

# Tintookies Newsletter September 2015

Editorial Jeffa Lyon, Technical Bob Smith

**The Club Relays.** We can hold our heads up again... we came 2<sup>nd</sup> to a club who had never won before so we were happy for them to win---by a good margin. Well done, Yalanga.



*(Photo: Max and Jack collecting their prizes for winning Course D)*

*Gil hadn't run a sprint course before and realized too late that the map didn't include a LEGEND. Motto: always look at a similar map beforehand or ask the organizers on the day! Not that it would have affected the over-all result as Yalanga won "by a mile"—and David Law and George Reeves. 4th.*

Course G Helen Smith and Fi herself 1st.

*She just couldn't magic up teams for Courses H and I but did well with:*

Course J Emily Marschall and Jemima Lloyd 2nd and Annabel Lloyd and Eliza Grivell 3rd.

*Constructing the teams involved finding out who was in Europe, New Zealand etc so we really did our best.*

*Thank you, Fi and well done, Tintookies.*

**And more...** Tintookies WON the Night Champs at Kuitpo where there were long off-track legs. The Marschalls were there to collect the trophy. It is now in The Shed.

*(Photo: Emily and Jack with the Night Championships trophy)*

**More successes.** Congratulations to Charlotte Brader, Emily Sorensen, and Abigail and Joanna George for being selected as members of the S.A. Schools Team going to Victoria soon. Congratulations to Kate Marschall who is now a Level 1 Coach. (That is a course particularly geared at teachers so that they can use a schoolyard map effectively and hopefully take the children out of that comfort zone and on to weekend orienteering ). David George has also been busy, attending the OSA mapping workshop. Since then he has mapped One Tree Hill school grounds. I believe Ian Grivell is learning new skills too.

One of the causes of our success was Fi's masterly arrangement of teams. Look at this.

Course A Olivia Sprod and Ian Grivell 1st

Course B David George and James Lloyd 3rd

Course C Charlotte Brader and Kate Marschall 1st

Course D Jack Marschall and Max Grivell 1st as well as Clive Arthur and John Lyon

Course E Abigail and Joanna George 1st, Jane Fuller and Sue George 3rd, and Marian Arthur and Allison Whittaker.

Course F Geoff Bennett and Gil Hollamby 3rd.



## Past TT events.

### Rock Oyster July 18th and 19th

There was a lovely 2 days among the spurs and gullies of Rock Oyster. It is a pity more people will not drive so far. Or are they afraid of getting lost among the contours? David George spent more time there than most, as his account below shows.

Would I like to help setting a course somewhere this year? Sure. That's how it started. A simple question to help doing something that sounded like fun, how hard could it be? A few hours on the computer, whizz round putting a few tapes out one afternoon, all done, or so I imagined.

A month or two later I noticed in the roster that I was to assist Geoff Bennett course setting at Rock Oyster. I hadn't heard of Rock Oyster! Quick check on the internet I found out it was somewhere near Walker Flat on the river.

The following weekend I caught up with Geoff at an event at Para Wirra event, fortunately he had done some preparation and had a plan. I would have a go at setting the Very Easy through to short Moderate, Geoff would do an initial setting of the remaining courses, we would then compare notes then go onsite and refine the courses.

A few days later I received a copy of the map from Ken in an email. I eagerly opened it in Purple Pen to see what was there. I think this is the first time I have looked at a map with no idea as to what the place looked like, at least standing at the start you have some idea what the place is like. I looked at the map and tried to imagine, lots of white and yellow, almost no green, creeks, a track, broken fences. I was having trouble picturing it.

OK, time to read the guidelines from the OSA web site and have a go at a course. Easy courses, need to find some linear features. Track is obvious, but not too interesting. There is a broken fence heading north from the start, that could be good, but I have no idea what is actually going to be there, could be an easy to follow fence, or the odd post and bits of wire on the ground. Other options are the creeks, how hard would these be for a 10 year old to follow? There are lots of creek junctions, how obvious are they? This is not as easy as I was expecting. Several hours later, over a few evenings I had managed to set a few options for each course and sent them off to Geoff.

A couple of weeks later Geoff called, we are going to put out tapes. Early Saturday morning I arrive at Geoff's. Fortunately he had done a lot of the preparation work. We spend an hour or so going through each course and working out which direction each course will come into each control then we drive to Rock Oyster. The day was spent visiting control sites, checking the suitability for the courses that would be using it, checking the control placement and description and moving some controls to better locations. As the sun started to go down we counted up what was left, we had managed to do just over half of the control sites. It was a fun day, out in the bush talking orienteering.

The next trip to Rock Oyster Jeffa and John (Controller) and Barry (Organiser) came along. We spent some time in the morning working out where registration etc would be placed then set off to put out some more tapes while Jeffa looked over the course maps and John went out to walk the easy course. We returned for a pleasant lunch and some discussion of courses with John and Jeffa. We only had a few tapes left to put out in the afternoon, but they were the distant more spread out controls, we finished just before dark to complete another pleasant day in the bush.

The weekend of the competition arrived, I packed the family into the car early Friday morning and we all headed to the river. Ken was there when we arrived. We put the tent up then Susan and the girls went for a bike ride to Walker Flat and beyond. Ken and Geoff had most of the competition logistics organized, maps, controls, SI units, water etc. Ken set out to put controls for the Saturday comp out and we divided the controls for the Sunday event between the two of us and set off to put them out. We all met back at the camping area for lunch, Barry had arrived and was busy digging the long drops. After lunch we all went our separate ways again to put out the rest of the controls and the water. A pleasant evening was spent around the camp fire before a good night's sleep.

Saturday morning, a walk around the easy course with Geoff, taping it as we go, then run one of Ken's courses in the afternoon. A few minor jobs after that, a debrief with Geoff, collect some controls for Ken and it is time to spend some time with the Family.

Sunday, finish setting up the course and start area and start getting runners started. This is when I started to worry that there maybe something wrong with course, did I swap a couple of controls? Was one of the descriptions wrong? ... Runners starting coming back, that's a good sign. Then a couple of runners came out to the start, they had had a good time, in the end all the feedback I heard was positive which was great. All that was left was to collect controls and pack up.

In conclusion, I had a great time being involved in the course setting, it certainly gave me a better appreciation of the amount of work that goes into setting an event. A special thanks to Geoff who was very well organized and passed on a lot of his knowledge on course setting and event organization. I look forward to the next time I have the opportunity to be involved with course setting.

### **Pympton August 30th**

At the end of August a very few people undertook the task of putting on TT's last bush event of the year. Between them, Ron Larssen, Ian Grivell and Fi (with some legwork on the Saturday by John) managed to offer 8 courses at Pympton. It wasn't an OY event but was grandly entitled a "classic event". I wonder whether a non-OY event is prescribed or whether fewer courses would have been acceptable. Or could there have been a contour only course, a line course, a Score O....? We just seem to get more of the same these days, perpetuating our errors perhaps. But at least this time Ian Grivell got a taste of course setting a "normal" course. I hope he will give us his opinion of what is an addiction for some of us, his first taste of course-setting.

It wasn't just Ian who tried something new.. A bus load of teenagers from Wiltja School (kids from the APY Lands) came and stormed round the easy course. They got pointed in the right direction, saw the first flag and were off. Pympton's open vegetation let them see the whole course and they arrived at the Finish without the aid of a map! They loved it so I hope we see them again.

### **Para Wirra Open Day, September 20th**

#### **The annual Boneseed Pull**

#### **The launching of the 4 DIY permanent courses** (starting and finishing near the North Oval).

It was a great day, brilliant sunshine, (useful for knowing where North is), a steady stream of enquiries, kids tackling a course, (these included Sue Millard's grandson and Graham Bollenhagen's great nephew!) and a delicious array of desserts (thanks Fi) for the dozen or so TTs present.

An interesting bit of feedback: Every kid was asked what school they went to and, of course, whether they had orienteered before..... Trinity: it's their local bush map, One Tree Hill: so their new map is obviously in good use, Williamstown who just had a crash course on their new map last week (thanks to Kay and others) Sometimes the answer was "School Camp" where they used the Chalks DIY Courses.

**Next year and beyond....** the OSA Programme committee has met and looked at TT's offerings but it's a bit early as yet to book the various jobs you fancy, except that Bob Smith is going to be course setter on Wilpena Creek at a Flinders weekend in April. As well as middle distance and long distance courses for us there will be an Ultra Long event for the Elites on the nearby Mannawara/Prelinna map as part of the 2016 NOL (National Orienteering League) program.

Beyond that we are starting to think about the National Champs in 2018 which SA will host. Just think, the Victorians have been working to put on this year's programme since 2012 or earlier! Good luck to all TTs who are going across to Ballarat, especially those of us experiencing a first big interstate carnival.