

EDITORIAL

The dreaded COVID has struck again. Just as in 2020, the 3-Day Labour Day Weekend events have been cancelled due to the lockdown. As well, the Victorian Relay Championships – to have been organized by Bendigo on June 6 – have been postponed to later in 2021.

The Mosquito Creek event on June 12 is still on, but will be a 'training event'. This means there will be no infrastructure at the site, control sites will be marked by tapes placed on Friday afternoon. The courses will be available at any time on Saturday and Sunday. There will be no charge, and no pre-entry. Maps will be available for download from Eventor. Further detail is available on Eventor.

For future events the club will wait for a Victorian Government announcement on Thursday 10 June about restriction changes before deciding on the status of other events in June. Please keep an eye on Eventor for the status of each event. For the time being they are listed as TBA in the table below. Dianne and Peter

Dianne and Peter

[Photo credits: Neil Barr, John Wilkinson.]

COMING EVENTS: JUNE

For full details and entry details of each competition please go to the Eventor website at: <u>www.eventor.orienteering.asn.au/Events</u>

Bendigo Events

Date Sat 12 June Sat 19 June Sat 26 June Sat 3 July	Title Bendigo Bush Bendigo Bush Bendigo Bush Bendigo Bush	Map Mosquito Creek One Tree Hill Diamond Hill South Diamond Hill North		Status Training TBA TBA TBA	Setter Terry Davidson Peter Searle Peter Forbes Charles Brownridge
Other Victorian EventsSun 27 JuneBallarat Winters Series #1			Nerrina North	Eurek	a OC
Club details: President: Craig Feuerherdt Vice-President: Neil Barr Secretary: Ross Slater Treasurer: Alison Radford Newsletter Editors: Dianne & Peter Searle [UNSUBSCRIBE: If you wish to unsubscribe i			Facebook: ww		n/bendigoorienteers

Walking poles now available

Derek Morris has kindly donated two walking poles to the club for use by members. If anyone is finding difficulty moving through the bush and feel that using the poles would assist, now is the time to try them out. Derek has found that people have found the sticks enable them to regain confidence, particularly after injury or those entering older age brackets. The poles will be stored on the topmost shelf in the trailer. Thankyou Derek for your generous donation.

Balak Kalik Manya Project

The Walking Together- Balak Kalik Manya Project is a four-year project committed to writing site-specific management plans for two sites within Dja Dja Wurrung Country; Kalimna Park in Castlemaine and Wildflower Drive in Bendigo. More information on the project is available in a short video at: <u>https://vimeo.com/441201115</u> Both sites were

selected due to their proximity to growing townships and the increasing pressures of urbanisation encroaching both park boundaries.

Both sites are used for orienteering and the management plans are now available for comment by stakeholders. To view the plans and make comments, go to:

http://djandak.com.au/projects/walking-togetherbalak-kalik-manya

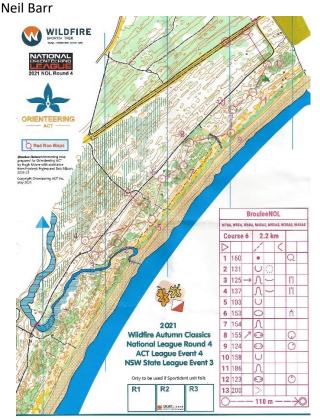
A weekend at the beach

In mid-May a small contingent of Bendigo orienteers headed north into NSW for a weekend of orienteering in the sand dunes of Broulee. It's a long way, and you might well ask why we made such a long trip. The main attraction was a rare chance to orienteer in Australian sand dunes. Whilst New Zealand is over supplied with sand dune terrain, its pretty scarce in Australia. I have run on more sand dune maps in Lithuania than I have in Australia. Australia has the stunning sand dune map of Pittwater near Hobart, and a small map at Coffs Harbour. There once was a sand dune map in the Coorong region, until it was overrun by box-thorn and permitting issues. There was also once a sand dune map at Stockton near Newcastle, but it also disappeared into scrub regrowth. The new map at Broulee promised to significantly increase the number of useable Australian sand dune maps.

From the first assembly area and a wide cleared power line track, the terrain looked scarily green. Fortunately, this was due to the vegetation edge effect. Past the edge the vegetation thinned out, though it was rarely as open as we are used to in Bendigo. The key difference was the usually thigh-high undergrowth which meant many controls were not visible until you were within five or so metres. This lower visibility was the key to the organisers being able to provide two days of orienteering for over 400 orienteers within a mapped area of 1.5 kilometers by 200 metres. I know that would be impossible in high visibility Bendigo terrain.

Orienteering in sand dunes is a very different challenge to what we are used to in Bendigo. Orienteering at Broulee added a twist to that challenge. Whilst I may have been successful in the past at Pittwater, in Lithuania and in New Zealand, this micro terrain caught me out on both days. That's why one travels to orienteer... to learn to navigate outside your familiar terrain. And if that is not enough, we extended the trip with some bushwalking and camping in the Budawangs. There we discovered that an ascent of Castle Peak was a more serious undertaking than we had imagined. Rock climbing gear next time.

I had another reason to make the trip. As OA Mapping Convener, I had been asked to approve the use of this map at a non-standard scale. These decisions can be contentious, and I felt I needed to experience the terrain for myself. I also had a long chat with Hugh Moore, the mapper. It seems that Hugh has his eyes on more similar terrain near Eden. If an event happens there, I encourage you to make the trip. And take any chance you can to orienteer at Pittwater. There are events there every second year or so, so combine it with a longer Tasmanian adventure. Tick off some Abels! {Editor's note: There are 158 Abels to choose from']



Broulee Dunes map, Course 6



Broulee Dunes vegetation



Broulee Dunes, sandy track



Julie Flynn at Broulee Dunes

OV Schools Officer

Former member and President Richard Goonan, has been appointed Orienteering Victoria's Schools Officer. Richard, now based in Castlemaine has much experience to share in orienteering, coaching and outdoor education and an ideal appointment to increase orienteering participation in schools.



Richard Goonan

Congratulations to Richard on his appointment!

OWLS lunch

OWLS (Orienteers Who Lunch) is an informal gathering of mature-age orienteers. Pre-COVID gatherings were each year, and another was planned for June 17 at a Gisborne South winery. Because of the latest lockdown and the restriction on Melburnians travel it is still on but somewhat in doubt. Contact Dianne Searle if interested in joining like-minded orienteers for a non-orienteering event. [Stop Press: The OWLS lunch has been postponed to later this year. New date to be announced.]

Lunar Eclipse, May 26

Club astronomer, John Wilkinson took this picture of the so-called 'blood moon' during the recent eclipse. A great image taken with a camera using a telephoto lens mounted on a tripod and just before total cloud cover took over.



Asbestos in the Bendigo Bush

There have been 2 events this year with controls and finish location near dumped asbestos. Michael Loughnan is putting together a document outlining what the asbestos products look like and how to report it.

It is suggested in the interim, course setters not put controls on a black "x" on map (at risk of it being asbestos) and avoid and take note of rubbish sites when in the bush planning courses/taping controls.

Photo Gallery

Sedgwick North



Finish tent

Mandurang – Coolibah



Ted van Geldermalsen



David Jones in supervisory mode in the rego tent

Victorian MTBO Championships – Maryborough



James Robertson, Victorian MTBO M21 Sprint Champion

Broulee Dunes NOL Event



Victorian Nuggets Team including Bendigo's Jim Russell, Clare and David Brownridge. [Photo credits: Neil Barr, John Wilkinson.]