



Sunday, 23rd November 2025
Incorporating Wayne Cretney Memorial



**Orienteering
Wellington**



Course Information

COURSE	Classes	Est Winning time (mins)	Distance (km)	Climb (m)	Controls
1 Classic Elite (Red)	Elite	100+	15.9		66
2 Classic Wayne Cretney (Red)	M40 (Wayne Cretney Memorial), M18A, M50, W40	80-140	13.4		51
3 Classic Veteran/Junior (Red)	M60A, M70A, W50A, W60A, M16A, W18A, W16A,	80-140	10.0		42
Red Long	Open Red	70	11.8		42
Red Medium	Open Red	60	8.4		33
Red Short	Open Red	50	5.4		28
Orange	Junior Boys and Girls and Teams, Open orange	50-80	4.5		20
Yellow	Open yellow	25-40	3.0		14
White	Open white	15-30	2.6		10
Rogaine	Team Explorer	3 hours	?		71

Waikanae River Parks – Event Centre at Otaraau Park – Fine day

Another classic over and done with – this one a different one away from the usual Wellington and Wairarapa locations and not so physical - although I did see quite a few finishers with a little bit of blood on them – a momento of the day’s efforts.

Thanks to Alan and Paul for their help.

Trying to find a location for a map is getting increasingly difficult to get permission and takes considerable time. I looked at several places this year.

One of them was because I was a Super-Uber driver for my wife who was playing pickleball in Waikanae on two occasions – I decided while waiting for her event to end, to do some exploring on places never travelled before (by me).

Quote: Alexander Graham Bell: *“Leave the beaten track behind occasionally and dive into the woods. Every time you do, you will be certain to find something you have never seen before.”*

And it was worth it as I travelled along the stunning Waikanae river and the many parks finding amazing things – a bamboo thicket maze, a rustic boat, a wall in the middle of nowhere, small depressions, swing bridges, a hidden seat + cairn, lagoons, and Kapiti Island in the background.

The next classic is the 40th anniversary – we will have to do something special.

Bryan Teahan

Results: <http://www.winterclassic.co.nz/wc/Results2025.html>

Courses: <http://www.winterclassic.co.nz/wc/courses2025.htm>

Splits: <http://www.winterclassic.co.nz/wc/Splits2025.xlsx>

Report and Route Choices: <http://www.winterclassic.co.nz/wc/Report2025.pdf>

From Orienteering Wellington facebook page:

Thanks to everyone who entered the Spring Classic in Waikanae this morning - and special thanks to Bryan for mapping, planning and organising the event, as well as everyone who helped on the day or collected controls. We couldn't do this without you!

It was a lovely (hot) day for some sweaty long distance orienteering up and down the river, with two lightly-wobbly swing footbridges to occasionally endure.

Results by class are on Winsplits

<https://obasen.orientering.se/.../online/en/default.asp...>

Official results will be at <http://winterclassic.co.nz>

in due course. Provisionally, the trophy winners for the extra-long classic courses are:

Cameron Johns - M16

Morag McLellan - W21 open

Jake McLellan - M21 open

Liam Drew - M40 Wayne Cretney Memorial

Lauren Wills - W40

Yvette Baker - W50

Rob Collier - M60+

Gillian Ingham - W60+

Team Explorer Rogaine - BART Zombies

Congrats to everyone above, and special mention to Liz Nicholson who was second in W60+ and has entered **every** Classic since the very start. Dedicated work.

Photos courtesy of Lachlan.



Jake



Lauren



Greg and Rob



Liam



Morag



Liz and Gillian



Yvette and Bryan



From the comments:

Paul Teesdale-Spittle:

I thought it would be fun if everybody posted up their photos from the day, too. Here are my two favourite controls.

119 - the first time I've visited a control in a bamboo thicket.



117 - for the quality of the improvised control stand.



Then also our companion for the day, the river.



Lachlan McKenzie:

I'm trying to recall if that's the pole I smacked against....

Lauren Lauren:

This was my favourite one i think, reminiscent of hut building as a kid



Will Vale:

It was sooo dark in there.

Ocean Mercier:

Another great Classic, thanks very much Bryan! PS soon after the rogaine start Pat found 139'd been huffed in the wetland behind the park bench

Will Vale:

I didn't see the swans but one control was guarded by The Family Goose. Luckily, they were quite chill.

Robyn Mourie:

Two stick pokes in the face, a ripped sleeve, grass allergy hives on legs, face the colour of beetroot and a slow couple of graceful rolls to the ground

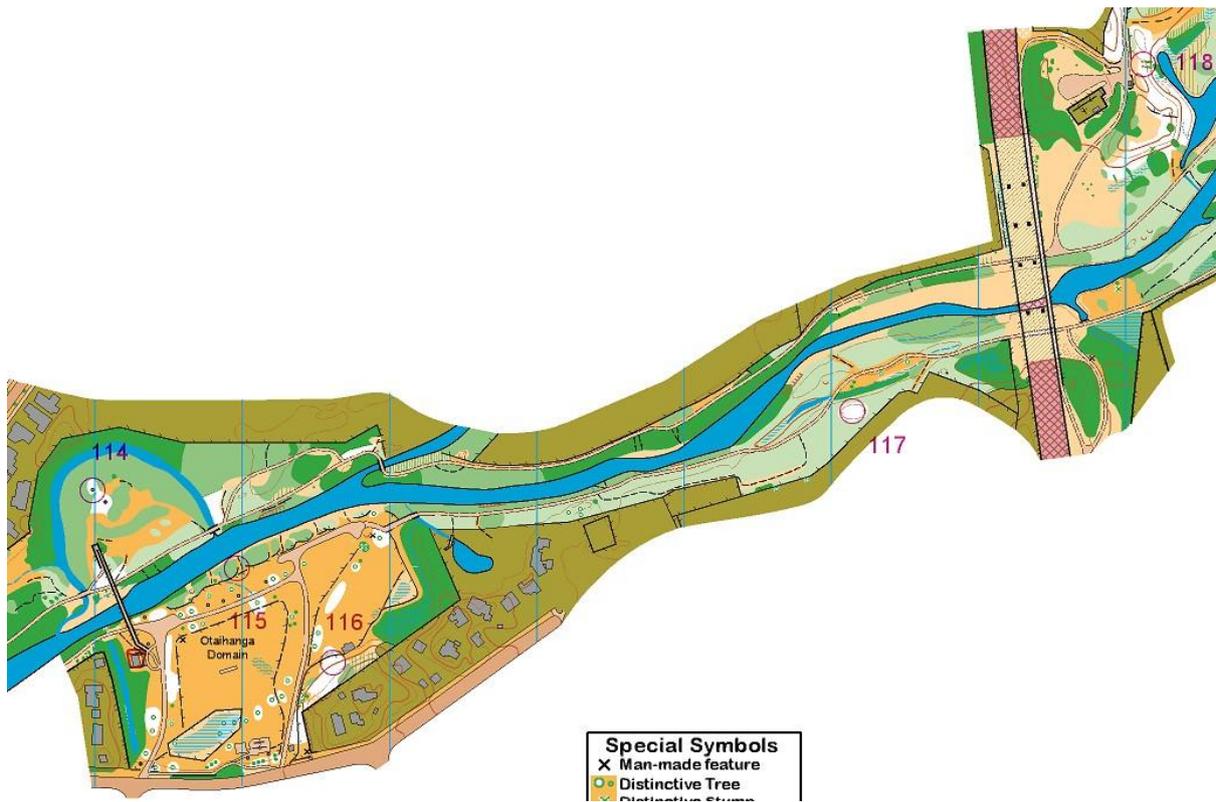
Yep.. Adrian Mourie I went orienteering today...first time after a few years and we bloody loved it.

Grateful to be out jogging again after a long discussion with my Achilles and a steroid injection or two 😊

Thanks Orienteering Wellington

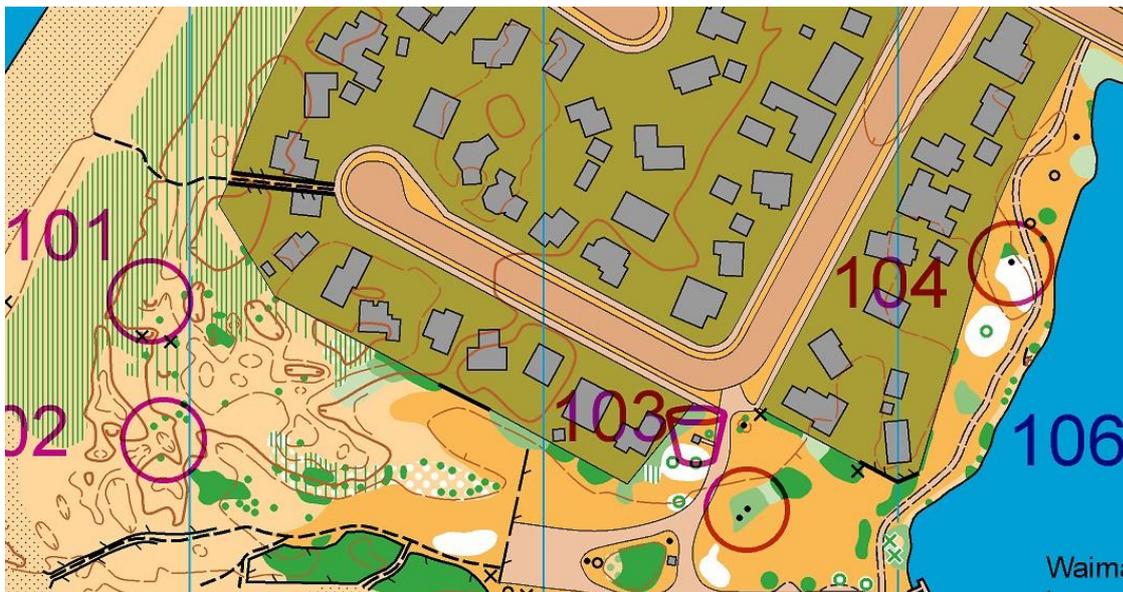


Route Choices



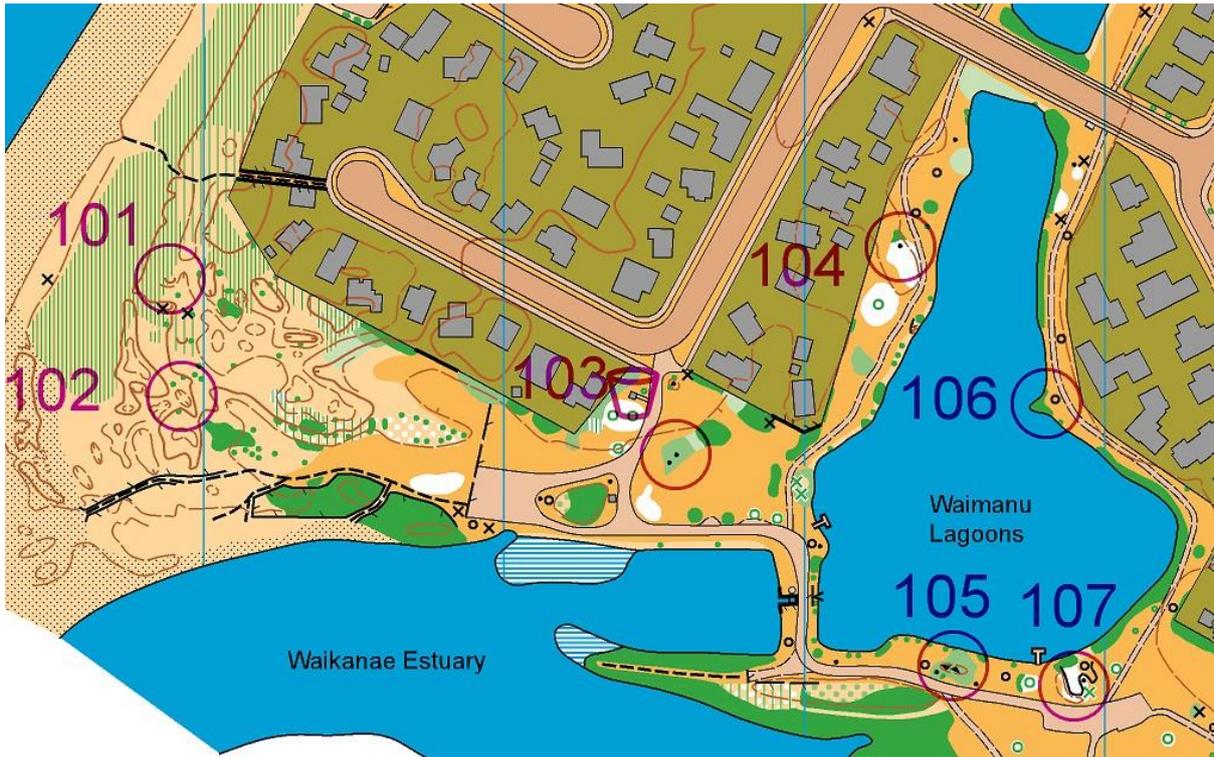
118 to 116:

- Via Otaihanga swingbridge: 1351m
- Via Expressway pedestrian bridge: 1271m



101 to 104:

- East via dunes: 413m
- Walkway and Street: 422m



101 to 106:

- Walkway + streets: 622m
- Dunes + north side of lagoon: 624m
- Dunes + south side of lagoon: 608m



106 to 109:

- W side of lagoon: 483m
- Part E side, small bridge, W side: 507m
- E side of lagoon: 566m



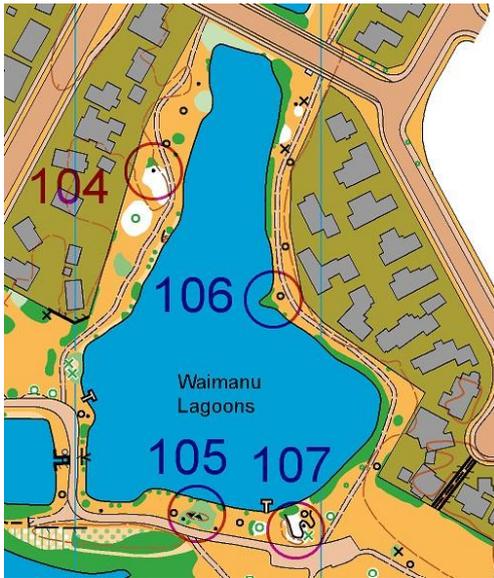
109 to 108:

- W side of lagoon & small bridge: 261m
- E side of lagoon: 325m



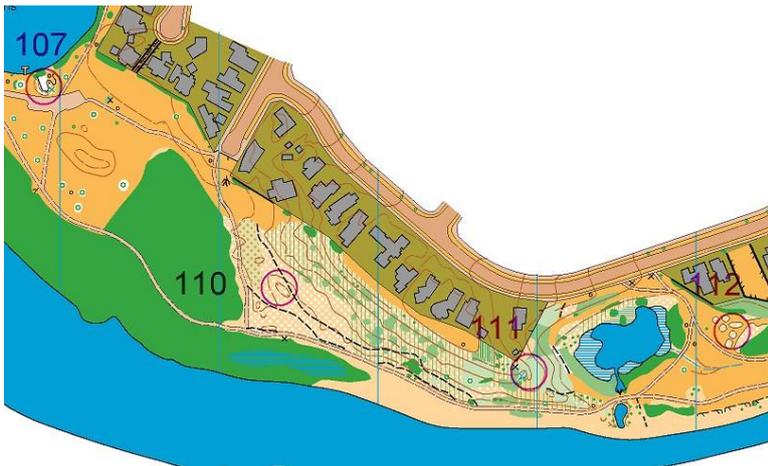
108 to 104:

- Small bridge + W side of lagoon: 267m
- E side of lagoon: 308m



104 to 107:

- W side of lagoon: 302m
- E side of lagoon: 406m



107 to 112:

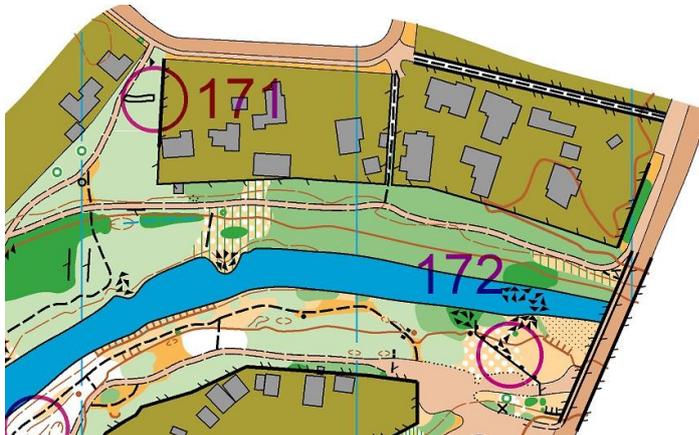
- Street: 673m
- Middle route over hill: 622m (25m climb)
- Via small walking track: 635m
- Via path next to river: 653m



154 control site was a rustic old boat.

154 to 156:

- W side of pond: 371m
- E side of pond: 312m



171 to 172:

- Beside river: 456m
- Street + walkway: 461m

Information about the Area

Wikipedia :

- History and bridges

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Waikanae_River

Waikanae River Trail:

<https://www.wellingtonz.com/visit/trails/waikanae-river-trail>

Waikanae River Estuary / DOC Scientific Reserve:

<https://nz.video.search.yahoo.com/search/video?fr=mcafee&p=Waikanae+River&type=E210NZ413G91910#id=1&vid=551945bac554cee4bcda81339ea384f2&action=click>

Waikanae River restoration:

- Waikanae ki Uta ki Tai is a project to restore the catchment from mountains to sea.

<https://www.doc.govt.nz/our-work/freshwater-restoration/nga-awa/waikanae-river-restoration/>

Otaraua Park:

<https://www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/explore-kapiti/recreation/parks-and-reserves/find-a-reserve/otaraua-park/>

Otaihanga Domain:

[Otaihanga Domain - Kāpiti Coast District Council](#)

Waimanu Lagoons:

<https://www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/explore-kapiti/recreation/parks-and-reserves/find-a-reserve/waimanu-lagoons-reserve/>

Pukekawa Park:

[Pukekawa Park - Kāpiti Coast District Council](#)

Jim Cooke Memorial Park:

<https://www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/explore-kapiti/recreation/parks-and-reserves/find-a-reserve/jim-cooke-memorial-park/>

Edgewater Park:

<https://www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/explore-kapiti/recreation/parks-and-reserves/parks/edgewater-reserve/>