



Winter Classic and Wayne Cretney Memorial
2nd September, 2018
32nd Anniversary



Race Report: Skyline

Map: Skyline

Weather: Showery but nice and dry for the organisers with a huge awning under the rugby clubrooms. Until we had to pick up controls.

Organiser and Planner: Bryan Teahan



Comment from 25th Anniversary still applies: 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?

Thanks again to Alan for all the work he did as an organiser and helping put out some controls saving my creaky knees.



The Start

This year, unlike previous years I did not suffer any injury or bruising. However, in the week before the event, our team at work was restructured meaning 4 were made redundant – quite sad having to say goodbye to someone you have worked with for 30 years. In my working life I have been restructured over 15 times and it's never easy. Difficult to concentrate when you have critical planning tasks to do.

Let's just call it bruising on the inside.

I hope you all slowed down on the skyline to see the marvellous views of Wellington and the wind turbines and the South Island.



Near Johnston's Hill after a snow fall.

I hope you all enjoyed the fabulous lunch with many trying to bribe my wife and came back for seconds and thirds.

Thanks to my workmate Russel who helped as well. My son Everett was away representing Wellington Secondary Schools at shooting.

Numbers for the event were slightly up from last year – about 150 which was pleasing.

This year I put out some controls early. When I came back a week later, one control was missing. After some searching, I found the sportident box in the middle of the stream 50m away. After more searching I found the submerged control completely under water. It seems that the overprotective mother cow did not like the bright orange flag and decided it needed to be moved away from near its calf.

Sorry, some of you got zapped by an electric fence. I did warn you in the programme not to cross any fence with double tags (marked as “uncrossable”) and also with olive out of bounds on the other side.

I was also sorry that I couldn't have a pivot control on course 3. I was stretching the length and climb on this course based on previous year and something had to give and I really wanted you to go into multiple distinct areas of the map traversing through cemetery paths, steep native bush, skyline, steep pines, rolling farmland and lake, stream valley and native bush pocket, steep farmland/scrub, steep pines, cemetery paths.

Those of you who ran in the 25th Anniversary in the same area (Auld Lang Syne map), will notice quite a big difference – mainly due to having access to lidar data and being able to change from 5m to 2.5m contours (to make the area conform to sprint standards). It was a difficult exercise to marry up the new contours with the old tracks and vegetation and new aerials. I could only do spot checks for some areas and add in missing tracks. It was amazing the differences in the contours where previously the highly generalised 5m contours 7 years ago were distorted or missing a lot of detail or just basically wrong. Also amazing that most people back then had little problem navigating on a more generalised map.

This year there were a number of faster people so winning times were shorter, and the 'possible' top score for the Rogaine was achieved easily by a few teams. Times for 'repeat offenders' seemed to be similar to last year so disregard my quip at the presentation that I might need to make it longer next time (maybe).

I could have been a lot harder by adding in at least two vicious route choice legs along the farmland by giving you the choice of going up or down to controls in the middle of some steep spurs. Instead I thought that running along the pretty North Makara stream at the bottom was more fun and scenic.

One stunning memory: Seeing kererū (wood pigeon) less than a metre away for a minute while the bird feasted on Kowhai nectar. The next day at the same place, a tui did the same, ignoring me. It's good to see the birdlife come back.

I'm sure the long courses were again a fitting memorial to Wayne, our other dear departed orienteers, and to our absent friends.

Reminder to myself: Change date next year to one week earlier – last Sunday in August so as to make it a real Winter event and not to clash with Father's Day.

Maps, Courses and Route Choices

Classic Results:

<http://www.winterclassic.co.nz/wc/results2018.html>

Rogaine Results:

http://www.winterclassic.co.nz/wc/rogaine_results2018.htm

Splits:

<http://www.winterclassic.co.nz/wc/splits2018.htm>

Maps:

http://www.orienteingresults.com/O/nzof/WinterClassic/maps/2018_gallery.htm

Did you choice the right Route Choice?

http://www.orienteingresults.com/O/nzof/WinterClassic/maps/2018_routes.htm

Comments

Gavin Scott:

Hi Bryan

Just a thank you for your major work in setting up the annual Winter Classic WC Memorial event. And big thanks to Ning for the food.

I cocked up twice with careless map reading, but eventually completed the course.

Cheers

Gavin

Greg Thurlow (Winner Wayne Cretney M40):

Bryan - Thanks for all the hard work and identifying those mtb trails for me - they are not on trailforks (<https://www.trailforks.com/region/wellington-region/>) so i guess illegal but will be fun to ride in summer

The water stop was a pleasant surprise too - i should read the instructions next time Joe thought it made a worthwhile trip up from chch, although he wanted more hills - he is a bit of a beast !

regards

GT

William Power:

Hi Bryan,

I just wanted to say how much I enjoyed the Winter Classic. Thank-you for the work you put into it.

Cheers,

William

Quotes, Jokes and Cartoons

Now to sign off with some quotes and references about maps:





You can't stay in your corner of the Forest waiting for others to come to you. You have to go to them sometimes.

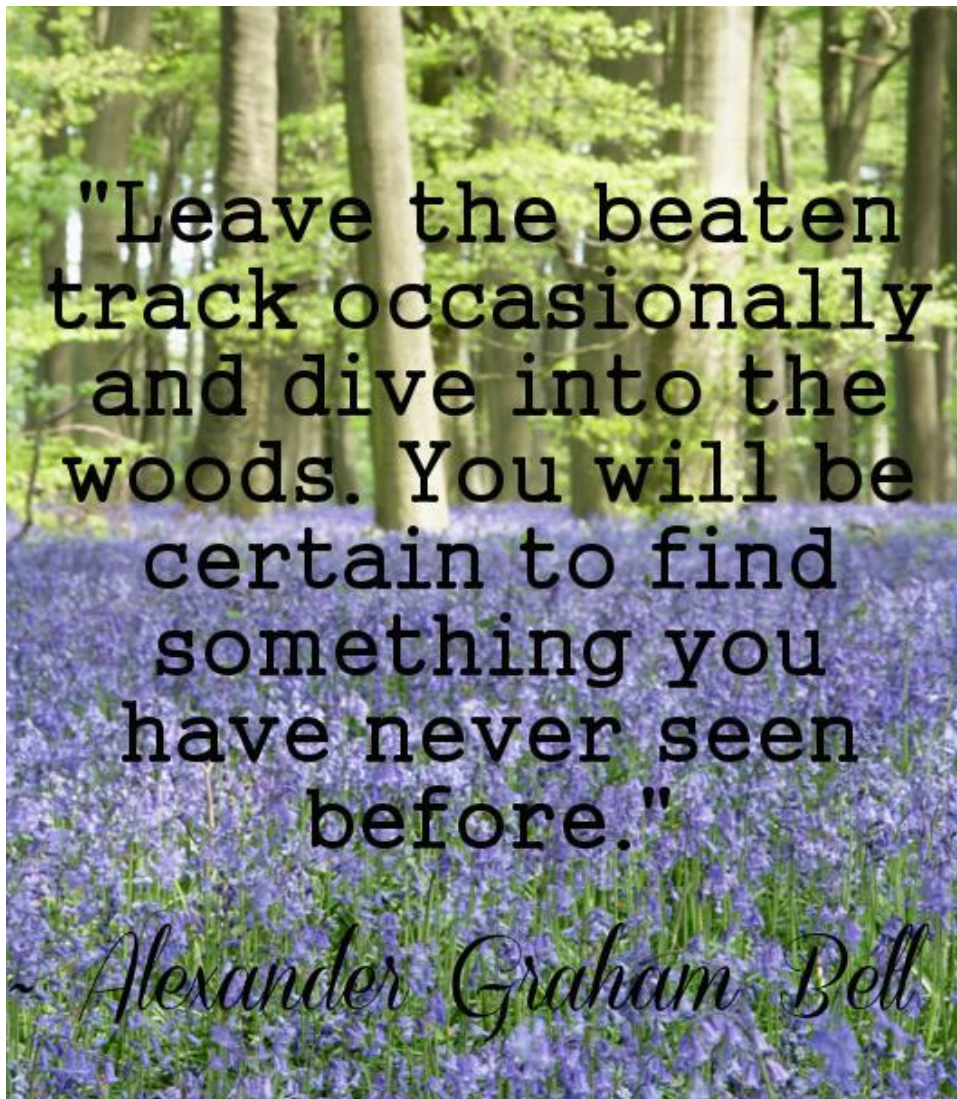
-Winnie The Pooh





Courtesy of the New York Times © 2014 NY







Further Information:

Karori Cemetery details:

Karori Cemetery is New Zealand's second largest burial ground, covering nearly 40 hectares. It was the final resting place of about 83,000 people.

The cemetery was established in 1891 to replace the overcrowded Bolton Street Cemetery. The cemetery filled quickly and by the 1950s had nearly reached maximum capacity.

Karori Cemetery's crematorium was New Zealand's first crematorium and is the oldest in Australasia, opening in 1909. It carries out about 450 cremations a year. The cemetery is now being developed into a heritage park.

<https://wellington.govt.nz/services/community-and-culture/cemeteries/karori-cemetery>

Karori Cemetery conservation plan:

<https://wellington.govt.nz/~media/services/community-and-culture/cemeteries/files/karoricemeteryconservationplan.pdf>

Karori cemetery map:

<https://wellington.govt.nz/~media/maps/files/karori-map.pdf>

Penguin walk: (Karori Cemetery heritage trail)

There are some graves in the cemetery from the wreck of the Penguin 12 Feb 1909 (72 lives lost in Cook Strait compared with Wahine disaster Apr 1968 where 51 lives were lost)

<https://wellington.govt.nz/~media/maps/files/penguinwalk.pdf>

Warriors Walk: (Karori Cemetery heritage trail)

<https://wellington.govt.nz/~media/maps/files/warriorswalk.pdf>

Otari-Wilton's bush:

<https://wellington.govt.nz/~media/maps/files/otari-forest-tracks.pdf>

Tracks near Karori Cemetery:

<http://tracks.org.nz/track/show/573>

Skyline Track:

<http://tracks.org.nz/track/show/293>

Ian Galloway Park:

'the home of Western Suburbs Rugby'

<http://www.wests-junior-rugby.org.nz/fixtures/grounds/ian-galloway/>

Johnston Hill Track: (lovely scenic sights of Wellington and the South Island)

<http://dayout.co.nz/attractions/attraction.aspx?attractionId=3176>

Skyline Track:

<http://tracks.org.nz/track/show/32>

Daywalk: Walking the Skyline Walkway:

<http://www.windy.gen.nz/index.php/archives/187>