

# PUNCHLINE

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Issue 190

October 2019

## CHAMPIONSHIP SEASON

September is the time for State, National and Schools Championships. First up, the Victorian Long Distance Champs were held at Linton, near Ballarat, on September 22. Our podium finishers were:

- First place: Joel Crothers, Damian Spencer, Sarah Davies, Ryan Davies
- Second place: Amber Louw, Janine Steer
- Third place: Wayne Love, Peter Hobbs

A big contingent of DROC members headed to Wagga Wagga and Beechworth for the Oceania and Australian Championships week, starting on September 28. Simon Rouse had the standout performance of the week with no less than four podiums in the highly competitive M40. But he wasn't the only one. Our winners and placegetters were:

- Oceania Sprint Distance - 3<sup>rd</sup> place Simon Rouse
- Australian Long Distance - 2<sup>nd</sup> place Peter Hobbs, 3<sup>rd</sup> place Simon Rouse
- Oceania Relays - 1<sup>st</sup> place Simon Rouse (M35 team)
- Oceania Long Distance - 3<sup>rd</sup> place Sarah Love
- Australian Middle Distance - 2<sup>nd</sup> place Simon Rouse

By all accounts it was a tough week - hot weather, and physically and technically challenging courses. Everyone who took part had their highs and lows, and will bring home plenty of stories. Congratulations to all who took part, and survived! Luckily we had our brand new club "travel tent".



## DIARY DATES

### MELBOURNE CITY RACE, SUNDAY OCTOBER 13, DOCKLANDS

It's finally here - the Melbourne City Race is on! The maps and courses are prepared, the entries are rolling in, and everything is set for an incredible day! If you missed the online entry cutoff, enter on the day at Registration from 9.30am.

Docklands Park, Collins Street, Docklands. [www.melbournecityrace.com.au](http://www.melbournecityrace.com.au)

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, SUNDAY OCTOBER 27, MT EVELYN

The 2019 DROC AGM will be held at 36 South Avenue, Mt Evelyn, on Sunday October 27 from 2pm. A short meeting will be held to elect office bearers, then enjoy a social get together and BBQ. Please bring your favourite travel photos as we take a virtual journey around the globe.

### SPRINT INTO SPRING, SATURDAY NOVEMBER 16, OXLEY COLLEGE (CHIRNSIDE PARK)

Sprint Into Spring is on again this year, and DROC will be hosting a race at Oxley College. Sarah and James Love are course setting on this small but tricky campus. There are seven SIS races this year, starting with Edgewater and Kensington on October 11 and 12, as part of the Melbourne City Race Weekend. Check [www.vicorienteering.asn.au/sprints](http://www.vicorienteering.asn.au/sprints) for all the details.

### THE FAMOUS DROC CHRISTMAS PARTY, WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 18, BLACKBURN LAKE

The Famous DROC Christmas Party is the social highlight of the year, and it's on once again, following the Wednesday Summer Series event at Blackburn Lake. We'll provide the usual delicious BBQ chicken along with vegetarian quiche. Please bring a salad or dessert to share, as well as drinks. Family members are very welcome to celebrate the year with us. Stay tuned for more details via email.

## VICTORIAN LONG DISTANCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Damian Spencer and Joel Crothers receiving their winner's certificates at Linton.





## PARK STREET RESULTS

Congratulations to our winners:

Saturday	A2	Helen Walpole 1 <sup>st</sup> , Stuart McWilliam 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Saturday	B1	Reg Saunders 2 <sup>nd</sup> , Phil Torode 3 <sup>rd</sup> , Joel Crothers 1 <sup>st</sup> junior
Saturday	B2	Peter Yeates 1 <sup>st</sup> , Debbie Dodd 2 <sup>nd</sup> , Pam King 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Saturday	PW1	Ros King 1 <sup>st</sup>
Monday	Target Run	Peter Dalwood 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Monday	Target Short	Ian Davies 1 <sup>st</sup>
Monday	Target Walk	Pam King 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Wednesday	A1	Ian Davies 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Wednesday	B1	Jay Kerley 1 <sup>st</sup>
Wednesday	B2	Reg Saunders 1 <sup>st</sup> , Peter Yeates 3 <sup>rd</sup>

Thanks to our Saturday Series Coordinator Peter Yeates, and our Monday and Wednesday scorers Ian Davies and Mark Besley - amazing job!

## PUNCHLINE SCANNING PROJECT UPDATE

We're putting the finishing touches on the Punchline scanning project, thanks to Peter Hobbs and Wayne and James Love. We hope to be able to send all members a link in the next few weeks, where you'll be able to find (almost) every issue since 1979!

## DROC SHOP

The DROC Shop is open for business and ready to get you kitted out for the rest of 2019 and beyond! We sell Sportident sticks (including SI Air sticks for those who want to speed up their race), and a range of compasses suitable for newcomers, at very reasonable prices.

We also sell Pro-Tech gaiters, fingerbands, and Silva headbands. [Prices can be found here](#). We bring the Shop to most events, including MelbushO. You can order from us by sending an email to [droc@iinet.net.au](mailto:droc@iinet.net.au). We also have a range of running tops and jackets, in various designs and sizes. Contact [Peter Yeates](#) to find out what's in stock.

## ASHA AND LANITA HELP VICTORIAN WOMEN WIN NATIONAL LEAGUE

Victoria brought home the 2019 NOL Trophy in the Senior Womens division, while the Senior Men, including Peter Hobbs and Simon Rouse, were a narrow second to the ACT.



## SUMMER SERIES BACK FOR ANOTHER SIZZLING SEASON

Summer Series has come around yet again; starting from October 7, you can orienteer up to four nights a week, right through until the end of March. What a wonderful way to keep fit and stay social, during daylight saving!

Season tickets are on sale during the first three weeks, offering a huge 30% saving to club members. You can pay by cash, cheque or bank transfer. Monday and Wednesday tickets are \$85, while Tuesday and Thursday tickets are \$80.

DROC is organising the following events, and we are looking for one more course setter to fill the vacancy.

Day	Date	Map	Suburb	Setter
Mon	7 Oct	Waverley Woods	Mt Waverley	Ros King
Wed	16 Oct	Tunstall Junction	Blackburn North	Phil Torode
Mon	28 Oct	Wattle View	Boronia	Newbury Navigators
Mon	18 Nov	Cathies Creek	Wantirna	Pam King
Wed	4 Dec	Croydon Town	Croydon	Ian Greenwood
Mon	9 Dec	Bunjil Run	Ferntree Gully	Ben Fullard
Mon	16 Dec	Monash Mayhem	Clayton	Ian Davies
Wed	1 Jan	Park Orchards	Park Orchards	Peter Yeates
Mon	6 Jan	Dingley Village	Dingley Village	Joel Crothers
Thu	9 Jan	Middle Mullum	Donvale	Mark Besley
Wed	15 Jan	Mitcham	Mitcham	Andrea and Lauren Jackson
Mon	20 Jan	Tattersson (new map)	Keysborough	Peter Grover
Mon	10 Feb	Coomoora	Keysborough	Denise Pike
Wed	19 Feb	Koonung Crossing	Bulleen	Merv and Bev Trease
Mon	2 Mar	Rowville Lakes	Rowville	Ilze Yeates
Wed	11 Mar	Forest Chase	Forest Hill	Stuart McWilliam
Mon	23 Mar	Wantirna South	Wantirna South	vacant
Wed	1 Apr	Maroondah Triangle	East Ringwood	Debbie Dodd

## PREZ SEZ

Well done to all DROC members who competed in the Oceania and Australian Orienteering Championships in Wagga Wagga and Beechworth. It was a sensational nine days of orienteering, including the Australian Schools Orienteering Championships (ASOC) for which I was co-coach of the Victorian team along with Clare Brownridge (BG) and Bruce Arthur (MFR).



The carnival kicked off with the Oceania Sprint at Charles Sturt University on the outskirts of Wagga Wagga. This is a great sprint map because it includes a relatively complex area of university buildings beside an equally complex bush hillside with granite. Standout results were Simon Rouse, Glenn Meyer and Damian Spencer (3<sup>rd</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 10<sup>th</sup> respectively in M40), Janine Steer fighting off nerves to finish 7<sup>th</sup> in W55 and Sammy Love 8<sup>th</sup> in W12. Simon reported a very clean run, including through the difficult granite hillside where many others (including me!) came unstuck. Interestingly, Simon ranked in the top 3 for only 3 of his 21 controls but registered no Winsplits mistakes to finish 3<sup>rd</sup>. It is so often the case that a consistent run without mistakes yields an excellent result.

The going got tougher the next day with the Australian Long Distance Championship at Split Rock. The map featured a long and steep hillside littered with granite, cliffs and bare rock patches plus areas of open farmland. Some orienteers came across wild pigs on their courses! Although steep, the terrain was very runnable with minimal “green” and relatively good visibility. For these reasons (not the pigs) I really enjoyed running on this map and had a solid result finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> in M35. Other highlights were Simon Rouse 3<sup>rd</sup> in M40, Sammy Love 8<sup>th</sup> in W12 and Sarah Love 9<sup>th</sup> in WOpenB. Lanita and Asha Steer also had very strong runs to finish 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> (of 29) in W21E on what was a gruelling test of endurance.

Day 3 was the Oceania Relays back at Split Rock. We were again greeted with sunshine and 25-degree temperatures. The start was frenetic with the longer courses heading directly up a steep 20 x 5m contour granite hillside to the first control. Courses featured many short legs and some butterfly loops. The final few controls were in full visibility of the arena including a fence crossing which some of the stronger runners hurdled, whilst others climbed over as gracefully and quickly as they could. DROC members were scattered across many age groups and composite relay teams however Sammy, Sarah and Wayne Love teamed up in the Mixed category, finishing a solid 4<sup>th</sup> in a very tight battle with the first 7 places being decided only on the final leg. Well done also to Simon Rouse and former DROC member Warren Key for taking out first place in M35, and Asha and Lanita finishing 5<sup>th</sup> representing Victoria in W21E.

The main part of the week - from an ASOC perspective - was the mid-week Tuesday-Thursday events featuring the ASOC sprint, long distance and relay events. Of course Bruce, Clare and I had been staying with the 19 Victorian ASOC kids (plus 110 kids from other states and their team managers) since the beginning of the carnival at a sports group accommodation centre just outside Wagga Wagga. Everyone was quick to adapt to the daily routine which comprised of: wake up, breakfast in the dining hall, take team bus to event, set up team tent, run, return to accommodation in the mid afternoon via Coles and/or swim in the Murrumbidgee River, team meeting, dinner, manager’s meeting, free time if you are lucky, then off to bed.

The ASOC sprint was held at Kildare College in Wagga Wagga, which was a very small campus, mapped at 1:2000. The start was approximately 700m from the finish/arena and it was my job to be there to calm nerves and make sure each Victorian started at their allotted time. After the first few starters, I was able to ascertain with some certainty the locations of the first one or even two controls for each class because these were visible from the start area. This information was eagerly absorbed by the Victorians and may have contributed to several top 10 finishers. James Love had perhaps his best run at this level finishing an error-free 17<sup>th</sup> and second Victorian across the line.

The ASOC Long Distance event was held at a very sunny and picturesque Connorton, approximately 20 minutes south west of Wagga Wagga. Picturesque because the arena was located on an open hillside with city views in one direction and an inviting forest littered with boulders in the other. Temperatures had hit the high 20s by midday. Again, Victoria had many top 10 finishers. Perhaps more importantly, every Victorian completed their course under tough conditions comprising of hard navigation, long



courses and running in the middle of the day in heat. DROC's Sally Barlow, Amber Louw and James Love all did tremendously to finish the course under these conditions.

Next was the ASOC relays at Pomingalarna which featured a very runnable bush area on at the base of a medium sized hill with surprisingly not a boulder in sight. The Victorians proudly sang the team song (a modified version of North Melbourne's "Join in the chorus") in the arena as first leg runners were taking up their positions at the start line. Temperatures were again high, and finishers were notably fatigued with cases of dehydration and dizziness. Water and hydrolytes were being consumed by the dozen and the Victorian team tent resembled a sick bay for a period of time until everyone had regained some energy. Sally Barlow, although not being selected in the Victorian Senior Girls relay team, finished the course as third runner in a composite team in hot conditions. Meanwhile, the senior girls had an unfortunate mis-punch. Perhaps Sally should have been in the relay team after all?

*Sally running in with the Victorian team escorting her. Great camaraderie!*



New Zealand's two teams dominated the relays to take out overall honours with Victoria placing a respectable 4<sup>th</sup>. The day was far from over with an awards night and the legendary disco to follow at the Wagga Wagga RSL. James and Amber both received medals for their respective teams having podium finishes whilst other team members were selected in Honours Teams, which comprise the 4 best performed orienteers in each of the 4 classes. Coaches and managers stepped into the background as the disco ramped up. The kids danced the night away until the last song "You and Me", also known as "the orienteering song" because of the cheery orienteering lyrics.

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October was a rest/travel day where the team drove to Beechworth via the picturesque Woolshed Falls, where some of the team were brave (or silly!) enough to clamber down a steep cliff to reach the deep waterhole at the bottom. All juniors and officials including both New Zealand teams stayed at *The Old Priory* - a 130 year old building previously used as a convent until 1978 and a guesthouse since. The place could accurately be described as a maze of rabbit warrens across three levels with about 30 separate rooms. After three days and two nights there, I still did not properly know my way around. These circumstances did not help any of the team managers on the first night when there was "confusion" over bed times. The New Zealand kids had not been staying with the Australian teams in Wagga Wagga and had been going to bed at 10pm, whilst the Australian teams had been in their rooms by 9pm with lights strictly out at 9:30pm. At *The Old Priory* news of this discrepancy spread quickly and the Australian kids decided that 10pm was the new bed time! Eventually team managers and coaches fixed the "confusion" and bed times were re-calibrated to 9:30pm lights out.

With two more days of the Oceania carnival left, the ASOC was over for another year and it was again evident how much it means to the kids. There is a very strong team spirit amongst the Victorian team with the social aspect of the week being just as important as the orienteering aspect. New friendships were formed and there were countless examples of the team helping each other out. Milla Key fetching water for dehydrated Victorian finishers, everyone helping Callum White cope for the week with his broken arm, team members taking it in turns to set up and take down the team tent, Sophie Taverna finding spare money for the carpark and the list goes on. Some kids performed strongly towards the top of their age class, whilst others achieved just as much by simply completing the courses at this level.



*James Love running for Victoria (above);  
Sarah Davies running W20E for Victoria in the Australian  
Middle Distance Champs at Beechworth (right)*



The final two days of the carnival were the Oceania Long Distance and Middle Distance Championships. The long distance event was at Kangaroo Crossing, which is one of the toughest granite maps in the country with steep hills, low visibility and conifer trees with very scratchy and dense branches. Throw in former DROC member Warren Key as course setter and you have a serious orienteering challenge. My course was the equal toughest I have ever done, finally finishing a mid-field 18<sup>th</sup> in M21E, with a quarter of the field DNF'ing. Standout DROC results were Sarah Love 3<sup>rd</sup> in WOpenB, Glenn Meyer and Simon Rouse 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> in M40 and Sammy Love 8<sup>th</sup> in W12. Asha Steer and Lanita Steer also had great runs finishing in the top 10 of W21E. Finishing any course on this map was an achievement!

The final day - Middle Distance - was on a new map called Racecourse Creek only two minutes out of Beechworth. A really fun map with a mix of open areas, granite, runnable bushland and a mountain bike track. Standout DROC results were Simon Rouse topping off a very consistent week with 2<sup>nd</sup> in M40, with Glenn Meyer not far behind with 8<sup>th</sup> and Sammy Love 8<sup>th</sup> in W12.

Well done to all DROC competitors. Overall the carnival was excellent and we were treated to a smorgasbord of high quality orienteering covering all formats with no rain. I had a great time being part of the Victorian ASOC team and in some ways was sad to see the carnival end. With another rest day I'm sure the Victorian Junior team would have soldiered on to more events. But I am also happy to have some down time to recuperate for the next part of the orienteering year: Sprint into Spring. Happy Orienteering! Peter Hobbs.



## MORE PHOTOS - OCEANIA AND AUSTRALIAN CHAMPS WEEK

Top: Ian Davies, Mark Besley

Bottom: Sarah Love, Ilze Yeates





Top: Lanita Steer, Wayne Love  
Bottom: Will Meyer, Asha Steer





## ***FIRE AND ICE - MORE EUROPEAN ORIENTEERING ADVENTURES - PETER YEATES***

A group of almost 20 Victorian orienteers convened at the World Masters Games in Latvia, in July. From there the group splintered and drifted far and wide to events such as the Fin Five Day, Scottish Six Day, Swiss O Week and many more.

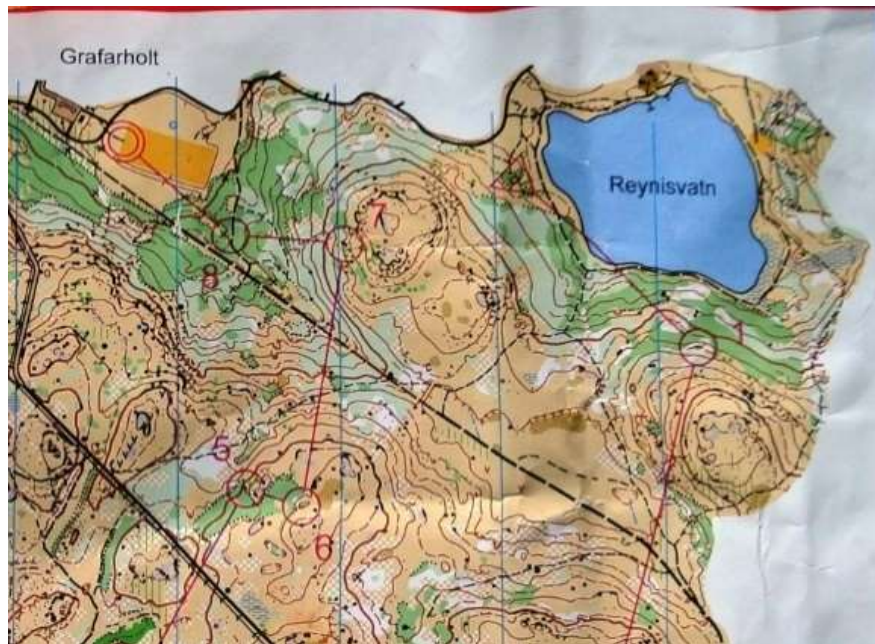
A smaller group drifted the furthest and ended up in Iceland for the Ice-O. Peter and Ilze Yeates from Dandenong Ranges Orienteers were joined by David Brownridge from Eureka and together we braved the wilds of the Icelandic lava fields.

The event was over three days and consisted of an Urban sprint, followed by a Long and a Middle in the forests, with accumulated times to produce the results. I use the word forests advisedly as at the event safety briefing the course planner said "if you get lost in Icelandic forest, the best thing to do is just stand up". Not strictly true, although the pines, spruce and beech are sparse and rather stunted; due to poor soil and the climate, they are well over head height and the dark green is just as dark.



The greatest challenge and delight was tackling the lava, mostly covered in thick moss that at this time of year had dried out and it is like running on a 100mm thick carpet of sphagnum. Quite taxing physically but really soft to fall on. The cartographer, Cesare Tarabocchia, was at the events and provided a fascinating insight into the mapping. He said "it was some time before he realized he was mapping the ocean, where the molten lava had cooled in waves". It didn't help much.





We had marvellous weather on all three days. Bright sun and temperatures around the 12 to 14 C but the wind was straight off the north pole.

Our results were good considering none of us had any experience in the lava. Day one was an urban sprint, and bread and butter to Pete and Ilze who both finished 2nd in M/W 70, and David a good 4th in a class field. Ilze's brief experience in the lava parks during this event made her choose to sit the rest out, she is awaiting a hip replacement and falling is not a good idea.

Days two and three produced a 4th and a 3rd for Pete in M70, and a 7th and 5th for David in 21E.



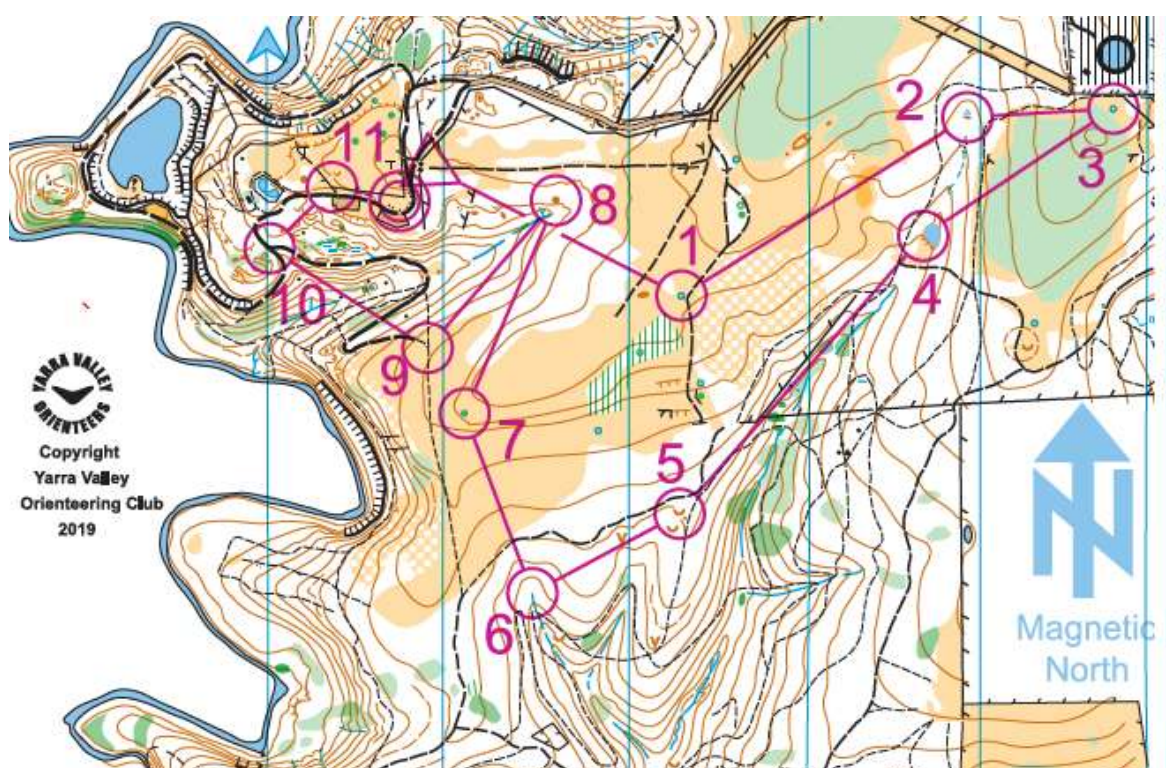
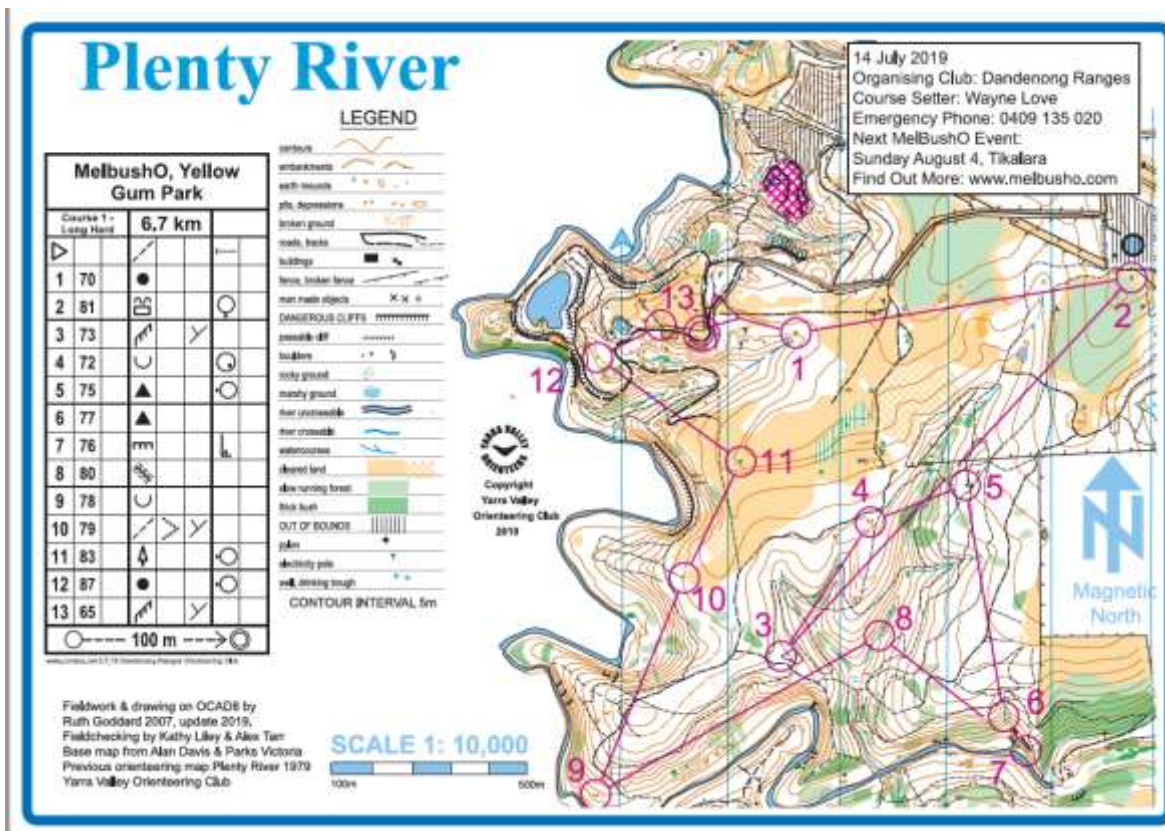
David's combined results meant he was 5th overall and Pete managed to make the podium with a second place between the winner from Norway, Hennik Hvosef, and Austria's Robert Benedek. Other competitors included Victoria's recent coach Will Gardner's dad Richard, who is set to come to Oceania. Richard and his wife Sian said that Will is still hoarse from yelling for Aston of whom he feels justifiably "a bit chuffed."



## MELBUSHO AT YELLOW GUM PARK

Wayne Love volunteered to set courses at Yellow Gum Park for DROC's MelBushO event in July. Assisted by Peter Yeates, Wayne faced the challenge of setting five courses, ranging from something suitably challenging for Course 1, down to moderate and easy courses that would suit the newcomers who made up half the participation. He chose a new start and finish location, which worked out well (in spite of the gale force wind). With some of our regular volunteers AWOL, it was great to have many newer club members step up to the plate and lend a hand, in what was another successful day.

Below: Course 1 (Long Hard); Course 4 (Moderate)





## KUCHEN ORIENTIERUNGSLAUF - CAKE ORIENTEERING IN EUROPE

That's "cake orienteering" in German, and we were lucky enough to experience two incredibly well catered events in Europe this year.

The Aargauer 3-Day was a regional multi day event with about 700 participants, comprising a twilight Middle Distance, a Long Distance, and a Sprint, in the north east corner of Switzerland not far from the German border. The event centre was a quaint village called Riniken, and we were based at the local school. We were a little anxious about orienteering in the Land of the Alp, but here there were just a couple of low wooded hills, with fields of sunflowers and stubble in between.

The arena was something to behold. A large courtyard was filled with food stalls - crepes, bbq, pasta, beer and cakes. Wooden picnic tables were decorated with tiny O-flags. There were showers and changing rooms, and a huge marquee to provide shade for the projector and screen on which the WOC Relays would be shown (Switzerland's Womens team won Silver). The organising club were out in force, all wearing eye catching matching tops. Everyone had a task. There were lots of activities to keep the kids busy, including an "SI fishing" game which was actually pretty hard! People would go out for their run, then shower and change, and tuck in to platefuls of food for lunch or dinner, while keeping an eye on the live results.

*Fishing for controls*

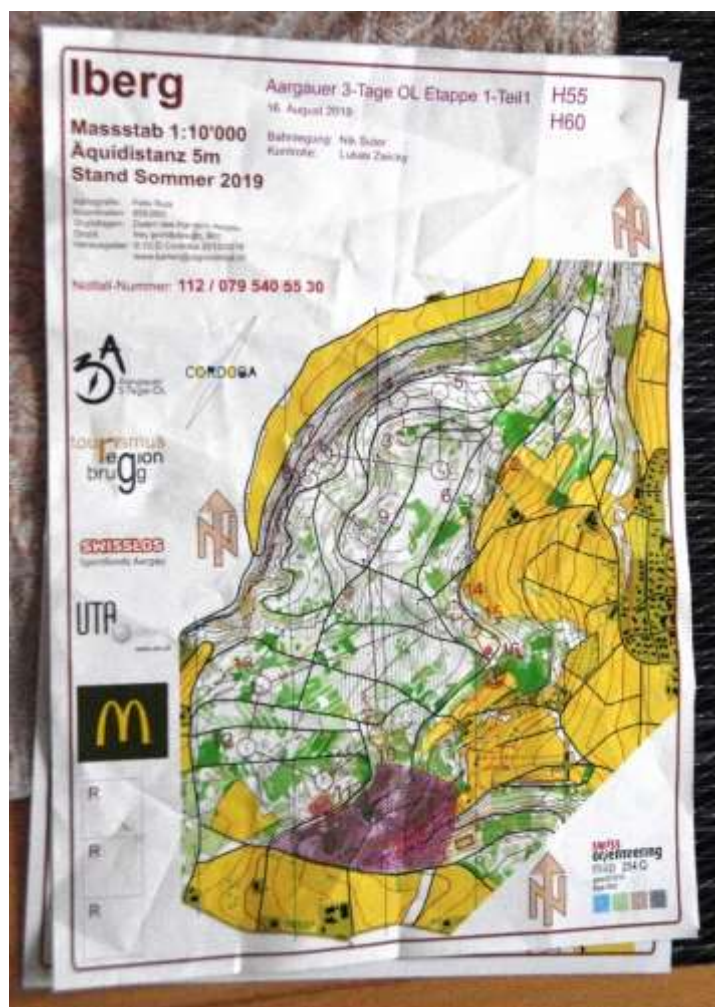


*Table decorations*



We met up with Philippa and Steven (from Bayside Kangaroos), and two other Aussies from the ACT, and quickly formed an Antipodean alliance. Much friendly banter about cricket and Brexit ensued with the British competitors.

Day 1 - the starts were between 6 and 7pm, with the sun low in the sky and casting long shadows. It was hard to see clearly in the forest, which like most European terrain, had plenty underfoot to trip you up. There were plenty of tracks and they were wide, dry and clear, so we stuck to those as much as possible. I wore my torch as I was worried about night falling before I finished, but there was plenty of daylight left as I made it to the finish. The organisers thought it was a good idea to have us walk about 1 km from the final control back to the school, then fire up again to run a mini-sprint before crossing the finish line! All I could think about by that stage were crepes.



*Left - Ian's day 1 map  
Above - the Victorians*

Day 2 - longer distances and a different hill, but very similar terrain. This time it was mid afternoon and hot. Ian had some steep contours, but my course was relatively flat.

*Not the Swiss Alps (thank goodness). Less than 100 metres of climb.*



Day 3 - a morning sprint in the nearby Old Town of Brugg. The 2 km walk to the start was delightful - beside fields full of sunflowers, along a shady forest trail, past lovingly tended market gardens, then overlooking the river, stone bridge and waterwheel. It was a typical European sprint, featuring cobbled roads, squares with fountains, narrow lanes, and small parks. Ian was excited to finish second, only 2 seconds behind the winner! I was excited to devour a scrumptious crepe with hazelnut sauce.



**Aargauer 3-Tage OL 2019 - Day 3**

**H60 Senioren 60.**

1. Merz Oswald	Beinwil am See	OLG Rymensburg	21:38
2. Dodd Ian	AUS Melbourne	Dandenong Ranges Oriente	21:38
3. Scherrer César	Bättwil	OLG Basel	21:42
4. Hortner Thomas	Pratteln	OLV Baselland	22:23
5. Brunner Valentin	Zufikon	bussola ok	22:44
6. Kung Markus	Baar	OLV Zug / björnbar ok	22:45
7. Lustenberger Marcel	Büttwil	OLK Argus	22:46
8. Steinegger Bruno	Bassersdorf	OLC Kapreolo	23:18
9. Müller Beat	Zürich	Kolbetn OK	24:16
10. Bischof Urs	Hirwil	OLC Winterthur	24:23
11. Bosshard Jürg	Pfaffikon ZH	OLG Pfaffikon	24:26
12. Hofmann Andi	Oberwil-Lieli		24:43
13. Ramseler Peter	Rheinfelden		25:19
14. Clément Jean François	Fribourg	CA Rosé	26:29
15. Jung Markus	Reinach BL	OLG Basel	26:58

Day 1 - proceedings began with a twilight prologue (I'm sure these Friday evening events are all about eating and drinking, with a bit of light hearted orienteering thrown in). Again we were amazed to see an array of BBQ food, freshly made waffles, cakes and beer - a theme that was to continue each day. A last minute withdrawal of permission meant the courses were restricted to a park and local streets, but it was fun and a good warmup, although a bit disconcerting to find ourselves dodging hordes of sunbathing locals in the park. We all agreed we'd got all our errors out of the way.

## Orientierungslaufkarte

# Woogviertel

Maßstab 1:4000 (1cm=40m)

Äquidistanz: 2,5m

Aufnahme/Zeichnung:  
Cedric Guthier,  
Birger Holtermann  
Stand: 08/19

Wissenschaftsstadt  
Darmstadt

Darmstädter TSG

RMCR2019-Prolog				
D16, D35, D40, H14, H45 H55, OMS				
Bahn 3	3,0 km	15 m		
1 83				
2 87				

3 77				
4 78				
5 81				
6 62				
7 63				
8 64				
9 65				
10 71				
11 72				
12 73				
13 61				
14 49				

15 48				
16 100				

130 m



Day 2 - the DoppelSprint (double sprint). We headed to a residential area north of Darmstadt, and gathered in another school courtyard. We spent up big at the O-shop. The maps were adjacent - east and west of the arena - and morning and afternoon were very similar; pretty much like streetO on colour maps at 1:5000, and with line courses. Ian put together two great runs to finish third overall, and was called up onto the podium (a huge stage which was a converted truck), with special mention made of how far he'd travelled to compete. I'd switched my allegiance from crepes to waffles.

Herren 55- (Men 55-) (23)					
Pl.	Total	E.1		E.2	Name
1	20:14	10:10	1	10:04	1 Goossens, Dirk
2	24:04	12:03	4	12:01	2 Vilz, Wolfgang
3	24:17	11:55	3	12:22	3 Dodd, Ian



*Ian's moment of glory - 3<sup>rd</sup> in the German Park Tour Double Sprint, M55*

Day 3 - the Rhein Main City Race. Part of the European City Race Tour, this was the second City Race in Darmstadt, and it attracted competitors from many countries. We started in the University, then into the lovely Herrngarten. From there we had several controls in a gracious residential area, then into the old town and market square, before making our way back past the massive and ancient city walls, the bombed church which serves as a moving war memorial, and into the finish.

Ian was unable to replicate his success, losing concentration at the end and making a 5 minute error which dropped him out of contention.



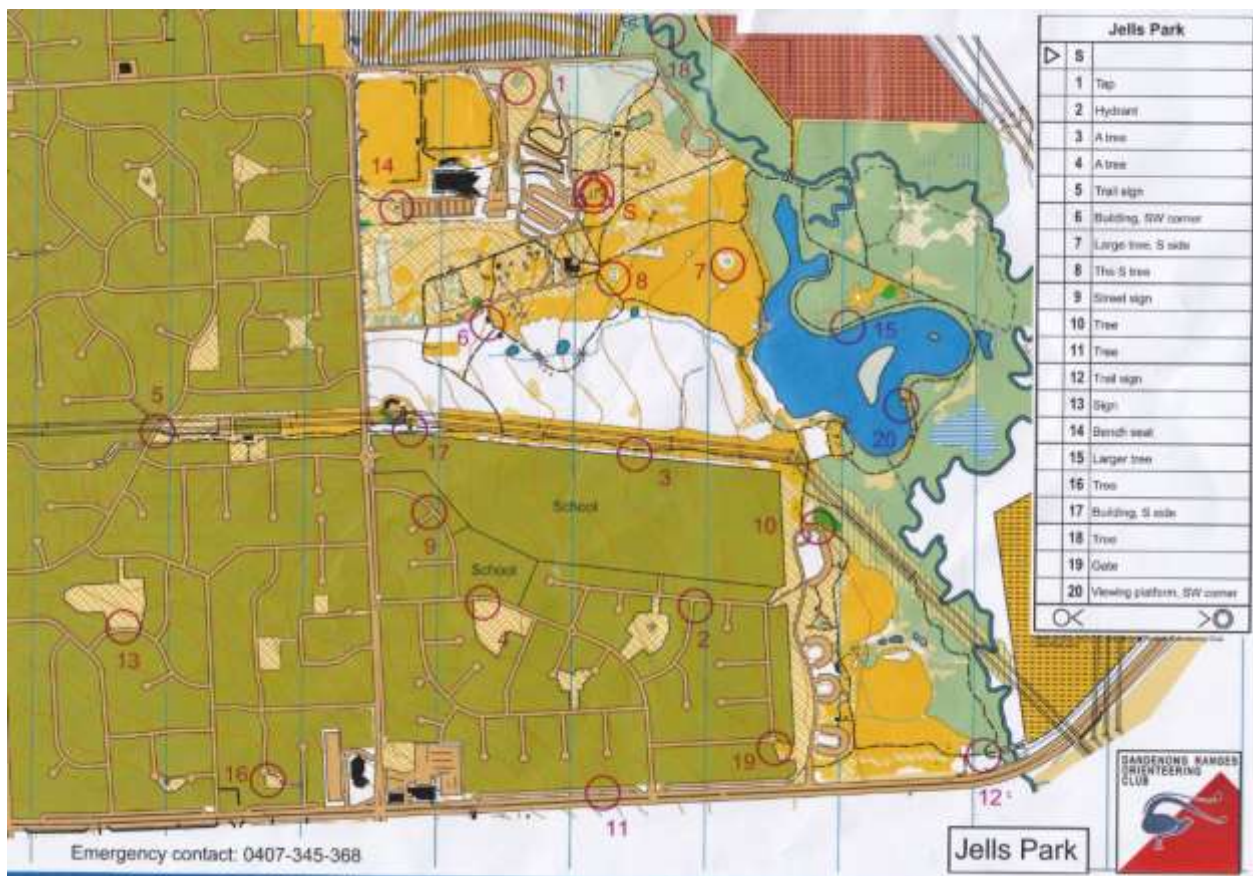


*Darmstadt market square, we ran across it several times*

All of these events were wonderfully organised, with great maps and courses in interesting locations with friendly people and perfect weather. They were easy to get to, and brilliantly catered. What more could you ask for?

## SATURDAY PARK SERIES

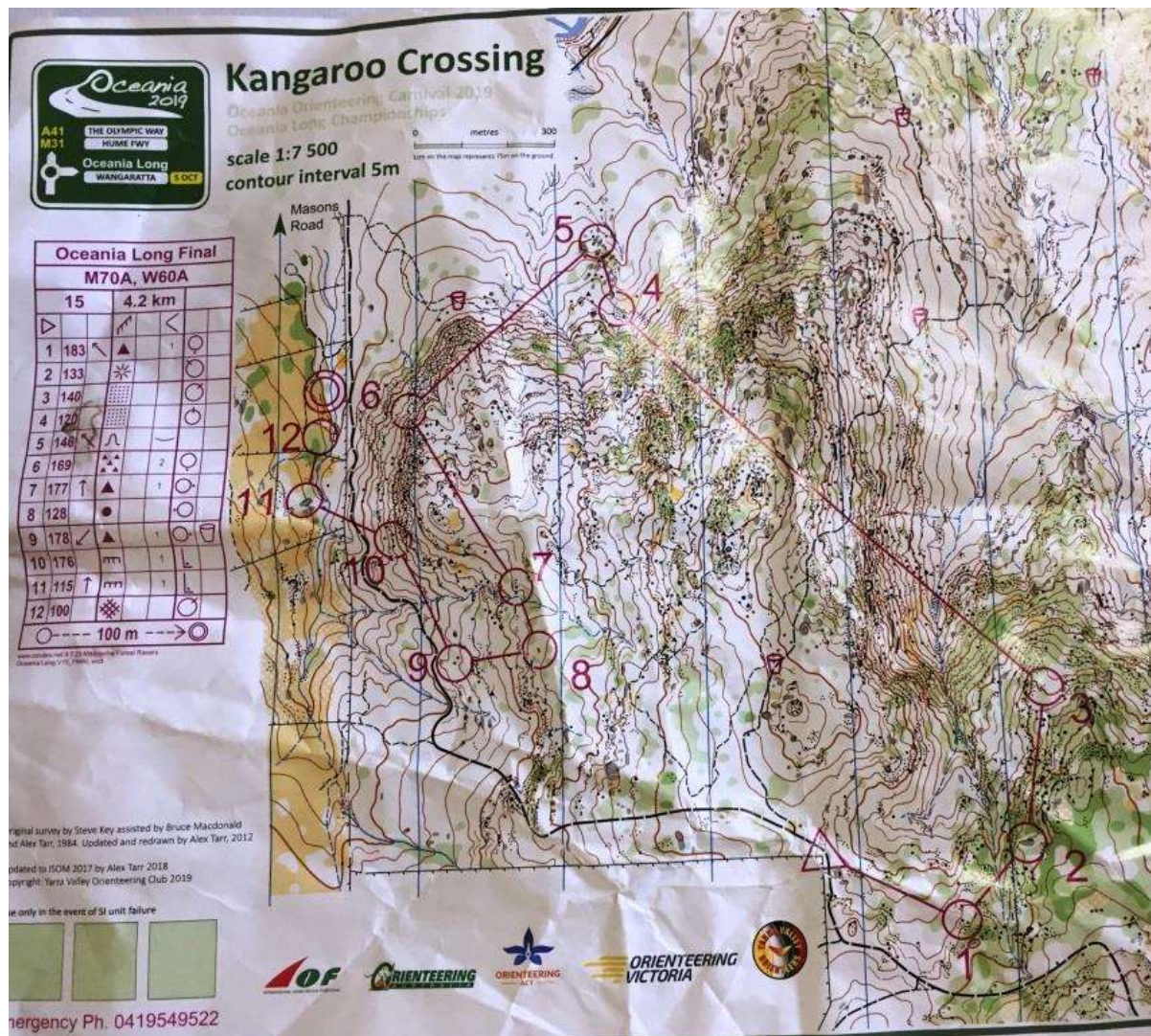
This year, grant funding was again provided to produce colour maps of some of our best park areas, and the Saturday Series featured nine Park events on these maps, with controls predominantly in parkland areas. Debbie Dodd set a course on Nortons Park earlier in the year, and in August, Graham Wallis set the first course at Jells Park for a number of years. It was a welcome return to a popular venue, with 90 participants - well above the series average of 65. Other Park events that attracted a good crowd were at Darebin, Nortons, and Ruffey Lake. We plan to continue expanding the mapping program as time and funds permit. The Jells Park map is a work in progress, as mapper Aston Key was overseas for much of the year. We look forward to using it again next year. Here is Graham's course.





## THE LONG LEG

The Oceania Long Distance race featured a doozy of a Long leg on almost all courses. Many people came to grief on it. Here is the M70 map - how would you have tackled 3-4? Hint: the red line was NOT the optimum route choice!



Peter Dalwood was one who mispunched. He thought his race number might be an omen?

