

Bendigo Orienteers

Newsletter November / 2023



Above: Enjoying a cuppa after the Rocky Rises O event. Photo: Jenny Ball

We are nearing the end of the orienteering season. A number of events have been held since the last newsletter.

On 7th October John Wilkinson set three courses on the Rocky Rises map. This was a free training run and used a minimum of equipment – the day was terrific for the 20 competitors – including some newcomers. On 21st October a twilight score event was held on the Pilchers Bridge map. A mass start at 6 pm saw 25 competitors head off in a number of different directions to get as many controls as possible in the time allocated. The 1 hour section was won by John Wilkinson, the 2 hour by Andrew McCarthy and the 3 hour (included some night work) was won by Rod Gray followed closely by Neil Barr and then Julie Flynn. Thanks to Ross Slater for organising this event.

Thank you to those persons who competed in the above events and to those who set the courses, or helped to collect controls.

Our final event for the year is the Break up tea at Victoria Hill on Saturday 18th November ([details on page 2](#)).

Perpetual trophies from last year should have already been returned so they can be engraved with this years winners for presentations at the Break up.



Photo: Relaxing at the end of the Rocky Rises event.

Coming event !!!!

18th November Bendigo break up (social) event - Victoria Hill (Saturday evening)

The club's end of year presentation picnic is scheduled for Saturday 18th November, 4pm - 7pm at the Albert Richardson Reserve, 40 Marong Road Bendigo. This reserve has parking, toilets, barbeque, picnic tables, and is adjacent to the Victoria Hill Diggings historic reserve. We are not planning an orienteering event as part of this activity, rather, members and friends are invited to walk through the historic reserve if they wish.

Medallions and some trophies will be presented.

We will be providing food (meat, vege burgers, bread and soft drink) and ask you to bring a salad or dessert to share. Please bring your own chairs, plates and cutlery. We will provide drinking cups and serviettes.

Please indicate your attendance on Eventor by Friday 17th Nov so we know how much food to order.

Hope to see you there! (from Julie Flynn, Vice President)

Wheel Cactus day (Report by Julie Flynn).

Four of our orienteering club members participated in our first wheel cactus day at the Granites. We were joined by several volunteers from the Loddon Plains Landcare Network and 2 staff members from Parks Victoria. When Neil mapped the area for orienteering, he included the locations of the wheel cactus plants. We can use these maps to help us cover the whole area and eventually eliminate the weeds from the reserve.



The purpose of our involvement was to start a process of (hopefully) regular working bees to poison these nasty weeds so that we have better orienteering terrain and earn respect from Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Corporation and Parks Victoria, which provides permits for us to use the land they manage for our sport.

There is another working bee being planned for Wednesday November 22 at this stage, and we expect no further working bees until after summer. Please let Julie Flynn know if you would like to come along.

Email: julieflynn@fastmail.fm or phone: 0429496422



Photo: Jan Baxter and Verna Greenhaulgh applying poison to wheel cactus

Bendigo 2023 committee:

President: Neil Barr Vice President: Julie Flynn Treasurer: Craig Feuerherdt
Secretary: Ross Slater Members: John Wilkinson, Nola Juniper.
More committee members are welcome.

***HELP STILL NEEDED** We have been short of members to help pack up gear and collect controls at the end of our events. Please consider staying back to help pack up after your run (if each member helps out at 4 events for the year it makes life much easy). Thank you.*

Send in reports / articles.

Please forward any articles for the newsletter to John Wilkinson, johnwbmw@gmail.com as Word documents, and photos separate as JPG's.

Thank you to those who have contributed to the newsletter this year.

END