

Control Freak

The newsletter of the Bendigo Orienteers

April/May (and a bit of June) 2013

www.bendigo-orienteurs.com.au



Easter 2013

From the mapping department: The devil in the detail - the subtleties of granite navigation.

With the Bendigo Rocks series underway, below is a quick revision as to what those spots are all about. The explanations are from the Alex Tarr article 'Mapping Rock', with a few added examples. And over the page is an example of these symbols in action - the Kooyoora/Melville Caves map.

Impassable cliffs

- * Extended lines of impassable cliffs are a hazard to the orienteer and a significant determinate of route choice. Any gaps shown whether as full breaks or as a change to passable cliff must be both genuinely passable and capable of being recognised by the orienteer in competition conditions.

- * The "quarter moon" (symbol is typically used widely for both impassable and passable cliffs.

- * The use of tags is usually to emphasise particularly dangerous or prominent cliffs.

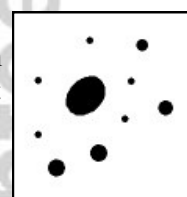


Rock pillars/cliffs

- * This is an area feature showing a massive boulder to scale.

- * It does not make sense for this symbol to be used for both rock pillars (massive boulders) and cliffs as the orienteer cannot picture in advance what the terrain will look like. It is Australian practice to only use this symbol for massive boulders which can be shown as area features to the correct scale on the map.

- * Like all features these boulders are mapped from the orienteers viewpoint, that is the impression gained when running into and through an area rather than a close-up examination of the feature. Thus slits or cracks in the rocks are ignored if the overall impression is of a single entity



Passable rock face

- * Tags should only be added if there is ambiguity over which way the feature faces or if the face extends for considerable distance horizontally.

Boulder

- * IOF definition includes "minimum height 1m. ...Every boulder on the map should be immediately identifiable on the ground." Immediately identifiable is to the competing orienteer. If there is any doubt the feature should either not be mapped, included as part of rocky ground or as part of a boulder field.

Large boulder

- * IOF: "particularly large and distinct boulder" should be immediately identifiable to the competing orienteer entering the area.

Boulder field

- * this is an area symbol which will show the extent and shape of the boulders mapped.

- * used for:

- an area of three or more mappable boulders which cannot be drawn to scale

- an area of mixed boulders and near boulders, the individual boulders within which cannot be drawn so they are immediately identifiable to the competing orienteer. Such an area can include passable rock faces as part of the boulder field. In general larger, "chunky" triangles should be used for boulder fields made up of larger boulders.



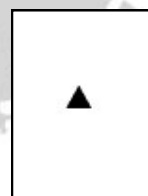
Boulder cluster

- * IOF: "A small distinct group of boulders so closely clustered that they cannot be marked individually."

- * A rock on top of another rock is not a boulder cluster but an individual boulder.

- * The boulder cluster is a point symbol, the feature should be restricted in area (at least smaller in area than the symbol), with defined edges. A rule of thumb is that if the feature would not make an unambiguous control site then it should be mapped as a boulder field rather than a cluster.

- * If the cluster includes a boulder that is significantly higher than the others then the significant boulder should be mapped with the appropriate symbol and the others either generalised or left



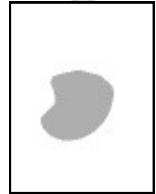
off.

Rocky ground

- * IOF: "Stony or rocky ground which affects going ..."
- * local practice uses the symbol to show significant rock which is not shown with the other symbols as well as rocky/stony ground which affects runnability.

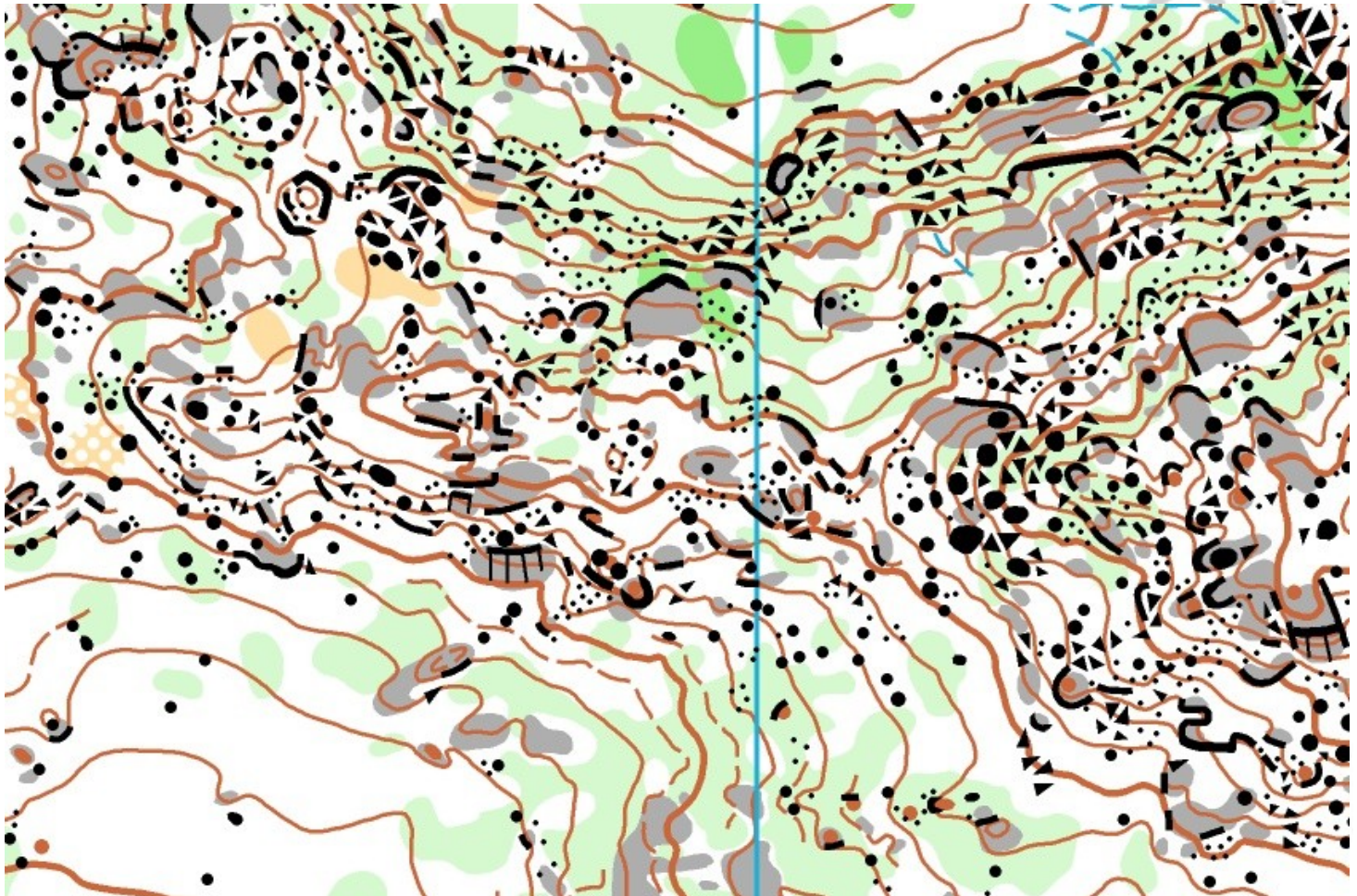
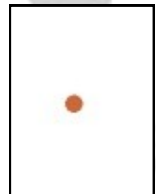
Bare rock

- * IOF defines as "flat area of rock ..", the correct definition is runnable area of bare rock (which may be at a considerable angle.)
- * there is a continuum between bare rock to moss covered rock to clearing. In Australia practice is to include the moss covered rock within the bare rock with the clearing being mapped in the relevant yellow.
- * in granite terrain sloping bare rock may be runnable to the competitor going uphill but be a passable or even impassable cliff going downhill. In this situation the bare rock is mapped with the relevant cliff symbol superimposed.
- * runnability is judged by the mapper as in dry conditions, the competitor must make their own assessment in actual competition conditions.



Small knoll

- * *in granite the brown dot knoll is almost always a rock feature*
- * round contour feature too small to be drawn to scale with a contour, should be one metre above the surrounding ground.
- * contours should be used if the feature has a definite shape, grey should be added if the feature is bare rock.



Course Setters Needed

During the second half of the year we have some vacancies in our calendar. Setting courses is a great way to learn more about orienteering, and this year so far we have a few newer members involved setting courses and they have found it extremely rewarding.

So..... if you can help out with any of the following dates please get in touch with a member of the committee, or with Colin Walker (cjw1952@gmail.com)

27 th July	Apollo Hill (near Eaglehawk)
28 th September	Rocky Rises (near Kangaroo Flat) - course setter's choice.
5 th October	Lyell Forest
19 th October	Mt Kooyoora
9 th November	Eaglehawk 1 hour twilight event
16 th November	Mandurang 1 hour twilight event

If you've never set one before give it some consideration. It would be great to have some new people involved in this side of club activities and there are plenty of people to help and offer advice if you feel you need it. Every one of our course setters was once a first timer.

Grants

The club often gets information about grants that are available from local council, state and federal governments, and other sources. We haven't applied for any for a number of years and at the last meeting we discussed the suggestion that we might pay someone (preferably one of our members) to put in grant applications on our behalf. Payment would be linked to success in bringing in money. Other sporting clubs in Bendigo do this and it may be worth consideration.

If you have any thought on this idea, or if you would like to put your hand up let one of the committee know.

Club Involvement

Your Committee is keen to increase the number of people actively involved in our club. One possibility is to have someone at each event helping the organiser especially now that attendance at our events has increased so much and we regularly have over 70 participants. You could help with newcomers, help with entries, answer questions, collate results, etc

We are particularly keen to hear from people who are prepared to learn how to enter results onto the club website and onto Eventor.

See one of the committee if you feel you could help with any of these areas.

The Committee:

President: Jim Russell

Vice President: Peter Creely

Secretary: Charles Brownridge

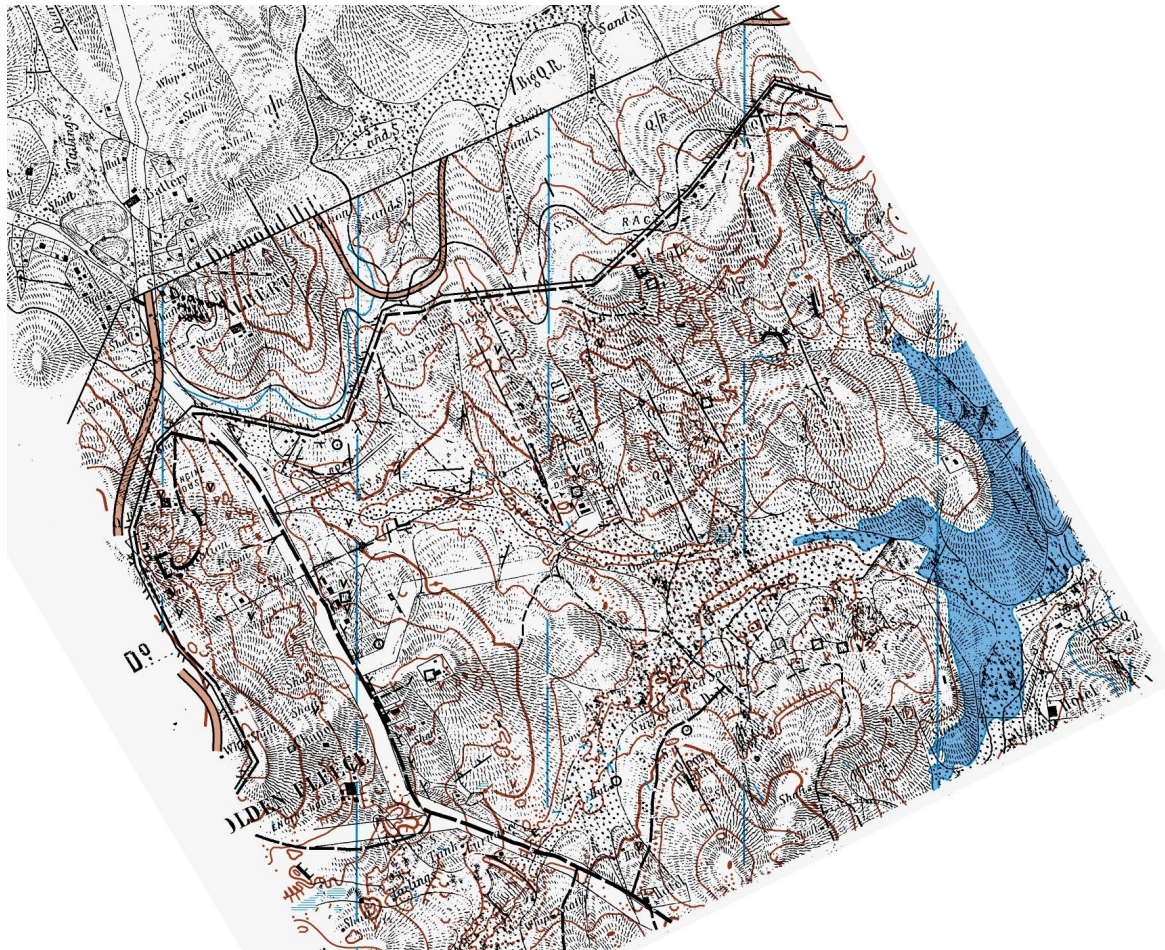
Treasurer: Andrew Wallace

We are keen to hear from you!

And while your thinking about how you can contribute to the club, the mapping department is currently producing (or not...) the newsletter.

If anyone would like to take over this not too onerous task then please email cpcree@gmail.com

Plenty of scope for your budding artistic abilities, and none of the old printing, stapling and enveloping, simply upload to the website and send a quick email to let everyone know that your latest creation is ready to be admired.



The Yorkshire Hill map which was used for Easter day 2, with the old gold mining map in the back-ground.

The ruins of the old school are still visible, as are several other ruins. The road on the western side of the map was once the main road to Mandurang, and of course much of the mining diggings are still there. Generally the contours match fairly well with the old hachure map

THE 'MUG' M43 CHALLENGE

Louie the Fly (RK)

Last year Ian baker and I came up with a terrific idea to get some free booze. We would con a lot of mug M43's to put up a bottle to the value of \$3 and if either of us won, we would split the proceeds.

As we chose the contestants, all we had to do was select people we could beat, disqualifying the likes of Lindsay Hooper, Harry Summers, Tony Mount etc.

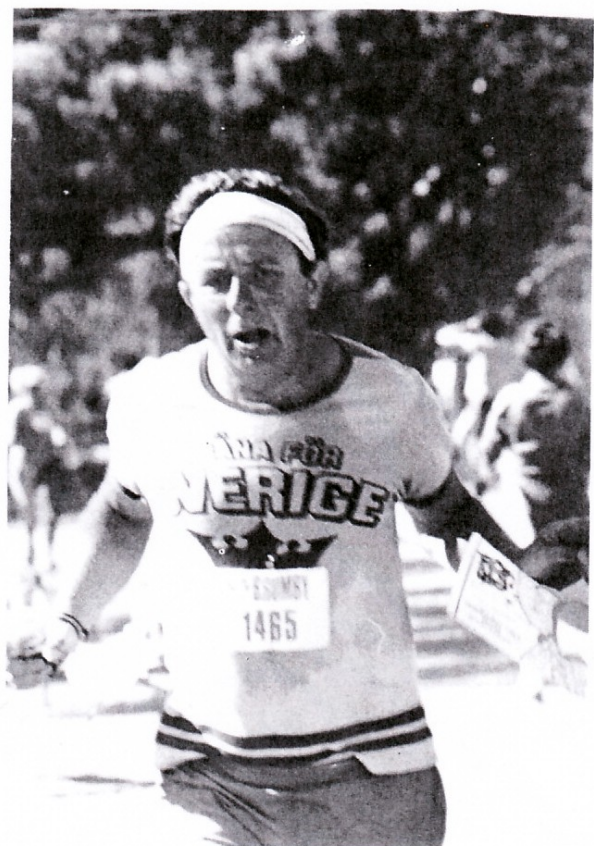
It all started at the '78 Australian Championships. Some of the 'acceptors' could perform quite well but one, a Scotsman, couldn't beat me in a novice race.

What happened? He won!! I will never put nine bottles in front of a Scotsman again — they go to extremes just to get a drink. (Just for the record, Danny Pollock is not banned from future competition, but unless he starts running slower the 'Committee of Two' will have to reconsider his future applications to compete. Members will have noted Mr. Pollock has attempted to evade the issue by turning fifty. Some people have no scruples.)

Comes the 3-Day event at Bendigo and rules were a lot tougher. Ian and I double-checked everyone but once again my guard slipped. This very friendly fellow approached us saying how he was used to being beaten by Baker and Lewis but was quite happy to donate a bottle to the cause. It was only after the swine won that I found out he was from Bendigo — probably walked the forest since childhood. For future events, Peter Creely, I'll be watching your form, buddy — run fast and you're out!

Special thanks should be made to the anonymous donor of the magnificent perpetual trophy for the 'Mug M43's'. Some stupid person suggested I was the unnamed donor. No way — I'm in advertising. We donate nothing anonymously, our ego's wouldn't allow it.

Can't wait for the '79 Australian Championships. What's another bottle of booze?!



Louie — Flying at Easter!

The 1979 Easter 3 days, and a competition within a competition. Louie & Ian decided, after excluding the faster runners, to get the others to contribute a bottle of wine (\$3.00 a bottle, top shelf stuff!), Their plan as mentioned, to win the lot and share the proceeds. But they didn't count on local orienteer Peter Creely, who despite never having competed at that level before but with a home ground advantage, managed to take the prize.

Thanks to Derek Morris for digging this up.

Coming events

Are of course all our Orienteering events on now on [eventor](#), as are all results.
But here's a few others..

Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th August 10am to 4pm

Six hour Rogaines on our Sedgwick and Mandurang maps.

These will start at the Mandurang oval and use a 10m contour 1:25000 version of the Sedgwick/Mandurang Orienteering maps (especially prepared by our mapping department)

Our local event is coincidentally at Mandurang on the Saturday and will probably still take place, maybe using the Rogaine controls as we did last year at Kooyoora.

For those who haven't competed in a Rogaine before, it's run as a score event, finding as many controls as you can in the allotted time. The controls are generally on fairly prominent features and are worth varying amounts of points depending on the degree of difficulty or distance from the start.

A hot meal is served after the event.

Helping out

The VRA are always looking for volunteers, and with a two day event it works well if you compete on one day and help on the other. Please contact Karen Robinson on 0422 987 978 or volunteer2@vra.rogaine.asn.au if you think you can be of assistance.

Campaspe Links One hour score event.

Sunday August 25th

"Fore!" originally a Scots interjection, used to warn anyone standing or moving in the flight of a golf ball. The term means "look ahead", and it is believed to come from the military "beware before", which an artilleryman about to fire would yell alerting nearby infantrymen to drop to the ground to avoid the shells overhead.

Anyway, there'll hopefully be no golf balls or cannon balls flying during the Orienteering event on the new Campaspe Links map (Axedale Golf Course). The event is on Sunday, August 25th - assemble at the clubhouse 2-2.30PM for a 3PM mass start.

This is a low-key community event which will be run in 1 hour Score format. 20 controls - some in interesting spots, but most will be suitable for beginners. Definitely not an Elite standard event, but everyone is most welcome. Cost will probably be \$5 per person - proceeds to Axedale Golf Club. There may be a sausage sizzle afterwards

Jukola Relay

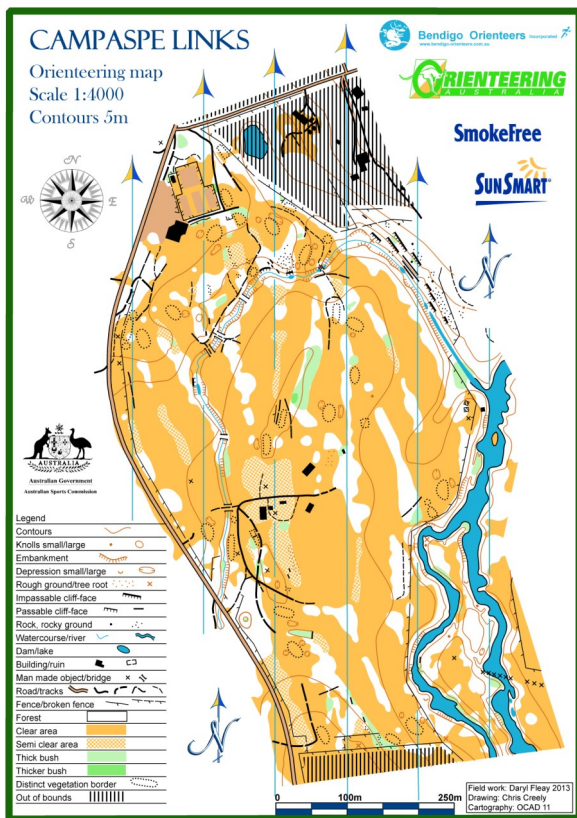
Three Bendigo Orienteers competed in the Jukola relay in Jämsä Finland. Jim Russell, Brian Keely and Evan Barr together with Ian Lawford, Josh Blatchord, Hanny Alston and Mary Fleming finished 229th overall (1300 teams finished).

In the men's Jukola relay there are seven legs with distances varying from 7 to 15 km. The starting time is around 11 pm Saturday when the sun sets. The winning team crosses the finishing line early on Sunday morning, around 6 or 7 am, and the last teams finish just before the finish is closed at afternoon.

Including the women's Venla relay, there were about 16,000 competitors this year.



The 1400 first leg runners of the Jukola relay.

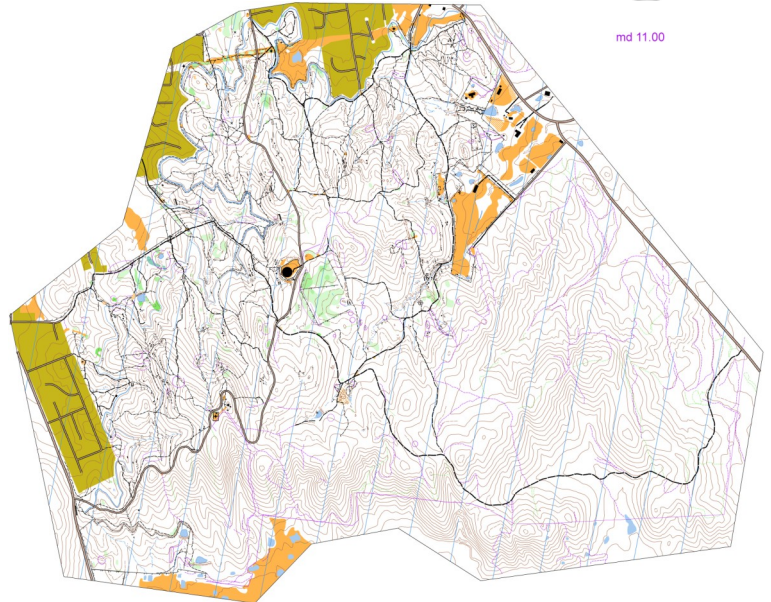


News from the mapping department.

Devonshire Reef remap continues after the vegetation there was drastically altered by the bushfires.

Daryl Fleay during his regular golf games, has been field-working the Axedale Golf course.

Also, as pictured, One Tree Hill continues to get a much needed facelift.



NATURE NOTES

Wedge-tailed Eagles

It was my lifetime interest in nature and the outdoors that originally brought me to Orienteering. One of the great things about our sport is that it takes you into environments that you would otherwise just admire as you drive past.

When it comes to nature, my main interest is in birds and, in particular, raptors (eagles, hawks, falcons, etc.) and owls. Since my retirement in 2011 I've had the time and a decent enough camera to get back into nature photography. In 2012 I teamed up with an old birdo friend and together we set out to locate



as many active Wedge-tailed Eagles' nests as we could, within reach of Bendigo. It wasn't long before we discovered that these eagles still have a strong foothold in this region – by the end of the year we'd counted 13 active nests, each of which produced one or two healthy chicks. A picture of one of the nests (in North Harcourt) is included above – the chicks were roughly one month old when this image was taken. Most of the nests we located were in the region between Maldon and Sutton Grange.

At the time of writing (mid June) it's getting to the stage where Wedge-tailed Eagles are performing their 'courtship display' flights and selecting their nest sites for the 2013 breeding season. This year may not be as productive as 2012, a season which saw unusually large rabbit numbers following favourable weather patterns in the previous year. However, we've already begun our search for 2013 and there are still lots of eagles around. Interestingly, eagle watching also has spin-offs to Orienteering – as part of my search for new territories I visited Mount Egbert ("The Granites" – North of Wedderburn) a couple of weeks ago. The lovely bit of friendly granite terrain struck me as a great area for a new 'small' map. Neil, Chris – interested?

Daryl Fleay