

Aire Affairs



June 2025



Airienteers

Orienteering in Airedale and
Wharfedale - www.aire.org.uk



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AIRE AFFAIRS is the Club's official magazine and is available on our website www.aire.org.uk and via e-mail/paper format on request.

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Cover: Peter Haines bringing home our MW70 team to a win at the British Relay Championships

Picture by Wendy Carlyle – all event pictures are Wendy's unless stated otherwise.



Grizedale Forest in May ; the run-in at the British Championships [picture by the Editor]



EditO – Peter Jones

My thanks to Cathy, Lindsey, Steve, Charlie, Rob, Emily and Chris for their contributions.

A warm welcome to new and rejoining members –

- Arlo Watkey
- Aidan Silcock
- Les Kitching
- Matthew and Lucy Needham

I'm intending to produce the next issue in late August, which will be after the Scottish 6 Day, the Coast and Islands event on Shetland, and many other holiday and City Race European Tour events. Please send me some event reports – we have many members who haven't been to holiday events, or who used to go but don't do so now, and like reading about them.

The only big event I ran since the last issue was the British Championships at Grizedale in the Lake District in May. For anyone who wasn't there, the British Championships were physically tough and technically tough. There were a quite a lot of one-hundred-and-eighty's, though none coming from of us in AIRE.

I took 127mins to finish 33rd on M65L (can't remember when I last took 2hrs on an orienteering course). Even so, there were 13 slower than me and another 9 who either retired or mis-punched. It was a warm, sunny day so most of us were wearing short-sleeved tops and finished with full sets of scratches down both arms. Did I mention that it was tough?

As an aside, Microsoft365's AI copilot describes this picture of me as 'A person in a blue jacket walking in a field'. Hmm – I may have been going slowly, but I was running not walking. Copilot also describes another picture in this issue as 'An old man running a marathon'. I'm not saying which picture.

Events Development Officer

British Orienteering are looking for an Events Development Officer to 'lead the development of exciting new event formats, explore influential partnerships and champion a modern, inclusive image of orienteering'. It's a full-time role for a fixed term until the end of March 2027 (and sounds like a really good idea to me). Job description is here, but you'll have to be quick as the closing date is Friday 27th June -

<https://www.britishorienteering.org.uk/doc/recruitment/2025/events-development-officer-role-2025>





Chair Affairs – Cathy Dawson

In recent committee meetings we have been discussing how we communicate as a club. Whole club e-mails are useful, but sometimes a shorter query or message is more appropriate. That has led to the set-up of the club WhatsApp group (as Lindsey describes later). If you haven't joined but would like to follow the link below.



In September, Leon Foster will demit his role as fixtures secretary. Leon's knowledge around fixtures & orienteering is phenomenal & we thank him for everything he has done for the club in this role. Julia Crook will be taking up the baton. Many people will know Julia, Rolf & their son Sam from orienteering events. Sam's dedication & success at races has been rewarded with a place at the Lagganlia training camp in the summer. Well done Sam & welcome to Julia!

We still have a vacancy for a Club Development Lead role which I detailed in the last Aire affairs. If you did want to consider taking this on then please get in touch. In Autumn, Joseph is going to plan & deliver the Saturday introductory series so we keep those events running which are popular & a good way to promote orienteering to the community.

The Wednesday evening events recently have been successful. We have had interest from local running clubs and people new to orienteering which is great to see. I managed to find a gap in the GCSE revision schedule to be soundly beaten by Joseph at the Calverley event.

I will be away for the Bradford weekend on 19th & 20th July but this should be a really fun weekend & entries are now open online via the website.

Cathy



Junior Summer Selections – Lindsey King (Junior team co-ordinator)

This year we have 5 juniors selected for national summer camps or international competitions. This is a record number in a long time.

Summer Camps 2025

- Lagganlia (M/W14s) - **Sam Crook M14**
- Deeside (M/W16s) - **Bethan Buckley W16**
- Stockholm (M/W18s) - **Katie Buckley W18 and Ewen Wilkinson M18**

International Competitions -Summer 2025

- European Youth Orienteering Championships - **Bethan Buckley W16** selected for GB team
- Junior World Orienteering Championships - **Emily Gibbins W20** selected for GB team

In addition, in March **Ewen Wilkinson** was selected and competed for England at the 6 team Interland competition in Netherlands (Belgian-French, Belgian-Flemish, Luxembourg, Netherlands, France and England). Ewen came 5th in M20 class. Our former junior member Joe Woodley came 3rd in M21. Both gained points to help England to win overall.

This summer the AIRE committee decided that the club is able to offer a financial contribution towards the cost of juniors attending the camps and competitions. British Orienteering fund competition entry fees but most expenses have to be paid and raised by the athletes and their parents.

Congratulations to everyone and we look forward to hearing how you get on. The competitions and results can be followed here:

JWOC 26 June – 4 July <https://www.jwoc2025.it/en/live-center-jwoc-2025/>

EYOC 17-20 July <https://eyoc2025.cz/>



New – AIRE WhatsApp group – Lindsey King

AIRE has set up a WhatsApp Group open to all registered members. If you haven't received the email sent out on 1st June with an invitation to join the group, then check your junk mail and if necessary send a request to membership@aire.org.uk to ask Ian to send it to you again (or use the QR code).

47 members are already in the WhatsApp group so, if you haven't already, join up now to be part of our new AIRE community.

The purpose of the group is to enable a quicker exchange of information about orienteering and to share occasional club photos. Examples are: reminders about up-coming events and activities, lost property, whether the club tent/banner will be at big events, results of club competitions and requests for lifts to events or, if you are new to the sport, you may have a question about orienteering.

[Ed: It's already been useful for getting kit to an event at the last minute].

Sometimes an individual reply may be appropriate rather than via whole group.

Any member of the group can post messages which makes it more inclusive than our email notifications. We trust everyone will all be respectful and use the group as it is intended.

AIRE will continue to send emails to all club members about club business and matters where email is more appropriate and to ensure that information reaches members who are not on the WhatsApp group.

You can also use the AIRE Facebook Group to exchange messages and photos. This is a public group with 240 members some of which are AIRE members but there are also members from other clubs etc. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2478110773>



Club Captain's Report – Steve Webb

British Relay Champs

Thanks and well done to everyone who represented AIRE in the British Relay Champs at Bigland. It was a gloriously sunny day but the courses were very challenging in complex terrain. We had 9 teams and won 3 medals!

Results are as follows:

M/W70	Spectacled bAIREs	Tony Carlyle Susan Stevens Peter Haines	1/11
M/W12	Paddington bAIRE	Charlie Alcock Keir Roscoe Penny Pinker-Hull	2/8
Junior Ad-Hoc	Koala bAIREs	Katie Buckley Bethan Buckley Alethea Carr	2/9
Men's Short	Black bAIREs	David Alcock Jack Smith Dave Murgatroyd	9/28
Women's Short	Sun bAIREs	Jo Buckley Mary Fleming Joyce Marshall	6/16
M60	Grizzly bAIREs	Robert King David Williams Steve Webb	12/21
M18	Brown bAIREs	Ewen Wilkinson Samuel Crook Henry Stitson	4/10
M/W12	Pudsey bAIRE	Sebastian Carr Alfie Alcock Joby Pinker-Hull	mp
Mixed Ad-Hoc	Polar bAIREs	Julia Crook Rolf Crook Ian Marshall	8/35



Stars of the show were the M/W70 team of Spectacled bAIREs. AIRE were defending champions in this class and had also won the trophy in 2023, so we were aiming for a hat trick. Tony Carlyle and Susan Stevens ran in both of those victorious teams, and after the first two legs this year



they had got the team into 3rd place overall. With a 3 minute gap to the leader it looked as though if we were to retain the trophy we would need a British M70 champion running on the anchor leg. Fortunately that is just what we had; step forward Peter Haines who duly crossed the line a minute ahead of Happy Herts to ensure the trophy stays in West Yorkshire for another year!

A big well done to the Paddington bAIRE team of Charlie, Keir and Penny who stormed to a brilliant silver medal in the M/W12 class, following on from the silver medal at JK. It looked as though we also picked up the bronze medal with the Pudsey bAIRE team of Sebastian, Alfie and Joby but unfortunately there was a mispunch. But the younger Pudsey bAIREs chased Paddington all the way to the finish and came in only 6 seconds behind; it's great to have intra club competition like that.

There was another fantastic silver medal for Katie, Bethan and Alethea running this time in Junior Ad-Hoc. As W18, 16 and 14 they competed in W48- at the JK but at BRC the Junior Ad-Hoc was a better option with different length and technical difficulty across the three legs. They were only 20 seconds off winning gold and it was notable both the other medal winning teams had two boys in their line up.

It was great that we had an M18 team with M14 Samuel stepping up to run with Ewen and Henry. At BRC the main teams comprise three laps of equal length and difficulty whereas at JK the middle leg is shorter; nevertheless the Brown bAIREs had excellent runs and finished just 50 seconds away from a podium place.

As usual I was on the lookout for some strong individual results amid the team races: Ewen was first back from the mass start on leg 1 in M18, Mary and Bethan had the fastest times on leg 2 for Women's Short and Junior Ad-Hoc respectively, and Peter was fastest on leg 3 for M/W70.



Mixed Sprint Relays

At the moment we only have 2 people signed up for the Mixed Sprint Relays in August (Henry and David A), so we don't yet have a team. It's at an RAF base in Suffolk, so is a long way to travel, but can be combined with the British Sprint Championships at the University of East Anglia in Norwich the next day (likely to be a good venue).

Closing date is 17 August.

Thanks, Steve

And I still have some JK and British relay maps in search of owners!

Moughton & Sulber National Event, 21st September – Chris Burden

Moughton and Sulber is an exciting new, and very extensive limestone area, that we have been contemplating developing for some years. A lot of hard work by Anne and Richard Wilson on permissions, surveying and drawing the map, and co-planning the courses has brought the event to fruition. Steve Webb has been a great help liaising with Natural England. Andy Hobson has planned the longer courses.

It's Volunteer Team 1's turn to help at this event. We'll need a good turn out, as on the current estimate we will require at least 31 volunteers.

We have one peculiar task, more akin to marshalling on a fell race than the normal orienteering volunteer role. We need a volunteer (or possibly two) at Sulber Gate to ensure everybody uses a disinfectant footbath to prevent the spread of a fungal disease. We also need to ensure that both adjacent gates remain closed. We'd also like to take a small first aid kit to this spot, for self-administering, unless we are fortunate enough to get a First Aider volunteer.

Natural England will be transporting the footbath so need to worry about that.

The situation for this posting is in the foreground of the photograph, affording an airy view of approaching orienteers. It is sheltered from prevailing winds, but high (380m) and exposed. The ideal is for one individual who hopefully has a very light weight competition tent to provide that cover. But it is possible we will be able to provide a tent if you do not have one. There are quite a few knocking around among club members.



We need cover from approximately 10.40 until approximately 13.30. The walk to Sulber Gate from Assembly, the closest available parking is 3.7k. If you want to run it is 1.8k to the Far Start and 2k to the Near Start and Finish. If we



can get 2 marshals and both intend to run it will be best for the 1st runner to delay downloading until after they have finished their shift.

We would be very grateful if you could contact Chris Burden, the event organiser as soon as possible if you would like to fulfil this role, as it is crucial to the event but unlikely to be the most popular of roles.

Similarly, the Far Start is at 350m and 2.7k from Assembly and 1.4k from the Finish. I am attempting to make the Starts as light weight and unbulky as possible, but for this event this really is one for younger volunteers to staff the Far Start, rather than the normally elderly crew, of whom I am one. (Please Regulars forgive me for this somewhat unflattering description!)

I am sure you will all love the new area, so when entries open in late July get those entries in, and be sure to volunteer if you are in Team 1, and hopefully we won't need to poach volunteers from other teams.



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Around the North of England



[Thanks Charlie 😊]



Jack Bloor Race – Rob King

As Linda Kelly (CLARO) and I both step down from our stints as organisers of the Junior and Senior Jack Bloor Races, here's a report of this year's fixture.

Thanks again to all the Airienteers, both current and former, who have supported these Races and the Fund over the years, be it as helpers, donors, runners, trustees or winners!

You'll spot many AIRE members in the results, albeit under their running club's name.

Senior results here - <https://jackbloor.co.uk/2025/05/14/jack-bloor-race-2025-senior-results/>

Junior results here - <https://jackbloor.co.uk/2025/05/14/jack-bloor-race-2025-junior-results/>

And what a year for the Fund! A record 29 awards made since the last race. All a fitting legacy for Jack. Last year, young Airienteers have been supported to attend JROS O-training camps at Lagganlia and Czechia, to compete at EYOC in Poland, WUOC in Bulgaria and, next up, Emily Gibbins in the 2025 Junior World Orienteering Championships (JWOC) in Italy 26 June to 4 July. Good luck Emily!



Andrew Stemp-Walsh flying down the moor on his way to a 12th place finish [picture by Woodentops]

The 38th edition of this classic 8.4km navigational fell race across Ilkley Moor saw 188 runners accept the challenge on a beautiful May evening.



2025 was a year for youth with both the Senior Men's and Women's races being won by runners in the U23 age class. First overall and winner of both the Men's Senior Jack Bloor trophy and the Arthur Dolphin Men's U23 trophy was Sam Benthams of Ilkley Harriers. At just 18yrs of age and with an impressive time of 38:31, Sam could well be a future challenge to Greg Hull's course record of 38:04 that has stood since 2007. Proving that experience counts, MV40 Graham Rush of Leeds City AC came second to also win the Bloor Family trophy for first man over-40. Ilkley Harrier Oli Murphy took 3rd place.

Charlotte Rawstron of Skyrac was 18th overall and winner of the Women's Senior Jack Bloor Trophy plus the Pat Bloor Women's U23 trophy in a time of 46:48. Wharfedale Harriers claimed both 2nd and 3rd positions through Molly Browne and Sophie Martin.

Representing North Leeds Fell Runners, Matt Calvert was 1st MV50. Bingley Harrier Steve Webb led the MV60 class and Keith Brewster of Valley Striders was 1st MV70.

In the women's veteran categories, Masako Kondo of Abbey Runners claimed the Mike Rose trophy winning the FV40 class, whilst Ilkley Harriers Jane McCarthy and Joyce Marshall took the FV50 and FV60 titles respectively.

Overall 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, male and female winners together with class winners each received one of the classic Jack Bloor 'small trophies'. Made by artist James Fonquernie, each year these unique trophies feature a different rock carving found on Ilkley Moor. The 2025 trophy illustrates the 'Mile Stone Rock'.

In the team competitions, Jenny Roberts, Niamh Jackson and Ellis Maguire of North Leeds Fell Runners took top spot for the women. Ilkley Harriers were 2nd and Abbey Runners 3rd. Ilkley Harriers were the first men's team thanks to performances by Sam Benthams, Oli Murphy and Jack Cummings. Second place went to Leeds City AC and third to Pudsey & Bramley.

Earlier in the evening 80 enthusiastic youngsters tackled the Junior races. In the U9's race, Samuel Milner of Keighley & Craven shaved 34 seconds off his previous time to win in 3:48. Otley AC's May Wray-McCann was the leading girl just 5 seconds ahead of Lauren Martin from Wharfedale Harriers. Just three seconds separated the top three runners in the U11's race with Ronnie Brewer of Keighley & Craven coming out on top. First girl was Isobel Moore of Ilkley Harriers.

All the U13, U15 and U19 runners enjoy a single mass start then head up to Rocky Valley with the U19s climbing beyond to the Cairn. In the U13 class Robyn Cooper of Keighley & Craven took the girls' title whilst Bingley Harrier Benjamin O'Mahoney won the boy's race in a time of 8:05. Max Moody of Pudsey & Bramley was leading U15 boy whilst Otley AC's Lily Richards was first U15 girl. The 2.2km U19 race climbs 185m with splendid views over Wharfedale. Bethan Buckley of Keighley & Craven won the girls' race whilst Ilkley Harrier Joseph Benthams took the boy's title winning in 11:55.



The team from Outside The Box, Ilkley's renowned community café, did the juniors proud with each runner receiving a voucher and the leading girls and boys being presented with certificates and the ultimate in sustainable prizes – beautiful, edible, hand-crafted 'cookie medals'. Thank you OTB!

The Jack Bloor Race was established in 1985 to commemorate the life of an acclaimed Yorkshire sportsman. In addition to his own sporting accomplishments, Jack Bloor was renowned for encouraging young people to engage in outdoor sport. Along with donations and legacies, all monies raised from these annual races go to the Jack Bloor Fund that helps support young Yorkshire athletes to develop their physical and technical skills in any recognised outdoor adventure sport.

Applicants must be under-26, either from or based in Yorkshire and be a member of a Yorkshire sports club or a national sport governing body. Applications are welcome at any time. Further details can be found at www.jackbloor.co.uk

Huge thanks go to our regular band of volunteers be they from Jack's Gritstone Club who marshal the senior race checkpoints, keyboard-tappers, tent-erectors, clipboard-wielders, first-aider, cake-bakers, course-sweepers, etc.

Thank you all.

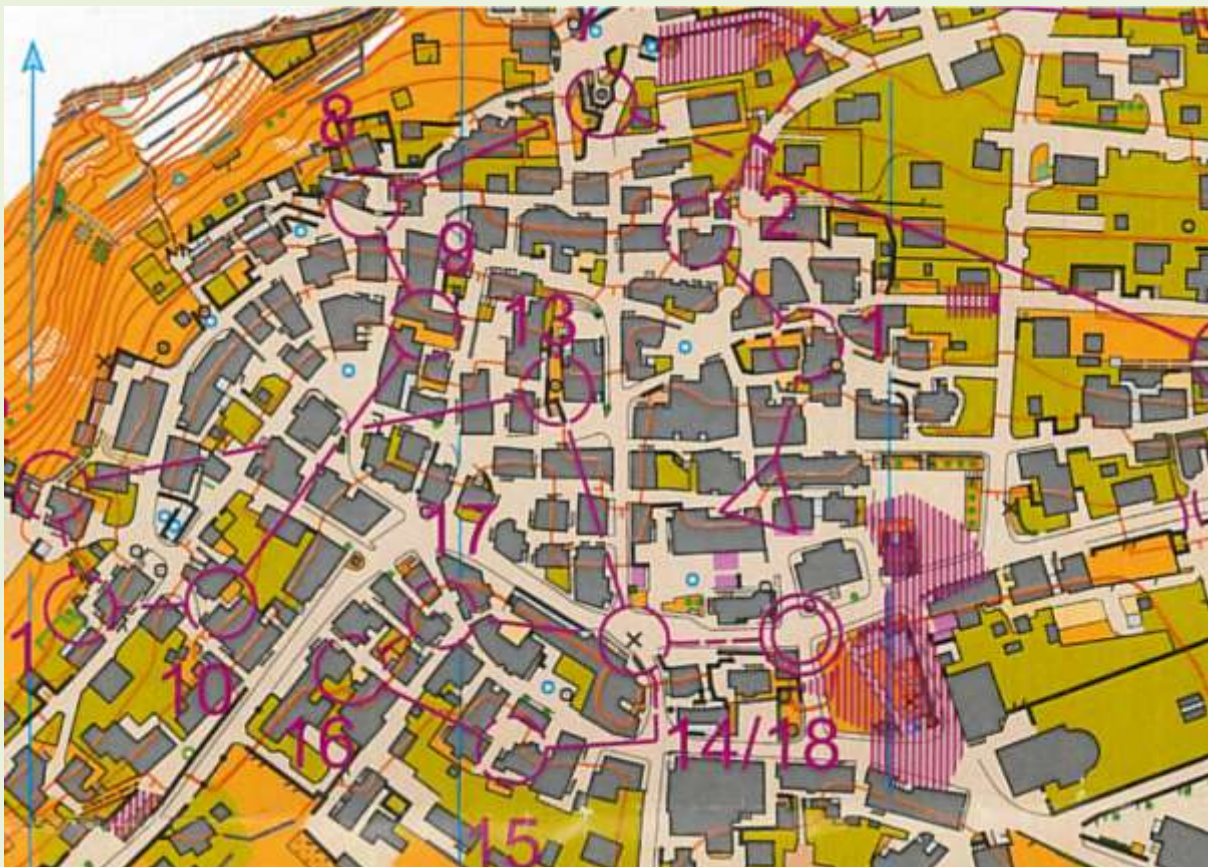


Junior World Orienteering Training Camp – Emily Gibbins

Prior to my trip to the official JWOC competition (Junior World Orienteering Championships) at the end of June, I managed to fit in a trip over a long weekend to attend the Pre-JWOC training camp in Italy. This training camp is designed to prepare you for what the races might look like, immersing you in forests and towns similar to those where the competition will take place.

JWOC this year is being held in the Trento region of Italy, a mountainous area in the southern Dolomites. The forests are steep and rocky, with courses often taking you well above 1000 metres. The towns and villages are equally challenging, with steep, twisty streets full of underpasses and alleyways, unlike anything in the UK.

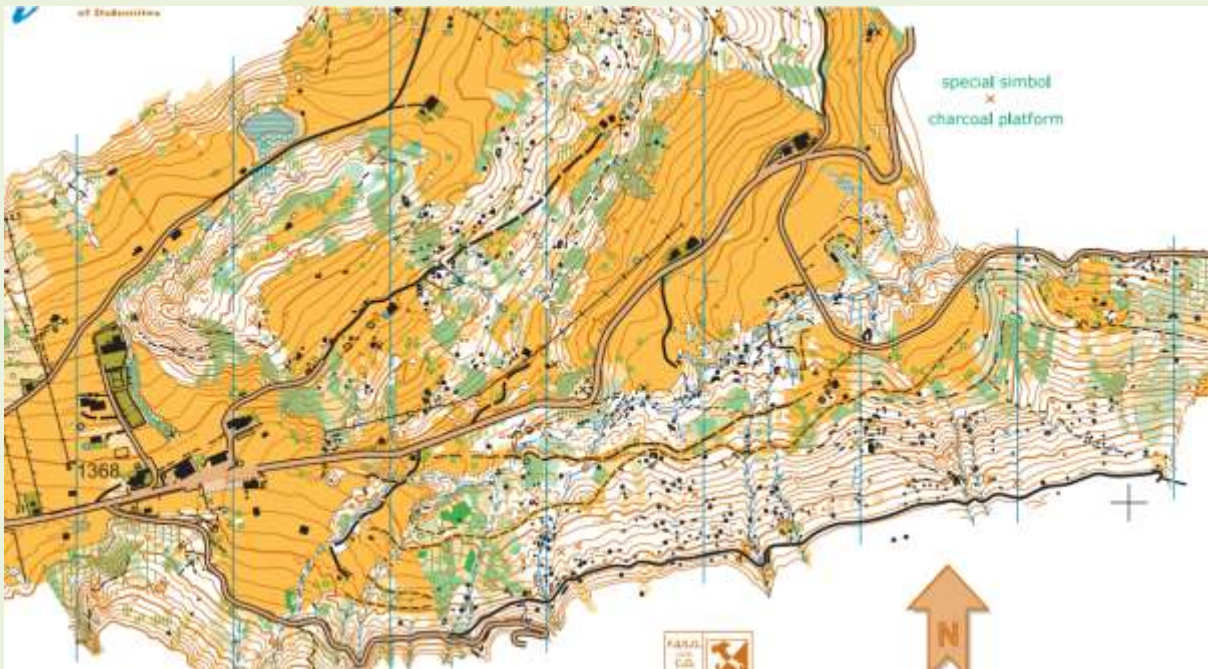
I took part in two races, alongside as many training sessions as we could fit in around them. On the Saturday, I competed in a sprint in the medieval village of Mezzano. Although I made minimal navigational errors, the technical and complex nature of the village made it difficult to build up any real speed. I was constantly having to watch out for people coming around corners, carefully navigate uneven staircases, and stay focused despite being followed by several people filming. There was a lot going on.



[snippet of the Mezzano map]



The following day, I took part in a long-distance race. The gradients in the forests of this region certainly take some getting used to. You spend most of your time either climbing or descending. It is very tough going. I certainly find the forests harder than the sprints !



[snippet of the location of the long race]

Obviously the trip wasn't complete without copious amounts of ice cream, pizza and pasta ! All of which was very much enjoyed !



AIRE Achievements

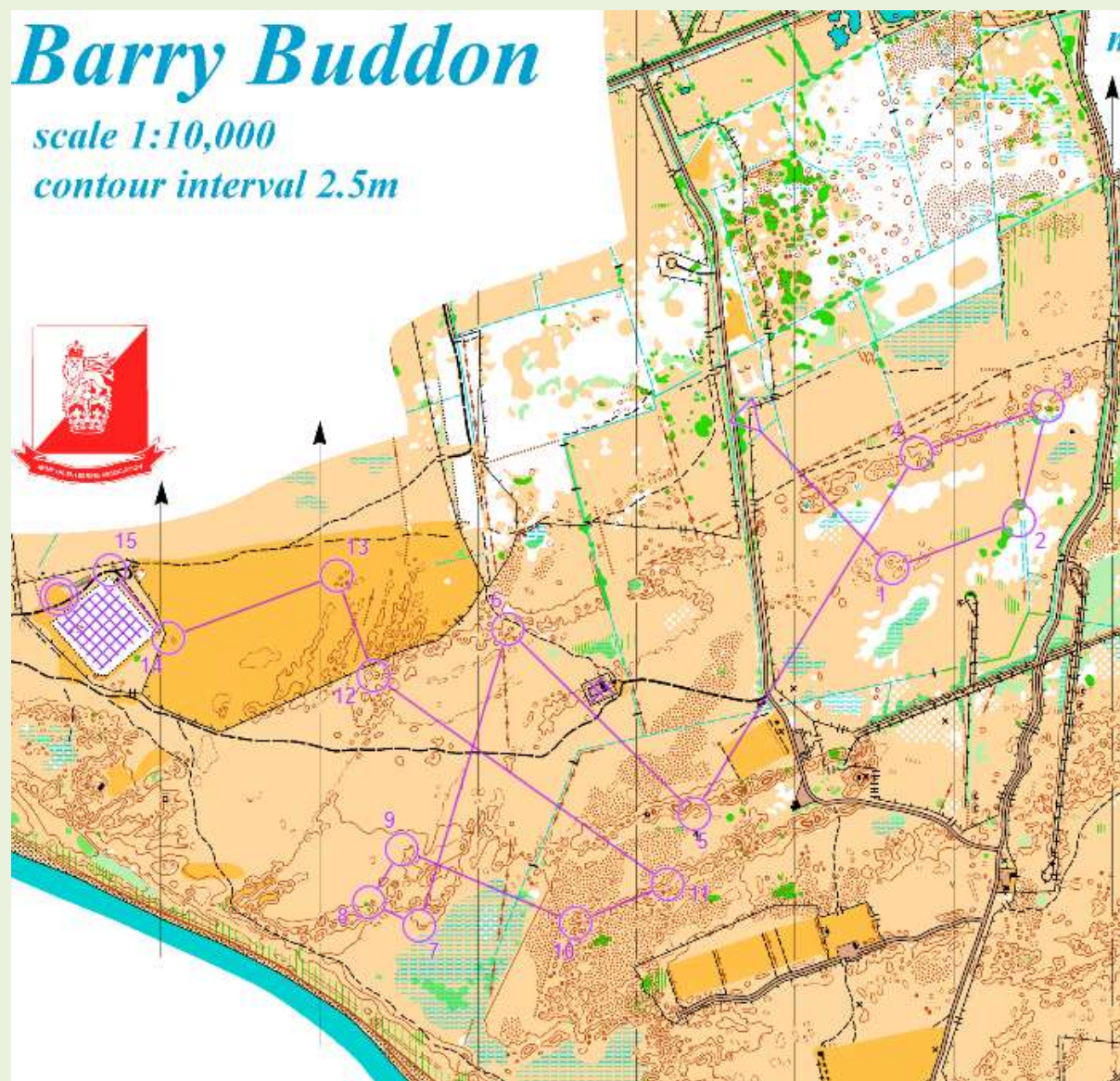
Congratulations to :-

All AIRE juniors and relay runners mentioned in Lindsey's and Steve's reports.

Scottish Championships (Barry Buddon - May)

Joyce Marshall – 1st W65L

running this course -





British Championships (Grizedale Forest – May)

1 st	Peter Haines	M70L
2 nd	Seb Carr Joyce Marshall	M10A W65L
3 rd	Joby Pinker-Hull Katie Buckley	M10A W18E
4 th	Sam Crook	M14A
6 th	Penny Pinker-Hull	W12A
7 th	Richard Wilson	M70L
8 th	Ewen Wilkinson David Alcock	M18E M45L
10 th	Jo Buckley	W45L

Also: Andrew Stemp-Walsh 22nd on M21E (of 68 starters), Fay Stemp-Walsh 13th on W21E (of 31 starters)

Northern Championships (Angle Tarn – May)

Results are for those eligible to be Northern Champion -

1 st	Seb Carr Charlie Alcock Samuel Crook Bethan Buckley Katie Buckley Joyce Marshall	M10A M12A M14A W16A W18E W65L
2 nd	David Alcock Peter Haines Jo Buckley	M45L M70L W45L
3 rd	Steve Webb Alethea Carr	M60L W14A
4 th	Richard Wilson	M70L
5 th	Tony Thornley Susan Stevens	M75L W70L

Also: Ian Marshall 1st on M60S, Chris Burden 2nd on M75S

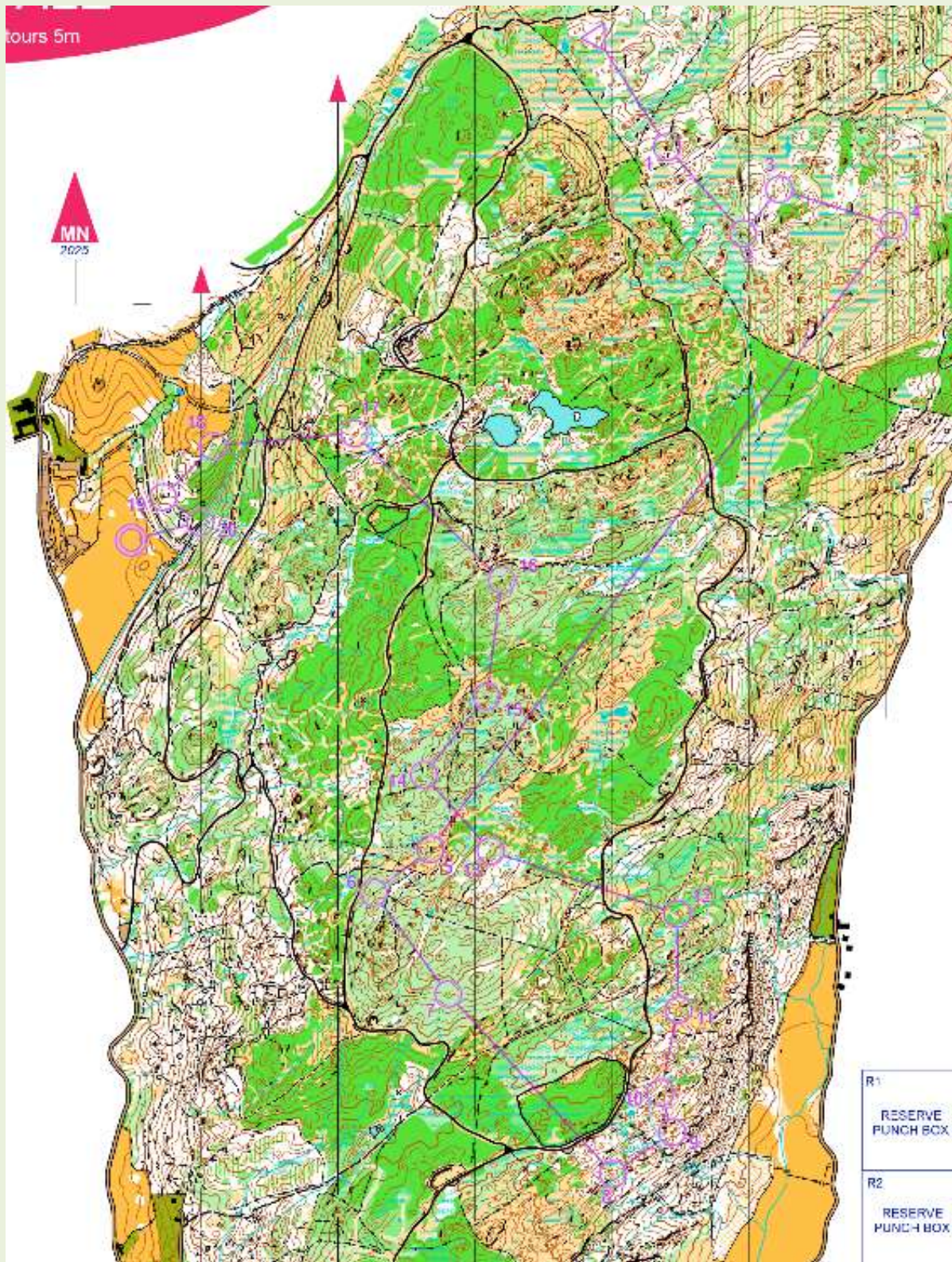
AIRE Spring Sprint Series

Class winners :

- Rebecca Gray
- Joyce Marshall
- Henry Stitson
- David Alcock



This is the W18E course at the British Championships, run by Katie Buckley. The non-elite courses started a little way to the SW but were still treated to plenty of the unpleasant 'green' forest in the middle of the map.





Airienteers in Action

British Championships





British Relays





AIRE Ranking List

I'm not intending to do this for every issue, but here are the current rankings of all AIRE members on the list, as last updated on 19th June (with apologies to anyone who had a brilliant run last weekend but which hasn't yet been taken into account).

Position	Who?	AIRE-M	AIRE-F	Points	No of events
58	Andrew Stemp-Walsh	1		8175	6
62	Leon Foster	2		8146	6
95	Ewen Wilkinson	3		8027	6
151	Sam Wood	4		7893	6
161	David Alcock	5		7872	6
189	Alice Leake		1	7814	6
273	Dave Murgatroyd	6		7691	6
274	Emily Gibbins		2	7685	6
292	Jack Smith	7		7648	6
344	David Bowman	8		7577	6
405	Fay Stemp-Walsh		3	7496	6
464	Steve Webb	9		7416	6
471	Rolf Crook	10		7408	6
484	Chris Gibbins	11		7395	6
486	Andrew Hobson	12		7394	6
502	Robert Gatenby	13		7378	6
502	Henry Stitson	14		7378	6
506	Katie Buckley		4	7376	6
514	Ian Furlong	15		7368	6
561	John Blatherwick	16		7304	6
655	jo Buckley		5	7213	6
745	David Williams	17		7121	6
774	Anne Murgatroyd		6	7090	6
796	Mary Fleming		7	7070	6
811	Rebecca Gray		8	7061	6
857	Jack Baker	18		7017	6
880	Peter Haines	19		6995	6
895	Joseph Dawson	20		6983	6
949	Caroline Young		9	6919	6
1079	Ian Marshall	21		6790	6
1105	Robert King	22		6768	6
1148	Joyce Marshall		10	6732	6
1177	Maurice Calvert	23		6706	6
1288	Richard Wilson	24		6599	6
1292	Tony Carlyle	25		6594	6
1428	Tim Patterson	26		6466	5
1480	Catherine Dawson		11	6421	6
1491	Paul Wood	27		6407	6
1525	Peter Jones	28		6373	6



1597	Tony Thornley	29		6303	6
1603	Jeremy Wilkinson	30		6295	6
1647	Chris Penny	31		6258	6
1689	Peter Carter	32		6223	6
1712	Mike Cox	33		6199	6
1812	Lindsey King		12	6123	6
1860	Sophie Brown		13	6072	6
1891	Howard Sawyer	34		6047	6
1919	Julia Crook		14	6018	6
1936	David Shelley	35		5999	6
1938	Roger Lott	36		5995	6
1960	Peter Avis	37		5972	6
1967	Matthew Gray	38		5970	6
1978	Gill Adams		15	5959	6
2032	Susan Stevens		16	5905	6
2056	Gerry Symes	39		5884	6
2078	Shirley Wood		17	5860	6
2078	Wendy Carlyle		18	5860	6
2369	Valerie Gilleard		19	5529	6
2404	Anne Wilson		20	5464	6
2418	Tom Woodham	40		5450	5
2433	Liz Carter		21	5429	6
2445	Chris Burden	41		5417	6
2618	Julie Mair		22	5155	5
2781	Ross Carson	42		4851	5
2793	Amicia Lee		23	4816	4
3130	Brian Hanley	43		3986	4
3247	Jonathan Coney	44		3670	3
3290	Nicola Parkinson		24	3551	5
3302	Helen Alcock		25	3497	4
3445	James Woodham	45		3157	3
3448	sarah rowell		26	3151	3
3574	Ian Griffiths	46		2829	3
3696	Judith Powell		27	2510	5
3725	Charlotte Foster		28	2442	3
3783	Greg Hull	47		2307	2
3863	Jo Thornley		29	2168	4
3869	Robert Bumstead	48		2164	2
3945	Harry Warman	49		2037	2
3953	Peter Jones	50		2031	2
3962	Melanie Avis		30	2011	3
4047	Ken Patterson	51		1890	2
4059	Marie Gibbs		31	1858	2
4091	Cathy Kelly		32	1780	2
4257	Simon Richardson	52		1291	1
4297	Diana Gorton		33	1239	2
4301	Nathan Martin	53		1235	1



4323	Rob Groves	54		1206	1
4332	Ruth Skelton		34	1197	2
4378	John Hayes	55		1146	1
4477	Mark Selby	56		1070	1
4527	Marion Bowman		35	1039	2
4529	Martyn Broadest	57		1037	1
4551	Tim Mosedale	58		1023	1
4679	Sarah Haines		36	933	1
4721	Philippa Richardson		37	901	1
4760	Richard Foster	59		875	1
4913	Guy Patterson	60		712	1
4914	Annie Faulkner		38	711	1
4992	Helen Cox		39	536	1
5039	Margaret Parker		40	122	2

For anyone relatively new to orienteering or who is interested in such things, all* finishers who are aged 16 or over get ranking points at all Regional, National or Major events**. Points are calculated by a top-secret algorithm which is securely held in a heavily guarded vault at British Orienteering HQ in Derbyshire***.

Your overall ranking is determined from the best 6 scores over the previous calendar year, and the list is updated every Wednesday night. Rankings can be filtered in various ways, by Forest (ie: terrain) vs Urban, gender, age-class, association, club. For example, I am the 7th best M65 in YHOA at terrain events (though I'm not sure why I'd want to know that).

Where needed, rankings are used for seeding purposes at major events.

[well, nearly all ...]*

*[** I won't try to explain how it all works (and not just because I don't know), but I think it's generally agreed that the rankings give a good overall guide but have some anomalies and aren't scientifically precise. And I really like that it's just one list across male and female and all age-classes]*

*[*** Or something like that ...]*

As some examples: at our Temple Newsam day event back in February, points were calculated as follows –

Blue : $1,031.36 + ((97.21 \times (4,549.15 - T)) / 1,125.12)$

(and similar for Brown, Green and Short Green)

Short Brown : Not enough ranked runners; calculation not possible

Very Short Green : Too many outliers; calculation not possible]