

# TINTOOKIES NEWSLETTER    October 2012

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It may be the end of **SERIOUS BUSH EVENTS** (excluding MTBO) for 2012, but there is still a lot coming up, AGM, getting your new TT top organized, Bone Seed Pull, thinking about your involvement in next year's TT programme...TT is running the State Champs (a 3 day event) in Broken Hill and making a big push to get numbers to the Easter 3 Day in Bendigo as well as the more local events.

The MTBO event still to come this year is actually Foot-O too. Why not go and camp? It should be warm and you can then answer the question about the sort of map used when you are allowed to dump your bike and run in to a control. Map detail away from the tracks? If not, will you ever find your bike again?

The last past event debrief was for the one at Rock Oyster where the question was asked." Do you still map a broken fence if it is flat on the ground?" It could still trip you up. On the other hand you think "that will be my catching feature", not realizing that you have crossed it already.

**The Nationals this year in Tasmania**....I'd say SA was the most poorly represented of all the states. The highlight was the 100% TT SA schools Senior Girls team, Mel Fuller, Olivia Sprod and Sally Young who won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Schools Champs Relays. Congratulations.

Apart from that highlight, the notable aspects were the Start Booklet and the social events. We usually get given a fat booklet of all the details of each event (7 in total this time) but this Carnival, sponsored by Forestry Tasmania amongst others, they managed to compress all that info. onto 2 sides of an A3 sheet! ---and fold it into 4 by 6cm. Then there were 4 occasions to get together with whoever else wanted to sit round, eat, drink and talk. No organizational problems once they had decided where to gather and advertize. Nearly as good as having a fire at events to congregate around.

One thing George would have disapproved of: Tas doesn't possess "O Turn 500m" signs. One thing that puzzled me was the inclusion on each map of the mobile phone number to ring if you are lost or injured. How many of you take your mobile with you when you go orienteering?

## **BEACHES AND BOULDERS - TASMANIAN ORIENTEERING CARNIVAL 21/9/12 - 28/9/12**

*By Helen Smith*

The Australian Middle Distance Championships held at St Helen's was the first of ten events of the carnival. After a couple days of heavy rain the sun came out for a while. My course was 1.8 km - that shouldn't take long, I thought, but the view from the start triangle threatened otherwise. Remember the State champs in the Barossa a few weeks ago? Now imagine that steep gully with fallen logs, bracken and other forest debris. I was so distracted it took me a while to find my first control, a rock 11m/8m, although it stood out clearly! However I was able to follow contours to a few of my other controls, 12 in all, rocks, cliffs, a couple of gullies, dry creek, and a pit. I was fortunate - the longer courses had gutters, cuttings with steep sides. John Lyon got in one to cross it and had trouble getting out. Zita S. thought she could jump across but the bracken was deceptive and she fell back in. There were a number of thickets on the map too; they were interesting man-made thickets, lots of forest trash pushed into large heaps.

The Finish was manned by ex South Aussie Jon McComb and wife Cathy. Great organisation - dib one and your splits came out, dib two and your result was printed. That went onto a result block (those wooden things we used to have) which was handed to you to take to the result stand and hang up! Surprise, surprise I placed third and ended up with a badge. My last national success was about fifteen years ago at the Nationals in Canberra. (my grandson wanted to know if you won money!!)

From here on I went downhill, or rather down on the results stand. The next event, Tasmanian Long Distance on Sunday, tested me when they threw in a bit of mining stuff, little gutters and high points that all looked the same. I navigated slowly and carefully and slipped to fourth spot on the results stand but I did not get lost! The weather lasted until the presentations. When the heavens opened these were abandoned and I did not get to have my photo taken on the dais! The Caravan Park at St Helen's has star facilities; the camp kitchen was a good refuge. My little tent stood up to the weather well and did not leak!

The next weekend I returned for another dose of mining intricacies. The navigation by now was getting harder. I found the map difficult to interpret and we struck those dreaded gutters - they were deep. I heard that Jan Hillyard met a wet gutter so bad that she had to be pulled out and a Vic W70 crawled on all fours across a log to get to the other side. I went out of my way to avoid a really deep wet one and got off-course badly. I slipped down to fifth spot on the results ladder. Just as well this was my last event. Things could have got a lot worse!

Media Coverage - this was excellent. The Examiner covered the Carnival well, especially the mid week schools champs (yes, Tassie won) The Sprint Champs on the Saturday scored about a quarter of a page with a photo (yes, she was a former Tassie) All this despite the fact there was a grand final somewhere). However my son tells me there is a regular report

on orienteering most weeks and there are two schools in Launceston which have orienteering as a school sport.

PS: you might find interesting these notes which were on the carnival website.

Terrain: open eucalypt forest with sections of thicker she-oak over complex tin-mining with scattered granite. Narrow strips of thick vegetation... difficult to run (impassable) occur along many creeks in the area. These can usually be penetrated (with some effort) but may require some care in selecting a crossing point. ... You should expect to get your feet (and possibly more) wet, especially if there has been recent rain.

We were warned!

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**TT Tops** were warm and much worn in Tasmania. Allison is getting ready to put in another order which can include child sizes. She has a Large and an XL size on hand if anyone wants to give one for Christmas! Their sizing is on the small side so ask Allison for a fitting to make sure before you commit yourself. The time to do this would be at the TT AGM.

**TT AGM on Sunday November 25<sup>th</sup>** at the shed of course (Do all you new members know where that is? At the north end of Maryvale Road behind the Hall.) It is at 5pm. The meeting first, then the eating. As usual you are asked to bring a salad or a dessert, to let me know on 83893143 or on Email how many of you are coming and Fi, Erica, Bob and I will grace the occasion with a variety of casseroles. That's because the terms of our contract with the local Council prohibit BBQs.

PS It would be good to have a/several new committee members. We have room in the shed where all meetings are now held so you'd better come along either to accept or decline the invitation! Talk to Allison if you have any reservations... she has survived her first year (of many) on the committee. We meet 6 times a year, usually on a Monday evening.

**On the subject of the shed...** If you take something out of the trailer but not the trailer itself, **YOU MUST PUT IT BACK IN THE TRAILER**, not just quickly put it in the shelves. Organizers need to know everything is in the trailer not on the shelves. And if you need to get into the shed, ask Geoff how!

If you are going out to tape controls, check them etc and you will be by yourself in tricky terrain and not within range for a mobile, book and take the new TT satphone. If you unfortunately do need to use it, you dial 0061 then the number you normally ring for help. But beware, you need to put the aerial up first and it costs you \$1 a minute! Lastly, before you return it, recharge the battery for the next user.

Another addition to the Asset list is a new toilet tent. Peter Young gave a spectacular demonstration of how it works. It looked more like a Hula Dance!

**Boneseed Pull**—our annual way of saying Thank you to the landholders who are happy for us to use their land. This year we plan to work on a front from Para Wirra southwards into Humbug Scrub Sanctuary to help prevent the re-infestation of NPWS from the South! Don't let waste our earlier efforts, so come and join us for a couple of hours pulling then, of course, the BBQ. **SUNDAY OCTOBER 28<sup>th</sup>**. Again let me know on 83893143 if you are coming.

## Old TTs...

The Baldwins were not at the Nationals in Tasmania. Nor had they been at Easter.... A telephone enquiry confirmed the rumour that Basil broke his back in January: a wattle branch fell on him while on the tractor and crushed a vertebra. Fortunately, after wearing a brace and being flat on his back for months he is gradually getting back to normal i.e. winning the recent local event at the Pyramids by walking accurately whereas everyone else ran all over the place! Jean has survived the ordeal and we should see just about the entire family at Bendigo next Easter. They have already booked their accommodation.

At John Williams' ceremony to scatter his ashes in Belair, one of those present was John Hicks. He was the first TT president, back in the 1970s. Then he moved into canoeing but obviously kept abreast of what is happening in OSA. John W's involvement began in those early days too so John H caught up with several friends---complaining how we had all changed!

Please remember

Oct 28 Boneseed Pull...

November 25 AGM