

SALTBUSH MEMORIES FROM 2001

President: & Coach Coordinator Dave Medlin, **Secretary:** Marg Stanley, **Treasurer:** John Brockhurst, **Scrubo editor:** Dave Messenger & Gaynor Loxton, **Vice president** Alan Holland **Equipment Officer & Coach:** Adrian Watson, **Publicity:** Yvie Paintner, **OASA delegates** Murray Young & Ken Thompson, **Committee:** Willy Schmitz, John Paterson, Robert Genahl, Darryl Fulton & Debbie Drobnjak.

Events this year:

- Wild Dog Hill Tony & Debbie Drobnjak A Come & Try It Event
- False Bay Adrian Watson
- Cook.s North John Brockhurst
- Payne's Weir Geoff Mills
- Katunga Hills Eyre Peninsula Championships (new map) Dave Medlin
- Moonabie South John Paterson
- Cockatoo Creek Alan Holland
- Wild Dog Hill (new map) Ken Thompson
- Mt Laura Hills Outback Games Murray Young

Mapping Projects Completed:

- Wild Dog Hill Cartography & Fieldwork Ken Thompson. A combination of the Wild Dog Hill & Wild Dog Hill East maps.
- Katunga Hills Cartography & Fieldwork Dave Medlin

Highlights of the Year:

- A farewell BBQ at Wilson Park for Ken & Annette Thompson. Life memberships were awarded to Ken Thompson & Alan Holland.

Life membership tribute for two tireless orienteers

It is often said that when you are moving out of Whyalla, it is actually very difficult to leave on account of all the farewells and lead-ups to farewells that happen.

Annette and Ken Thompson were leaving and leaving following Ken's retirement from teaching but before they eventually left, Ken received a pleasant surprise.

About 30 Saltbush Orienteers and friends and families gathered at Wilson Park on a balmy Friday evening on March 9, to bestow life membership on long term members Thompson and Allan Holland.

Thompson first started orienteering at the Come and Try event in March, 1985 at Cheeseboard Hill and was immediately attracted to the sport.

The following year, he joined the management committee and held various positions, including six years as club president.

In 1997, he was part of the team that won the SA club relays at Wilpena Spurs and the

following year he revised and computerised 'The Saltbush Papers', thus archiving all copies of the club's newsletter.

Thompson set up a club website in 1999 and also introduced the club to O-cad, a computer based mapping program.

Despite his retirement from principal at Whyalla Town Primary School and relocation to Adelaide, he is still heavily involved with upgrading local maps and making new ones. Thompson is still organising two events in this season's Whyalla program.

Allan Holland and his family also first became involved in orienteering in the early 1980s.

In 1986 he joined the Saltbush management committee and the following year was the events secretary for the State championships at Wilpena.

Like Thompson, Holland has also held most positions on the committee including treasurer for six years and two years as president.

Maps of new areas such as Roopena Hills, Red Rock Hill and Cockatoo Creek were all

created by Holland, and his biggest win came at the Eyre Peninsula Championships and State Badge Event in 1998, in the M45A short grade event.

"I fell in love with orienteering in 1985 and I still love it now," Holland said.

"I've always been fairly competitive, but not in the sense of the SA championships or events like that.

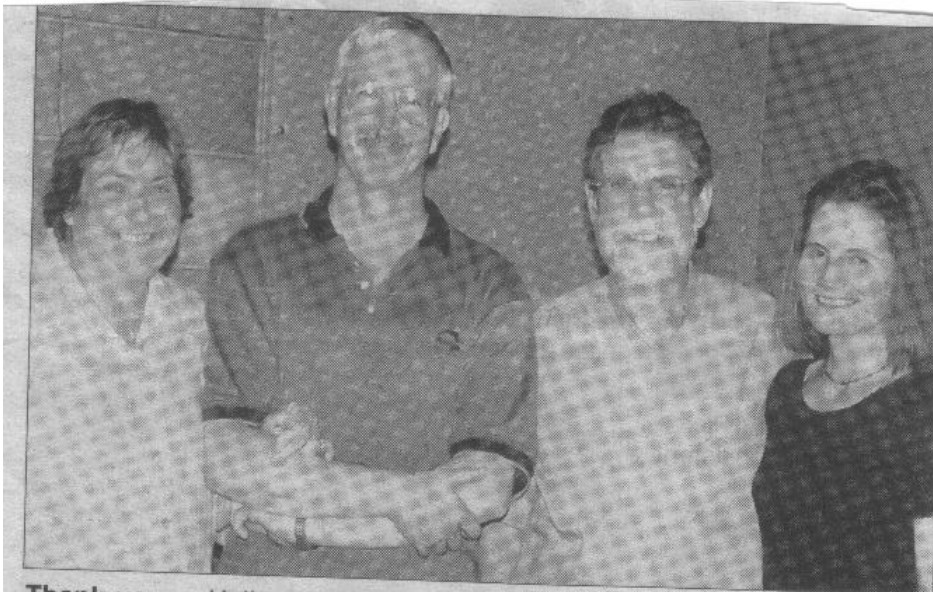
"Nothing makes me more happier than the thought of running round the bush and trying to navigate and beat men in my age group.

"It's an unusual combination of skills, and when I started it was a totally new experience for me."

At the farewell, founder of the club, Murray Young, spoke of the achievements of both men over the last 15 or so years, and their contributions to the smooth running and improved facilities of the club.

He also recited a selection of original poems, dedicated to the Thompsons and Holland.

W News March 2001



Thank you ... Hellen and Allan Holland and Ken and Annette Thompson recently gathered at the Thompson's farewell at Wilson Park recently. Ken and Allan received life membership from Saltbush Orienteers club.

- Planning the re-painting of the O Van got under way.
- Six juniors competed at the Schools Championship
- Juniors Lauren Schwenke & Perri Carter attended the Year 7 camp at Woodside.
- Yvie Paintner gave a talk on orienteering at the local scout headquarters.

- The coaching weekend held at Katunga attracted 25 members.
- A women's coaching evening conducted by Dave Medlin attracted 10 members.
- The long weekend at Burra scored 18 Saltbush members. Heard about the White Yarcowie Pub but not much about the orienteering events!!
- A few Saltbush people competed at the Port Lincoln Badge event. Following the event the Adelaide crowd came up to Whyalla to compete on the new Wild Dog Hill map. Alas this was washed out.....But a Spudfest with Flatoutlika at Wilson Park brightened them up and they were sent on their way with a rousing send off at the nearby traffic lights
- Juniors Lauren Schwenke, Perri Carter & Leilah Carter won the Quartz Trophy at the EP Relays at Port Lincoln.

Annual Awards

- Orienteer of the Year Male Brad Medlin Female Leonie Hall
- Golden Flash Male Dave Medlin 6.88min/km Female Leilah Carter 12.23min/km
- Saltbush S'nail Gaynor Loxton
- Most Improved Delfeen Fulton
- Club Person John Brockhurst
- Achievement Male Robert Genahl & Matt Kenny Female Leonie Hall
- Juniors Consistency Peri Carter Most Improved Kane Fulton
Encouragement Michael Schwenke