

TT Newsletter February/March 2017

Editorial Jeffa Lyon Technical Bob Smith



Firstly, thanks to Bob Smith who noted down the Committee meeting items to be reported on in this newsletter

Amongst other things, TT now has a Facebook presence.

The Hazelwood Park event in mid-January was most enjoyable. Unfortunately it was only the “old hands” who came along despite Fi, our long-serving club secretary, having contacted Vicki Spillane and Tania Sheldon, two of our new members. We would like to put a face to your name and include you in our chat after finishing our courses each weekend. Please home in on one of those bright black and yellow O-tops and make yourselves known.

It was great to see Dean and Cheryl Mason-Fyfe once again in Hazelwood Park. Their feed-back was valuable after they finished their “Wheelchair Course.” The fact that Dean was pushing the wheelchair prevented Cheryl and chair ending up in the creek! Some other time somebody on a gopher with no-one else to put on the brakes, would not be so lucky. So, Ken, if you are in touch with the Burnside City Council, I’m sure they will be glad to hear the Wheelchair Course has been used and be keen to have that minor fault corrected.



As usual we enjoyed Fi’s catering skills in the form of a leisurely brunch.

Another re-appearance might happen. **Kirsten Moller** is going from Denmark to New Zealand for the feast of events there on at Easter. We look forward to seeing you here afterwards, Kirsten.

At the committee meeting, Geoff, our Treasurer, drew the committee’s attention to the fact that **our “money in the bank” has gone down in each of the last 3 years.**

(Admittedly we await the outcome of one grant application which would lessen but not wipe out the decline). What do we do about that? Eliminate pleasant brunches? Eliminate badges for successful juniors? I can hear you say NO.

Cheryl and Dean at the Hazelwood Park brunch

So we look at our income, not our spending. Our income is basically from the entry fees of the events that TT runs each year. Or on any share of the profits when the whole of OSA combine to put on a carnival such as the Nationals which OSA is hosting in 2018. There was a Planning Committee meeting recently at which we were told that the fees will be set on the basis of 600 entries. (It used to be set at 1000 entries) How we advertise it will be important---by word of mouth as well as ads, as well as the assumption that EVERY SA orienteer enters. But I think the most crucial element is how high the entry fees are. At that meeting, there was talk of a new type of photogrammetry, Lidar, for the mappers to use to get still more accuracy in mapping areas of detailed terrain. But it is expensive: can we really justify sacrificing involvement of the general orienteering public for the sake of the elite?

While I'm being contentious, I'll go on, on my hobbyhorse. **This summer's events** have been too much skewed to the elite and those young ones with good eyesight, and those who no longer need to rely on the legend to understand such symbols as an "underpass". Admittedly an easy course was offered at Flinders Uni. But I am not aware of a separate legend being available for newcomers. There should be a legend on every map except for those specifically for the elite!

Orienteering health is like a triangle. It must have a broad base to give us a chance to identify future elite from amongst the many who just enjoy the sport. So let us take still more seriously the ways of holding on to "first-timers".

One way to hold on to newcomers, is not to have large gaps in the programme for everyone except the elite. We need more **LOW KEY** events. So, to our new members Vicki and Tanya and their families and friends, keep **Sunday March 12th** free. We're celebrating John's 80th by inviting anyone to come and orienteer, run, walk, enjoy spectacular scenery, (unless there is a total fire ban). **BYO lunch.** (TTs in particular have got the job of clearing old TT gear out of our shed!) See you there.

Perhaps this is a bit outspoken. If so, why not send a letter to the editor with your views or get a new editor !

As mentioned in the last newsletter, the club will buy badges for the juniors listed below who qualified for badges during 2016. If any of the listed adults would like a badge, they should let Fi know, and give her \$5.

Clive Arthur	M65	Gold	Erica Diment	W50	Silver
Marian Arthur	W65	Gold	Trevor Diment	M55	Silver
Charlotte Brader	W21	Gold	Jane Fuller	W45	Silver
Abigail George	W16	Gold	Ian Grivell	M35	Silver
David George	M55	Gold	Phil Hazell	M55	Silver
Joanna George	W16	Gold			
Susan George	W45	Gold			
Max Grivell	M14	Gold	Eliza Grivell	W12	Bronze
Jemima Lloyd	W12	Gold	Gil Hollamby	M75	Bronze
Ben Marschall	M10	Gold	Annabel Lloyd	W10	Bronze
Emily Marschall	W10	Gold	James Lloyd	M21	Bronze
Jack Marschall	M14	Gold	Barry Wheeler	M65	Bronze
Kate Marschall	W40	Gold			
John Nieuwenhoven	M21	Gold			
George Reeves	M75	Gold			
Vanessa Round	W21	Gold			
Andrew Slattery	M21	Gold			
Robert Smith	M70	Gold			
Emily Sorensen	W16	Gold			
Olivia Sprod	W21	Gold			