



02 Newsletter

March 2025

President's Message

Hi everybody. It's nice to see over 56 members renewing their membership so far this year. If you are doing so, please check that your address, phone numbers and email are correct on Eventor. This is important for contacting you. Last year we ended up with 100 members.

The event at One Tree Hill had to be cancelled due to extreme hot weather as were most other events in Victoria. Hopefully the next scheduled event on March 29th at Browns Reef will go ahead – I am course setter. You will notice this year that course 1 is longer than usual (about 8 km). We also have the Australian Easter carnival of O events coming up soon (helpers are needed – contact Julie Flynn). Following Easter is the Anzac Day weekend which has the Victorian Middle, Long and sprint events. Bendigo O club is organising the Friday sprints (Dunolly) and Long distance event (Mt Korong). Help needed again.

The March committee meeting was an open one held online but some members were blocked out – we have altered the link code for these meetings and all should be able to log on for the next meeting on Monday April 7th at 7.30 pm.

Our club has paid its annual affiliation fee with the Victorian Orienteering Assoc. – this cost us \$950 per year and covers insurance, running costs etc. We also pay Parks Vic for permits to run each event on their territory. Merit badges from OA have been ordered for those people who requested one- we will pass them on when they arrive.

The selection policy and events for the Victorian Schools Team 2025 have been finalised. Nominations are now being accepted through Eventor: page: <https://eventor.orienteering.asn.au/Events/Show/22239>

Hope to see you at Browns Reef on March 29th. Please enter via Eventor and check again the day before for updates. Bring your own water to keep hydrated.

John Wilkinson

2025 Club Committee

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Australian 3 Days – Help Needed

Thank you to the members who have volunteered so far for the 3 out of 7 events over the Easter and Anzac weekends. We still do not have quite enough helpers to make the events run smoothly, so if you are planning to be there, please let me know if you are able to help out with either control collection, parking, arena set up and dismantle or anything else.

The events where help is needed are:

Good Friday at Tarnagulla for the Prologue and Family Team events (parking, starts and control collection)

Anzac Day (25 April) at Dunolly for the championship bush sprint races (parking and control collection mainly)

Sunday 27 April at Mt Korong for the Victorian Long Distance Championships (we need more people for control collection)

Please let me know your availability to help make these events run well.

Julie Flynn

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2025 BendiGo ToDay

The club's year began with the two-day event hosted by Jim Russell, starting the weekend off with a new sprint area for us at Catherine McAuley College. With a result list of 45 runners we met again the next morning for an early run on the familiar Wildflower Drive map. (Familiarity was not a help for some of us!) However 60 orienteers completed their course and were able to re-energise with a hot drink and cake. Thanks Prue. This was Jim's eighteenth To-Day event! Legend. For interest there is a location history attached to the Eventor page put up by Jim. Impressive indeed.

Thanks Jymbo.



Hot weekend in the bush

Labor Day long weekend had a hot forecast, and Saturday's course setter Gary Buchan gave entrants to the Bungal Forest event the chance to run early in the 'cool' part of the day.

Ben, David B, Claire, Julie, Neil and Peter all completed a course - a good introduction to the rigours of the Sunday event at Borhoney Ghurk near Elaine.

It was hot. Uncomfortably hot. Hard work for entrants and organisers alike (thanks Nillumbik Emus!). David B dismissed the conditions and had a great run to come in second on Course 1. However he did have the good grace to look a trifle spent on finishing! Charles placed fourth on Course 3, an excellent result on the day. Neil, Don, Keely, Julie and John all came in with a finish time,

pleased to be back. Well done. The rest of us were dnf's or dns.

The next fixture was to be One Tree Hill set by Colin W, but was cancelled owing to another hot forecast. Hope to see many club members at our upcoming event on Browns Reef, Saturday March 29th. Good conditions have been ordered by course setter John W.



Mt Alexander and Mt Tarrengower origins



The origins of two of our popular orienteering areas – Mt Alexander and Mt Tarrengower are the subject of a talk by Professor Barry Golding at the Castlemaine Library in May. (See outline below.) Attendance is free, but bookings essential via Goldfields Libraries website.

If the ancient peaks of southern Dja Dja Wurrung country could speak, they'd no doubt tell remarkable stories like those in this significant new book by Professor Barry Golding, created in collaboration with Castlemaine-based geologist Clive William. The book bears witness to 'unsettling' changes over the past 200 years, as viewed from the perspective of the peaks (including Dharrang Gauwa - Mount Tarrengower and Liyanganyuk banyul - Mount Alexander) that stand sentinel over an ancient volcanic landscape and its immense natural and cultural significance.

