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Thanks to club members who came along and assisted at the event on the weekend. Congratulations to Dorothy Adrian and Don Fell on a superbly organised event on a beautifully sunny, autumn weekend. There was an excellent turnout despite the clash with a rogaine and Mothers' Day.

It was beautiful moonlit Saturday night around the campfire. Ron Frederick, Rex Niven and Rob Edmonds were joined by Peter Maloney and several ARDF members at the assembly area campsite. The ARDF group ran a night event on our Mia Mia map.

Geoff Hudson displayed amazing talent with his radio direction finder and Rob Edmonds managed to stumble around behind Geoff in a two hour night adventure. Peter Maloney also took part

I counted 163 in all at the event ... 24 club members ran with 20 scoring Rockhopper points. Another 2nd place (equal) sees us 4th overall, one point behind Yarra Valley. Bendigo are just in front of Bayside Kangaroos, and both clubs are well clear of the rest. The relays, in August, will provide us with a great opportunity to make up the difference.

Geoff Armstrong and Phil Giddings are working on the next MTBO event. Please contact Geoff if you can help out and/or want to ride.
Geoff.Armstrong@csl.com.au

MTBO Maryborough, Saturday and Sunday May 30 & 31

Saturday: Vic MTBO Series #3 ... 2 person relays using standard 4 courses ... Mass Start 2 pm
Sunday: Vic MTBO Series #4 ... Standard 4 courses with starts between 10 and 12 noon.

First Relay in Victoria since 2004!

There is nothing like the "electricity" of a relay as you wait for your partner and then after the touch, have to solve the navigational problems that this great area presents. Those that made the trip up to Maryborough in October 2004 will remember the greatest relays ever ridden by the Aussies – two Bronze Medals! Well here is your chance!

Be part of history and ride the final leg of the 2004 MTB WOC Relay on Saturday – twice! The 2-person relay that Blake has designed has all the fun of a relay – mass start, short run to the maps, then to the bikes, then the crowd of about 50 (we hope) sets off for the complex terrain just east of the Jack Pascoe Reserve. But there's more – a "*flying SI stick transfer*" from leg 1 rider to leg 2 rider. After the 2nd leg rider completes their leg and do the "*AJ finish control sprint*", they hand the SI stick back to their Leg 1 rider who goes out for a *second chance for glory!*

How many times have you wished you could just have another go? Well this relay will give *every rider gets two legs* (separated by about 30 minutes to recover, get hydrated, and plan how to do the last legs of the course). And to add interest we will try to combine the *30 crack Kiwi riders* - over here for the Australian MTBO Champs (the next weekend in Mt

Gambier) – with *local Aussie talent* so we have an international flavour to the fun event of the year. We hope that the relay format will be improved on and used in 2010.

On Sunday, **Phil Giddings** has designed 4 great courses with plenty of route choice and a third chance "to get it right" at Mosquito Flat! It should be a hoot – so send your details to Geoff NOW so we can make maps for you for either two days or one - if you can't make it on Saturday. Not since the 2004 WOC Relays has Australia had an exciting relay. The terrain is relatively flat, the network is quite detailed and the tracks are fast – so all we need is you to make it a great weekend.

Directions: Take Western Highway (M8) past first 3 Ballarat exits to the Clunes exit (C287); travel through Miners Rest, and Clunes; turn right at Dunach (C288) to Maryborough (40 minutes from Ballarat); start/finish is adjacent to the Maryborough YMCA; park at the YMCA.

Pre-entry (and pay-on-the-day): Please email Geoff Armstrong on Geoff.Armstrong@csl.com.au to pre-enter by May 24 to guarantee a pre-marked map. *Eureka and Nillumbik officials will make up 2-person teams* on all courses that people nominate for – and make mixed age group teams where necessary. Geoff will need to know your SI stick number, age class/course. Entries will be taken on the day as well.

Albion Hotel Motel: Dinner 6 pm - 9 pm ... 57 High Street, Maryborough ... Great Aussie pub meals, family bistro, comprehensive menu. Email Geoff if you wish to make a dinner booking. We would like to let The Albion know numbers attending by May 17.

Accommodation:

<http://www.visitmaryborough.com.au/Accommodation%20Maryborough.htm>

Catering: The YMCA (adjacent to the finish funnel) has a great little café.

Rex Niven and Ron Frederick checked out the assembly area for the Victorian Champs event and taped a quarter of the control sites last weekend.

Queen's Birthday Weekend provides members with a bewildering choice but most will make their way to Kooyoora; this is a pre-enter (pay-on-the-day) event. The FootO events at Kooyoora – includes two Rockhopper Trophy (State Series) events. Go to <http://entries.bendigo-orienteers.com.au/> to pre-enter.

Other choices are The Australian Rogaining Champs in WA and The Australian MTBO Champs in Mt Gambier

Other important events coming up are:

- Club Committee meeting: Tuesday June 16th at the Nivens. 8pm start

All members welcome to attend.

- Xmas in July function July 11 Stirlings North Ringwood (more details soon)
- Special - Enduro 3 August 2 Sunday Berwick
- Victorian Relays August 9 Plenty Valley, Greensborough
- Maxi Sept 13 Slaty Creek
- VTG Bairnsdale Score Event Sept 21 Bullumwaal Boys Camp
- Vic Champs Sept 26 Fryerstown
- Vic Night Champs and Sunday Score Nov 7/8 You Yangs

And that's only half of it!

How did the crazy orienteer find her way through the forest?

She followed a psychopath.

Please supply material for next newsletter to Rob at rob.edmonds@bigpond.com