

EASTER 2013 – Bulletin #5, mid March 2013

1. This is the fifth (and last) in an occasional series of 'Bulletins' to ensure everyone affected is kept up-to-date with preparations for Easter's "Australian 3 Days", now less than a fortnight away. Bulletins #1, #2, #3 and #4 were circulated on 19 June, 14 October, 22 December and 7 February respectively.
2. **Race-site Organisation.** The position summarised in Bulletin #4 was taken a major step forward at a face-to-face meeting of organisers and others at Westerfolds on 22 February. Since then, residual issues have been tackled progressively to get common themes across the four days (and where appropriate common equipment).
3. **Entry numbers.** When entries closed at midnight on 10 March we had c770 passengers on the Easter Express. Of these, c400 paid 'early bird' fares, c335 paid 'standard' fares and c35 paid the 'penal' fares applicable in the final week. One adult (?) arrived at the station on Tuesday evening and berated the stationmaster because the train had left on time almost 48 hours earlier - as it had been scheduled and publicised to do for the previous six months.
4. **Website.** Layout of the website has been transformed from 'entry mode' to 'competition mode'. Most of the material previously important is now obsolete and therefore has been archived (though still accessible for reference if needed). The dominant features of the website are now the Start-lists and the Event Program, with other supporting material to be added during the coming days.
5. **Start-lists.** Many thanks to Kathy and to the Dodds for their herculean efforts to create this vital information. It is available in two places, as PDFs on the website and via Eventor. The latter version was found to be corrupted by an unsuspected bug, now hopefully fixed with help from Sweden by the time you read this note.
6. **Event Program.** This is also now on the website (as 4 PDFs for ease of reading) and en route to the printer for mass production as hard copy, folded into a convenient 'back pocket' document.
7. **Competitor Bibs.** These are also en route to be printed (on Pretex). Each is 'personalised' with start times and so on – the idea being that, armed only with a bib and a Program, the enterprising orienteer will be able to navigate his or her way through the entire Easter week-end.
8. **Competition Maps.** These are likewise about to be printed, the great majority on Pretex and the remainder on paper (see Program for details).
9. **Registration 'show bags'.** The contents of these will now be assembled in Bendigo during the days immediately prior to Easter. 'Rego' opens at 6pm Thursday at the Event Centre, the first of what are expected to be four major 'Rego' sessions (the others being Friday and Saturday mornings at their race-sites and Friday evening at the Event Centre).
10. **Ancillary activities.** Although competition entries closed on 10 March, the option to buy other services via Eventor (ie camping, bunk beds, dinner tickets) remains open unto 24 March. Final numbers for these activities will then be factored into the 'Rego' work during the ensuing few days.
11. **Easter weather.** Prayers have been offered, their effectiveness remains to be seen.

John Colls
17 March 2013