



Gravetye

20th/21st November



SE night champs on Saturday evening, and a regional event on Sunday, on a new orienteering area in the surroundings of the beautiful Gravetye Manor in West Sussex



Gravetye:

SE night championships: Saturday 20th November; and

Regional event: Sunday 21st November

Night and Day Events on a new orienteering area surrounding Gravetye Manor

Location: Gravetye Estate, West Hoathly, West Sussex

Entries: Pre-entry online via Racesignup. Separate sign ups required for the night and day events. The number of entries is constrained by the size of the main car park. The limit is set at 140 cars for each event. Please share cars if possible to free up space for others.

Fees:	For each event:	BOF member	If not SO/BOF member
	Senior Entries, before midnight:	8 Nov: £10	£12
		15 Nov: £11	£13
		19 Nov: £12	£14
	Juniors:	19 Nov £5 (SO juniors free)	£5

Dibber hire: £1 old SI-card (50p juniors), £2 SIAC (£1 Juniors)

Saturday Courses: SEOA night championships courses as follows (subject to final planning):

Saturday night	Men	Women	Length	Control s	Climb
1	M20-40, M45-50		6.2km		
2	M18, M55-60	W20-40, W45-50	4.7km		
3	M16, M65-75, M80+	W16,W18,W55-60, W65-75, W80+	3.5km		

These courses are open to non SEOA members also.

Medals will be awarded to the first three qualifying SEOA members in each of the following categories: M/W 16,18, 20-40,45-50, 55-60, 65-75, 80+. To qualify, SEOA members must enter the applicable course for their age as above.

Sunday Courses: Regional event courses as follows (subject to final planning):

Sunday	Length	Controls	Climb
Brown	9.5km		
Blue	7.0km		
Short Blue	5.5km		
Green	4.5km		
Short Green	3.5km		
Light Green	3.7km		
Orange	2.5km		
Yellow	2.0km		
White	1.8km		

Car Parking: The entrance to the track down to the car park is on the West side of Vowels Lane at: What3Words dampen.stung.guesswork; Ordnance Survey grid reference TQ 360349; and nearest post code RH194LL.

All approaching cars must turn left into the entrance and therefore approach on Vowels Lane from its South end where it forms a T junction with the Turners Hill/West Hoathly road (What3Words crackling.pine.defaults, grid reference TQ 350340). The car park is a square of hard standing 300m down the track (at What3Words orchids.popping.eggplants, grid reference TQ_358351 - previously used for SO's Great Wildgoose Woods event).

**Cars turn left into the car park from Vowels lane –
Drivers take care to slow down as orienteers walk the
track and cross the road to the start/finish area entrance**



The nearest train station is East Grinstead – 3 miles away and 20 minutes cycle (Google Earth estimate).

Facilities: Toilets in the main parking area. Enquiries, first aid, and download, are in, or adjacent to, the small hard standing parking area very close (less than 80m) from the start and finish. A small shelter tent will be erected in this area which can also be used as a kit drop.

Map: New 1:10.000 map by Will Heap using LIDAR data. 5m contours and on waterproof paper.

Terrain: Gravetye Estate offers varied woodland terrain with a good network of paths, open fields, decent amounts of climb and a good selection of features. It is a physical area in all the right ways and hopefully a very enjoyable challenge.

Much of the woodland is very runnable but generally surrounded by a barrier of 2 or 3 metres of brambles which comes and goes all over the place. You never have to travel far to find a way through, but it has been impossible to map exactly where all these points are. Fortune favours the brave!

Likewise on the edges of many of the paths there is a screen of undergrowth but again it is a case of not travelling far to find a way through.

Undergrowth. There are numerous small patches of brambles and bracken, unmapped, but easy to circumnavigate.

Woodland density varies subtly and changes in runnability on the map shouldn't be relied upon for fine navigation.

Fences. Many of the fields and paths are edged by what has been depicted using the ruined fence symbol. These fences are all in poor condition and vary from waste high to grounded barbed wire. Caution must be taken when approaching all ruined fences as they could potentially prove hazardous.

Many of the depressions fill with water after heavy rainfall so don't be surprised to find a wet pit in place of a depression.

Log piles have not been mapped and are strictly out of bounds.

Holly bushes are mapped as small distinct trees when in isolation.

E-Punching: The control boxes will be enabled for SI contactless swiping, except for the start and finish boxes which must be 'dibbed'.

Start Times: Saturday night event: 5 to 6pm – choose a timed slot on pre-entry
Sunday regional: 10am to noon – turn up at the start and wait for a slot to be free
Helpers may start from 9.45am

Route to start: Walk 480m to the start. The route crosses Vowels Lane which carries fast moving traffic. Minors under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Exit the SW corner of the car park, and follow the tapes, crossing back over the vehicle access track from Vowels Lane, and along a 50m section, inside a line of traffic cones, facing the incoming vehicles, to arrive at Vowels Lane. **Take great care crossing Vowels Lane.** Pass through the entrance on the opposite side of the lane and follow the tapes to the start.

Car park and route to the start



Start: It is a punching start for both events. Loose control descriptions will be available in the start boxes.

Finish: Within 100m of the start. Remember to 'dib' the finish.

Courses close: Saturday night: **8pm**, Sunday **2:30pm**.

Download: At the SI/Download tent near to the finish on the route back to the car park.

Return: To the car park by retracing your earlier route, **again taking great care crossing Vowels Lane and along the first 50m of the vehicle track to the car park.**

Minors must be accompanied by an adult on the route back to the car park crossing back over Vowels Lane.

Results: Results will be available online, and should be available to access online at the event.

Dogs: Allowed in the car park and start/finish areas, please keep them on a lead.

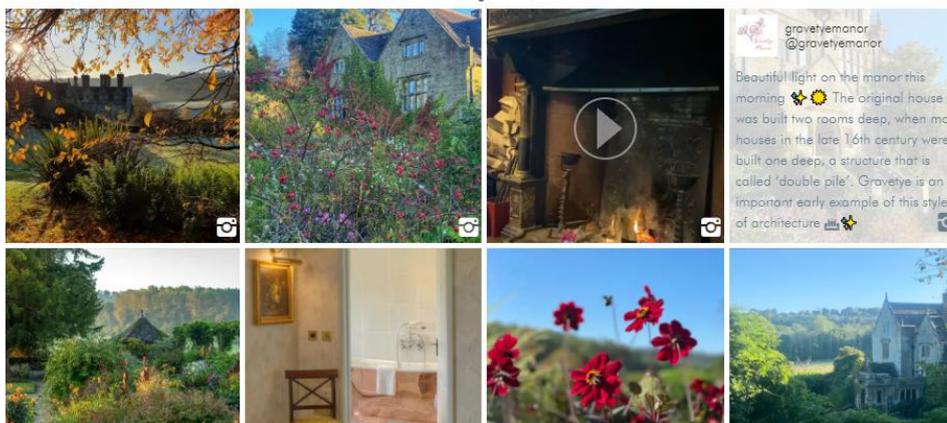
Officials:
Planner: Will Heap
Organisers: Tim and Linda Hulley, email: deputy@southdowns-orienteers.org.uk
Controller: Gordon Parker (SLOW)

Many thanks to the Trustees of Gravetye Estate and the Management Agents at Balcombe Estates for their kind permission to use the area.

Gravetye Manor:



@GravetyeManor



Gravetye Manor was built in 1598. Today it is an award winning hotel and Michelin starred restaurant surrounded by one of the most beautiful gardens in England set in the middle of a 750 acre estate. In 1884, the estate became the home of the great gardener William Robinson (1838 -1935) who laid out the garden we see today, the surrounding woodland, and also built the famous, and unique, oval walled garden. Robinson was the champion of 'wild gardening', a concept more popular than ever today. His legacy is fiercely protected by renowned head gardener Tom Coward who in turn works closely with executive chef George Blogg in providing the very best of seasonal food for the restaurant. The gardens can be visited by booking a tour and the estate, with views of the manor, is criss-crossed by public footpaths.