NSW ROGAINING NEWSLETTER

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UPDATE---WORLD CHAMPS

NINGHAN MAGIC

I've now made two trips to Ninghan Station, the last one quite recently when Bryan Hardy and I spent five days transferring our armchair planning into tricoloured tags for the benefit of the vetting team. I have to report that this is an amazingly varied piece of country which is quite different to any previous venue.

The approach through the gently swelling

The approach through the gently swelling downs of Dahrallinu and Wubin gives no clue of what is to come until, with 40km to go, you reach a crest and see the ranges rising clustered from the plains - very much like a slightly smaller version of the Stirlings as seen from the Albany Highway near Cranbrook. As you drive into the station overwhelming impression is of redness. hills rising steeply from a red plain. This background lends a vividness to the vegetation which ranges from groves of Salmon gums at the foot of the hills, to mulga and casuarina covered slopes, and of course, the flats - at present speckled with the tiny shoots that will become a sea of Everlasting

The density of the scrub changes dramatically from hill to hill, one being virtually bare whilst its neighbour is a thicket. There are enormous watercourse systems cutting deep into the hills which in several places have joined and formed large, hill surrounded basins. The creek beds are startlingly light coloured compared with the overall redness of their surrounds being filled with the palest grey and grey-green pebbles. There are some spectacular canyon like gullies with rock pools and waterfalls and over a dozen permanent springs. On one

quarter of the map an immense salt lake fades into the distance.

Besides the Everlastings you will see large flocks of galahs, twentyeight parrots which have canary yellow bellies, red kangaroos and bungarras (very la goannas) with black and yellow markings.

There is one other major difference which may be important to your preparation for the event. This is rugged country and I strongly recommend the use of some type of hiking boot with ankle protection rather than the normal joggers that most people seem to wear. Bryan and I were both glad we chose to take boots to wear while setting.

Please don't let the cachet of "World Championships" give you the idea that this event is not for you. This has been set as a regular WA style event and there are a large number of controls within a five kilometre radius of the Hash House This is your

chance to walk in a totally different environment and I think you will find it memorable. The remoteness leads to the night sky being blacker and the stars brighter than I have experienced before.

Ninghan Station is... quite simply...

Andrew Thomas (Setter WRC II)

NOW TO GET THERE

After such a glowing report there's really only one major issue: how to get there, do a 24-hour rogaine, then get back for work on the Monday morning. Solution? you can, but what a waste! The organisers are providing bus transport for the 400km journey between Perth airport and Mount Singleton so you'll be able to catch the midnight special and be in Sydney by 6am, but all NSW entrants that I have spoken to are extending their time for a WA holiday.

The entry form for WRC II was distributed with Newsletter #56. If you

If you missed out, I have spare copies and ensure they are available at each NSW rogaine prior to August 9th, the closing date.

Trevor Gollan

DO IT NOW

If you wish to compete in the Second World Rogaining Championships and you have not yet sent in your entry, then you should send it in NOW.

Rogainers outside Western Australia have been able to enter for the last five months. At present we have around 120 entrants from overseas (Canada, USA, NZ, Finland) and interstate.

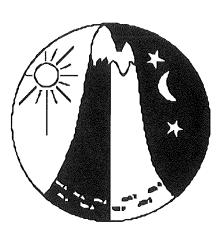
Western Australians are now allowed to enter and it is very likely that the event will reach full capacity very quickly. Western Australian rogaines normally attract more than 400 participants, and the opportunity to compete in a World Championships is likely to attract a large number of locals.

Gary Carroll (WRC Admin)

AIRFARES

After enquiring about group and ordinary airfares and canvassing opinions several competitors, it seems that airfares will not be organised by NSWRA.

Although group fares allow cancellations they are considerably more expensive than SUPERAPEX fares. Thus competitors are



advised to book and pay for their own fares as soon as they are sure they are going. No cancellation is possible, except for certain reasons like sickness (see below) if you pay \$18 insurance, which seems well worthwhile.

Here's the latest details of QANTAS fares:
SUPER-APEX: \$529 return, or \$479 if return on the "daily" flight departing Perth midnight arriving Sydney about 6am. Book 21 days in advance (at least - they sell out - but can usually get a few months before). Pay within 3 days of booking (eg. by credit card over phone). Can change dates if more than 21 days before flight. Ticket is valid for one year, but not in school holidays.

Cancellation insurance (premium \$18) allows ten reasons for you to cancel including: sickness of yourself or immediate family (but not pre-existing conditions such as retrenchment, supplementary exams, travelling partner on same flight unable to go for one of these reasons. Also covers up to \$800 if injury etc. demands return flight delayed. Excess \$25. I have policy brochures or ring 1800 338900 for more details.

<u>ULTRASAVER</u>: \$589 return, 14 day

advance

APEX: \$679 return, 7 day advance.

Group Travel: \$654 return. Can cancel tickets. Must have at least 10 people but need not travel together. Book now, pay 1 month in advance, at which time names and flights need to be given.

Peter Watterson I rang the Flight Centre last week and was quoted the \$479 fare as being pretty easy to get. Not sure you have to take the red-eye special flight. \$429 fares (as advertised at the moment) may be available but are only released 2-3 months prior to date of travel. It's not like it's peak season or school holidays! Agree with your conclusion that group fare does not sound very hopeful.

Gareth Prosser I've been offered these two prices via Just Flights too. Seems like the way to go. Why pay more for group fares? And surely no self-respecting rogainer can have a problem with the red-eye special - it's got to be more comfortable than bush-bashing in the cold and wet all night!

Sue Clarke



- Mark Bretzle 476
1/August 416 6423
NSW CALENDA

DATE	EVENT	CO-ORDINATOR	COURSESETTING	ADMINISTRATION	HASHHOUSE
16 Jun 96	6-hour Paddy Pallin Gosford	Stephen Castle 02 557 7101	Anthony Dunk Robert Loader Marnie Holmes (Vetter)	Paddy Pallin Pty Ltd	1st Waitara Scouts
29-30 Jun 96	Nav96 Blue Mountains	John Tonitto 02 258 4108			
3-4 Aug 96	24-hour Nowra-Batemans Bay	Trevor Gollan 042 26 5544	Steve Cliffe Geoff Silburn Trevor Gollan (Vetter)	Roz Atkins	Frances Phillips
28 Sep 96	Lake Macquarie 12-hr Watagan Mntns	Peter Coventry 049 574 386	Albie & Sharon Arnott	Bill Pigram 049 906 987	,
26-27 Oct 96	NSW Champs Upper Hunter Valley	Graeme Cooper 067 72 3584	Charlie Thomson, Tony Dale, Russell Swanson	Military	Vicki Cooper
16 Nov 96	Socialgaine North of Sydney	Simon George 02 487 4287	Joanna Parr	3000000	

««NOTE: date for Socialgaine has changed since last newsletter (from 23 Nov.)««



PADDY PALLIN 6-Hr 16 June

Just 1³/₄ hours drive north of Sydney, in a picturesque combination of heath and forest. Witness breath taking ocean views from the ridges or explore the many intimate gullies. A good track network exists providing easy navigation for the novices. The further reaches offer challenging navigation for experienced rogainers. Camping on Saturday

night is available.

The Paddy Pallin always seems to be a happy day, regardless of weather and terrain, because we get a large crowd and the course is designed to satisfy all class of participant. There's a lot of easy bush controls for novices, youngsters, families and scouts to discover and the course must be large enough to disperse the crowd and challenge the fittest competitors.



NAV 96 29-30 June

A typical Search & Rescue rogaine is available again on the last weekend in June. "Typical" in that it will be in rugged Sydney sandstone country, not too far from Sydney (in the Blue Mountains actually) and will run for nearly 30 hours, or you can take the 12-hour option. The entry form states that "the course is a mixture of sandstone ridges and gullies with the normal amount of

very prickly and slightly prickly bush."

I have a copy of the 8-page entry form, or you can call John Tonitto (02 789 2527, fax 02 718 7272) for entry details.

Trevor Gollan



SOUTH COAST 24-Hour 3-4 Aug

I've been involved in the two previous NSWRA rogaines on the South Coast (Tianjara and Lake Tabourie) and promise that the August 24-hour will be as good as both areas previously used. Beaches, headlands, heath and islands are on offer. We scheduled this event as a useful training run for our World Championships entrants. The terrain will be dramatically dissimilar to Mount Singleton... the duration won't.

Trevor Gollan

CYCLOGAINE, 15 Sept

There is growing interest within NSWRA for a Cyclogaine. Bert van Netten ran a few in the Watagans in the late '80s. But the ACTRA have a Cyclogaine as a permanent fixture on their calendar. If you itch to mix some saddle soreness with your navigational challenge, why

not give it a go. And maybe then you can organise something similar for NSW next year!

Malcolm Leslie (06 247 3873) and Geoff Farrar (06 247 7634) are selecting a course probably to the west of Canberra amid pine forest, which means lots of tracks. There's no obligation to ride bikes... walkers/runners are always welcome, and usually competitive, on these rogaines too. If there's enough interest, we'll put the entry form in our newsletter.

LAKE MACQUARIE **12-HOUR, 28 Sept**

This will be the fifth annual 12-hour rogaine run in conjunction with the Lake Macquarie Games and including \$1,000 prize money. The area will be similar to previous years in that it lies west of the lake, and up.

A big difference is that a new set of

organisers is controlling the event. Albie and Sharon Arnott are ex-army retirees who have a reverential relationship with the Watagan Mountains, having spent many, many days exploring and studying the region, flora and fauna. They have become amateur specialists on (among many things) lyrebirds, leeches, quolls and temperate rainforest. They have bred rare frogs in their bathtub and returned them to their natural habitat. And they are keen to share the area with us this Spring.

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Julian Ledger 108 Cressy Rd, EAST RYDE 2113
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The Warwick Marsden Award

To preserve and celebrate our memory of Warwick Marsden, who died last July, the committee has decided to introduce an annual award, The Warwick Marsden Award, for the biggest contributor to rogaining in NSW.

Usually this will be to a key organiser of an event or events during the year, but it could be for any other contribution, such as running creches, editing the newsletter etc.

Apart from being an amazingly friendly and warm guy, Warwick was a great organiser. Our newsletter obituary lists nine events in which he played a major organisational role. Some, like the 1993 Paddy Pallin event at Cataract with bush dance, were as much festivals as sporting events. It thus seems appropriate that Warwick's name should be linked to the organisational or social side of rogaining, rather than the competitive side. He was a good competitor, but preferred chatting

with his friends to beating them.

The recipient will be chosen by the committee and the award will be presented at

the last event of the year (the "Social Rogaine" in the current calendar) with a modest mystery prize, serving to thank the person for their extra effort. It may be difficult to select the recipient, since all event organisers dedicate so many hours, but the committee can bias the award away from someone who has already received it, and thus someone who narrowly misses out will probably be acknowledged in a later year. If there had been such an award since the founding of the NSWRA, Warwick would have been a worthy winner for most of those years.

sclarke@efs.mq.edu.au

Peter Watterson.

UPSIDE-DOWN 12-HOUR

RYDAL, 10 March 1996

RYDAL REMINISCENCES

Shane Trotter and Anthony Darr were clear winners of this years Upside-Down rogaine. This was the third annual 12-hour, midnight start event and Anthony and Shane have won all of them, perhaps most convincingly this year in that they had the spare time to return and find a flag that they had missed early in the event thus collecting all controls.

Unfortunately the balmy night and full moon experienced in the previous Upside Down's was absent, replaced by constant mist until dawn. Though the course was near or above a thousand metres the conditions were moist but not particularly bleak.

The hash house was a special site, perched upon the Great Dividing

Range, on the thousand metre contour, at the Rydal showground. A cosy hall and kitchen provided comforts, though it's hard to envisage that all entrants managed to squeeze into such a small room at the start and finish.

The dominant feature course was the pleasant open eucalypt forest, similar to the Gardens of Stone last year and the Yetholme 12-hour in 1987. For the hardy teams who ventured to the eastern side of the course, the steep terrain certainly lived up to Sue's warnings. The Great Western Highway and main railway both pursue extended loops around the mountains to the west of Lithgow, and we upside-downers certainly can now appreciate why that happens. A pair of high peaks (over 1150 metres) deeply dissected by the Cox's River provided constant and angular climbs, descents, rocky scree slopes and spectacular valley views.

Thankyou to all who contributed to the organisation of the event:

Co-ordinator: Anthony Maloney Course-setters: Sue Clarke, John Le Carpentier, Kathy Hermann

Administration: Rowan Wiltshire, Graeme Cooper

Hashhouse: John Keats, Ian Payne, Peter & Fay Wherry, David

Trevor Gollan

HOW NOT TO BE A WET BLANKET ON A WET WEEKEND

Concentrate instead, as you lay there whiling away the hours after midnight in your lovely warm, dry sleeping bag listening to the tuneful hammer of raindrops on the roof, on the hours of fun that you are providing for those other 200 grateful rogainers for those other 200 graterul rogamers. Some of them so grateful that they will even rush back at 4am to tell you just how much fun they are having, dripping over you and shining their lights in your face to provide atmosphere, before insisting that they lightly mean to wake you but its thad to didn't mean to wake you but just had to share this delightful experience with

In due course Room Service will gently awaken you with the inviting smells of breakfast, enticing you to rise and chat with those most strong-willed

of rogainers who have denied themselves the pleasures of the course until this time, and are gleefully contemplating their forthcoming contemplating voyage of discovery.

After a pleasant morning in the Hash House the merry band will begin to return, their happy smiling faces a testimony to the delights of crossing the Cox's River after it has enjoyed a weekend of non-stop enhancement. They will come back bursting with tales of places so scenic they were unable to tear themselves away, in some cases spending an hour or more wandering round and round one small area, lost in wonderment at the beauty of nature.

As you wait to receive their praises, you chuckle indulgently at their little games as they hand over their control cards, cunningly downsized to remove any opportunity for you to annotate them with trivialities. such as points scores. Now all that remains is to graciously bestow remains is to graciously bestow blessings on the chosen few, before despatching them for the last treat of the day - packing up a wet and windblown tent for their return to the big bad world beyond rogaining.

But wait - there is more. home in Sydney the control cards provide you with hours more fun, as you discover that a total of 1,095 control visits were made (that's an average of 15 per team) for an average score of 553 points. More importantly a total of 51 visits were made to the lolly controls, with 5 teams making it to both (#101 and #70), while a further 38 visited #70, and 3 others making do with the spoils from #101. Just three teams braved the ford, with at least one team reporting on the refreshing properties of skipping through nipple high water after a long hard day (and night) in the bush.

As for popularity...... this award must go to The Cemetery, with all but 2 teams calling in there. This was

followed by #22, #40, #33 and #48, with poor #61 and #43 tying to be the most unloved. Not a spider or a lolly between them, either. So next time you are contemplating 12 or 24 hours in the bush, and wondering if this really is too much fun for one day, consider taking the opportunity to extend the pleasure by volunteering to be the one who goes out there and selects all those delightful spots for others to follow. The Hash House really is a great place

to spend a wet weekend.

Despite our pre-start warnings, we had to disqualify two teams for splitting up. Both 3-person teams, the first left a tired member on a track while they went in to find the control. Having taken much longer than expected, they got back to the road to find him gone. This was at 5.30am. Around 9am the other 2 returned to the Hash House and reported him missing. As it was cold and wet, and the missing member was reported not to be a good navigator, they (and we) were naturally concerned for him and various people went out to search. In the end he returned to the HH under his own steam a couple of hours later. This not only caused unnecessary work and worry to the organisers, but put the competitor himself in some danger. The last thing you should do if one of your team is feeling tired and unable to keep up is abandon them. This is a team sport and the team

MUST stay together.

The other disqualified team became separated approaching their last control, and in the heat of the moment and their wish to finish on time two of the team arrived back without their 3rd partner. Whilst this was not an intentional split, they still broke the rules by not remaining in contact and voluntarily disqualified themselves as

soon as they finished.

Sue Clarke (Coursesetter)



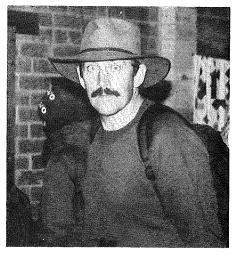
Rowan Wiltshire, Sue Clarke and Tony Maloney Another 999 of these fans and we'll blow the damn cloud away!

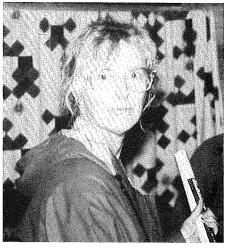
UPSIDE-DOWN 12-HOUR

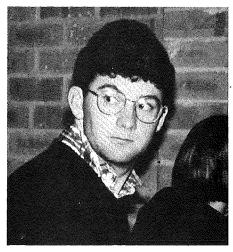
RYDAL, 10 March 1996

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12-Hour		Finish	0	M	W	X	V J
Anthony Darr, Shane Trotter		11:56	1	Ţ			
Peter Gordon, Robert Vincent		11:43 11:51	2	2			
		11:58	4	3		1	
		11:58	5	4		•	
Peter Garran, Gareth Prosser, Andy Simpson		11:59	6	5			
Kevin Power, Markus Zarins		11:59	7	6			
Bruce Fenton, Peter Paddon, Stephen Thompson		11:45	3	7			
David Dash, Ian Deck, Peter Tamsett		11:22	9	8			l
Brad Newcombe, Jeremy Welbourne		12:00 11:56	10 11	9 10			
Timothy Barling, Russel Thiering John Barnes, Andrew Perry		12:06	12	11			
Robert Embery, Brian Laursen, Geoffrey Price		11:45		12			
Andrew Cagney, Bett Koch		11:52	14			2	
Anthony Hunt, Gary Staglis		11:59	15	13			
Debbie Stuart, James Stuart, Rachel Swan		10:26	16			3	_
Malcolm Hughes, Margaret Hughes			17			4	2
Annette Billinghurst, Michael Billinghurst		11:23 11:26	18	1.4		5	
Phillip Carter, Jim Meek	670	9:46		14 15			
David Green, David Palmisano Tom Jansen, Nick Quinsey, Russell Taylor		11:29		16			
Paul Rainey, Chris Stevenson		11:36		17			
Andrew Black, Cathy Love		11:56				6	
Paul Brooks, Peter Erlandsen		? 1:26		18			
Rodger Austen, Rosemary Austen, Peter Garlick,	640	11:21	25			7	
Steve Garlick							
Richard Connors, Grant Maizels		11:54		19			2
Phillip Allen, John Guilly		11:43 11:38		20	1		3
Margaret Peel, Rachel Williams Jennifer Borrell, Terry Funk		11:50			2		4
Bob Bartle, Ted Booth		11:17		21	2		5
Eric Metzke, Linda Robinson		10:15	31			8	6
Bob McNairn, Frank Rosser		12:00	32	22			-
Tim Curran, Geoff Peel		12:07	33	23			
Andrew Forsyth, Chris Holland		11:42	34	24		_	
Nihal Danis, Richard Sage		11:46	35			9	
David Leslie, Reddall Leslie		11:41	36	25		10	
Stephen Castle, Betty Chen, Lara D'Abreo		11:53 11:43	37 38	26		10	
Paul Kernick, Karl Spackman Glenn Meyer, Peter Meyer	530	8.35	39	26 27			
Caroline Blake, Anna Clarke, Peter McConaghy		10:03		21		11	
Michael Hannan, Nicholas Hannan		10:50		28		• •	
Janet McLachlan, Peter Rankin		11:01				12	
David Clayton, Narelle Clayton, Vaughan Clayton	470	8: <i>59</i>				13	
Merv English, Anne Francis		12:00				14	
Lynn Dabbs, Kevin Williams		11:23				15	7
Gillian Eales, Mary Ann Graham, Peter Morris Scott Bartho, Tegan Bartho, Nicholas Bojdak,		11:37 10:56				16 17	1
Greg Miller, Alywn Patterson	400	10.50	7,			1 /	1
John Biddiscombe, John Bishop	400	11:28	48	29			8
Mark Simons, Jason Szczerbanik	400	11:47	49	30			
Melanie Mill, Anita Scherrer		11:52	50		3		
Brendan Berghout, Tricia Truelove		11:44				18	
Stephen Jackett, Steve Lloyd		11:41	52	31			9
Alan Garde, Stephen Palmer	340 310	4:00 7:07		32 33			10
Ian Griffiths, Gary Joyce, Paul Morgan Albie Arnott, Sharon Arnott	300	7:11	55	33		19	11
Phil Brammer, Daniel Egger, Glenn Strkalj	270	7:38		34		1,	
Chris Charles, Katrina Charles, Henry Roberts	270	9:00		٠.		20	
Darren Reynolds, Tina Reynolds		12:11				21	
Ken Gray, Graeme Woodward		11:43		3.5			
Paul Chegwidden, David Evans Pam Findlay, Sandra Kemp, Ailsa MacKenzie,		7:40		36			
Carole Williams	220	11:16	ρŢ		4		
Ken Gray, Karen Hanselmann, Peter Hanselmann,	210	8:25	62			22	
Graeme Woodward	210	0.23	02			22	
Shawn Armitage, Jamie Richardson, Craig Wheeler	210	11:39	63	37			
Helen Atkins, Roz Atkins, Frances Phillips, Gail		12:00			5		
Roland							
Rosemary Seberry, Joanne Vanderstok		11:45			6		
Jennie Bond, Tony Bond	150	9:49				23	12
Roslyn Muir, Andrew Walker, Tracy Walker	150 140	12:00 6:26		20		24	
Duncan Forster, Paul Forster Phuoc Hua, David Johnson, Craig Layton, Jason		11:18		38 39			
Layton	70	11.10	0,5	33			
Cameron Boulter, Richie Date, David Dewar, James	80	10:32	70	40			
McCluskey							
Simon Carson, Andrew Coppins, Marian Coppins,	70	11:18	71			25	
Nick Coppins, Peter Scobie	_,						
Jen Lander, Peter Prendergast		12:24				26	
Helen Kolupacev, Malcolm Stewart	30		13			27	
Dick Mountstephens, Ian Rannard Don Johnstone, Bill MacLennan, Mireille Stephens		13:00 13:00					
Don Brooks, Ken Smith		14:00					
Geoff Bailey, Trevor Gollan, George Takacs	Disq	27.00					
Anna Bray, Neil Glick, John Higgins	Disq						
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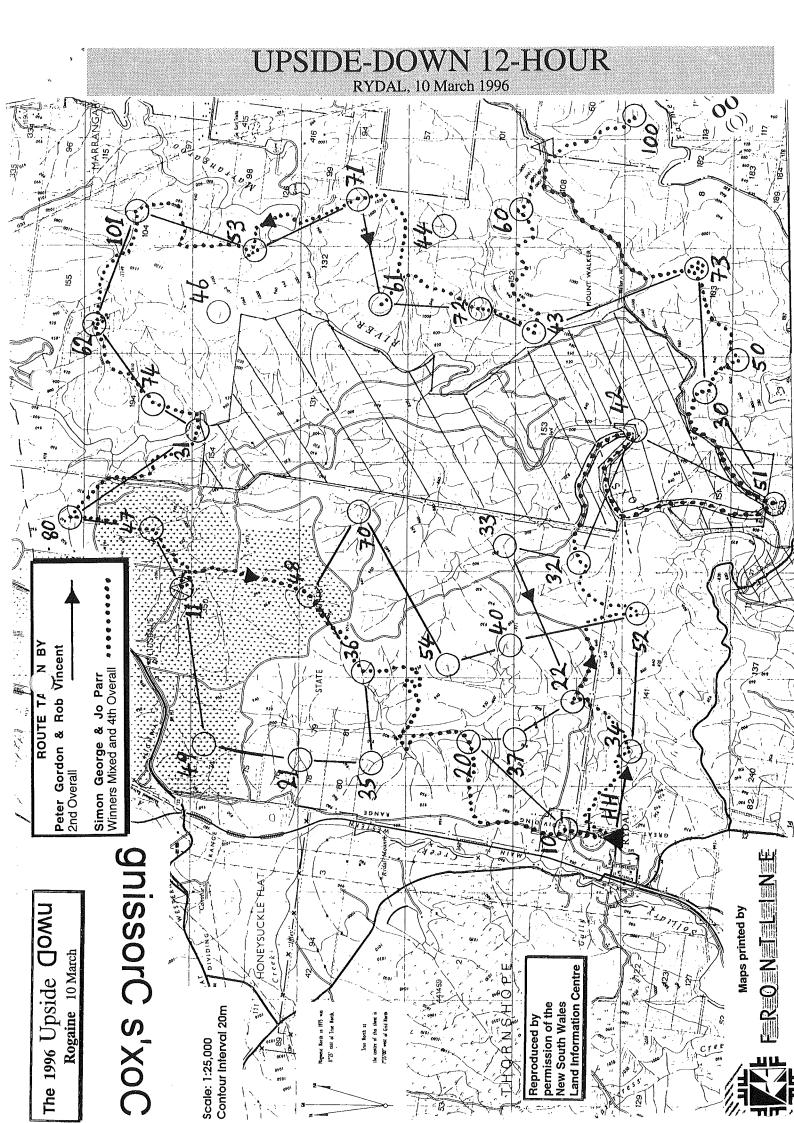
NOCTURNALS
It seems the Upside-Down attracts a special breed of rogainer. Well done John Keats for capturing some of these reclusive creatures... they that prefer to appear about midnight.







Categories: Open, Men, Women, miXed, Veteran, Junior



ACT CHAMPIONSHIPS

REFLECTIONS OF A ROGAINER (WHY DO I DO IT)

Rogaining for me is like getting out of bed early in the morning. You don't like doing it at the time but you feel good afterwards. It was 12:30pm on a wet Sunday afternoon somewhere in Namadgi National Park. My partner Kate (in both life and rogaining) and I had just finished the 15-hour at the ACT Championships. Tired, wet, grubby, but not hungry thanks to the great hash house, I was reflecting on the finer points of life and rogaining (as one is wont to do at this

time).
Why exactly was I here? I mean, over the walked about 50 preceding 24 hours we had walked about 50 kilometres - some at night, some in the rain, some in the fog. Most of the time my right hand had been limply stretched in front of me holding a soggy map and compass, my glasses semitranslucent, rain seeping in numerous places through my guaranteed waterproof Goretex, shoes squelching black mud (which still hasn't washed off my toes two weeks later), and my underpants creating some very tender spots in my nether regions. As I sat, coffee in one hand and sausage sandwich in the other, comfortably awaiting the inevitable onset of rigor mortis I thought back over the event.

It had started well by our standards. were actually ready on time! In fact, before time, which was just as well seeing that the starter's gun went off five minutes earlier than most competitors were expecting. We headed north for #19 (refer to map on page 10). Easy. Then across the swamp to #39. Trouble. At about 12:20pm (ie. 25 minutes after starting) Kate, who was particularly psyched up for this event due to my offer of a night at the Canberra Park Royal on the way home if she'd be my partner for "just one more rogaine", stepped into waist-deep muddy bog-water... a hole that I managed to avoid.
"Come on Kate. I'll buy you dinner as

well", did the trick.

We arrived, half of us so bedraggled, at #39 then on to #38 somewhat

further mishaps. Three controls bang in a row - arrogance set in. A bearing was set to take us to the spur above #37 which would then allow us to gently stroll down to the control. Great in theory? The thing wasn't there. OK - it must be up on the spur above us. Nope. The spur

below? Nope.

"Forget it" I said to Kate. Life's too short to be dictated to by a piece of flimsy material and a course-setter's macabre sense of humour.

Kate led us safely to #32, across to #9 and up to #53, down to #49 and back across to #63. Nice work Kate. #63 was placed in the middle of another swamp. Guess who had to punch the card? Much to her annoyance I managed to emerge on the far side of the swamp with reasonably dry feet.

Up the big hill to #82 then across to Darkness occurred. The fog up was pea-soup thick. The pea-soup there was pea-soup thick. The temperature dropped. You know the saying "when the going gets tough the tough get going"? Well it wasn't written with us in mind. We sat down and had dinner hoping that would brighten things up. It didn't. Onwards to #30 and found it first off - a real lucky break. Our luck continued for #50, #51 and #41 before we decided not to press it any further. We used the road to head home via GUDGENBY, 4-5 May 1996 numbers 6, 40, 15 and 34, arriving at the HH, in steady rain, at 10pm.

Four kilos of hot food later I was in bed reflecting on the afternoon's activities. was beside reflecting on glossy brochures outlining the amenities of the Canberra Park Royal. I reminded her that there was still work to be done before she could claim her bootie.

Up at 5:30am and on the road by 6:00. Not long after that the rain recommenced. We collected numbers 17, 56, 24 and at about 22 we spoke our first intelligible words to each other since crawling out of the sleeping bags. I took us across the watercourse to #36 but there was no control! Kate, as she does so well, quietly pointed out the error of my ways and directed me to the correct gully

Across the river and up to the saddle in now relentless rain, to #70 and then #14. I'm not my best rogaining in the rain. My glasses fog up and I have difficulty in seeing the surrounding country, let alone the map. Kate led us to #60 then to the waterfall for #35 and the BIG boulder for #47. We were heading for home now and Kate seemed to get the bit between her teeth. I had trouble keeping up. (I think she was smelling the lure of the crisp, laundered sheets and fluffy white bathrobes at the hotel, whereas I was merely smelling the International Roast at the HH). #12 was a cinch then across the river to #61. I vaguely remembered reading in the course setter's notes something about waist-deep water but couldn't recall any mention of knee-deep mud underneath the waist-deep water.

'Come on Kate, I'll buy the wine too," did expensive rogaine for me.) Finally, the last control. What's the clue for this one? "On the southern knoll." That's funny seeing there's only an eastern and western knoll - another example of Mr Fischer's sense of humour, we concluded as we located it on the eastern knoll.

Back to the HH with four minutes to spare.

So, there I was at the HH, deep in reflection, when our names were called. Better let Kate take the medal - might spoil the effect if people saw that my legs weren't functioning properly

Finally, after all this reflection, why do I rogaine? Stuffed if I know.

Geoff Bailey

SUE'S VIEW

My hands were so waterlogged they were still a bit swollen on Tuesday. It started to drizzle about 4pm, and we didn't 620 me bet At 5 I put my rain jacket on, at 5.30 we both rugged up even more. I only took my hat and gloves off 'cos we took to jogging around in the open for the last three hours.

It wasn't a large entry (130 I think in the 8+15+24 hour). I teamed up with Mike Hotchkis (another conquest for the Black Widow - Warwick would be proud of me!) and we won the mixed with 177 points, came 2nd overall to Andrew Blakers & David Singleton on 221 and 3rd overall had about 135 - not what you'd call a close run thing. This has to be the loneliest rogaine I've been on... between 4.30pm and 9am we saw two teams, very close together around 11pm. Not even any torchlights in the distance.

I think I slowed Mike down somewhat, although he said he was glad enough about that during the night when he fell asleep every time he leaned on a branch for a second. too wet to stop for a sleep. At least I was, so kept quiet, and he didn't suggest it. I wasn't sleepy, just leg-tired on the hills. Blame it on the Metrogaine the week before - couldn't possibly be lack of fitness, now could it?

Apart from the cold, the wet, the 13 hours of darkness, and the hour plus we wasted on each of the first two controls after dark, it was a good rogaine. And the further it gets from midday Sunday the better it seems! I had a good easy-going partner, plenty of cold potatoes and English jelly babies (a totally different species to the Australian ones), and a partner's wife to drive us home after competing in the 8hour herself.

In fact we could hardly complain about the weather - back in 1986 both Mike & I took part in the storm-lashed Karrimor Marathon in southern Scotland, where there was a 50% retirement overnight. Now that event really was cold and wet...

Sue Clarke

ENJOY THE CHALLENGE OF YOUR NEX ROGAINE

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- Digital boundaries such as local government, suburb, electoral etc.

METROGAINE

CARINGBAH, 28 April 1996

6-HOUR	Score	Finish	0	M	w	X	V	J	F	Ę
Mark Freeman, Martin Krause Mike Hotchkis, Warwick Payten	2130 2050	3:51 3:57	1 2	1 2						
Tom Landon-Smith, Alina McMaster	2020	4:15	3			1				
Sue Clarke, John Le Carpentier Peter Gordon, Arthur Kingsland	1960 1870	4:00 3:57	4 5	3		2	1			
Alan Garde, Shane Trotter	1820	3:48	6	4		3	2			
Ian Cameron, Sue Kurrle Peter Charlton, Peter Learoyd	1680 1630	3:52 3:53	8	5		3				
Ross Barr, Ron Junghans	1630 1630	3:54 4:02	9 10	6 7			3			
Rob O'Neill, Mark Simons, Jason Szczerbanik Annette Billinghurst, Michael Billinghurst	1610	3:57	11			4				
Mark Suters, George Takacs Heiko Schaefer, Mark Schaefer	1570 1530	3:58 3:52	12 13	8					1	
Gretchen Hart, Katy Mitchell	1520	3:53	14		1					
Iain Brownlee, Geoff Peel Rowan Wiltshire, Andrew Wisniewski	1480 1480	3:43 3:58	15 16	10 11						
Nicole Dynon, Andrew Haigh	1460 1460	3:57 4:03	17 18			5				
Kylie Smith, Noel Turner Peter Garran, Nic Plunkett-Cole, Gareth Prosser	1450	3:58	19			6 7				
David Le Carpentier, Karl Spackman Michael Hannan, Nicholas Hannan	1440 1440	3:43 3:52	20 21	12 13					2	
Brian Hughes, Geoffrey Price	1410	3:53	22	14						
David Dash, Ian Deck, Peter Tamsett John Bowles, Chris Stevenson, Dianne Stevenson	1410 1410	3:54 3:55	23 24	15		8	4			
Steve Dammerer, Chris Ryan	1380 1380	3:45 3:58	25 26	16 17			5			
Dick Mountstephens, Ian Rannard Andrew Cagney, Bett Koch	1310	3:58	27			9	3			
John Barnes, Rohan Prowse Hindrik Buining, Ian Humphries, David Pryor	1300 1290	3:59 3:55	28 29	18 19						
Glenn Meyer, Ian Meyer, Peter Meyer	1280	3:54	30	20		10	_		3	
Maurie Bloom, Barbara Ellis Malcolm Hughes, Margaret Hughes	1270 1260	3:36 3:55	31 32			10 11	6 7			
Richard Connors, David Green, Andrew Palmisano	1250	3:55	33	21	~		·			
Margaret Peel, Rachel Williams Phillip Allen, Bob Bartle, John Guilly	1240 1230	3:49 3:58	34 35	.22	2					
Andrew Lumsden, David Noble	1170	3:55	36 37	23		12			4	
Bruce Chessman, Carl Chessman, Julia Chessman Lucy Hanratty, Michael Hanratty	1170 1150	3:59 3:53	38			13				
Peter Garlick, Steve Garlick Marnie Holmes, Meg Thornton, Robyn Tuft	1150 1140	3:58 3:56	39 40	24	3				5	
Melanie Lawrence, Malcolm Souter	1130	3:58	41		-	14				
Michael Hulskamp, James Robinson Henrik Bisley, Nick Quinsey, Russell Taylor	1120 1100	3:49 3:37	42 43	25 26						
Robert Penfold, Gary Williams	1090	3:48	44	27						
Steve Burns, Russell Cail, Steve Hooper Oscar Clarke, Jesse Clarke, Nihal Danis, Richard Sage	1090 1080	3:48 3:45	45 46	28		15			6	
Andrea Harrison, Brad Holmes	1070	3:44	47 48			16				
Nina Lansbury, Daniel Marlay, Vivienne Steiniger Cameron Osborne, Carol Osborne	1070 1060	3:55 3:45	49			17 18				
Douglas Catchpole, Andrew Forsyth, Chris Holland	1060 1050	3:50 3:47	50 51	29 30						
Richard Adams, Kalvis Duckmanton, Grant Mitchell Richard Palmer, Tracey-Ann Palmer	1050	3:53	52	50		19				
John Bishop, Ian McNichol Iain Martin, Anthony McLeod	1040 1030	4:00 3:53	53 54	31 32			8			
Anna Clarke, Tim Duke, Peter McConaghy	1030	3:58	55			20				
Jocelyn Booth, Ted Booth Jason Briffa, Stephen Clarke, Diana Owen, Sharon Tan	1020 1010	3:57 3:31	56 57			21 22	9			
Barry Hanlon, Janet Morris	1000 990	3:57 3:37	58 59			23 24	10			
Michael Burton, Connie McNamee-Burton Ross Innes, Alison McGibbon, Andrew Scobie	980	3:36	60			25				2
Amber Barr, Andrew Hassall Mike Dennis, Jo Hume, James Southwell, Nicolle Sprague	980 980	3:40 4:01	61 62			26 27				
Stephen McNamara, Joanne Vanderstok	970	3:47	63			28				
Debbie Hotchkis, Mary-Kate Pickett Archie Donley, Alison Viner	970 960	3:47 2:23	64 65		4	29				
Wendy Hird, Stewart White	960 960	3:49 3:55	66 67			30 31				3
Amanda Johnstone, Don Johnstone Bill Gribble, Leslie Steinhaus	950	3:53	68	33			11			
Trevor Hogg, Janine Hogg Pam Findlay, Sandra Kemp, Ailsa MacKenzie, Mary	940 940	3:29 3:47	69 70		5	32				
Thomas, Carole Williams										
Thomas Bunn, Kate Morley, Liz Morley Brendan Berghout, Tricia Truelove	940 920	3:51 3:52	71 72			33 34				
Richard Ambrogio, Jacqui Bridge, Jack Redfern	920	3:55	73	34		35				
Nigel Capps, Hugh McGuiness, David Planthaber Greg Burghardt, Rosemary Seberry	900 890	3:43 3:46	74 75	J4		36				
Kathryn Coventry, Peter Coventry, Rachel Coventry Philippa Amery, Stewart Amery	880 880	3:30 3:41	76 77			37 38			7	
Ben Austen, Kate Austen, Rodger Austen, Robin Austen	870	3:45	78			39			8	
Rosemary Austen, Anthea Kearney, Benita Kearney Jennifer Borrell, Craig Keats, John Keats	870 870	3:46 3:46	79 80		6	40				
Matthew Smith, Nicholas Smith	860	3:37	81	35						4
Judith Chapman, Ken Chapman, Lyn Cirulis Peter Le Carpentier, Sue Le Carpentier	860 860	3:39 3:45	82 83			41 42	12		9	
Anne Pigram, Bill Pigram	860 850	3:49 3:51	84 85			43 44	13		10	
Anne Smith, Graham Smith, Heather Smith, Lachlan Smith Allan Ramsay, Michael Ramsay	850	3:56	86	36						
Bronwyn Meek, Jim Meek Marian Coppins, David Scobie, Ben Scobie	840 840	3:44 3:47	87 88			45 46			11 12	
Christine Cordingley, Tom Cordingley, Daniel Fallon, Julie	830	3:36	89			47				
Fallon, Shannon Trigg Alaric Lewis, Helen Lewis, Joshua Lewis, Roger Lewis	830	4:01	90			48			13	
Fiona Henderson, Iain Wilson, Audrey Wilson, Michael	820	3:42	91			49			-	
Wilson David Hill, Andrew Smith	820	3:52	92	37						(
Bert van Netten, Dianne van Netten, Jamie van Netten,	820	3:57	93			50			14	
Kim van Netten Kathleen Cavill, Maureen Cavill	790	3:40	94		7				15	
Michael Vettoretti, Patricia Vettoretti Brooke Hammond, Bob McNairn, Catherine McNairn	790 790	3:40 3:56	95 96			51 52			16 17	
Philip Doggett, Jane Drummond, Melissa Harvey, Doug	760	3:56	97			53			• /	
Williamson Sue Byleveld, Erik Thorvaldson	750	3:43	98			54				
Gail Roland, Joel Roland	720	3:40	99			55			18	
(Continued next page)										_

CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

Although our planning was good and everything was falling into place, I couldn't help but be rather nervous on the day. Would most people like the course; not too hard; not too easy; the questions not too cryptic? After being introduced by El Presidente Pete with some references to my misfortunes at the Wollombi event back in 1989, (he has a very long memory for the embarrassing bits) everything seemed to go well.

well.

The hardest part of setting a metrogaine course is probably designing the questions. Obviously, the questions needed to be simple and unambiguous yet varied. We added six control flags this year for a little variety (none of which were pinched) and to give novices a taste of traditional style rogaines. It would certainly be easier for the course setters if all control points could be marked with a flag. There was one control where the answer changed while we weren't looking. Some inconsiderate person parked a dredge in front of the channel marker in question. Also the decking surrounding the sailing club was being removed during the event. I guess everyone went there early.

Organising a metrogaine has one big advantage over a championship event... very little

Organising a metrogaine has one big advantage over a championship event... very little time is spent travelling to and from the course. I could combine a Saturday morning run close to home with course setting or an after-work drive around the course to check things, all with minimal disruption to the family. Maybe there is space in the calendar to run two metros per year.

For the novice organiser like me, it was a huge buzz. Congratulations to the winners who put in mighty efforts. I hope all the competitors enjoyed Metro'96 as much as we did. Special thanks go to George Collins and Mark Hill who worked hard at putting it all together. Also to the 1st Caringbah Scout Group for their efforts in providing the great hash house. And to Paddy Pallin Miranda for their continuing support of rogaining (and scouting) and for providing the prizes.

There is a copy of the map and a set of answers at the Metrogaine WWW page http://www.dap.csiro.au/~ljy to settle any arguments at metro post mortems.

Lindsay Young

METROGAINE

CARINGBAH, 28 April 1996

(from previous page)	Score	Finish	0	M	W	X	V	J	F	S
Roz Atkins, Rhonda Gregory, Lauren Gregory, Tim Gregory	720	3:40	100			56				
Manfred Mackenzie, Janet Sculfer	700	3:46	101			57	14			
Gail Barr, Sandra Souter	690	3:45	102		8		15			
Susan Bellamy, Terry Gainey, David Rose	690	4:01	103			58				
Bernadette Baker, James Baker, Ross Baker	670	2:26	104			59			19	
Glen Harrison, Steve Harrison	600	3:35	105	38					20	
Helen Kolupacev, Elizabeth Stewart	580	2:29	106		9					
Peter Drurie, Kerem Kaner	580	3:13	107	39						
Leanne Burke, Stephen Hodge, Stephen McCool, Jenney	580	3:39	108			60				
Spearmen										
Virginia Brunton, Chris Miller, Melinda Miller	570	2:00	109			61			21	
Leigh Tristram, Ruth Tristram	540	3:25	110			62				
Julie Gray, Peter Gray	540	3:25	111			63				
Ben Meek, Margaret Meek	520	3:51	112			64			22	
Michael Brown, Amy Brown, Brendan Young	510	3:20	113			65		1		
Iman Weller, Michael Weller	480	3:28	114			66				
Nejdet Danis, Milo Danis, Papatya Danis, Petrea Stuart	440	3:45	115			67			23	
Lynne Dunbar, Tess Watterson, Peter Watterson	430	3:54	116			68			24	
Mark Canterbury, Erin Canterbury	330	3:04	117			69			25	

Categories: Open, Men, Women, miXed, Veteran, Junior, Family, Scout

KEEPING UP WITH ARTHUR

The residents of Castlenau Street, Caringbah must have been puzzled by the preparation rituals taking place on their footpaths that morning.

Amid inquisitive neighbours and arriving rogainers I found my partner at around 8:30am. Arthur greeted me with information that the previous night's rogaining preparation included a bottle of red and just three hours sleep. This was somewhat comforting to hear at the time. Given the mismatch in our normal cruising speeds I (mistakenly) assumed this might help even out the difference in our fitness levels. Self-inflicted handicaps aside, Metrogaine is a runners' event, and choosing a runner for a partner meant it was always going to be a hard six hours.

After collecting maps we took up the first challenge of the day - covering a piece of paper with clear contact on the bonnet of a car in a 30 knot wind! I then tossed Arthur a shoelace for a measuring stick, and after a couple of minutes was presented with the scenario: "...we'll have to cover more than 50 km to get them all!" (At that stage, one of us was quite sure that 'getting them all' was not going to be an option.)

going to be an option.)
On first scanning the map, it was apparent that most of the points were close to the expanse of dominant coastline. Hence, with fine weather forecast we knew everyone was in for a treat with regard to taking in the local views and scenery. Many thanks to Lindsay Young and his team for taking full advantage of the location.

In planning a suitable route we split the map into half a dozen regions which were essentially dictated by peninsulas and bays. Points distributed across these regions revealed which direction we needed to take on leaving the Hash House. The map was split roughly as follows: HH peninsula (670 pts), western region (750 pts), two south-eastern peninsulas (250 & 290 pts), north-eastern region (160 pts), and the huge barren inland north (140 pts). Clearly, we had to clean up the central south and western regions, then, time permitting, have a crack at the south-east. The north and north-east were to be avoided.

The starting siren (which sounded twice) saw us heading for control 30. Opting for the clockwise loop was a decision made by only 4 or 5 teams. We started passing teams (Mike H & partner) going in the opposite direction after 45 minutes, on our way to 64. An hour and a half on foot and we had reached control 12, completing the first loop and passing within 2 blocks of HH (not to be seen again for a further three and a half hours).

Our path continued with a clockwise loop around the west. Shane and Alan (our primary rivals) drifted by in the opposite direction near 54 with almost two hours down. Water bottles needed replenishing at 60 (the baths) where Arthur found out the hard way why you don't try to fill a small-necked bottle from a public shower. Our control card was barely rescued from turning into papier mâché. Pressing on to the top of the map and passing 47 at the three hour mark, we decided 26 wasn't worth the trouble. Next, after scoring 38, 69, and 27, we'd finished with the west, but had to make our way diagonally across the map to the south-eastern corner with very few scoring opportunities along the way.

opportunities along the way.

Three and a half hours into the event, around control 11, my legs were feeling the effects of having run in the Canberra marathon two weeks prior. (I remember sparing a thought for Michael Burton - I seem to recall he'd been through a similar experience just the day before?!) Arthur was still running strongly but the time had come to walk for a bit. 16, 44, 23, 10 ... four hours had passed

Running again, we grabbed 250 points from just 4 controls on the Burraneer peninsula. The entrance to the track to 100 had us a bit puzzled, but scoring the big points was a bit of a morale boost at the time. With one hour to go the control card box for 59 contained an answer.

We were then heading away from HH again for the (SE most) Cronulla peninsula. We had allowed 30 minutes for the return to HH from Cronulla, with unfortunately no prospect of scoring a single point along the way. Hence there were 30 minutes available for collecting what points we could in Cronulla before turning for home. 31, 42, 58, 33 and the control card was no longer needed.

Five and a half hours had passed and I was quite content to walk the remaining 3 km to HH. Arthur's endless supply of endorphins still seemed to be riding high, though the (nonnegotiable) decision to walk was accepted. It soon became apparent that a slow jog was actually the easier option as Arthur suggested we try race-walking! I was given a demonstration of technique required before putting the idea to rest and breaking into a restricted lope. Heading back along Burraneer Road, we joined the masses of other finishers and reached the HH with three minutes to spare.

One of the warming memories of this event was the organisation and preparation put into the Hash House. Arriving back close to finish time and still being able to get plenty to eat/drink is most appreciated.

A few acknowledgements... Thanks Arthur for the race walking tips and for teaming up with this relative snail for 45 km Thanks immensely to Lindsay Young and your crew for providing all entrants with an excellently designed and designed organised event.
again to the Many thanks Hash House staff/caterers charged with the responsibility of feeding the intrepid wanderers. Congratulations to the guys that won ... you must have covered 50 km plus!

Peter Gordon

BRONWYN'S STORY

We had a good 10km walk last year at Lane Cove, even though it was a bit hot at times and the traffic was a little unpleasant in places. We also managed to edge-out the 'main' competition in the event, outscoring our other family category entry comprising mother, brother and friend.

This year our aims were to walk a bit further, to keep away from the traffic, to enjoy ourselves... and to beat the grandparents! Our plan was to head southwest and to clean-up all the controls south of the hashhouse in the Lilli Pilli/Port Hacking/Dolans Bay area with an anticlockwise sweep. In the event we made almost 20km, kept mostly to the peaceful bays and leafy streets, had a little fun... and even impressed grandma and Ben with our tally of 840 points.

The plan went well. We almost missed 32 as dad was distracted by the smashed letterbox alongside it, we marvelled at the rock arch (having discovered that you couldn't actually see it from the 'X' at 61), tested our eyes in finding 'Hazel' on a rock, enjoyed a little soccer near 40 and then rushed past the tea stop on Lilli Pilli Point without stopping. Dad insisted on a 10-minute break for lunch on a wall halfway on the long walk between 64 and 67, then we enjoyed the view to the dredge and the vista at Wally's Wharf before trottingon until we allowed ourselves another brief stop by the water on Dolans Bay near 62. We continued, taking care to ignore a Stork and to instead record the statue of a Lady at 50 and, before we knew it, we'd completed our planned expedition by collecting the number from the transformer box at 30 just after we crossed paths with more of the family competition in (cousin) Glen and

A quick glance at map and watch told us we could probably 'get' another 150 or so by visiting some of the controls on offer to the south of the railway. The good energy of the earlier walking carried us onward, and in no time at all (it seemed!) we found ourselves back at the hashhouse. It was a great course and it was also nice to arrive home, for once, with both time and energy to spare. Thanks to all concerned for a great day... and especially to the cubs selling the chocolate cakes afterward!

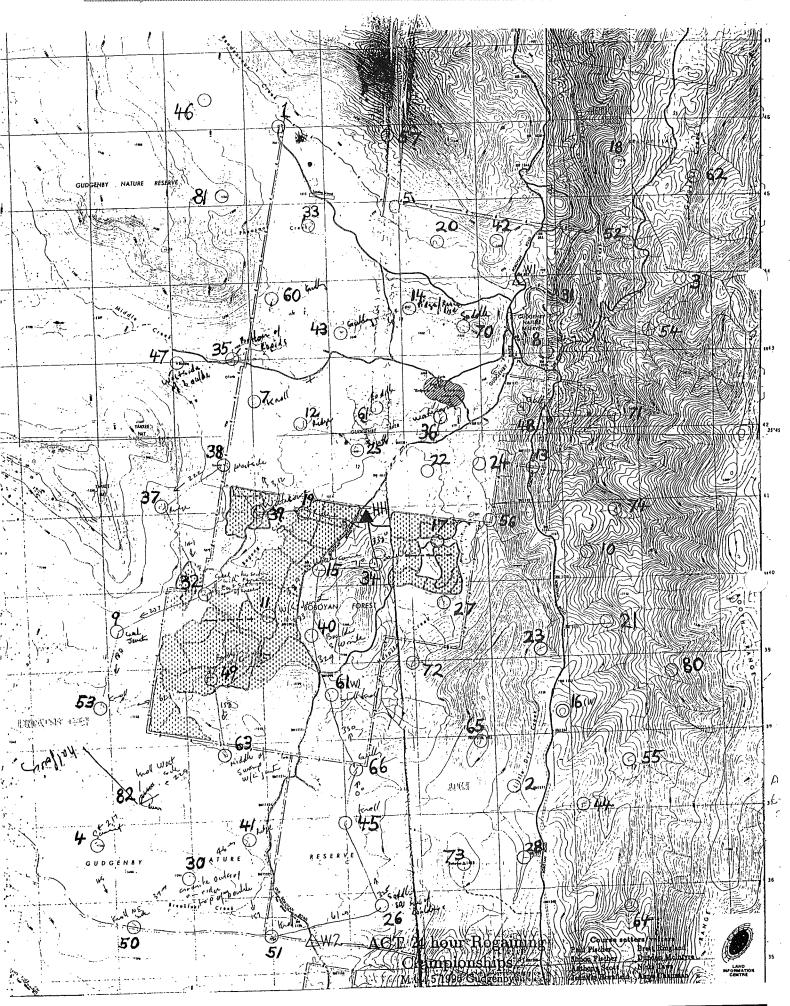
Dad's Note: Judging by my tired feet and her lack of complaint afterward, this eight year-old seemed significantly more energetic than my companion at the 1995 Metrogaine. Looks like I might have to go into training if I want to keep up with an even more competitive nine year-old in 1997.

Bronwyn & Jim Meek

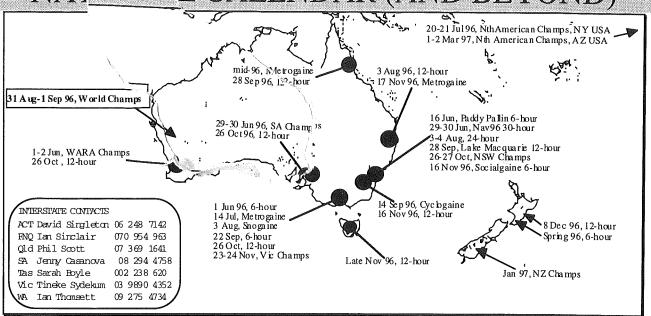
ETROGAINE CARINGBAH, 28 April 1996 Mike Hotchkis & Warwick Payten 2nd Overall Mansion BEER Bight MAPS PRINTED BY Crown Copyright. Reproduced from CMA topographic map Land Information Centre. Panorama Ave. Bathurst 2795 ROUTE TAKEN Ph: 438 3000 Fax: 436 3206 ğ Yowie Point Z Вау RENOWN EDVYARD LLE [] _ <u>8</u> drriel Point 8011 WOOLOOWARE SOF Sutherland Shire METROGAINE വ Sunday 28 April 1996 CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 METRES amatt SCALE 1:25 000 GOLF LINKS Bass and Flinders Point Kilometres GRID MAGNET ANGLE 11.2"

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NATIONAL CALENDAR (AND BEYOND)



Beyond the Black Stump



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