

Pitcher Oak Wood results.

Make sure you got the next WEE pencilled in your diaries: Thursday 15th February 2018 Malvern Common

Planner's comments:

Thank you all for coming; 20 runners makes the effort of remapping and planning the event worth while.

Particular thanks to Ifor for coming all the way from Bristol and clearing the lot in just under the hour, thus justifying my superb course planning, proving that total clearance is possible. Also for finding the pit at control 17, incidentally, for those who didn't find it, it is large enough that I could have hidden my car inside.

The following orienteers punched a control out of order but not losing points as they were all low numbers after punching high numbers. They may think therefore they punched more controls than those recorded so to name and shame:

Adrian 168 – 154 – 170 so 154 discounted.

Andy 167 – 152 – 169 so 152 discounted.

Brian 168 – 154 – 169 so 154 discounted

Marian – You know what you did! I will let you off! (it is usually me who doesn't read the control numbers)

I was surprised so many of you decided to visit 7 as it was expensive in both height climb and distance. Only two of you went over the bridges attempting a clearance. The area can be challenging at night due to the variable terrain, fast, open, hilly golf course contrasting with the woodland, equally hilly but slippery, rough underfoot and lacking visibility. The network of similar paths and confusing open areas add to the difficulty. I can only apologise to those who found themselves in the brambles. To quote that famous orienteer D.W. "if you get stuck in brambles you are not on the correct route".

With this in mind I have great admiration for the couple of competitors who had never orienteered before. Night orienteering is certainly a baptism of fire. It was quite an achievement to find 14 controls and I am sure we can all forgive them for taking 90min. (30min over gave a -180 score). I hope this hasn't put them off the sport.

Thanks to all those who volunteered to collect controls allowing me time to sort out the kit to pass on to Peter.

The Fox proved a welcome venue for après "O", social and a meal.

(Please let me know if any parts of the results are incorrect. I will adjudicate and update as necessary. All the paperwork will be binned after 14 days)

Thanks again to all those who attended.

Mike Baggott

In a recent BBC program Michael Mosley recommended Salsa dancing as the ideal as it combines a physical activity with concentration and mental power; hasn't he heard of Orienteering?