The best times produced were those who were able to do the fine navigation at the end of the leg, and go straight to the control, and/or those who were lucky to find someone else next to the occasional bingo hole in the ground.

**Day 2:** Bloreng: Open moorland again. Similar techniques required. A couple of legs with route choices near the end.

**Day 3:** Pwll Dhu: Much more complex area of old opencast cuts & mine tips. A series of hills, reentrants, crags & depressions. Many were interlinked by paths, so care was needed to keep in contact with the map, as relocation could be difficult a when one area looked very similar to another.

**Day 4:** Trees – Forest!! Wentwood (West) almost in England: Runnable, contoured woodland with a network of paths. Much more familiar terrain and the relative lack of undergrowth meant fast going.

**Day 5:** Mynydd y Garn: An amazing map when first look at: appears to be just masses of pits and depression on a pale yellow screen, indicating rough grassland. Once the contour detail had been worked out, the hills and areas of boulder fields could be used to aid navigation. Straight line routes on a compass bearing were the optimum, but those that lost contact with the map, got really lost! Despite the complexity of the area two HALO members managed to get disqualified by not punching at manned gates. All the difficult work done, then ??????

**Day 6:** Clydach terrace: Driving rain kept many people away for this last day, and hypothermia experienced by those on the moor kept the First Aiders busy! Described in the blurb, was an area understated as very complex. Old mine working had produced a fascinating landscape, which, because of the network of paths, and excellent mapping meant it was easier than first appearances suggested. I would certainly like to return to this area in good weather.

The closest competition came in M60L which proved to be Brian Slater's 8 second victory over ex-HALO member Mike Cope. Pretty close after six days the best four to count giving almost five hours of running.



To some, the Orienteering paled into insignificance compared with the eating and drinking. The HALO house saw the following menu items: Chilled tomato soup with aubergine cream Poached salmon ; homemade black-berry& gooseberry crumble; stuffed chicken breasts (42DD); home made rice pudding Baked haddock with Garlic mushrooms & courgettes; grilled camembert with cranberry sauce; Steak pie; exotic ice-cream; Blue cheese with pecan nuts in a Raspberry coulis: special fish pie & peas followed by Paddy's extra special Eton mess; a special mention to Masterchef Paul and sous-chef Liam who gave us a Mexican evening- Nachos followed by Fajitas with varying degrees of spiciness both with Guacamole; sour cream and salsa followed by different exotic ice-creams.

All in all an extraordinary selection of fine foods

A final thought on the week. In previous multi day Events, there have been such additional activities as inter club five a side football: Bike "O" etc. This week's special attraction was a selection of gardens to visit – most in aid of charities. Perhaps a reflection of the ageing Orienteering population!

John Fulwood

## Editorial - John Fulwood

Thank you again to all those who have contributed, especially new contributors. Remember this is your magazine, so please keep the copy flowing.

Thoughts about the Poacher series have been put forward by Pete Kullich, Geoff Holmes, Keith Foster, and discussed in Committee. There is a momentum to increase participation and hopefully the winter series will give the continuity to encourage more people to take up the sport. LOG are also putting on a Winter series, so there are plenty of Events for Newcomers to the sport to join in.

One of the measures that determines how successful a club is, is how the membership is growing. The schools development work has yet to see Orienteers coming out of the schools to the local Events, apart from some from Caistor Grammar to the Poacher, (Perhaps that is the first sign of progress?) and no new members. The Poacher participation is at a record level., but no net gain in members. (Perhaps only BOF club members should earn Poacher points?)

The club cannot therefore be considered to be successful..

It may be said, why worry if these Events are going on, and participation is increasing.

It is the club after all that amongst other things through BOF provides Insurance cover; copyright for maps; land access agreement with the Forestry Commission; funding for SI Equipment; a website; development of expertise. These things



Registration at the last Poacher

do not happen by themselves, they are done by people. For many years they have been done by the same people, some of the most experienced having now left the club, or consider they have done their bit, and some are looking forward to handing the jobs on to fresh blood. As was noted in the Committee minutes, the club can no longer put on the programme of Events it used to due to the lack of Organisers & Planners.

The AGM is imminent. If you are not on the committee, please put your name forward. It would be great to see a Chairman this year who has not done the job before!

Keep the articles & pictures coming.

If you have not volunteered to help organise an Event, please contact Neil who would welcome new Planners and Organisers. (full training given!)

A reminder that HALO NEWS is On-line at [www.halo-orienteering.org.uk](http://www.halo-orienteering.org.uk)

If you are happy to view, or download / print from the website instead of receiving a hard copy by snail mail, then please let me know by e-mail.

Savings on printing, stationery, postage will all help the club funds!!!!

**Copy date for next Newsletter: 10th November**

## HALO Fixtures & Officials to October 2009

Listed below are HALO events up to Oct 2009, together with the names of those members who have agreed to officiate. If you can help by volunteering to fill any of the other main posts, please contact our Fixture Secretary, Neil Harvatt ([neil@neilharvatt1.orangehome.co.uk](mailto:neil@neilharvatt1.orangehome.co.uk)). This help will be much appreciated and will also allow some of the regular officials to fully take part in our events.

If you can't fill an official role but are able to help on the day for any event, then please contact the organiser for that event. Even if you can't help during an event, you could still contribute by volunteering to collect some of the controls in. (This is a valuable way to improve your orienteering skills, finding controls with no time pressure – you should have to pay for the privilege!! )  
Neil Harvatt

DATE	VENUE	CONTROLLER	ORGANISER	PLANNER
Dec 13	NIGHT Venue Primrose Warren	Helen Smith	Neil Harvatt	
Dec 14	DISTRICT Venue Primrose Warren	Helen Smith	Neil Harvatt	
<b>2009</b> Mar 22	REGIONAL Londesborough Park		Ken Hutson	
Apr 26	Lincolnshire Bomber		Joint HALO / LOG / RAFO	
Oct 4th	DISTRICT Beverley W/Wood (tbc)			

# Yorkshire and Humberside Orienteering Association (YHOA) Colour coded Awards

How can you show other orienteers that you have achieved a certain standard in orienteering? Well, one possible way is to apply for a 'Colour-Coded Award' when you have completed three orienteering courses at a particular standard.

**A competitor qualifies for a Colour Coded Award by  
achieving the Colour Coded Standard for that colour course**

A White Colour Coded Standard is achieved by anyone who successfully completes the White course.

The Colour Coded Standard (for courses other than White) is calculated using whichever of the following two methods gives the larger number of qualifiers:

\* the time that is achieved by at least 50% of those who started the course

OR

\* 150% of the winner's time.

Pairs can qualify for Colour Coded Awards on the White, Yellow and Orange courses.

The Colour Coded Standard time for each course should be included in the final results.

When you have done this, you will be given (free of charge!) a YHOA fabric badge of your achieved colour, which can be sewn onto your O-top to show your improvement.

To apply for your badge you need to write to: **Dorothy Smith, 111A Westgate, Belton, Doncaster, DN9 1PY** supplying the following information:

- ⇒ your full name and club (or school, if not a BOF member);
- ⇒ the colour of badge being claimed;
- ⇒ the date, name and venue of the three events on which the award will be based; these need to be District or Regional Events. Courses at some local Events may be advertised as to a certain colour standard, but because of the informal nature of these Events, they do not qualify for colour standard awards.
- ⇒ a stamped self-addressed envelope.

# FIXTURES

## Local Introductory Events - check websites for Courses & Entry details

HALO : [www.halo-orienteing.org.uk](http://www.halo-orienteing.org.uk)

LOG : [www.logonline.co.uk](http://www.logonline.co.uk)                      NOC: [www.noc-uk.org](http://www.noc-uk.org)

### Sept

21st      NOC      Brierley Forest Park, Mansfield. [www.noc-uk.org](http://www.noc-uk.org)

27th      HALO      Primrose Warren (M180 -Junc 4)

### Oct

11th      HALO      Normanby Park- Scunthorpe

25th      HALO      TBA

### Nov

1st      LOG      West Common Lincoln :

8th      HALO      TBA

15th      LOG      Riseholme Park Lincoln:

22nd      HALO      TBA

29th      LOG      North Kesteven School Lincoln

### Dec

6th      HALO      TBA

13th      LOG      Lincoln University Lincoln

## District, Relay, and Park Races

These are abbreviated. Please check with the Organiser / Club website for all details.

**Sept** YH CLARO District Event & Yvette Baker Trophy Round 1. Dob Park, Otle.  
21st C4 John Birtwistle, 01765 677099. [birtwistle490@btinternet.com](mailto:birtwistle490@btinternet.com)  
[www.claro-orienteing.org](http://www.claro-orienteing.org)

**Oct** EM LOG District Event & EM League. South Common, Lincoln.

4th C4 Sean Harrington, 01522 791344. [info@logonline.org.uk](mailto:info@logonline.org.uk)

5th YH SYO District Event. Treeton and Hail Mary Woods, Sheffield.  
C4 Tim Tett, 0114 266 7922. [timtett@tpca.force9.net](mailto:timtett@tpca.force9.net)  
[www.southyorkshireorienteers.org.uk](http://www.southyorkshireorienteers.org.uk)

## District, Relay and Park Races (cont'd)

<b>Nov</b>	YH	Yorkshire Pudding Weekend
1st-2nd	O4S	1st - Day 1 Leeds City Chasing Sprint. The University of Leeds Campus, Leeds.
	C4N	1st - Day 1 Night Event & Yorkshire Night League. Beckett Park, Leeds.
	O4S	2nd - Day 2 Skipton Town Race. Skipton Town Centre, Skipton. Martyn Broadest, 0113 2328982. martynATbroadest.org.uk See website for full details of the Yorkshire Pudding Weekend. www.aire.org.uk
9th	YH	EBOR District Event. Skipwith Common, Selby.
	C4	Peter & Dawn Watson, 01759 388269. www.eborienteers.org.uk
23rd	YH	SYO District Event. Ecclesall Woods, Sheffield.
	C4	Pete Tryner, 01142 668626. peter.tryner@rubicon-consulting.net www.southyorkshireorienteers.org.uk
<b>Dec</b>	YH	HALO Night Event & YHOA Night League. Primrose Warren,
13th	C4N	Scunthorpe.
14th	C4	HALO District Event. Primrose Warren, Scunthorpe.
		Neil Harvatt, 01302 772911. neil@neilharvatt1.orangehome.co.uk www.halo-orienteering.org.uk

## National & Regional Events:

<b>Oct</b>	NE	<b>October Odyssey Weekend</b>
4th-5th	C3	4th - Day 1 Regional Event. Edges Green, Hexham. See website for entry details. www.northern-navigators.org.uk
	C3	5th - Day 2 Regional Event. Allen Banks, Hexham. See website for entry details. www.northern-navigators.org.uk
26th	YH	EPOC Regional Event & YHOA Championships. Rishworth Moor, Halifax.
	C3	CD: 15/10/08. Online entries CD: 19/10/08. www.eastpennineoc.org.uk
<b>Nov</b>	NW	MDOC Regional Event. Crowden, Glossop.
9th	C3	Internet entry from website preferred. www.mdoc.org.uk
16th	EM	<b>DVO Regional Event. Shining Cliff, Belper.</b>
	C3	CD (postal): 03/11/08, (online): 09/11/08. Entries preferred on-line via website: www.dvo.org.uk
22nd	YH	<b>TNS UK Cities Cup Race 3.</b> Sheffield, Sheffield.
	C3S	www.citiescup.nopesport.com