

Saturday Series at Bradenham Wood

15th January 2022

Location: [Car park at RAF High Wycombe, Naphill](#)

Nearest Postcode: HP14 4UE



Check our Facebook page

Car Parking will be tight, please share where possible and COVID rules allow.



The event will be held in a COVID-secure manner in accordance with British Orienteering's operational guidance. It is really important that all participants read the **COVID-19 Code of Conduct** and abide by it before, during and after competing. It has recently been updated so please click the link above to read the latest version.

Please DO NOT attend if you have any cold/flu symptoms.

If please take a LFT before attending.

All competitors take part at their own risk and those in high risk groups should make their own risk assessment to attend and take any mitigating actions.

Hand sanitizer will be available at the event, but please bring your own.

Maintain social distancing wherever possible, turn up, enjoy the event and don't congregate after your run. There are no traders, so you need to bring your own refreshments.

We are grateful to the following for allowing use of these areas:

- The National Trust for use of Bradenham Wood.
- The Station Commander, Royal Air Force High Wycombe for car parking.

Short Overview of the Area

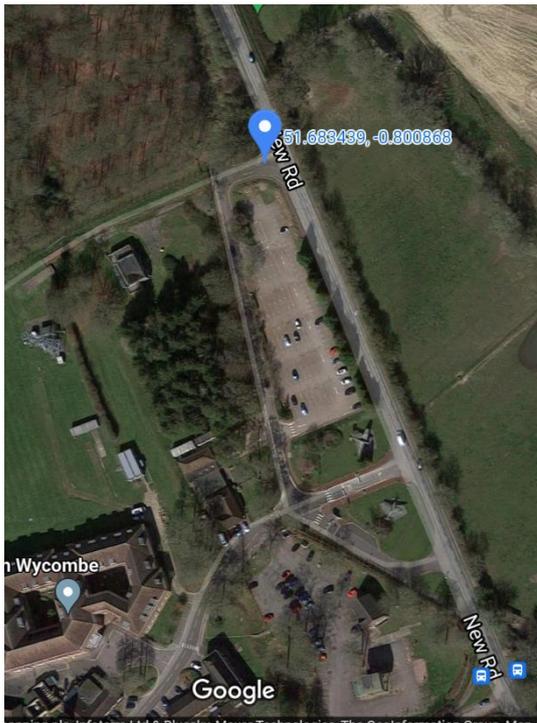
Like a lot of woodland, Bradenham Wood has had issues with Ash dieback, resulting in felling of a lot of mature trees over the last few years. Old conifer planting to the South of the area has been removed to leave open chalk grassland banks that is managed by use of cattle to ensure the resurgence of wildflowers and butterflies. The top of the wood on the ridge, is dominated by Royal Air Force High Wycombe. This is Headquarters Air Command, and a station has occupied this site since the 1930s when the station was built purposefully for Headquarters Bomber Command (known as 'Southdown'). The site was selected partially because the layout of the Chilterns made it a difficult target for bombers, and it was built intentionally to look like an extension of the village. From the air the buildings looked like houses (you can see this if you look at some of the older buildings from the carpark), the Officers Mess resembles a manor house and the Fire Station a church. It was also close to London, and had intelligence from photographs coming from Medmenham, radio intercepts

from Hughendon Manor and other information from Bletchley. The north part of the woods has remnants of old access roads and foundations that were once the stations Cinema, NAFFI and other support buildings. The major track that runs up the center of the area was used to build a bunker at the station in the 1980s, this replaced the previous bunker on the site that was built in 1938 which after it had been built had mature trees placed back on it to disguise its location.

Terrain Description

Typical Chiltern woodland, steep in places, with generally runnable terrain and good path network. Most paths are very muddy and slippery in places so be particularly careful on descents. The area contains some ponds and the usual selection of depressions both large and small. There are numerous log stacks which are to be avoided, as work is ongoing, none of these will be mapped.

Directions / Parking



The carpark is on New Road between Walters Ash and Lacey Green.

If approaching from the South on the A4010, turn right at Bradenham and head uphill for 1 mile to the T junction, turn left and after 1/2 a mile pass the Gate Guardians of a Spitfire and a Hurricane, then take the 2nd left into the North end of the Carpark.

If approaching from the North on the A4010, after Princes Risborough take the first left up Woodway and pass through Lacey Green. After a further 3/4 of a mile the carpark will be on your right.

Entrance to the carpark is indicated on the map.

<https://www.google.co.uk/maps/@51.6832896,-0.8010138,461m/data=!3m1!1e3>



Route to Start and Download/Registration Location

SAFETY

- There is a minor road to be crossed on the way to the start, under 16s must be supervised.
- Do not climb on the large timber stacks in the area. They can easily collapse causing serious injuries. Stay off them.
- The area has a few ponds, please keep children away from them.

- There may be some path restoration work going on the northern border of the area, the path is not closed but you may encounter ongoing works.
- There may be cows grazing in an enclosure at the South of the area. An adjacent enclosure may have horses. They are used to people but please avoid them as they can be unpredictable.
- The area is widely used by walkers (with dogs), mountain bikers and the occasional horse rider. Slow down, be courteous and give them plenty of space.
- A whistle is strongly advised.

WEATHER

Conditions can be changeable in January. In case of inclement weather a waterproof with a hood will be required. You will not be allowed to start without one if weather is deemed inclement. In this instance a sign will be placed at the exit of the car park and at the entry to the woods.

In extremis the event may be cancelled, and a note placed on the TVOC website. Please check before travelling.

The Map

Minor map corrections for the event by Mark Thompson and Peter Riches in December 2021 and is at 1:7500 scale, with 5m contours, on waterproof paper.

IMPORTANT: fences must not be crossed except by using the gates. Our future use of the area depends on your compliance. Courses have been planned accordingly.

Registration and Start Times

THERE WILL BE NO ENTRY ON THE DAY. You must pre-enter, via Fabian4 - just click on the Fabian4 logo at the top of this page.

Starts will be from 10.15 to 11.45am. It is about 700m from the car park to the Start.

The route to the start will be tapped and crosses 1 minor road to a small housing area, young people must be accompanied.

From the Finish, it is about 300m to the Download tent, and then 400m back to the car park.

IMPORTANT: Courses close at 1pm. You must report to the download tent by 1pm latest, even if you retire or have not finished. The controls will be collected from 13.00.

All must report to download even you do not complete the course otherwise search parties may be sent out to look for you in the woods.

TIMING

Si electronic timing system is being used and SiAC is enabled. Those with their own card can proceed straight to the start, those hiring need to go to the Download tent to pick up their allocated card.

15 min start blocks have been allocated, please try to arrive at the start for your allocated start but starts will be free flowing and are turn up and go, the blocks are to prevent queues and mass gathering.

Control descriptions are on the map only.

Maps for the Yellow, Orange and Red courses will be at pre-start. Light Green and Green will be available after the Start punch

It is a punching start, as SiAC enabled all other controls will be contactless for those with a SiAC card, including the finish. **After the finish is a safety control, all are to punch this control as it confirms you have left the course.**

Lost timing chips charged at £65.

Courses

YELLOW: 1.8km, 7 controls, 50m climb.

ORANGE: 2.8km, 10 controls, 90m climb.

RED: 4.6km, 12 controls, 125m climb.

LIGHT GREEN: 3.4km, 12 controls, 90m climb.

GREEN: 4.5km, 12 controls, 125m climb.

Planning has concentrated on offering legs with route choice on all except Yellow.

No courses cross any public roads. But there is a road crossing to get to the start. Under 16s need to be supervised.

Note that Bradenham Wood is a challenging area for orienteering, one we have used for major events.

First Aid

A small first aid kit is available at download for self help, and there may be some trained TVOC First Aiders available to assist, but the nearest aid provision is at:

Stoke Mandeville Hospital
Mandeville Road
Aylesbury
Bucks, HP21 8AL

Facilities

Toilets in the car park

No drinks or food available, please provide your own. There are pubs in both Naphill and Walters Ash for post run refreshment.

Cancellation

Click [here](#) to read our policy on refunds if you have to cancel because you are required to isolate for COVID reasons

Officials

Organizer: Chris Poole (TVOC) [_email organizer](#) 07851184816

Planner: Peter Riches (TVOC)

Controller: Mark Thompson (TVOC)