

## MV Chair report for AGM 2025, for year Sept 2024-Aug 2025

**Summary: A great year for the club, both team and individual performances. A small number of successful juniors; we would benefit from recruiting more juniors. Our street-orienteeing membership provides potential for expanding our forest orienteers.**



**The winter street-o series continues to be popular.** 142 names are listed on the overall series, and 39 people completed at least 5 events (league based on best 5 of 8). These events, based from pubs, enable a great social scene for food and drink post-run. Thanks to Justin Farhall for his continued excellent coordination of the series.



In February at the southern heat at Long Valley, **we qualified for the national final of the Compass Sport Trophy**, after a few years of agonising near misses. This was the result of an amazing turnout of 37 Moles, of whom 19 scored 90+ points, potentially a club record. Several intrepid Moles have committed to travelling all the way up to Redcar in North Yorkshire on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September. Good luck team!



In March MV hosted the **British Middle Distance Championships** at Holmbush and Buchan Country Park. Many Moles volunteered significant amounts of time to help put on the day (inc. see photo). The named officials were Mike Elliot (organiser), Ashley Tilling (deputy organiser) and Tony Burton (planner). MV podiums were Hugh (M12 gold), Sarah Scarbrough (W40 gold), and Simon Ling (M80 silver).



In June, **the night/day team relay event, the Harvester**, was held after several years of absence since 2018. The MV 'A' team came in 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the 5-person relay competition, after a strong run by Ralph bringing the team up from 6<sup>th</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> place. On a different scale, MV's Sarah Scarbrough took part in the world's largest overnight orienteering relay, the Jukola in Finland (~18,000 competitors!).



**We have continued to put on monthly training activities** throughout the year, delivered jointly with Guildford Orienteers (GO) honing our skills to invest in our future, benefitting juniors and adult improvers. Thanks to Marion Payne-Bird (GO) and Sarah Scarbrough (MV) for planning and delivering these sessions.



**Our map-run based orienteering continued with a recently concluded summer series.** Our thanks to organisers James Fraser (Epsom – snooker-o!), Steve Carle (Non-such Park), Tim Scarbrough (Horton Country Park) and Rob McCaffrey (Ashted), as well as those who offered for next year (Dan Sullivan, Ben Toogood, Rob and Tim).

**Great individual performances. Our juniors continue to perform well.** Three of MV's juniors are in the south east junior squad: Ralph (M14), Ben (M12) and Hugh (M12). As one of the top 24 second-year M/W14s in the UK, Ralph attended the Lagganlia training camp in Scotland in July 2025. We need to recruit female juniors! For the adults, **an outstanding year for Sarah Scarbrough** (W40): British Champs bronze; Southern Champion; and represented England at Interland.

Finally, we remind ourselves that in September 2024 we sadly lost John Seaston (M50) following a battle with a brain tumour. John has been sorely missed. His legacy lives on through Ben and Liz.

We look forward to 2026, which will see MV celebrate our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Tim Scarbrough, MV Chair, 23 August 2025