

THE PURPLE PEN

WINTER 2022 |



IN THIS ISSUE:

JIM MITCHELL

We pay tribute to the much loved Jim Mitchell who sadly passed away recently.

SCOTT PARK MAPPING GROUP

Find out how to get involved in helping to map a new area for PFO in Burnley.



NEW KIT TIME

Have a look at the new designs we have for training kit and more from ICON Sports.

- **GDANSK CITY RACE REPORT**
- **NEW MEMBERS MEMBER SPOTLIGHT**
- **2023 BRITISH NIGHT CHAMPS**
- **2023 PFO EVENTS LIST**
- **BRITISH SPRINT & MIDDLE**

THE PURPLE PEN



JIM MITCHELL

11/02/1942 – 03/10/2022

Sadly we lost one of our most respected and well loved members in October, Jim Mitchell. Jim joined the club in 1974 after discovering orienteering and held many positions within PFO, volunteering and being ever present at all of our events until summer this year.

Regardless of which club you were from, Jim always remembered your name and shared an interest in your life, and his back catalogue of previous maps was always dug out and shared with people who were attending a new area for the first time.

Many PFO members said goodbye to Jim as he was laid to rest surrounded by many friends and family and many orienteers from other clubs such as the respect he had across our sport.

Most suitably it was at a crematorium in Elland at the foot of an EPOC orienteering area. We send our thoughts and condolences to Mary, Chris, David and the rest of the family. He will be very missed by all at the club and leaves a gap hard to fill.



New Training Kit

Thanks to efforts from Dave Rose, who has been working closely with ICON, we will shortly be able to offer new PFO training gear to help keep you warm (and stylish!) at events and training,

You will be able to view and buy the kit direct from a dedicated webpage supplied by ICON, who will then manufacture your order bespoke. To start, there will be three different jackets available to buy and a PFO buff. There will be a choice of a puffer jacket, softshell and a active lightweight jacket to choose from, all available to buy separately. We are hoping to add a lightweight training top and a race vest to the choices in the coming months ready for warmer times.

We are hoping that the website to buy these will be live shortly!

Don't forget that Judith still has many new design PFO tops that are available to buy in a range of sizes both M and F. If you would like to buy one please let Judith know and she will bring them to the next event/training for you.



British Night Champs 2023



Sat 18th Feb

The 2023 Championship is being held at Moors Valley Country Park, hosted by Wimborne Orienteers, Dorset. The following day there is a SOC Regional event at Longbeech in the New Forest, only 10 miles away. Some PFO'ers are making the journey down for the weekend!

British Sprint & Middle 2023

Northern Ireland hosts the British Sprint Championships in Armagh City. The Sunday sees the British Middle-Distance Championships in County Down.

These events are part of a 10 day Emerald Isle Festival of Orienteering with the 4 Day Irish Championships to be held over the previous weekend. In the four days in between both, a number of informal events comprising sprint, middle distance, urban and indoor events are being planned in Northern Ireland.



Some members have booked flights and accommodation for the Sprints & Middle weekend. At time of writing, flights are circa £60/70 return via easyJet/Ryanair flying from Manchester for the Sprint weekend. There are campsites around the general area of Armagh and some choices of accommodation. You will likely need a car. If you're interested in knowing more, need any help with travel or accommodation for the Sprints or Night Champs then email kay.hawke@yahoo.co.uk

NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

SAM BARNES

Sam joined PFO recently after attending many of our events since 2020. An avid seeker of Trigs and member of the brilliant Trawden AC she likes nothing more than an adventure or two!



Why orienteering?

It's like running in disguise! The route selection, map reading and searching for controls make me completely forget I'm actually running! I love the challenge and camaraderie of orienteering, especially with the fab folk at PFO.

Best event so far?

Colne Street O. - because me and my Street O buddy Lucy came 1st! (Never gonna happen again!)

Favourite type of event?

Any - I don't discriminate!

Favourite area to walk/run?

Yorkshire Dales and French Alps.

Best achievement so far?

Completing the Lakeland 50 and OMM in 2022.

Orienteering Goals for 2023

Plan and organise a Street O!

Lastly

I did my 1st PFO event in 2020 and loved it. Over the past few years, I've done a number of events and was always made to feel welcome. Another thing I love about PFO is how helpful and friendly people are. I was running round Witton Park mumbling to myself - 'I wonder what triangle is again?!' And out of the woods came the reply... - 'boulder'!



2023 MEMBERSHIP

If you are interested in becoming a PFO member or renewing your PFO membership then you can sign up today for the 2023 season.

Becoming a member helps to support the club, and in 2023 PFO members will receive cheaper entry fees to PFO events, free entry to PFO Champs, discounts to National Relay events, and full, free training, social activities and event days.

It also opens up access to excellent membership discounts from British Orienteering from brands such as Sportshoes (15%), YHA, SILVA (30%) and more, and fully insures you at all events you take part in (as a non member you are only insured for your first three events).

You can join as an Individual or as a family. You can sign up online easily by visiting:
www.britishorienteering.org.uk/join_online

£25 per senior / £8 per junior or a family £58.

WELCOME

ADAM LAW

ALAN DORRINGTON

ANNE BUGLER

ANTHONY SUTTON

ELIZA SUTTON



THE PURPLE PEN EVENTS



2023

JAN

11 - RAWTENSTALL STREET O
22 - ALKINCOATS

FEB

4 - SPRING WOOD
8 - BAMFORD STREET O

MAR

11 - BRUN VALLEY
15 - BURNLEY EAST STREET O
18 - STUBBYLEE & LEE QUARRY

APR

12/19 - PRAIRIE SPORTS VILLAGE
(COME & TRY IT EASTER HOLS)
19 - WHALLEY STREET O

MAY

STREET O TBC
13 - BARROWFORD URBAN

JUNE (SNOOK O / RATCHET)

7 - SCOTT PARK
14 - STUBBYLEE
21 - ROWLEY LAKE
28 - WITTON PARK

STREET O 2023

We need volunteers for Street O's for:
May / July / Sept / Oct / Nov / Dec

Full guidance will be given, answer sheet and map creation/updates done for you if needed!

Some areas of interest (though you can choose your own!)

Burnley Central
Burnley West
Great Harwood
Blackburn Central
Blackburn South
Rishton
Barnoldswick (New)

Planning/Organising Help Required!

The race to get organised with the 2023 events is underway and we are only a matter of a few months away from the first Spring Series event at Alkincoats. The park is great intro area for new and improving orienteers and still offers a more challenging aspect in to those experienced with the woods in the north.

There will be a spreadsheet sent out via email shortly to all members shortly asking for volunteers to plan and organise an event to help spread the load of duty throughout the club. For anyone 'new' to these roles wishing to be involved, there is full guidance available throughout, with experienced members willing to assist and 'co-plan' or 'co-organise' with you and guide you throughout.

We urgently need planners and organisers for events listed until the end of June so please offer if you are able to, as soon as possible! The Spring and Autumn Series of events have been a massive influence in enabling new members to both join the club and step up into volunteering roles and are the lifeblood of the club.

What is involved in planning?

Fancy designing your own courses? PFO members can guide you through what is expected of certain colour coded courses. With the lower technical levels of the Spring Series, these are a great way to get into planning. You can 'armchair' plan on paper remotely, then visit the area with/without a helper and check control sites, flow of course and make any amendments needed.

What is involved in organising?

Liaising with permissions officer(s) to check permissions in place. Checking with S.I./website club members that entries are live and online, with details of courses from planner, Start/Finish points and checking car parking/other information. Organising the printing of the maps (guidance/payment by club). Liaising with members to pick up equipment from garage for the event. Organising help for the day (Start/Finish/S.I/collecting), (give a list and it will be emailed out for you). Checking jobs are being done on the day. You will find that it is just a case of organising the roles already established, and is less daunting than it may seem! Plus, most organisers get to still have a run at the events too!

If you are interested in volunteering to Plan or Organise an event, whether 'traditional' style Spring Series/June Series, or a Street O, please email:

kay.hawke@yahoo.co.uk



PFO On Tour



GDANSK CITY RACE SEPTEMBER 2022



Emma Taylor

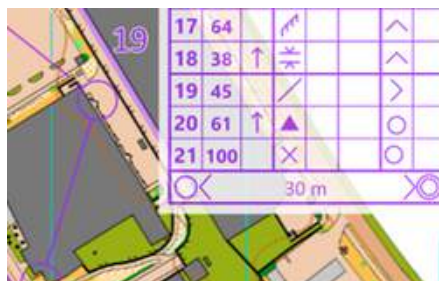
Kay and I, in September, went over to Poland to take part in Gdansk City Race which was 3 days of really good urban orienteering. We both love Poland, land of pierogis and cheap beer, so the decision to book the trip was a no brainer. Plus Kay loves a good opportunity to practice her 'Polish'.

We stayed in an apartment just outside the main centre which was part of an old military base, the surrounding area had been really well maintained and is now a multi purpose activity centre. The grounds are free to enter so we took the opportunity to have a warmup run before the Sprint around it's rather hilly grounds.

Day 1

Day 1 was a Sprint around the University grounds. There wasn't anything too tricky just a few controls where you had to check you were running to the right side/ level. The only control I'm still kicking myself for is Control 19, on a raised ledge - if you were tall enough, you could just reach up and punch it!

However, overthinking kicked in and, not wanting to be DSO'd, panicking, I pondered either climbing the ledge or running the entire way round. Stupidly I chose running the entire way round (unlike Kay who just reached up!). In hindsight it'd probably have been fine to reach up and I just wasted a load of time! I do think it was a pretty unfair control if you were on the shorter side though. (Ed- tough!)



EURO CITY RACES 2023

Córdoba (SPA) - 11-12 March
Ancona (ITA) - 29-30 April
Bournemouth - 09-11 June
Vigo (SPA) - 17-18 June
Viana do Castelo (POR) 24-25 June
Sopot (POL)- 01-03 September
London - 16 September
Antalya (TUR) - 28 Oct - 04 November
Machico (Maderia) - 08-10 December

OTHER NOTABLE FIXTURES

Edinburgh Big Weekend (EUOC)- 27-29 Jan
JK Festival- 7-10 April
ASOM (Ghent)- 18-20 July
Bavarian 5 Days - 29 July - 2 Aug
Scottish 6 Days - 30 July - 4 Aug

PFO On Tour



GDANSK CITY RACE SEPTEMBER 2022

Day 2 - Middle

Day 2 was my favourite day and probably one of the best urban maps I've run on so far. Old Communist apartment blocks, all linked together with a maze of paths, gardens and features identical to each other. There was route choice at every control and you really had to keep in contact with the map as with many areas being identical bar a few misplaced football posts or a path at a different angle, it was easy to assume you were at one block when in reality you were off the map and at Aldi carpark (Kay).

The course was like a long Sprint! My run started off a little sketchy as I started running to control 2 instead of 1 but I'd actually missed a gate and upon realising this, realised I was near control 1 which slightly cancelled out my initial mistake and potentially stopped me mis-punching!

The organising club, Harpagan, really went to town when it came to event arenas; lots of gazebos, shops, free drinks, seating, and a great run in each day, helped by the 48m" control flag by the last control each day you couldn't miss! The run in for Day 2 however was down a steep 'hill' that was a bit rough underfoot. All I was thinking about heading towards it was 'don't fall face first', thankfully I didn't, but some weren't as lucky.

Day 2 Map



Day 3 - City Race

Day 3 was the City Race and the main reason we were going. I'd done well at the Euro Birmingham and Coventry races in the Summer and potentially could have managed a 3rd place overall, winning us a hotel stay at one of next years events! Our category had a pretty late starts today (midday) which definitely influenced route choice in some of the more busier, more touristy areas of the City, however it also meant we could see the results start to come in. There were quite a few mis-punches so it seemed to be a course where you had to slow down a bit and check (yes Kay); this was handy as my cold had been progressing throughout the weekend (thanks Ellen!) which gave me the excuse for a few breathers.



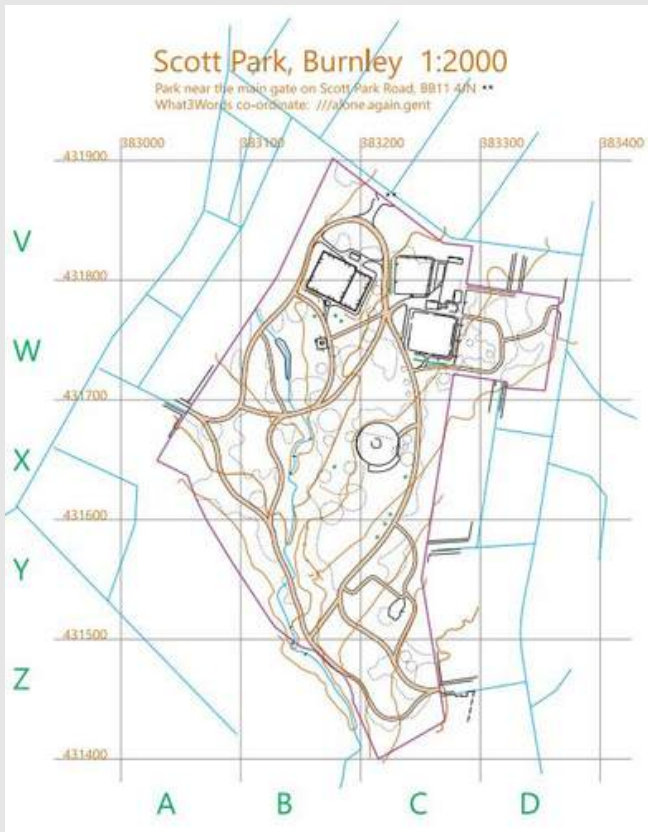
Overall, I enjoyed the course; there was a particularly fun multi-level shopping centre which seemed to catch a few people out towards the end of each course. When I say fun, the steps up to control 24 were not! I felt pretty rubbish whilst running but kept telling myself that'd I'd already put in the effort at previous races so just keep pushing. If you ask Kay nicely, she'll dig out a really terrible photo the photographer got of me obviously pushing a bit too much and struggling! Running towards the finish I see Kay who had finished and had been watching the results, shouting (screaming) up the road, that if I picked up the pace I could make the current 3rd place, cue me legging it and somehow managing 2nd. There were a couple of fast ladies still to finish at that point so I ended up 4th overall, not too bad! Sadly I wasn't fast enough to make 3rd overall at the City Race Tour but I did manage 3rd overall for the Gdansk weekend and got a pretty snazzy trophy!

*You may have noticed a reoccurring theme of mis-punch/running off the map. I had a weekend to forget in the sporting sense but a brilliant weekend nevertheless. The atmosphere at foreign events matches what is experienced at our big multi-day events, and the sport is engrained into the public's psyche much more than in the UK. There is a real mix of people who compete, and towns and cities really celebrate the events. On the fabulous public transport there were TV adverts showing the City Race and even local events coming up. Tourist information had posters up and the public didn't look at you like you had three heads when you whizzed past or in my instance, circled Aldi for five minutes. Orienteering abroad is brilliant, and nothing to be apprehensive about, I'd go as far to say they are my favourite events (apart from ours of course!), and needn't cost an arm and a leg, we paid under £150 each for the whole weekend, entry, accommodation and flights! **Kay***



SCOTT PARK MAPPING GROUP

SCOTT PARK, BURNLEY



NEW OCAD LICENCES

We have purchased two extra OCAD licences for club use to help produce more mapped areas/update current ones. We are actively looking for more people to become trained in the art of mapping, with full guidance from the club. There are online eLearning courses by British Orienteering for both Urban and Forest Mapping and tutorage available from the club. Having more areas to map means more variation for Club Nights, events and reaching to new communities. Becoming a 'mapper' will also help your own orienteering skills as your ability to see the map 'come to life' helps you out in the field come event time!

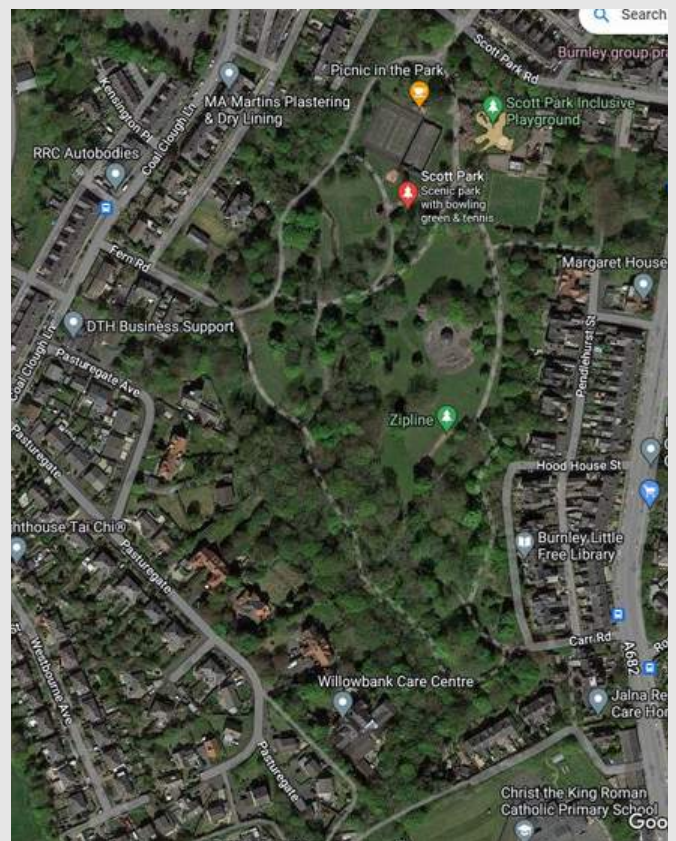
**eLearning - www.britishorienteering.org.uk/elearning
Interested in mapping? - georgecrawfordsmith@gmail.com**

MAPPING GROUP

Our guru mapper, George, is heavily invested in the JK organising from early next year so this is a perfect opportunity to get more involved in mapping!

First up is Scott Park, Burnley, a small park with interesting features and contours, great to use for a small local event/Ratchet/Snook O. It also is relatively close to Towneley Park and Towneley Colliery allowing for the possible future use of joining the areas together for a larger event.

George has created a base map (above), and will portion off a part of the park for people to each go out and study in their own time between December and January 15th to add features to be mapped to the master map. This would probably mean a few hours wandering around the park.



There will be a short Zoom session beforehand to explain certain aspects for example - what to look out for, what to map or not map and talk through any questions you may have. Once all of the portions of the map are complete, one of the PFO Mapping team will then put this all together to then build a final copy of the map.

If you are interested in being part of the Scott Park Mapping Group or updating/mapping new areas then please let us know:

(By Friday 2nd December) - Scott Park - kay.hawke@yahoo.co.uk

Getting involved in general away from Scott Park - georgecrawfordsmith@gmail.com



NEWS/QUIZ 'N BITS

PFO SUCCESS IN UKOL AND URBAN LEAGUES!

PFO have enjoyed a great season in the UK Orienteering League, moving up from 64th in 2021 to 32nd in the league, a great result for our small club! Some members have excelled in the final 2022 standing against some formidable opposition!



- M80 - Mike Fairburn 6th
- W60 - Judith Wood 3rd
- W35 - Kay Hawke 3rd



Congratulations too, to Emma Taylor coming 3rd in the Women's Open category for the UK Urban League!

DEC DATES FOR THE DIARY!

- 3/4 DEC**
HURSTWOOD NIGHT & DAY
ENTRIES CLOSE THIS WEEK
(CHEAPER ENTRY UNTIL 01/12)
- 7 DEC**
HEALEY STREET O
CHEAPER ENTRY UNTIL 05/12
- 19 DEC**
COME & TRY IT
THOMPSON PARK 11AM-1PM
BURNLEY HAF GROUP/MOVE2CHANGE CIC
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED (EMAIL KAY)

Orienteering Features: Harder

Can you find all 12 map symbols hidden in the wordsearch puzzle?

V	D	H	B	H	B	K	S	M	G	S	W
I	N	I	A	T	N	U	O	F	O	A	U
N	Q	X	M	A	R	S	H	R	C	N	J
E	Z	A	P	P	T	L	K	F	D	D	B
Y	C	O	N	T	O	U	R	E	I	Y	Y
A	W	H	G	O	W	M	R	R	D	G	G
R	D	B	A	O	E	G	R	E	L	R	P
D	L	E	I	F	R	E	D	L	U	O	B
W	T	Y	P	O	N	A	C	J	A	U	F
L	L	A	W	H	T	R	A	E	C	N	G
X	H	T	X	B	C	G	Y	N	F	D	P
Z	H	C	N	E	R	T	J	X	D	Z	Z




FANCY WINNING FREE ENTRY TO A PFO EVENT OF CHOICE?

SEND YOUR ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS BELOW TO [KAY.HAWKE@YAHOO.CO.UK](mailto:kay.hawke@yahoo.co.uk) BY DEC 31ST TO BE IN THE DRAW

- Q1 -WHAT SCALE IS THE SCOTT PARK MAP? Q2 -WHERE DOES SAM LIKE TO RUN MOST?**
Q3-WHERE DID EMMA COME OVERALL IN THE GDANSK WEEKEND? Q4 -WHERE IS THE MARCH STREET O?