

# PUNCHLINE

Dandenong Ranges Orienteering Club Inc  
www.drocorienteering.com.au  
Incorporated Association Registered Number A0003225B  
ABN 76 002 329 218

President	Damian Spencer <a href="mailto:president@drocorienteering.com.au">president@drocorienteering.com.au</a>
Vice President	Peter Yeates <a href="mailto:pj.i.yeates@gmail.com">pj.i.yeates@gmail.com</a>
Secretary	Sarah Love <a href="mailto:secretary@drocorienteering.com.au">secretary@drocorienteering.com.au</a>
Treasurer	Ian Dodd <a href="mailto:treasurer@drocorienteering.com.au">treasurer@drocorienteering.com.au</a>
Memberships	Debbie Dodd <a href="mailto:enquiries@drocorienteering.com.au">enquiries@drocorienteering.com.au</a>
Maps	Rhys Eddy <a href="mailto:rhyseddy@gmail.com">rhyseddy@gmail.com</a>
Clothing	Peter Yeates
Punchline Editor	Debbie Dodd
Committee	Sally Barlow, Peter Dalwood, Pam King, Wayne Love, James Love, Peter Hobbs, Tina Smith, Bev Trease, Ilze Yeates



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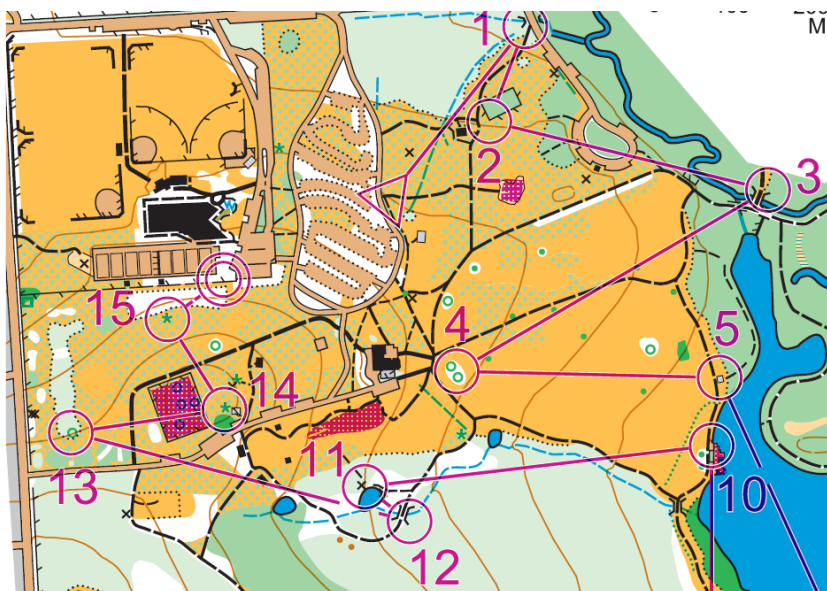
## SEE YOU AT THE SUMMER SHORTS!

The wait is over ... our brand new series of action-packed adventures await! Sunday mornings in October and November are set to get your heart racing, your legs pumping, and your brain firing! We have four fantastic sprint-style races in store.

At each event, you can choose your own course, and start any time between 11am and 12 noon. Course lengths are 4.5 km for Course 1, 3.5 km for Course 2, and 2.5 km for Course 3. Maps are full colour, and we're using Sportident timing. There'll be lots of controls on each course, with lots of decisions to be made. All venues are safe for newcomers and juniors, so spread the word and bring family and friends!

We prefer online entry via Eventor, but you can enter on the day at Registration. Entry fees are a tiny \$12 for over-21s, \$6 for ages 17-20, and KIDS RUN FREE! Yep, if you're 16 and under, there is no entry fee.

Check dates and venues on the next page.



## DANDENONG RANGES ORIENTEERING CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Friday October 27 2023, 8pm

The 2023 AGM will be held online, with annual reports from the President and Treasurer, and the election of office bearers.  
A link and further details will be forwarded to all members prior to the meeting date.

## *SUMMER SHORTS, October 22 - November 12*

### Summer Shorts 1 - Jells Park, Sunday 22 October

An introduction to the series, on one of favourite park maps. Enter via the main entrance on Waverley Road, and park in the big car park. Registration is on the west side of the car park, near the sports stadium.

### Summer Shorts 2 - Lillydale Lakeside, Sunday 29 October (change of venue)

The map has just been updated with more detail added, and we'll use the northern section (not just a run around the lake). Enter from Hardy Street in Lilydale, and park as directed. BYO BBQ lunch for a club get-together afterward!

### Summer Shorts 3 - Tatterson Park, Sunday 5 November

The map has also been updated to increase the level of detail. The infamous Tree Maze will again be a feature, but the rest of the park is pretty a-maze-ing too! Enter from Cheltenham Road, follow the park road south past Springers, and park at or near Tatterson Pavilion/Oval.

### Summer Shorts 4 - Waverley Stadium, Sunday 12 November

This map has been extended to add even more complexity and confusion! Enter off Jacksons Road at Cavenagh Boulevard and park as direction.

Find out more: <https://www.vicorienteeering.asn.au/summer-shorts-coming-soon/>

## *THE RETURN OF THE FAMOUS DROC CHRISTMAS PARTY!!*

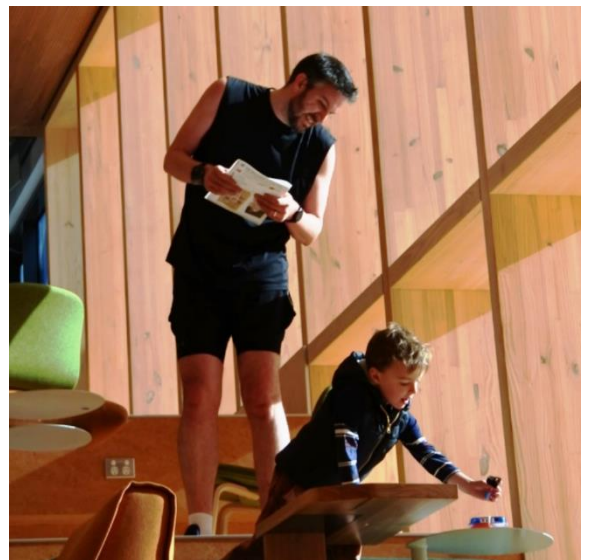
By popular demand, the Famous DROC Christmas Party reverts to its tried and true format. We'll provide plateloads of yummy bbq chicken pieces - you do the rest! Bring a bowl of salad or dessert to share, and byo chairs and drinks. We will no longer provide single use plastic plates or utensils, so please bring those along too, for personal use. Keep an eye on your inbox during December for details!

Where: Elgar Park, Elgar Road, Box Hill

When: Wednesday December 20, straight after the Wednesday Summer Series event.

## *INDOOR-OUTDOOR SPRINT RELAY, MONASH CLAYTON, SUNDAY JANUARY 21*

The mayhem returns to Monash - once again you'll have the chance to enjoy the best (only?) Indoor Sprint venue in the Southern Hemisphere! Teams of two will compete in this mad Relay race, with each competitor completing an Indoor leg, and an Outdoor leg (don't worry, you'll get a break in between). Monash has generously made their incredible Learning and Teaching Building available, with its mind-boggling architecture. What a way to kick off 2024!



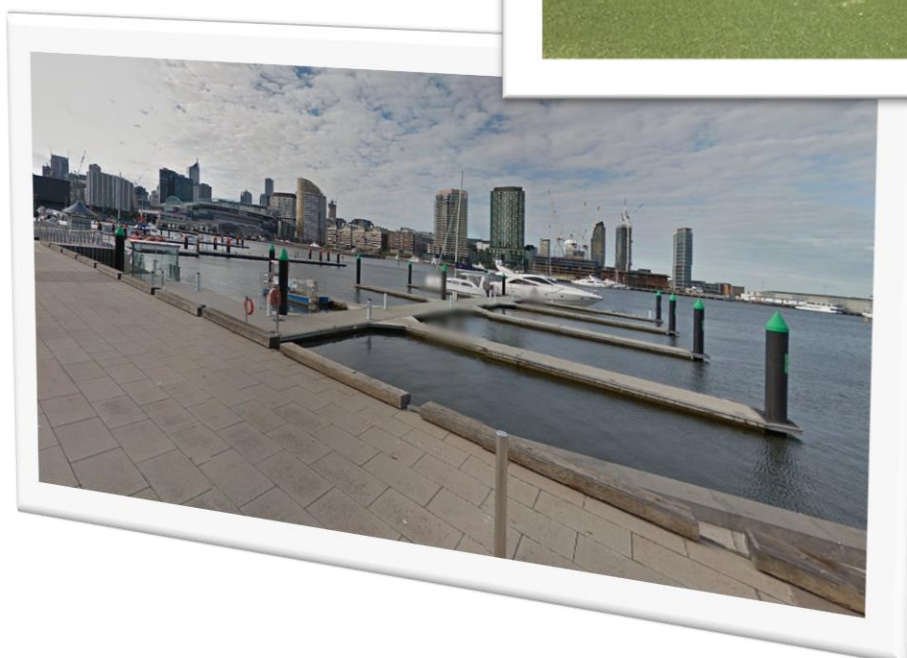
## MELBOURNE CITY RACE - DOCKLANDS, SUNDAY NOVEMBER 19

The permits have been granted; finishing touches are being made to the maps and courses; there's a boxful of prizes - we're almost ready for the 2023 Melbourne City Race! We have a great Arena and Finish right next to the water on NewQuay Promenade - just like Venice, and right in the heart of Docklands. There's easy access to public transport and toilets, and lots of eating places for afterwards. You'll encounter the multi-level District Mall, Waterfront City, Victoria Harbour, and Marvel Stadium.

Online entries open on November 1, and close on November 15. Everyone who enters online goes into our incredible Random Draw, with a great chance to win one of our fantastic prizes!



This is a long distance urban race - lots of controls, lots of route choice, lots of complexity - but with course lengths from 3 to 10 (or more) kilometres - and a whole lot of quirky new places waiting to be discovered. Don't miss this!!





## MEMBERSHIP

You may notice the masthead of this edition - we have some new club email addresses. You can now use these to contact the President, Secretary or Treasurer, or make an enquiry.

Overseas friends - Andras Bogdanovits, now residing in Hungary, was at the World Masters Orienteering in Slovakia. Andras's father (also Andras) was competing in the Mens 75 category!

Simon Rouse caught up with Carola Ray (Finland) at the OOCup. Both Andras and Carola passed on their greetings, best wishes and fond memories of their orienteering experiences in Australia.



## VIC CHAMPS WEEKEND SUCCESS

DROC had a great weekend at the recent Victorian Orienteering Champs. The Middle Distance and Long Distance events were held at Mt Alexander, near Harcourt. The map features (a lot of) granite, and some seriously steep slopes, which really tested the mettle of those on longer courses. The areas closer to the arena are more open and with fewer contours; ideal for shorter courses. The weather was perfect, and it was beautiful to be out in the forest with the sun shining.

At the end of the weekend, DROC had several new Victorian Champions, and more podium placegetters! Congratulations to:

### Vic Middle Distance Champs:

- 1st Place - Pamela King, Matthew Maunder
- 2nd Place - Elijah Spencer, Helen Walpole, Chris Klep, Damian Spencer
- 3rd Place - Lanita Steer, Peter Dalwood

### Vic Long Distance Champs:

- 1st Place - Pamela King, Chris Klep, Simon Rouse
- 2nd Place - Elijah Spencer, Ian Davies, Ray Scaddan
- 3rd Place - Damian Spencer, Debbie Dodd

## ***VICTORIAN SERIES (BUSH) WINNERS***

Congratulations to Simon Rouse, runner-up on the Mens 1 Course, and to Elijah Spencer, winner of the Mens 5 Course!

## ***PARK STREET WINTER SERIES - RESULTS***

Monday Night Series 2 -

Run60 - Martin Sime 1<sup>st</sup>

PW65 - Rosalind King 3<sup>rd</sup>

Saturday Afternoon Series -

PW65 - Rosalind King 3<sup>rd</sup>

Wednesday Spring Carnival Series -

Run60 Div 1 - Ian Davies 3<sup>rd</sup>

Run60 Div 2 - Frankie Shin 1<sup>st</sup>

Run45 Div 1 - Mike Whitton 3<sup>rd</sup>

Run45 Div 2 - Peter Dalwood 1<sup>st</sup>

PW65 Div 1 - Rosalind King 3<sup>rd</sup>

## ***PARK STREET MEFTY AWARD***

The 2023 MEFTY (Most Events For The Year) has been tallied up and announced. Once again, the winner was Bayside's Steven O'Connell with a total of 157 events, in our first full season after the pandemic. DROC had several members in the Top 10:

Peter Yeates - eq second, 139 events

Debbie Dodd - 6<sup>th</sup>, 104 events

Mark Besley - 7<sup>th</sup>, 102 events

Ros King - 9<sup>th</sup> - 96 events

## ***DROC SHOP***

The DROC Shop is open for business! We sell Sportident sticks, including SI Air sticks for those who want to speed up their race. [Prices can be found here](#). Order by sending an email to [droc@inet.net.au](mailto:droc@inet.net.au). We also old stock of running tops, vests and jackets, in various designs and sizes, at bargain prices, and free to junior members. Contact [Peter Yeates](#) to find out what's in stock.



## ***DROC'S NEW TENT WALL***

To add to our new race tops, jackets and flag, we've purchased a new wall for our tent. You'll see it at the Summer Shorts, and other DROC events! Thanks to Peter Dalwood and Peter Yeates for coordinating the design and production. Another fantastic initiative!

## *PREZ SEZ - Damian Spencer*

The Summer Shorts have finally arrived! I strongly encourage all club members to make it out to one, two, three or all four of the new format events being held in October and November. I would best describe them as SprintO combined with StreetO in suburban bush settings. While this isn't a new format to Australia, it is a great way for us in Melbourne to make use of the wonderful mid-sized parklands around the city which have traditionally been seen as too small for a genuine bush event but too street-based or bush-based for a traditional sprint event.

We also have a few of our young club members in Sally Barlow and James Love involved as course-setters. I genuinely hope the events are a great success and look forward to seeing many DROC members participating. For the event at Lilydale Lakeside, we will have a special DROC catch-up BBQ afterwards, so if nothing else, lock that one in your calendar!

Also for your calendar is the Melbourne City Race, an event that is slowly becoming the jewel in the DROC calendar. Much like the Shorts, but now in its 4th year, the City Race combines an urban sprint-format but with longer courses that showcase the magnificent waterfront areas around Melbourne. Peter Yeates has been cunningly developing clever courses that should appeal to all age and skill levels. I highly encourage all members to consider advertising the City Race to their friends and networks as a fun day out and an enjoyable introduction to orienteering.

Finally, as president, I also warmly welcome everyone to the Club AGM on this Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October online. Hear reports on the year that's been, the financial health of the club, and vote for the office bearers and committee members, if not consider nominating yourself. We are always keen to have as many people involved as possible!

Until next time, happy navigating.

## *WHICH WAY IS NORTH? Damian Spencer*

The concept of North is a baffling one that only makes sense on a planet with an axis of rotation. Over the years, I have heard many bizarre explanations for North, including a) upwards or b) straight ahead. It clearly confuses people, and requires some abstract thinking. Knowing which way is North is a fairly fundamental concept for an orienteer, whether you are carrying a compass (BushO) or not (StreetO). So how do we know?

1. **Knowledge of the area.** Having lived in my suburb for five years, I know the river is South, the shops are North and the railway is West, regardless of the winding, curved roads needed to get to each. I can hear the traffic on the main arterial to the East, and can point to North at any time, regardless of which street I'm in. Can you do it now?

Even when in a different location, perhaps on holiday, if I've recently looked at a map, I know my directions. After many conversations with friends and family over many years, I have come to realise that this is not universal! How many times have you been given your StreetO map and asked which way is North? I believe on over-reliance on sat nav has somewhat diminished this aptitude, as we tend to blindly follow the voice on our phone, rather than understand the overall direction of a journey. I wonder therefore, if orienteering intuitively appeals to people with this innate sense of direction, and/or whether it hones this skill?

2. **Location of the sun.** It is a truth mostly universally acknowledged that the sun rises in the East and sets in the West. And in the Southern Hemisphere, it takes a trajectory slightly to the North of overhead during the day. Therefore, anyone lost early or late in the day can make a reasonable estimate of the direction of North. Of course, it is virtually impossible around noon, unless you have the patience to mark the position of a nearby shadow on the ground and watch it change over half an hour - the shadow will obviously move in the opposite direction to the sun. This is the basis behind how sundials work. Note, when using this method, look at the direction of shadows, rather than the sun itself!



3. **A compass.** The obvious choice of the orienteer. Unless you've kept your compass hard up against your phone or SI stick or any electronic object, it's a tried-and-true form of navigation. And as we may remember from science class, as long as you have a magnet, a needle and something buoyant (e.g. a cork) you can easily make a homemade compass that works fairly well. And contrary to popular belief, a Northern Hemisphere compass will not point south when Down Under, or vice versa. Magnetic inclination however, may cause the needle to dip down and scrape the base of the compass, causing confusion, so it's always best to buy a compass that is calibrated for the right location.

A final point to note about a compass is that it works by using the planet's magnetic field, which happens to align to axis of rotation of the planet (or within  $\sim 5^\circ$ ). However, there's little scientific evidence to explain why. Convection currents in the iron-rich part of the Earth's liquid core may contribute, but solid planets also have a magnetic field, suggesting other mechanisms. And the magnetic pole can move, sometime even flip. If you really want to determine true north with a compass, invest in a Gyrocompass!

A gyrocompass (Source: [wikimedia: Algonquin\\_gyro\\_compass](#))



4. **The stars.** For those who love a night hike, a 12-hour Rogaine, or a night sleeping under the stars, the names *Polaris* and *Sigma Octantis* may sound familiar. These are also known as the pole stars and can be used to determine North or South, depending on which hemisphere you are in. Many of you will have seen beautiful time lapse star trail photographs which appear to show stars rotating around these points. Of course, it is actually the Earth rotating but it is an easy way to determine your nearest pole. In Australia, the Southern Cross constellation is much brighter than *Sigma Octantis* and has been the preferred Southern marker for centuries.



I've learnt two ways of using the Southern Cross - see the following article: <https://www.abc.net.au/science/articles/2009/07/27/3169018.htm> Which one do you use?

Are there any other methods? Write in to punchline or comment on our Facebook page if you know others

## FIND US ON FACEBOOK

The DROC Facebook group is for club members to share news, information, updates, stories and photos. You'll find it here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/581922553859390>  
Click on this link, and join the group!

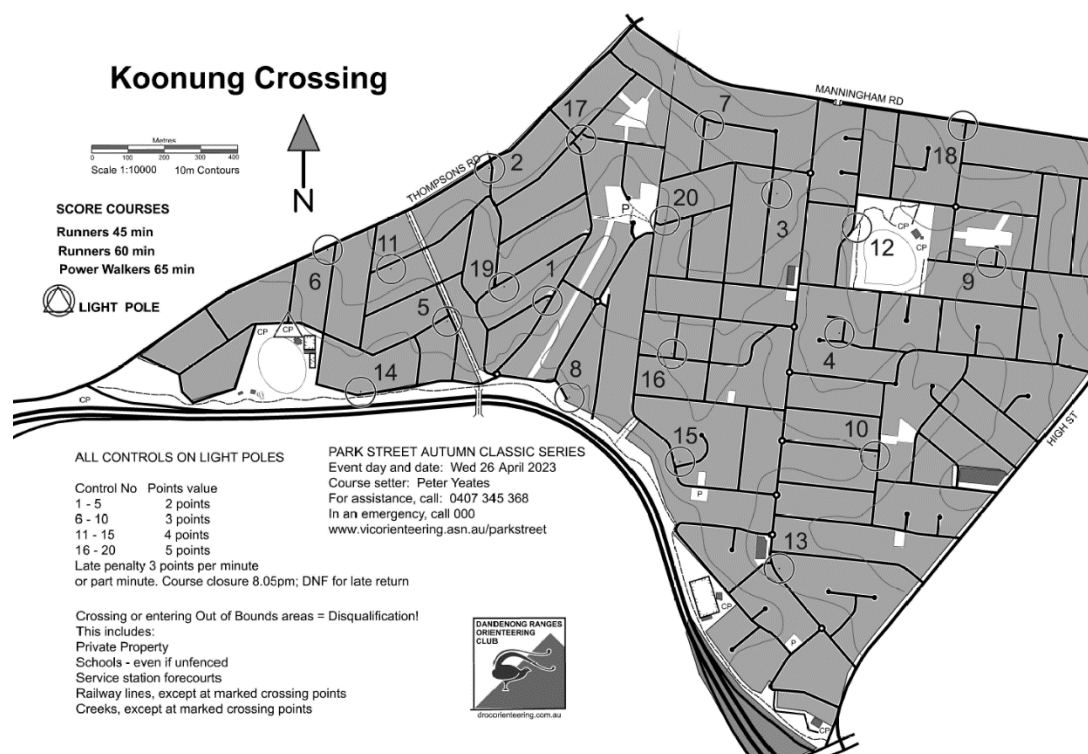
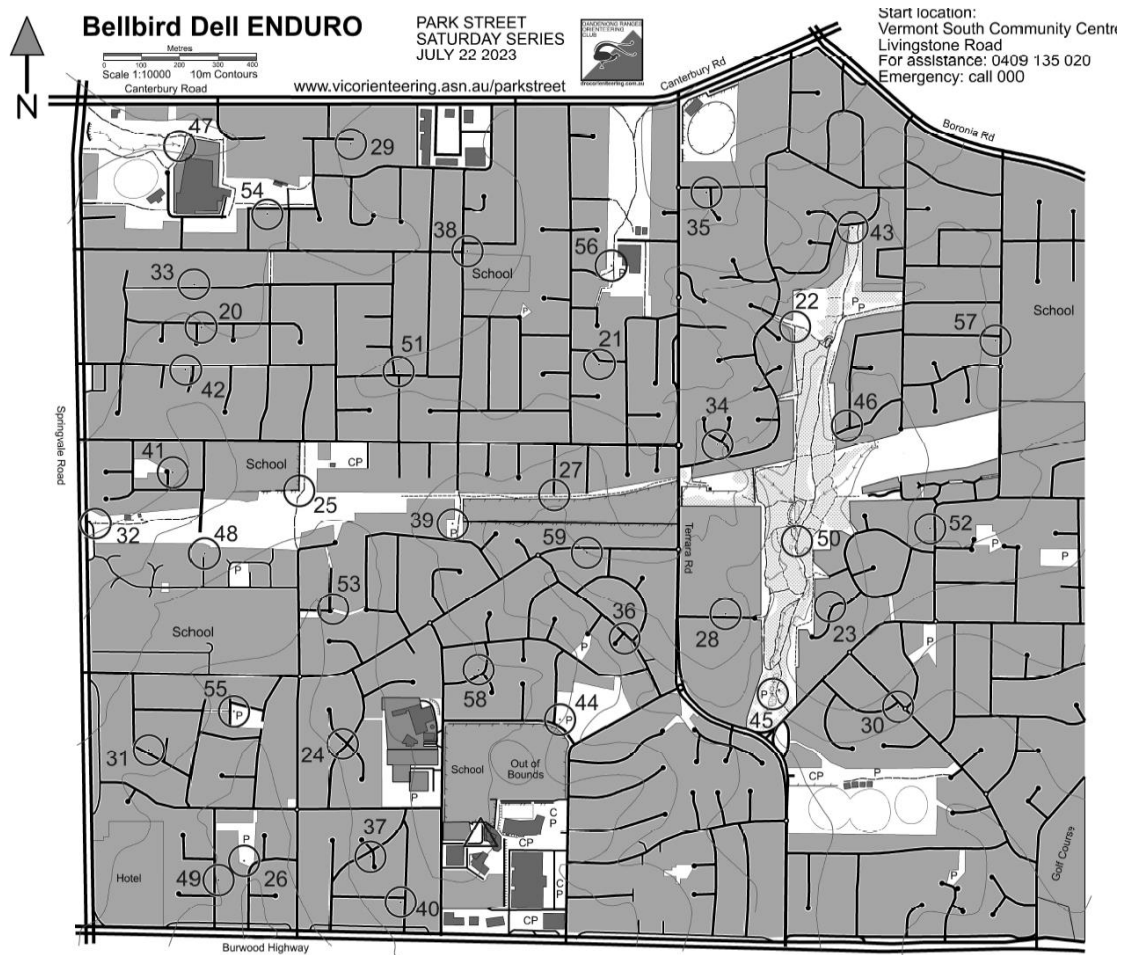


Dandenong Ranges Orienteering Club (DROC)

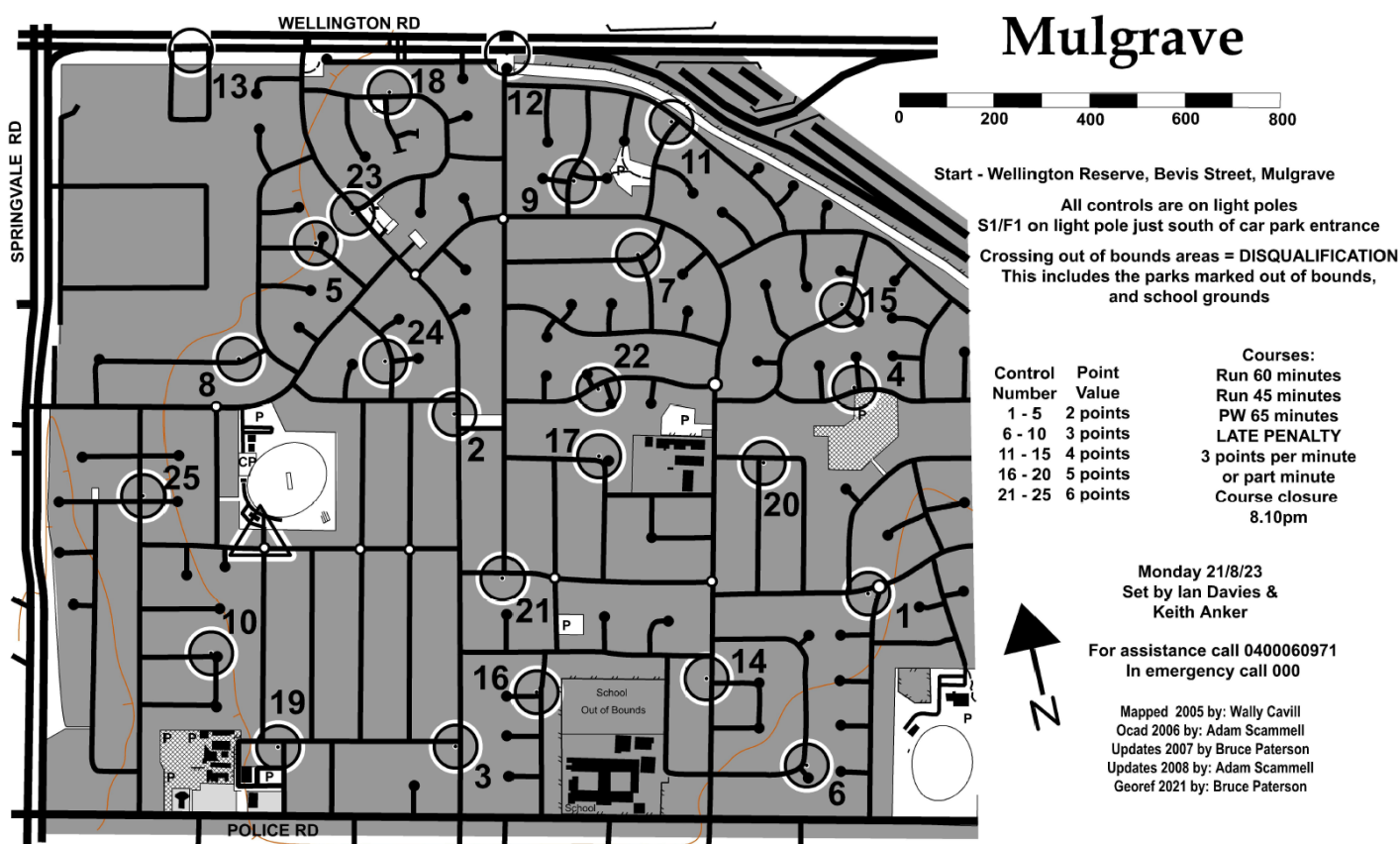
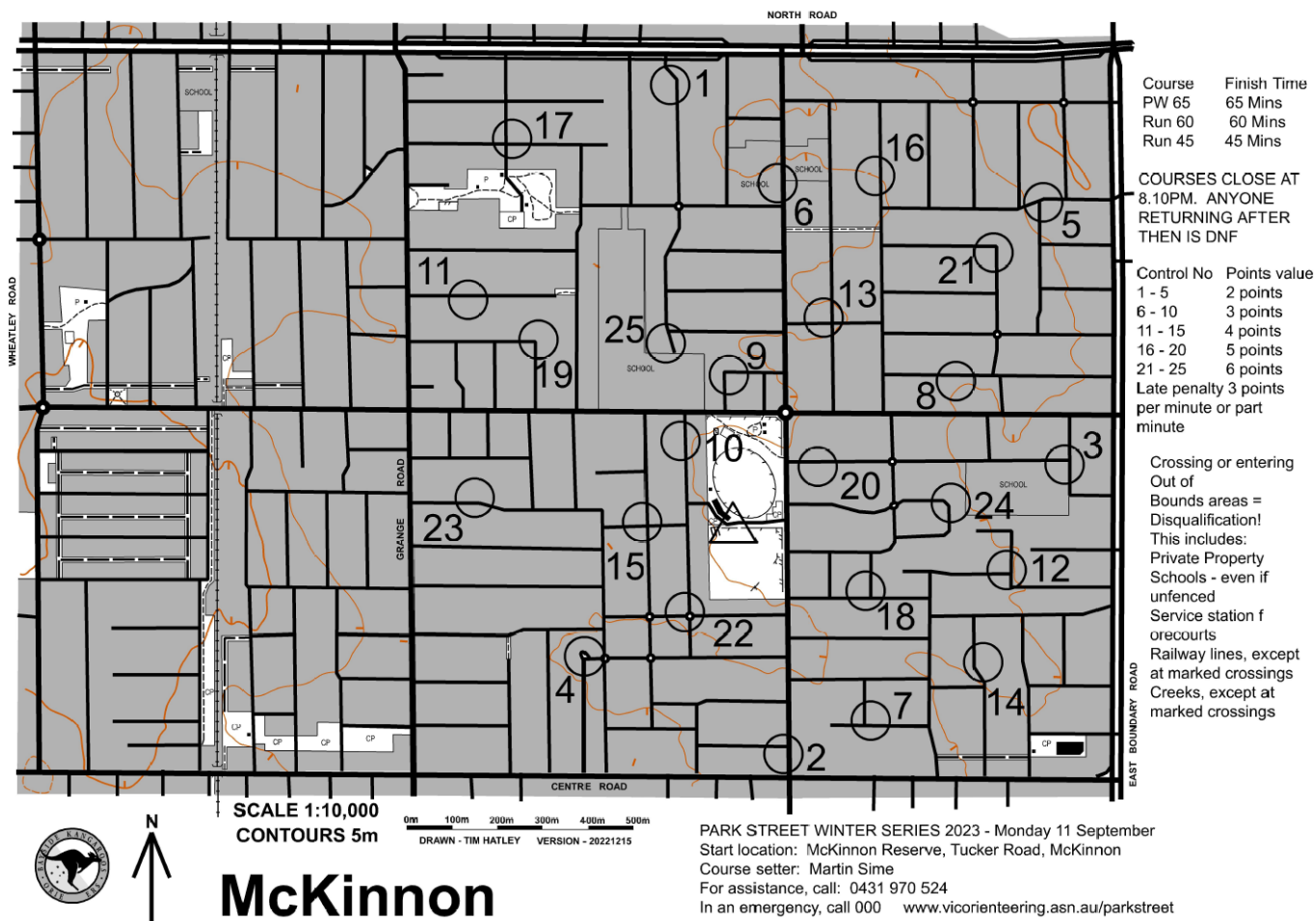
## TOP COURSES

Here's a selection of courses set by DROC members between July and September. These are available online to use any time, with MapRun. [Download them from here.](#)

Course setters - Debbie Dodd, Peter Yeates, Martin Sime, Ian Davies (with Keith Anker), Peter Grover, Ian Dodd







# RINGWOOD WILDS

Wednesday 6th Sept 2023

Start Location : Federation Estate  
Greenwood Ave, Ringwood  
Course Setter: Peter Grover  
Assistance: 0416071404  
Emergency: 000

## SCORE EVENT

Courses:  
Run 45 minutes;  
Run 60 minutes  
PW65: 65 minutes walking  
All courses close at 8:15pm  
All controls are on light poles

Visit controls in any order

Controls	Value
1 - 5	2
6 - 10	3
11 - 15	4
16 - 20	5

Late penalty 3 points per minute  
or part minute after finish time

SCALE: 1:10,000  
0 100 200 300 400 mtrs  
CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 MTRS

Do not enter any area marked as out-of-bounds.

Want to know more  
about Orienteering?

Call 0428 358 588 or visit  
[www.vicorienteering.asn.au](http://www.vicorienteering.asn.au)



[drocorienteering.com.au](http://drocorienteering.com.au)

# Rowville Lakes

Metres  
Scale 1:10000 5m Contours



[drocorienteering.com.au](http://drocorienteering.com.au)

Crossing or entering  
Out of Bounds areas  
= Disqualification!  
This includes:  
Private Property  
Schools - even if unfenced  
Service station forecourts  
Railway lines, except at  
marked crossing points  
Creeks, except at marked  
crossing points

S1/F1 = Light Pole near pavillion

ALL CONTROLS ARE  
ON LIGHT POLES

Control No	Points value
1 - 5	2 points
6 - 10	3 points
11 - 15	4 points
16 - 20	5 points
Late penalty 3 points per minute or part minute	

PARK STREET WINTER SERIES 2023  
Event day and date: Wed. 26/7/23  
Start location: Eildon Park  
Course setter: Ian Dodd  
For assistance, call: 0419 316 843  
In an emergency, call 000  
[www.vicorienteering.asn.au/parkstreet](http://www.vicorienteering.asn.au/parkstreet)

Course	Finish Time
PW65	65 Mins
Run 60	60 Mins
Run 45	45 Mins

COURSES CLOSE AT 8:10 PM; ANYONE LATER IS DNF

## SUMMER SERIES

For the next 6 months, we'll be out enjoying Summer Series Park Street events, up to four nights a week, all over Melbourne. DROC has another full program, and I'm delighted to say that we were inundated with course setting offers!

If you haven't been to Summer Series for a while, now is the perfect time to get (back) into it - it's light until late, you have four Running courses or a Power Walking course to choose from, and it's a great way to exercise and socialize. Find out more about Summer Series here:

<https://www.vicorienteering.asn.au/go-orienteeering/park-street-orienteeering/>

At this link you'll find a full calendar of events, as well as links to our guidelines for participants, answers to all your MapRun questions, and where to go to view and download the maps.

DROC Events - thanks to these people for volunteering to set courses for us! Why not come along and catch up with friends?

### Mondays

2 Oct	Wattle View (Boronia)	Pam King
23 Oct	Bunjil Run (Ferntree Gully)	Ilze Yeates
13 Nov	Three Ways (Noble Park North)	Ian Davies/Keith Anker
4 Dec	Coomoora (Springvale South)	Stuart McWilliam
8 Jan	Brentwood Park (Berwick)	Peter Grover
22 Jan	Hampton Park	Ian Davies/Keith Anker
12 Feb	Nortons Park (Wantirna South)	Newbury Navigators
4 Mar	Oakleigh	Martin Sime
18 Mar	MitchelHill	Ian Davies/Keith Anker

### Wednesdays

11 Oct	Tunstall Junction (Nunawading)	Mike Whitton
8 Nov	Mullum Mullum (Ringwood)	Mark Besley
13 Dec	Croydon Hills	Damian Spencer
10 Jan	Chirnside Park	Ian Greenwood
14-Feb	Park Orchards	Mike Whitton
27 Mar	Tally Ho	Debbie and Ian Dodd

## VALE MIKE HUBBERT - AN ORIENTEER AND A GENTLEMAN

We're incredibly saddened to announce the passing of Michael Hubbert in August. DROC extends its deepest sympathies to Joy, Liz, and the family. Mike was still actively participating in Park Street events, most recently at Latrobe Uni on Saturday August 12.

Mike was remembered by family and friends at Safety Beach on Sunday August 28, on a map and course he had prepared. Overlooking Hidden Harbour Marina, we had a short commemoration, with a wreath laid, and one minute of





applause. Mike was announced as the winner of the 2023 Park Street Course Setter of the Year, and this prestigious annual award will now be named in his honour.

Mike was, of course, instrumental in establishing, developing, promoting, and championing orienteering in Victoria, and was involved since the very beginning. The fact that his picture is on the cover of OV's Fifty Year History says it all. He was one of 33 competitors at the first orienteering event in Victoria, at Beaconsfield, on 23 August 1969 - almost exactly 54 years ago; he placed 8th, and began a life-long love affair with this new sport. As an athlete and cross-country runner, coming from the Richmond Harriers, watching Mike float across the terrain was glorious. In recent years, problems hips and knees slowed down the pace, but never dampened the enthusiasm.



Mike never lost his passion for orienteering in all its forms, and was incredibly proud of his participation record over more than five decades. [The Millennium Club](#) tally will show Mike with a total of 2524 Park Street events since 1 January 2000; of course his record is far higher than that. Mike was the inaugural Hall of Famer, inducted to that status earlier in 2023.

Mike was best known as the long-standing editor of the *Australian Orienteer* magazine, a job he

handed over to Hania Lada recently. He was also a keen traveller and an excellent travel companion; many of us have fond memories of trips interstate and overseas with Mike and Joy. Mike was passionate about sport of all sorts, and loved volunteering at the Australian Museum of Sport at the MCG.

Often called upon to present awards to others, Mike was himself honoured with the Silva Award for Services to Orienteering in 2022. He was a member of Bayside Kangaroos - formerly Red Roos - and wore his club tops - old and new - with great pride. Most recently, Mike was keenly involved with the Mornington Peninsula Sunday Series, preparing over a dozen maps, setting many courses which were always great fun, and always there helping Mel at the events.

Everyone who knew Mike will know that he was always smiling and laughing. There was always a cheeky twinkle in his eye, and plenty of quick witted jokes to share with his friends. Mike loved orienteering wholeheartedly, and we loved Mike. We'll miss him sorely.

DROC members said this:

*Mike has just always "been there". He encouraged me to organise the "Melbourne 4 Day" streeto carnival back in 2004, I had no idea what I was meant to do, but somehow Mike convinced me to do it. We shared orienteering adventures with Mike and Joy interstate and overseas, a number of times. We had so many great chats and laughs.*

*Condolences to Mike's family. What a stalwart of street-o. I remember many years ago, battling against Mike on Summer nights. More often than not, he would appear from nowhere just near the finish and beat me! Superb on strategising routes. Great friend over so many years. More lately, down on the Peninsula which he drove with a passion. I was stunned by the news about this active, fit man's passing. A great friend to everyone. I have a tear in my eye just writing this. Greatly, enormously missed.*

[Click here](#) to see photos of Mike over the years, as well as a small selection of courses he set.





## MELBUSHO, SOUTH MORANG

Lots of DROC members enjoyed a challenging day at the northern end of Plenty Gorge, where the rocks and cliffs made for a tougher MelBushO than most!

