



Issue 4 - Winter 2007

FOR JUNIOR ORIENTEERS



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# The British Schools' Orienteering Championships

18th November,  
Dorset

## Thomas at the School Champs

Thomas Orienteering

Hi. My name's Thomas Walker. I'm ten years old and I like orienteering. I enjoy orienteering for several reasons. Probably the best one is having the feel of freedom and fresh air all around you. Another great point is that most of my friends do it. It's good because you learn how to use a compass and a map. To be honest I'm not very keen on cross country running, but I still like orienteering. Why? I hear you ask. Well, it's because you need two skills to orienteer very well. Brain power and the ability to run cross country. Even if your brain power or cross country skills aren't amazing, you can still enjoy yourself and do reasonably well. At this year's School Champs it was very wet, windy and cold. Even so, everyone had a good time and enjoyed themselves. My partner, Nick Bolier, and I, braved it through the course and arrived at the finish line with every parent cheering us on. It's really nice at the school champs that the parents and spectators cheer anyone on, not just their sons and daughters.

I think we did really well to come 17th, in the B6 class and Nick and I are very proud of ourselves. I have a great time orienteering and we're all looking forward to our next opportunity, the amazing Christmas event that our school organisers

The event was organised by Chris Branford of WIM Orienteers, in conjunction with Sarum Orienteering Club and Wessex Orienteering Club. The weather conditions were awful with cold, wet weather but the children competing coped marvellously in the conditions and still managed to enjoy themselves! Great Britain Orienteer Helen Bridle attended the event and was available to sign posters for the children. Prizes and support were given by several companies including PGL, Capespan, Ultrasport, Discover Adventure, Christchurch Power Tools supported by Honda, EMIT UK and the BAOC. Full results and more photos can be found at [www.bsoa.org](http://www.bsoa.org). Photos Courtesy of David Olivant.

## Why Go to BSOC?

By Merlyn Vyner, Burford School

When I was asked to write about the British Schools' Orienteering Championships and why we do it, I thought very hard as to what I should write.

I'm involved with a number of different sports, tag rugby, athletics, table tennis and of course, orienteering. Here, at Burford, we do orienteering because it's so very different. Throughout the summer and autumn we offer 40 or 50 children of all ages the chance to orienteer once a week, which helps to develop their confidence. We then send them off to their senior schools more than ready to meet the challenges that await them. Our results over the years show that our children consistently have the opportunities to develop a range of orienteering skills. However we don't consciously set out to do well in the Schools' Championships, we go to enjoy ourselves!

Our two weekends at the Championships, our Wednesday afternoons in the local woods, the outings to St Andrews at Pangbourne and trips to Horris Hill give the children experiences that simply can't be gained in the classroom. For the Championships we plan ahead and always stay away, even when they are on our own doorstep. We look on the overnight stay as an ideal opportunity for our older children to accept some responsibility for looking after our younger children. It's almost become a rite of passage that this will happen, while the staff seem to have a firm belief that there's nothing better than tucking into a well stocked cheeseboard, once the children are in bed.

Our mascot, a wily, old Norwegian moose named Jorgen Rostrop, may be the most photographed, if not the most photogenic of moose. "The official keeper, of the official moose," is not a title lightly bestowed! Even in winter we keep the pot simmering by holding little night events around the school and a bumper Christmas event, involving carol singing, together with lots of sausage and chips and special guests. Ultrasport, Compass Point and Compass Sport are always generous sponsors with little prizes. We enjoy wonderful financial support from Thames Valley OC, whose members often turn out to help with our special events.

We put together a fantastic team of helping adults, so it isn't simply one person, but great parents, teachers and helpers working together. This helps generate team spirit and to be honest, we end up simply enjoying each session of orienteering, wet or fine. This year Chris Branford and the organising team at the Schools' Championships somehow coped with the worst weather we've ever seen at such an event. The combination of cold, wet and wind can be so dangerous to children. However, suitably attired, our children still thoroughly enjoyed themselves and they're already looking forward to next year.

There is a great deal of good work being done throughout the country led by RDO's, dedicated teachers, clubs, club members and others. Despite the costs of travel and the distances involved the Championships are well worth going to. Only by supporting them and then thanking the people involved for all their hard work and dedication, will such events continue to flourish. See you in the East Midlands and South Central next year.

## BSOC Team Results

Primary Schools (4 to count)	Points
1. Burford School	6
2. Kingswood Pre School	22
3. King Henry VIII Junior School	24
Middle-Preparatory (4 to count)	Points
1. Barnardiston Hall Prep School	10
2. Kings College School	23
3. Chetwynde School	38
Small Secondary (6 to count)	Points
1. Clayesmore School (Senior)	99
2. King's College Taunton	140
Large Secondary (9 to count)	Points
1. Ulverston Victoria High School	35
2. King Henry VIII Senior School	65
3. Bacup & Rawtenstall Grammar	67
Tertiary (3 to count)	Points
1. York College	22
2. Barrow Sixth form college	30
3. Lady Lumley's 6th Form college	43





# British School Score Champs

Report by Christine Robinson  
Photos by Robert Lines



Petworth Park in West Sussex provided a magnificent setting for Saturday's British Schools Score Orienteering Championships. Organisers, Guildford Orienteers, chose a superb location for the race arena, on top of a hill, with sweeping views over the start, finish and much of the open parkland.

There was a great buzz as the 340 competitors from 57 schools were cheered up the hill to the dramatic finish arch supplied courtesy of Emit UK.

On a glorious autumn day the runnable, open terrain with the occasional copse offered fast navigation and decision making, though few technical problems for the more experienced competitors. The challenge came from choosing the optimum route, as many of the older runners managed to visit all 30 controls within the time limit, with the top positions therefore decided by time. Julia Blomquist was a convincing winner in Year 12/13 Girls, 6 minutes faster than Alice Butt, whilst Peter Hodgkinson stormed round in a super-fast 36.23, over 8 minutes clear of Liam Taylor in Year 12/13 Boys. Matthew Halliday and Sophie Kirk made it a double first for King Henry VIII Senior School, Coventry, in the Year 10/11 competition.

The Primary Schools Team Trophies were dominated by King Henry VIII Junior School, Coventry, and Burford School, each taking a win and a second place, with Kingswood Prep School, Bath, third in both girls and boys. Overwhelming winners in the Middle Prep category were Bramcote Lorne. King Henry VIII Senior School, Coventry, won both the Lower and Upper Secondary Girls team prize, with Nottingham High School and Bacup and Rawtenstall Grammar taking top honours respectively in Lower and Secondary Boys.

Results and pictures at:  
[www.bsoa.org](http://www.bsoa.org)



# ISF World Schools Championships Selections



Congratulations to all those selected for England to take part in the Championships next year in Edinburgh from the 21st-27th April 2008.

## School Teams

### Junior Girls

Ulverston Victoria High School

### Senior Girls

Ulverston Victoria High School

### Junior Boys

Ulverston Victoria High School

### Senior Boys

Nottingham High School

## Junior Girls Select Teams

Lucy Butt

South Wilts Grammar School †

Katrin Harding

Lancaster Girls Grammar School †

Zoe Harding

Lancaster Girls Grammar School †

Charlotte Watson

Keswick School \*

Rosie Watson

Keswick School \*

Reserve (\*): Alice Hannah Campbell Witchford Village College

Reserve (†): Elizabeth Parkinson Tuxford School

## Senior Girls - Select Teams

Harriet Batten

King Henry VIII School

Julia Blomquist

Tomlinscote 6th Form College

Rebecca Harding

Ashlyns School

Sophie Kirk

King Henry VIII School

Alice Leake

York College

Reserve: Alison Fryer Barrow 6th Form College

## Junior Boys - Select Teams

Jack Benham

The Burgate School †

Jonathon Crickmore

Downlands Community School \*

Graham Hemingway

Cockermouth School †

Thomas Louth

The Perse School \*

Carl Edmonds

St Bernard's RC High School †

Reserve (\*): Peter Bray Amery Hill School

Reserve (†): Sam Giles Bishop Wordsworth School

## Senior Boys - Select Teams

Thomas Butt

Bishop Wordsworth's School †

Thomas Fellbaum

Fallibroome High School †

Peter Hodgkinson

Bilborough College \*

Matthew Halliday

King Henry VIII School †

Kristian Jones

Olechfa School \*

Reserve (\*): Stuart Thomson Bilborough College

Reserve (†): David Maliphant Bristol Grammar School



# Junior European Cup



**The British Junior team travelled to Nant in France to compete in the Junior European Cup in incredibly technical and detailed terrain. The weekend started with the Sprint race on Friday with half the course on open fields with small areas of thick vegetation and the second half around the old town of Nant.**

The terrain was quite different to the area the team had trained on in the morning but Vicky Stevens showed great adaptability to finish 12th in the W18 class, closely followed by Hollie Orr in 13th. The best performance in the men's team was Doug Tullie, 18th in M20 closely followed by John Rocke in 19th. Unfortunately Chris Smithard was forced to dnf after spraining his ankle at the end of the first half of the sprint whilst heading for a top twenty result. He was unable to take part in any more races. On Saturday the long race was held on a brand new map with a combination of

fast and open areas and incredibly detailed rock corridors and outcrops. Many athletes coped well with the first part of the course, in the more open and faster area, but came unstuck in the tricky detailed terrain in the last two thirds of the course. For Great Britain the exceptions were Doug Tullie (10th in M20) and Alice Butt (9th in W18) who finished with good runs and great results. Many of our other athletes were rueing the missed opportunity for a top result after losing concentration on just one or two legs.

But in this terrain you were punished severely for even the smallest lapse in concentration.

The relay on Sunday was held in even more difficult technical terrain, with less large rock detail and corridors and much more thick vegetation. Any team with three runners who made only small mistakes was sure of a good result. Doug Tullie ran the first leg for our men's team and despite some significant mistakes managed to come back in second place, right with the leader Stephan Kodeda from the Czech Republic. In the tricky terrain Dave Schorah dropped some time to the leaders before John Rocke finished strongly on the last leg to finish in 9th place.

The women's team had high hopes after great results the previous day in the long race but unfortunately both Hazel Wright on the first leg and Alice Butt on the second leg lost time with big mistakes. Hollie Orr ran strongly on the last leg to pull them up several places to finish in 18th.

Gareth Candy



## FACTS and FUN!

**Jenny says...**  
I'm trying to find control number 2 but I'm not sure what the brown 'v' means in the centre of the circle.

**Millie Map says...**

If you want to learn about map symbols, you should play the 'match' up game on the Ozone website. Its great fun and will help to improve your orienteering. This game and many more can be found at [www.britishorienteering.org.uk/ozone](http://www.britishorienteering.org.uk/ozone).

## Test your Knowledge.

Use the five questions below to test your orienteering knowledge.

1. What distance on the map would 300m on the ground be at a scale of 1:10,000?
  - A. 3cm ☐
  - B. 30cm ☐
  - C. 300mm ☐
2. What colour is a marsh on an O-map?
  - A. Green ☐
  - B. Blue ☐
  - C. Black ☐
3. When "thumbing the map" the thumb should be kept where?
  - A. At the last control. ☐
  - B. The next control. ☐
  - C. The place on the ground where you are now. ☐
4. When should you orientate you map?
  - A. Every time you change direction. ☐
  - B. When you stop. ☐
  - C. At every control. ☐
5. If a series of contours are close together what does it depict?
  - A. Flat ☐
  - B. Even slope ☐
  - C. Steep ☐

Answers: 1A, 2B, 3C, 4A, 5C

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# Ozone

## Yvette Baker Trophy

**Over 300 juniors from 11 clubs travelled to Normanby Park, nr Scunthorpe for this year's final of the Yvette Baker trophy.**

After a close match Octavian Droobers (Pictured Below) won the trophy with Nottinghamshire in 2nd place and West Cumberland in 3rd.

Many teams had asked juniors from their formally associated schools to come and run for the club, whilst others had members coming back from university to compete. A great team effort was made by all the clubs involved but the environmental award must go to South London who came to the event via public transport.

Thanks must go to Humberside and Lincolnshire Orienteers who organised the event and even managed to stop it raining during the main races and for the prize giving!

### Final Scores:

<b>1st</b>	Octavian Droobers 890 points
<b>2nd</b>	Nottinghamshire 871 points
<b>3rd</b>	West Cumberland 869 points
<b>4th</b>	Walton Chasers 865 points
<b>5th</b>	Deeside 845 points
<b>6th</b>	Aire 818 points
<b>Joint 7th</b>	South London and West Anglia 813 points
<b>9th</b>	Lakeland 807 points
<b>10th</b>	Derwent Valley 805 points
<b>11th</b>	Cleveland 798 points

**For full results visit the Humberside and Lincolnshire Orienteers website at [www.halo-orienteeing.org.uk](http://www.halo-orienteeing.org.uk)**



Photo by David Olivant

[www.britishorienteering.org.uk/ozone](http://www.britishorienteering.org.uk/ozone)

## Junior Profile:

# Alice Butt

**Age:** 17

**Club:** Sarum

**Age started orienteering:** 6

**Do your parents orienteer?**

Yes, both

**Why/Where did you start orienteering?**

I started orienteering because my Dad had started orienteering and took the family along with him. My first event was at Inside Park, Blandford.

**What do you enjoy about orienteering?**

I enjoy the fact that it is not purely running, it also involves navigation. I love the feeling when you are running fast and the map and ground all fit and you know exactly where all the controls are going to be.

**Do you have a coach?**

I have a running coach – Phill Morris

**If so, how has this helped you?**

Phill Morris determines my training on a weekly basis. The training is planned to enable me to compete at selected orienteering events. A typical week involves interval sessions, runs of varying lengths and intensities and conditioning.

**Where is your favourite place to orienteer?**

I enjoy orienteering on all areas, though the areas in Sweden are the toughest.

**What kind of training do you do?**

Physical – running training and conditioning. Technical – orienteering events and coaching weekends.



**What is your best result?**

14th in the W18 Classic at the European Youth Orienteering Champs 2007.

**What advice would you give to people wanting to get into the GB Squad?**

Set yourself small goals; don't run before you can walk.

**What do you enjoy doing outside of orienteering?**

Football, Badminton and Reading.

