

Planner's comments:

Thank you for coming. I hope you all had fun. The weather was kind, and it was great to see so many families and children.

I really enjoyed planning this event and I was grateful for Andy's support as this was my first event using MapRun. I learned a lot and I now appreciate how easy and fun MapRun can be.

This is a quiet corner of Cheshire where I often come running. At times it feels like I have the place to myself. Planning on an area I know well was obviously helpful. I concentrated placing the checkpoints on the nicer parts and I sought to provide a good choice of routes. I amended the OS map to update for relevant changes and local hazards. Although I didn't do a full resurvey!

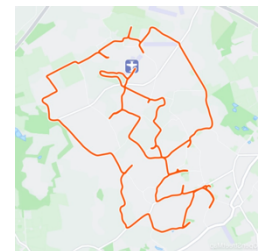
The countryside provided a few challenges. There were several stiles that were rather loose. I was so civically motivated I have now volunteered to be a footpath inspector with the Peak & Northern Footpaths Society (PNFS) - *application pending!* Some of the paths were overgrown and I donned a yellow jacket and did a little hedge trimming to improve access. There was still some vegetation, particularly the nettles, that caused a few tingling shins.



Before

After

Despite knowing the area well, I struggle to know the best route. However, my '*planner choice*' involves two loops (an outer and inner one) and was 27km, can anyone beat that!



I went round the lot on Saturday to check for last minute obstacles and afterwards I reflected that I might have been a little overly ambitious, as it took me 3 hours. However, my fears of the map being too large were perhaps not borne out, as all checkpoints were visited. Nobody got them all, although Duncan Harris managed to get 60 of the 65 in just over 2 hours.

I had a quick look at the tracks on MapRun and I can see that competitors kept to the rights of way. Thank you. The odd stray route appears to be a simple navigation error.

Thank you to all the helpers on the day and especially to Rebecca McCreddie and Cecilia Fenerty, who greatly enhanced the social element of the event with the excellent tea and cakes.

I hope you had fun. One finisher did, and said enthusiastically "that was great fun, much better than just a walk".

Now have a look [DEE Events](#) for our next orienteering events, suitable for newcomers to experienced orienteers:

- Sat 30 Sept 2023 - **Arrowe Park, Wirral.**
- Sat 7 Oct 2023 - **Queens Park, Crewe**
- Sun 8 Oct 2023 - **Winsford, Cheshire - Urban Race**
- Sat 4 Nov 2023 - **Hightown, Formby**
- Sat 2 Dec 2023 - **Rivacre, Ellesmere Port**

Iain Bell