

## **Chairman's report 2013**

**We should be rightly proud of the club's record of delivering high quality events.** Looking at the last year's packed calendar:

On Wednesday nights we have had the Deeside Night Cup, Spring Street Series, Forest Sprint Series, pre-summer series coaching, Summer Series, Urban Sprint Series, Autumn Street Series and the Deeside Night Cup. For the first year, we have had an event every Wednesday of the year!

We staged a superb Scottish Sprint Championships with a double event between the two parts of the university. Having part 2 as a reverse chasing start was inspirational and great fun to be in.

We held our share of Sunday events including Scolty, Crathes, Tyrebagger, Glen Dye and Forvie; we organized the Junior Inter-area Relays at Scolty and held 2 junior training days.

It was of course a 6 Day year; the club and its members put a huge effort into the Scottish 6 Day event in Moray. The event was very successful and this was entirely due to the efforts of the organizing and delivery team. I would like to thank everyone who contributed, but especially to Anne Hickling and George Esson for their Executive roles and Adrian, Audrey, Helen Anderson, Rachel and Kate for their Team Management roles.

We have had more 'activities' this year, with the Street Series being an activity rather than an event, and in addition we had our annual dinner at Buchanans Bistro, Curling last month and BBQs at Balmedie, Templars Park and Roseisle.

**The club has an outstanding web site presenting a great image** to potential orienteers and providing a valuable source of information and news to members and activists. We also have an active Facebook page and various blogs.

Over the last few editions of Telegramp, Rachel has indicated that she will be stepping down as editor after doing the job for 5 years. Partly as a result of no-one volunteering to take over and partly because the need for the newsletter has changed, we expect that the Telegramp copy just published will be the last. I know you all like it, just as I do. However the effort to prepare it is difficult to justify in terms of benefit it provides, since we all get the information we need from the web; increasingly we also share our stories and news through the website and other media. Times have changed since Telegramp was the only way to check out what was on and share news.

**In terms of promotion and growth, Jess Tullie has been busy during the year as Regional Development officer**, providing part time support to the club's development. With Jess' support we now have the beginnings of an Aberdeen University Orienteering Club, which is being championed by Alistair Murgatroyd at the university. Jess has also been involved in contacting Aberdeen businesses regarding orienteering, supporting some school involvement, promoting the club and orienteering in general. As always there is more to do in terms of promoting the club and attracting new members, if anyone wants to help with this please let me know.

**I would like to thank all those involved in making the club's activities a success.** The committee who coordinate the clubs efforts and just as important all the volunteers who have non-committee roles. Special thanks to Ali who is stepping down from the committee this year. Also equally important are the coaching/training team; Many club members also support SOA, Scotjos, the 6 Days Company or wider orienteering activity. And I would like to thank all club members who have controlled, planned, organized or volunteered to help at any of our events through the year. Your club much appreciates everyone's help in all these capacities.

**Looking forward to 2014;** there is a 4 race Series under the name of Race the Castles in October, with events at Edinburgh, Stirling, Balmoral and Forvie. OK so our event at Forvie is not so well known for its castle, but its sand dunes are great. Ian Searle and Jayne have agreed to plan and organize the Forvie relay event. Sean is busy planning a GMC for November near Glenshee, which is rapidly becoming a standard bi-annual event in the Mountain racing calendar. Of course we will also have the normal Night Series, Spring Street Series, Forest Sprint Series, pre-summer series coaching, Summer Series, Urban Sprint Series, Autumn Street Series and our programme of Sunday events. Helen would be grateful for next year's volunteers to sign up for the events on the list!

We also have much to look forward to in 2015 with the WOC/6 Day. I am sure this will present lots of opportunities and should help promote Scottish Orienteering locally as well.

Finally, I would like to express my appreciation for everyone's support in my role of Chairman.

Enjoy your orienteering and have a great festive season, Sam

## **Musgrave Trophies**

Donated by Oliver and Margaret Musgrave who have been longstanding Gramp members and are now Honorary members. For presentation to orienteers who have made a significant contribution to the club, the sport or have had significant achievements.

This year I would like to use the Musgrave Trophies to recognise volunteer efforts. With being a Scottish 6 day year, many many people made a huge contribution, so recognizing some does not take away from the efforts of many.

### **Rachel Scott: Womens Musgrave Trophy**

I would like to recognise an individual who has made a huge contribution to many aspects of the clubs activities, including possibly the most important role in the club, webmaster.

The beauty of the Gramp website, is if you are organizing an event, you can look up details about your event even before you know them yourself! The Gramp web is so much more than a web; by far the best website orienteering club website I have seen. We have blogs, we have photos, we have Facebook, Routegadget, junior section, events, results, manuals and links. Content is live and dynamic; we miss Rachel when she goes on holiday for a week. I put together all my Chairmans report by reference to the website.

Rachel has also carried the baton for Telegramp for at least 4 years. Encouraging input, writing content, taking photos, being amusing and generally keeping it together.

At this years 6 days Rachel looked after results/routegadget posting and 6 days merchandise; "T shirts, T shirts and T shirts; so the designs on the back then". A cold and a bad back didn't help Rachel, but I sense it was a long week.

Rachel has additional roles as Club photographer, International champion, Compulsive Black course competitor, Club comedienne, Past Chairman's other half, Morph modeller, and Curling champion.

I would like to present the women's Musgrave trophy to Rachel.

### **Adrian Will; Mens Musgrave Trophy**

For the men, I would like to recognise Adrian Will for his work on the committee and for the Scottish 6 days. Adrian takes care of events permissions, and as a committee member, coordinates with Helen and Mark the event related activities. Juggling the various event permissions so that events can be scheduled is not getting any easier, with more events and more difficult land access issues.

At the 2013 Scottish 6 days, Adrian was Computing coordinator. This obviously involved a lot of preparatory activity over the preceding 2 years, and probably quite a bit of worry about how it would all work out. During the week it involved getting up early to get thing set up each day and then working late. I think Adrian made the sacrifice (amongst others) of not getting any runs in. He was always smiling,

at least by the time I arrived. From where I was the computing, along with everything else, worked a treat.

Congratulations on receiving the men's Musgrave trophy Adrian.

### **Chairman's Quaich**

There is an increasingly long list of worthy names on the Quaich, which has now been awarded 11 times. There are again a number of people I would be more than happy to award this to, those who have contributed a lot both in the last year and going back much further than that. The task is not an easy one. In keeping with tradition I would like to present the Chairman's Quaich to someone who has not previously received it; this years recipient is Kevin Reynard.

Kevin has been Club Treasurer for at least 4 years. He quietly gets on with his role, always knowledgeable about the state of funds, cash flow, event surplus. The clubs money matters just get taken care of.

This year Kevin had a bigger job as 6 day Treasurer; the sums involved were larger, the budgeting and planning had been going on for several years and culminated in the collection of very large sums of money in a plastic carrier bag in a field in Moray this July. The bank in Forres must have had serious worries with sums of many thousands of pounds in used notes being deposited by a sweaty looking man from a Tesco bag.

Congratulations to Kevin