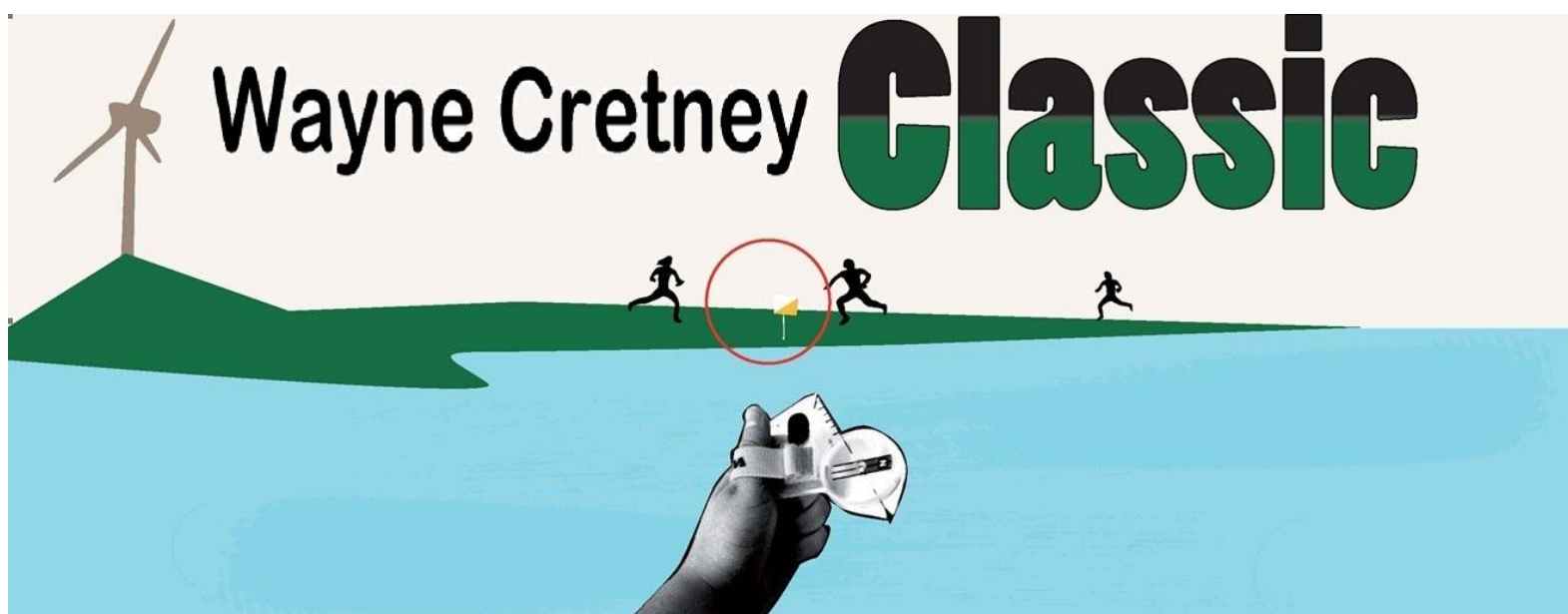




Hosted By:



1987-2026



By Bryan Teahan

The Wayne Cretney Classic

This year is the 40th anniversary of the Classic. At the start it was called the Winter Classic and changed to Spring Classic if the event was held later in the year. In 2020, it was even called the Christmas Covid Classic. The Wayne Cretney over 40 course was incorporated into the Classic in memorial to the president and founding member of the Wairarapa club.

This year, the Classic has been renamed to the Wayne Cretney Classic as a further tribute to Wayne.

The 'Blodslitet' (literally: Norwegian for 'Blood, Sweat and Tears') type long-distance Classic has been running in the Wairarapa and Wellington areas (with Kapiti once) where competitors run several relay loops themselves. For the last few years, a 3-hour rogaine has also been included. A detailed race report along with the route choices and analysis is included, along with quirky comments, jokes, cartoons, and web links describing interesting details about each area. New maps are produced every year. See website: www.winterclassic.co.nz.

The original logo created for the event (and several trophies were created using the logo) – show the classic orienteer and orange and white for the control flags. It also has a heart to symbolize that you need plenty of heart to finish the event. There is also a small tear at the bottom to symbolize the blood, sweat and tears used by competitors for a classic.



This memorial booklet is a celebration of this distinctive event and gives a flavour of the great times (pain) we have enjoyed (endured) over the years.

Classic and Wayne Cretney Early Origins

In 1987, the Wairarapa club introduced a "Winter Classic" event with the idea being to have 3 technical and physically difficult courses of varying lengths. In 1987 it was a series with Hawkes Bay and Red Kiwis.

In 1988 the club had hoped to use its new Walls Whare map but alas heavy rain on the Saturday brought down large slips blocking the only road access to the event (we didn't get to use the map until 12 months after the printing). The club invited all those that travelled over the hill (for some beautiful Wairarapa weather) to Cretney's for mulled wine etc.

In 1989 we held the Winter Classic at Birthday Hill (the course planner, Tony Nixon, was in Europe, just like Bryan when he set the WOA Relays at Hidden Lakes that year). The club gave out certificates and badges to all competitors.

1990 was a special occasion as it was the first of the annual Wayne Cretney Memorial events. Mavis Cretney donated a special trophy for the M40A grade. The course design was done by Ingvaar Braaten (Norway) who helped fieldwork Scotts Ferry.



Organisers over the years: Bryan Teahan, Liz and Ray Nicholson

Liz has been involved with all events – a monumental achievement.



Birthday Cake for Classic in 2016



40th Anniversary Classic Speech

(Calvin & Hobbes Edition — by Bryan Teahan)

Tēnā koutou katoa, Welcome everyone — veterans, newcomers, rogainers, masochists, and those who were tricked into coming by promises of curry puffs.

Today we celebrate **40 years of the Classic** — 40 years of pain, joy, mud, gorse, triumph, despair, and the occasional existential crisis in a stream gully.

Or, as Calvin would put it: **“Character building!”** And as Hobbes would reply: **“Character is overrated.”**

A Tribute to Wayne

First and always, we honour **Wayne Cretney** — the man whose spirit still lurks in every patch of fight, every unnecessary climb, and every moment where you think:

“Surely the planner wouldn’t send us *there...*”

Wayne would grin, fold his arms, and say, **“Good on you — now get on with it.”**

A Classic Tradition

Over 40 years, the Classic has taught us many things:

- **The straight line is never the fastest route.** But we take it anyway.
- **If the map says ‘walk’, it means ‘fight’.** If it says ‘fight’, it means ‘abandon hope’.
- **If the planner hasn’t bled for the map, the map isn’t ready.** And believe me — I’ve bled enough to qualify for ACC loyalty points.
- **Electric fences are always off... until they’re not.**
- **Animals are unpredictable.** Horses nuzzle you. Bulls glare at you. Weka steal your lunch. And cows — for reasons known only to them — chase you like you owe them money.

The Planner’s Life

People often ask me:

“Bryan, why do you keep doing this?”

And the honest answer is:

- Because I love making maps.
- Because I love this community.
- Because I love the challenge.
- Because this is how I honour Wayne — in memory of a friendship and the times we shared together.
- And because every year, someone finishes the course, limps up to me, covered in scratches, and says:

“That was awful. I’ll be back next year.”

That’s when I know I’ve done my job.

The Competitors

Over the decades we’ve seen:

- Juniors who run like mountain goats



- Veterans who refuse to slow down
- Barefoot runners
- People who hit the wall
- People who hit the wall *twice*
- People who hit the wall, crawl under it, and keep going
- And of course, **Liz Nicholson**, who has been involved in every single Classic since the dawn of time

If the Classic had a Hall of Fame, Liz would be the entire first wing.

The Family Behind the Madness

A huge thank you to:

- **Ning**, whose food has revived more exhausted orienteers than St John Ambulance
- **Everett**, who has hauled gear, helped set up, and endured years of Classic-related chaos
- And all the volunteers, control collectors, and helpers who make this event possible

Without you, the Classic would just be me in the bush with a base map and talking to the birds.

The Spirit of the Classic

Calvin once said:

“It’s a magical world, Hobbes... let’s go exploring.”

That’s what the Classic has always been — a chance to explore, to push ourselves, to get lost, to get found, to swear at vegetation, to marvel at views, to remember friends, and to celebrate the strange, wonderful sport we all love.

To the Next 40 Years

May they be:

- Long
- Tough
- Honest
- Beautiful
- Brutal
- And full of stories worth telling

And may Wayne’s spirit continue to guide us — usually into the green.

Ngā mihi nui, Thank you all for being part of this incredible journey. Now grab your maps... and may the best route choice win.



**CALVIN & HOBBS:

THE 40TH CLASSIC**

Title: *"The Classic: 40 Years of Pain, Maps & Questionable Decisions"*

Calvin stands proudly in full orienteering gear, holding a map twice his size. Hobbes looks exhausted, covered in gorse scratches. A sign behind them reads: **"START → GOOD LUCK, YOU'LL NEED IT."**



Calvin bounces excitedly. **CALVIN:** Today's the Classic! A glorious test of courage, stamina, and poor judgement! **HOBBS:** So... like every day with you.

They stare at the map. It's a maze of contours, cliffs, green fight, and skull-and-crossbones symbols. **HOBBS:** Are those... danger symbols? **CALVIN:** No, those are *route choices*.

A veteran orienteer limps past, covered in scratches. **VETERAN:** Best event of the year! **HOBBS (whispering):** We should run.

Calvin charges into dense bush. **CALVIN:** Straight line is fastest! **HOBBS:** That's not a line; that's a *life-threatening suggestion*.

They emerge tangled in vines, upside down. **HOBBS:** I think the vegetation is winning. **CALVIN:** Character building!

A sign on a tree: **"FIGHT: IMPENETRABLE."** Calvin pushes through anyway. **HOBBS:** The map literally says *don't*. **CALVIN:** The map underestimates my genius.

Bryan appears, holding a clipboard, smiling innocently. **BRYAN:** Having fun? **CALVIN:** This course is brutal! **HOBBS:** Did you design it during a personal crisis?

Bryan shrugs. **BRYAN:** A Classic must hurt. It's tradition. **CALVIN:** You sound like my dentist.

Bryan walks away cheerfully. **HOBBS:** He terrifies me. **CALVIN:** He terrifies *everyone*.

Calvin points at the map. **CALVIN:** Three options! A: Straight through green fight B: Around on tracks C: Over a cliff, across a stream, past a bull.

Hobbes studies the map. **HOBBS:** B is safest. **CALVIN:** So, we take C.

They sprint from an angry bull. **HOBBS:** I regret everything. **CALVIN:** This is what Wayne would've wanted!

They reach a ridge with a stunning view. **HOBBS:** Wow... Wellington looks amazing from up here. **CALVIN:** Yeah. Shame we're too tired to enjoy it.

A tui sits on a branch, singing. **HOBBS:** Nature is beautiful. **CALVIN:** Nature is trying to kill us.

They stagger toward the finish chute. **CALVIN:** I can see it... **HOBBS:** Don't die now. We're so close.

They collapse across the line. **FINISH OFFICIAL:** Congratulations! You survived! **CALVIN:** Barely.

Ning hands them curry puffs. **HOBBS:** I'd run this whole thing again for these. **CALVIN:** Don't give Bryan ideas.

Calvin and Hobbes sit under a tree, eating. **CALVIN:** You know... **HOBBS:** Don't say it. **CALVIN:** I can't wait for next year. **HOBBS:** You're hopeless.

They walk off into the sunset. **CALVIN:** It's a magical world, Hobbes... **HOBBS:** ...full of cliffs, gorse, and electric fences. **CALVIN:** Let's go exploring.

★ WAYNE CRETNEY ★

Here is a link to a tribute to Wayne (written in 1988): [An Ode to an Orienteer](#)

A Tribute for the 2026 Classic and the previous 40 years

"His spirit lives on in every step we take."

More than 40 years ago, **Wayne Cretney** spent time mapping **Dunvegan** — the very terrain we will finally run on in 2026.

The map was never completed...

but the legacy he left **absolutely was**.

THE WAYNE CRETNEY PHILOSOPHY

Not for the faint-hearted.

He never set "running" courses.

He set **tests**.

- Courses carved through **green**, scrub, and the grubbiest forest.
- Controls in **intricate detail**, steep slopes, and physical terrain.
- Routes that demanded grit, stubbornness, and a sense of humour.

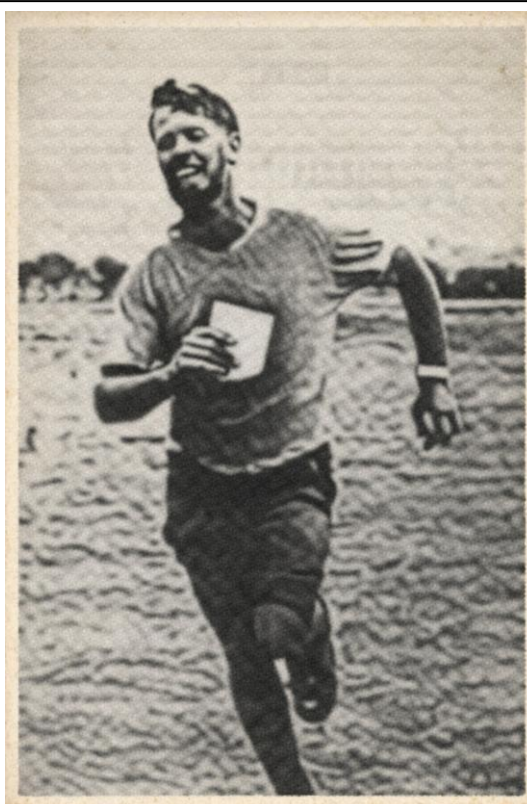
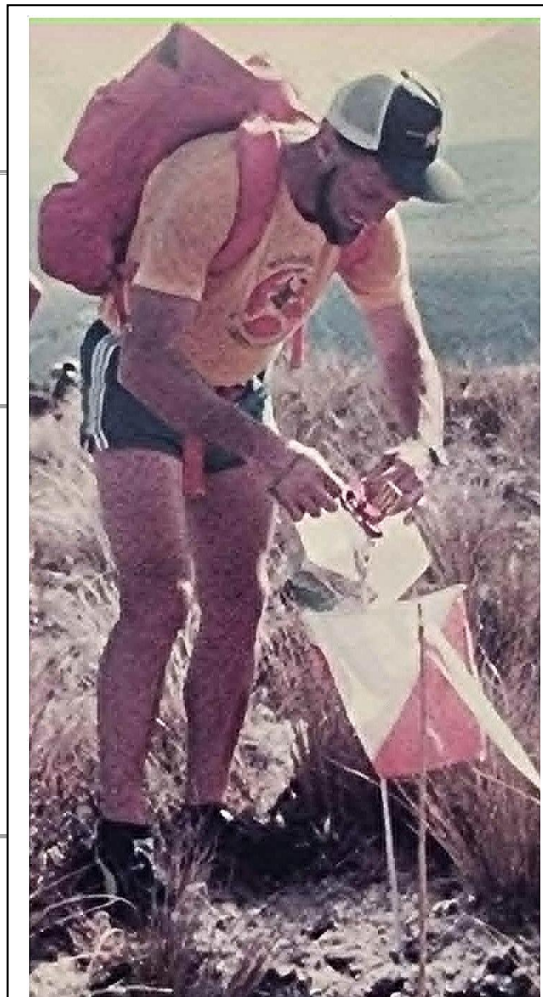
To finish a **Wayne Cretney Classic** was to know:

You can take on anything.

HOW WE HONOUR HIM

Across the decades, Wayne is remembered as:

- **Namesake of the M40 Memorial Course**
(and now the entire Classic event)
- **A symbol of toughness, spirit, and character-building challenge**
- **A friend, a mentor, and a legend** in the orienteering community



Wayne Cretney

ECHOES OF WAYNE THROUGH THE YEARS

"Maybe we can add **Wayne's spirit** to this place as well."

"Good on you — **Wayne would have been proud of you.**"

"**Wayne would've loved it.** Not sure about today's race clothing tho. In winter he wore just two singlets"

"**Wayne's spirit lives on** in at least one of the younger runners."

"The Classic wouldn't be the Classic without the tough bits —

Wayne would turn in his grave if it were too easy."

"I think **Wayne Cretney would approve.**"

"A fitting memorial to **Wayne** and our absent friends."

"Was this something **Wayne introduced** up in Holdsworth...? *Now that was some event.*"

"I admire **Wayne**, though I never met him. He must've been some guy."

"Maybe foolish to continue... but I knew **Wayne was watching.**"

"I'm sure **Wayne is looking down**, giving you a pat on the back."

"That climb? Definitely a **Wayne Cretney calculation.**"

2026 — THE YEAR HIS MAP COMES FULL CIRCLE

Dunvegan waited.

The Classic endured.

And Wayne's spirit —

still leads us into the woods.

Michelle Tom (Wayne's Daughter): June 2026: *'Thanks for continuing to remember Dad. It means a lot to me'.*



Classic Photos

Click [here](#) to see enlarged photos

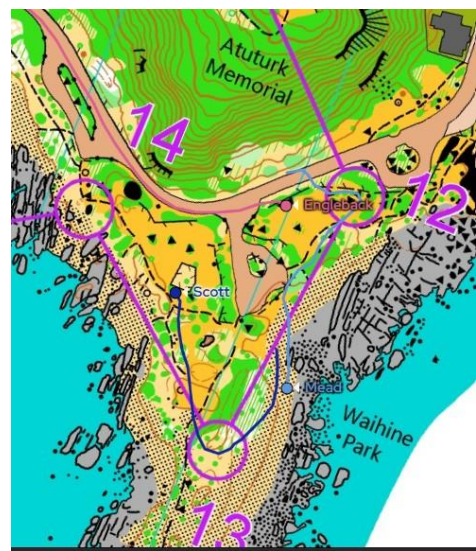
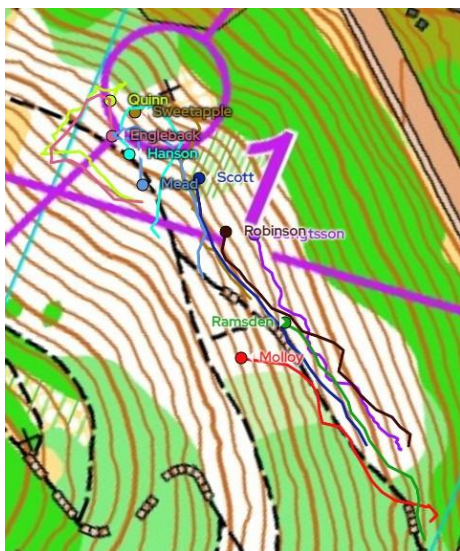




The start for the 25th Anniversary – Auld Lang Syne

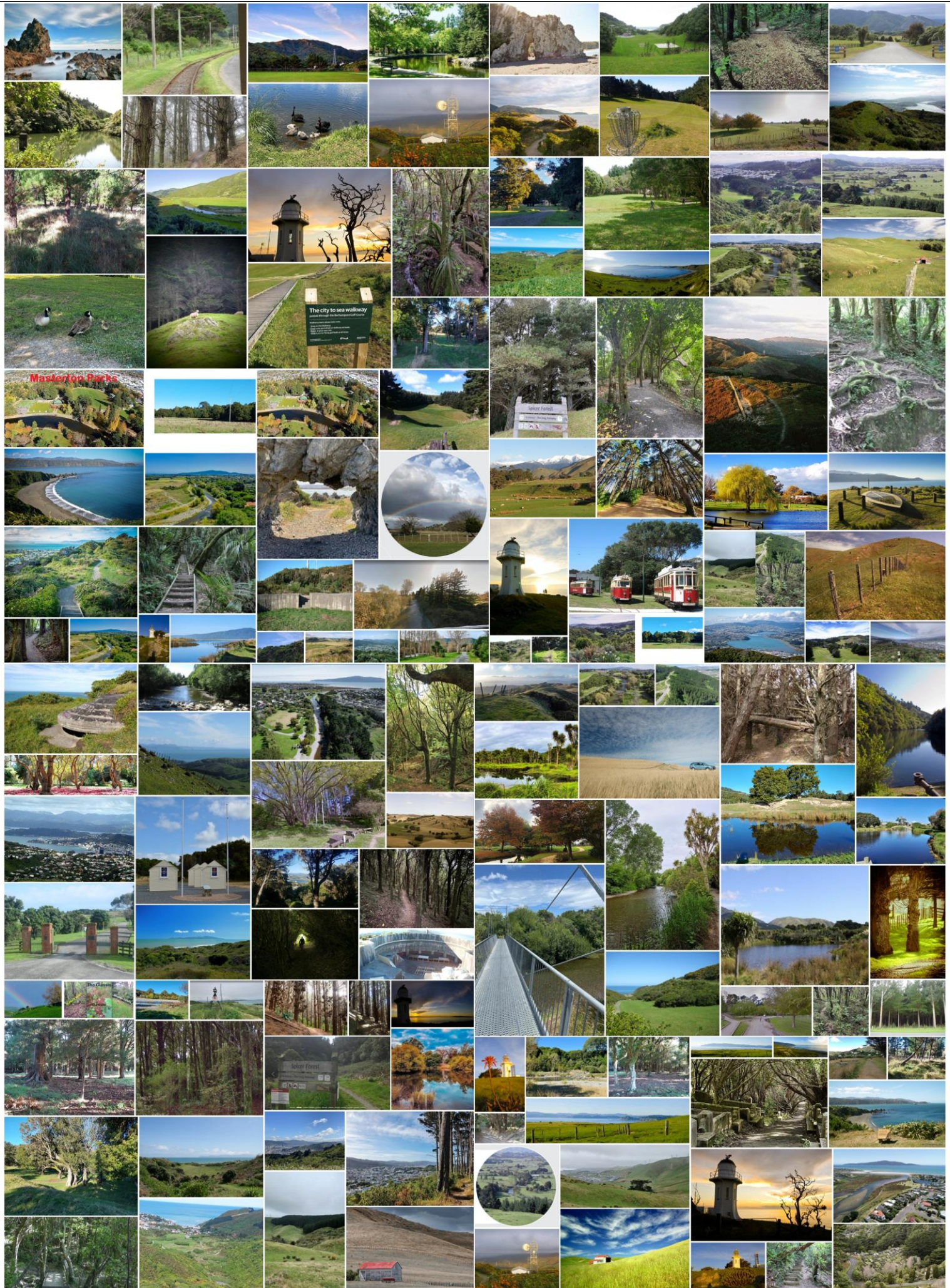
Classic GPS Tracking

Click [here](#) to see Loggator for Seatoun Classic 2019



Classic Scenes

Click [here](#) to see enlarged photos



Classic Video

Click [here](#) to see video

Video by Mick Finn: *The Winter Classic moved to Wellington in 2009 - mixing streets, parkland and bunkers with dense, steep forest and fast, runnable forest. Based on the Norwegian Blodslitet (translation "blood-stained" or "blood, sweat and tears"), orienteers tackled the forest over a number of loops and a degree of masochism.*

Comment from @GuerillaPL 16 years ago That's a very nice event. Greetings from Poland



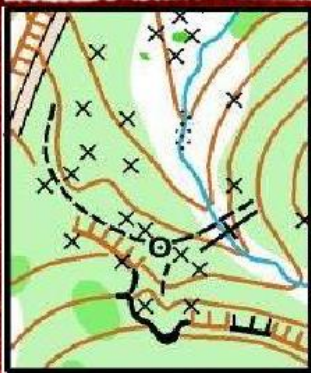
Classic Logos

Logos and Themes used for events over the years.



Classic Promos

Some attempts at Classic marketing for the events over the years giving tasters and snippets of the new maps and showing different themes.



New Map!


1987-2026
40th Anniversary
Wayne Cretney
Classic
Dunvegan, Trimble Forest,
Kiriwhakapapa

Gold, Ghosts,
Gondwana in
Karori



Entries
Close
4th



**The Winter
Classic 2010**
www.winterclassic.co.nz

**The
Classic**

DELIVERANCE

Classic History

A notable feature of many Classic event reports is the inclusion of history for the area - we go to so many areas for orienteering, and each area has its own unique history - so it's nice to research and come back with fascinating information about each area.

Here are some of the more remarkable histories over the years:

- Aro Valley 2009: The Waimapihi Witch Project?



Just as we thought the forest was thinning and the magic was ending, we came across a bizarre assortment of artefacts. There were crude tripods strung together with rags; ribbons tied in the foliage; candles and logs that had been alight in the not too distant past; and a wind chime fashioned from scrap metal. We trod very carefully: in all seriousness, these looked like the trappings of some strange ritual. The forest took on a new chill.

We found later that this place is known as "Spirit Hill" and a memorial to Samantha.

I named the clearing Samantha's clearing on the map.

- Wright's Hill Deliverance 2010: What the gun looked like



- Taueru 2013: Fallen rock on Taueru Road after earthquake



- Queen Elizabeth Park 2016



Event Centre at the Tram Museum

Last Control near US Memorial

- Rangituhi/Colonial Knob 2017
Māori named this peak Rangituhi, "Sky glow". Pākeha called it Colonial Knob, because they were idiots. (Twitter)
- Masterton Parks 2020
The site of Masterton's cemetery was chosen almost accidentally when a bundle of clothes was found on the banks of the Waipoua River. A party of men went looking for the body while Richard Iorns dug a grave in an empty paddock near the river. It turned out there was no body, just a pile of clothes, but Iorns caught a chill while digging in the stony soil. It turned to pneumonia and he died. He was buried in the grave he dug.
- Riverside 2022
I did see a wool-less sheep - I thought that a shearer had forgotten to finish off shearing it!



It is hoped a multi-year study on a research farm near Masterton will give farmers a better understanding of the benefits and costs of shifting to a wool-less flock.

- Tawatawa 2023

Manawa Karioi

The name 'Manawa Karioi' can be translated as 'the heart desires to linger'

Manawa Karioi Ecological Restoration Project is one of Wellington's oldest reforestation projects and is on land that is part of Tapu Te Ranga Marae in Island Bay.



Home of Compassion Reservoir



Volunteers for Reservoir work – a control was at this site

Pouwhenua of Te Rauparaha and Te Rangihaeata

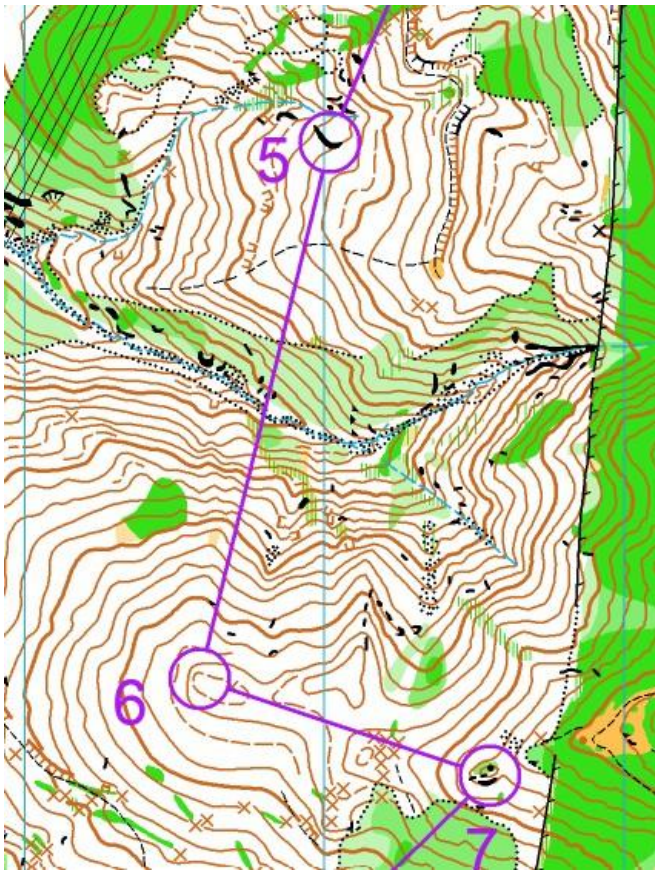


Classic Route Analysis

Another special feature of the Classic is that significant route choices are included in the event report showing the intended routes and which route the planner thinks was best. This race analysis should be done more often for other events as an aid to improve skills.

What follows shows some of the legs which posed questions of the orienteer. Can you guess what the route choices are and which one is the best / fastest / safest one and which one is the one you would take?

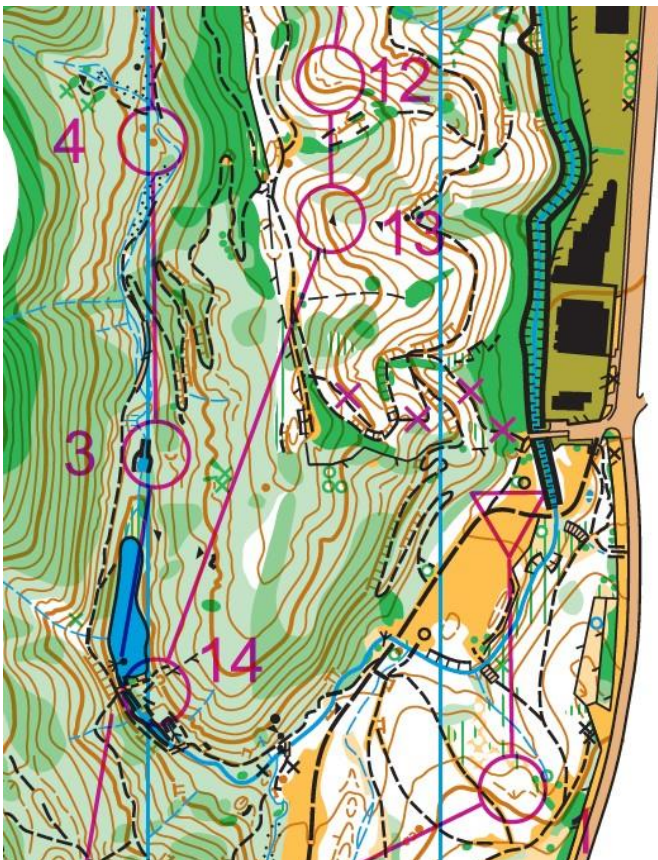
The planner picks are shown at the end of this memorial, and you can check to see if you agree.



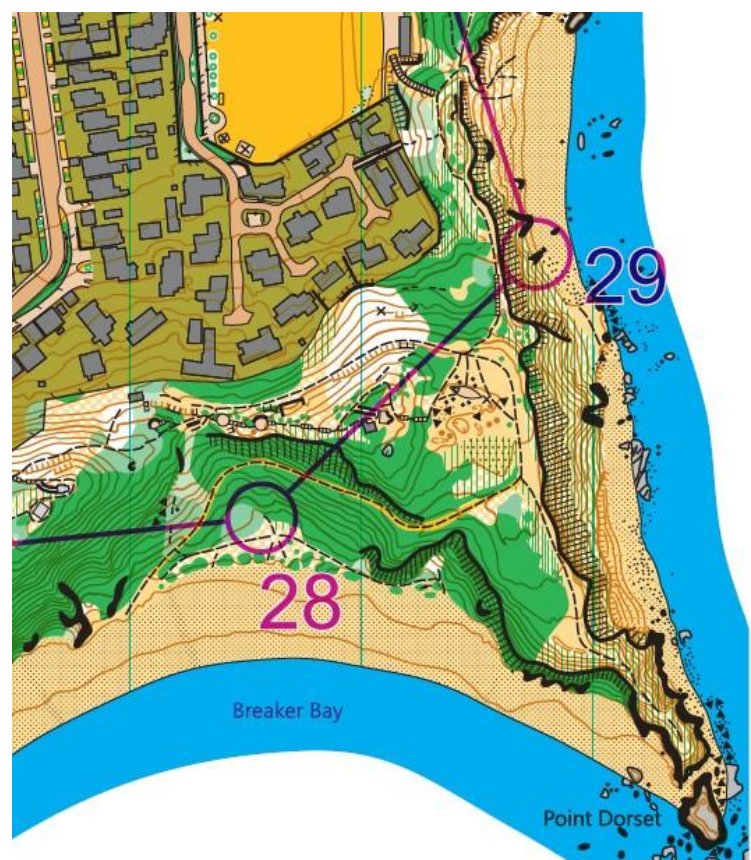
2014 from 5 to 6



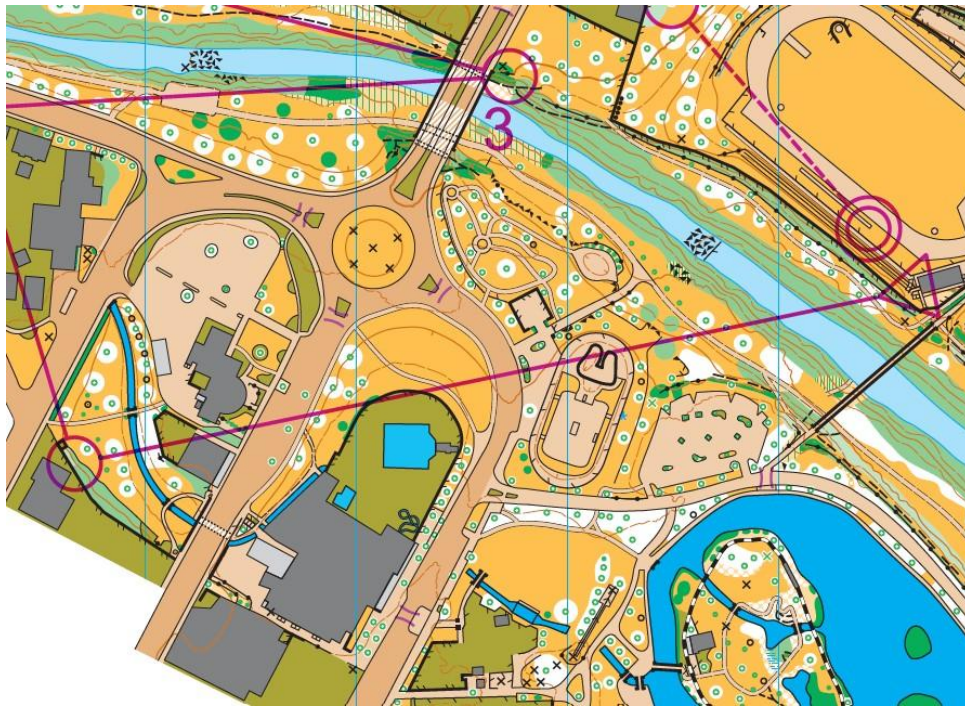
2014 from 24 to 25



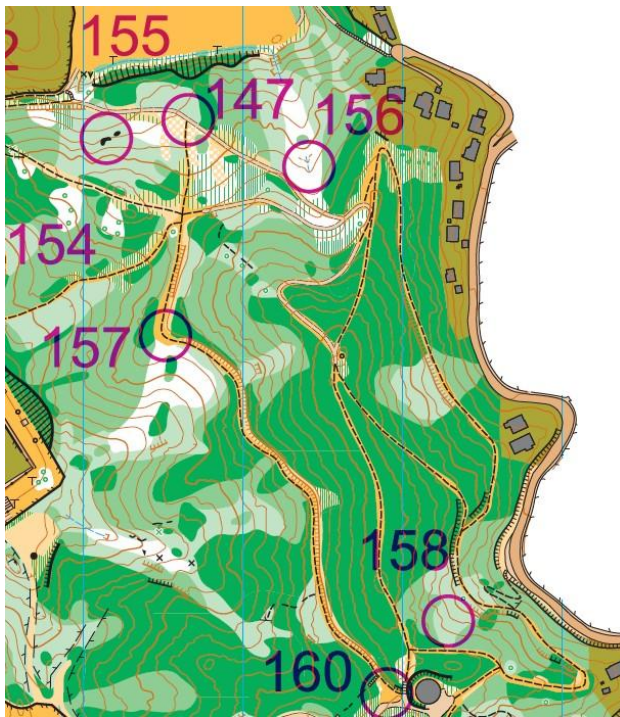
2017 from 13 to 14



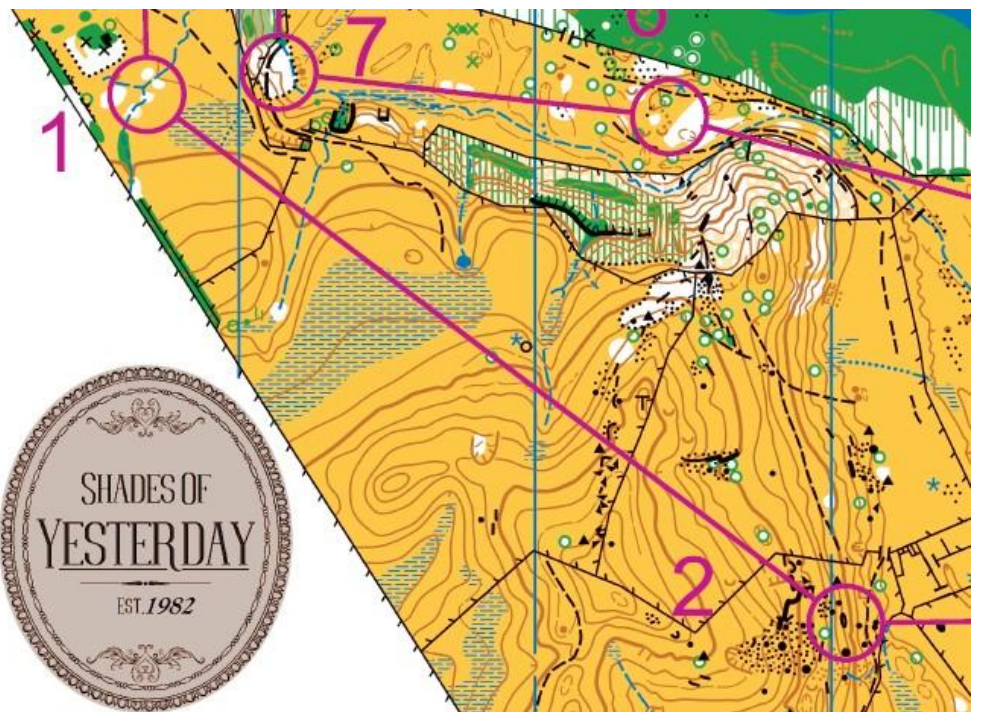
2019 from 28 to 29



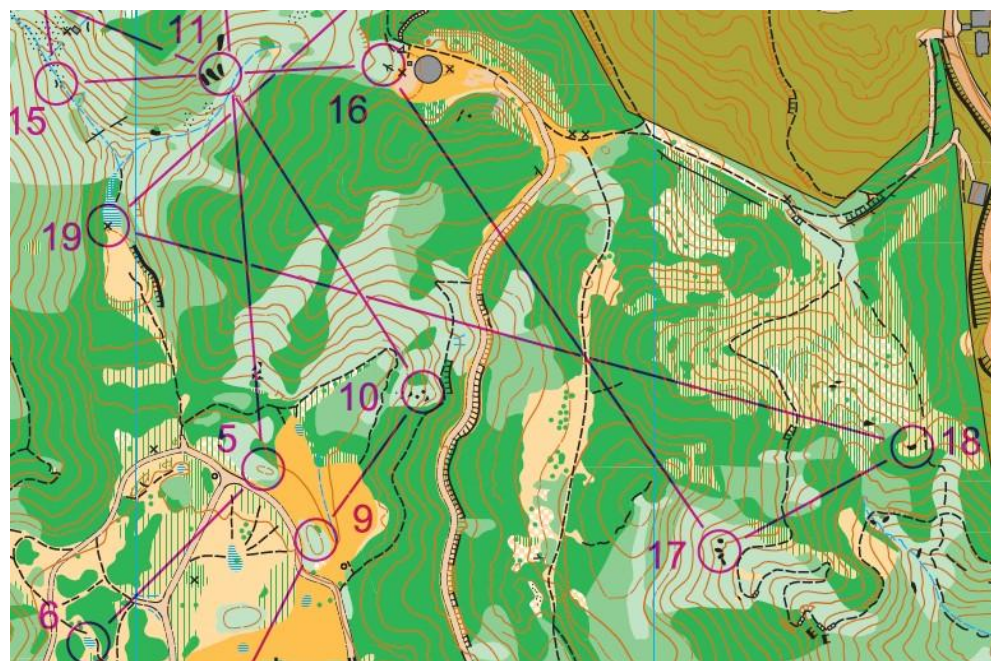
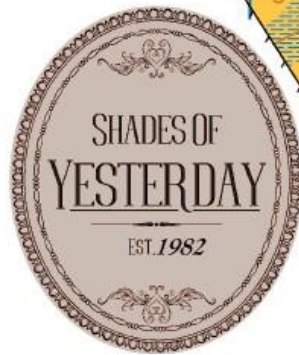
2020 from Start Last Leg to 1



2021 from 158 to 155



2022 from 1 to 2



2023 from 18 to 19



PLANNER'S PEARLS OF WISDOM

(Drawn from all reports 2009–2025)



1. The Classic Must Hurt — But Fairly

Across almost every report:

- **Pain is part of the identity** “Why do we keep coming back? Because it’s a kind of drug...”
- **Character-building terrain is essential** Steep, green, physical, unfair-in-places — *but intentionally so*.
- **Wayne Cretney would disapprove if it were too easy** This line appears in multiple years.

Pearl:

A Classic must push people to their limits — physically, mentally, emotionally — but never maliciously.



2. The Map Is a Living Creature

Repeated themes:

- Every map surprises the mapper.
- Some areas are “Jekyll and Hyde”: beautiful one moment, awful the next.
- Runnability is subjective and never fully predictable.
- Even after hundreds of hours mapping, competitors still find errors within minutes.

Pearl:

A map is never finished, only abandoned. The forest always has the last word.



3. Route Choice Is the Heart of the Classic

Across all years:

- Long legs with multiple viable options are essential.
- The planner often hides a “non-obvious best route.”
- Track routes 2–3× longer can still be faster than straight-line bush.
- Competitors must constantly adapt as fatigue changes what is “optimal.”
- The planner may throw in an easy tourist scenic control just to put you off your rhythm.

Pearl:

A good Classic leg forces you to choose — and doubt your choice the entire way.



4. Safety Through Choice, Not Avoidance

Bryan’s philosophy:

- Dangerous options exist — cliffs, waterfalls, fight, steep spurs — but **safe alternatives always exist**.
- Competitors who choose the risky line earn the consequences (and Wayne’s approval).
- The planner’s job is to **offer**, not **force**, risk.

Pearl:

Provide safe routes but never remove the temptation of the stupidly direct line.



5. Terrain Variety Is Sacred

Every Classic strives to include:

- Native bush
- Pine forest
- Farmland
- Streams
- Skyline ridges
- Urban edges
- Cemeteries
- Historic sites
- Hidden gems (grottoes, memorials, gun emplacements, caves, cairns, lighthouses, odd rubbish)

Pearl:

A Classic should feel like five different maps stitched into one long adventure.

6. Embrace Chaos — It Always Comes

Every year includes:

- Lost controls
- Blown-away maps
- Wrong loops
- Software bugs
- Weather disasters
- Animals interfering
- Last-minute changes
- Sleep deprivation
- Unexpected obstacles

Pearl:

Something will always go wrong. The Classic succeeds because it continues anyway.

7. Above All: Keep the Spirit Alive

The final, overarching philosophy:

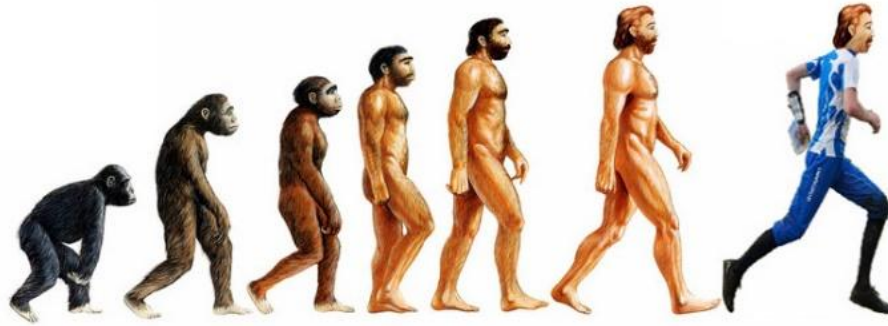
- The Classic is unique in NZ orienteering.
- It must remain long, tough, honest, and memorable.
- It must evolve but never lose its soul.
- It must always honour Wayne.

Pearl:

A Classic should be unforgettable — for reasons both glorious and painful.

Classic Stories and Tallest Tales

For the Hard, the Tough and the Dirty...



Promo for Classic: The Missing Link 2014

A highlight reel of the chaos, comedy, pain, wildlife encounters, and pure heart that run through the reports.

1. The Mapmaker vs. The Bush (Recurring Theme: The Bush Always Wins)

Across multiple years, Bryan describes mapping as a kind of slow-motion fistfight with nature:

- **Falling down a waterfall** and somehow walking away with “only cuts and severe bruising.”
- **Crawling through boxthorn**, gorse, and “fight” so thick it could be used as a medieval defence system.
- **Face-planting into mud**, losing a compass, and sliding down hills on his backside.
- Being battered so often that one year he wrote:

“I wished I was one of the goats.”

The Classic is basically a long-distance relationship between Bryan and gravity.

2. The Wildlife Encounters (Some Friendly, Some... Not)

The reports are full of unexpected animal moments:

- A **horse sneaks up and nuzzles Bryan’s neck**, then tries to steal his lunch.
- A **weka steals his lunch** at Canaan Downs.
- **Angry bulls** paw the ground and roar at him while mapping.
- A **large spider bites him** in the bush near Macalister Park.
- A **mother cow drags a control 50 metres and dumps it in a stream**, submerging the flag completely.

Nature is not neutral in the Classic. Nature participates.

3. Competitors Doing Wild Things

Some of the most memorable competitor stories:

- A runner **throws away his shoes mid-race** because they were “sliding too much” and continues **barefoot up Wright’s Hill**.
- Another competitor **runs into a waterfall**, realises it’s vertical, and has to be shouted away by someone below.
- A junior runner **bush-bashes for 10 minutes** through solid fight and emerges *exactly* at the control.
- A competitor **slides on wet rusty car doors** and expects to need a tetanus shot.
- One runner’s map **blows away in the wind**, so he finishes by following his wife.

4. The Pain Chronicles (A Classic Tradition)

The event is famous for suffering, but the organisers suffer too:

- Bryan during mapping once spent an entire week with a **toothache so bad he welcomed the dentist’s drill**.

- Another year he ran with a **full migraine aura**, describing the map as “a blur with a hammering in my head.”
- Multiple years feature **bruising, sprains, and zombie-like exhaustion**.
- One year he had **two tooth extractions, two vaccine jabs, and two bad knees** while mapping.

The Classic is basically a controlled experiment in human durability.

5. The Weather: Always Dramatic

Highlights include:

- A **snowstorm** days before the 25th anniversary event.
- A year so wet that Bryan wrote:

“Wet mapping, wet planning, wet on the day – wet, wet, wet.”

- Baring Head, where the wind was so strong that controls had to be **tied down behind bushes** and one nearly **blew to the South Island**.
- For one Classic, the howling wind overnight damaged some tents.



Wind damaged tents at 2000 event. The one at the back did not survive. It went to the dump.

Liz: I remember that. It was the Taueru event on Tom Lett's property late November. Snow on the Remutakas and Pahiatua tracks. Stu Barr won the men's. You ran on the north side of the hills to seek protection from the freezing southerly. I think we taxied competitors up the track to the farm dam.

- Mud, glorious mud at Matahiwi:
Liz: I remember the mud! We could all barely walk up the track to the start! I think Pamela beat me that day. That was another Kelvin special maybe? I remember all the hand drawn maps that Tony did, setting all the courses without any visit to the map, then disappearing overseas. The challenges we had trying to place controls in the middle of a wind blow and somehow make it fair for the competitors.

6. The Oddities Found in the Bush

Mapping reveals strange treasures:

- A **colourful grotto called Spirit Hill** with ribbons, wind chimes, and memorials.
- **Cars, fridges, farm equipment**, and even **marijuana enclosures** hidden in the forest.
- A **rustic boat** in the middle of nowhere.
- A **bamboo maze** in Waikanae.
- A **cairn and hidden seat** deep in the river parks.
- A **giant cactus** near a control at Baring Head.

The Classic is part race, part archaeological dig.

7. The Human Moments

Some of the most touching stories:

- Wayne Cretney's daughter writing to say how much it means that her father is still remembered.
- A **15-year-old girl finishing the elite course**.
- An **8-year-old placing second in the Rogaine**, then politely asking if there was a trophy.
- Liz Nicholson competing in **every single Classic** since the beginning — a 40-year streak:

Liz: I think I have DNF'd 3 times. No 1 at Omega, 1990, Josh was a wee baby. I barely made it back to the finish area after pulling the pin on the long leg. Totally exhausted. It was a Kelvin special with a very mean climb uphill after each leg. No3, was in Wgtn when Jamie and Penny set the event by Zealandia. My knees were both so painful, I pulled out when I couldn't find a control in a green patch. Plus, I wanted to see Sebastian for lunch as he was studying at Victoria, so that would have been maybe 2012. I know I have lost two SI cards at Winter Classics — 1st one was at Karori cemetery, you were waiting for me to finally get back to cut a cake. 2nd time was the event out near the coast, I skidded and slipped down a steep hillside as a 'quick' route choice through regen scrub, found the control but my SI card was missing from my finger, I looked for a while but gave it away, punching my map from there on. I haven't lost any SI cards at normal events.

8. The Food (A Legendary Subplot)

Ning's food has become part of the mythology:

- Homemade curry puffs that people admit are **the real reason they come back**.
- Giant pots of soup that sometimes run out, sometimes explode, and once **burned her hand**.
- Bryan eating **five boxes of leftover Domino's** after a pickup mix-up.

9. The Mapping Superstitions

Bryan believes the event will go well only if he suffers beforehand:

- Toothaches
- Flu
- Knee injuries
- Covid
- Spider bites
- Bruising
- Migraines

It's like the Classic demands a sacrifice.

10. The Spirit of the Event

Despite the pain, chaos, and occasional electrocution:

- People keep coming back.
- They call it "fun."
- They thank the organisers.
- They bring their kids.
- They celebrate the hills, the views, the challenge, and the camaraderie.

The Classic is not just a race — it's a shared madness, a tradition, a memorial, and a community.



Tim Robertson (13 yrs old)
Winning the M18 course

CHARACTER PROFILE: THE CLASSIC AS A PERSON

Name:

Winter Classic (but friends call him “Classic”)

Age:

40, but with the knees of an 85-year-old goat farmer.

Personality:

- Tough but fair
- Loves surprises (usually unpleasant ones)
- Thinks gorse builds character
- Laughs at your route choices
- Has a soft spot for spectacular views and good soup

Appearance:

- Covered in mud
- Smells faintly of pine needles and Deep Heat
- Carries a map board like a badge of honour



Hobbies:

- Hiding controls in places that make you question your sanity
- Summoning wind at inconvenient times
- Encouraging bonding through shared suffering
- Collecting stories of human resilience (and stupidity)

Favourite Quote:

“If you’re not bleeding, you’re not trying.”

Life Philosophy:

Pain is temporary. Stories are forever.

Here be Dragons

I have never met dragons but always wanted to draw one on a map to mirror what happened on some of the earliest ocean maps for unmapped/unexplored areas – the map below shows an unmapped fight area (‘tiger country’) with the latin phrase ‘hic sunt dracones’ – here be dragons – short for: you would be mad to venture into this black (white) hole on the map – the equivalent of falling off the edge of a flat earth.



Classic Cartoons

Included in the reports for each event were cartoons about mapping.

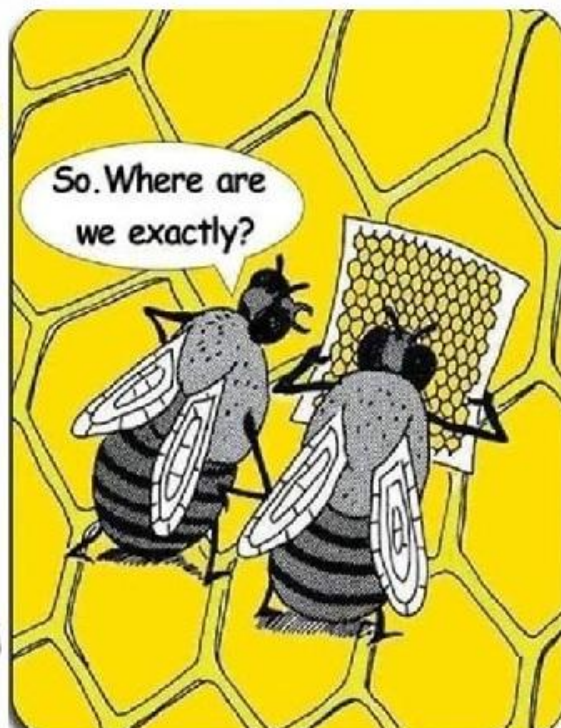
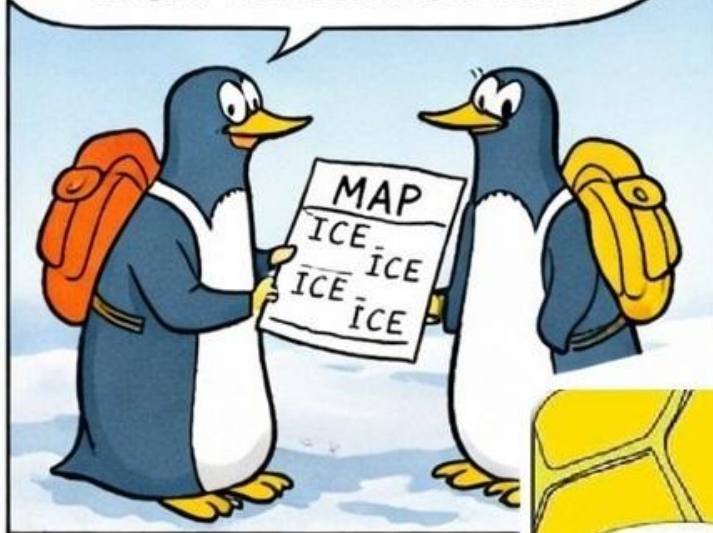
Explorers are we, intrepid and bold,
Out in the wild, amongst wonders untold,
Equipped with our wits, a map, and a snack,
We're searching for fun and we're on the right track



Never take google map
too seriously!



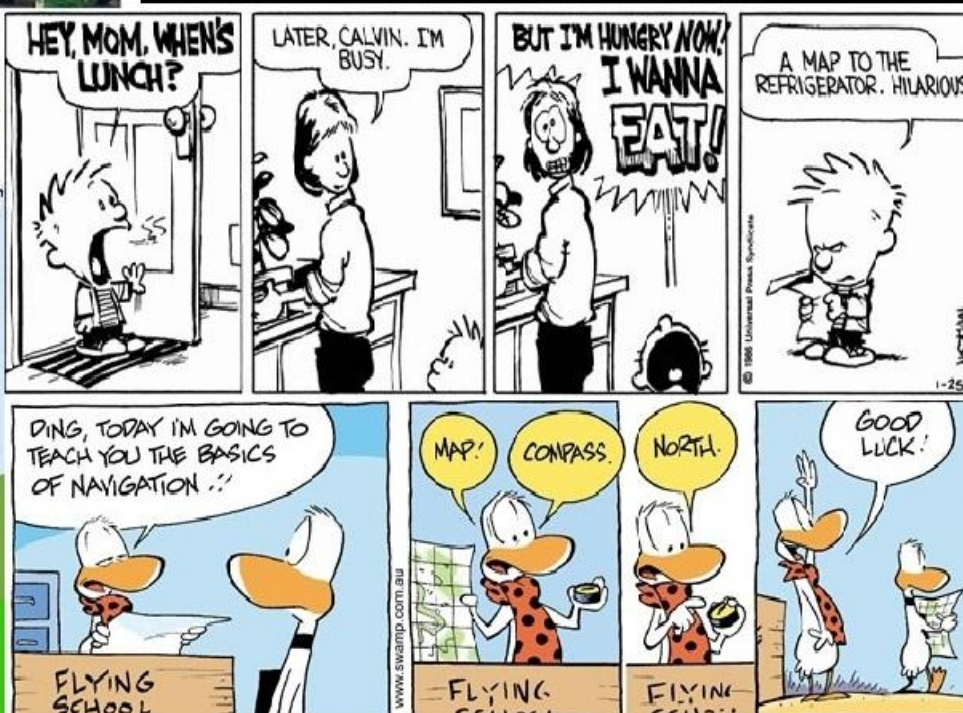
I CAN'T MAKE UP MY MIND WHERE
TO GO OUR HIKE – IT LOOKS
GREAT IN ALL DIRECTIONS!



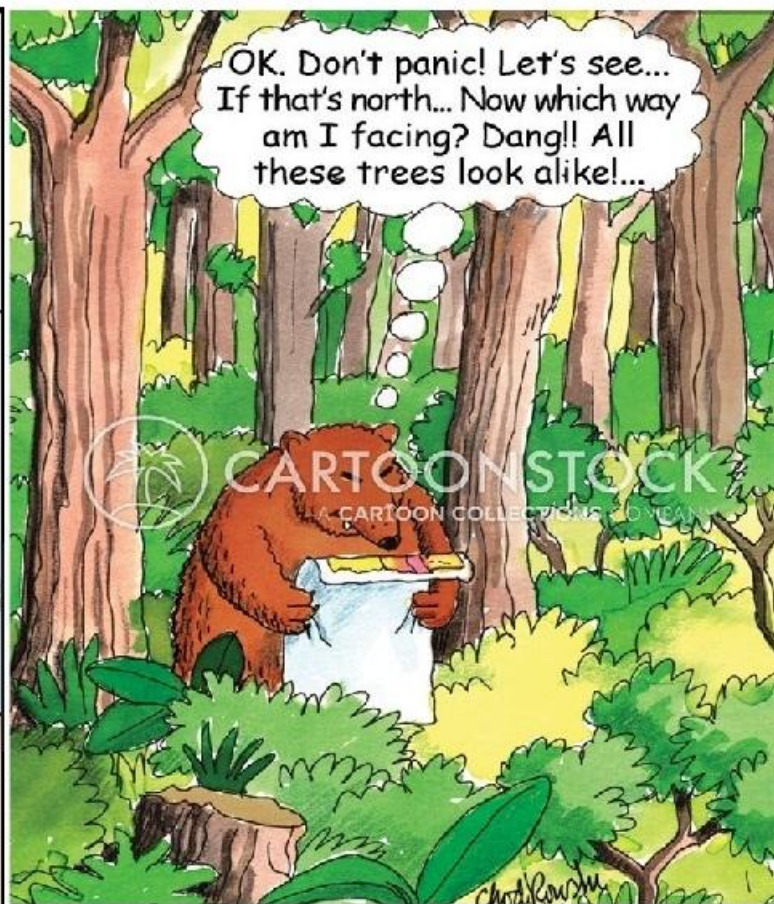
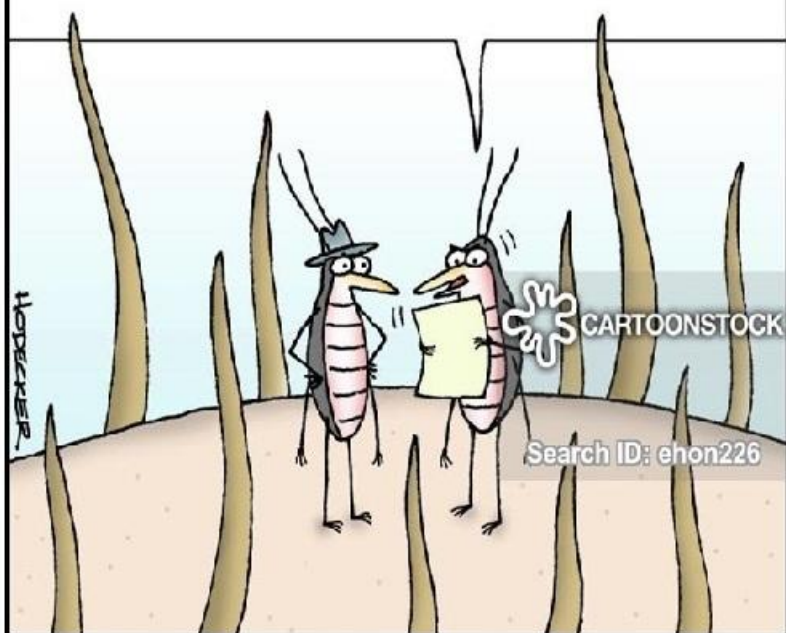
When you take google map too seriously



www.eviad.com



SERIOUSLY? THIS IS EXACTLY WHY YOU SHOULDN'T BE IN CHARGE OF THE MAP. NOT ONLY ARE WE HOPELESSLY LOST, WE'RE NOT EVEN ON THE DOG. WE'RE ON THE CAT!



Classic News

The Classic hit the news at various times.



On the cover of New Zealand Orienteering magazine Oct 2001 (edited by club member Jim Barr): Issue 62 – October 2001. 'Another trophy for the cabinet for Phil Wood. After 17.4km and 2 hours 19 minutes of close racing only 4 seconds separated Phil Wood and Shaun Collins at this year's Winter Classic, held this year at Ruakokoputuna in South Wairarapa. Inset are Dave King, winner of the Wayne Cretney Memorial Trophy (M40 grade) setting out up yet another hill, and Open Women's winner, Madeleine Collins, all concentration at the map change. Photos are by Ning, Bryan Teahan's bride-to-be, a very nice and welcome newcomer to our orienteering community.'

July 2006: [A True Winter Classic - Maptalk](#)

- Planner Jim Barr has just advised: "The stream is uncrossable - yet again. The forecast for tomorrow is snow down to 300 metres - that includes most of the event area. I am writing this in the hopeful, but not optimistic expectation that the rain will stop and the snow will not materialise, thus enabling me to get across the stream and put the controls out."

Wayne, I can hear you chuckling...

July 2009: [Winter Classic 2009 - Maptalk](#)

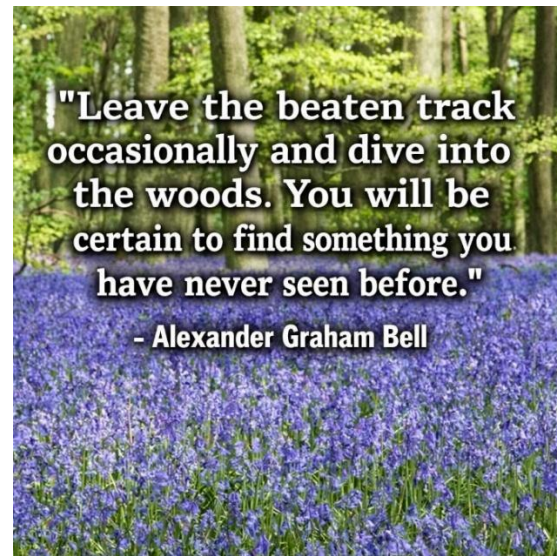
- Jamie: 'I can't wait! Head to head racing, bush, new area, close to home...brilliant!!'

July 2009 [Wellington Winter Classic 2009 | infonews.co.nz New Zealand News](#)

- "It was great to visit an area of Wellington I haven't been to before, and great to get a map in my hand and 'race' again, albeit with more walking and bush bashing than a Brit is used to!" **Yvette Baker** said, after winning the overall and Open women category.
- "This Classic was certainly tough" **Jason Markham** (Winner Open men) said. "Any bad route choices I made on the steep slopes - I paid for them mentally and physically!"
- Pete Swanson** (Winner Wayne Cretney M40 memorial), found the Wellington terrain challenging - "That was one hell of a race! Finished covered in scratches, cuts and bruises, but I loved every minute of it!" he stated.
- "I'm amazed that I got so many raves about the event, which was pretty much in steep green jungle, along with vistas and patches of glorious open native bush," said **Bryan Teahan**. "We'll be back in Wellington in 2010."

Classic quotes

Quotes were included in the reports to provide inspiration.



Literary Map-Related Quotes

Chekov and Zulu (Star Trek)

- *"Admit it — we're lost!"*
- *"Yes, but we are making good time..."*

Chevy Chase – *Funny Farm*

- *"When I get my hands on the SOB who drew that map, I'm gonna kill him!"*

Earl P. Hanson

- *"A good map is a thing of beauty and rugged integrity."*

Daniel Boone

- *"I have never been lost, but I will admit to being confused for several weeks."*

Supermarket Noticeboard

- *"Wanted... must be able to read a map."*

The Simpsons

- *"The Simpsons have entered the forest!"*

Driving Miss Daisy

- *"You took the wrong turn back there!"*

Robert Frost

- *"Whose woods these are I think I know ..."*

"The woods are lovely, dark and deep, But I have promises to keep, And miles to go before I sleep, And miles to go before I sleep."

William Goldman – *The Princess Bride*

- *"To the Pain!"*



Competitor Quotes

Michael Wood

- *"Wayne would've loved it. Dunno what he would have thought about today's race clothing tho. In winter he just wore two singlets ..."*

Pete Swanson

- *"That was one hell of a race... loved every minute of it!"*

Jamie Stewart

- *"Shows what can be achieved in crappy wild terrain..."*

Mick Finn

- *"This event and area will become the standard for a southern hemisphere Blodslitet."*

Jason Markham

- *"This Classic was certainly tough."*

Yvette Baker

- *"Many thanks for all the hours you must've put in..."*

Greg Thurlow

- *"Great course, so much up and down..."*

onemanfanclub:

- *'Wayne's spirit lives on in at least one of the younger course 1 runners.*

Overheard post-race:

Jamie Bringham-Watson: "...and then I went through this way, and..."

Bryan: "But I mapped that as fight!?!"

JBW: "Yes, it was."

Nigel Corry

- *"Extremely enjoyable ferreting up and down all those bush clad streams and gullies!"*

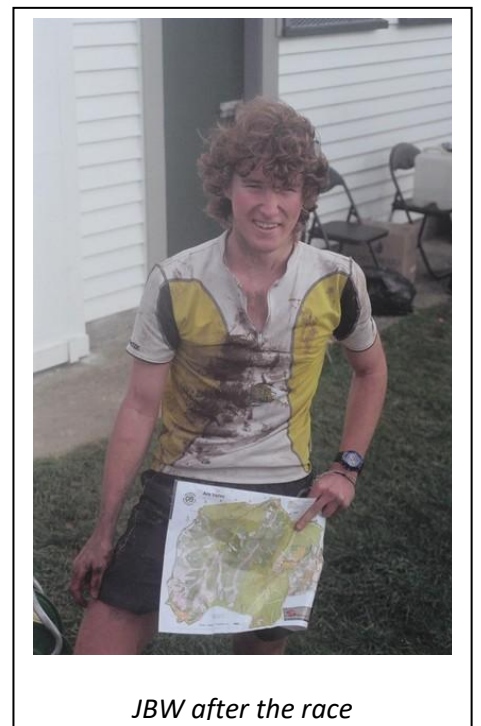
Glen Warner

- *"Great map. Fantastic controls. Loved it."*

Liz Nicholson

- *"Even though I took forever... I still enjoyed it."*

Ray Nicholson



JBW after the race

- *"On reflection..."*
- *"You have to admire Bryan for his ongoing commitment..."*

John Bocock

- *"Thanks for another great challenge."*

Yvette Baker (again)

- *"It was easily the toughest out of the three I have run..."*

Nick Hann

- *"Wasn't very focused going into the race..."*

Magnus Bengtsson

- *"Lost about a minute... but besides that a quite good race."*

Mark Hooker

- *"We enjoyed the bush-bashiness of it..."*



Michelle Tom is with Mike Tom and 3 others.

13 hrs · 🧑🏻‍🦲

I had a weird proud bittersweet moment today. As a kid I watched my Dad help form an orienteering club. He worked hard most weekends to map countryside all around the Wairarapa and helped run events, all while competing himself. He died while he was still in love with what he called the thinking man's sport. They named a memorial event after him and it is still held every winter. It is a brutal course and the guys do it to honour the challenging courses Dad set all those years ago. He dragged us kids and mum to his events and I got my start with writing by helping him with the club newsletter. I learned how to set a course with a compass, to run strategically, how to not freak out when I got lost or ran off the map. I am a confident bush woman because of his lessons in survival. Today I took the boys to a park orienteering event and it turns out all those strategic video games they play might actually help with navigation and point maximisation. Alex led the way just as his grandfather would have - bossy and self assured. Luke enjoyed punching the cards. And then, just when my little heart couldn't stretch with pride any more, we discovered that they won the junior boys points event. Dad would be so proud, as am I. ❤️❤️❤️



Jerome Sheppard

- *"A fantastic event!"*

David King

- *"Good run here... things went pear-shaped..."*

Karl Strode-Penny

- *"It was an excellent course..."*

Alistair Cross

- *"Great overall course with some challenging navigation..."*

Gillian Ingham

- *"Thanks for the great event..."*

Imogene Scott: (Woman's winner – Course 1):

- *Just wanted to say thanks so much for the course on Sunday! I really enjoyed it; it was a tough challenge! I would have happily left out that last loop though, ha-ha, but by then I was determined to finish!*

Thanks again! Oh and by the way, we did make it in time for the wearable arts show - just!

Note: Imogene had to rush off to WOW and she had to choose to run the last map as time was getting very short. She decided to finish even though she might have missed the \$140 show. Now that's dedication.



Humorous / Cartoon Quotes

Calvin & Hobbes

- Sentiments after a Classic:



One of my favourite sayings:

'Tomorrow, we'll seize the day and throttle it!'

Various Map Cartoons

- *"I am not lost. To be lost, you have to know where you're supposed to be."*
- *"Seriously Bob, your map-reading skills leave a lot to be desired."*
- *"Are you sure this is the way? Didn't you bring the map!"*
- *"This really is the road less travelled. I can't find it on my Google Map."*
- *"By the time the male of the species admits he is lost, it is generally too late."*



Orienteering-Themed Quotes

Kenny Rogers (paraphrased)

- *"You've got to know when to go slow, know when to jog, know when to run."*

Bryan Teahan (various reports as planner)

- *"Oh the pain! The pain!"*
- *"Character-building bits..."*
- *"I'm sure Wayne is looking down..."*
- *Why oh why do we keep on coming back for more pain? Because it's a kind of drug – you just have to find out where the masochistic course planner has set the controls don't you?*



Inspirational / Motivational Quotes

Angelina Jolie

- *"Anytime I feel lost, I pull out a map and stare..."*

Bjork

- *"There's no map to human behaviour."*

Jon Bon Jovi

- *"Map out your future — but do it in pencil."*

Werner Herzog

- *"I travel without barely any luggage..."*

Jimmy Cliff

- *"One day, I'm going to travel these places."*

Elizabeth Lindsey

- *"True navigation begins in the human heart."*

Nicholas Crane

- *"Maps codify the miracle of existence."*

Mark Jenkins

- *"Maps are essential..."*

Tony Horwitz

- *"I am an agnostic on most matters of faith, but on the subject of maps I have always been a true believer."*

Robert Louis Stevenson

- *"I am told there are people who do not care for maps..."*

Terry Pratchett



Bryan resting after another satisfying event planning – Father's day present eating Durian – the world's smelliest fruit

- *"You can't map a sense of humour."*
- *"Map-making had never been a precise art on the Discworld..."*

Patrick White

- *"The map? I will first make it."*

Reif Larsen

- *"A map does not just chart, it unlocks and formulates meaning."*

Rebecca Solnit

- *"A labyrinth is a symbolic journey..."*

Gerald Durrell

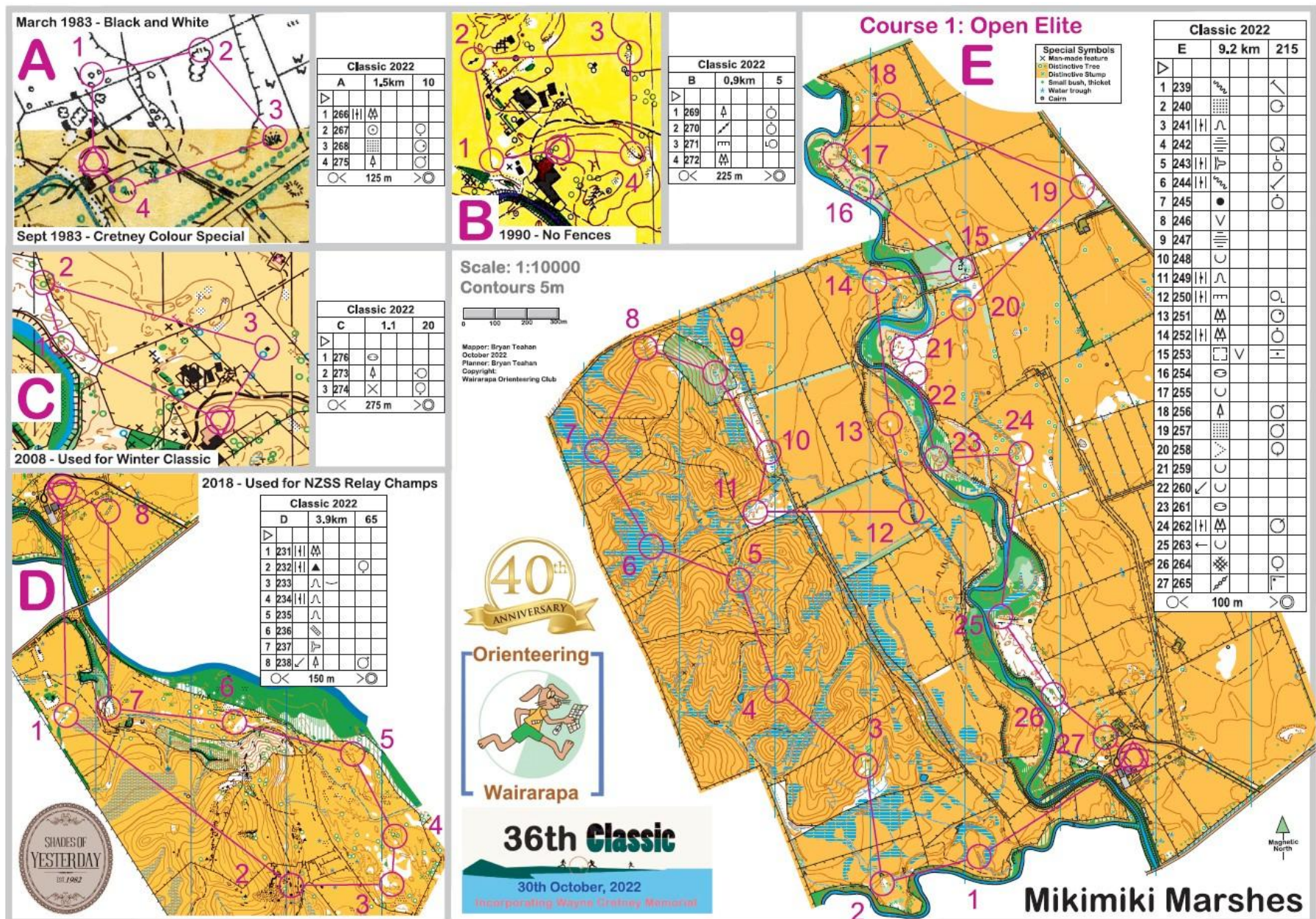
- *"They were maps that lived..."*



Famous control in a very dark bamboo thicket maze

Classic Memorial

To celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Wairarapa Club in 2022, there was a unique Classic – where there were loops using the old versions of the Riverside map from 1983 onwards.



Classic Classic

The Classic in 1999 was monumental with winners on Course 1 and 2 taking just under 4 hours and two competitors taking over 5 hours.

It was brutal.

Why were the courses so long.....

11-6-99

STANDARD ENTRY FORM

Event: WINTER CLASSIC 18 JULY 1999

Name: M J Wood Phone:

Entries close 7 July 1999 Total: \$20

Make it long. It's been getting a bit easy lately, Wayne would be disappointed

Classic Opportunity

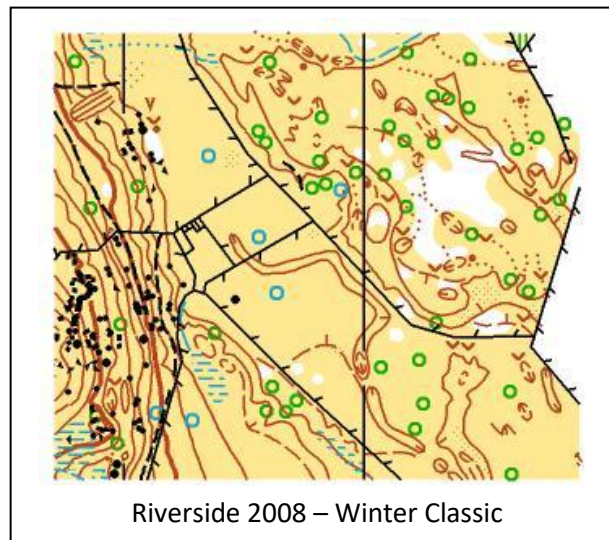
If you have never competed in a Classic, this year will be your best time to do it. For the die-hards, this will be an extra special year.

Come along and join the fun, the celebrations, eat the cake, experience the challenges and the pain of another gut-busting long-distance event.

New Map!

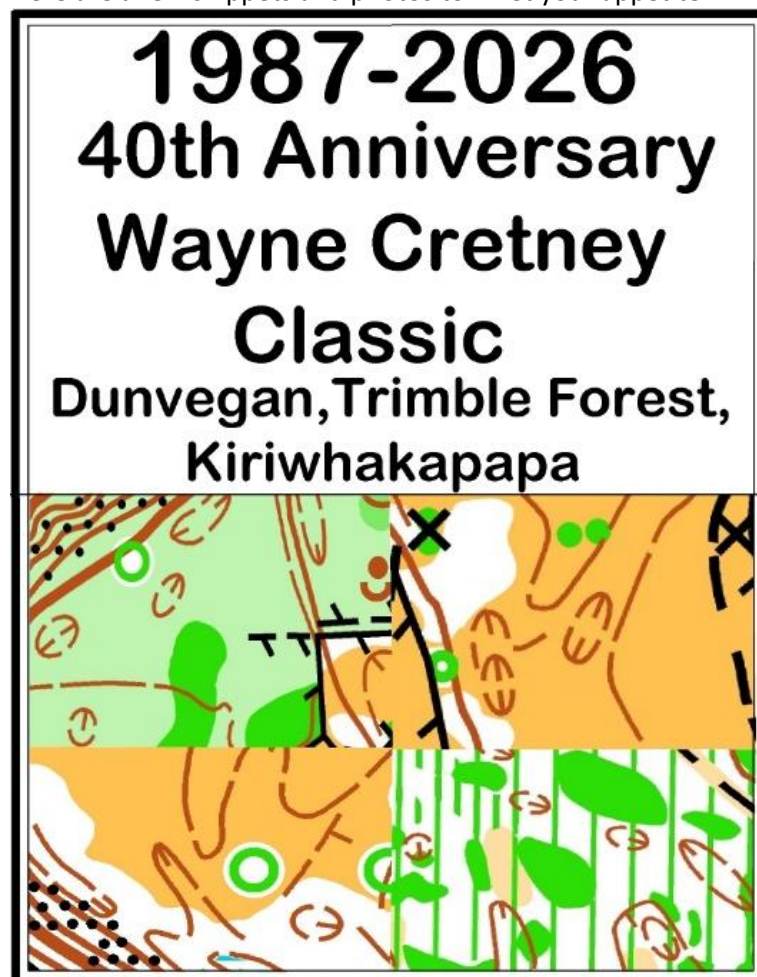
Like most years, there will be a new map, a new adventure in an area you have never seen before. Like the saying, come 'dive into the woods!'

You remember the national relays on Riverlands/Riverside this year, don't you? – that has only 1 sq. km of river flats:



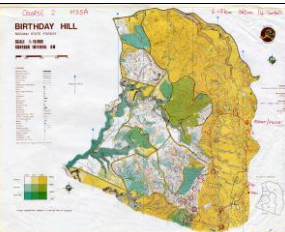
Well, this new map has 5 sq. km of River flats – and instead of 5m contours there will be 2.5m contours meaning lots of subtle contour detail.

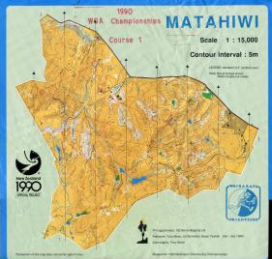
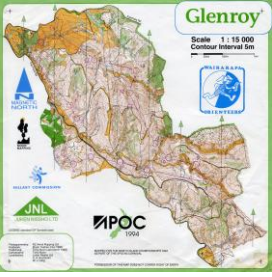
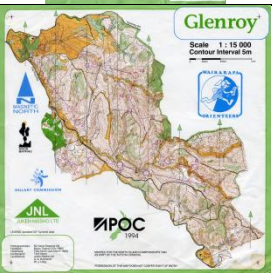
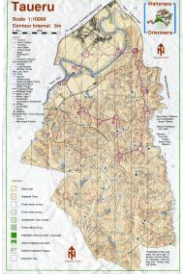
Here are a few snippets and photos to whet your appetite:

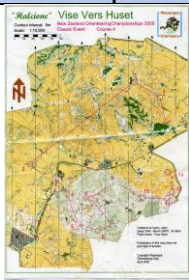
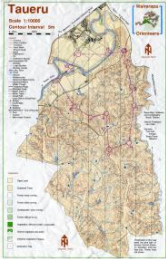
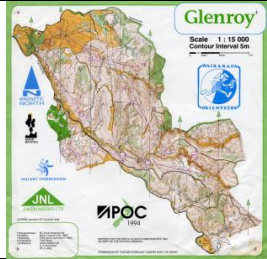
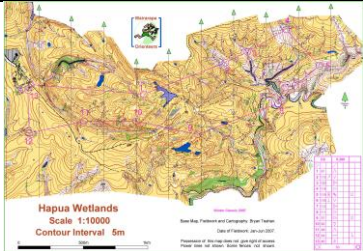


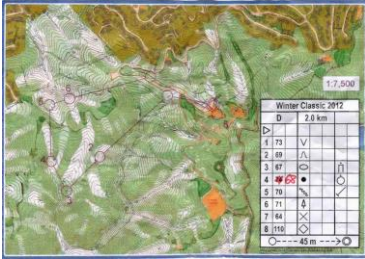
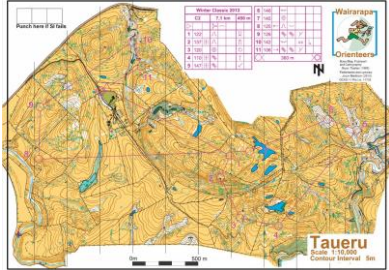
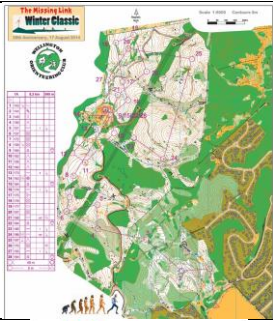
Classic Events and Maps

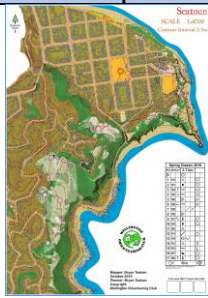
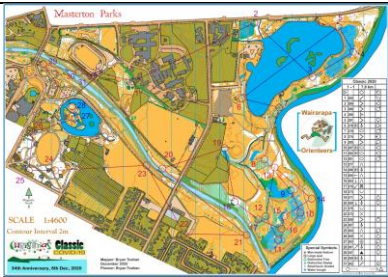
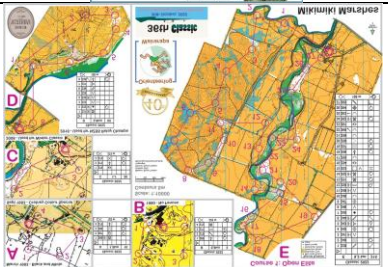
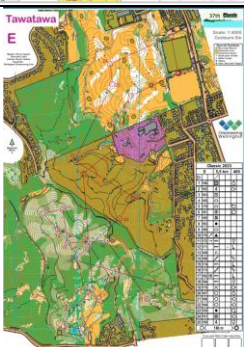
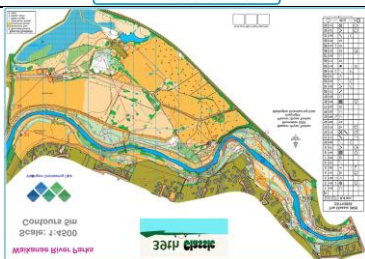
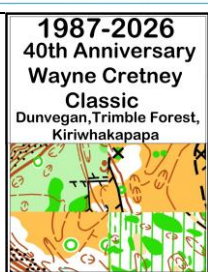
Click on map or year to see enlarged map

Map	Date	Mapname	Location	Club	Planner / Comments	Links
	1987 24 May 28 Jun 12 Jul	Granules Waitarere South Whareama	Hawke's Bay Waitarere Wairarapa	HB RK Wai	Ray Nicholson	Results
	1988 24 Jul	Walls Whare	Wairarapa	Wai	Wayne Cretney. Slips on road. Mulled wine at Wayne's home.	Promo
	1989 16 Jul	Birthday Hill	Wairarapa	Wai	Tony Nixon (Setter), Ray Nicholson (Vetter)	Results
	1990 15 Jul	Omega	Wairarapa	Wai	Kelvin Hoy First Wayne Cretney Memorial	Results
	1991 14 Jul	Omega	Wairarapa	Wai	Kelvin Hoy	Results
	1992 12 Jul	Birthday Hill	Wairarapa	Wai	Ray Nicholson	Results
	1993 18 Jul	Birthday Hill	Wairarapa	Wai	Kelvin Hoy	Results
	1994 17 Jul	Omega	Wairarapa	Wai	Kelvin Hoy	Results

Map	Date	Mapname	Location	Club	Planner, Comments	Link
	1995 16 Jul	Matahiwi	Wairarapa	Wai	Tony Nixon / Kelvin Hoy	Results
	1996 21 Jul	Glenroy	Wairarapa	Wai	Tony Nixon	Results
	1997 20 Jul	Glenroy	Wairarapa	Wai	Liz Nicholson and Tony Nixon	Results
	1998 19 Jul	Jollies Bush	Wairarapa	Wai	Tony Nixon (Planner), Colin Tait (Controller)	Results
	1999 18 Jul	Glenroy	Wairarapa	Wai		Results
	2000 19 Nov	Taueru	Wairarapa	Wai		Results
	2001 15 Jul	Ruakokoputuna	Wairarapa	Wai		Results News Photos
	2002 21 Jul	Halcione	Wairarapa	Wai		Results

Map	Date	Mapname	Location	Club	Planner, Comments	Links
	2003 1 Jun	Halcione	Wairarapa	Wai	Jim Barr Day 2 Queen's Birthday	Results
	2004 4 Jul	Taueru	Wairarapa	Wai		Results
	2005 2 Oct	Glenroy	Wairarapa	Wai	Bryan Teahan	Results
	2006 23 Jul	Halcione	Wairarapa	Wai	Jim Barr	Results
	2007 1 Jul	Hapua Wetlands	Wairarapa	Wai	Bryan Teahan	Results Courses
	2008 20 Jul	Riverside 2008	Wairarapa	Wai	Bryan Teahan WOA OY 4	Results Courses
	2009 2 Aug	Aro Valley	Wellington	OW	Bryan Teahan	Results Splits Courses Photos Report Video News
	2010 15 Aug	Deliverance	Wellington	OW	Bryan Teahan	Results Splits Courses Photos Report

Map	Date	Mapname	Location	Club	Planner, Comments	Links
	2011 21 Aug	Auld Lang Syne	Wellington	OW	Bryan Teahan 25 th Anniversary.	Results Splits Courses Report Photos
	2012 12 Aug	Wright's Hill	Wellington	OW	Jamie Stewart and Penny Kane	Results Courses Report Photos
	2013 7 Jul	Taueru	Wairarapa	OW	Jason Markham	Results Splits Rogaine Courses Report Photos
	2014 17 Aug	The Missing Link	Wellington	OW	Bryan Teahan	Results Splits Rogaine Splits Courses Report Photos
	2015 8 Nov	Baring Head, The Old Pump Shed	Wellington East Harbour	OW	Bryan Teahan	Results Splits Rogaine Courses Report Photos
	2016 4 Sep	Eternal Flame	Paekakariki	OW	Bryan Teahan 30 th Anniversary.	Results Splits Rogaine Courses Report Routes Photos
	2017 3 Sep	Skyglow (Rangitahi)	Porirua	OW	Bryan Teahan	Results Splits Rogaine Courses Routes Report Photos
	2018 2 Sep	Skyline	Wellington	OW	Bryan Teahan	Results Splits Rogaine Courses Routes Report Photos

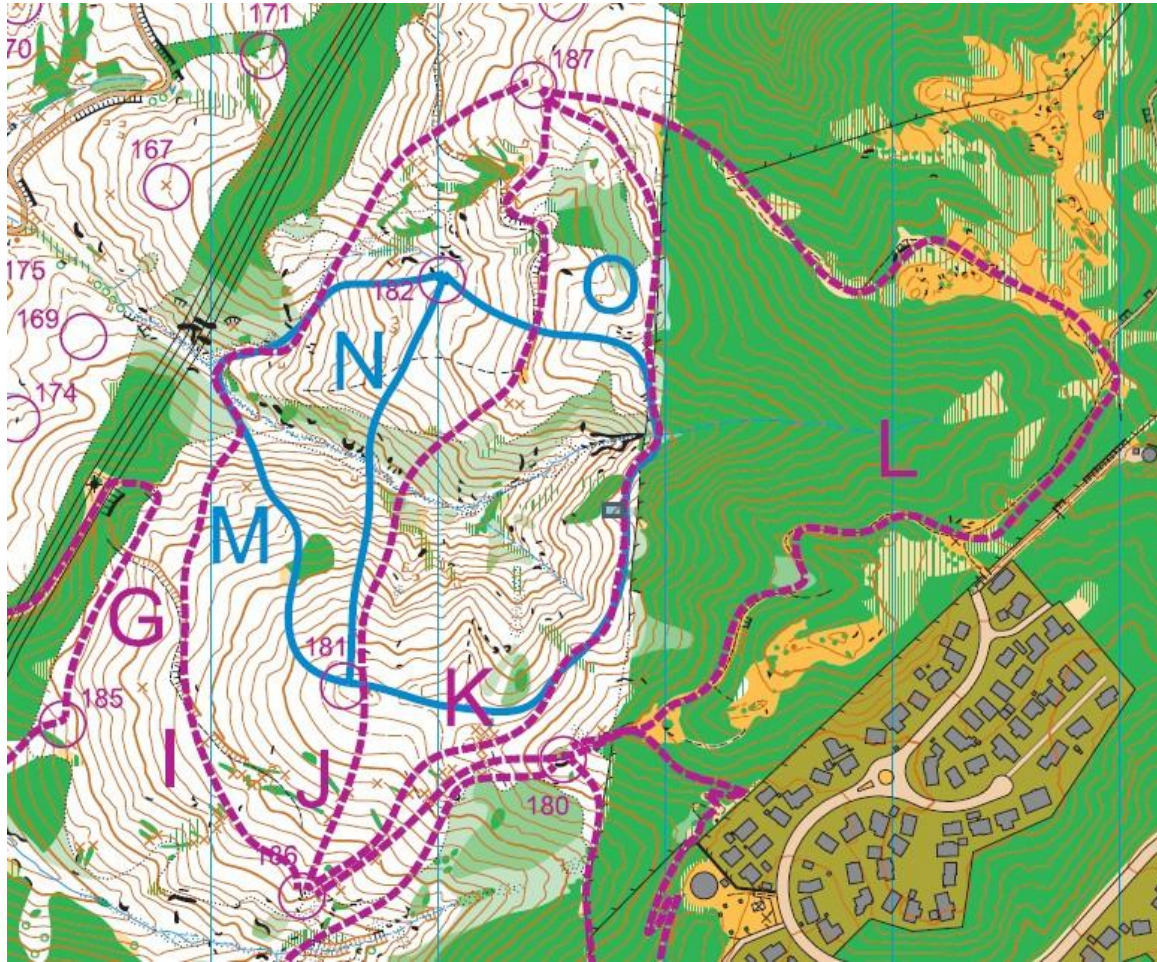
Map	Date	Mapname	Location	Club	Planner, Comments	Links
	2019 13 Oct	Seatoun, Moa Point	Wellington	OW	Bryan Teahan	Results Splits GPS Tracks Rogaine Courses Routes Report Photos
	2020 6 Dec	Masterton Parks	Masterton	Wai	Bryan Teahan Christmas Classic – Covid 19 affected.	Results Courses Report/Routes Photos
	2021 10 Oct	Tiger Roars	Wellington	OW	Bryan Teahan	Results Splits Rogaine Courses Report/Routes Photos
	2022 30 Oct	Mikimiki Marshes, Shades of Yesterday	Wairarapa 	Wai	Bryan Teahan 40 th Anniversary Wairarapa club.	Results 40th Memorial Courses Report/Routes Photos
	2023 11 Nov	Tawatawa	Wellington	OW	Bryan Teahan	Results Courses Splits Report/Routes Photos
	2024 10 Nov	Tikara	Porirua	OW	Malcolm Ingham	Results Courses Splits Rogaine Photos
	2025 23 Nov	Waikanae River Parks	Waikanae	OW	Bryan Teahan	Results Courses Splits Report/Routes Photos
	2026 29 Nov	Dunevegan, Trimble Forest, Kiriwhakapapa	Wairarapa	Wai	Bryan Teahan 40 th Anniversary	Photos

Answers to Puzzle

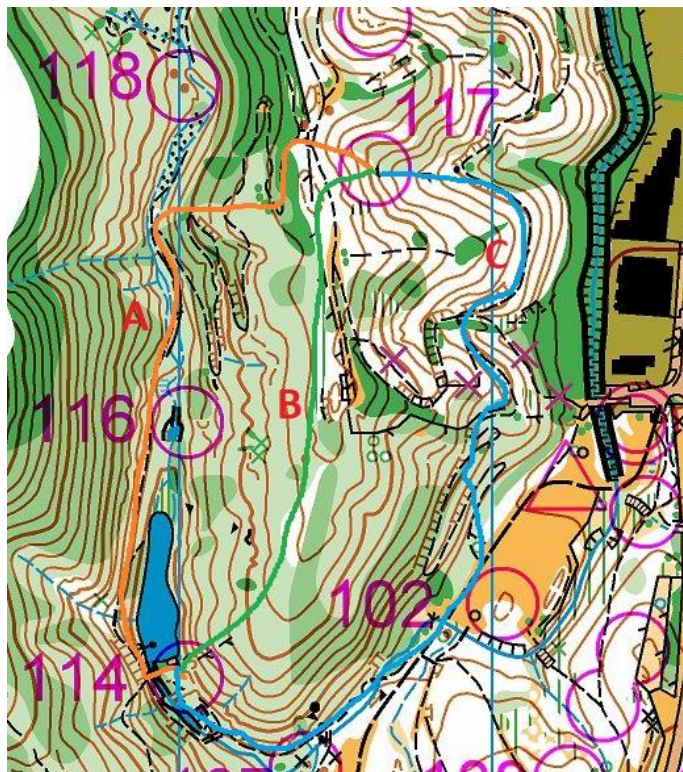
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2000, 2004	2001	2002	2003	2006	2007
2008	2009	1987-2026 40 Years Wayne Cretney Classic		2010	2011
2012	2013			2014	2015
1995	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2025

Year	Map
1987	Whareama
1988	Walls Whare
1989, 1992, 1993	Birthday Hill
1990, 1991, 1994	Omega
1995	Matahiwi
1996, 1997, 1999, 2005	Glenroy
1998	Jollies Bush
2000, 2004	Taueru
2001	Ruakokoputuna
2002	Halcione
2003	Mauriceville
2006	Mauriceville
2007	Hapua Wetlands
2008	Riverside 2008
2009	Aro Valley
2010	Deliverance
2011	Auld Lang Syne
2012	Wright's Hill
2013	Taueru
2014	The Missing Link
2015	Baring Head
2016	Eternal Flame
2017	Skyglow (Rangituhi)
2018	Skyline
2019	Seatoun / Moa Point
2020	Masterton Parks
2021	Tiger Roars
2022	Mikimiki Marshes
2023	Tawatawa
2024	Tikara
2025	Waikanae River Parks
2026	Dunvegan / Trimble Forest

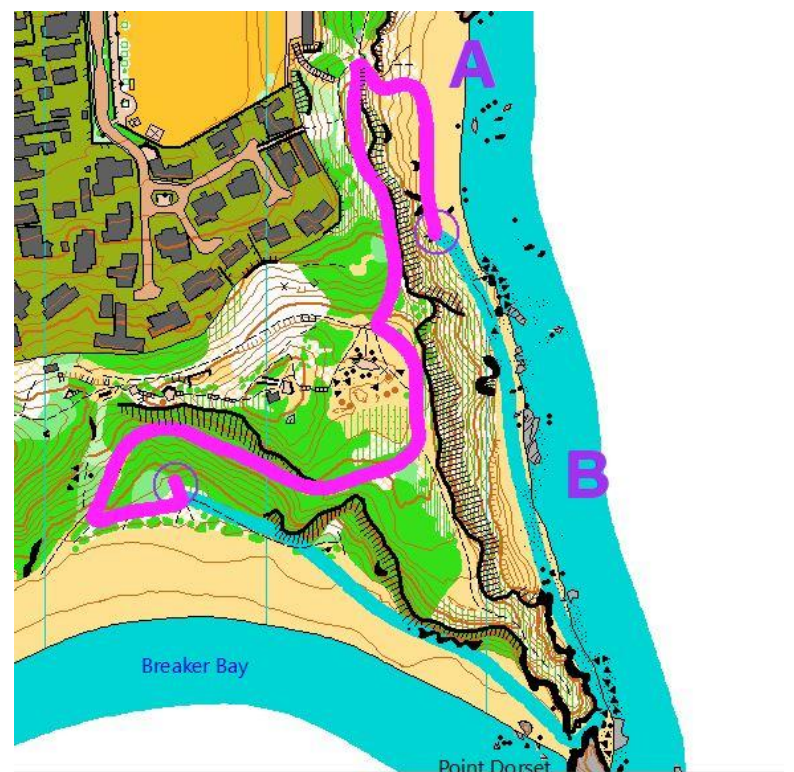
Answers to Route Analysis



I: 680m, 135m
J: 600m, 150m
K: 670m, 110m
L: 1188m, 100m
Planner's Choice: K
M: 415m, 115m
N: 283m, 85m
O: 527m, 35m
Planner's Choice: O



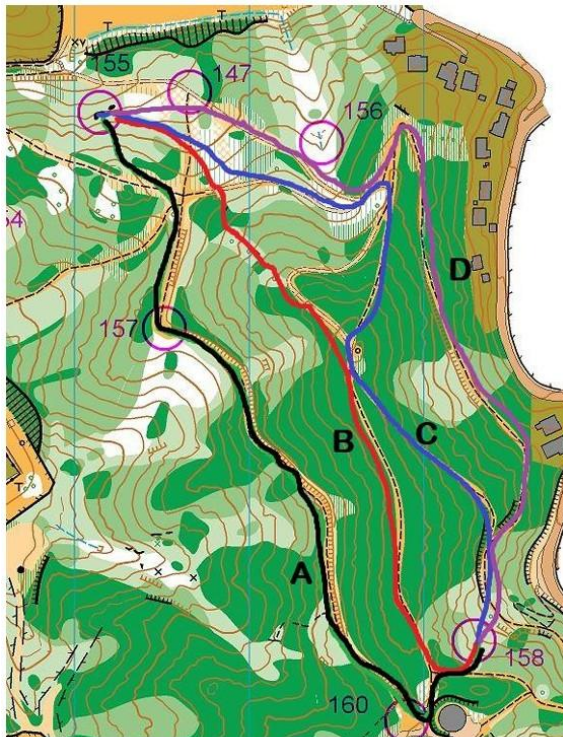
117-114:
 A 518m 25m,
 B 370m 20m,
 C 638m 10m
 Planner's Pick: C



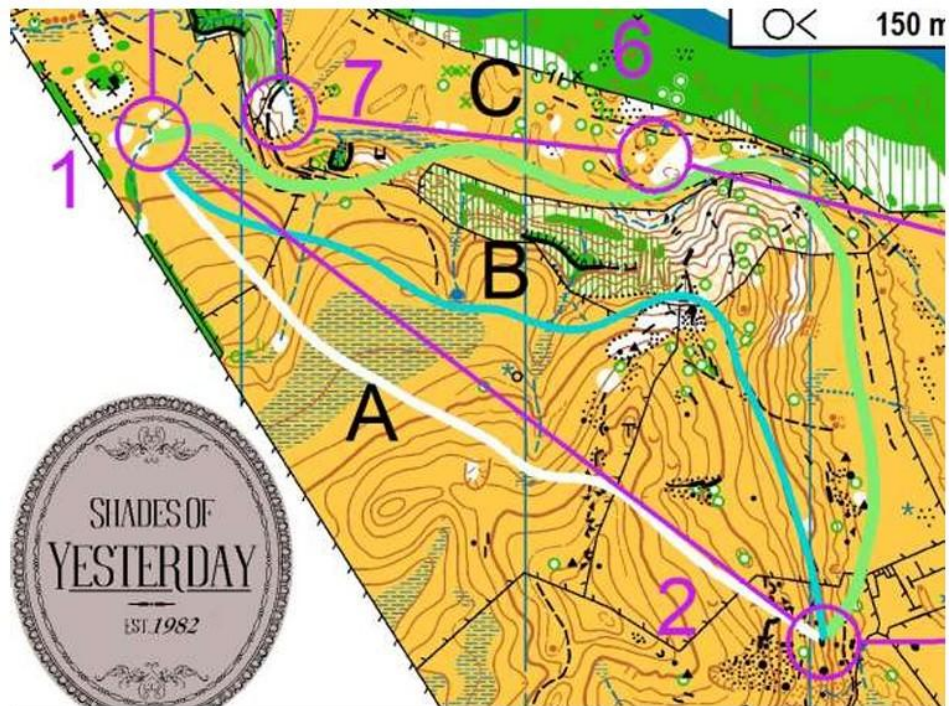
R4	A	626	35
	B	567	0
	B is going along a tough slow sandy beach which competitors saw beforehand. Choose B only if you want the scenic route.		



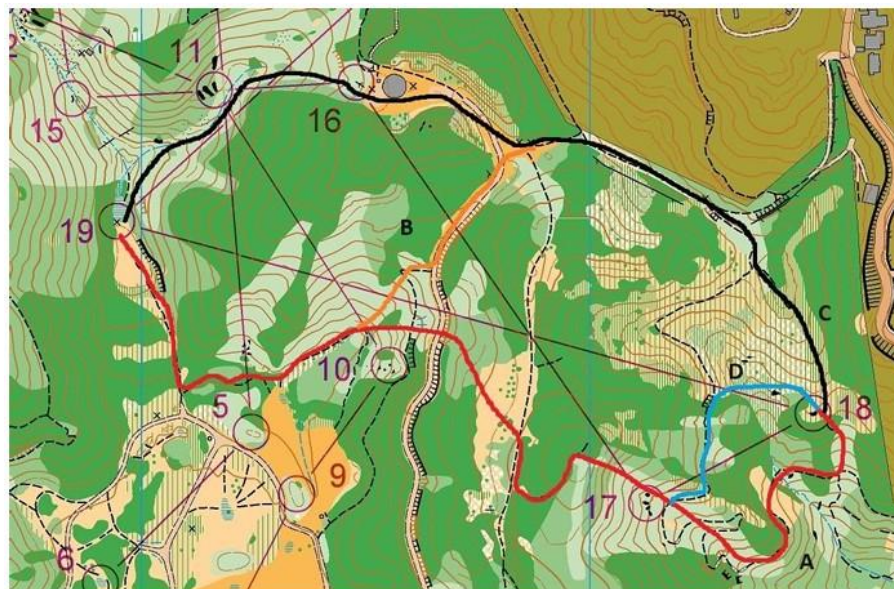
A: 772m
 B: 714m
 C: 659m
 D: 649m
 Planner's Pick: D



A: 605m
 B: 520m
 C: 551m
 D: 634m
 Planner's Pick: B



A: 870m, 55m climb
 B: 995m, 30m climb
 C: 1227m, 25m climb
 Planner's Pick: B



A: 790m, 55m climb
 B: 729m, 20m climb
 C: 632m, 25m climb
 D: 724m, 40m climb
 Planner's Pick: C