



Happy Herts Newsletter 277

December 2020

Note from the Editor

Welcome to another edition of the HH newsletter, this time with some welcome news with the return of events – Verulamium will now taking place on 19 December. There are also two requests for your assistance if able.

Sascha, (newsletter@herts-orienteing.club)

After Lockdown 2 - events return....

Now that the lockdown is changing and Hertfordshire is confirmed as being in Tier 2, we're continuing with events. The Verulamium event due to be on 5 Dec has been deferred to 19 December - It was too great a risk to take entries before we came out of lockdown. We will now open entries on 5 Dec.

We had to cancel Stanborough, so if you took the voucher option from - if you did nothing you'd have got one - don't forget to claim that against Verulamium or any future HH event – check your emails to that effect.

Further ahead, we'll continue to put Saturday events on each month, certainly while we're in Tier 2. We are going ahead also with planning for Ace of Herts at Ashridge on Sunday 21 Feb. As you can imagine, the situation is fluid as permissions are contingent on decisions at a national level by Government, BOF or the National Trust, but we are hopeful.

It looks like Compassport Cup 2021 is cancelled, along with certain other national events. In the mean time, the HH DIY Street-O is returning with some interesting new courses - see David's article below.

Mike, (chair@herts-orienteing.club)

Free training!

We generally can always keep developing our skills. [Ed - When I played and coached rugby I learnt a lot about playing when training to qualify as a Referee.]

British Orienteering has an online self-study version of the Event Safety Course. It will cost £10 but before 31 December it is free.

To sign up, visit <https://www.britishorienteering.org.uk/elearningcourses>

Anyone who wants to be Organiser, Planner or Controller for an event needs to do it, if you haven't already attended a similar course.

It's also useful for any of us to understand the level of risk assessment that our event officials go through on our behalf. Give it a go, it's only an hour or so of your time, and at no cost if you're quick.



Your chance to help HH

As we return to organising events, we have noticed a slot in the schedule for you to play your part in supporting HH. We are looking for an organiser to finalise details for the Ace of Herts at Ashridge on 21st Feb next year. Mike (who did a sterling job in 2019) and Stu will assist as necessary. I know the planner has been scratching his head, as the wall of rhododendrons was cut down earlier this year.

DIY Street-O keeping us sane....

Just one more week of lockdown before we can go back (?) to a slightly less restrictive O-world, when we'll hopefully be in a position to start up our previous 1-StreetO-a-week schedule.

If you want proper orienteering, registration for GO's middle distance event at Puttenham on 6 Dec is open and filling up rapidly:

<https://racesignup.co.uk/site/event.php?eventid=1972>

In the meantime, some more options:

1. (Re)run your local DIY-O. Want an extra challenge? Try getting all the controls!

<https://www.herts-orienteering.club/fixtures/diy-street-o/>

We have recently published an additional 5 courses - Stevenage, Cuffley, Hertford, St Albans and Welwyn Garden City. If any of these are local to you please give them a go.

2. Have a(nother) go at Post-O. Can you beat your performance in the Spring?

- a) Use OpenOrienteeringMap <https://oomap.co.uk/gb/#/new/streeto/11/-0.2666/51.7402/>. Zoom in to your place of residence, and click to generate a map. Use the Add Postboxes button. Default to 1:10,000 scale; move centre around or flip between landscape/portrait as sensible, and add your start/finish point. If you want a walk-through [please see this short video](#)
- b) Print out a copy of the map ("Save & get PDF map" button at top-right). Plan a route if you wish!
- c) Starting from the edge of your property, run/walk past as many postboxes as possible and get back home in 45 mins.

3. Plan a local Street-O. Help me out and plan your own local course for us to use when restrictions are lifted. Start with the OpenOrienteeringMap instructions above, then add more controls as necessary. Send me the PDF and we'll go from there. Click for [Updated guidance](#)

4. Do [join the club social](#) each Tues 8pm whether or not you've run
You shouldn't need the password but if asked it's **4fDm2h**



Changes to Group email

Yahoo has informed the club it will be switching off the group email functionality mid-December. The committee considered a number of alternatives and has chosen Groups.IO as replacement. Sascha will send out more details in the coming days.

Orienteering Survey into Anti Misting for glasses

We received an email from Will, who is at Uni and filling his time thinking about orienteering. Click on the link to help keep him focused.

“I am currently studying at Loughborough University and am undertaking my Part C personal project whereby I am aiming to design a device that reduces/ eliminated misting that occurs on orienteers glasses when they compete.

I was wondering if you were able to distribute my survey about misting problems in orienteering to members of your club so that I can gain a better insight into the problem?

[Here is a link to the survey:](#)

William Smith, Loughborough University”

Do you have spare (old) kit?

We had another request, this time for you to check your wardrobe for old kit. Contact the HH secretary if you can help:

“My name is Jacopo Stöcher and I am writing to you because a crazy idea crossed my mind: would it be possible to own a shirt from every orienteering club around the globe?

So here comes your part. I kindly ask you to help me out on this crazy and hard path. It would really help me, if your club could become involved by sending me a shirt. It mustn't even be your newest one, it would also help me a lot if you could offer one of 1967. Of course your club's socials will be publicized on my Instagram page!

Thanks for helping me reach this goal, have a nice day,

Jacopo Stöcher”

Competition corner

Unlike Will (above) The Quiz master doesn't want us to always think about orienteering. As an interesting diversion this month, he has provided an amazing example of the [power of concentration and balance](#) – check the link now.

Solution to puzzle in HH News 271 Solution:-

- Alex ran the Green course; his superb leg was 7, leading to a re-entrant.
- Bill ran the Brown course; his superb leg was 8, leading to a depression.
- Chris ran Short Green; his superb leg was 4, leading to a gully end.
- Denis ran the Short Blue course; his superb leg was 6, leading to a pit.
- Eddie ran Short Brown; his superb leg was 9, leading to a stream junction.



Events

Please note all events may be subject to change - do check the website before travelling. AT the moment, events are selling out quickly, so do plan ahead.

Date	Event	Club	Level
Sun 06 Dec 2020	Double-U Puttenham Common Middle Distance (Unlocked Up) Good area with mix of open heath and woodland. Entries open on Racesignup	GO	Regional
Sat 12 Dec 2020	PROVISIONAL Alexandra Palace TBC (no EOD) TBC; interesting with good views; entries on Fabian open on 4th Dec(hopefully)	LOK	Local
Sun 13 Dec 2020	South East Families and Veterans Reigate Priory Park Not a flat park; not on website yet	MV	Regional
Sat 19 Dec 2020	DFOK KOL 4 Shooters Hill web site says details to follow	DFOK	Local
Wed 06 Jan 2021	BAOC Bateson Memorial O Event Barossa The only BAOB on the BOF web site. Possible error?	BAOC	Local
Sat 09 Jan 2021	SAX Kent Orienteering League Angley Rearranged from November; no details	SAX	Local
Sat 09 Jan 2021	BKO Saturday Event Bucklebury Common Interesting area; Entries on Fabian	BKO	Local
Sun 10 Jan 2021	TVOC Regional Event TBC Not on web site yet	TVOC	Regional
Sat 16 Jan 2021	Park-O Wandlebury Country Park National Trust Park land – moderately interesting No pre-entry. Starts 1-3pm	WAOC	Local



Sun 17 Jan 2021	DFOK SE League Event Westerham . NT land adjacent to Chartwell. Typical SE area.	DFOK	National
Sun 24 Jan 2021	SAX SE League Enchanted Place. Part of Ashdown Forest. Typically open heath with boggy bits.	SAX	National
Sun 31 Jan 2021	LEI Winter League 7 Irchester Country Park Very interesting terrain (see map on LEI web site) Previously gravel workings. No Details yet	LEI	Local
Sun 31 Jan 2021	Bedfords Park Local Interesting area with mix of terrain	HAVOC	Local
Sat 06 Feb 2021	GO SE League Event & SE Middle Champs Redlands. Another bit of the North Downs. Moderately hilly	GO	National
Sun 07 Feb 2021	Southern Championships South Ashdown. Typical Ashdown forest. Mainly open heathland with small patches of woodland.	MV	National
Sun 14 Feb 2021	LOK SE League event Leith Hill. World Cup area. Look out for Leith Hill tower; highest point in SE England.	LOK	National
Sun 21 Feb 2021	HH SE League Event Ashridge. Ashridge East and South, including Northchurch Common.	HH	National
Sat 27 Feb 2021	Therfield Heath event (including Park-O) No pre-entry. Starts 1-3pm	WAOC	Local
Sun 28 Feb 2021	SOS Danbury Park Danbury No details on Web site	SOS	Regional
Sun 14 Mar 2021	Regional Event Balcombe Good area but not on web yet	MV	Regional
Sun 14 Mar 2021	TVOC Chiltern Challenge National Event Hambleton Top Class area; but no details yet	TVOC	National



Sun 21 Mar 2021	Regional and SWELL event Wanstead Park No Details yet	CHIG	Local
Sat 27 Mar 2021	SAX Kent Orienteering League Trosley CP Country Park near Meopham; No entry details on web	SAX	Local
Sun 28 Mar 2021	SO Regional event Angmering Park No Details yet	SO	Regional

‘Local’ clubs

HH	Hertfordshire Orienteering Club	www.herts-orienteeing.club
BKO	Berkshire Orienteering Club	www.bko.org.uk
DFOK	Dartford Orienteering Club	www.dfok.co.uk
GO	Guildford Orienteering Club	www.guildfordorienteers.co.uk
HAVOC	Havering OC	www.orienteeing-havoc.co.uk
LEI	Leicester OC	www.leioc.org.uk
SLOW	South London Orienteers	www.slow.org.uk
SMOC	South Midlands	www.smoc.info
TVOC	Thames Valley OC	www.tvoc.org.uk
WAOC	West Anglian OC	www.waoc.org.uk

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