

# **NSW ROGAINING NEWSLETTER**

Number 71

July 1998

### President's Preamble

#### Best PP Rogaine ever?

The 1998 Fortress Ridge Paddy Pallin Rogaine was a cracker. Beaut day, huge crowd, masses of controls (83 at last count), tea and scones at a 100 point control so easy blind Freddy could find it, great food back at the Hash House, friendly and lightning fast administration (hem hem) and of course Blue Mountains winter views extending forever.

The event was a credit to all involved but especially **John Barnes**, friends and family (see thankyou's elsewhere in this issue). All might have been different .... the organisers' Emails ran hot working out whatever to do with so many cars - thanks for your ride sharing cooperation - it was fantastic, not to mention the problem of getting access to a decent bit of land for the Hash House (eventually solved by forking out a goodly portion of our bank balance as a security bond which has happily now been returned).

My biggest worry after the cold of Bargo in 1997, the rain of Patonga in 1996 and the wind of Jenolan State Forest a couple of years prior was that a storm front would come in and blow us off the ridge. Fortunately the weather was outstanding and the snow didn't come for a couple of weeks later. All in all I reckon the most outstanding Paddy Pallin Rogaine I have been associated with and there have been some damn good ones over the years. In fact the only thing that went wrong was that having hired a 500 Watt amplifier complete with PA system it failed to work after smoke poured out of the back when I wired it up - well I did fail physics at school. Probably not a bad thing as we would have been audible at Mt Hay and the megaphone did OK once we replaced the batteries

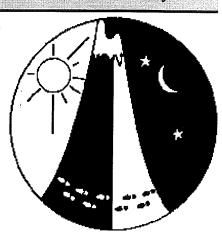
NEXT comes the NSW Championships - the "Lostock and Barrel" coming up real soon on August 8/9 the event falls right spot on a full moon of course with a choice of 24 Hr event or '12 in 24 Hr'. Sadly for me and some others we can't be there as we will be making up the NSW representation at the 3<sup>rd</sup> World Ro-

gaining Championships at Kamloops in British Columbia - hope to tell you all about it in the next newsletter - grizzly bears permitting. Meanwhile Alan Mansfield and his team including Sonia Kupina, Nihal Danis and Richard Sage have been regulars at Lostock preparing the course for the best part of the year, the Hash House is under the capable hands of the legendary Vicky Cooper, the scenery is reputedly wonderful and the course has plenty of open country for those averse to climbing through blackberry thickets for fun. All are very welcome, including novices. Don't be put off by the "Championship" bit - it usually just means a bit more competition at the top end. Smart 24 hour teams organise themselves with plenty of time to indulge in real Rogaining which involves the camp fire at the hash house, a bottle of port and discussion of the control that got away. For those with Champion aspirations the good news is that Mike Hotchkis will be in Canada!

Following the Championships comes the annual Lake Macquarie 12 Hr being set this year by legendary NSW founding Rogainer and instigator of the Lake Mac event - Bert Van Netten. The course will again be in the Morisset area and is a straight forward drive up the F3 from Sydney. Bert needs Hash House helpers so if you can lend a hand call him on 02 4975 3693.

# Entry Forms for the Lostock and Barrel and Lake Macquarie can be found with this newsletter - enter today!

Meanwhile your Committee is starting to plan the 1999 and 2000 year Rogaine calendars. Our goal is to run about six good quality events each year utilising the skills and experience not just of a dedicated few but of as many members as possible. Events coordinator Alan Mansfield Phone No: 02 9797 6773 and now newly equipped with Email (the\_bovine@bigpond.com) is seeking out possible areas and teams of people interested in organising. The tasks include Event Coordinator, Course setter. Course Vetter, Administration, and Hash House. Each can involve some hard work but each is also very satisfying when the event is a success. Enthusiasm is more important than expert skills or experience as there are a number of people available

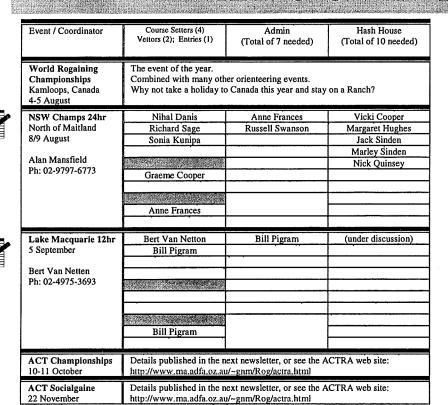


to provide guidance not to mention a whole book on how to run a great rogaine plus excellent notes prepared by our very own Newsletter Editor. If you or you and friends have an idea or would like to take on a role then get in touch with Alan. Staging a Rogaine is a labour intensive activity which would not be possible without a heap of people to help - your phone call to add your name to a volunteers list would be welcome. For helping with a Hash House contact Vicki Cooper on 02 6772 3584. Helping out is a good way to get to know other members (better than tripping over each other on the way to a control) and gives you a great excuse to (Continued on page 4)

#### Contents

What On	2
Australian Championship Report Don't Ever Roll Over	3
Paddy Pallin Reports: "The Lost Boys"	4
Course Setters Notes Results	5 5
Memory of Ross Hamilton Just For Fun	.,9 10
Control Visits	11 12
Hot Tips For Rogainers	13
Membership Form	15
Entry Forms:	Sat.
NSW Championship8/9 Aug	
Lake Macquarie 5 Septemi	
ACT Cyclegaine 5 Septem	ner

## WHAT'S ON IN 1998



Please add your name by contacting:

Vicki Cooper phone: 02-6772-3584 (h)
Clunly Rd MSF2005, Armidale NSW 2350
No experience is necessary - detailed instructions are supplied.

Join in the fun of working behind the scenes!



#### The NSW LOSTOCK and BARREL

CLOSING DATE is

MONDAY 27th July

MAIL YOUR ENTRY TODAY!



#### Lostock & Barrel 12 / 24 Hour 8/9 August

It sounds like the course for the forthcoming NSW Championships has something for everyone – mountain and water views, steep sections for the mountain goats, flat and open areas for those out for a stroll and possibly even hot showers at the finish!

The course is set on the edge of the Hunter Valley, with the Barrington Tops stretching away off the map. You can walk around the dam and dry-feet crossing places are specially marked over the rivers feeding into it. There are echidnas and possibly platypus in the area, not to mention kangaroos, wallabies and numerous species of birds from tiny pardalotes to the raucous black cockatoos.

From high-set locations on the ridges which weave across the course, there are spectacular views from the Barrington Tops to the coast, so plan your course accordingly. Entries close soon so don't delay – post them off now.



#### Lake Macquarie 6 / 12 hr 5 September

This will be the seventh annual 12-hour Rogaine run in conjunction with the Lake Macquarie City Games and including \$1,000 in prize money.

You don't just have to be in the top three to get a prize – no cash prizes are awarded in each category – donated by Coast Camping and Camping World.

Bert van Netton and Bill Pigram return as the main course setters this year. As usual the Lake Macquarie terrain they'll be taking us to comprises of panoramic viewing ridges, some escarpments, picturesque creeks and extensive roads and tracks.

A 6 hour event will be offered in conjunction with the usual 12 hour event. Come and give it a go!

# Aust. Rogaining Champs, QLD, 9 May

#### Don't Ever Roll Over

When I arrived at the Hash House site on Friday afternoon tents surrounded an open slashed grassy area in the shelter of the peak of ?? Mountain. As the shadows grew longer and the weather remained mild, I began to look forward to the rogaine - but I was convinced that there was a control on the top of that mountain!

And when we got our maps the next morning, indeed there was a control up there. That morning was a time of some joy to the ladies at the event. Usually there is a long queue outside the few ladies' loos. This time, and a credit to the organisers despite our initial dismay, there was no queue for the ladies, but as we sat there in our three-throned palace we could hear some groans from the ladies next

Netta and I planned our route to visit the rougher southeast corner of the map first, while we were fresh, and then to continue up a high ridge in the east to then spend our night-time in the more open "undulatinglyundulating" area (as it was described in the course-setter's notes) to the north and west. We followed the elephant trails left by a pack of runners up and out into the rough country where we could see several km to the location of the next control. Reaching it was an exercise of some exertion, however!

We decided to avoid the deep valleys between several checkpoints and instead we followed out and back along the ridges. For some controls that meant a climb down and up of a hundred metres or so, but that was preferable to struggling with the many more little brown lines that a direct route would cross. Stories we heard later from several teams told of great difficulties and we were glad of our

Our first amendment to plan was just before dark when we had to bend our route to get more water. The hills and heat dried us up more than we expected. As the moon rose and we saw the first of the distant torches winking in the distance, we headed up onto the ridge that would carry us simply and easily to our northernmost point. The top of the ridge was like a guide rail and took us to checkpoint after checkpoint with no fuss - except once. We were not quite sure if we'd reached the ridge junction when a team in high spirits came past in the opposite direction. Although they didn't mention it, I got the distinct feeling that there was a checkpoint just ahead. And there it was. As we approached it we laid bets on which control it was - had we been drawn off onto the ridge we were searching for and come too far - or had we missed the turn and gone straight ahead?? Fortunately the former, and we resolved to pay more attention and to pace count!

We saw the white blurred shapes of numerous cattle where they were camped on the ridge. We wondered how Sue Clarke was getting on and whether Walter was proving a successful cow-scarer! As it got later, and the first of our three main torches stopped working, the spear grass began to drill its way into our ankles. For us it was only a problem in the gap between top of shoes and gaiters, though others seemed to suffer more. However, nearly 2 months later, we still have scars!

We tried to avoid resting because it is far too easy to sit for a long time and get cold, but sitting is comfortable! I began stumbling after 2 am and could barely keep my eyes open - perhaps Netta would say I didn't! Around 3:30 our second main torch gave up - again a problem with the switch connection. We were now out in the fairly open fairly flat areas. However the map scale of 1:50,000 meant that the detail was quite confusing in the daylight - let alone by the glow of a torch. We continued to stick to the snaking ridge tops where possible.

Then we temporarily mislaid a control. We searched several indistinct gullies looking for the right "a knoll". It was difficult clambering around rocks by the light of a single torch (map torches don't count!) and Netta gave in surprisingly easily to my suggestion that we sleep for a little while. We found a slightly warmer sheltered spot between a couple of rocks, with a good sized tree to prop our knees against to stop sliding down the slope! We squeezed our way into the gap between the rocks and spread space blankets over and under us. It seemed only a moment had passed when I woke shivering an hour later. It was the darkest time of the night, after the moon had set and before the new day had begun to lighten

(Continued on page 14)

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#### A View from "The Lost Boys"

On Sunday, June 14 judgment day had come. We (two German and one Swedish exchange student at the UNSW) were determined to beat the unbelievable 330 points of our first Rogaine ever, the Slap-up event on 25th of April, which inadvertently brought us the rather pejorative nickname 'The lost boys'.

We are still wondering why. Was it because we got lost exactly at sundown, because we have been erring through the woods for five hours without any hope of finding our way back to civilisation? Or just because we walked out of map range? Our best guess still is, that the reason was that we - being tired of falling into every single waterhole and having swallowed our non-existent pride asked for directions at the first house we ran into just to be sent around the corner to be laughed at as we found out that we instinctively knocked at the back door of the Hash House.

But, hey in the dark everything just looks so similar.

Recovered from this humiliation and full of thirst for action we then entered the Paddy Pallin event. Our mood hit the ceiling when we were already given one third of the overall points of the last Rogaine for good transport without having even started. When at 7.30 a.m. the maps were distributed we secretly thought up Plan B.

Leaving the road as quickly as possible and collecting the higher controls, sometimes making use of paths trodden by other participants and as a reward having some tea at noon at Granny's kitchen, the first part worked out very well. Since we had exceeded the 330 points of our first navigation experience in a quarter of the time we were more than delighted.

But then our woman who had tasted blood and was eager for more adopted the attitude and the charming tone of voice of a slave-driver on an ancient galley: "You can eat when it's over. Now we have to walk!" "Drink while we're climbing. Understand?"

Spurred by these hard words of a woman who is rather normal in every-day life we decided to quit the fantastic lookout at control 85 and head through the bushes for control points

48 and 84.

Not that we would have found 48, no, we found out what the strange word "thick" on the map written on the way to 84 really meant.

Two metre-high grass, scrub and not a trace of a path combined with muddy slopes and numerous waterholes we simply could not miss, this made our day! Magnus, the daring pioneer very aptly commented when - finally at the again magnificent outlook at 84 - we were asked how to get to 48: "I think it best to not really recommend the way we took."

In the next 90 minutes we managed to get some 30s and 40s and arrived back in time at the Hash House ending up with a proud 830 points.

Not that the grey-haired pensioners jog-

ging by and merrily humming "We are the Champions" with their 1400 something points or the families with ten year old kids and also well over 1000 would have spoiled our mood. Just consider their gear!

Hey, at least we did not get lost, we were not laughed out of court (even if it was just because you don't know all the details) and above all had a very funny day in the outdoors of Australia.

Thanks to the organisers, the course setters, the lovely sausage-ladies and Petrus for the great weather.

Torsten Henning

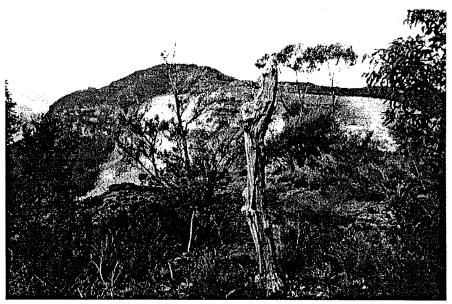


Photo: John Barnes

### Presidents Preamble (cont)

(Continued from page 1)

spend more time in the bush.

Enjoy the NSW Champs & looking forward to seeing you at the Lake Macquarie event.

Julian Ledger

### We are on the Web!

http://rogaine.asn.au then click on the state of NSW.

Look here for:

- Results
- Extra Photos
- Articles as the arrive
- Rogaining sites around the world

(well that's the aim – I don't have all the time in the world ...)

#### Course Setters Notes - Fortress Ridge

Course setting for the 1998 Paddy Pallin Rogaine began back in 1991, with a few family walks in the area to 101 and out along Fortress Ridge, plus a canyon trip down Fortress Creek with Rohan and Andrew. In June 92, Andrew and I spent a wet weekend walking around the area, enjoying the sandstone ridges and canyons west of the Mt Hay Rd, and finding thick scrub heading SE from 47 through Flat Top Brook and out via 5C, plus some delightful but very slow gorges just south of Granny's Kitchen. The road was very slippery that weekend, so we could only drive a few kilometers past the hash house, (just past 10) and we noted the absence of parking areas bigger than a dozen cars beyond the ultimate HH, even if they had been accessible. Over the next few years I went down Butterbox canyon at the end of Rocky Points Creek with Andrew and friends, having spent another day earlier with friends exploring the rest of the creek. I also spent a day with Andrew and some West Killara Ventures zigzagging our way down Wentworth Creek, going from 24 to 5C, then down the creek, up to 65, round to the next 4WD track east and then to 66 and straight up to the HH in fading light. On a family weekend we walked out along Urella Ridge fire trail east of 47, down Wentworth Ck and then north to the Mt Hay Rd.

So my thoughts swung back to Fortress Ridge. In September 97, Nerolie and I spent a day zigzagging west of the Hash House, looking first at the connections from the suburban roads to the Mt Hay Rd (all were thick or private property) and then taking the pipeline track from Where Waters Meet to Minnehaha Falls (74), north to 63, where we were disappointed to find that Arethusa Falls is not at the point marked on the map (it's actually a kilometre and several swims north), and east to 10. It would have been nice to set a control at the creek junction just east

of 10, as it would have allowed approaches from several directions, but the bush was horrendously thick, and we gave up on our approach from the north west. Back via 4B and Bruce's Track and up to Leura Station.

I like spending summer sailboarding, surfing and occasionally canyonning, so I descended Arethusa canyon (Katoomba Ck from above 63 to Govetts Ck) together with Fortress Ck, looking for any crossing points.

On Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March, Cath Ireland from the NPWS and I had a quick look around the area. Cath told me of the NPWS concerns over hanging swamps and their desire for minimal impact, and we discussed methods of achieving these aims, such as having the points where large numbers of people go at the end of roads rather than in more sensitive areas. Cath obligingly provided transport from Leura Station, out to the course and then back to Where Waters

Meet, where the manager John Barker was quite happy to allow access. I spent the afternoon wandering down the creek from 4B to 63, realising the lower sections were great walking, but not really suitable for rogaining, and then up to the road, out to discover the great views from "Lion Rock" (86), and then down into the valley just after dark to 73.

Andrew spent most of Saturday looking for a route across the end of Fortress Creek, near 30. Andrew's best site had dangerous scrambling to get to the top of a 30m drop, while a chimney I investigated (which had been just a bit high to climb fully on canyonning trips) had stunning views, but was so tight that we would probably have had people stuck, and certainly couldn't cope with the simultaneous descent of a few people required. On the night before the event, I was told of a route with '1 hairy move', but didn't hear of anyone trying it on the day! Rohan and Stephen spent Saturday around Fortress

(Continued on page 6)

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Team		Score	Time	0	М	w	x	v	MV	wv	χv	J	F
12	Mike Hotchkis, David Singleton	1880	14.58	1	1								
69	Andrew Hill, David Shepherd,	1010	14 50	_	_								
1.40	Tom Walter	1810	14.52	2	2								
148	Tom Landon-Smith, Novak Thompson	1800	15.02 15.05	4	4								
181 229	David Baldwin, Adrian Sheppard Sue Clarke, Graeme Hill,	1630	15.05	4	4								
223	Chippy Le Carpentier	1620	14.59	5			1	1			1		
57	Matt Hely, Glenn Meyer	1570	15.04	6	5		•	-			-		
68	Peter Preston, Robert Preston	1540	14.50	7	6								1
	Peter Dunn, Garry Ferris	1520	14.58	8	7			2	1				_
	Ian Cameron, David Lyle	1490	14.48	9	8			3					
205	Matt Chamberlain, Damon Shorter	1470	14.54	10	9								
112	Ian Brown, Tony Garbellini	1470	14.59	11	10			4	3				
198	Ross Barr, Simon Barr	1470	15.06	12	11								2
180	Colin Hayhoe, Danius Mauragis,												
	Klaus Pinkas		15.00	13									
53	Adam Peters, Stephen Thompson	1400	14.54	14	13								
	Asa Hedin, Tim Martiniuk	1390	14.58	15			2						
91	Paul Darvodelsky, Paula Hawtin	1370	14.56	16			3						
172	Owen Prall, Carsten Schmitz-Peiffer	1370	15.00	17	14								
95		1260	14.53										
	Andrew Woodall	1360	14.53	18	15								
215	Robert Kenderes, Richard Kenderes	1360	14.57	19	16								
84	Paul Marsh, Gareth Prosser, Andrew Wisniewski	1360	15.06	20	17								
142	Bert van Netten, Dianne van Netten	1320	14.42	21	1,		4	5			2		
154	Bruce Cook, Will de Sain	1320	14.58	22	18		•	6			-		
246	Wayne Brenan, Geoff Luscombe		15.14	23	19			۰	•				
147		1300	15.09	24	1)	1							
59		1290	14.59	25		-	5						
195	Terry Bluett, Merv English	1280	14.59	26	20		-	7	5				
193	Laurie Allison, Andy Mein,								_				
	Chris Mein, Steve Ross	1260	14.52	27			6						
67	Brendon King, David Preston	1240	14.52	28	21							1	
104	Alex Tarr, Janet Tarr	1240	14.56	29			7	8			3		
163	Annette Billinghurst,												
	Michael Billinghurst	1230	14.51	30			8						
228	John Hodsdon, Val Hodsdon	1230	14.52	31			9	9			4		
138	Neil Chappell, David Lilley,												
	Michael Lilley	1230	15.01	32	22								
92	Barbara Campbell-Allen,												
	Paul Campbell-Allen	1220	14.58	33			10	10			5		
128	Ryan Downey, Richard Wood	1220	14.58	34	23							2	
114	Greg Langton, Luke McArdle,												
	Corey McArdle	1200	14.55	35	24							3	
16	Lisa Cutfield, Rob Smalley	1200	14.56	36			11						
133	Andrew Connors, Brad Malone,	4000	14 55	2.5	٥.								
	Peter Ryall		14.57	37	25								
183	Nicole Dynon, Andrew Haigh		14.57	38	~-		12						
	Kane Fasham, Andrew Smith		14.54	39			13						
	Nihal Danis, Richard Sage		14.57	40			13						
	Gavin Doyle, Jonathon Rainey		14.52	41									
	Gavin Lloyd, Rob Parbery, Ian Rath	1180	14.55	42 43									
237		1180	14.57	43	49								
165	Steven Lobley, Stuart Locke,												
										(Cor	ıtinu	ed o	n pag

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Team	tinued from page 5)	Score	Time	0	м	w	x	v	MV	wv	xv	J	F
	Markey Bridge												
55 160	Markus Zarins Simon Angus, Daniel Marlay David Dash, Ian Rothery,	1180 1160	15.05 15.02	44 45	30 31								
141	Peter Tamsett Mark Agnew, Daniel Carew,	1150	15.05	46	32			11	6				
97	Rhett HAmilton-Smith, Max Pagnin Deborah Byers, Jones,	1140	14.58	47	33								
20 233	Andrew Lumsden, Bernard Thomas Greg Shields, Karl Spackman Martin Liiv, Rob Paterson,	1130 1120	14.59 14.55	48 49	34		14	12	7				
167	John Siccardi Ian Halbisch, Andrea Schiminea,	1110	14.54	50	35			13	8				
70	Gavin Whitten, Philip Whitten Wolfgang Meierhofer, Dave Rasdall,	1110	15.22	51	36								
77	Ray Wyatt Chris Cutcliffe, Andrew Introna, Andrew Pope, Belinda Pope	1100	14.50	52 53	37		15						
	Geoff Bailey, Robin Hardtey	1080	14.58	54	38			14	9				
43	Pia Berthelsen, Peter Boyce Jenny Dowley, Margaret King	1070 1070		55 56		2	16						
204	Greg Chamberlain, James Southwell	1060		57	39	2							
113	Charles Allan, Lisa Allan	1060	14.55	58			17						
9 213	Paul Kernick, BRETT TAPPIN Brent Crowle, Michael Korompay	1050 1040	14.58 14.43	59 60	40 41								
56	Sue Brown, Judy Jenkinson	1030	14.58	61	₩.1	3							
106 164	Alexander Massey, Duncan Rayward, Anna Welbourne, Damian Welbourne Ben Austen, Peter Garlick,	1020	14.47	62			18						
110	Nick Howell, Dave Sharp John Clancy, David Richards,	1020	14.51	63	42							4	
225	Chris Stevenson, Dianne Stevenson John Jackson, John Leard, Tim Leard		14.57	64			19						
236	Mark McCrindle Richard Doyle, David Hunt, David Kable, Chris Kintis	1020	14.58	65 66	43								
17	Stephen Churgi, Tim Hebron,				44								
5	Colin Neate Steve Burns, JOHN MENYHART	1010 1010	14.58 14.59	67 68	45 46			10	10				
235	Meg Thornton, Robyn Tuft		14.59	69	40	4		15 16	10	1			
100		1000	14.49	70	47					_			
28 111	Marilyn Ferris, Lesley Taylor Jennifer Borrell, John Keats	1000 1000	14.52	71		5	20	1.0			_		
124	Rodger Austen, Rosemary Austen, Steve Garlick	1000	14.57	72 73			20 21	17			6 7		
162	Peter Booth, Dean Martin, Glenn Schwarzel, Mark Schwarzel	990	14.48	74	48	_							
153 178	Sue Kurrle, Robyn Pallas Ian Hawkes, Melanie Mill	990 990	14.52 14.52	75 76		6	22	19		2			
72	Robert Casmir, Rodeny Hill, Paul Smith, David Smith	980	14.52	77	49		~~						
139 232	Trent Oliver, Ray Trappel, Toby Trappel Georg Hauswirth, Kevin Lloyd,	980	15.01	78	50								
	Bernadette Redmayne, Maine Wetsteyn	970	15.02	79			23						
109 37	Stephen Jackett, Steve Lloyd, Matthew Ross Deborah Cox, Melvyn Cox	960 960	14.52 15.15	80	51		24						
83	Tony Martin, Terry Murphy	950	14.45	81 82	52		24	20	11				
230	Lynn Dabbs, Kevin Williams	940	14.49	83			25	21			8		
119 44	Michelle Hill, Naomi Pallas Asbjorn Frisvoll, Marton Hidas, Owain Williams	940 940	14.52	84 85	53	7							
199	Amber Barr, Andrew Hassall, Diana Kropman, John Osborne	940	15.01	86			26						
188 26	Peter Wherry, Paul Wherry Brian Lam, Edwin Mak, Roderick Van Beelan	930 930	14.53	87	54								3
76 218	John Herb, John Linich Dan Crosby, John Dalton,	920	14.54 14.49	88 89	55 56								
166	Kenyon Metford, Cath Rousch, Graeme Woodward	920	14.57	90			27						
166	Craig Moxey, Glen Sussman, Rod Tracey CHARLES BAILEY, EPHREM SITIWIN,	910	14.52	91	57								
	Jeff Welch	910	14.54	92	58								
248 41	Chris Arnison, Rod Meliska	910 910	14.54	93	59								
203	Martin Mansfield, David Noble Jakob Graichen, Carolina Roman	910 900	14.58 14.49	94 95	60		28						
35	Lee Austin, Peter Marr, Bruce Macaulay, Marcus O'Dean	900	14.54	96	61								
79 150	Cheryl Bluett, Anne Francis, Lynne Trappel Lynette Gett, Gail Siccardi	900	14.55	97		8		22		3			
118	Stuart Carmichael, Dayne Gumley, Richard Milligan, David Williams	900 900	14.55	98 99	62	9		23		4			
245 101	Chris Aiken, Paola Ramirez Andrew Bilston, Paul Harradine,	890	14.57	100			29						
38 174	Darren Smith Michael Hanratty, Ian Neuhaus Lyn Berg, Tony Bond, Alan Garner,	880 880	14.56 14.57	101 102	63 64								
74	Jon Marsden, Judy Micklewright Sonia Kupina, Alan Mansfield	870 870	14.41 14.53	103 104			30 31						
116	TONY GELLERT, GARY HARTOP, Julian Keane	870	14.57	105	65								
71	Rebecca Haslam, Kylie Jonasson, Penny Price David Bennett Bichard Palmer	870	15.00	106		10							
71	David Bennett, Richard Palmer, Peter Stevenson	860	14.53	107	66								
									-	C	42		naa.

(Continued from page 5)

Ridge, while I set the northernmost checkpoints, swimming at each little creek, and encountering the thick vegetation at the top of Lycon Rill. On Sunday, Andrew checked my checkpoints, (and found some more thick valley bush), I checked Andrew's and Rohan's, while Rohan and Stephen enjoyed the views south of 101.

Saturday May 23. I did an eastern loop, realising just before dark at 65 that I'd forgotten my torch and lighter. I decided to still head straight across the valley (the long road walk didn't seem very appealing. Discovering the canyon at 87 I wondered if I'd made the right choice, but crossed fairly quickly, carefully staying dry. The light was OK for most of the way up to 86. Relying then on the stars was fine, until I hit a thick patch of bush. After pushing through it I held my compass up to the starlight. 90 degrees off course. And which end of the needle was north? I chose the right way, but it was nice to see the Southern Cross and lights of Leura to confirm my decision. Out to the road, and a few hundred metres up to the campsite where the others had a great fire going. Meanwhile Rohan and Kylie explored Watersmeet, Minnehaha Falls and Bruce's Track, Doug checked the points on Fortress Ridge and Andrew among other things encountered more thick bush going through the valley from 83 to 5C.

Sunday May 24. Mark cycled in from Leura to help. Kylie thought the bush and cliffs from 5C to 83 were great, with Rohan leading. The controversy over the location of Bruce's Track near 39 raged. John had initially marked it as a straight line below the power lines. Rohan marked in a few wiggles, and rushing back at night had just identified a tree over the track/ creek junction as 'obvious', but had not taped it. I taped it, but then Andrew couldn't find the tape and taped the creek junction. Left for another weekend.

(Continued on page 7)

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(Con	tinued from page 6)												
Team		Score	Time	0	м	W	x	v	MV	WV	xv	J	F
40 89 186		860 860	14.54 14.56	108 109			32 33	24 25			9 10		<del>-</del>
185	Peter Johnson, Melanie Thomas Roderick Hickson,	860	14.57	110			34						
222	Marlene Norambuena, Robi Reiner, Adrian Zanella Timothy Cox, Bryony Cox	850 850	14.48 14.49	111 112			35 36	26			11		
131 73	Neil Gulvin, Mark Korsten, Paul Toohey John Harding, Carol Harding	850 840	14.59 14.53	113 114	67		37						
129 49	Ross Hayes, Reddall Leslie Torsten Henning, Eva Kreighoff, Magnus Lindskog	840 830	14.57	115	68		38	27	12				
221 29	John Butcher, Sallyanne Butcher Celia Barns, Paul Stevenson, Sally Walton	830 820	14.52 14.43	117 118			39 40	28			12		
117 179	Henry Roberts, John W. Roberts Peter Bradford, Jim Crabb,	820 820	14.46	119	69		41						4
108 240	Sarah Heath, Carol Pearson Rohan Gamble, Anna Wheelan Kate Bunbury, James Dwyer,	820	14.54	121			42						
223	Dan Heldon, Lucienne Mantou Melissa Casimir, Leonie Grace,	820	15.01	122			43						
94	Kathy Lloyd, Heidi Viereckel John Bloomfield, Neil Schafer, Michael Smith	810 810	14.52	123	70	11		29	13				
46 7	Matt Smith, Nicholas Smith	810 810	14.57	125 126	71 72			~-				5	
189	Neil Kitchen, Andy Stathom Anna Baynes, Peter Crosthwaite	810	15.02 15.12	127	12		44						
206	Andrew Cox, Garry Day, Tim & Just Fox	810	15.15	128	73								
39 176	Jason Banks, Mark Nolde Peter Hou Hansen, Moninya Roughan	800 800	14.44 14.51	129 130	74		45						
191 216	Kathy Herrmann, Michael Meyerson Janine Conway, Michelle McCoombe,	800	14.54	131			46	30			13		
234	Ros Woolley David Bell, Lynda Paju,	800	14.57	132		12							
173	Kim Rossington Alistair Williams, Gillian Williams Jocelyn Williams, Lyn Williams,	790	14.40	133			47						
194	Warwick Williams Liz Hardy, Peter Hardy,	790	14.52	134			48						5
65	Bronwyn Phillipps John Eggiton, Joseph Eggiton	780 780	14.54 14.59	135 136	75		49						6
18 47	Roz Atkins, Kerry Gilmore Anne Smith, Graham Smith,	760	14.55	137		13		31		5			
143	Heather Smith Diane Edwards, Gillan Miller, David Perkins, Sue Willis	760 760	14.55	138 139			50 51						7
	Lisa Clarke, Belinda Foster, George Foster	760	14,56	140			52						
	Peter Brockington, Matthew Jefferson, Mark Peltonen Damien Demunck, Paula Demunck,	760	14.58	141	76								
	Brett Jaeger Angus Cole, Danielle Cole	750 750	14.58 15.12	142 143			53 54						
45	Martin Schmidt, Kerstin Zander	740	14.40	144	77		55						
21 122	Robert Loader, Lars Timmersmans Robert Dickens, Rhonda Livingston	740 740	14.56 14.58	145 146	77		56	32			14		
27 25	David Cannings, Catherine Harrop Selwyn Butt, Craig Dunn, Steven Nguyen	740 740	15.01	147	78		57						
52 238	Grant Maizel, Tracey Mitchell Stephen Gillies, Jo Metzke, Eric Metzke	730 730	14.48	149 150			58 59						
10	Glen Babicci, Peter McKenzie, Michael Wu	730	15.24	151	79		•••						
158	Glenn Childs, Thais Turner	720	14.53	152			60						
136 99	Tim Naden, Peita Naden David Palmisano, Liz Rood	720 710	14.56 14.42	153 154			61 62						
208	Robert Attkins, Gabriel Mackenzie, Gordon Smith	710	14.46	155			63						
241 135	Peter Fatouris, Philippe Gratelle David Waddell, John Waddell	710 710	14.54 14.58	156 157	80 81			33	14				
15 219	Nicole Clarke, Greig Duncan, Vicki Snelson, Derek Van Dyk Brian Free, Frank Rosser,	700	14.54	158			64						
	Robin van Yzendoorn, John van Yzendorm	700	14.54	159			65						
58 105 75	Wal Mills, Bill Pigram Michael Godfrey, Alan Murphy Diana Charlton, Narelle Learoyd,	680 680	14.43	160 161	82 83		-	34 35	15 16				
1	Peter Learoyd Fiona Overton, Lauren Overton,	670	14.46	162			66						
	Mitchell Overton, Peter Overton, Patrick Overton	670	14.52	163			67						8
207 66 127	Philip Allen, John Guilly Samuel Lee, Naomi McLaughlin Chas Reid, Geoff Streeter,	660 660	14.54 14.57	164 165	84		68	36	17				
	Ken Woodward	650 650	14.38 14.51	166 167	85 86			37 38	18 19				
121 90 123	Gary Joyce, Paul Morgan Kim Hamilton, Peter Tomkins Humberto Conde, Kerry Sharp,	640	14.45	168	30		69	30	13				
152	David Sigley Jenny Evans, Larissa Lajovic,	640	14.46	169			70						
	David McFarlane, Steve Oliver, Craig Startling	640	14.53	170			71						
86	Michele Fietz, Wayne Fietz,								,	Con	tinuz	d or	nage 8

(Continued from page 6)

I spent the long weekend hanging flags, helped each day by a great variety of friends. I drove up on Saturday with Tarran and Genevieve. As very occasional walkers, Tarran provided important feedback in okaying the 24-5E-73-86 route, although Genevieve didn't like the thick bush they hit. I found a great canyon west of 5B as I headed towards 34 - a slow route as I guessed it would be, but too nice to hatch out. Nerolie joined me on Sunday to hang the flags north of Fortress Creek, and with the open terrain it was fun seeing her across the valley hanging 81 as I headed toward 90. On Monday, I tried to do a little loop before Andrew, Gillian and Tim arrived at 9 am, but a half hour journey from 48 to 84 made me a bit late. Gillian and Tim did a civilized loop around Bruce's Track and Watersmeet, while Andrew did an eastern loop, choosing the adventurous direct route for the half kilometer from 4C to 66 (2 hours) while I hung flags along Fortress Ridge, hoping when I couldn't find the tape at 40, 62 and 101 that I was in the right spot.

I spoke to Marnie on Tuesday before the event. She'd originally planned to vet the course 2 weeks before the event, but had been working in Hong Kong. She'd had a wet Thursday on the course, but a more scenic Friday. Most of the points she visited were OK, with a few minor changes, but a few missing tapes hadn't made her job easy.

Sun 14 June. Up early with Rohan (parking coordinator), Nerolie, Stephen, Andrew and Rob to organise parking. It's great to see cars full of smiling people. Several in a small sedan and about 10 in a 4WD are probably the record – we should have had a prize for this. Sorry that the first people didn't get the best spots near the HH, but it would have

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 7)
been harder to coordinate and more likely to result in a traffic jam.

Cycle out to Granny's Kitchen. It's busy here and has been since the first runners came through at 9:30. Then out to 101. Chose a good spot to view competitors streaming down the spur to 91 (and generally overshooting), and to watch the teams who chose to come straight across the deep valley to 101. Not many teams seem to be coming out along the road to 101. Then spend some time up on Fortress Ridge where you can see a lot of the course (knowing exactly where all the checkpoints were I could see several at times, and thought another time filler (if needed) at the final presentation could be a contest as to who had seen the most controls from any one point.

Back to Granny's Kitchen. It's lunchtime and there are 20 people dining in the area. No rest for the family. Another chance to chat to competitors. No chance to chat to Andrew as we meet flying down on our bikes in opposite directions at a dip in the road, as a pair of rogainers cower in fright.

Up Flat Top, and then out past the Pinnacles. One team state they and others couldn't find 42. Bit worried as Nerolie had hung the flag and said she'd just found the tape lying on the ground, so not sure if it is in the right spot. It is a bit of an ill-defined control, but having been there before, I find it reasonably easily, and sit and wait for another team to find it. They take a while, but think its position is OK (just wanting more points for it). Another team says 81 has blown down but it is too far away to do anything about it (had they tied it back up as I found it a week later)? Hear people have been out to 100, which I had wondered about. Then out to 47 and back to Granny's Kitchen. It's after 2 pm and there are still a few people on the road. I feel a bit mean cycling by, but offer people the chance to cycle the event and pick up flags next weekend. Ride on and the crowds definitely thicken as I reach the HH just before 3. Our plan of a finish area slightly separated from the HH hasn't quite worked, but the versatile Rohan, Rob, Stephen and Andrew are timing fine. It's great that everybody seems to have had a great day. Nobody

(Continued from page 7)

Team		Score	Time	0	м	W	x	v	MV	wv	xv	J	F
	Veronica Morahan, Keith Royle		14.58	171			72	39			15		
157	Anne Deck, Ian Deck, Richard Deck, Andrew Duncan, Janelle Duncan	630	14.28	172			73	3,5			13		9
156	Bill Miles, John Ravasini, Peter Ryan	630	14.45	173	87		,,,	40	20				,
134	Shane Hansen, Cheryl Lewis	620	14.31	174	-		74						
226	Lisa Lampe, Mark Wright	620	14.40	175			75						
125	Vera Franek, Judy Woodward,	620	14 44	170			7.0						
50	John Wood John Redpath, John Stewart	620 620	14.44 14.46	176 177	88		76	41 42	21		16		
63	Colin Fenning, Danny O'Connell	620	14.55	178	89				2.1				
36	Ian McNichol, Malcolm Wilson	610	14.46	179	90			43	22				
23	Allan Ramsay, Michael Ramsay	610	14.47	180	91							6	
130	Max Grant, Melissa Grant,												
	William Grant, Geoff Ritchie, Tom Thomas	610	14.51	181			77						
93	Herb Lippmann, Fred Zettele	610	14.56	182	92		,,	44	23				
30	Helen Balckstock, Vanessa Chan,												
	Darren Chan, Jo Mumford,												
3	Catherine Sturge Jason Chan, Patrick DIY,	600	14.20	183			78						
,	SEBASTIAN FUNG	600	14.56	184	93								
197	Gail Barr, Robyn Joscelyne	600	14.56	185		14		45		6			
140	Bill Gribble, Leslie Steinhaus	590	14.33	186	94			46	24				
170	Kirsten Linnemann, Ben Livissianis,												
200	Janet Steel Ben Scobie, David Scobie,	580	14.45	187			79						
200	Jenny Scobie, Peter Scobie	580	14.51	188			80						10
82	Eric Dorman, Mark Farae,												
	Elizabeth Gath, July Mann,												
<i>c</i> 1	Charmaine Taylor	580	14.55	189			81	4.5					
61 2	Geoff Kemp, Gay Kemp Hing Foo, Natalie FU, Vanessa Sue,	570	14.48	190			82	47			17		
	Isabel Tan, WOEI-WAN TAN	570	14.56	191		15							
177	Lisa-Jane Garland, Russell Taylor	560	14.44	192			83						
247	Helena Smith, Ron Smith	560	14.46	193			84						
6	DAI GANG, Melissa Harvey, Ping Su,	5.00	14 54	101									
239	PEARL ZHU Andrew Erkhold, Philip Strickland	560 550	14.54 14.49	194	95	16							
13	Debbie Hotchkis, Sue Le Carpentier,	330	14.47	195	,,								
	Bronwyn Monahan	540	14.41	196		17		48		7			
159	Audrey Wilson, Michael Wilson	540	14.58	197			85	49			18		
81	Jannine McIlwraith, Mark Sliwinksi	530	14.59	198			86						
64 182	Judy Chapman, Ken Chapman Bronwyn Meek, Jim Meek	520 520	14.15 14.45	199 200			87 88	50			19		11
115	Helen Bishop, Karen Hunt,	320	14.45	200			00						11
	Sally KELMAN, Anna Boddiscombe	520	14.49	201		18							
4	Russell Cail, Steve Hooper	520	14.55	202	96			51	25				
171	Lynne McNairn, Martin Robinson	510	14.53	203			89	52			20		
168	Ben Lohse, Mark Rosenbaum, Melinda Stocker, Damien Tanner	500	12.05	204			90						
33	Nick Hirsch, Jenni Martin	500	14.47	205			91						
202	Sally Chapman, Zoe Cruice,												
200	Ben Tsang, Andrew Wong	500	14.53	206			92						
227 175	Ian Rank, Nicholai Rank, Swee Rank Dan Callison, Toby Cogley,	500	14.56	207			93						12
175	Kevin Jansen, Simon Thompson	490	13.55	208	97								
190	Susan Bellamy, Terry Gainey,	•••	20.55		٠,								
	David Rose	460	14.40	209			94	53			21		
60	Rosemary Wheen, Robert Wheen	460	14.54	210			95	54			22		
169	Cynthia Coleman, Elizabeth Melville Tony Melville	430	14.46	211			96						13
146	Manfred Mackenzie, Janet Sculfer	430	14.52	212			97	55			23		13
155	Simon Anderson, Debra Hanson	430	14.55	213			98						
220	Jessica Chou, Phuoc Hua,												
21	David Johnson	400	14.45	214			99						
31	Stephen Crawford, Manda Croher, Anthony Paine, Halyee Sneesby	400	14.46	215			100						
126	Debbie Bush, Heather Johnson,	400	14.40	213			100						
	Susan Laplain, Len Laplain	390	14.09	216			101	56			24		
212	Enza Carnevale, Diane Jaworski	380	14.28	217		19							
144	Bob McNairn, Scott McNairn, David Smith	200	14 50	210									
145	Parmiss Keyhani, Michael Pulo	380 360	14.58 14.57	218 219	98		102						
	Bert Lancaster, Peter McIntosh	340	14.25	220	99		102						
137	Michael Aitchie, Matthew Dunnill	300	14.26	221	100								
	Laurie Bore, Margaret Bore	280	14.44	222			103	57			25		
	Neil Glick, Li Yang	270	15.03	223			104						
231 107	Julian Radom, Suzanne Schamschulf Tina Mannion, Hugh McGuiness	250 250	14.42 14.57	224 225			105 106						
	Milton Cox, Ronald Perry	150	15.05		101		100	58	26				
192	Kiara Devine, Tamar Devine,								_•				
	Colin Devine	10	9.49	227			107						
19	Carol Jacobson, Ken Jacobson	Late	15.34										

seemed too worried that 21 was the east side of the road, not the west as I'd written-I still get those confused. I find my estimated score of 2500 for the winners is a bit high, but then I've taken a few days to get around their circuits.

The intention sheets reveal some interesting patterns, which may be bias because

of teams not filling in the boards, broken pencils .... Alternative routes to the Mt Hay Rd north of the Hash House, such as via 73 or 63, were only used by people to get from the Hash House, with very few visitors in the afternoon. It would appear that people planned (Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

large circuits, but either ran out of time or enjoyed the scenery so much in the north of the course that the only route home was via the Mt Hay Rd.

Only about half a dozen teams ventured east of the hash house to the controls on or east of Wentworth Creek. Checkpoint 65 only had one visitor. As planned, the relatively low points available on the east side of the course did not draw many people from the spectacular area to the north

arriving at 12:17, and then made it to 70 but not 100.

81 should have been ideal for runners, with a great view and clear spur. I was surprised that only team 1025 made it.

I thought 90 was probably the hardest control on the course, being distant and hard to identify the correct gully. Only teams 1069 and 1148 found it. Andrew had placed it when looking for ways across the canyon. I saw it a few metres below from the top of the waterfall when

back towards 5B. The flag at 58 had blown off the blackboy by the time I collected it two weeks later, so we were lucky it blew down after the event rather than before.

John Barnes



Photo: Gordon Smith

west of the course, but did provide another option and a more balanced looking map.

Granny's Kitchen was probably the most visited 100 pointer ever, although possibly even more people gained the 100 points for good transport. All 620 scones were consumed, with only a few teams running though after they had been used up. At 102, it was interesting that many teams planned to go to 85, and not a little bit further to 5C. The direct route from 5C to 83 was very thick and cliffy according to 3 groups of course setters, and marked as such on the map. Nevertheless 3 teams set off from 5C to make the crossing, with two making it (in about 40 minutes).

Out to the north, several teams gained 100 and 70 but they all skipped the nearby (but across a deep valley) 80. This was a smart option which I hadn't foreseen. The only team (1037) who made it took 40 minutes from 54

checking, then first walked in a big circle around a pinnacle as I tried to get down, before finding a very simple way down, so I understand the team comment 'I love the course setter, why the base of the waterfall?'

I was very surprised that no teams made it to 30, at the end of the track along Fortress Ridge, and presumably also to 51. It probably wasn't worth the 170m descent for the points, although the canyon and waterfall are very nice to visit. Doug suggested giving the two controls different points rather than identical so people could later argue as to the reason for the difference. Would more people have been attracted by the thought of a single control worth 80 points and appearing perhaps bigger on the map than the combination worth 80? A similar question also applies to the closely placed checkpoints 20, 32 and 45 on the Pinnacles.

I was also surprised that only 4 teams made it to the views of 58. In retrospect, this was probably a sensible points decision, as a visit required retracing steps

# In Memory of Ross Hamilton

Early this year, Ross Hamilton Rogainer, bushwalker, and stalwart of the Bankstown bushwalking club, died after a battle with cancer.

As his bushwalking years progressed Ross became a very reliable navigator. He always attributed this skill to the discovery of Rogaining. Many Rogainers may know of Ross, in part due to his involvement with the Bankstown club when they organised the Nerong 12 Hr Rogaine near Bullahdelah, and also to seeing him around the Hash House at events.

At the recent Paddy Pallin Rogaine Ross's friend Cath on behalf of his widow Trish introduced the Ross Hamilton Shield for the Bankstown Club team with the highest score. Speaking about Ross, Cath reflected that Rogaining is an important chance to sharpen navigation skills for people with all levels of experience. Many Bankstown members had a wonderful introduction into serious bushwalking after their first Rogaining bush bash, acting like kids on a treasure hunt finding controls.

It was said that the Ross Hamilton Shield was a very fitting memorial to him. He had a very active and positive last year of life travelling to Alaska, being adventurous to the end. He was very touched and honoured that the club would remember him in this way. Congratulations go to the 1998 winners of the Ross Hamilton Shield

Julian Ledger

### Just For the Fun of It

I am not a die hard competitor, but I enjoy each rogaine all the same. My husband (& partner) is an old pro at these events and has had to come to terms with my lack of \*fierce competition.\* Ever since he introduced me to this sport 3 events ago, I have had to reinforce the fact that \*I am not running\* and am doing this to \*see more of the Australian outdoors\*.... yet, I must admit, I love the feeling of locating (& punching) each checkpoint.

Rogaining is a versatile sport, becoming only as challenging as you make it. This fact is one in which I find reassurance......as I sometimes trail behind my husband wondering what the hell I'm doing scrambling down a cliff or up a hillside. I have never walked away from a rogaine without feeling pain or stiffness somewhere....but is all part of the adventure.

The Paddy Pallin Rogaine proved to be one of the more popular events I have attended. With over 600 people competing, it almost felt as if it were a game of follow-the-leader rather than a remote outdoor orienteering event. You could easily glance toward where your compass was aimed and most likely catch sight of a competitor scurrying toward that next elusive little orange and white kite.

Although, it may not have been the most challenging event of the season, the weather was perfect and the sights breathtaking. I could have stayed at checkpoint #101 all day....just taking in the beauty of the gorge and the warmth of the sun. The course we chose was both picturesque and tricky - a satisfying mix. We finished with 1060 points, ranking in the top 20% of the mixed teams competing....our best finish to date.

My only concern for the sport of Rogaining is the compound effect each competitor has on the landscape - forging their way through virgin fields, forests and waters in a quest for the next checkpoint. The countryside in New South Wales is magnificent and I would love to see Rogaining take a slightly more environmental angle in running its activities. If those of us who appreciate and spend our time in the bush aren't the ones who begin

to lead by example, who will?

All in all, the beauty and challenge of the Blue Mountains was superbly captured in the Paddy Pallin rogaine - special thanks to the course setters and organisers. Rogaining, it's a sport you have to try at least once....if nothing else than for the fun of it!

Lisa Allan

Ed:

Actually, the "damage" is quite minimal. We have gone back to event sites a year later, even the ones where it has rained heavily and there were 'elephant' tracks to controls -- and surprisingly, it was hard to detect that a Rogaine had even taken place.

This year, the Rangers overseeing that part of the National Park will be doing an investigation into the impact of the Rogaine. We will publish their findings (though it may be 6 months away)

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   NSW Local Government Areas map
   Sydney CBD colour photomap
- Digital boundaries such as local government, suburb, electoral etc

No.	First Team	First Time	AM Visits	Last Time	Last Team	Team Visits	AM Visits	
WEST OF								
зА	1057	9:30	91%	2:24	1072	35		Only one visit after 12:20. Not visited by first few teams to 74. Mainly to 38 and a few to 22
74	1012	9:32			1060			All but two to 64 (and how many went via creek?) Glad "Team Wild" had "The best time" and were going to "A better time"
64		9:40	94%		1103			Mainly to 5D, although later ones to 39.
38	1012	9:21	93%		1107	46		Only one visit after 12:45.
5D	1173	10:30	71%		1072	17		Mainly 63 or 39, few 4A.
63	1017	10:00	79%	1:22	1072	28	22	All to 49 except first and last to 5D!
NORTH C				0.00	4000			0/01-40
4B		9:07	87%		1099	71		2/3 by 10 am. Initially a mix of 4A, 39, then a few to 13, and finally mainly to 23.
36	1114	9:15	78%		245	36		Virtually all to 10 in morning
5B		9:40	80%	1:35	49	35		Mainly to 84, only four to 58
58	1114	9:53	100%		98	4		Only a few visitors for the spectacular views.
84	1104	9:38	70%		1009?	43		Mainly to 59, some early ones to 5B, quite a few to 37, one to 48 (straight across?), later ones to 10
59	1104	9:49	59%		1148	41		All to 34 before 12:30, then all to 84 after except last team to 48.
5A	1148	10:20	39%	2:30!	1048	18		To 35/46 morning, mixture afternoon (last team direct to HH).
91	1104	10:14	33%	2:15!	1148	36		Half to 101, some to 34, 46, two to 92.
101	1139	10:35	46%	2:25!	246	39		Mainly to 44 in first hour. Then mix incl 35, 5A, , 92 (3 high point cruise teams?), 91(3), 72
DISTANT								
54	1119	11:00	67%	12:30	1165	9		Mainly to 70. Teams 1091 (11:16) and 1165 (12:30) planning to go to 80, but didn't make it.
80	1037	12:17				1	Congratulations to the only team who made it (40 min from 5 to 70, but not to 100.	
100	1106	11:15	57%	1:15	1206	7		Four to 71, two to 70 and one to 54.
71	1106	11:00	22%	1:18	1138	9		Three each to 100, 41, 50.
50	1025	12:00	0%	1:39	246	9		Seven different destinations (41,43,54,56,71,90,100) for 9 teams
81	1025	11:25				1		Congratulations to the only visitors. Then to 50
90	1069	11:41	50%	12:04	1148			Both to 61.
52	1160	12:30	0%	1:34	1012	12		Mainly back to 31, except 2 teams to 41. Where did top teams head north?
30						q		A very nice spot and nobody went to it.
53	1109	11:11	27%	12:57	1193	11		Half to 82, and also to 31,35,40,72
55	1172	10:30		12:35	1025	6		Pencil gone. 43(4), 54, 42.
EAST OF		OUSE						
5E	1010	9:20	75%	2:15	1182	>30	24	Mainly to 73, 11 or 12. Missing bottom of board and blunt pencil.
73	1147			1:37!	1021	31		All heading north (28 to 86, 2 to 37) except team 1055 who didn't make the intended canyon trip to 87
AR EAST								
28	1234	9:20		11:10	1169	10		Mainly 29, 2 to 27. Did team 1169 like it so much they visited twice?
29	1234	9:30	100%	11:20	1169	6		Mainly 4E
66	1074	10:15	100%	10:55	113?	4		How did team 1169 like trip to 14? Others to 4D.
40	1205	9:39	60%	12:02	1085	5		First team to 4D, others to 24
87	1205	10:18	100%	12:00	1074	4		Three to 86, last team didn't make intended trip to 73.
65	1074	11:15	100%			1	1	To 87
EAST OF								
5C	1165	9:55	77%	1:51	1008	35		How did teams 1053, 1142 and 1121 (Did you make it?) enjoy trip to 83?
83	1165	10:55	100%	11:10!	1142	3	3	All to 92

Send:

Letters to the Editor **Event Reports** Gear / Food Reports **Photos** Humour

To:

Stephen Castle 121 / 362 Mitchell Rd, Alexandria NSW 2015 Ph: (02) 9557-7101 (h) Fax: (02) 9557-7102 (h)

Email: stephen@csdc.toshiba.com.au

Most formats are acceptable:

MS Word 6.0 / 95 / 97 Word Perfect Publisher 95 / 98 JPEG / GIF Faxed / Handwritten



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# Hot Tips For Rogainers

I have been asked to coordinate a technical column for the newsletter aimed mainly at people moderately new to the sport. However, as with all these things, I expect other more experienced Rogainers will benefit from hearing another person's view on the Rogaining world. In this issue we will focus on Route Planning. In future issues we will cover Terrain Prediction, Route Choice, Attack Points, Dealing with Partners (!), Gear and any other topics I can think of (or be reminded of). 

#### **Route Planning**

The most important time of a team's rogaine is often before the hooter goes, in the golden w 2-3 hours between obtaining 2 the maps and the start. During this time the rogaine can be lost or won and you may have made decisions which will affect your happiness and well-being for the next 24 (or 6, or 12) hours! Of course, teams are not obliged to stick by initial decisions made at this time, even if they fill in detailed "intended route" cards for the organiser. W However, if you end up heading south towards three isolated controls on the edge of the map, with all other teams heading north, east or west, then of maybe they have thought of something that you haven't! W So it is very important to spend as much time as possible thinking about routes, alterna-

Of course, in the time before the start of a rogaine there are plenty of other things to be thinking about. You need to wake up, eat breakfast, register and obtain the maps and information, sort out food for on the course, sort out your gear and get dressed for the course, eats some more, repair those broken shoe laces, say goodbye to spouses / kids / friends etc. The more that these activities can be compressed into the time prior to maps being available, the more time you will have for seriously thinking about route choices. Also, speaking from experience(!), it is much better to be well organised and relaxed, with everything packed and ready at least 15mins before the briefing, rather than have a rushed rucksack stuff and

tive routes and alternative, alterna-

tive routes.

gobble of food 5 mins before the start, and then find that in the rush you forgot to pack the spare batteries.

So what can you do in terms of route planning before the start?

Read the setter's course notes carefully. Make a careful mental note where you may need to be vigilant on the course and if necessary transfer some of that information on to the

in possible loops. Use a distance wheel or piece of string to measure the distance of each loop, calculate the number of points from each loop and try to make some judgement about how long the loop will take.

Decide whether to plan on returning to the hashhouse or staying out all night. Work out how to pick up enough water on

## events 1999 events 1999 events 1999 events 1999

#### metrogaine autumn 24 paddy pallin

The committee wants event sites for 1999 and for the following years.

Have you got an area you think might be suitable for a Rogaining event?

We can find Rogainers interested in running and assisting in running Rogaines. But first we need to find suitable event sites.

Contact Alan Mansfield on 02-9797-6773 or one of the committee members.

### nsw championship lake macquarie upside-down **events 1999 events 1999 events 1999 events 1999**

- Colour code the controls by value. Perhaps use pink for 80-100pts, blue for 50-70pts, green for 30-40pts. These colours can be lightly shaded onto the control circle using a pale texta pen. Make sure that the colour is not too dark so as to obliterate map detail.
- The colouration is best done prior to covering the map with contact.
- Decide if the course is weighted in any one area or direction. If control values are higher in one part of the map, is the terrain steeper or likely to be thicker, or are there no roads? These factors will make it harder to earn those high value points.
- Start stringing controls together

- the course from water drops and drinkable creeks.
- Decide which part of the map it would be best to be in during the night. Although thick and rugged bush is often perceived to be more difficult at night, often I have found that very flat and featureless farmland is the hardest to navigate through in the dark. A good compromise is to select parts of the map with plenty of tracks (e. g. pine plantations) or plenty of well-defined contour detail (without being too much BIG country!).
- Work out which loops can be

(Continued on page 14)

# Hot Tips For Rogainers (cont)

(Continued from page 13)

broken, which can be extended. Sometimes outer and then inner loops work well, sometimes the clover leaf approach to stringing loops works better. It is a good idea on the route in to the hashhouse to have plenty of options either to shorten and lengthen, depending on how much time is left. This can often be achieved where the setter has put out lots of low value, easy navigational controls close to the hashhouse for novices.

9 Work out possible escape routes down to roads or easy country from different parts of the planned route, to take if you get tired, lost or injured.

Now that you have a finalised and planned route, now is a good time to get your final preparations complete and relax. It is often tempting to tell other teams where you are heading, and to try to find out where they are going. Despite some recent internet discussion, this exchange of information is not against the rules, as defined by the ARA. However, rarely does knowledge about where other teams are going help you. They may have made the wrong route choice!

Only time will tell if your route planning has been successful. Remember that changing the plan as you go is fine; this is only the starting plan. Very few teams actually come back after a rogaine having done exactly what they set out to do. Route planning continues throughout the rogaine, and can sometimes be more effective having had some exposure to the terrain types.

Simon George.

#### Don't Ever Roll Over (cont)

(Continued from page 3)

the horizon. Let's rollover and sleep a bit longer, I said, and again Netta acquiesced quickly. Another hour later, again shivering with cold we got up and set out with renewed vigour.

In the frail blue light before dawn, before you can quite make out separate colours, we found the elusive checkpoint and continued. We had planned on doing about 25km in the afternoon and morning and 25km during the night. I was surprised to find that we were still on our original schedule - despite 2 hours sleep. However, our plans for the morning hadn't catered sufficiently for our weariness, burning battered feet, Netta's burst blisters and the irritation of speargrass lacerations to the ankles!

We battled on, planning escape routes, calculating the distances and points for the various alternatives and spiking controls. Our need for more water led us to a water control on the road and from there, fearing that we would run short of time, headed back to the Hash House, collecting checkpoints that were quickly accessible from the road. From time to time we jogged down a few slopes; saw in the distance the WA Bear-Scarers; and called encouragement to Mike Hotchkis and Ian Werry who were still running, but wearily. As we approached the HH with 25 minutes remaining we decided to throw our packs into the tent and whip out to the secondnearest control about 750m away. The nearest control, on top of that mountain beetling over the camp was out of the question - rapid consensus on that, though we saw Sue and Walter heading upwards as we went past.

The way to the checkpoint was very obvious by the stream of teams heading from it to the HH. We walked up the sandy slope and round to the knoll, reveling in the freedom of no packs dragging at our shoulders. (We carry our first aid kits and whistles in bumbags, also great for storing lollies for easy access). clipped the card and, looking down the gentle slope to the HH, couldn't resist the urge to stretch out our lope to a run! Strides twice as long means half as many steps and half as many impacts on bruised and blistered feet. Running also rests the walking muscles and loosens stiff shoulders - though we would have scorned such a theory only an hour before!

Back at the HH it was good to sit & down in the sun, remove shoes and socks, despair at the discolouration of my only-justgrown-out big toe nails, compare blisters, meet the friendly landowners, pick away at a plate of mixed dishes leftover from night-time the meal, to discuss route choices with others, and to enjoy

the camaraderie which is so special to this sport.

Thanks to all who were involved in putting on the event, particularly Eric Andrews. This was our second event in Queensland – both were very well set and organised, in interesting country. I'd highly recommend going north for the rogaining and we can't wait for the opportunity to do so again.

Marnie Holmes

Marnie and Netta Holmes were 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Open Women's section and 18<sup>th</sup> overall.



# Membership Renewal



How come there is always a car wreck at the top of every Australian mountain?

Gabrielle McKenzie & Rob Attkins at #92, Flat Top Photo: Gordon Smith

### \*\*\*\*\* To All Paddy Pallin Entrants \*\*\*\*\*

Many entrants of the Paddy Rogaine are not members of the NSWRA. This means that unless you become a member by filling in the form below, you will:

- Not Receive any more Newsletters
- Not be able to enter any other Rogaine. Membership is required for Insurance reasons

So join up today - it only costs \$12!

### **Application for Membership or Renewal of Membership**

The NSW Rogaining Association Incorporated

I/We the undersigned, who live at the address given below, hereby apply to become members / renew membership of the above named incorporated association. In the event of my/our admission as members I/we agree to be bound by the rules of the association for the time being in force.

Full Name	Date of Birth	Fee (\$)	Renew (Y/N)	Signature
				" ""

My/Our address (for delivery of one copy of each newsletter) is:

Name:			•••••
Address:			
Town:		Postcode:	
E-mail:			
Phone:	(home)	(work)	(fax)

The fee per annum is \$12 for the first person on this form and \$3 for each additional person. The maximum fee for a family is \$15. The membership year starts on 1st January. A family is defined as one or two adults plus any number of dependant children each of who looks to one or both of the adults as a parent and who all live at the same address.

Please send this form together with a cheque payable to "NSW Rogaining Association" to:

******************** <b>*</b>	**************************************
*Changed Your Address?	Contact Graeme ► **
**************************************	******

Membership Secretary NSWRA Graeme Cooper Cluny Road, MSF2005, ARMIDALE 2350

#### The Pleasures of Course Vetting

I agreed to vet some of the course for the Paddy Pallin event and assumed that it would be a simple matter to spend a few days in the Blue Mountains in the five weeks leading up to the big day. And then I found myself in Hong Kong on business, and having to stay on and on and on (and the story of my adventures there will have to wait for another time!).

When I returned home at last, it was 10 days before the event and the map had to be printed a couple of days later. Work commitments continued intensively but time was of the essence, so I packed my black and white photocopy of the map (thanks John!), compass, waterproofs, mobile phone, lunch - all the essentials - and headed off to Leura through the rain and, as I ascended the hills, into the clouds... Looked like it would be a challenge of a day - even before the first call from my Hong Kong colleagues.

I planned on doing a loop of the northernmost checkpoints, so headed out along the Mt Hay Road in my Hyundai Excel. The heavy rains of the previous few weeks had washed out the road in some places, great for 4WD but of some concern to me considering

the low suspension of my paved road car! One huge puddle which covered the whole road gave me cause for hesitation and I even got out and walked through it before driving across.

So I started my day in the bush with wet feet. And from there I only got wetter! As I pushed through the scrub, the water pushed back, even through the pockets of my waterproof jacket. Supposedly waterproof! (All sponsorship offers gratefully considered!) During breaks in the rain it was quite pleasant to wander along the ridges, but around 4pm, when the cloud came down, and I had to follow a compass bearing and -pace count to keep to the top of the ridge, I didn't enjoy it at all.

However the next day made up for all the previous misery! The sun shone and a gentle breeze fanned the sweat from my brow. I walked out along a track in the n-w of the course, with spectacular views to north, west and east. For many of the points I struggled to find the tape indicating the location for the checkpoint and made a number of attempts on several checkpoints to confirm angles,

distances and positions. But in the pleasant weather, I enjoyed the opportunity to explore the area.

When I reached the end of the ridge, I sat to eat my lunch on a rock in the sun. The great chasm of Govett Creek was gouged far below on my left. To the north, the ridge leading out to Lockley Pylon was a moving panorama as the shadows of clouds chased one after the other across the hills and I traced the route I had followed the previous day. I debated about heading down to check several points in the canyon below. After counting the contours down – 25+ (not to mention up!) I decided to stay on the ridge and finish checking the points there a little more leisurely.

The highlight of the day would have to be my afternoon tea stop, sitting right on the edge of the cliff, savouring a piece of pecan pie. My mobile phone rang - a colleague from Hong Kong was calling for advice about wording for a contract and while we talked of semantics and legalese, I watched the pattern of rainbows in the wind-blown wisps of the waterfalls that lined the golden sandstone cliffs that stretched off to the faded blue distance in the north.

Marnie Holmes

# **Stop Press**

#### NSW Rogaining Championships

Entries for the 'LOSTOCK and barrel' rogaine close on Monday 27 July 1998.

We can promise you open country with pockets of bushland, a central hash house, fabulous views of the course from the six high points on the map.

If you are a novice rogainer why not make this a first time for some night navigation — the area around the hash house is mainly open country and with a full moon it may be a good opportunity to give it a try.

**TRANSPORT:** The Association will arrange bus transport from

Broadmeadow railway station (Newcastle) to the Hash House approximately (1.5 hours from Newcastle) on the Saturday morning.

If travelling from Sydney please make your own arrangements to travel to Broadmeadow. There is a train departing Central railway station at 5.52 am and Strathfield railway station at 5.58 am arriving at Broadmeadow at 8.39 am. Please confirm rail departure times with City Rail the day before the event.

The coach will leave Broadmeadow railway station (Graham Rd) at 8.45 am

approximately and should arrive at the event site at around 10.15 am.

For the return journey the bus will leave the event at 1.30 pm on Sunday and should arrive at Broadmeadow by 3.00 pm — in time to meet the 3.38 pm train which is scheduled to arrive at Central railway station at 6.10 pm.

#### NOTE:

You MUST contact Alan Mansfield before 8.00 pm on Sunday 2 August 1998 to confirm your place on the bus.

PH: 02 9797 6773 (home)
FAX: 02 9667 9313 (work)
E-mail: the bovine@bigpond.com