

# Bendigo Orienteers

Newsletter June / 2023



Above: May 6<sup>th</sup> Vic Series event (Ted, Margi and Jim at work).

Photo: Don Cherry.

A number of events have been held since the last newsletter. On 13 May Don Cherry set some interesting courses on the Sedgwick south map with 68 entries. On 20 May Neil Barr organised a new map for us to run on – called Psalm Singing Gully, near Inglewood. This area was challenging as it was made up of Mallee scrub, erosion gullies and old gold mining, making seeing far ahead difficult. There were 76 entries. On 27 May there was a free Training event on Crusoe map organised by Ross Slater. There are a number of Training events on our calendar – designed for newcomers to have a go at running and setting an event with minimal gear (no computer scoring). Competitors had to visit as many controls as they could in one hour. June 3<sup>rd</sup> saw a wet event with 72 entrants on Mt Tarrengower, setter was David Brownridge. This area with lots of granite is always a challenge to competitors. Thanks to all those who set courses and competed in these events. Reports below.

## Coming events

Our events for this year are listed on Eventor. Please also enter via Eventor.

- 17 June ... Kangaroo Gully. Setter: Ted van Geldermalsen
- 24 June ... One Tree Hill. Setters: Lorraine Leversha and Nola Juniper.
- 1 July ... Virginia Hill. Setter: Ricky Thackery.
- 8 July ... Training (score) event. New St Mungo.

NOTE: Helpers are always required at club events, especially at the end when controls have to be collected (if each member helps out at 4 events for the year it makes life much easy).

### **Presidential Preamble by Neil Barr.**

Yes, this newsletter has a Presidential Preamble because there is a President at last. After several months of watching and waiting, I realized that if I didn't volunteer, no-one else would. The club is in the less-than-ideal position of having the Presidency and Vice-Presidency held by marriage partners. This doesn't look like good governance, but it does look better governance than having no president. If anyone thinks governance could be improved, either of us is willing to resign if there is an alternative volunteer. Assuming there isn't, my hope is to remain in the position long enough to see off the 2025 Easter orienteering carnival which will probably be held in the Inglewood region. After that, my eyes are on a long trip somewhere else. The club faces the challenge of an ageing and shrinking volunteer base. I am currently analysing some entry and volunteer data comparing 2022 with 2002, when I first took on the role of President of the club. Some of the numbers are sobering. There may be a report in the next newsletter. For now, it looks like we need to concentrate on making it easier to organise events and to limit our recruitment efforts to methods that have worked in the past. Much of our past effort has generated little long-term impact on the club. With a declining volunteer base we can't waste effort for no return.

## Membership for 2023

Your 2023 membership fee is due now and it can be paid via Eventor. This year 2023 our membership fee has been reduced to \$35 to encourage more people to join.

Please update your contact details when re-joining. Currently we have 82 members.



Above: Prue Dobbin in action .... Photo by Don Cherry.

## Recent events by Neil Barr.

The club hasn't been resting since the NOL event on Wattle Gully. There have been events at Sedgwick South, Psalm Singing Gully, Crusoe and Tarrengower. The Crusoe event was the first of our 2023 low-key events. Ross Slater set the event with 15 or so small flags, no punches, SI boxes or computers. The idea behind this style of event is to make it easier for newcomers to course setting to run an event without the workload that comes with the full-on Bendigo Bush series. Ross put out the controls on Saturday morning, and the event was concluded and packed up in a record early time. This style harks back to the years when the club policy was for an event to be organised with gear that would fit into a car boot.

A justification for fixturing these simpler events can be seen in the effort that David Brownridge put into running a high-quality event last weekend on Mt Tarrengower. Somehow Dave managed to accurately place over 30 controls on the steep slopes of Tarrengower on Saturday morning in steady rain. Many of the control sites were challenging navigation, as demonstrated by the routes available for view on Livelox. Dave arrived back at the assembly area a little before 12 looking like he had been for a swim. A change of clothes and a visit to the bakery in Maldon helped his recovery. Few club members would be capable of pulling off a successful event in those conditions. Simpler formats make sense as a component of the Bendigo orienteering fixture.

The Psalm Singing Gully event was on new terrain just a couple of kilometres west of Inglewood. Not only was the terrain new, this was also a unique orienteering experience – complex reef mining terrain in low visibility mallee forest. The promise of a novel experience attracted well over 70 orienteers. Below: Psalm Singing Gully mining terrain (photo by Neil Barr)



As with the Maldon event, the rain that fell on the organisers during the morning cleared to a fine day for the competitors. This map is now embargoed until the Easter 2025 competition. If you intend to compete in that competition, you cannot run in this terrain until then.

Below: Julie Flynn in Mallee scrub at Psalm Singing Gully, Inglewood.



## Bendigo 2023 committee:

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

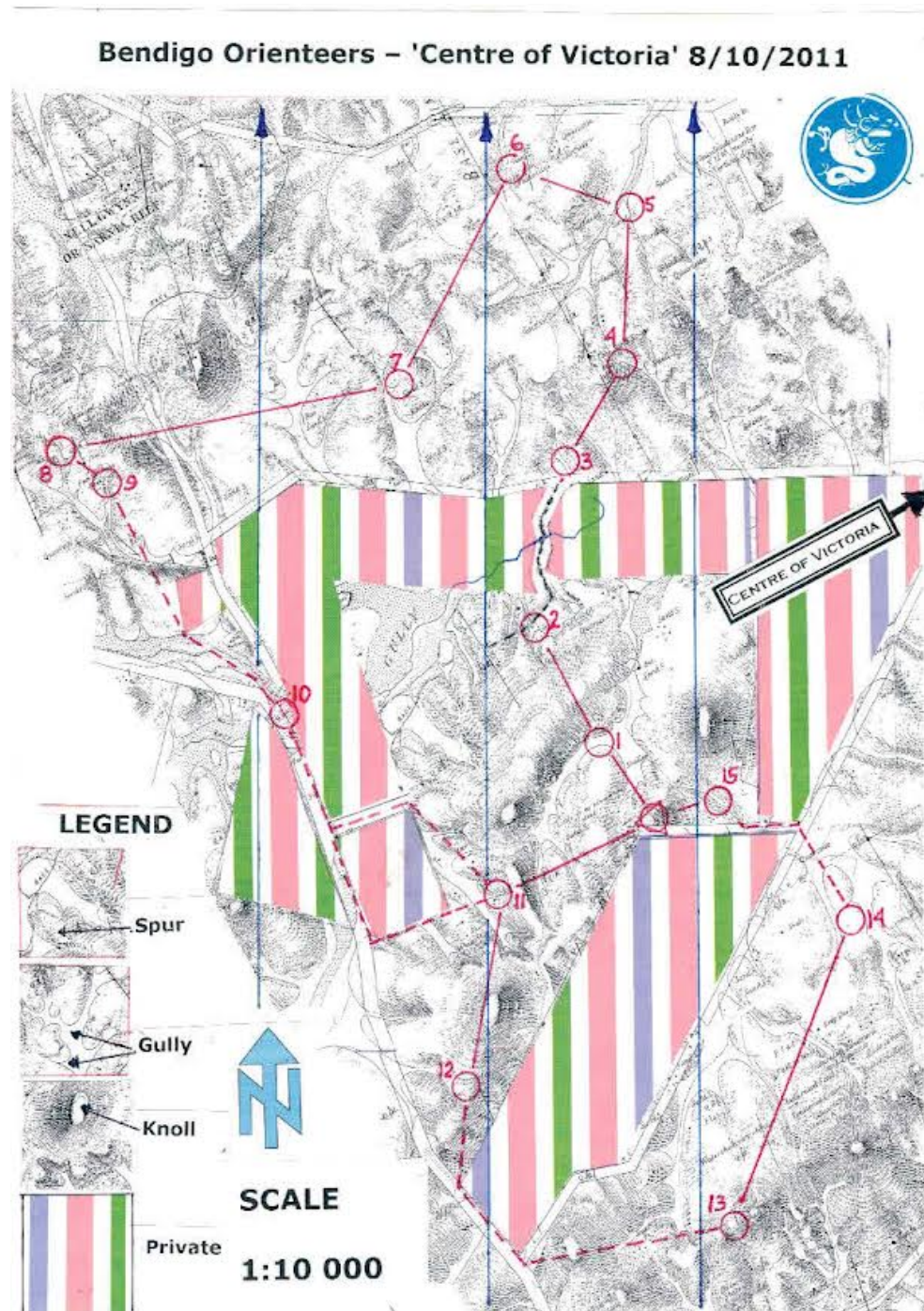
## **Remembering Past O Events ... by Terry Davidson.**

Terry Davidson has just cleaned out a huge number of old Orienteering maps from his home. Terry reports ... “There was one map that I thought was ‘different’ and would be interesting for readers, not only for some to reflect on whether they competed that day (and, if they can remember how well they went!), but also to realize the great strides in mapping of contours over the years, from the hatchures of the past to what we see as standard representation of contours nowadays. I had kept an article from Australian Orienteering written about this subject by Geoff Lawford and I thought that it might be well worth publishing in conjunction with the map of my event.

On the day there were three ‘normal’ courses with standard coloured/ contoured maps for those who were not doing the approx 5km B course and the approx 7 km A course. Keen readers will recognize the southern section of Norfolk Hero forming the northern part of this present map.

I 'googled' for the results of that event with some interesting finds! There was only one entrant in the A course - a DNF - and there were 14 in the B course with two DNFs. John Wilkinson won B with a time of 38.25 min, followed by Charles Brownridge with 57.58, then John Chellew with 59.00 Sue Davidson finished strongly, bringing up the tail with a time of 100.00".

Editor: I can recall this event Terry – it was indeed an interesting one with the old style map. A copy of Terry's "hatchures" map is shown below and the AO article.



# A Short History of the Cartographic Representation of Relief

Geoff Lawford

**A** PART from prehistoric cave drawings, the earliest known mapping of relief was carried out by Babylonians around 3800 BC. On clay tablets they drew fish scale shapes to represent hills. The fish scales looked like profiles of hill ranges and conveyed the image of undulating ground. Sometimes they tinted the peaks in colour and drew prominent mountains in their specific profile. These methods were borrowed by other civilisations, and remained in use until 1500 AD, when a crude form of hachuring developed, which tended to portray hills as conical mounds. In the late 1600s in Europe hachuring was enhanced such that the density of the hachures became dependent only on the steepness of the terrain - the steeper the terrain, the denser the hachures. Previously the density of the hachures was also dependent on the elevation and bearing of an imaginary light source. In the 1700s, hills and mountains were still generally portrayed in profile but by the 1800s hachuring had become very popular in Europe, though in America it remained unpopular. In Switzerland, where hachuring is still used, the art of hachuring rose to its zenith. With cartographic skill, hachuring can portray fine detail more clearly than contours, as many Swiss maps testify. Isobaths, which are lines joining points of equal depth underwater, were developed before contours. There is disagreement as to when, where and by whom isobaths were first used. They were first used either:

- in 1584, by Pieter Buiss, on a map near Haadem, Netherlands, or



A section of a Swedish ordnance survey map, using hachuring. The original map scale was 1:100,000. Maps such as this were used for orienteering in the early 1900s. The terrain is near Vannas, near Umea.

- in 1697, by Pierre Anclin, on a map of Rotterdam, Netherlands, or
- in 1728, by N.S. Cruquius, on a map of "the Merwede ibe honor" which presumably is in northern Europe, or
- between 1729 and 1737, by Philippe Buache, on a map of the English Channel.

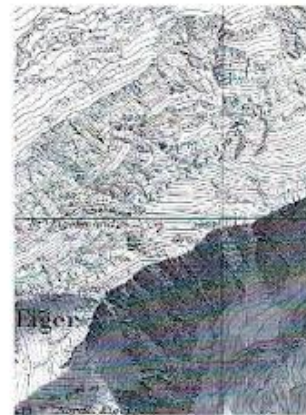
Contours were a progression of and spawned by isobaths. Similarly, there is disagreement as to when, where and by whom contours were first used. Contours were first used in either

- 1749, by Milet de Mureau, on fortification plans, most probably in France, or
- 1768, by DuCarla, on a topographic map of Switzerland, or
- 1791, by Jean Louis Dupain-Triol, on a French map.

Though developed in the 1700s, contours were not embraced by mapping authorities as they were considered less aesthetically pleasing than hachures. Only in the 1800s were contours adopted, and it was not until about 1845 that they replaced hachures as the most popular method of relief portrayal. By this time it was realised that contours were the best method of satisfying, with one technique, most of the requirements of relief portrayal, that is, the conveyance of terrain shape, slope, aspect



A section of a Swedish orienteering map, drawn and mapped by orienteers in 1956. The original map scale was 1:50,000. Relief is portrayed with a mixture of contours and hachures. The map is of the same terrain as maps left and right, near Vannas, near Umea.



A section of a modern Swiss map of the Eiger. The original map scale was 1:25,000. Relief is portrayed with a combination of contours, hachures, and hill shading.

and elevation. Though contours also had failings, the chief of these being that they omitted detail between the contour lines, and a degree of training was required to interpret them.

In the 1850s the British Ordnance Survey embraced them more eagerly, as did the United States national survey in the late 1870s. By the late 1800s contours were the preferred method of relief portrayal by many national survey authorities.

However it was the advances made in aerial photogrammetry during World War 1, which led to monumental improvements in the accuracy and speed with which contours could be captured, which ultimately heralded the dominance of the contour for representing relief.



A section of a modern Swedish orienteering map. The original map scale was 1:15,000. Relief is portrayed with only contours. This map is of the same terrain as maps 1 and 2, near Vannas, near Umea.

## Send in reports / articles.

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

**END**