



DEESIDE ORIENTEERING
CLUB
Summer Evening Event
Erddig
23 May 2012
Officials' Comments



Organiser's Comments (Jenny Palmer)

It was in one of those tumbleweed moments in the Committee meeting shortly after John Padget had said that if we didn't find some more Organisers we would have to cancel some of the SEE, that I said I would have a go if someone would mentor me. Jane Mockford quickly volunteered and the deal was done. Jane was great, she reviewed various pieces of paper and also advised me to get my request out for helpers quickly as people do get "helpers fatigue" for the later events. Thanks Jane!

As it turned out Erddig turned out to be a great place to Organise at: very helpful landowner (many thanks to Laurel, the National Trust's Community Engagement Officer), a covered area and mains power for download and excellent weather too (on this occasion).

Denis was a supportive and helpful Planner and despite Runcorn Highway Department's best efforts Norman a super SI co-ordinator. Thanks to both of them, and all the other brilliant helpers who made the evening a pleasure. Thanks are also due to Tim for being my second mentor for the evening and helping to calm me down when I started to worry about things too much.

I have got some Light Green maps if anyone who kindly handed them in would like one back – drop the club an email and I will get one posted out.

Finally, if I can organise an event anyone can....like all clubs DEE needs its members to help out for us to be able to run the number of events we do each year. No matter which role you would like to have a go at there will be someone happy to be your mentor – have a go!

Planner's Comments (Denis Murphy)

Apologies first! Most of the mapping was done over the winter and besides I seemed to know all the nettle free paths to the controls – this was not the common experience on Wednesday evening though; also I never dreamt that some on the blue course would go through the man eating bramble on their way from 2 to 3 – my slavish respect for the IOF symbols had described this in the legend as undergrowth / walk – I forgot to mention the need for stilts!

Nowhere in Erddig is far off a line feature but I am sure you will agree that whatever is lacking in orienteering complexity is made up by many stunning views and wonderful

scenery throughout. Historically those on the blue and green course should now know the difference between a Motte and a Bailey. The pit (green 9 and blue 4) was just below the Bailey and control 5 on the blue was just below the Motte with one side of the reentrant being Watt's dyke.

Many thanks again to Andrew for his confidence giving controlling and to Jenny for the first class way she organised this event –her first as organiser. The three of us like to work well ahead of deadlines which takes off all the pressure (but unfortunately gave the nettles time for their last minute spurt). Thanks too to Norman for his SI work.

The National Trust did everything possible to help us put on the event, I would like to thank Laurel in particular for her help. We hope this is the first of many visits to Erddig.

Controller's Comments (Andrew Tarr)

Everyone seemed to enjoy this new area on a warm spring evening. Erddig offers plenty of easy level running and some scrambles up and down a wooded slope rather like Frodsham, but little tricky navigation. Next time the patches of wood to the south may be used, after more surveying.

Denis decided that the river around the 'motte and bailey' hill should not be crossed, so control 187 was used to prevent this. As a consequence some courses may have been tricky to unravel. The more technical ones looked about right, but maybe Orange and Yellow were a bit long? We seem to have underestimated the demand for Light Green (may have been the weather?), so that some early finishers were relieved of their maps for recycling. A few were left over, so perhaps those could be reclaimed?

Thanks to Denis for ground survey over many months, drawing the map and all the planning. Very little needed changing, but he did cause a mild scare by announcing on Tuesday that he might stay in bed. Thanks also to Jenny and her team of willing helpers.