

Grampian Orienteers Chairman's report Dec 2015

2015 has been another busy year for the club with Wednesday evening events through the year; Night O, Street O, Forest Sprint, Summer Series, Urban sprint and back to Night O.

Gramp played its part in the Scottish 6 days, delivering Day 1 under the leadership of Adrian and Helen Anderson, with Ali Robertson planning, and Neil McLean Controlling. There were major contributions in organizing and delivery on Day 1 from many club members, which were all reflected in a hugely successful day. Gramp members had a major involvement in many other ways; with Anne Hickling as Chairwoman of the 6 day event co, organizer the Nairn Sprint race and the Highland O Fest, Pete Lawrence and Ian Searle Planning at Darnaway, Richard Oxlade Coordinating the entire week, Kevin Reynard Treasurer, Helen Rowlands on website, Anne Hoy and Jayne McGregor keeping the Traders in order; David Esson Mountain Bike event organiser, Jonathon Smith trail run organiser. With so much going on I am bound to have missed someone, for which I apologise. Combined with the WOC it was indeed a massive event, the biggest orienteering event ever held in the UK and a huge undertaking. The roles that Anne & Richard played in setting things up over the many years before as well as during the week cannot be overstated. Gramp should be proud of the role it and its members took in delivering such a successful event.

Weekend events included our SOL at Glen Dye, 4 colour coded and 2 minor events.

These events take a lot of preparation, planning and organizing and I would like to thank all those who organized, planned or controlled an event this year. Behind the scenes Helen Rowlands does a great job of encouraging volunteers to fill these jobs and stands in when a gap appears. Later on there will be an opportunity to sign up for events for next year.

We also ran the second year of the Grampian Adventure Challenge (GAC). This is a corporate series, run along with the first half of the summer series. Thanks to John Lang for leading the initiative and we look forward to growing this with more companies next year.

In addition to our event programme we have had a coaching programme this year coordinated by Anne Hickling, with junior training coordinated by Caroline.

The Aberdeen University Orienteering Club continues to thrive. They now have distinctive O suits, access to minibus and are becoming more active at our events and with their own training.

The club has a significant number of volunteers who help on the committee, with event arrangements and a wide range of other roles. Many club members also support wider orienteering activity, I would like to thank everyone for all their help with orienteering activities.

Next year we have a similar programme of events planned. The GMC 2 day mountain marathon is in planning.

I would like to express my appreciation for committee's and member's support in my role of Chairman over the last 3 years. As you know I will be standing down this time to make way for new leadership.

Enjoy your orienteering and have a great festive season, Sam

Chairman's awards

There has been a huge volunteer commitment this year with the Scottish 6 days/WOC events as well as all our club activity. I would like to thank all our volunteers once again. Due to the additional activity this year I have added an extra trophy to this year's Chairman's selection. To be awarded this year only, I have the 'Good Egg' award. Despite its amusing name this is a serious trophy to recognise a major contribution. The egg itself is made from a Banksia nut contributed by Pete and Rachel.

First of all I would like to present the Musgrave Trophies.

Musgrave Trophies

Womens

Given the huge effort over the last few years it is appropriate to recognise Anne Hickling for her involvement in setting up the 2015 Scottish 6 Days, as Chairwoman of the Scottish 6 Day company and being involved in some of the innovative aspects of this year's event, running in parallel with the WOC. With over 6000 competitors it exceeded expectations and no doubt created many challenges. The event was a huge success and Anne should be proud of her role making it happen.

Mens

I would like to award the mens Musgrave trophy to Adrian Will for all his efforts organizing our day at the Scottish 6 day. This is always a complex and time consuming task and Adrian did an outstanding job as witnessed by the huge success of the day. With this years event being larger than ever before, the task was even more complex than usual, with some extra unknowns.

Good Egg

As a special one off award this year; the Good Egg. The award is for the massive effort put into overall coordination of the Scottish 6 days. Richard Oxlade has carried the significant burden of coordinating the 2015 Scottish 6 Days for several years. This was a major effort in Project Management, which is never easy when most of the team are volunteers and the event has to merge seamlessly with WOC. At the event itself, when Richard should have been able to relax and enjoy himself, some serious challenges emerged with parking (and lots of other things I'm not aware of). Richard had to get involved to sort out some of these issues, so that all the events ran smoothly.

Chairman's Quaich

Goes to a club volunteer who does a huge amount to keep the show on the road. Helen Rowlands has the challenging job of finding volunteers to run all our events. This is a significant and never ending task which she does with huge enthusiasm and commitment. Helen has had to stand in as organiser on several occasions in order that events can go ahead. Always with a cheery smile, I would like to present the Chariman's Quaich to Helen Rowlands.