



## Newsletter 21/2

May 2021

### EDITORIAL

A marquee event on the Australian orienteering calendar, Easter 2021 has come and gone. Postponed from 2020 the unique terrain was a challenge for many. From the two elite classes (M and W21E) 74 started but just 28 (37%) completed the 3-day event. Compare this with the other end of the age scale (M and W75A) where 38 started and 27 finished (71%). There many and varied reasons for why runners DNF, but it does make an interesting comparison. Neil Barr's report and Bendigo member results are later in the newsletter. Also this month is the great news of Jim Russell being inducted into the OA Hall of Fame, a summary of coming events in Victoria, and a round-up of results from Anzac weekend events in South Australia. A reminder that the club is organizing the Victorian Relay Championships at Argyle (near Heathcote) on Sunday June 6, and we are running Saturday event of the three competitions on the Queen's Birthday weekend. Helpers will be needed for both events.

The monthly meeting will be held on Monday, 3 May at 5.30pm. The venue is: H2OX Office, Old Mill, level 1/35 Wills St, Bendigo, or you can join remotely via <https://meet.google.com/idj-pwrq-xct> This link is the meeting agenda and agenda items can be added by all: [shorturl.at/fqLPX](https://shorturl.at/fqLPX)

Dianne and Peter

### COMING EVENTS: MAY

For full details and entry details of each competition please go to the Eventor website at: [www.eventor.orienteering.asn.au/Events](http://www.eventor.orienteering.asn.au/Events)

#### Bendigo Events

Sat 1 May	Bendigo Bush	Mandurang - Coolibah	Heather & David Jones
Sat 8 May	Bendigo Bush	Sedgwick Nth	Neil Barr
Sat 15 May	Bendigo Bush	Sedgwick Sth	Colin Walker
Sat 22 May	Bendigo Bush	Pilchers Bridge Nth	TBA
Sat 29 May	Bendigo Bush	Wildflower Drive	Michael Loughnan

#### Other Victorian Events

Sat 2 May	Vic Autumn #3	Boundary Creek (Glenlyon)	Yarra Valley OC
Sun 15 May	Vic MTBO Sprint Champs	Maryborough	Eureka Orienteers
Sat 15 May	Vic MTBO Middle Dist Champs	Maryborough	Nillumbik Emus OC
Sat 16 May	Vic MTBO Long Dist Champs	Dunolly	Bayside Kangaroos OC
Sat 23 May	Vic Autumn #4	Mt Tarrengower (Maldon)	Nillumbik Emus OC
Sat 30 May	Vic Autumn #5	Glenlyon Forest (Glenlyon)	CHOC

#### Club details:

President: Craig Feuerherdt  
Vice-President: Neil Barr  
Secretary: Ross Slater  
Treasurer: Alison Radford  
Newsletter Editors: Dianne & Peter Searle

**Website:** [www.bendigo-orienteers.com.au](http://www.bendigo-orienteers.com.au)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/bendigoorienteers](https://www.facebook.com/bendigoorienteers)

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## Jim Russell inducted into Orienteering Australia Hall of Fame

At the Orienteering Australia AGM held in Orange over Easter, Jim was inducted into the Hall of Fame.

Over more than 40 years Jim has made a mammoth contribution to orienteering at local, state and national levels. As an elite competitor he was selected into the Australian Team for the 1991 World Orienteering Championships in (then) Czechoslovakia. In following years he became coach of JWOC and WOC teams as well as OA Head Coach.

In administration, Jim has held a range of positions on the OV Board and was Vice President for a number of years.

He has organized many events at local, state and national level and has become an expert in the application of technology to our sport. Congratulations Jim on a well-deserved honour and for your continuing contribution to orienteering in Australia.



Jim receiving his award from OA President Blair Trewin

## Bendigo Bush Events

Our first two bush events in April have been very successful. Over 40 competitors enjoyed the challenging courses set by Ross Slater and Lorraine Leversha at Royal George and Smiths Reef.

## Bendigo Bush Events Entry reminder Pre-entry in 2021

All events will be set up on Eventor for pre-entry in 2021. All members are asked to pre-enter events to reduce the burden on the course setter on the event day. The pre-entry deadline will be 6pm Friday.

Enter on the day will be available for newcomers.

Members are able to enter on the day.

Enter-on-the-day cost: \$15. Pre-entry cost: \$10.

For enter-on-the-day, **map availability is not guaranteed.**

## Covid requirements

1. No water on course. You must bring your own water to events.

2. QR code scanning.

From April 17 everyone attending must check-in using the QR code provided at the event. This is a Victorian Government requirement - please bring your phone to the table to scan the QR code before you run. (Internet coverage permitting)

## Course setters required

Two events in May and June require course setters.

May 22 - Pilcher's Bridge North

June 26 - Diamond Hill South

A number of events in July & August also need course setters. See the events that still require a course setter at:

<http://bendigo-orienteers.com.au/wordpress/fixture/>

Please email [secretary@bendigo-orienteers.com.au](mailto:secretary@bendigo-orienteers.com.au) if you would like to be a course setter.

## Weeding project at Royal George

Following the local event on the Royal George map, Julie Flynn has proposed a working bee of any orienteers who would like to spend a couple of hours removing boneseed weeds. Boneseed is a weed that grows quickly and spreads like wildfire. It is not difficult work and both the forest and fellow orienteers will appreciate its removal.

The work is basically pulling these woody weeds out of the ground, and for larger plants, digging them out with a mattock. Proposed date: Tuesday 25 May, 2pm - 4pm. Bring gloves, mattock, wear suitable clothing. Meet in the car park at the Bendigo Stadium, near the northern entrance. Please let Julie know of your intention to attend: [julieflynn@fastmail.fm](mailto:julieflynn@fastmail.fm), or 0429496422.



Boneseed in flower



## **Easter Orienteering at Molong – from our foreign correspondent, Neil Barr**

If you think the navigational challenge of the Bermuda Triangle at Kooyoora was top of the chart, then you haven't been to Gumble Pinnacles. After experiencing the area 15 or so years ago at a NSW Championship, we decided the chance to run again there at Easter was not to be missed. As always I approach Easter with an estimate of my best and worst probable result. The latter proved the most accurate. On both of the days at Gumble Pinnacle map I managed to get well confused. Imagine Kooyoora terrain. Now reduce visibility, and get rid of all those bare rock open areas that make such good attack points. Now add course setters whose main aim is to get you lost by setting a long leg through lots of rock detail into an area with no significant attack points.

Of course, the most impressive navigators managed to get through their courses with only modest errors. An error free run was a very rare event. Those crucial long legs often determined who was in the first or second half of the age group field. Each day I identified the leg that was the danger, navigated it perfectly and then relaxed on the next leg and managed to make a ten minute or greater error, thus proving that spiking the key leg of the course was no guarantee of success. It wasn't all doom and gloom in the household though. Julie had a clean run on the last day of Easter, so we made the longish trip home with some smiles in the car. Easter carnivals are more than orienteering. Here are some of the other highlights and low lights.

- Camping with a random selection of orienteers at the small Molong caravan Park. This is a good way to meet people.
- The lottery of dining out options in Molong. Some days the pubs and club weren't open. The only option then was "Chinese" and perhaps I should stop there.
- The Molong Golf Club runs a creditable sand scrape course. Jim, Geoff Peel and I had arranged to meet there for a four club only round. Turned out Geoff was camping there as well, as the area doubles as a showgrounds. Jim was the surprise packet. His clubs were too short, and he was dressed like an early Fred Dagg, but when he made connection, the ball went a long way. I am not sure who won in the end, but that was hardly the point of the round. What was the point? A clash with the OA AGM perhaps.

- Julie found a wool and craft store run by locals. That was probably more entertaining for her than the round of meetings at the Molong School which I attended.
- I am not admitting to a discussion with a young police lass about whether it was a 50 or 60 zone.

## **Easter Results**

Seven Bendigo members made the journey to Orange for the Easter 3-Day event – and what an experience it was! Three very detailed maps in rocky terrain that was judged more difficult than Mt Kooyoora. Times on most courses were longer than expected due to the intricate nature of the terrain as well as excellent course setting. Alison Radford (1<sup>st</sup>, W70A) and Jim Russell (2<sup>nd</sup>, M60A) made it onto the podium, while three members were in the top 10 in their respective classes - Tony Radford (4<sup>th</sup>, M70A), Craig Feuerherdt (6<sup>th</sup>, M45A) and Julie Flynn (7<sup>th</sup>, W60A). Neil Barr (13<sup>th</sup>, M65A) and John Chellew (15<sup>th</sup>, M75A) rounded out the group, both running in very competitive classes. Congratulations to all on completing the three days – there were many who didn't!



Alison Radford (1<sup>st</sup>, W70A)



John Chellew (15<sup>th</sup>, M75A)





Julie Flynn (7<sup>th</sup>, W60A)

### Anzac Day Weekend, Renmark, SA

Although not a long weekend in Victoria, it was in South Australia and six hardy souls travelled to Renmark for three days of competition, that included the SA Long Distance Championships using the 'Crooked Straight' map. The terrain is an eroded, somewhat sandy area along the Murray River. Dianne Searle (1<sup>st</sup>, W75A) and Alison Radford (1<sup>st</sup>, W65A) conquered the terrain successfully, with Jim Russell (2<sup>nd</sup>, M55A) competitive as usual. Meanwhile, David Brownridge (14<sup>th</sup>, M21E), Tony Radford (5<sup>th</sup>, M65A) and Peter Searle (7<sup>th</sup>, M75A) enjoyed themselves.



Dianne Searle (1<sup>st</sup>, W75A) Crooked Straight



Alison Radford (1<sup>st</sup>, W65A), Crooked Straight



David Brownridge, NOL Event, Weila Bunyip map, Renmark



Peter Searle hoping to negotiate the final boulder on his course, SA Long Distance Champs

[Photo credits: Dianne Searle, Facebook SA, Tony Hill, Facebook OA]