

### Redditch Urban planners comments

It had been 20 years since I last planned an event of this level and I had never done an urban one before so the Redditch event was definitely an opportunity to learn a lot. I did have the advantage of it being an area I know pretty well having lived in the middle of it until a few years ago and also working nearby. But I now feel I know it a whole lot more.

I also went beyond the standard courses to offer one for newcomers, including a short demonstration course, and also a wheelchair friendly course that could also be completed via MapRun. These did increase my workload somewhat but hopefully they will prove beneficial in the long run and I definitely learnt a great deal from preparing them.

I wanted to make sure I made the most of the area and I tried to plan courses that would make people think, minimised the dead running and offered route choices. The estate to the North East of the area attracted the most comments with its confusing network of paths and steps. A good area for orienteering but hard work if you live there and have to carry your shopping home.

I have to apologise massively for control 86 being in the wrong place for the early runners. When putting the controls out early in the morning I jumped out the car ran down the path and attached to what I thought was the right lamp post. Unfortunately it was the next path up and so the control was round the corner from where it should have been. Once the first few runners were back and commented that it was wrong we changed it straight away but decided for fairness the course legs including it should be voided. Hopefully it didn't impact on people's runs too much. A definite learning point for me to double (triple) check everything.

I need to thank a number of people for their support. Kerstin for organising and making sure the whole event ran smoothly. Alex for looking after the controls in the park and assisted by Seb and Arthur for collecting controls in. Luis for helping to collect the senior controls in despite looking tired out after his run. My brother Tim for his support on the day including getting up at half 5 to drive me around to get all the controls out in time and then still being awake and cheery to welcome runners back at the finish. Henry for controlling and his advice on the various aspects of my planning.

There were also numerous people in the club who were helped me out when I needed it with advice and answering my many questions. There is so much experience in the club so it a great resource to be able to utilise. One person who deserves a special thank you is Paul Basher who did a fantastic job of updating the map and also gave me an enormous amount of support on many aspects including how to use the planning software and set up the MapRun course. His support really did make the experience so much easier.

And finally a thank you for everyone for coming and making the effort I put in worthwhile.