



Newsletter 22/4

April 2022

EDITORIAL

March has seen a great start to the 2022 season with two successful Come & Try events organized by Julie Flynn (see Julie's report below) followed by the first of the Bendigo Bush series at Mt Alexander in early April.

We can look forward to three further Bendigo Bush events in April, including the much-anticipated Mt Egbert map made by Neil Barr. Neil assures us that Mt Egbert is a very junior mountain indeed! Also in this issue Neil provides an insight into how a sprint map is produced when he was given the challenge of mapping Assumption College Kilmore for the recent Melbourne Sprint Weekend. Only three Bendigo orienteers are making the trip to the Easter 3-Day Event in Queensland, but there is plenty of non-orienteering activity in Bendigo over Easter to keep the rest of us entertained.

Enjoy.

Dianne and Peter

NEXT CLUB MEETING: Monday, May 2nd, 5.30pm, H2OX Office, Old Mill, level 1/35 Wills St, Bendigo

COMING EVENTS: APRIL

For full details and entry details of each competition please go to the Eventor website at:

www.eventor.orienteering.asn.au/Events

Bendigo & Local Events

Date	Title	Map	Setter
Sat 9 April	Bendigo Bush #2	Mt Egbert – The Granites	Neil Barr
Sat 23 April	Bendigo Bush #3	Ironstone Hill	Ross Slater
Sat 30 April	Bendigo Bush #4	Dead Bullock Gully	John Wilkinson
Sat 7 May	Bendigo Bush #5	Sedgwick North	Peter Searle

Other Victorian Events

Sun 10 April	Vic Autumn-Spring #2	Enfield SF	Eureka OC
Sun 24 April	Vic MTBO #1	Creswick Forest South	Eureka OC
Sun 1 May	Vic Autumn-Spring #3	Sailors Diggings	Bayside Kangaroos

Bendigo Orienteers Club Meetings

Date & time: First Monday of every month (except January) at 5:30pm

Location: H2OX Office, Old Mill, level 1/35 Wills St, Bendigo

All members & non-members welcome. The meetings are open to everyone, not just committee members, feel free to come along and share your thoughts.

Club details:

President: Craig Feuerherdt
Vice-President: Jim Russell
Secretary: Ross Slater
Treasurer: Alison Radford

Website: www.bendigo-orienteers.com.au

Facebook: www.facebook.com/bendigoorienteers

Newsletter Editors: Dianne & Peter Searle

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Come & Try Orienteering events report – Julie Flynn

Over two consecutive Saturdays (using Myers Creek & Rocky Rises maps) we provided easy and moderate courses to introduce people to bush orienteering. Across the two events there were 107 participations; with 48 people (17 groups or individuals) at Event 1 and 59 people (21 groups or individuals) at Event 2. Most people participated in groups, either family groups, most of these included primary school aged children, or groups of adult friends, with a couple of individual adults attending.

Apart from Ross Slater and family, all the other people who attended both events (10 of them) were adults who participated either independently or in groups or pairs.

The participation numbers are very pleasing and we hope that we can encourage people to come again and enjoy their experiences of orienteering during the season.

Most people found out about the events through facebook, through which the club actively boosted advertising of the event. The other source of information nominated was friends. Our data indicates investing in social media advertising was the most effective method of publicising these events. None of the other methods (Connect Greater Bendigo website and local free newspapers) were nominated as participants' source of information about the events.



Come and Try Registration table, Rocky Rises

Participants were asked to rate their enjoyment and all who responded rated their enjoyment 5/5 or 4/5. They were also asked to rate the level of challenge they experienced. This varied according to which course they did, the level of difficulty in the course setting and whether the person scoring it was an adult or a child. Scores for challenge ranged between 2 and 5, so there is a range of ability, confidence and potential among participants. Everyone who responded to the question about whether they would come again responded positively with a 'yes'.

All groups were provided with printed information about the club's regular orienteering events, with key website addresses included.

Thanks to all the volunteers, without whom this would not have been successful. Each one of you helped beginners enjoy their experience: Peter & Dianne Searle, Jenny Ball, Terry Davidson, John Wilkinson, Charles Brownridge, Jim Russell, Anne Robinson, Nigel McGuckian, Prue Dobbin & Neil Barr.



Family groups returning to the last control, Rocky Rises

The next 2 Bendigo Orienteering events will use granite terrain to help experienced orienteers prepare for the terrain at the Easter carnival in Queensland, even though we have only 3 members going to the carnival. We should expect some of the newcomers to attend these events and granite will be very different to the spur gully they have tried so far. Neil has put together some basic information about reading granite features and we will send this document to these participants (we have 41 new email addresses).

If Bendigo Orienteers wishes to attract these newcomers to return and to join our club, we must continue to support them when they show up. Please consider volunteering to help newcomers at our local events. You will need to have a current Working with Children Card in order to do this.

A Sprint Map Project – Neil Barr

I was in a deep sluice gully mapping for the Australian Long Championships when the phone rang. After putting down the digital tablet and finding the phone in the backpack the call had run out. Caller ID nominated Ted van Geldermalsen so I rang back. After the initial pleasantries came the

purpose of the call – “Could you map Assumption College in a hurry? The event is scheduled in less than three months time”. I responded that sprint maps are not really my thing, having only made four of them. I have just started work on a large bush map which is also under some time pressure. Surely there is someone else with greater experience, time and inclination?

Turns out there wasn't such a person. One of the outcomes of the COVID lockdowns has been delays in mapping, and in late 2021 work was just starting on most of the eight maps for the Australian Championship carnival later this year, and on top of that the Melbourne Sprint Weekend needed two new maps in a hurry. After some negotiations over competing priorities, I agreed to fit Assumption College into the mapping schedule. It was going to be tight and there were quite a few steps in the process.

One of the reasons I avoid sprint maps are the security and permission issues. Australian sprint maps are generally on school or university campuses. This means negotiating permissions and agreeing on access protocols. With boarding schools this becomes a little more complex. When you add the neighbouring primary school and the parish church grounds the complexity increases. Negotiations were undertaken by the organisers, and part of their task was introducing the mapper to school grounds staff. The Assumption permissions were the first to be completed. The school was very cooperative, agreeing to access walkways through a number of buildings. There were some limitations. Field work had to start after school term finished. No courses near the boarding houses. Keep clear of the holy site – the main football oval and the grandstand under construction. No access to farm biosecurity areas. With one permission granted I started work on Assumption College on December 2, 2021. The process of sprint mapping starts with the building of a base map. The days of analog photogrammetric base maps are ancient history. For Assumption College I was able to process some quality lidar data to produce contours, a map of slope and of vegetation height. This was overlaid with a high resolution georeferenced aerial image. The mapping is recorded on an android tablet using Open Orienteering Mapper. The field work map is then used as a template to carefully re-draft a final version of the map on the home desktop computer.

The mapping was undertaken over four visits to the campus over a space of two months. Permissions for the primary school proved problematic, waiting until there was someone to contact when term recommenced for non-teaching staff. Until then, I mapped what I could using the aerial photography

and the hi-tech process of “looking over the fence”. The final map was delivered on the 1st of February. The main issues a mapper faces on a campus such as Assumption are gates and legibility. Mapping school campuses for sprint orienteering requires the mapper to exaggerate spaces between features to ensure they are readable. This often means shrinking building sizes to show the passages between them. The same process must be followed for gates, and when there are many gates close together, the space available for exaggeration is limited. On this map there were 89 gates and doors to map, a not unusual number (the Camp Hill map is similar). Thankfully it is up to the organizing team to negotiate which gates are open or closed on the day. The lack of exaggeration of some gate openings caused concerns for the event controller. These issues have led some Australian orienteers to argue that the existing sprint map specification needs to be relaxed to allow mapping at 1:3,000 on tight campus terrains. (see Neil's map on page 5, as well as Course 3 set by Ted van Geldermalsen.)

Bendigo Bush #1 - Mt Alexander

Our 2022 bush series is finally underway after two years of stop-start issues due to COVID restrictions. Shayne Hill set challenging courses using (gratefully) shorter distances to accommodate the higher number of contours that needed to be crossed. Over 60 competitors turned up in fine autumn weather.



Apres-O at Mt Alexander



Parking was in abandoned quarry workings, Mt Alexander



The Goonan clan enjoying the day. Next time don't forget to punch the control after taking a photo, Dianne!!

A new orienteer arrives at the start



Congratulations to James Robertson and Jane Sayles on the safe arrival of Thea - sister for Stanley.

Easter 3-Day & Bendigo Easter Book Fair

The premier multi-day orienteering event in Australia, the Easter 3-Day is in Southern Queensland this year. Just three Bendigo orienteers are making the journey – Tony & Alison Radford and Jim Russell. We wish them safe travels and good runs.

So, if you are looking for something to do over the Easter period a visit to the iconic Easter Book Fair could be just the thing. Thousands of books at reasonable prices in over 20 categories will be available. Funds raised go to local community organizations. Held at the YMCA Stadium in Mundy St, it will be open Friday, Saturday, and Sunday 9-5pm, and Monday 9-1pm.



Easter Book Fair

Run for Resilience, Bridgewater

Members may be interested in the Active Farmers 'Run for Resilience' to be held on Sunday 15th May. The run is designed to provide a challenging, fun and family friendly event and involves 5km, 10km and 21km running and walking distances designed for all ages and abilities. The choices are:

21km (runners only) - Beginning at the Inglewood Recreation Reserve at 8.00am The majority of this run is on dirt trails (some smoother than others) with a small section of pavement. NB: There will be a shuttle bus from Bridgewater Recreation Reserve to the Inglewood Recreation Reserve for all 21km participants.

10km (suitable for runners & walkers) - Beginning at the Bridgewater Recreation Reserve at 9.00am. The course is an out and back loop, and the terrain is a mixture of dirt tracks and pavement.

5km (suitable for all ages & fitness levels, including 4WD/off road prams) - An out and back course beginning at the Bridgewater Recreation Reserve starting at 9.30am.

For further details see:
activefarmers.com.au/runforresiliencebridgewater

Neil's map with the gaps highlighted by purple circles

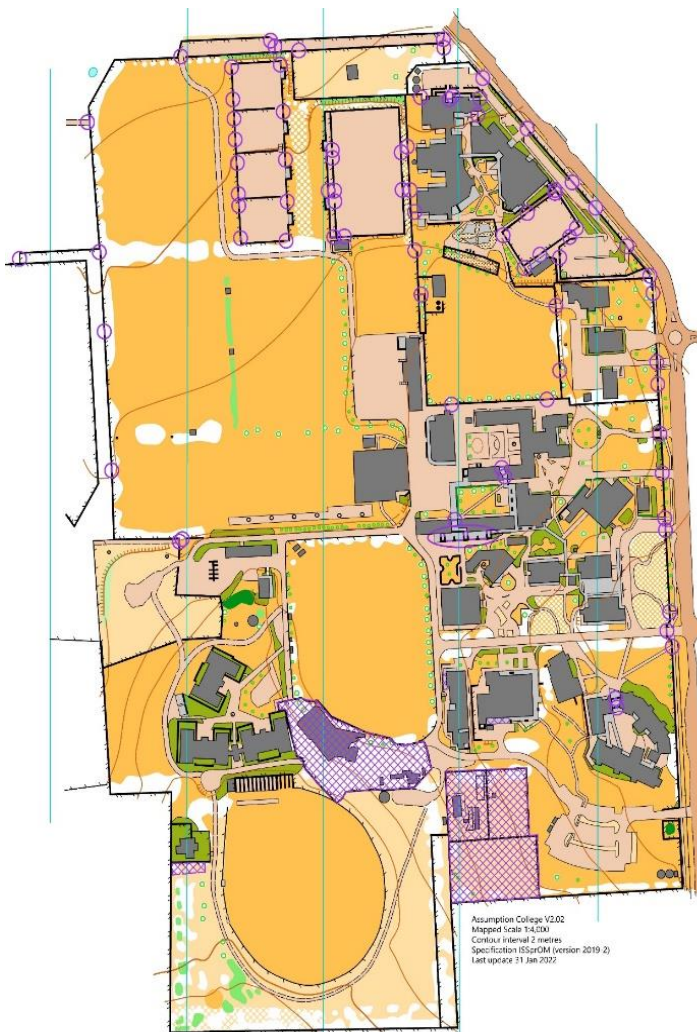




Figure 1 Assumption College map with gates shown using a purple circle

Course 3 (Part 1) at the Melbourne Sprint Weekend set by Ted van Geldermalsen



Melbourne Sprint Weekend 2022



ASSUMPTION COLLEGE


3 Part 1

MSW 2 - 12 Mar 2022 PM
Assumption College
Junior Boys, MGR, Senior Girls, W Open, W46


	3-1	2.7 km																		
1	78	J	TT																	
2	48	J	TT																	
3	82	J	TT																	
4	87	J	TT																	
5	73	J	TT																	
6	78	J	TT																	
7	82	J	TT																	
8	111	J	TT																	
9	88	J	TT																	
10	85	J	TT																	
11	78	J	TT																	
12	87	J	TT																	





Turn over for Part 2 map

Scale 1:3,000
Contour Interval 2m




Scan for results



Mapper: Neil Barr
Course Planner: Ricky Thoolroy
Printed on pre-set 50,120

Passes	07	08
Printed		



fairplay
no starting crossing
jumping over
reading across

