

## Committee (and other) things

*I'm sure that most of you have been reluctant to be considered for the committee because of doubts over being able to cope with the attendant excitement? In an attempt to dispel this myth and bring a certain transparency to proceedings, rest assured that your editor is committed to laying bare these dark goings-on and, if necessary, dishing the dirt.*

■ In an imaginative move to promote orienteering to a wider audience, former Interløper favourite Hilary Quick tried to set up a stall at the Royal Highland Show. Unfortunately, this proved 'impractical'. Pity really, these countryside alliance types are going to need something to fill their weekends in the near future. Hilary had the consolation of securing second place in 'Best of Breed (female bipeds category)'.

■ Despite having sent him a large bag of grubby fivers, Ben (Hon. Treasurer) reported that subsequently he had not been able to contact the club auditor, Peter Dymoke...

■ Darina (social sec.) confessed that her recent wedding and honeymoon had meant that she was just getting into her stride with matters social. As well as a trip to see Van 'the man' Morrison, there have been Barrow loads of opportunities to see Interløpers 'thesping' locally.

The social event of the year so far has centred around Darina herself. Some of her hen night photos (including a 'meal' of banana and whipped cream) would make a soldier blush, and despite intensive digital manipulation (!) have proved unsuitable for publication in a family newsletter. Contact me if you would like them sent as an email attachment. In an unusual move, Chris, has taken Darina's surname. Interløper men beware! Your surnames are under threat. Barry Weir? I *don't* think so!

■ Having made my way into the centre of town from the sticks, I dutifully turned up at chez Godfree for the last committee meeting only to find that Paul 'two sheds' Caban was 'attending' via a sort of conference call. This took the form of repeated 'phone calls – progress or what? Paul apparently needs his loft space back and is angling for another shed to be erected beside his house to accommodate the orienteering kit. Nods of approval until it was pointed out that the proposed dimensions of this new structure would *just* accommodate a Škoda Fabia...

■ With Moray 2003 fading quickly from the memory several club stalwarts have taken on roles for Royal

Deeside 2005. Graham McIntyre and Rob Bloor are planning Day 1 with Colin and David Eades being Assistant Controllers. Following Ken(neth?) Daly's rise to SOA fame, Graeme Ackland has taken on the job of Competitions convenor. Events, large and small, could not go ahead without stars like these.

■ Due to the local orienteering calendar bulging at the seams between now and Christmas, it was agreed that any more events would have to wait until the spring. So a respite from those guilt feelings when we read those emails from Gillian requesting assistance but – "she'll be back".

We've agreed in principle to put on the Harvester Trophy (day/night relay) in 2005. Blame Graeme Ackland. To be held in May or June possibly at Dogmuck (sorry! *Mugdock*) Country Park. Masses of help will be required. Book that trip to Australia now.

We've also volunteered to put on a SOL in autumn 2006 somewhere Speyside. The club had contemplated trying to acquire Rannoch but after hearing that STAG were also interested and discussing; the time of year – autumn, felling plans, parking difficulties and less amenable new owners of the school it was decided to leave them to it.

■ The re-mapping Drummond Hill (for our SOL in autumn 2005) will take place soon. We are still waiting for Donald Petrie to mug the landowners of Norman's Law prior to mapping and quotes have been obtained for re-mapping Calder Wood. DOLM quoting us happier than Peel.

■ Since I took on the job of editor my high aspirations have already slipped! With time galloping by, I'm typing like a mad thing and resigned to the fact that a newsletter with colour will have to wait. No contributions from anyone, of course. But I knew it would be like this. While appreciating that people have traditionally enjoyed the feel of hard copy, now that the newsletter is available online at the club website, we should be using less paper. Less paper = more forest to run in? Think about it, and if you can read this tripe on a computer screen why not try it and email me ([weirowen@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:weirowen@blueyonder.co.uk)) with the good news?

*Gillian (once again) provide the committee with generous quantities of cake, served attractively by Dave. He really is a lucky man and in danger of becoming a lardy bloater if his achilles injury drags on.*