NSW ROGAINING NEWSLETTER

NUMBER 59 JULY 1996

IN THIS ISSUE:

RESULTS/REPORTS: Paddy Pallin 6-hour

16/06/96 Metrogaine 28/04/96

Gareth Prosser

ENTRY FORMS:

24-hour South Coast Lake Macquarie 12-hour 3-4/08/96 28/09/96

Rogaining -> R go aining -> Go Raining

PRESIDENT PETE'S PIECE

What a great event the Paddy Pallin 6hour was, in spite of the rain.

The course was just the right length (I reckon) - just long enough for the best teams to constantly worry if they should go for all the controls. Three teams managed it: old hands Michael Burton and Arthur Kingsland, new stars Andrew Hill and Robert Preston (still Juniors - an awesome performance), and Peter Gordon & Rob Vincent (all of them Novocastrians, except Mike. Ed) At the more social end of the spectrum, I met a team near full-time whooping for joy at having found their second control. highlights of the day: water, wildflowers, rock platform paths (some complete with direction arrows), lashings of bacon. Thanks to Stephen Castle and all the other hard-working organisers, including our Paddy Pallin patrons.

At the end of the event, the organisers had trouble checking off teams due to control cards being destroyed by the rain please 'Contact' your card (and map) on both sides in future. A general safety rule to remember is that if you are late back (more than an hour) or need help, head for a road or water drop.

Peter Watterson President NSWRA

STEPHEN CASTLE REPORTS

Well, another wet Rogaine. I think a few years back, rogaining was "proud" to break the drought at most of the areas events were staged. Still, this years Metrogaine was dry, so there is still some hope left...

Thankyous

Naturally, an individual doesn't get much done by themselves, so a HUGE thankyou to the team who made this day run so smoothly:

Course Setters: Anthony Dunk, Julie Hystek, Robert Loader, plus Cameron

Course Vetting: Marnie Holmes Admin on the Day: Darlene Crameri, Anthony and Mark Dunk, Cameron and Mel Shorter, Robert Loader, Albie and Sharon Arnott, and Julian Ledger.

Entries Administration: Jason Hughes and Jennie Rush-Hunter from Paddy Pallin, Kent Street.

And last but not least, those who fed you so well: Mark Buckle and the 1st Waitara Scouts.

Setting the Course

The biggest challenge for the Paddy
Pallin Coursesetter is finding a suitable
carpark! There was some really great
areas, but only with enough parking for 50
cars - we needed to have 300! Eventually,

we arrived at Gosford. Checking out all the bush around it went like this: find a spot - no

carpark - lets try a little further south -Stephen is a computer programmer. Ed)
We kept doing this till eventually the road ended and we couldn't go any further south. We had now found ourselves at Patonga.

Well, Patonga had a suitable carpark: the local streets. It had a suitable administration area: an oval. It had camping, though it was a ten minute walk down the street. This looked acceptable so we decided to check out the surrounds.

The first weekend I visited the Warrah Lookout (#23, excellent views) then followed the ridge to #72 and around towards Green Point (Pearl Beach). Aaargh! As the ridge turned northerly the scrub got thicker - it was head high, plus there were huge spider webs (with spider) every ten metres. every ten metres.

The next weekend I visited the area starting at #62, down the spur to #35 and Pearl Beach. Aaargh! The last quarter of the spur was again thick scrub, this time with loads of fallen branches underfoot, making it extremely difficult to walk. I gave up before I even got to #35.

Continued on page 5



Arthur Kingsland and Mike Burton, winners of this years Paddy Pallin rogaine. (Arthur turns 40 next month... perhaps that will slow him down!)

NSW CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT	CO-ORDINATOR	COURSESETTING	ADMINISTRATION	HASHHOUSE
3-4 Aug 96	24-hour Nowra-Batemans Bay	Trevor Gollan 042 26 5544	Geoff Silburn Steve Cliffe	Roz Atkins Phillipa Amery (Creche)	Frances Phillips Jim Meek
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 Scone-Murrurundi	Graeme Cooper 067 72 3584	Charlie Thomson, Tony Dale, Russell Swanson		Vicki Cooper
16 Nov 96	Socialgaine Hawkesbury	Simon George 02 487 4287	Joanna Parr		

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	David Sigley	34 Howard Rd, PADSTOW 2211	02 773 0868	
	Debbie Cox	7/104 Pacific Pde, DEE WHY 2099	02 981 1795	
	Sue Clarke	173 Pittwater Road, BORONIA PARK 2111	02 816 2508	sclarke@efs.mq.edu.au



SOUTH COAST 24-hr, 3-4 Aug

While recently setting the course for the next New South Wales rogaine it occurred to me that this will be the ideal training exercise for the 2nd World Rogaining Championships. Why?

1. Because it's held with the last full moon before WRC, thus offering a comfortable four-week taper for the serious competitors. The only other rogaines on offer before WRC II are:

- North American Champs (20-21
- July) 12-hour in Queensland (3rd August), or the
- 5-hour snogaine in Victoria (3rd August)
- 2. Because it's such similar terrain. WRC II will have:
 - desert; we've got 18 sandy beaches on the course
 - everlasting daisies;

- innumerous wattle
- groves of salmon gums; we've got spotted gums many specimens
- a mountain; we've got a mountain bare hills and thickets; yep, we've

got that

red kangaroos; close, ours are grey a salt lake; we've got the Pacific Ocean [you may even have to walk on it if you try to reach the island at high tide]

OK, so there's more thickets than bare hills, hence a lot of forestry tracks for the serious to cover big distances. The rest of us can just enjoy the beaches, headlands, and marvellous stands of spotted gum and burrawang.

We've also booked a beachside camping ground (like Lake Tabourie in 1993) as our hashhouse, so there will be plenty of space, hot showers, laundry, and extra cabins or caravans to hire if you so desire. Details will be despatched with the final instructions.

CRECHE

Phillipa and Stewart Amery have very generously offered to provide a creche for the 12-hour event. They will entertain, supervise, feed and put your children to bed while you enjoy a leisurely 12-hour stroll along the coast. Numbers will be strictly limited, at Phillipa's discretion, according to helpers and accommodation facilities. You must book with Phillipa and Stewart on (042) 847 105 beforehand; we cannot accept little surprises on the day!

Trevor Gollan

CYCLOGAINE 6-

hour, 15 Sept
Malcolm Leslie (06 247
3873) and Geoff Farrar (06 247 7634) are organising a course approximately 45 minutes from Canberra amid pine forest, which means lots of tracks. There's no obligation to ride bikes... walkers/runners are always welcome (and competitive) on these rogaines

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 young retirees who have a reverential relationship with the Watagan Mountains, having spent many, many days exploring and studying the region, flora and exploring and studying the region, nora and fauna. They have become amateur specialists on (among many things) lyrebirds, leeches, quoils 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

<u>BY THE WAY</u>

WHAT'S A POINT?

Since the top teams took about 30km to do all this years Paddy Pallin course, they were accumulating a point for every metres traversed.

WRC III

The Sage Orienteering Club and Orienteering Association of British Columbia have formally bid to host the 3rd World Rogaining Championships in August 1998.

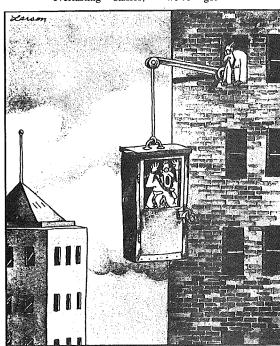
In their bid it states that team members "must stay together and all persons must sign in at the control." Perhaps this could be the solution to teams splitting up?

FAMILIAR FACES

Quite a few people successfully defended their Paddy Pallin titles this year. Last year, at Burralow:

- Mike Burton & Arthur Kingsland won
- (with Shane Trotter); Alina McMaster & Tom Landon-Smith won Mixed:
- Andrew Hill & Rob Preston won Junior (with David Shepherd);
- Sue Clarke & John Le Carpentier won Veteran Mixed.

This year at Patonga was Jo Parr and Simon George's sixth consecutive Paddy Pallin; always placed in the top ten. And it was Mike Burton's fourth win.



Professor Gallagher and his controversial technique of simultaneously confronting the fear of heights, snakes, and the dark Frogaining.

PATONGA, 16 June 1996

		PA.	0,000,000,000		**********						,	
Michael Burton Arthur Vingeland	Score 1650	Time 14:22	<u>0</u>	<u>М</u> 1	W	X	V	MV	wv	χV	J	F
Michael Burton, Arthur Kingsland Andrew Hill, Robert Preston	1650	14:38	2	2							1	
Peter Gordon, Robert Vincent Mike Hotchkis, Warwick Payten	1650 1610	14:50 14:55	3 4	3 4								
Ian Cameron, David Lyle	1520	14:57 15:00	5	5		1						
Tom Landon-Smith, Alina McMaster Sue Clarke, John Le Carpentier	1500 1470	14:55	7	_		2	1			1		
Neil Prosser, Shane Trotter	1470 1420	14:55 14:59	8	6 7								
Bruce Fenton, Stephen Thompson Simon George, Joanna Parr	1410	14:55	10			3						
Rowan Wiltshire, Andrew Wisniewski Andrew MacDonald, Malcolm Stewart	1350 1330	14:53 14:57	11 12	8								
Keith Macqueen, David Wood	1320	14:52	13	10							2	
Graham Payn, Stephen Smith David Lilley, Yvonne Puller, Bert van Netten	1290 1280	14:53 14:46	14 15	11		4	2			2		
Terry Bluett, Melvyn Cox	1270	14:52	16	12						3		
John Hodsdon, Val Hodsdon Peter Charlton, Karen Maund	1260 1250	14:50 14:51	17 18			5 6	3			3		
Michael Bell, Jeremy Coutanche, Christian	1250	15:00	19	13							3	
Meierhofer, Trent Whalan Jason Middleweek, Ken Wilson	1250	15:00	20	14								
Geoff Ingram, Peter Watterson	1240 1240	14:53 14:55	21 22	15 16								
Brad Newcombe, James Stuart, Jeremy Welbourne Robert Embery, Geoffrey Price	1240	14:56	23	17								
Adam Boyd, Zac Zaharias	1190 1190	14:51 14:56	24 25	18		7						
Nicole Dynon, Andrew Haigh Owen Prall, Carsten Schmitz-Peiffer	1160	14:50	26	19		·						
Bruce Chessman, Carl Chessman Andrew Cagney, Bett Koch	1150 1140	14:55 14:53	27 28	20		8						1
Ross Barr, Ron Junghans	1110	14:57	29	21			4	1				
David Kneeshaw, Grahame Price David Dash, Peter Tamsett	1110 1060	14:57 15:01	30 31	22 23			5	2				
David Green, John Jackson, David Tow	1050	14:51	32	24		9	6			4		
Alfred Britton, Dianne van Netten Geoff Bailey, John Booth, Kate Malfroy	1040 1040	14:49 15:06	33 34			10	U			7		
David Lemon, Merrin Pearse, Louise Taylor,	1030	14:55	35			11						
Catherine Tickhurst Geoff Peel, Margaret Peel	1010	14:55	36			12						
Peter Garran, Nic Plunkett-Cole, Gareth Prosser Johan Liljequist, Warwick Wood	990 980	14:42 14:56	37 38	25		13						
Trevor Gollan, Geoff Silburn	960	14:57	39	26								
Anthony Hunt, Gary Stalgis Stephen Jackett, Steve Lloyd	960 950	14:58 14:48	40 41	27 28			7	3				
Leo Carrol, Tom Kuan, Daniel Morley	930	15:00	42	29								
Peter Booth, David Martin, Glenn Schwarzel, Mark Schwarzel	920	14:49	43	30								
Sue Cave, Meg Thornton, Robyn Tuft	900 900	14:55 14:56	44 45		1	14	8		1			
Lisa Phillips, David Walker Barbara Barnes, Richard Barnes	900	14:58	46			15						2
Dick Mountstephens, Ian Rannard	900 880	15:28 14:37	47 48	31	2		9 10	4	2			
Annette Billinghurst, Kathy Herrmann Glenn Meyer, Ian Meyer	880	15:22	49	32	-	1.0			-		4	
Sonia Kupina, Alan Mansfield Michael Hanratty, Richard Palmer	850 840	14:59 14:58	50 51	33		16						
Lynn Dabbs, Kevin Williams	820	14:42	52			17	11 12	5		5		
Martin Liiv, John Siccardi Henry Roberts, John W. Roberts	810 800	14:56 14:50	53 54	34 35			12	3				3
Heiko Schaefer, Ken Schaefer	790 790	14:44	55 56	36		18					5	4
David Carter, Jeff Farrelly Peter Preston, Robert snr Preston	780	14:56 13:58	57	37				,			,	5
Steve Burns, Russell Cail	780 770	15:02 14:10	58 59	38 39			13	6				6
Kenneth Ro Skardon, Peter Skardon Thomas Bunn, Liz Morley	770	14:50	60			19	14			6		
Peter Wherry, Paul Wherry Bruce Crook, Wolfgang Meierhofer	770 770	14:50 14:55	61 62	40 41								7
Caroline Blake, Warwick Blake, Tim Munro	770	14:57	63			20	1.5	,			•	
Phillip Allen, Bob Bartle, John Guilly James Balestriere, Robert Edwards, Graeme	760 760	14:59 14:59	64 65	42 43			15	7				
Woodward												
Merv English, Timothy Francis, Trent Oliver, Ray Trappel, Toby Trappel	750	14:52	66	44								
Peter Dunn, Garry Ferris	750 750	14:53 14:58	67 68	45 46	•		16	8				8
Chris Perry, Keith Perry Jim Harte, Paul Kennedy, Alan Murphy, Ben Tasker	740	14:40	69	47		٠.						U
Karen Darby, Tony Murphy David Bere, Leonie Clarke, Stephen Cliffe, Gillian	740 740	14:49 14:55	70 71			21 22						
Croft, Martin Gregory												
Mark Drinkwater, Robyn Fried, Ray McLean Steve Graham, Bill Hope, Mike Schwarz, Mark	740 720	15:09 14:51	72 73	48		23						
Shields, Ken Smith				49								
Philippe Gratelle, Lincoln Hunter Ian Neuhaus, Alf Torrisi	710 710	14:54 14:58	74 75	50								
Duncan Forster, Paul Forster	700 700	14:47 15:00	76	51	3							9
Jenny Meredith, Nerolie Oakes Marilyn Ferris, Julie Proudfoot	690	14:43	78		4		17		3			
Phil Carlton, Yvonne Dash, Janelle Deck, Nathan Griffith	690	14:52	79			24						
Terry Kesby-Smith, Harry Lamerton, M Lamerton,	690	14:52	80	52								
David McLeod Cathy Love, Natalie Rutherford	690	14:54	81		5							
Terry Funk, Yasmin Funk	690	14:55	82		6							10
Tiffany Mitchell, Kylie Smith Elizabeth Lynch, Adam Smith	690 690	14:57 14:59	83 84		′	25						
Andrew Lumsden, Mark Ward	680	14:48 14:53	85 86	53		26	18			7		
Barry Hanlon, Janet Morris Nihal Danis, Richard Sage	680 680	15:07	87		_	27	10			,		
Anne Francis, Lynne Trappel	670 670	14:35 14:44	88 89	54	8							
Graeme Baxter, John Cole Herco van Liere, Jeff Welch, Gary Williams	670	14:56	90	55								
Gary Brown, Neil Kitchen Eric Metzke, Linda Robinson	670 660	14:56 14:57	91 92	56		28	19			8		
Tony Bowman, Simon Fountain, Robert Hopkinson	660	14:58	93	57			-			-		
Andrew Black, Kate Black, Jeff Hunt Tony Bond, Judy Micklewright	660 650	15:09 14:25				29 30	20			9		
Delhove Blennerhassett, Stuart Harrison, Scott	650	14:43	96	58								
McGill, Steve Taylor, Marcus Thennig Anne Deck, Ian Deck, Richard Deck	640	14:34				31						11
Penny Ackery, Nuri Chorvat, John Steel Geoff Hill, Nick Quinsey, Bronwyn Phillipps	640 640	14:41 14:46				32 33						
Sandra Chapman, Kerry Gilmore	640	14:47	100		9							
Phyllis Burrows, Bryan Smith Geoff Hill, Nick Quinsey, Russell Taylor	630 630	14:38 14:50		59		34						
Gail Barr, Annelie Chapple, Kimio Osawa	630	14:59				35						
continued next page.												

OUR FIRST ROGAINE

Julie and I had learnt to read a compass and map purely to participate in a rogaine. We had previously been on cross-country bushwalks but had always let my husband do the navigating and simply followed trustingly. As the event neared, so our trepidation increased but Gary had lots of confidence in us (certainly more than we did ourselves).

We camped at Patonga on Saturday evening; a beautiful night with lots of stars and very cold. Just on 5pm we made our way to the oval with plate in hand to register and be fed, so were mighty disappointed when we were turned away from the food tent and told to return around 7:30. We consoled ourselves by stopping at the shop and bought a bottle of wine and a large packet of CC's, which didn't go far when shared

between four.

Morning broke full of the promise of rain, which started as the hooter sounded at 9am. Our first checkpoint, worth ten points, required no skill as about a third of the 600 participants decided to go for this one and we were carried along with the flow. Our confidence grew with each control we found close to the road until we decided to throw caution to the wind and go cross country for a 70 pointer. The map showed it was on the northwest side of the knoll, but the knoll was very long and heavily overgrown. After searching for a while and coming across many people who were also looking for it, we decided we had missed it, would call it quits and head back to the road, and not be so ambitious in future. Imagine our excitement when we broke through this thick scrub to find our checkpoint on a sandstone slab. At this point lesson No. I in rogaining was learnt: I yelled out to Julie that we'd found it and ten other people immediately appeared out of the bush to also claim it. In future we tried to contain our excitement to silent jumping up and down.

Even though finding #72 was by luck, it was a great boost to our confidence and we took more and more cross country routes. Usually bashing our way through head-high scrub and vines only to come upon a path that civilised people were using. The rain continued fairly non-stop all day, even adding thunder at times but we were so focused by now that the rain just added to the atmosphere.

As the time got closer to the six hours, our pace quickened and all too soon we had to make the decision to turn for home, but not until we had aimed for #30, missed it, and decided to go for #90 further along the spur instead, found it, and could have skipped all the way home, we were so

Arriving back, we queued up, in the rain, for delicious soup and hamburgers with egg. Never had food tasted so good. Julie and I would like to say thankyou to Stephen Castle and all the assistants, as I have never enjoyed an event so much and you can bet we'll be back for the next rogaine.

Marilyn Ferris North Haven

PATONGA, 16 June 1996

		TV					J. 1994	economic co	17.		\$33.0	93 W.S
continued from previous page	Score	Time	0	M	W	X	V	MV	WV	XV	J	F
Snow Thoroughgood, Trikki Young	620	14:54	104		[{)		21		4			
Mark Harris, Greg Keane	620	14:59	105	60								
Ian Griffiths, Gary Joyce, Paul Morgan	610	14:26	106	61			22	9				
Lynette Gett, Gail Siccardi	610	14:51	107		11		23		5			
Guy Jarvi, Peter Ragg	610	14:57	108	62								
David Cullen, Ben Heslop	610	15:01	109	63								
Sharon Rixon, Helen Watts	600	14:51	110		12							
Helen Kolupacev, Elizabeth Stewart	6(X)	14:59	111		13							
Tim Moloney, Nick Zarifeh	600	15:00	112	64								
lan Carr, Paul Carter	590	14:48	113	65			24	10				
Dianne Kitcher, Lance Kitcher	590	14:55	114			36						
Jennifer Borrell, John Keats	590	14:59	115			37	25			10		
Sally Kelman, Karen Hunt, Ian McNichol	580	14:35	116			38						
Allan Ramsay, Michael Ramsay	580	14:50	117	66								12
Matthew Ross, Matthew Webster	580	14:52	118	67								
Helen Atkins, Roz Atkins, Frances Phillips	580	14:54	119		14		26		6			
Nick Coppins, Alan Lusty	570	14:55	120	68								
David Le Carpentier, Peter Le Carpentier, Luke	570	14:57	121	69							6	
Schoen												
Robyn Cole, Andrew Farr	570	14:57	122			39						
Anne Stewart, Malcolm Stewart	570	15:02	123			40	27			11		
Philippa Amery, David Brooks	560	14:25	124			41						
Martin Mansfield, David Noble	560	15:02	125	70								
Graeme Cooper, Bill Pigram	550	14:47	126	71			28	11				
Ross Bailey, Garry Casement	540	14:22	127	72								
David Bell, Lynda Paju, Thais Turner, Vasken Varton	540	14:51	128			42						
John Herb, Gail Linich, John Linich	530	14:31	129			43						
Belinda Foster, George Foster	530	14:47	130			44						
Gillian Eales, Mary Ann Graham	520	14:31	131		15							
Campbell Wills, Sharon Wills	520	14:36	132			45						
Lisa Lampe, Ian Short, Mark Wright	520	14:53	133			46						
Scott Bartho, Greg Miller, Simon Royle	520	14:56	134	73							7	
Micheal Rennie, Chris Wicking, Greg Wicking	520	14:58	135	74							8	
Narelle Learoyd, Peter Learoyd	510	13:43	136			47						
Dave Truby, David Truby, Jennifer Truby, Sue Truby	510	14:59	137			48						13
Ian Rath, Nick Simmons	500	14:45	138	75								
Judy Greenwood, Nina Lansbury, Kyana McPherson	500	14:48	139		16							
Meredith Verge, Ruchel Williams	500	14:53	140		17							
Richard Ambrogio, Jacqui Bridge, John Steele	5(X)	14:55	141			. 49						
Andrew Bower, Didier Dejean, Megan Orchard,	500	15:00	142			50						
Andrew Sims	2,,,,,					5.,						
Rod Anderson, Susan Berry, Cara Chaffe, Judy	490	14:43	143			51						
Cotterill	,											
Judith Chapman, Ken Chapman	490	14:44	144			52	29			12		
Andrew Wyllie, Chris Wyllie, George Wyllie	490	14:46	145	76						•-		14
Richard Angel, Stephen Goodfellow, Peter Lord, Joe	490	14:58	146	77								• •
Zammit	,	1 1.50		.,								
Matthew Ford, Regan Yan	480	13:48	147	78								
Kate Austen, Rodger Austen, Robin Austen	480	14:34	148	70		53						15
Fiona Walker, Helen Walker, Melissa Walker,	480	14:34	149			54						16
Stephen Walker		1-7.2/4	177			57						144
Jason Brennan, Kevin Brennan, Sue Brennan, Simon	480	14:34	150			55						17
Brennan	7007	17.54	150			J.J						1,
Alison Kearney, Anthea Kearney	480	14:34	151		18							
Kara Donovan, Linda Goth, Ron Smernik, David	480		152		10	56						
Wilson	400	14.55	1.74			20						
	480	14:44	157			57						
Justin Jepson, Jeff Lam, Vivienne Steiniger	480		153 154									
Neil Glick, John Higgins, Lucy Moore		14:53			10	58						
Olivia Humphrey, Colleen McLelvy, Sharon Tan	480	14:58	155		19	511	2/1			12		
Eric Barnes, Debbie Hotchkis	470	14:02	156			59	30			13		
Wendy Culshaw, Rick Dimmers, Cathy Gleeson,	470	14:39	157			60						
Tony Rood	120	11.12	150			۷,						
Don Brooks, Allison Clegg, Meredith Reyes	470	14:43	158			61						
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PITY ABOUT THE RAIN

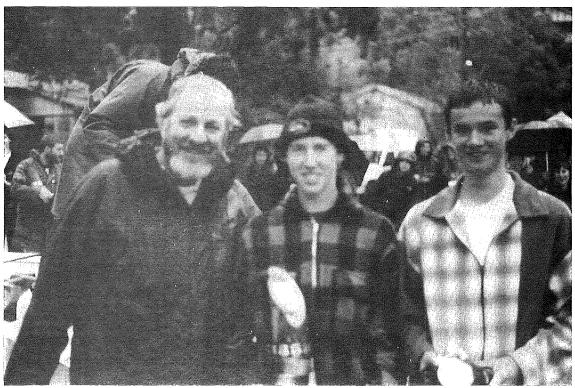
What a great location, pity about the rain.

Some great views from 23, 71 and Warrah Trig. Our seven year old daughter really enjoyed coming back along the mangroves through the mud and water. She even enjoyed the 'track' down the spur from #71. Did an identifiable track ever exist?

We had a tremendous day, and the food when we got back!! It just gets better and better. Our thanks to the caterers and the whole event organising team for a job well done.

One additional comment.
Coming back along Patonga
Creek the trail got very narrow in
places, only just wide enough for
one person. Unfortunately at one
of these places a team came up
behind. I stepped off the track as
best I could (carrying a 3 month
old baby in a sling on my front)
and asked my son to as well. As
soon as they had passed another
team came by, so we stayed put
but as the second team passed a
third (very competitive team)
pushed passed as well. through
all this a branch was flicked back
hitting the babies head,
fortunately a light branch and no
injury was sustained. Has the
competiveness of rogaining got to
the stage where in tight situations
rogainers have to push past
without regard for fellow
rogainers who are in their way?

Joy Spark



Robert Pallin presents the Junior trophy to Rob Preston and Andrew Hill. They were also placed second overall,

PATONGA, 16 June 1996

	Cases	Time		· · · · ·	117	~~~	17	NA.	WV VV	Ť	F
Tim Duke, Justine Lions, Andrew Mackie, Peter	Score 470	Time 14:58	O 159	M	W	62	<u>V</u>	MV	WV XV	J	<u> </u>
McConaghy	410	14.50	107			-					
William D'Arcy, Jeff Knox, Jenny Pect	460	14:28	160			63					10
John Wheen, Jayne Wheen, Rosemary Wheen, Robert Wheen	460	14:46	161			64					18
Megan Beer, Andrew Croft, Greg Einfeld, Rohan	460	14:54	162			65					
Prowse											
Michele Bartho, Wayne Fietz, Veronica Marahan,	460	14:57	163			66					
Carol Nance, Keith Royle David Bofinger, Nigel Capps, Hugh McGuiness	440	14:32	164	79							
Rachelle Goodyear, Ashleigh Hooker, Phillipa	430	13:53	165		20						
Watson	430	14:53	166			67					
Glenn Hooker, David Tucker, Donna Ward, Steven Ward	430	14,33	100			07					
Irina Singleman, Chris Visser	430	15:06	167			68					
Brendan Berghout, Tricia Truelove	420 420	14:57 15:19	168 169			69 70	31		14		
Rosemary Garlick, Steve Garlick Michele de Vries, David Dowling, Kathy Henson,	410	14:47	170			71	31		17		
Robert Morgan											
Colin Tuft, Katherine Tuft, Peter Tuft	410 400	14:57 14:58	171 172			72 73					19
Julie McGraw, Trevor McGraw Christine Cordingley, Tom Cordingley	390	14:03	173			74	32		15		
Alan Barrett, Chani Barrett, Raymond Barrett	390	14:26	174			75					20
Herb Lippmann, Fred Zettele	390 390	14:53 14:58	175 176	80 81			33	12			21
Nicolas Curulli, Anthony Gelonesi Philip Doggett, Jane Drummond, Melissa Harvey,	380	14:41	177	01		76					
Karen Jury											
Ben Scobie, David Scobie, Jenny Scobie, Peter	380	14:57	178			77					22
Scobie David Johnson, Jason Layton, Margaret Layton	370	11:37	179			78					
Amber Barr, Andrew Hassall	370	14:07	180			79					
Susan Bellamy, Terry Gainey, David Rose	370 350	14:57	181	82		80					23
Alexander Massey, Chris Welbourne, Damian Welbourne	330	13:01	182	02							23
Clifford Liles, Carol O'Meley, Robert O'Meley, Leon	350	14:21	183			81					
Strauss	250	14.50	104		21						
Marian Coppins, Carla Jaltari, Claire Leppin Matthew Bell, Stewart Brown, Trevor Harte, Jyotish	350 350	14:58 15:00	184 185		21	82				9	
Kumar, Franziska Meierhoffer		•••••									
Maree Canty, Thomas Canty, Scott Cooper, Ian Harte Anne Parkes, Andrew Rogers, Michael Rueger	340	14:07	186			83				10	
Michael Godfrey, Sarah Godfrey, Robert Murphy	340 340	14:20 14:40	187 188			84 85					
David Palmisano, Coleen van Dyken	310	13:14	189			86					
Henry Freiburg, Jennifer Neil-Smith	310	13:25	190			87					24
Anders Roland, Hans Roland, Jana Roland Gail Roland, Joel Roland, Jarryd Roland	310 310	13:51 13:51	191 192			88 89					24 25
Louise Jagla, Mark Jagla	310	14:36	193			90					
Carol Browne, Rosemary Schmitz-Peiffer	310	14:36	194		22	01					20
Anne Smith, Graham Smith, Heather Smith, Lachlan Smith	310	14:36	195			91					26
Amy Spark, Benjamin Spark, Edwin Spark, Joy Spark,	310	14:44	196			92					27
Laura Spark, Phil Spark	210	14.50	107	0.2			2.4	12			
David James, Paul Wrightson Christophe Stewart, John Stewart	310 300	14:52 12:59	197 198	83 84			34	13			28
Joy Ball, Mick Ball, Paul Kuiters, Rhonda Kuiters	300	14:53	199	07		93	35		16		
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Graeme Hill, Michelle Hill	280	15:00	201			95					29
John Ravasini, Peter Ryan	270	14:33	202	85		~	36	14			
Rory Lucas, Belinda Meares, Sam Peacock, Tom Perrett, Clare Steffel	200	11:30	203			96					
Mara Smith-Hill, Philip Smith-Hill	200	14:05	204			97	37		17		
Robin James, Geoff O'Rourke	180	12:03	205	0.0		98	38		18		
Richard Connors, Andrew Palmisano Ben Austen, Peter Garlick, Benita Kearney	180 180	12:31 14:33	206 207	86		99				11	
Erin Barr, Suzanne Cawley, Paulette Clayton	170	11:30	208			100				12	
Matthew Smith, Nicholas Smith	170	12:48	209	87						13	20
Barbara Nudd, David Nudd Murray Gunn, Jason Price	150 150	13:08 11:45	210 211	88		101					30
Julie Childs, Claire Kelly, Irene van Ekris, Jan van	140	13:40	212	00		102					
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Chris Ball, Nicholas Bojdak, Robert Kuiters, Russel Kuiters	140	14:25	213	89						14	
David Bedingfeld, Ceri Muter	140	14:41	214			103					
Rebecca Bragg, Nikki Cooper, Katrina Ferris, Melissa	120	14:41 12:54	215		23						
Hammerten, Alexandra Lupton Scott Goodier, John Kellaway, Amelia Lowe, Adrien	110	11:30	216			104					
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Bill Gribble, Leslie Steinhaus	100	10:40 12:15	217	90			39	15			
Gretchen Hart, Maggie Hart David Griffith, Emma Griffith, Renate Griffith,	100 60	12:15 11:10	218		24	105					31
Thomas Griffith						103					
Benjamin D'Arcy, Jonathan D'Arcy	40	11:00		91		101					32 33
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ON THE PICK

Ever thought of pitching in after an event to pick up some of the controls? At the Paddy's this year I was one of the fortunates during the event that got to stay in a dry tent doing some admin plus drive around the course putting out the water drops and ensuring competitors were surviving. Almost no water was consumed there was enough coming from the sky! We expected lots of early returners but, amazingly, only a handful of teams (mostly with younger kids) came in. Otherwise it was the usual chaos of everyone arriving back in the last 15 minutes with control cards various states bedragglement. Despite appalling weather there was a great atmosphere and sense of

great atmosphere and sense of achievement, confirmed by several appreciative phone calls in the following week.

The next Saturday dawned bright, sharp and clear. At 8:30am, with intended route left back in Sydney with Steve, I was clambering up the rocky clambering up the rocky escarpment past the reservoir below #50. The next four hours were a great walk with all the spectacular views out to Lion Island and Barrenjoey which were not available the Sunday before. I headed anticlockwise and ended up with eleven control flags squashed into my backpack. The sunny conditions helped with navigation and all were found quickly except #101 where I drifted down the wrong spur and #42 in a gully where the map may have been a bit inaccurate.

The enjoyable part of picking up controls is that it is entirely relaxing and good navigational training as you can experiment a bit with map and compass. On this occasion I was extra lucky with the best winter day possible. Picking up flags can be tough for organisers if they don't get help. If you'd like to pitch in please volunteer to the coursesetter or event organiser. You can even go out looking for the one that got away the previous night.

Julian Ledger

STEPHEN CASTLE REPORTS

(continued from page 1)

Shaken, I tried to get to the creek at #80. Again the scrub was head high and really thick. I was ready to dump this area. I was worried since the area I had visited would be where a great number of novice people would be heading (close to hash house, potential of great views).

However, my friends had been visiting the northerly part of the course (#50-#41-#101; #100-#40-#70-#60). I was getting glowing reports from them - great scenery, easy walking (mostly tracks).

Not having too many more options for she complained about being prickled to course locations, I sort of went with it. I was death (almost) at #33 - she was wearing bike still having my doubts even with only four shorts. This lead to the "full leg-cover weeks before the event. Though as Trevor Gollan once said, as the coursesetter you have the capability to mold any landscape into a good Rogaine course. So we set checkpoints away from the thickest, prickly scrub, and tried to pick out all the scenic

Then Marnie started course vetting. Aaargh! Her first visit was to checkpoints #21, #44, #71. She said the mangroves where horrible and had to swim to get around them. What? We had no problem. Further investigation led me to assume that she had been there at a very high tide. Then

strongly recommended" in italics in the mail-

It isn't the greatest confidence booster when an independent party hates the course you've just set. It was getting a bit late to change the course location!

Anyway, as she saw the more scenic parts of the course, and wore her prickle-proof rogaine gear, she did end up agreeing that the course was good. It's lucky that our brains tend to forget the horrible bits and just remember the great views @.

continued next page...

PATONGA, 16 June 1996

On the day
One of the cool aspects of course setting is that you get to see a certain section of the bush in a variety of weather conditions. Over the weeks we were setting the course, we had warm sunshine and clear blue skies, so the creeks were fairly dry and the spiders were out in force. As winter approached the weather cooled, and I recall it did rain on one of the days we were there - so you got to see the ferns in a moist setting. On the day before the event we were hanging the few local flags and admiring the clear skies and view at Elephant Rock (#34).

Then came the day of the Rogaine.

At 9am precisely, as the hooter sounded to start the days event, apparently nature thought that was also the signal to turn on the taps. It proceeded to pour heavy rain for at least the next two hours (of the six-hour

The first casualties of the wet were the Like the families with young children. Griffith family. They came back in around 11am, with completely soaked and cold kids. However, after a change of clothes their spirits had not been dampened at all - we were hassled by Emma (7yrs) into putting up their score and then chided for ripping them off 10 points (wet control cards are hard to decipher). They seemed quite pleased with their 60 points, after all, they were coming first, having just beaten the Lathouris & Meek families (30 points each).

The no-show rate at this rogaine was quite considerable. Out of the 650 people who had entered, only 590 actually ventured out on the course. (15 of these comprised of the Paddy Pallin staff teams, who were co-opted to help be our Road Wardens rather than dirty their gear on the course).

Back to seeing the course in all weather conditions - well, this was the first time I had seen it in mist. Reports back said that from #50 to #101 the mist was so thick none of the advertised views were there to be had. The rain and mist tends to soften the look and bring out the deeper greens, making the surrounds look so much more relaxing. Not that the Mens winning team had time to take in any of the views - they were bagging a checkpoint every ten minutes!! The place may have looked so much calmer but the vegetation was still out to get you. Due to the rain most people had a rainjacket of some sort which gave their arms protection against the prickly scrub, however, this vegetation is a lot smarter. (How else do you think it manages to grow everywhere?) It said: "If I can't spike you then I will transfer the seeming large quantities of water trapped in my leaves to your body as you brush past!" So you get wetter from the vegetation rather than from the falling rain!

Back at the administration area we were completely surprised to see how many people had a great time on the course, yet they were arriving back wet and cold! Had the caterers been adding that little extra tonic to the hot drinks?

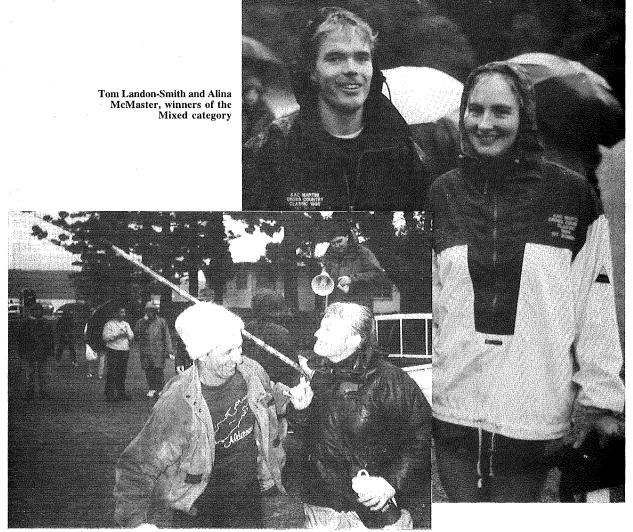
It appears that people revelled in the challenge of surviving the pouring rain, staying out for the full six hours, and picking up a good number of checkpoints on the way. After all, you did defy your mum and go walking in the rain! Who in their right mind would go for a walk in the pouring rain? Well I did, and survived - I must be a hero. Congratulations to all those heroes out there on the day.

Picking up flags
Having hundreds of people out on a scrubby course certainly makes it easier to pick up the flags. There was an elephant track to #80, making it very easy to spot. There would also be a few oddities for those who later discover some of these tracks - for example at #90 a good track stops at an ordinary tree in the centre of a clearing. There is no view, and it doesn't continue down the mountain-side. Aliens must have landed there!

Again, it was nice and sunny picking up the flags. The only evidence that it rained was the numerous footsteps in the dried mud on the way to a few of the controls. Gee, glad I was in the warm, dry administration

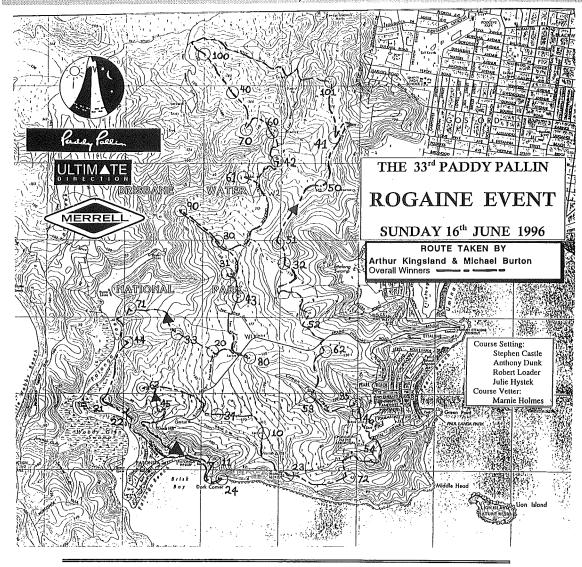
Thanks to all those who helped out, and thanks to those few people who actually go out of their way to tell the organisers how great a time they had (Hi Claire). Seeing lots of happy faces at the end of the day does make all the effort seem worthwhile.

Stephen Castle



Sue Clarke shows partner, Chippy Le Carpentier, a use for the Veterans trophy

PATONGA, 16 June 1996



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GARETH PROSSER INTERVIEW:

Another fireside chat, this time with Gareth Prosser, someone who has been rogaining in NSW for longer than most. Let's start with an obvious auestion...

Trev: How did you get into rogaining?

Gareth: Through orienteering friends and family. My first rogaine was a 12-hour near Armidale (at the UNE field station) circa 1983 which I entered with Dave McKenna. Older brother Ian ran, and won I think, with legendary orienteer Terry Farrell.

Rogaining seemed like a fun thing to do and one that I would be suited to, being halfway between orienteering and a bushwalk. The exhaustion after 8 hours of walking was a revelation, but so was the

hash-house!

I checked the newsletter and it was indeed 1983, in November. The results show the winning team as "Farrell/Prosser" and I'd wondered which Prosser. Who were your early partners and where are they now?

Dave McKenna, still living in Sydney but only an occasional orienteer and nonrogainer; Bruce Graham, now living in Melbourne and still a keen orienteer and cross-country skier.

Is there a Prosser dynasty?

Four Prosser boys: all started orienteering around 1975. My father is the only keen one left though... glory days were in the late 70s and early 80s, and that was a long time ago! Younger brother Miles was a keen rogainer before me, in his wild student days.

You look lean, mean and smart.

competitive are you?

Too competitive! I often get carried away with what should be a pleasant walk. I haven't done any running training since 1994, and now I've got a sore knee. I reckon I've only competed in about 15-20 rogaines. Never won outright... best result being second, with my brother Neil, in the Paddy Pallin at Cataract Scout Camp [July 1993]. Pallin at Cataract Scout Camp [July 1993]. As for looking like a good rogainer, well ... most orienteers reckon they are hot navigators, and I thought I was pretty fit when it came to bushwalking. But a good rogainer is something else - can go for 24 hours, actually find checkpoints all through the night, and push on Sunday morning without losing their rag. They certainly have my respect. my respect.

Can you be too old to rogaine?

I'm hardly qualified to answer this, being almost a junior in rogaining terms. It seems that if you can walk you can rogaine, and that many rogainers reach their peak (of 40 or more. Truly a sport for the gnarled.

Which do you prefer: orienteering, bushwalking or rogaining?

I've gone off orienteering lately, only because I've done it for 20 years. It's still where most of my friends are from, and at its top level orienteering fits everything a sport should be. I don't do as much bushwalking as I should, given that I enjoy it a great deal when I do get organised enough. So rogaining becomes a nice compromise three or four times a year, and with the hash-house and the friendly rivalry of competitors, rogaining has its own unique attractions.

What has been your favourite rogaines?

Choosing a favourite rogaine depends so much on what happened to your particular team, rather than objective assessment of the merits of the rogaine itself. For me, I have fond memories of places like Jaunter, (first the snow, then the re-run with new partners whose company I enjoyed) Wuuluman (where Nic and I won the mixed, I think, on a good course), and Lake Tabourie (bush was thick but the beaches were special) to name a few. So I think a great rogaine will be the one where the most teams enjoy themselves for whatever reason, which is why I feel sympathy for organisers whose great ideas and efforts may be over-

shadowed by bad weather troublesome checkpoint.

I think Lord Howe Island could be a great rogaine, but it's bugger to get to!

Conversely, what about your rogaining bad-times? Don't be shy, you can pick on me if you want!

There have bad moments too of course, particularly at night, and some long trudges back to the hash-house. Darkes Forest 24-hour with Dave McKenna and Peter Wherry we got lost for up to an hour in some deep jungle midnight, less than a kilometre from the hash-house. But I started that same event

with a massive hangover, which I've since found is the only way to ensure you feel better and better as the event progresses. As for misplaced checkpoints, I've never been one to spend too long searching before moving on to the next one, so I really couldn't comment on who was right or wrong!

Is rogaining a sport?

When Shane Trotter and Anthony Darr run past you at the end of a 12-hour rogaine in their matching lightweight gear - yes. it's lam and I've had enough and want some hot food and a warm sleeping bag - no. I think rogaining is still at that stage where it can be a serious sport for some and just fun for many others. This could be a good thing in terms of promotion, or it could be a bad thing for the future of rogaining if one

undermines the other.

You achieved special fame as the coordinator and coursesetter of last year's NSW Champs at Capertee. I liked your logo on the

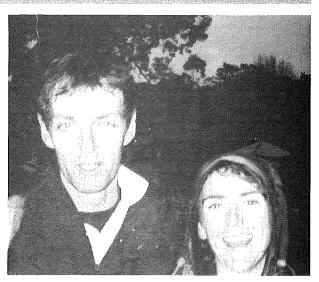
entry form.

There was a lot of work yes, but I deliberately took a lot of it upon myself in order to retain control of the event. It was definitely worthwhile. The course-setting was a pleasure, the organisation a challenge, the team of friends who helped were great, the comments of competitors were extremely gratifying, and driving home on the Sunday with Nic after it was all over was a very special feeling of satisfaction. But we were very lucky with the weather and some other things too, which could have completely altered people's enjoyment of the event.

The final logo was an easy option after I tried some other graphic ideas without success; it took very little drawing skill. I showed it to Warwick for approval after I'd panned his logo for the 1994 Oz Champs at Bethungra! In fact, on reflection, a lot of the effort I put into the Capertee event was because Warwick seemed to think I was going to do a great job and I was always asking him how.

Interstate rogainers are advocating, at the post-rogaine wrap-up, the announcement of all team members and their points in ascending sequence so that the winners are not declared until last. This builds suspense and interest through the presentation. As someone who fell asleep at this years Rydal presentation, I think it may be a good idea.

Yeah, I read that in the Organiser's Manual so had thought about it for the Gardens of Stone. I didn't feel as though I knew enough about the lower-placed teams to make the long list interesting, plus I thought it would add to the burden of preparing the presentation list in that busy hour after the



Gareth and Nic Plunkett-Cole at this years Paddys.

finish, and we were in enough trouble getting the names of placegetters ready as it turned out. As a competitor I may not be able to stay attentive during a long presentation anyway, what with refuelling, discussing the course and packing up the tents. A better thing from my point of view would be to create more time, more seats and more shade at the end of an event for more relaxed post mortems. I think we should applaud the winners, and I don't mind too much either way what else happens.

NSWRA had about 1200 members at the

end of 1995. Is that too many?

I thought the NSWRA had a great year in 1995 - all good events, a mature balance of different types of events, lots of new people and a happy buzz in the air at those events. I think growth is problematic. Every sport can't be in the Olympics, on Pay TV or even be well-known in your average household, yet it seems every sport assumes these are the goals to aim for. On the other hand, would it be selfish and ultimately selfdestructive to keep rogaining at the size it now is? I feel that what I love about rogaining would be lost if it got more than twice as big as it is now; and we need a really solid membership base to fuel the voluntary, labour-intensive nature of organising events and running the NSWRA. My answer would be to redeploy our resources away from promotion if our population approaches too big, and I don't think we are there yet.

Are you going to the World Champs in WA in August?

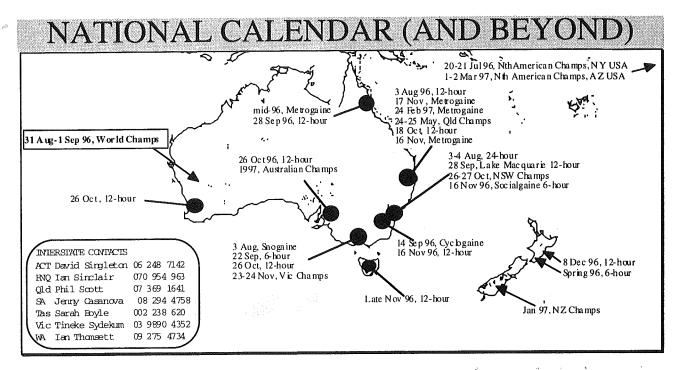
Yes. I am looking forward to the WRC, and rogaining in a different State and completely different terrain. I've entered with Nic and Wiz, and you're welcome to join us if you like Trev! Try a change of pace - more sleep than you're used to, a bit of running on Sunday morning, and a seat on the Next Two Checkpoints Steering Committee of Navigation.

No you've scared me off with that "R" word. I reckon running should be banned from rogaining. Finally, when are you going to buy a car that's big enough to tow the

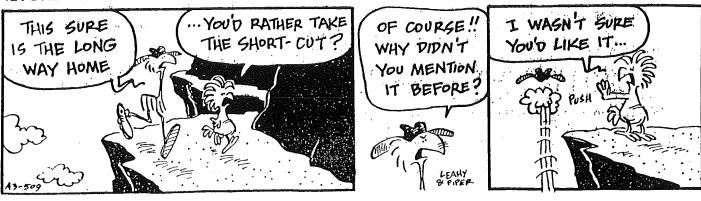
NSWŔA trailer?

That trailer is a headache! Thanks to John Keats for putting up with it for so long, and to Andy Black for towing it home the long way after the Gardens of Stone event (and to Peter Orr for towing it up there). I don't even own a car, let alone a tow-bar! Maybe Shane and Anthony should be made to tow it for the first two checkpoints at the next Oz

Thanks Gareth.



EYOND THE BLACK STUMP



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