



# Newsletter of Yarra Valley Orienteering Club

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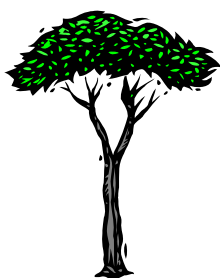
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*Russell finishing his course at the Victorian Championships  
at Kangaroo Crossing on 16 September*

### Details of Yarra Valley events



#### Christmas picnic, 2 December, Hawkestone Park

Enter through the main entrance off Plenty Road at Gordons Road. Melways 183 J7. Take the right hand turn inside the gate towards Le Page Homestead. There are picnic areas including barbeques. Once again we will have a photo-O on the map of the park made by Ruth. BYO main course and desserts to share. After lunch the Frisbee throwing contest.

#### Xmas 5 days 27—31 December, north-east Victoria.

YVOC are organising the event on Kangaroo Crossing on 29 December. Although lower key than the Victorian Championships, helpers will be needed. You can enter at <http://www.vicorienteing.asn.au/events/bush/C5D/> . Kathy is coursesetter and Ruth is organiser/controller—let Ruth know if you are available to help. [ruthg@netspace.net.au](mailto:ruthg@netspace.net.au)

#### Park & Street Orienteering

##### YV to set last winter / spring event

This winter / spring series is coming to a close next week with the last scoring event being run by Yarra Valley on our Montmorency map on Wednesday October 10th - so if you are able to make it please come and join us at Petrie Park.

#### Yarra Valley 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event – Ruffey Lake Park – 24<sup>th</sup> October

As part of the club's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations, YV will be opening the Summer Wednesday series with a special 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary themed event at Ruffey Lake Park.

All proceeds from this event will go to the Victorian Junior Squad.

So please make the time to join us at this event and it would be great to see you decked out in your new YV orienteering tops.

Start location is:

Car Park, west side of Victoria Street, Templstowe. Melway ref: 33J10

#### Summer series 2012 – 2013

The PAS summer series program starts on Monday 22 Oct, with this year YV having events scheduled within the Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday series.

Course setters are still needed for the majority of these events – so please let me know if you are able to set one of these events by emailing me at [mfreemantle42@gmail.com](mailto:mfreemantle42@gmail.com)

#### Yarra Valley events

Date	Map	Course Setter
Tuesday 18 Dec	Paisley Puzzle, Newport	Ted van Geldermalsen
Wednesday 24 Oct	Ruffey Lake Park	Shelia co-ordinating
Thursday 15 Nov	Norris Bank	
Thursday 13 Dec	Eaglemont	
Thursday 31 Jan	St Helena	
Wednesday 6 Feb	Greythorn	
Thursday 28 Feb	Gresswell Hill	

....Continued on page 23



## Report on Victorian Long Distance Championships Kangaroo Crossing, 16 September

Ruth Goddard



*Christine using her new stool from Yackandandah looking for a control (is she?)*

The idea of remapping Kangaroo Crossing came from the plan to have the Christmas 5 Days in 2012 in north-eastern Victoria. Alex could do it, Albury Wodonga Club was in agreement and YV asked for the Victorian Championships to be held there before Christmas time. The map was re-born, greener than before but just as rocky. Alex offered to set courses and Kathy to be the controller. Courses were set and taped early before Alex went overseas. Ruth did as much of her organiser duties as she could before going away. She came back the weekend before the event.

In the meantime Kathy gradually took on all three roles in addition to importing entry data into sportident and setting the start times. She was left with the queries though there weren't too many of the entry messes that are usually part of these big events. She also had to arrange the map printing as Alex became sick after his overseas trip. Kathy approached Ken Dowling to assist with this, and also to finalise the map layout which Alex hadn't completed before he went away. We're very grateful for his willingness to step up at the last minute!

Alex was still not well enough to put out the 70 controls he had planned and so Kathy enlisted the help of Barry McCrae three days before the event and they did it together. She also worked with Christine to arrange the roster. Ruth arrived back to find it all done so she spent some time upgrading the string course.

About 250 people entered both the Middle Distance Championships at Rowdy Flat on the Saturday and then stayed for the Long Distance the next day. The weekend was fine and not too hot. Parking was in a privately owned paddock of Luke and Wendy Fisher – they were very cooperative but did not take up the invitation to come and take part. AWOC helped by towing in the toilets and transporting the older age groups 1km up the hill to the start. As AWOC paid for half the mapping, they will be receiving half the surplus after all expenses have been paid.

Russell, once again, had towed the trailer from Melbourne and then got right into setting up the assembly after having helped put out water on the course. The day started early for Kathy who had to be at the start for the early YV runners and then back to set up the finish. Barry Hart now has an ACT club as his first-claim club, but he is still a YV member. He had offered to help on the roster but in the end was not well – he opted to forego his run to do his duty at the start and then assist with control collection. What a trooper! A really pleasing aspect of the day was the willingness of all our club helpers to wait till the end of the day to help bring in all those controls. It really was a case of 'many hands make light work'. A real team effort and thanks to all.



*Sheila trying to work out Graham Cadman's secret—his fast red shoes*

There were two unrelated incidents during the event - Jasmine Neve got a stick lodged in her foot and a small gas cylinder caught light. Jasmine was helped by Andy Hogg who stayed with her and went with her to the car of Mace Neve who had abandoned course and driven out on to the map. The stick was removed in Wangaratta hospital and Jasmine returned later in the afternoon to the assembly. The gas cylinder was a lesson to all who watched it burn itself out – the flame was more than a metre high and violent hissing came from the cylinder as it burnt. Blair reported: "Post-event excitement was a leaking gas cylinder which caught fire in reasonably spectacular fashion. There wasn't much that could be done except get everyone clear and wait for it to burn itself out (which took about 10 or 15 minutes, with lots of whooshes but no bangs), but it was as well that the vegetation was too wet to catch alight." We should consider banning the use of gas cylinders at our Christmas event!

Runners came back from their courses having been suitably challenged. A couple of comments on the web: "Alex Tarr's remap was magnificent and his physical and technical courses were tough as expected." (Bruce Arthur); "The Sunday map - I



*Two Barrys at the start at the Vic Champs—both live by the sea now*

thought Alex superbly brought it up to date, a huge rugged technical map with excellent definition of the newer thicker areas. It took two clubs to revive the map although one opinion was to save it for something bigger. Glad he got out-voted.” (Leigh Privett)

By 4:15 the day the trailer could leave. All the controls were in and the equipment packed up. Well done YV.

Kathy stayed on an extra day to tag the control sites for Christmas – be sure to put it in your diary. She’s promised to avoid the worst of the green ...



*Barry McCrae assisting with the stiff punches on the string course*



*Mr Kangaroo Crossing welcoming the cars*



*Wattle in bloom on the map*

## AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS WEEK IN TASMANIA

Kathy Liley reports:



*The YV trifecta in W65A in the Australian Middle Distance Championships*



*John, the husband of Libby Meeking, the champion*

It was a convivial Bass Strait crossing on Thursday night 20/9: Sinickas, Goddards, Meekings, Kathy, Blair, Joyce. The Tarrs were on the ferry the previous night. Ted & Margi flew, as did Belinda (I think). But we were greeted with drizzle in Devonport and the damp and low cloud persisted until we got down to the coast below St Marys. Some of us checked out the model area late on the Friday afternoon – hmm, a fair bit of fallen light timber (reminiscent of Kooyoora in places) and slippery in the damp conditions, and don't rely on those shallow gullies: only the distinct ones are mapped.

The main events were using the Golden Fleece area just west of St Helens, which was first mapped for the Veterans World Cup (later to be rebadged as the World Masters Orienteering Championships) in 1992. So here we were 20 years later. The tin mining areas just as tricky, the dark green along the creek lines has increased, but there has been logging and wind-fall on the slopes which made those areas slower going. Many of the features around St Helens owe their names to the Jason and the Argonaut stories (we drove out on Argonaut Road), hence the Golden Fleece.

The YV crew made a good start to the week at the Australian Middle Distance event on the first Saturday of the carnival. We got the trifecta in W65 (Libby 1<sup>st</sup>, Ruth 2<sup>nd</sup>, Kathy 3<sup>rd</sup>) with Alex first in M70 and Ted third in M55. Joyce was the only W80 and held it together at each event to take away a swag of first place badges. Most courses had a few controls in the flatter tin mining areas and some of the non-YV favourites came unstuck in here, leaving the way clear for those named above.

On the next day we were back at the same assembly area in a logging clearing on the side of the hill – muddy/sandy with piles of logging detritus. Not the prettiest assembly area and, after a sunny afternoon on the Saturday, we were greeted with grey skies which eventually turned to rain just as the presentations were starting. Christine was our best performer (after Joyce) with 2<sup>nd</sup> in W60, and Libby on the podium again with 3<sup>rd</sup> in W65. Ted (4<sup>th</sup>) and Ruth (5<sup>th</sup>) weren't far off the pace. Not so much time in the tin mining areas today.

Mid week we dispersed as the weather got warmer and sunnier – Christine and Vincent to Hobart to ride their bikes (yes, they did Mt Wellington again); Ruth and David further south and took in some walks on Bruny Island; Alex and Janet to Cradle Mountain Lodge where they lived it up as a 70<sup>th</sup> birthday present from their daughters; Joyce visiting a granddaughter of Gordon's; Belinda and her NZ friend Jane took in the sights including an overnight stay on Maria Island; Kathy had a couple of mountainbike rides including a guided descent of Ben Lomond, and a foray on Maria Island; Blair, Ted and Margi went to the mid-week events at Royal George. You'll have to speak to them all to get the details on their doings!

Friday saw most of us back in Bicheno for the Aust Sprint Championships. The day started cold and wet but by the time most of us had to run it had cleared up somewhat. An interesting map which took in the rocky foreshore around the cape at the eastern end of the town. The 1:5000 scale on the unfamiliar rocky terrain caught a few people out: there was quite a bit of backtracking from the 'next' control after overshooting the aimed-for control. Joyce had our only podium placing, with Ted 4<sup>th</sup> (and only 11 sec behind 3<sup>rd</sup>), and Alex and Ruth both 5<sup>th</sup>.

The Premier event, the Australian Long Distance Championships on Saturday, was back on the Golden Fleece map, this time centred on the old tin mining terrain – many wide expanses of sand or clay with few definite features. The mappers have



*Ted, finishing in the Tasmanian Long Distance Champs*

only mapped the features that stand out, so there is a fair bit of decision about what to ignore as we traverse the country. Not quite the success of the previous Saturday, but many of us not far off: Joyce was our only first-place getter. Alex and Libby 2<sup>nd</sup>, Janet 3<sup>rd</sup>, Ted 4<sup>th</sup>, Kathy & Christine 5<sup>th</sup>, and Margi 6<sup>th</sup> (just 13 sec off 5<sup>th</sup>). The forecast rain held off and many of us disappeared quickly after the presentations to follow the footy grand final.

Sunday was the Australian Relays, with state-based teams. We featured in the First-placed W65 team (Dale Ann Gordon with Libby and Ruth), and 2<sup>nd</sup> place for Ted (with Geoff Lawford and Steve Doyle) in M45 and Margi (with Sue Key and Philippa Lohmeyer-Collins) in W55.

Didn't Libby Meeking have a good week! Podium finishes in 4 out of 5 races! We were glad to see Alex running again after his illness (though against doctor's orders).

So Sunday night saw many of us back on the ferry, though the Meekings were staying on for a few days, Blair went off to walk the overland track from Cradle Mountain to Lake St Clair, and the Goddards for an extra day of sightseeing. The Tourism Tasmania lady doing a survey in the ferry car park couldn't believe how many of her 'customers' said they had visited Tasmania for the orienteering championships!



*The problem of putting up your own result when you are W10*



*Kathy's midweek adventure descending Ben Lomond on a mountain bike*

## Joyce's letter

Dear ....

This year promises to be very special for Yarra valley to celebrate 40 years of existence. I am hoping that you may recall an interesting or funning happening seen during the years of your course setting and organisation that is different in the way we do things today.

I have written to Danny Pollock, Keith Groves, Russell Bulman, Alex Tarr, Peta Whitford, Harry Summers, Tim Dent, Kathy Liley and Barry McCrae (and some others) asking for unusual old memories and we hope to amalgamate them into a lovely record of times gone by.

With this in mind I have enclosed a stamped and addressed envelope and ask for it before the end of May. That should give you time to jog the old grey matter!

Good luck. It you think of someone else to ask, please let me know.

From Joyce Rowlands  
Associate member who was looking for a job to help.



*Joyce Rowlands and Dorothy Adrian after finishing their course at the Long Distance Victorian Championships on 16 September.*

*Joyce, winner in W80A class, an inspiration to us all.*

This newsletter contains most of the replies to Joyce's request. As you will read, there are many different types of memories well worth sharing. Thank you Joyce for taking this initiative on behalf of YVOC.

***If the following stories reminds you of your past club days, Ruth would be happy to receive further articles and print them in the next newsletter.***

## Yarra Valley Orienteering Club 1972-1976 By Alex Tarr



*Alex discussing the Kangaroo Crossing map  
with Neil Barr*

For the first few years (1970-71) of orienteering events were organised by individuals with the backing of the VOA, or by MUMC with similar backing. By 1972 it was apparent that small groups were forming in order to organise events. The VOA at this point actively promoted the establishment of clubs as a nucleus for event organisation and as a focus for future growth of the sport.

In the May 1972 newsletter a list of potential clubs and organisers was listed, this included John Poppins and Alex Tarr with a potential Diamond Valley O. C., covering northeast suburbs. On the 4<sup>th</sup> June John Poppins organised an event at Saltwater Creek on behalf of Diamond Valley O. C.

From June 1972 results began to be listed with clubs listed with the competitors name and these notes are largely produced from unreliable memory together with the VOA newsletters.

The inaugural meeting of the club was held in ??? and the only issue was the name of the club. Yarra Valley was selected as it covered a wider rather than specific area. Alex Tarr was President, Keith Gough Secretary and Herb Oliver Treasurer. Keith and Herb, together with Peter Whitmore organised the first event under the Yarra Valley name at Mt. Slide on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept. Other members who organised YV events that year were Billy Hood, Harry Summers and Alex Tarr.

Orienteering was a rapidly developing sport at the stage and those with any experience expected that they would organise at least one event each year. Technical standards were crude largely because the map was a black and white copy of a government topographic map. Contours were anything from 20 to 50 foot, fieldwork was minimal and the competitor needed a great deal of flexibility in making the map meet the reality on the ground. Controls (red plastic buckets) were hung high on much larger features that would be used today and if you only lost twenty minutes of time you had a strong chance gaining a place. Winning times were often over two hours.

Original members of the club included John Poppins who came to orienteering from a bushwalking background and was heavily involved in the development of the sport at the VOA and OFA levels.

Harry Summers, a former national level race walker, together with his mate Bill Hood were very active in the early years of the club, organising events and participating widely at local and interstate events (Bill enjoyed fishing and after competing would often produce a fish from the nearby creek)

Michael Hunt a former Mr Australia was developing several Health Clubs. A regular competitor he invited YV members back to his club at Doncaster for a swim after events. When Victorian orienteers were selected for the World Championships in 1974 he developed training programs and free use of his gyms for Alex, Tim Dent and Peter Rule.

As usual family members were among those who were early introduced to the sport. Janet Tarr's brother John Geddes, together with wife Karen Geddes, cousins Alan and Graham Geddes all competed regularly under the YV banner from 1972 onwards. Junior orienteer Andrew Lumsden (and Dad Graham) was a founding member and



accompanied the Tarrs to many local and interstate events until he moved to NSW. Andrew is still heavily involved with orienteering in the Big Foot Club.

1973 was the year coloured maps were introduced to Australian orienteering. The Swedish Orienteering Federation gifted new photogrammetric base maps and sponsored a visit from Roland Offrell to teach us how to map. This further helped the development of clubs as the production of coloured maps required coordination beyond the capabilities of individual expertise and finances. Extra clubs were formed and the majority of regular orienteers were now members of clubs.

Those joining in 1973 included Tim Dent who over the years has succeeded in the full range of activities that orienteering has to offer. Bill Iser, a long time secretary of the club, and Terry Lamb, an even longer term treasurer. Also the Dalheim family whose home became YV's social center and who must have set a record when the family won five out of the twelve classes at the 1974 Victorian Championships. Also Harold Haugen and his partner Anne Martory, Harold went on to win the mens Australian Open Championship in 1974. Other regular orienteers joining in 1973 were Jim Wells and Mike Hennessy both of whom competed for a number of years.

1974 was the year that Australia first sent a team to the WOC. Tim and Alex were selected and when in Denmark recruited fellow team member Peta Whitford to the club. The Strath Creek Plateau map was produced after fieldwork by a number of club members. Janet Tarr excelled herself coming 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Open Womens at the Easter 3 Day.

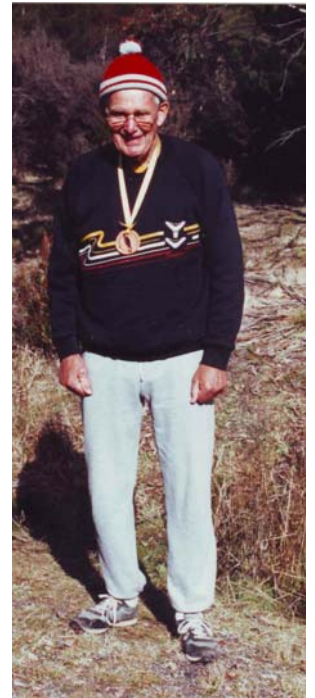
Notable recruits to the club included Gordon Clarke, Graham Cadman and the Hooper family (Lindsay, Carolyn and Neil). All of these went on to become long term stalwarts of the club.

1975 may have been YV's strongest year. The YV mens relay team (Dent, Haugen, Ragnarsson, Tarr) was unbeatable. Peta Whitford won the Easter 3 Day and Tim Dent was unlucky not to. Alex Tarr was Australian Champion as were Carolyn Hooper, Margaret Dalheim and Hal Dalheim junior.

New members included Danny Pollock, Keith and Mary Pike, Bob and Judy Allison, Graham Kipp Phillipa Horne, Ken Ragnarsson and John Lee.

1976 saw YV organise the Easter 3 day at Bambara on the Reedy Creek map. This was largely a Dalheim project and they sponsored a group of about 12 Norwegian elite runners to attend. This was also the year that YV first split off other clubs. Thus YV was the foundation for Brumby Cub and in later years DROC.

Notable orienteers who joined YV that year were Liz Randall, Barry Mcrae and the Key family (Jeff, Steve, Sue and Warren). The year was typical of the growth years of orienteering where the introduction of an enthusiastic family to the club was the basis for future success.



*Gordon Clarke with the gold medal around his neck*



*Tim Dent at the last control at Kangaroo Crossing*

**BELINDA DALE – MEMORIES OF ORIENTEERING (1975 – 2012)**



*Belinda with her second place prize for the 2012 Victorian Championships*

My memories span 37 years, 35 with Yarra Valley Orienteering Club. (Belinda has put together a book of photos which will be at the 40th Anniversary lunch on 6 October)

**SOME RANDOM MEMORIES OF ME AND YVOC:**

**Of the early years**

Trying O for the first time at King Lake in 1975, followed by bashing through the swamps in a series of events in and around Gembrook – tough stuff for beginners.

Fronting up to our first Vic Champs (?B? near Strath Creek?) without pre-entering - they let us wander around. Buying my first O T-shirt – "Orienteering is a natural high!"

Introducing the Allison's to the sport. Recall Bob becoming too competitive too quickly, and tossing Belinda out of the baby carrier back-pack while he was running through the bush. Judy could hear Belinda's wails while she was taking up space on the novice course, being heavily pregnant with Jo.

Having twins in 1977 – don't recall being able to do anything else much that year, but the records show that we did at least join YVOC.

Surviving the Ballarat 6 days (1980?) camping with toddler twins. Recall Barry McCrae breaking his arm and then fronting up the next day in a forlorn attempt to organise the YV event at Castlemaine. Alan T had stepped in the role.

Doing a High O with Barb McCrae, and me having to do a strip after rolling in an ants nest while shimmying under an electric fence. We stayed in the 'Cheyne' ski resort.

Waking up after camping overnight at Strath Creek, to hear Danny Pollock swearing loudly having just discovered via the 'tranny' that it was a total fire ban day.

Sitting with Gordon Clarke, at the end of a day of a setting up day for a Strath Creek event, and hearing his tales of rabbiting and bike riding in the area when young.

Helping at an event at Plenty River, and Alan Davis packing up the dug toilets including pulling out the gar-bag complete with its sewage innards.

**Of my various roles**

Becoming Roster Secretary (so I could meet people) – my first official YVOC role.

Being Secretary when YVOC became an incorporated association. Am now in 2nd stint.

Being YV Promotion Officer and valiantly trying to promote O through media releases and flyers in letterboxes at street events etc – a thankless role that no longer exists.

Organising my first event – Vic Relays 1981 (with Doug Baker) at Castlemaine Goldfields (Rifle Range). Becoming the YV 'relay' organiser for several subsequent relay events, including the Aus Relays at the WOC carnival 1985.

Running 'choose your own adventure' activities at the local primary school after-care and on fete and open days. Learning not to use real control stands, as these are much more fun being used as spears.

Contributing to several Level 1 Coaching Courses, including conscripting YV kids as coachees.

Organising the 'presents / prizes' for several Mothers' Day events, including being very late (alarm didn't go off) for one event (?Daylesford) and recovering in the 'mothers' room' (some dumped couches in the bush) while David Goddard gave me cups of tea.

Winning the VOA President's award (1999) for my first String Course "Adventures of Snugglepot and Cuddlepie" at Strath Creek.

**Of Clemmie and Andrea (Hughes)**

Losing Clemmie when she was a toddler, at the bottom of the water slide in Wagga (on an off day between O events). She rode down on Alan's back and fell off in the pool at the bottom where I was waiting – she did eventually emerge. I then went down the slide myself – too slowly for some local lads, who rode down on my back like a row of carriages attached to a train.

Losing Clemmie for hours on Day 3 of the 1994 Easter 3 Days (Apollo Road map – Namadgi National Park). She went right off the map into steep gorge country, tried climbing a cliff and got herself into a position where she couldn't go up or down – but eventually clawed herself out onto the main road, where she was found by the Searles. Clem's first words on being found were: "But I was winning!!" She was a W12.



Clemmie waking up with a rash but, not wanting to miss a JWOC selection event and, having been given the OK by the YV meds (Vincent and David), competed - only to almost explode as she couldn't sweat. Ballarat Hospital gave her a histamine and 2 days later she was still on a high for her 18<sup>th</sup> birthday party.

Andrea screaming (literally) down the track towards the Finish at Christmas Hills, being chased by swarm of wasps / bees (?), and diving straight into the swollen creek which had arisen during the day.

Clem learning to drive (Easter 1998), in the big 4 wheel drive full of other O juniors, and having a close encounter with the railway bridge at Castlemaine.

Clem remembers - the yearly Xmas party at the Colls' house, and attending YV meetings and parties at the Groves - but the best part was snacks - mainly the royal chocolate biscuits that we used to smash on our heads!

### Of 'failed' friends

Introducing our dentist (Kim Coillet to orienteering). He lasted less than a year, but constructed the YV results boards before deciding to take up hobby farming instead.

Introducing other 'failed' orienteers - Bev Walshe (who I have used as a 'novice' more than once at coaching exercises for coaches - she just doesn't get it), and Ann McKie (who most excitedly won her class at her first and only Vic Champs, preferred MTBO, but ultimately got too busy with other stuff).

### And other stuff

Being snowed on at Korweinguboora and at White Elephant Gap, and snowed in at Beechworth.

Jumping over a tiger snake on the path at a Hurstbridge event and then keeping on jumping and yelping.

Seeing a black snake in a pit on the Sailor's Falls map, while helping Sue Sturgess at one of her corporate events. Sue nearly died (of fright, not bite).

Side-swiping a kangaroo in the near darkness, while using our 4 wheel drive to put out water for the next day. David Goddard got out to check on the - but it was gone! It left a dent and a bit of fur on the back door. On the insurance claim form, I had to say what happened to the other car - I said "It hopped away!"

Winning the 1990 Orienteer of the Year (W45B) - would you believe? I'd forgotten - have just found it.

Winning a medal at the Vic Masters MTBO, even though a very bad route choice found me climbing a vertical sided gorge and having to heave my bike up ahead of me. I needed a 10 minute rest at the top.

Getting lost on way to Strath Creek (so Clem could earn OY points), and finding ourselves west of the Hume on a rutted track. Competed in wild, windy conditions. Then off to Healesville Sanctuary, picked up the Canadian cousins, and on to Phillip Is, eventually finding our way home via flooded, branch-strewn roads arriving at midnight. A massive day. And Clem was pipped by Alexandra S for W12 OY of the Year.

Competing in Street O with Tessa, the Border collie, who dragged me up the hills and had an unerring sense of where to find the controls (following the smells?).

Putting out control site tags at Olinda Forest (with Dan, when he was young), and coming across a dead body!! Fortunately the police were there ahead of us. They wouldn't let us go by. I gave them the tag to put on a route mound down the track behind them - they tried, but tagged the wrong mound.

Finding a marijuana plot in the bush near Beechworth, while I was checking out a new track on a map where Simon Goddard and Clemmie were setting courses.

Having yet to find a stash of stolen goods or guns - but that will be my third strike.

Never DNF'ing; until one day (late 90s in ?Daylesford) eventually being found by someone bringing in controls. David Goddard met me with a sherry when I finally emerged from the bush.

### And finally

The very many YV parties, including some at No 10 Rostrevor Pde.

The many extra-curricular outings with YV friends, including bushwalks, bike rides, camping, travels, movies, dinner parties etc etc.



*Vic Relays 1989*

## Some recollections from Peta Whitford

### 1971 before I was a YVOC member

I first went orienteering in early 1971 with a group of housemates and their various partners. I loved it from the start—the bush, the navigation, the friendships. After a few events on black and white mps, Ian and I ventured overseas for 2 1/2 years (1972-1974). Whilst overseas in UK and USA I managed to take part in lots of orienteering and found I was right up there with the top British women! I was made an honorary member of the local club in the Lake District and in 1973 was invited to join the club on a 9 days trip to Switzerland for the Swiss 5 Days. This was a turning point in my life. Roland Offrell was there. He was a Swedish orienteering coach who was then employed by Australian orienteering to promote the fledgling sport in Australia. He had obviously watched my results and introduced himself to me, saying that I was orienteering well. Maybe I would like to be considered in the first Australian orienteering team to go to the World Championships in 1974. He recommended me and changed my life!

### 1974

While Ian and I were working Minnesota, USA at the Outward Bound, I received a letter for Orienteering Australia stating I had been selected in the WOC team and I had to get myself to Denmark by such and such a date ... I got myself there (another long tale of challenges) and met for the first time, some wonderful and lifelong friends—Alex Tarr YV, Tim Dent YV, John Oliver Waggaroos NSW, Toy Martin GA, NSW and Andrea Harris ST Vic, now Queensland. As the weeks of training passed I was very impressed with the knowledge and skills of Alex and Tim, and I decided that when Ian and I returned to Australia, I would join YVOC. I wanted to learn the skills of mapping and the more technical aspects of orienteering.

### The story of careful taping

I happily threw myself in club happenings—helping at events and eventually course-setting. I remember one time when setting on the Wattle Gully Diggings map. I loved the intricate goldmining detail and so had courses with control picking in the flat, detailed area in the north of the map. All the sites were taped and the vetter went to check them. The vetter's report came back ... "Peta, I could not find some of the tapes. Did you know that the detailed area has been bulldozed. Your tapes are still there on the four corners of the bulldozed area but there are not features left" It was the land clearing for construction of the new Castlemaine gaol!

### 1976

I was selected for my second WOC team—this time to train in Sweden and then compete in Scotland. On my previous overseas orienteering experience I was impressed that overseas clubs had team uniforms. On this trip I promised to purchase enough rolls of black and yellow O suit material to enable all YVOC club members to have O suits made. I lugged the rolls of material with me, around the world and safely back to YVOC. Then I designed, and helped sew many an O suit for YVOC members. We did look so smart!!

### Phillippa Horne (Peta's mother)

Phillippa was introduced to orienteering by Peta in 1971. when Ian and Peta went overseas she maintained her interest and regularly took herself and friend along to the Sunday events and walked a course. She credited herself with 'getting Carolyn Hooper (Jackson) out of the car and into the bush on a course'! She was a YVOC member before Peta

(continued over)

**2000 Australian Sports Medal**

The awarding of the Australian Sports Medal to four YVOC members was a huge thrill for both the individuals and for YVOC. They were Barry McCrae, Alex Tarr, Kathy Liley and Peta Whitford. This is a reflection of the strong input YVOC members had on the development of Victorian and Australian orienteering over many, many years.

**Shared child-minding with YVOC members**

There were many families with young children and parents who wanted to compete. We'd arrange babysitting groups to enable one or two adults to go off on their course first while the others looked after the children. I remember one occasion shared with Liz Randall. We'd driven up to Kimbolton Forest on a wet, cold day. The children must have been still toddlers and babies because I remember having to entertain them IN the car for hours and hours. Liz and I were determined to 'have our runs'.

**From Harry Summers**

I began orienteering in the early days of the sport with encouragement from my peers in athletics—Alex Tarr and Tom Andrews. I joined Yarra Valley Orienteering Club. I was impressed with the enthusiasm of the pioneers of the sport in Victoria. The maps were primitive compared to the fine detail in today's maps.

Many of our champion middle distance runners tried the sport, including Herb Elliott. However, they had trouble when they missed a control because of their speed. When they realised their mistake they would be way past the control.

We had a top Norwegian orienteer, Sture Lancs, living in Victoria for a time. He dominated our races for the season. I was running in an event and felt I was going well until I met Sture at a control late in the race. About to run to the next control, Sture took off in a different direction. Knowing that he was infallible, I followed him. It was the only time he had been lost in Victoria. We finished way back in the results, and I learnt a valuable lesson.

We travelled to Canberra one year for the Australian Championships. Four of us were going to the start in the one car. Each of us had won Victorian and/or Australian titles. We got lost and there was much debate while sorting out where we were. We should have used a compass.

Other memories from early days:

- The queue of nude Nordic women waiting for the temporary showers at the World Championships at Strath Creek.
- Virtually running over the top of the undergrowth at Gembrook.
- Multiple sightings of a black panther at the same event.
- Breaking the world record long jumping when leaping over an agitated tiger snake while running downhill at Yarra Bend.

Great days!

## Memories from Danny Pollock

### Bambara (Australia's first three day event, I think)

Bill Hood, who had a late start on day 1, after finishing, complaining loudly about having to catch a leprechaun who was running away from him with his last control. It turned out to be buashy bearded Ian from Eureka, who along with other overzealous helpers, was collecting controls for day 2 courses. The event was organised by Hal Dalheim.



### Gordon Clarke

When YV started to acquire its own equipment, Gordon volunteered to have the toilets built. He had a couple built and repaired to the Pollock household for a fitting trial for size and comfort. All three Pollocks and Gordon tried out the seats in the front yard, much to the amusement of passing bus passengers who were able to look down at the scene.

Gordon organised and set an event which was cancelled on the Sunday because of a total fire ban. The rescheduled event was then held on a weekend when it snowed on both Saturday and Sunday (see White Elephant Gap Page ????)

Gordon and I set a state event together and went to considerable effort to get it right, particularly the novice event which was vetted several times at our request. At the conclusion of the event we were basking in some congratulatory remarks when a lady came up and complained about navigating her pusher round the novice course. The expression on Gordon's face was something to behold.

### YV State Championships

On one of the early state championships a number of us were out with the organiser (Hal Dalheim) on the Saturday setting controls etc when we noticed a cherry tree close to a control. It was a great navigational aid but it was not marked on the map. Our bold organiser got an axe and saw, and removed the offending tree, thereby making the terrain fit the map!

### Graham Cadman

Graham deliberately parked his car next to Lindsay Hooper with the boot made to look like a junkyard. Lindsay was the epitome of nearness and order. Graham conjured up some pretext for Lindsay to view the boot. Lindsay freaked out! Kath later told me that Graham didn't really go to much trouble with the boot.

Kath and Graham Cadman amazed everyone with their scintillating ballroom dancing at the YV party after the World Championships.

### Brenda Pollock

Brenda orienteered in some highly infested snake country but she saw her first wild snake in Scotland!

### Early newsletters

They were handwritten and passed to Helen Dent who vetted and typed them. Then they were roneod and passed back for distribution. We often had multi-coloured newsletters. Carol Morgans later took over the typing and correction and passed them back to me. I then delivered them to John Lee who had them printed and collated at work. I then collected and distributed them. Chris Ellenby took over from John who went to Sydney. It was quite a logistical exercise in those days. It is now really nice to see the newsletter as such a well presented and professional looking document.

## From Kathy Liley

I didn't join YVOC until late 1990 so I missed the early days. And all my early memories of orienteering were with other clubs. But the time I joined YVOC I was Orienteering Australia treasurer and my focus had moved beyond club issues.

I hadn't had the years of practice that others had had in gumboot throwing. This was a feature of the Christmas break-up picnic, inaugurated I think (years before) by Alan Thompson when he worked for the MMBW and gumboots were an essential part of his kit. That first year at Werribee Park, I managed to lodge the boot in an overhanging tree.

I joined YV (moving from Emu at a time when Emu was losing technical people and they weren't prepared to amalgamate with another club to boost their technical expertise. I joined YVOC because of good technical expertise, friends and it was local. I had friends in EU and BG but they were really too far away.

Then I was a bit overawed by the strength of the technical expertise. They certainly didn't need me to continue my previous Emu role of club coach. I could however, continue my previous role in club communication and almost immediately I started contributing technical-type articles to the club newsletter—in June 1991 Verbalising and Visualisation and then in December 1991, Mental Preparation. I took over as newsletter editor in 1992 and instigated a regular 'hints and tips' column. That continued until early 2001 when Russell took back the editorship.

In the 1990s the McCraes, as well as the Tarrs, had a van. At the end of each event, if you didn't want to rush straight home, you could always get a final cup of tea and chat in the McCrae's van.

Christine and Vincent had started orienteering a bit before I joined the club. Early in 1991 there was a training event at Warrandyte. I was quite anxious on one exercise being paired with Christine—I'd heard she was a good runner!

Subsequently, a few times a year when there was a free Sunday, I would go with the Sinickas family, and sometimes also Goddards, to a bush map. I'd set out a course using surveyor tape and they'd follow around. Alexandra and Michael still remember one day going to Glenlyon Roses in the wet with water over the road. My sole efforts at practical coaching activities in YVOC.

Coursesetter at Kooyoora Spur sometime in the 1990s. I headed up on the Friday to put out the controls. It had been wet. My favourite route was through Maldon and Laanecoorie, Dunolly and Rheola but there was vast shallow water over the roads north of Maldon. But when I got to Dunolly the creeks north of there were a raging torrent. The road was impassable. I had to deviate via Castlemaine and Bendigo to get to Kooyoora. There the parking was relocated to south of the creek at the southern end of the map.



*Kathy on her mountain bike in the rough country at Ben Lomond, Tasmania*



*Paper plane throwing—all the children in the 1990s*

## White Elephant Gap—the cursed map By Russell Bulman

I joined Yarra Valley Orienteering Club in June 1978, almost a year after my first event in August 1977 at Macedon Pines. The first club meeting I attended was at then Secretary Danny Pollock's house in Blackburn North. One of the main topics of discussion that evening was the new mapping project the club was undertaking in Mount Disappointment Forest. The map was going to be called "White Elephant Gap" wafter a trestle bridge built across a gully by a timber company in the 1920's which was never used. For YVOC, this map was cursed right from the start. The initial chief mappers were Keith and Mary Pike who lived not too far from the map area at Broadford. Around the time I joined YVOC, Keith suffered serious burns to his hands while on catering duties at Hell's Angels' gathering near the town, and that put an end to his mapping. So the task was divided up between willing club members, and at that first meeting I remember Gordon Clarke (who would have been 56 at the time) describing how he walked up and down these steep hills through fairly thick scrub looking for features to map.

Having studied cartography at RMIT, I volunteered to help with the mapping too and allocated a not-too-steep area adjacent to John Meeking's allocation. Alex Tarr took John and I out there one day for our first lesson in mapping, but I found estimating distance difficult, even with pace-counting, and my compass bearings never seemed to bring me out where I expected to be.

Eventually, the mapping was completed and checked (and corrected) and Mary Pike drew the separations for offset printing. Unfortunately Mary drew all her lines and symbols at final-print scale, and as the map was reduced by 50% during the printing process, all the lines were 50% thinner than they should have been and the symbols likewise. This made the map (at 1:20,000 scale) harder to read than it should have been and some of the minor tracks were almost invisible.

The first event at White Elephant Gap was scheduled for May 1980. it was a freezing cold day with a howling wind, and I got a flat tyre on the Yarra Valley trailer towing it up Main Mountain Road. Our next event in February 1981 had to be cancelled due to a Total Fire Ban and it was re-scheduled for July of the same year. On the fateful day in July there was one of those freezing mid-winter cold fronts coming, and it snowed! We were worried about runners suffering hypothermia pushing through the snow covered chest-high bracken, but luckily everyone eventually made it back. At the 1982 event it rained, and then in early 1983 the Ash Wednesday bushfires raced through Mount Disappointment Forest including the areas of several orienteering maps including White Elephant Gap.

We ran one final event there in mid 1983, and everyone finished their run covered in black soot. That was the last time we ran an event there. The bushfire regrowth was really thick meaning a re-map would have been necessary, and anyway, it was mostly an area of deep steep sided gullies with few features—better left to trail bike riders and timber gatherers. But if you're still curious, I still have a large number of unused White Elephant Gap maps under my house!



*Russell in the old T shirt after  
5 person relays in 1989*

*A scanned copy of the map is on the next page.*



# WHITE ELEPHANT GAP

**LEGEND**

Major road	Auxiliary contours
Minor road	Embankment
Vehicle track	Earth bank
Overgrown or indistinct track	Ditch
Foot track	Depression
Ride	Earth mound
Fence	Distinctive root mound
Vegetation boundary	Erosion gully
Pipeline	Clear or semi-clear
Buildings	Pine plantation
Ruin	Native cherry tree
Tower	Distinctive tree
Cliff - insurmountable	Slow running
Cliff - surmountable	Walk / flight
Boulder	Watercourse
Rocky ground	Watercourse - small
Mine	Marsh
Man-made feature	Reservoir, dam
Contours	Other water features

SCALE 1 : 20,000



CONTOUR INTERVAL 5 Metres.

To Melbourne via Clonbinane & Hume Fwy.



To Melbourne via Heathcote Junction & Hume Fwy.

Photogrammetric Base  
Associated Aerial Surveys  
Cartography  
Mary Pike  
Fieldwork  
Y.V.O.C.



Copyright May 1980

The horrible steep gullies south of the bar scale were Gordon's Clarke's fieldwork area. He obviously drew the short straw.  
My area is the most westerly, in the middle.

The eponymous gap is on Main Mountain road, just west of the centre of the map – about 1km WNW of the reservoir.

## Some recollections from Ruth Goddard

### June 1989 the first event on Westerfolds Park

After all the work that went into the map making (a club affair), publicity and organisation for the first Westerfolds Park event, it was disappointing to have a five hour long shower of rain on the day. The morning started with a large rainbow but that was the last of the sun until the end of the event.

Nevertheless the day was pronounced a success. Over 150 people turned up to participate including quite a few first-timers and some school groups. Comments about the map were all favourable and credit must go to the fieldworkers, and to Keith Groves and Barry McCrae for their cartography. David and Ruth Goddard between them put a lot of effort into the courses setting and publicity for the event, and obviously inspired interest despite the weather. Than you also to the other helpers, many of whom arrived very early to assist with preparations.

The track conditions would have been described as "extremely heavy" but James Russell made light work of the 7.2km course, completing it in a little over 41 minutes. John Colls took the short route across Middle Creek late in the morning and went in up to his nick! Luckily the rain eased at about 12:30 and the creek level dropped quickly.



*Alan Thompson after a course at Westerfolds*

### February 10, 1994 the first event on Mt Eagle (or Westerfolds revisited)

Many Yarra Valley Orienteers will remember the torrential rain of the first event at Westerfolds Park. Likewise the first event at Mount Eagle was held in the rain on the wettest February day for 20 years. In both cases the maps were eagerly awaited and the first event promised to be very popular. Mount Eagle map is strategically located and full of street orienteering Delights – bushland, little lanes and stunning views. But it failed to be launched in a manner fitting the standard of the map – is it Goddard organising or map involvement that is at fault?

Mount Eagle map is impeccable, due to the efforts of Keith Groves and David Goddard on a Russell Bulman masterplan. The event was eagerly anticipated by the map makers including Christine Sinickas and Ruth Goddard. Ruth schemed the courses – A and B with an over the river option, and D and E in the park only. The longer courses had the alternative of scaling Mount Eagle (shorter distance) or staying basically on the flat.



*Before the days of OCAD. David and Keith drawing up the Mt Eagle map*

All planning went well including an article in the Heidelberger to warn the local residents of strange people running past their tennis courts. But the weather, the only unplannable factor, let us down. The forecast sounded bleak and for once lived up to its promise.

By about 6:45pm (for a 7pm start) there were only about 15 entries, and then a flood of about 60 runners and a heavier downpour of rain came. Everyone sheltered under the toilet-sized shelter in the park. Runners set out to do their courses unconcerned about the warnings of crocodiles in the Yarra or dinosaurs in the grass; their main worries were soggy cards and saturation.

Control 8 was not set as a sliding practice, but it did provide a major source of frustration down the oily little path to the rocks on the river – the next day it was underwater.

In the cheer and good spirit that Christine is known for, she took the entries and then welcomes back the dripping runners without complaining about the difficulty of writing numbers on wet cards. 73 orienteers came back. Were there any more? Was our counting of 74 correct? Yes – at 8:45 in the dark and wet an orienteer was spotted just as the controls were being collected.

## There are two memorable events at Boundary Creek in the 1990s

### Boundary Creek Mothers' Day event

Two special mothers were attracted to the event – 'rent a mother' Margot Jones and a 99 year old grandmother. Margot came in a splendid purple dressing gown and slippers, curlers and a purple scarf. She brought her knitting and knee blanket along with words of advice for orienteers about clean underwear. 99 year old Beatrice Gay was not dressed to orienteer but with help she managed to go to the first control and back. After the course she enjoyed the mothers' day shot of whisky and tea and cake from David Goddard. She stayed on to receive the prize for the oldest inexperienced mum. All mothers who completed a course were treated with a cup of Christine's gluhwein, a foot massage from David, and tea or coffee.

### Boundary Creek state series event

It is very difficult to find a record of this event but I know I was not dreaming. The date is somewhere in 1990s. Ruth was coursesetter and went up to tag the control sites a few weeks before the event. The main road along the top of the ridge had been graded and then there was a lot of rain. The track marks were firm but the areas around them were very muddy. Ruth was alone in the Tarago at the time, and got bogged. She did have a spade but to no avail so she walked to the local farmer's house. He had lent out his tractor but agreed to come up in his car and try to move me – no luck! He then rang some friends who were having a quiet afternoon watching the football, and drinking. Their car managed to pull Ruth out of the mud.

The event was held in the days when DSE was just starting to ask for mobile toilets. However, we took the chance and dug a couple on the afternoon before the event. In spite of rain, water was still required for the event so Ruth and David set off in the evening to fill the barrels in Castlemaine. As they were stopped at the intersection in Malmesbury, there was frantic knocking on the driver's window. There was a woman who had just got off the train from Bendigo. She had been helping her daughter get on with her baby and the train had left. We took her back to Castlemaine listening to her rantings that she was still wearing her gardening clothes and what would she have done in Melbourne arriving like that.

In Castlemaine the water barrels were filled and dinner was bought. Now what to do? The cinema was still open so Ruth and David sat upstairs in the grand theatre watching a B grade romance on the screen. Then back to the assembly for a night in the car.

The following day dawned bright and shiny and people started to slide up the slippery track from the main road. The hole in the toilet had filled with water but unfortunately when David went to empty them, it was too late – someone had already been to the toilet! Then the ranger arrived. Vincent Sinickas engaged him in conversation facing in the opposite direction to the offending toilets and he did not notice them. After that, the event was uneventful.

### Children and friendships

Andrew and Katherine Dent, Simon and Moira Goddard, Michael and Alexandra Sinickas were orienteering friends during their childhood years. The Goddard family joined YVOC because Andrew and Katherine were playmates with Simon and Moira. A few years later Michael and Alexandra joined with their parents. The games were first around water, puddles, and cubby houses. To find the group when leaving an event, the parents just listened for the sound of dead trees cracking – knocking them over was a long-standing favourite activity.

Simon remembers gumboot throwing at the Christmas picnic with smaller gumboots for the children. The group looked forward to seeing each other at orienteering and club social events. Many games (and some unmentionable activities) took place. The gathering place became the sweet control which Katherine and Andrew managed. One of the final activities was building a scarecrow dressed in YV clothing when the club banner had not arrived at an interstate event.



*Dressing up again for parking duties*



*The Dent, Sinickas and Goddard friends serving drinks and lollies*

### From Sheila Colls

We arrived in Australia in 1981, just before Christmas. I think it was probably in January, and an event was scheduled at Wellington Chase. It turned out to be a Fire Ban day but John wouldn't believe that the event would be called off. He drove us all out to the venue, but, of course, there was no event. Luckily there was a notice on the gate confirming this.

We joined DROC (along with the Ingham family who had arrived a week before us) and before long were very busy with preparations for WOC and WOCARN. Sue Sturges did a fantastic job there, but of course Barry McCrae was heavily involved. I know that John Meeking's scaffolding made a fantastic results board. It was the early days of computing and we spent time at Bob Sayer's workplace processing entries. As I wasn't working I did quite a bit of travel between various people running the different functions. I know I was handling revisions to entries at Registration. We had loads of printout paper for the boys to draw on for weeks afterwards. In those days we often had camping weekends and camped out the night before a bush event. I was coaching coordinator for Orienteering Victoria and organised several coaching weekends including one for AWOC. Obviously it wasn't just DROC people involved. We had just started to use voice recorders worn while running and one got lost at Kangaroo Crossing (leading technology then). Maybe we'll find it at the Vic Champs!

YVOC group outings used to be more frequent when people camped, for example at Easter in WA (York) when a large group climbed the Stirling Ranges. Now we're into more luxurious digs.

One funny thing I recall was at Eppalock when Peter Maloney wanted to make amends for arriving late (again) and volunteered to collect controls. We waited for him to come back and eventually, as it was getting late, had to send out a search party—and bring in the control as well!

There was a period (Iz Randall was still competing then) when every time a YV event was scheduled, it poured with rain. There were more frequent OY events then. I am sure one was at Glenluce and one at Kimbolton but there were others too.

I can recall Russell breaking his arm on the run in to the finish at one event. Tim getting a stick through his foot but there were surprisingly few injuries, all things considered.

On the social side we used to have movie nights at Forest Hill followed by the Pancake Parlour, or occasionally at Rivoli or Balwyn. I am sad to say that the gumboot throwing competition has been replaced by a Frisbee—the gumboot was more entertaining.



*Simon Goddard, David Colls and Alex Randall putting in permanent controls at Cardinia*

### From Lois Groves

For me, one of my most amusing/embarrassing times was at the Asia Pacific Championships in New Zealand. The army had erected the toilets which many metres of hessian around a long trench and a long pole balanced from end to end over the trench. That was the Ladies' toilet. I was the only one in this 'toilet' on one occasion, balancing precariously on the pole when in comes a Japanese gentleman, seemingly in a state of emergency. I called 'NO' and pointed to the way out, hoping he realised his mistake. He did. I believe quite a few women declined to use the rather regal structure of hessian, timber and a pole. I can only guess the alternative. I have not been to an event since with such facilities. Erected by the men who protect the country! Amazing!

Another New Zealand APOC oddity follows. I received a third place (most unusual for me) and was on the stage, flags fluttering overhead, waiting nervously for the badge for the badge for third place in W50 from a NZ dignitary. After receiving the badge and going back to our Aussie group, an official came across and tells me that I was not a place-getter. A Canadian woman had actually come in third and the organisers had not realised that Canada has a Pacific coastline. Had someone failed geography? Nevertheless he went on to say that I could keep the badge. It was pottery and just had APOC and 1984 on it, no age group or placing. I suppose they had a few spares. He said that by keeping it, I would have a good dinner table story. It has been. So much for my moment of glory!

### From Keith Groves

I was competing in an event at the foot of Mt Dandenong and had been talking to Tom Andrews about the various products he sold at his warehouse. The subject came around to compasses and their varieties. Tom said he had been selling quite a few special compasses to Moslems to ensure that they faced Mecca whilst praying (not vice versa). Some time later I took off for my run and I saw Tom running towards me. As we passed Tom was heard to shout "Mecca this way". He should have been DNF'd as he never did reach the "Mecca" control.

At an event near Daylesford I was running in a fairly open area in tallish grass when I suddenly saw I was going feet first into a small mine shaft opening, semi-obscured by the grass. With 'fantastic' reflexes I stuck out my elbows and hung suspended in the shaft with my legs dangling in space. A fellow competitor ran past me and said "you want to watch it mate, there are a lot of small shafts around here" and kept running. I managed to scramble out sideways and looked down into a black apparently bottomless abyss. I can only assume that he thought I was standing in a shallow pit. I had some slightly unpleasant washing to do that night.

I was competing in an event around Bendigo somewhere and was following an animal track on the side of a fairly steep grassy knoll when a black snake of fair size slithered down almost at my feet. I had never believed in levitation and considered it a magician's trick until that moment. I rose in the air with a leap worthy of Rudolph Nureyev. I seemed to hover in mid-air as the snake slithered below me. The next control was situated in a grassy area where the snake had gone. I stamped heavily and nervously to the control, and sprinted away in case the snake had some close relatives lying in wait for innocent orienteers.



**Two new initiatives coming to Park & Street Orienteering (continued from page 2)**

Recently we received the news that 2 proposals the PAS committee presented to Orienteering Australia for the funding of new participation projects had been accepted.

**Project 1 - Southern Summer Series (Casey Challenge)**

This series will commence in Jan 2013 with 5 park and street events, to be held as part of the Monday series, in the City of Casey, with the plan to expand the series to 10 events in 2013.

Our funding covers mapping & marketing costs of the new series, plus a series project officer for the first couple of years.

Mapping is currently underway & the project officer position has been advertised with a number of applicants having applied.

So if you know anyone who lives in that area who may be interested in attending this series, please let them know about it. Details can be found on the VOA Park & Street web page.

**Project 2 - Sprint Series**

Also approved is funding for a new Sprint series to commence in late 2013 with 5 or 6 Sprint events on full colour maps, to be repeated in 2014.

Phase 1 is to undertake the mapping work, which will start before the end of this year and continue into 2013. We would like to have a mixture of new maps and suitable existing maps upgraded to the required standard. So if there are any of the YV Park Street maps that you believe would make great sprint maps, please let me know.



*Barry McCrae handing over to Colin Morgans  
at a relay event in 1981*