

## Army Team News

On 13 December 1998 29 of the Army's top orienteers took on the Royal Navy, the RAF and the Territorial Army at the SLOW Badge Event on the Devil's Punchbowl, Hindhead.

There had been tight competition for the Army Male Team, which was selected taking the Army Individual and Inter Corps Championships into account. The last couple of places in the team of 10 required the judgement of Solomon: with 7 of the 10 counting against the other Services and winning their Army colours, selection is more a reward for current form rather than potential to produce the fastest times at the event - it is likely that any of the top 12 - 15 orienteers would beat the other Services.

This year Lt Col Paul Lane, Maj Nick Bateson and Maj Tony Marshall just missed out on selection, all having run last year. In the Female Team injury (Capt Wendy Allen) and a family death (Maj Bev Walters-Davies) gave the opportunity for some new names to represent the Army and the innovation of competing against the TA on 2 different courses meant that a further 3 girls were gaining Representative Awards. As has become normal practice a Development Male Team was fielded against the TA, concentrating on the useful youngsters (3 x LCpls, 1 x Cpl and 1 x 2Lt) as well as some older experience of those that had never been selected for the full Army Team. Unfortunately the date of the

event meant that some of the initial selections (Sgt Bain, Capt Mawer, Capt Allewell, Maj Reynolds, OCdt Ellicock, Sgt Cribb) were partying or abroad.

The Devil's Punchbowl is physically tough and only "generally runnable" according to the Final details. The area used consists of a number of steep-sided valleys so the ratio of climb to length was close to the maximum allowed by BOF; the courses were shortened to compensate (M21L - 9.7km; M20L/35L - 8.6km; W21L - 6.8km; W20L/35L - 5.9km) and produced winning times slightly shorter than normal. It proved to be a fast area and was not particularly technical - somebody needs to take a shovel to it to dig a few more control sites!

Preliminary results, due to only DIY results being available on the day, were:

<u>Army v RN v RAF</u>					
<u>Male - M21L (9.7km)</u>			<u>Female - W21L (6.8km)</u>		
(7 to count)			(4 to count)		
1 <sup>st</sup>	Capt Rye RM	58 mins	1 <sup>st</sup>	2Lt Guyver	61:37
2 <sup>nd</sup>	WO2 Rollins	61:43	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Capt Miller	66:17
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Capt Dickson	62:46		Maj Braine	76 mins
	Maj Bromley Gardner	64:27		Sgt McGarry	87 mins
	WO2 Belshaw	65:11		Capt Thomson	95 mins
	SSgt Sharp	66:44		Capt Hassell	101 mins
	Maj Francis	67:18			
	Lt Clifton	70:17			
	Maj Sanderson	71 mins			
	Capt Stuart	73:07			
	Maj Riches	76 mins			
1 <sup>st</sup>	Army	458:26	1 <sup>st</sup>	Army	292 mins
2 <sup>nd</sup>	RAF	501 mins	2 <sup>nd</sup>	RAF	301 mins
3 <sup>rd</sup>	RN	600 mins			

(Maj Bateson ran 62 mins and Maj Marshall 72 mins)

Army v TA

Male - M20L/35L (8.6km)

(7 to count)

Capt Cowan	Army	63 mins
Sgt Harper	TA	65 mins
LCpl Smith	Army	65:58
WO2 Eastley	TA	67 mins
Cpl Gray	Army	67:16
Maj Smyth	TA	68:07
Capt Edmunds	TA	68 mins
WO1 Cook	TA	68 mins
Sgt Hunt	TA	68 mins
WO2 Yeadon	Army	68:57
LCpl Couldridge	Army	70:39
WO2 Park	Army	75:31
OCdt Brett	Army	75:34
WO2 Mursell	TA	75 mins
LCpl White	Army	78:50
LCpl Holton	Army	79:22
Capt Palfreyman	Army	80 mins
Maj Webster	TA	81 mins
SSgt Arnot	TA	88 mins

Female

W21L (6.8km)

(2 to count)

2Lt Guyver	Army	61:37
Capt Miller	Army	67 mins
Lt Schultz (née Wilson)	TA	74:21
Sgt McGarry	Army	87 mins
2Lt Sapwell	TA	88:21
SSgt Walker	TA	92:21

W20L/35L (5.9km)

(2 to count)

Maj Dunn	TA	65:35
Maj Whatmough	Army	76 mins
Maj Payne	TA	79:35
Maj Prowse	Army	80 mins
Lt Patterson	Army	100 mins
LCpl Eastley	TA	104:35

1<sup>st</sup> Territorial Army 483 mins  
2<sup>nd</sup> Regular Army 484:11

(Subject to confirmation!)

1<sup>st</sup> Regular Army 284 mins  
2<sup>nd</sup> Territorial Army 307:52

The Inter Services Army men were easy winners, as usual, but the women, with a weakened team, still managed to stay in front, just, of the women. In the TA Match we swapped trophies, as the TA won the Women's Match last year. If the times are

confirmed (hope springs eternal), they will now have stopped the Army's monopoly on both trophies; this certainly revitalises the Match.

So now you know whom you have to beat to earn selection for next year's events. If you

think that you deserve consideration, contact either Team Manager - Maj Bromley Gardner (Tel Andover Mil (739) 2065; Fax 2092) or Maj Bev Walters-Davies (Tel Upavon Mil (734) 8133; Fax 8166).

ARMY TRAINING 1999

I hope to initiate a number of training camps in 1999, primarily for the Under 25s, to

develop orienteering skills and to encourage participation in civilian events, which are more

challenging than the standard divisional league. Likely dates are:

26-28 Feb	at Bramley Training Camp, including TVOC Badge Event at Reading
12-14 Mar	at Ollerton, Sherwood Forest, including Leicester Badge Event at Belvoir
14-16 May	(or 21-23 May, venue tbc (south?))
25-27 Jun	Venue tbc (Wales or Yorkshire?)
30 Jul-8 Aug	Scottish 6-Days & World Champs, Inverness Training Camp
17-19 Sep	Bovington Camp