

## **Results of the WEE Morton Stanley and Hunt End Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> NOV.**

Thanks to those 15 intrepid orienteers who came (one from as far away as Shrewsbury) in spite of the dire forecast. We had a bit of a discussion before the start as to whether the weather was too dangerous due to the forecast wind. We consulted the Risk Assessment and decided that as the awning of the caravan hadn't blown away, the winds weren't hurricane force so it was safe.

When I went out to collect the controls, 30 metres away from the start I was stopped by a huge tree which had blown over, taking two other trees with it and completely blocking the track. Further round the course a control I had put in a depression, now had just the control box showing above the waves 2 metres out of reach from the bank. As if by now I wasn't wet enough, to retrieve the control the water lapped above my knees and the gripple was now submerged a foot below the surface. Another control, easily reached by crossing a 2" deep stream was now inaccessible on the other side of a raging torrent requiring a 200 metre detour to a barely holding bridge.

Those who did brave the weather seemed to have enjoyed the challenge. For those of you who visited the vandalised control 4 on a path bend, the culprits had destroyed the site but the gripple had held and saved the control box, which was still attached to the base plate and the tree. The kite was found half a mile away in a hedge which I just happened to spot on my way home, thus saving us nearly £100 replacement cost. All those who said they visited the site will be given the 10 points. Dave Williams managed to find the box and was the only one who had the punch.

Those who stayed enjoyed a warming winter veg. soup and debrief in the "comfort" of the caravan.

Thanks to Chris McSweeny who went out three times, once for his run, then a second time to check why he failed to find a control on a spur earlier and a third time to collect controls. Also to John Embrey who stayed to check everyone was back, collect a couple of controls and pass on the SI printer to Malvern.

I have done my best to produce accurate results but in view of the vandalised control if I have or haven't correctly credited you with no.4, can you let me know?

