



Newsletter 22/6

June 2022

EDITORIAL

Late May and early June have seen a feast of orienteering experiences with two Victorian Championship events at Eldorado (Kangaroo Crossing – Large and Little) involving complex rock features and Neil Barr's new map at Tarnagulla (Tappit Hen) focussed on alluvial gold-mining remains. Former Orienteering Australia President reports on his experience at Tappit Hen and the effect of recent heavy rain.

The weekend of July 2/3 brings two events to the calendar organized by President, Craig Feuerherdt. Both will use our normal 5 course format and are presented as part of the Women's Junior Sports Festival (WJSF) being run in Bendigo over this weekend. Members are welcome to compete in both events in the normal way, and also help Craig in introducing newcomers to our sport.

Enjoy.

Dianne and Peter

NEXT CLUB MEETING: Monday, 4th July, 5.30pm, H2OX Office, Old Mill, level 1/35 Wills St, Bendigo

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

Bendigo & Local Events

Date	Title	Map	Setter
Sat 11 June	Course Setters Choice	Mandurang – Coolibah	Colin Walker
Sat 18 June	Bendigo Bush 8	One Tree Hill	Daryl Fleay
Sat 25 June	Bendigo Bush 9	Pilchers Bridge Central	Don Cherry
Sat 2 July	Bendigo Multi Event (WJSF race 1)	Newer Saint Mungo	Craig Feuerherdt
Sun 3 July	Bendigo Multi Event (WJSF race 2)	Royal George	Craig Feuerherdt
Sat 9 July	Bendigo Bush 10	Diamond Hill North	Julie Flynn

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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Control Collection

It was disappointing to hear of the lack of control collectors at the Tappit Hen event. Yes, by the end of the day it was cold, wet, and miserable. But the coldness, wetness and misery should not have been shouldered by just the two or three people who had done all the hard work organizing the event before and on the day.

Our sport can be labour intensive, as essentially we set up a new stadium or sportsground for every event - unlike tennis, netball, or football where identical fixed locations are used week in, week out. The load needs to be shared and if you've had a good day running free in the bush - or even if you haven't – offer to bring in a few controls at the end of the day.

Eldorado weekend report

Eleven members made it to the Victorian Middle and Long Distance Championships based at Eldorado on the 28/29 May. Although cold with fog around in the early morning both days remained mercifully fine and dry.



Kangaroo Crossing before



.....and after [Photos: Clare Brownridge]

The Middle event was in fact the 2021 Championships delayed because of Covid and on a new map prepared by Leigh Privett. Leigh suggested competitors “think big” – meaning rock features that would normally be mapped weren't. It turned out to be good advice. If all the rock had been mapped the map would have been black all over!



Start area, Kangaroo Crossing

Alison and Tony Radford as well as Jim Russell were winners in their age classes on both days, with Ben Goonan winning M35AS in the Long Distance event. Minor placings were achieved by Dianne Searle (3rd W75A) in the Middle, and Don Cherry (2nd M55A) and Peter Searle (2nd M75A) and Clare Brownridge (2nd W35A) in the Long.



Jim Russell (1st M50A)



Don Cherry (2nd M55A), Bruce Paterson (3rd)

Congratulations to all on a successful weekend in the Kangaroo Crossing rock.

QB22 report NZ

Jim Russell together with Ted van Geldermalsen and Margi Freemantle journeyed to New Zealand for the QB22 event held over the NZ Queens Birthday long weekend June 4-6.

In the Sprint event Ted and Jim were placed 3rd and Margi came 7th.

There were two Middle Distance events with Ted coming 1st and 2nd and Jim placing 2nd and 9th. In the Long Distance, Ted was again on the podium (1st) with Jim 9th.

Tappit Hen Report – Blair Trewin (YV)

Like a lot of things which have happened of late, this event was something I'd been waiting for for a while. Originally tentatively planned for 2020, then 2021, it finally appeared on the fixture for early June 2022, on a weekend when there wasn't a lot else on (the bye even denied me the opportunity to watch my football team lose again). Neil's advance advertising suggested it would be worth the wait, and given how accurate the advance advertising was for the previous such outing at Mount Egbert, I suspected that it was to be believed.

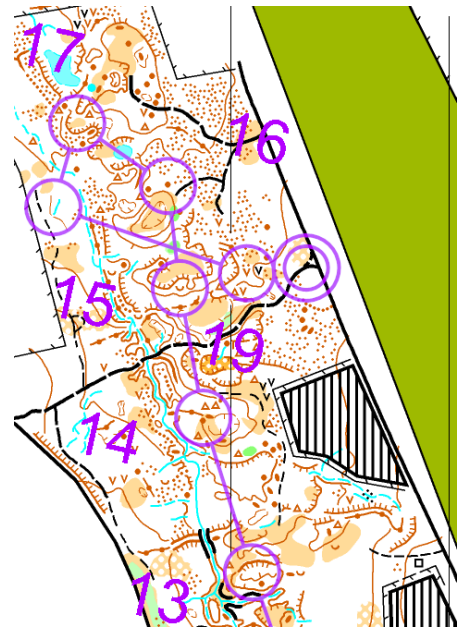
The forecast for Saturday hadn't been great for several days leading up, but improved enough in the last day or two to suggest that we would probably only get showers and not consistent rain. There were several showers coming up from Melbourne, some of them heavy, but we broke out of the last of them coming out of Laanecoorie and it ended up being mostly dry for the duration of my run (the organisers packing up would not be so lucky).

We'd been told ahead of time that the area had two halves, the first half gully-spur with bits and pieces of mining, the second half a flat gully with most of the mine workings. That first half, generally pretty fast and not especially steep, gave plenty of opportunity to those who can run fast to stretch out. As I no longer fit into this category, it was a longer process for me, but still rather pleasant and meant that I was properly warmed up before hitting the interesting stuff.

The second half was a bit different to most of the mining we're used to – a flat gully without a lot of big features, just smaller erosion features. Tracks, and the fences on the edge of the area, provided good attack points for the first few controls of this section which simplified things considerably, although some of the ground vegetation was hard work if you weren't on one of the several elephant tracks.

That got us to the closing loop of the course (#14-19 on course 1). At the northern end of the map, the earth banks, gullies and small knolls were joined by numerous ponds, large depressions which had become ponds, and in one case a pond which had become a large depression (not quite sure what was going on there). The visibility was lower at this end of the map too, and with the water features pushing you off your line and not much of a directional cue from the contours, it was easy to make mistakes. Like many others, #14 (see below) was where I struck some trouble, ending up hitting the fence to the east and dropping 90 seconds or so. The rest was reasonably clean in a navigational sense (not so much in a physical sense after going into some deep mud at one point).

This map was definitely a fine addition to Victorian orienteering – mining, but not quite in the same way as we know it. The long narrow strip of detail doesn't provide a huge number of options as to how to use it, so it may not be a map we return to time after time, but as an experience it was well worth the trip. I definitely look forward to Neil's next project.



Some comments on mapping Tappit Hen – Neil Barr

The mapping Tappit Hen was done in 2019. There was lidar data for the dredge hole area, but the rest was mapped using an old mining map provided by John Maher. A GPS tablet ensured all the features were accurately placed on the map. First use was planned for 2020 but eventually happened in 2022. In that time the weather had swapped from dry to wet. There were only two lakes on the original map. There were many more on the terrain come event. This was discovered when putting out the controls

a day or so before the event. No time to remap other than quickly add a couple of extra lakes. I plan to go out and map the current extent of lakes when I can find the time.



Tappit Hen – very dry



Oxalis equals wet feet!

Tappit Hen control site – big prize to be won!

As Neil has outlined above, the mapping of Tappit Hen was completed in the dry and the event conducted in the wet – very wet.

The control site (narrow spur, north end) in the photo below is NOT one used by Neil. Can you work out where it is? The first person to choose the correct spot will win a Cherry Ripe. You will need to bring your map of Tappit Hen and indicate your choice to either Peter or Dianne Searle at the Mandurang event on June 11. One choice only per person. Unfortunately, Neil Barr is disqualified from the competition but instead gets a Cherry Ripe anyway for his great skill in mapping the area.



Tappit Hen – very wet



What can Blair look forward to in the way of new maps in the Bendigo fixture? Well, no more this year. I need a break from organizing. I have offered Jim Russell the use of a map south of Dunolly for the Bendigo ToDay in 2023. It has areas of gravel extraction, sluice and dredge terrain, reef mining and spur gully. There may be an event on the rest of Mt Korong, and one in an area of reef mining amidst mallee and broom brush forest.