

## **June and John Webb**

John and June Webb – still active orienteers at M80 and W85 – have made an outstanding contribution to orienteering in Suffolk over more than 40 years. In recognition, the club committee made a presentation to June and John at the SUFFOC event at Haughley Park on 6 September 2020.

Martin Hore, a mere youngster at M70, but currently the next longest standing SUFFOC member after June and John, introduced the presentation:

“I first met John and June when I joined the club having moved to Ipswich in 1987. But as we know from June’s recent article in the Punch, their involvement with the club goes back more than ten years before that.

“My first SUFFOC event was at Sutton Common in January ‘87. I ran the Brown course as an M35. John also ran Brown as an M50. He made a point of congratulating me on my run and encouraged me to get involved with the club.

“Both John and June were keenly involved in the organisation of events at that time, John particularly in mapping and planning. John produced the club’s first computer drawn map – of Shrubland Park – in the early 90’s, using OCAD 4.

“As she mentions in her Punch article, June first came to orienteering via her work with Suffolk Guides. My wife Elena joined me from Russia in 1990, at about the time when Suffolk Guides hosted a group of children who had been badly affected by the nuclear accident at Chernobyl. June recruited Elena to help as an interpreter with the group.

“Another strong memory of that time is SUFFOC’s first success in winning through to the final of the Compass Sport Cup. June and John were part of the club team that travelled to the Lake District for the final on Carrock Fell.

“Since that time I can hardly remember a SUFFOC event when June and John have not been present as willing and exceptionally reliable volunteers. Their contribution in this capacity has been quite outstanding. In recognition of this the club committee have decided to make this presentation.

“We’ve two items to present to John and June. The first is a new map of Ickworth Park. With a nod to the failing eyesight known to afflict orienteers of advancing years, this is at a scale of 1:5000 – meaning it’s a rather large map. It comes in a cardboard tube with a history. It’s the same tube that David Butler used to post his drafting films for the club’s first Ickworth map to the printers Thames Design and Print in 1990.

“The second item I’m afraid is still winging its way from Germany. It should arrive this week and I’ll deliver it to Sproughton. We understand that John and June quite like jigsaw puzzles. This is a 2000 piece map puzzle (“Mazzle”) based on this new 1:5000 Ickworth Park map.

“Huge thanks again to June and John for your contribution to the club. I’ll now hand over to our current Chair, Will Harrison, to present the map.”

June and John with the supersized Ickworth map, kindly held by current and past Chairs Will Harrison and Simon Hooton.

