

# Scarborough Sprint Preview

This article provides some valuable information for those of you who are expecting to compete. This will also be available online as a pdf on the website: [www.seasidescramble.org.uk](http://www.seasidescramble.org.uk)

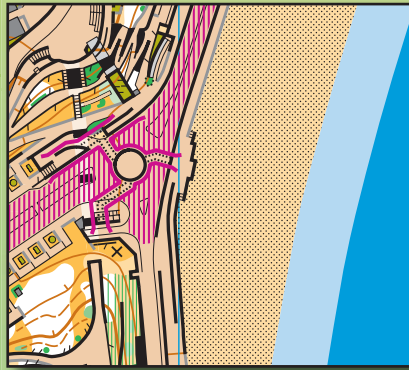
In my mind Scarborough used to conjure up thoughts of donkeys, candy floss and amusement arcades. Over the past six months I've forgotten about the trivialities of spun sugar treats and horses that are missing chromosomes, and instead I've wandered the parks, cliffs, castle, gardens, streets and alleys. Mapping Scarborough for the British Elite Sprint Champs has been a great challenge and far from simple.

Briefly, Scarborough was developed by the Victorians as a holiday destination. The numerous zigzagging pathways that gently rise up the 60m change in elevation from sea-level to plateau, allowed ladies

in their finery to easily walk about and admire



*The cliff strip in Scarborough is home to a complex mass of zigzagging Victorian pathways. Note the areas of impassable vegetation.*



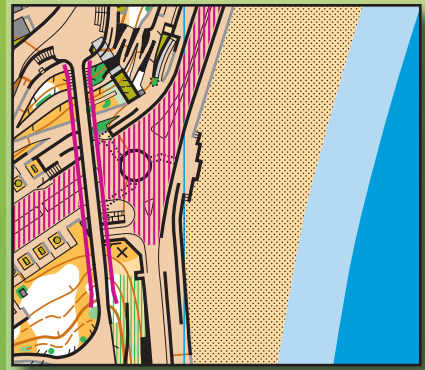
*The Prologue races will pass beneath the Valley footbridge and then pass through the underpass onto the beach. (For clarity the top level of the bridge has been removed.)*

the landscaped parks and gardens.

My first problem was deciding on the scale. The 60m change in elevation with a very complex level of detail led me to a larger scale of 1:4000. Drawing space on the map was limited and due to the steep nature of the terrain a large contour interval of 5m was chosen.

By far the most challenging section to map was the valley footbridge near to the assembly area. Uniquely there is three separate levels -the ground -the footbridge overhead -and an underpass. Communicating with Steve Whitehead (Planner) we quickly came to the conclusion that for reasons of clarity and fairness only one level should be used at a time.

Following Steve's first draft of courses it was apparent that two different alternatives were needed. Now this is



*The Final races will pass over the valley footbridge. (For clarity the middle level has been removed.) Note the Passable and Impassable water on the beach!*

an unusual course of action but we feel that with the maps and pictures provided on these pages (and the event website) there can be no confusion or surprise.

A similar situation occurs with the valley road bridge (map sample below) but here the courses will only pass beneath the bridge.



The British Elite Sprint Orienteering Championships are being held in Scarborough on Saturday 15th April. Please visit the website for more info.

*Similarly the main valley road bridge has been removed to show the detail beneath. The courses may pass beneath the bridge but none will go over it.*



*Looking SW under the valley footbridge.*



*Looking down to the underpasses and assembly from the valley footbridge.*



*The valley footbridge from the Assembly area.*