

NSW ROGAINING NEWSLETTER

Number 78

February 2000

PRESIDENTIAL PIECE

Welcome to the first newsletter of the year 2000. First let me say what a wonderful job our editorial team, Stephen and Rhonda, have done. They have obviously enjoyed working so closely together, as at the WRC4 in New Zealand they announced their engagement. Congratulations! Having edited and rogained together already, I am sure they will take the ups and downs of marriage in their stride.

We have six of our own events lined up for this year, starting with the 6 hour Metrogaine on March 5th. Don't miss this opportunity to run and walk round the Olympic site at Homebush. With veteran course-setters Ian Cameron and Sue Kurrle at the helm, I'm sure it will be a great day out.

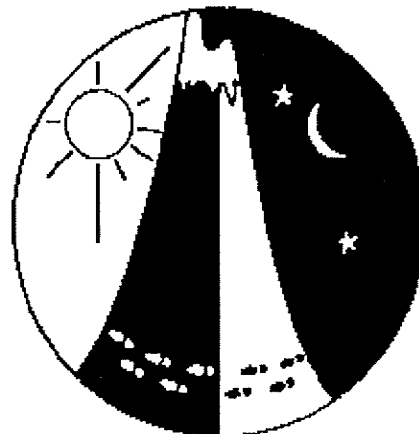
Only five weeks later, on the 15/16 April, and it is off to Colo for the

NSW Champs, courtesy of a new, and very enthusiastic course-setting team, led by Andy Mein. And if you need something to keep the werewolves away in between there is the ACT Champs on the weekend of 18/19 March.

It was great to see so many NSW rogainers at the Fourth World Champs in New Zealand - check out Geoff Peel's report.

I hope to see you all out there enjoying the bush and the rogaining throughout the year, and please don't forget that all of us on your Committee welcome suggestions and offers of help at any time. The more you put in to it the more you get out.

Sue Clarke



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ACT Champs

ROGAINING NEARLY KILLED ME

I was part of Rogaining team M159 or what ever team it was. We were pleased with our efforts breaking the 1000 barrier for the first time. We had been going pretty hard, but came back to the Hash House at midnight and slept until 7 before heading back out and attempting to get to 1500.

We finished the event with at least 5 minutes to spare, and met up with our girlfriends' team who were very pleased with their efforts. We sat down and had lunch and swapped stories of check points and strategies, while waiting for the presentations.

After the ceremony, we packed up our tents and car, had the usual discussion about who would drive first then began the drive back to Melbourne. We were traveling in a convoy behind some friends in their old van towards Wodonga.

We'd only been going about 20 minutes when I realized my companions had both fallen asleep. For some reason I closed the windows and turned on the heating.

Next thing I remember, my lovely

Subaru was halfway off the road on a corner heading down a steep ditch, traveling at about 80kph. For what seemed like ages I grappled with the steering trying to get the car back onto the road. I was screaming at my passengers. Before I gained control, we hit something. I don't remember what happened until I regained consciousness, as I was dragged from the upturned car. My hands were covered in blood and glass.

First-aid people arrived quickly on the scene. My head felt like a cracked egg as the paramedic held something over the oozing gash in the top of my head. People told me that I was the most injured, which I remember thinking was a good thing. In a short time the ambulance, police and tow truck arrived. I was largely unaware of all the goings on as I was not allowed to move. I never got to see my car upside down. The ambulance people taped my head to a spine board, put on a tight neck brace and strapped the rest of my body too prevent me from moving. My neck was in great pain. The wonderful

(Continued on page 14)

WHAT'S ON IN 2000

Event/Coordinator	Course Setters (4) Vettors (2)	Administration	Hash House
EVENT CALENDAR – NSW & ACT			
5th March 2000 Metrogaine – 6hrs Homebush	Ian Cameron (02 9482 2454) Sue Kurrle	Simon George (02 9487 4287)	
18-19 March 2000 ACT 24hr Championships	Dick Walker (02 6454 3118)		
15-16 April NSW Championships Colo	Andrew Pope(Course Setter) Andy Mein(Co-ordinator) (02 9980 8670) Alan Mansfield (Vettor)	Belinda Pope Jenny Wood	Stephanie Seaton Stuart Roberttson
30th April 6hr ACT Paddy Palin	Geoff Mercer (02 6295 6019)		
18th June 6 hr Paddy Pallin Capertee	Ian Brown (02 4787 1420) Tony Garbellini Geoff Luscombe	Stephen Castle Rhonda Monahan	
1-2nd July 29hr Serach & Rescue Nav Shield 2000	John Tonitto (02 9789 2527 work)		
15-16th July 24hr Australian Championships Upper Hunter	Graeme Cooper (02 6772 3584) Peter Waterson	Richard Sage Alan Mansfield Julian Ledger	
10th September ACT Cyclegaine	Geoff Mercer (02 6295 6019)		
7th October Lake Macquarie	Robert Vincent (02 4956 7018)		
11 November 6/12hr event – ACT	Geoff Mercer (02 6295 6019)		
25-26th November 6/12hr Socialgaine	Daniel Marlay (02 9969 9167)		

Join in the fun of working behind the scenes

HELP always needed, contact:

Vicki Cooper

Phone: (02) 6772-3584 (h)

Cluny Rd, Armidale NSW 2350

No experience is necessary - detailed instructions are supplied.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

DON'T MISS THE METROGAINE

The 8th Annual Metrogaine is to be held on Sunday 5th March. If the 2000 Pre-Olympic Metrogaine and its to be held in and around the Homebush area – exactly the same place as Peter Watterson's ground breaking first Metrogaine back in 1993.

In fact the Metrogaine has been all over Sydney as you can see:

1993 Homebush
1994 Bondi
1995 Lane Cove
1996 Sutherland – Carringbah
1997 Upper Lane Cove
1998 Neutral Bay
1999 Campbelltown
2000 Homebush

There is even a queue to run the event for the next few years!

2001 Northern Beaches
2002 Wollongong
2003 Cook River

NSW ROGAINING CHAMPIONSHIPS

The 2000 NSW Rogaining Championships will be held on the weekend of April 15 and 16, approximately 2 hours drive North West of Sydney. The event is over a 24 hour period commencing at Midday Saturday. A 12 in 24 hour option is also available for those who like a less demanding event. The centrally located hash house allows the competitors to do loops out from the hash house.

The area has a wide variety of vegetation and wildlife. Altitude ranges from approximately 200 to 600 metres. It is predominantly sandstone ridge country with some higher shale capped areas and large low heath areas near the centre of the course. Vegetation on the ridges is generally open with numerous tracks allowing for reasonably fast progress. Majestic eucalypts and turpentines are found in the more inaccessible gullies whilst tortured angophoras dot the ridges. Highlights of the course include a large stand of Sydney Blue Gums and numerous untouched rainforest gullies.

The course has many challenges including unmarked cliffs, some thicker vegetation (mainly in the gullies), 20 metre contours and a number of unmarked tracks. Night navigation promises to be interesting.

Wildlife encountered during the setting of the course included a huge variety of birds, kangaroos, wallabies, koalas, goannas, water dragons and various other friendly (and not so friendly) reptiles.

The hash house has a large shaded area for camping with flushing toilets and cold showers available. Our catering team promises excellent food.

We look forward to seeing you in April.

Andrew Pope.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Will be held at 1pm
On Sunday 16th April 2000
At the Hash House

After the NSW Rogaining Championships

All Committee positions are up for election.

There will be a report on the progress of Rogaining in NSW.

WANTED!

Equipment Officer for the Rogaining Association
Duties include keeping track of the Association's equipment which is mostly stored in the NSWRA trailer - a customised unit which allows a lot to be fitted into a small space. If possible the Equipment Officer should host the trailer at their home and have a vehicle suitable for towing it – however this is not essential as there is are other vehicles available.
Main regular task is to ensure gas bottles refilled between events.
Interested in helping the Assoc in this way? Please call President Sue Clarke or Secretary Julian Ledger.

SOCIALGAIN - 5th December 1999 HORNSBY HEIGHTS

ROGAINING IS FOR FAMILIES TOO!

Which way is north? Orientate the map! Identify terrain features! Check our position! Right, off we go! Montview oval has to be around here somewhere.

Its 9:15 and we are still in the car. We knew we were in the right area when we spotted Geoff and Margaret Peel heading off the road to the west, and then passed some other runners coming towards us. But now they were all running in the same direction we were driving, so we knew we had gone too far. See how Rogaining sharpens the deductive powers. Then we found the oval. We had reached our most important control; the Hash House.

While Kate unloaded the four kids and the, now infamous, 4WD pram, Peter headed for Admin. After fending off the late start comments with, "Yep, thought we'd give them a head-start, wouldn't want to demoralise the competition" he emerged. (Well you try getting four kids and a 4WD pram down from Maitland before 8:30. Oh look, those of you who managed it, just keep quiet about it.) So, Peter emerged with the five maps and accompanying instruction sheets. Ten minutes later, maps duly covered in contact and dispersed to the team members, and noting we were not the only ones in the car park making hasty preparations, we quickly chose our route.

We planned to follow the line of 12, 34, 44 and 52, then 61, hop on a train, because the kids like trains, to get 86, then come back for 21, 42, 43, 32, 31, 51 and 11. Well, yes we always are a little over ambitious. We set ourselves a target of 250 or more, since that would be an improvement on our last effort, which was an improvement on the one before, you get the idea.

We picked up 12 in the schoolyard pretty quickly, then down the long steep hill to 34, easy so far. As we entered the track to 44 and the bush started closing in, the team who overtook us expressed the hope that, we had the 'four wheel drive pram.' Well we did so there was no problem. The pram has three wheels so no matter how rough the terrain, all wheels remain in contact with the ground. The course setter's notes cautioned that the track to 44 "is blocked by fallen trees But there is a perfectly useable by-pass under construction to the west of the track." They forgot to add, "but not for wheeled vehicles."

The bypass began with a steep climb up a narrow path. No problem, the standard procedure here is to lift the rear of the pram and unicycle up the slope on the front wheel, keeping the passenger level. Next came some arm sized fallen logs; up with the front wheel, straddle the logs, lift the rear, and over we go, no problem. However, the maze of larger logs and holes was not so easy. It was even a bit awkward to chair lift over, using the single front wheel as a handle, while climbing over yourself. The creek

crossing was also a bit tricky; however, all were traversed without mishap to the passenger, and even a few giggles.



We can do it Daddy

Meanwhile one more team had overtaken us.

We raised a few more chuckles, as we unicycled up another slope past a team taking a break, but they were kind enough to pick up my hat as I held the pram on the slope. The same team also took a turn at pushing, later, on the road.

After emerging from the bush and being helped up the next hill, we caught our breath and had a drink in the gutter, before heading off for Berry Park. Here the children decided the Jumbo that flew over was returning their Nan and Pop from the USA, they gave a wave and we were off again.

Crossing the railway, without being run down on the bridge, we proceeded down the highway towards Asquith, picking up 61 in the park. By now the pram was carrying a second weary passenger perched on the footrest, and a third on Dad's shoulders. However, for those who charged us with wheel assistance, three members walked all the way. At this point we realised we were behind schedule, and the train ride was out of the question, so we stopped for ice blocks and a cappuccino.

Changing our route we moved on to Storey Park where we discovered two sets of white posts next to the stairs, and the corresponding numbers both matched different choices on the control sheet. Hmm, we decided to take our cue from a pair of

wiser heads who counted the handrails. Moving down Clarinda Street and across to Stewart to get 32, we found it disconcerting that everyone was going in the opposite direction, coupled with the fact that only an hour remained. We briefly considered giving up and scurrying back up Galston Road, but everyone was getting excited at the prospect of a close finish and we increased speed instead. With control 32, we were satisfied that our target had been passed with a total to date of 260.

The bog in the path from 32 to 31 proved our greatest challenge. The pram was unloaded and children and pram carted across by muddy footed Dad. With 30 min to go control 31 was reached and we decided to stick to the bush track, that skirted the bottom of the hill. We started to force the pace, then disaster. Descending a steep slope with a loose surface, Dominic fell and cut his knee on the stones. With the slope too steep to stop on, Peter took the pram to the bottom then ran back up with the first aid kit, while Kate continued with the others. The wound was not deep, although the scar is still visible, but weeping. It took only a couple of minutes to tape a pad to the wound and apply a pressure bandage. It took Dominic a few dozen metres to learn how to run on his now stiff leg, but soon we were back up to speed with 20 minutes left.

After collecting 51, we hit Galston Road with 10 minutes to go. With Nicholas perched on the pram footrest we broke into a jog. At the last turn, the pack caught us up, which encouraged us to a final burst of energy. We entered the oval on the buzzer with a final score of 340. Will we be back? Try to keep us away.

*The Yager Family
(Peter, Kate, Dominic, Luke,
Nicholas, Hannah and the pram)*



SOCIALGAINE – 5th December 1999

HORNSBY HEIGHTS

ORGANISERS REPORT

Most Rogaine reports are written from the competitors' perspective. Which seems a bit unfair, really. It takes more than Rogainer's to make a Rogaine, so here is a report on the overall performance of the 1999 Socialgaine controls.

Starting at the top, (I always find it easier going downhill than up), we would like to congratulate the power pole labeled "77" at #33, the overall winner with 39 visits. Curiously four fewer teams visited the "NT" on the water tank at #50, which is rather a pity as a magnificent peacock was strutting his stuff on the fire trail near there. Still, those four teams did all finish in the top 11, so it looks like it was a good strategy.

In second place, only 3 visitors behind, was the flag "PJ" at #63. A really pretty

spot which Mullo vetted in person the week before. (Fortunately for inter-control relations the peacock had not taken up residence at the time.) Incidentally, anyone writing in to the organiser with the correct identification of the people represented by the initials on all the flags wins a special award - a list of the initials appears on page 8.

Other category winners were #50 in "signs", #65 for its 48 wooden slats in the bridge in the "counting & measuring" section, the car wreck at #34 in "identify the object", "Ozwald" at #10 and "Reagan" at #30 under the Galston Gorge ridge shared the honours in graffiti, and the red children's rocker at #47 was the playground champion. (I trust all playground visitors took time out to play on the way round ?) And in the true spirit of social Rogaining, not

only were no controls left unvisited, but nor did any one control come last. In fact three of them were the most neglected; the pelican at #35, the flag AW at #41 and poor old Sanyo at #67, the buggy track. Perhaps #41 needed more points to be attractive, but it is one of Mullo's favourite spots.

All in all the controls felt it was a great day out, and much appreciated all their kind visitors. Even some of the competitors said they enjoyed it, and at least one team has been asking me for an entry form to the Metrogaine on the strength of the Xmas pudding they won.

Sue Clarke

RESULTS

#	Team Members		Score	O	OM	OW	OX	VM	VW	VX	SVX	JM	F
25	Michael Burton, Arthur Kingsland	M O	1590	1	1								
62	Simon George, Peter Hinds, Mark Freeman	M O	1490	2	2								
1	Anne Francis, Graeme Hill	X V	1350	3			1			1			
38	Andrew Haigh, Nicole Haigh	X O	1330	4			2						
3	Ross Barr, Ian McKenzie	M V	1310	5	3			1					
18	Geoff Peel, Margaret Peel	X O	1210	7			3						
76	Darren Smith, Eric Smith	M O	1210	6	4								
21	David Dash, Peter Tamsett	M V	1120	9	5			2					
73	Dom Dowling, Elke Sorhus	X O	1120	8			4						
6	Marilyn Ferris, Lesley Taylor	W V	1110	10		1			1				
9	Lynn Dabbs, Kevin Williams	X V	1090	11			5			2			
11	John Clancy, Chris Stevenson, Diane Stevenson, John Bowls	X O	1080	12			6						
4	Neil Chappell, Richard Proudfoot	M V	1020	13	6			3					
71	Nihal Danis, Richard Sage, Paula Stuart	X V	1000	16			9			3			
12	Julie Avakian, Michael Avakian	X O	1000	14			7						
15	John Cianchi, Mirriam Fokker	X O	1000	15			8						
2	Jeanette Clayton, Max Clayton, Tony Lavis, Roderick Smith	X O	990	19			11						
49	Andrew Bilsdon, Damien O'Meara, Andrew Smith	M O	990	18	7								
43	K, Elizabeth, Thomas Bunn	X F	990	17			10						1
86	Neill Schaefer, Michael Smith	M V	970	20	8			4					
45	Martin Krause, Maryanne Birch	X O	940	21			12						
46	Elsbeth Hurley, Richard Smith	X O	940	22			13						
7	Peter Newton, Rob Smalley	M O	930	23	9								
61	Andy Cairns, Ken Smith	M V	890	25	10			5					
77	Paula Hawtin, Mark Shingler	X O	890	24			14						
58	Debbie Byers, Andrew Lumsdon	X V	860	27			15			4			
10	Nicholas Henshke, Philip Henshke	M O	860	26	11								
56	Andy Mein, Andrew Pope, Steve Ross, Stephaie Seaton	X O	850	28			16						
14	Stephen Castle, Rhonda Monahan, Andrew Griffith	X O	810	29			17						
19	Samantha Burt, Peter Gordon, Lyn McLaren, Selena Ring	X O	800	30			18						
54	Barry Hanlon, Janet Morris	X SV	750	31			19			5	1		

SOCIALGAIN – 5th December 1999

HORNSBY HEIGHTS

RESULTS (CONT)

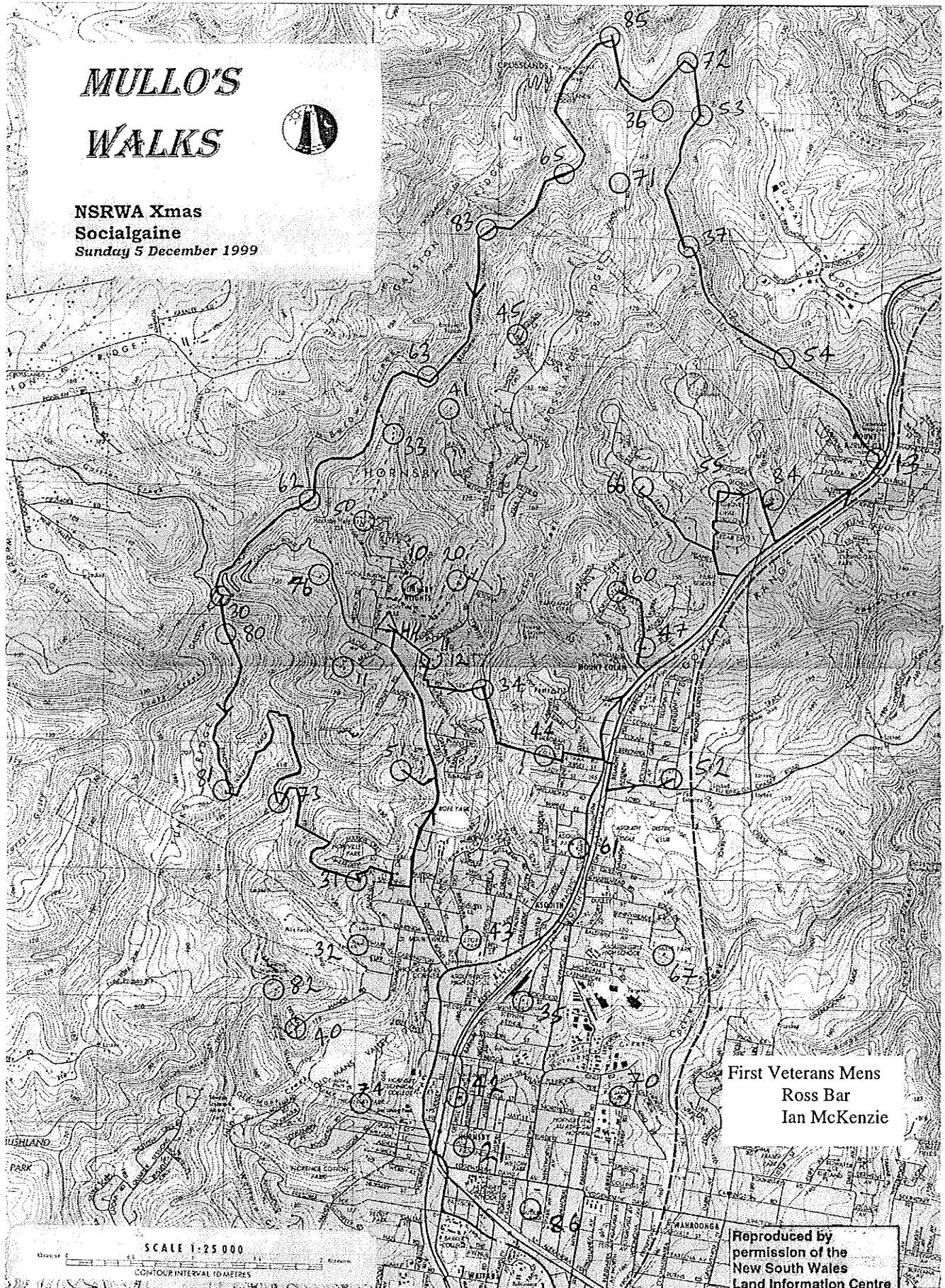
#	Team Members		Score	O	OM	OW	OX	VM	VW	VX	SVX	JM
26	Eric Martin, Imelda Noti	X O	740	32			20					
39	George Kriflick, Lynda Kryflik	X V	730	35			23			6		
23	Colin Fenning, Thais Turner	X O	730	34			22					
8	Bert, Dianne, Jamie, Kim van Netten	X F	730	33			21					2
53	Lois Johnson, Lynda Le Valiant, Patrick Van Dyk	X O	720	36			24					
35	Matthew Almond, Stuart Almond	M O	690	38	12							
31	Casely Luscombe, Geoff Luscombe, Emlyn Dodd	X F	690	37			25					3
17	Michael Hanratty, John Oakley	M O	680	39	13							
30	Hugh Dowd, Cathy Dowd, Annette Dowd, Simon Shaw	X O	650	41			26					
40	Lyn Bond, Jennie Bond, Tony Bond, Alan Garner, Jon Marsden	X O	650	42			27					
48	Deanna Marland, Sharon Toohey-Aliaga	W O	650	40		2						
16	Peter Sharrock, Robin Sharrock	X V	630	44			29			7		
42	Amber Hassal, Andrew Hassall	X O	630	43			28					
69	Bruce Wotherspoon, Cheryl Wotherspoon	X SV	620	45			30			8	2	
78	Brett Carfoot, David Jonson	M O	610	47	15							
5	Michael Forsythe, Anthony Hooper	M J	610	46	14							1
20	Sarah Newlands, John Wardurton	X O	600	48			31					
65	Emma Mansfield, Martin Mansfield	X F	600	49			32					4
67	David, Deborah, Rebecca Noble	X F	600	49			32					4
33	Patrick Murphy, Terry Murphy	M V	580	52	16			6				
24	Margaret Covi, Robert Cox, Doug McCubbon, Jennifer Sanderson	X SV	580	51			34			9	3	
68	Merv English, Trevor Cupitt	M O	570	54	17							
74	Kylie McGurk, Rohan Prowse	X O	570	55			36					
44	Anthony, April, Justin, Melinda Hunt	X F	570	53			35					
66	Rodger Austin, Robin Austin, Colin Sharp, Debbie Sharp	X V	560	57			38			10		
41	Timothy Bradnick, Tegan Cheng, Yvonne Marsay	X F	560	56			37					7
27	David Gree, Coleen Palmisano, David Palmisano, Paul Craven	X O	550	58			39					
32	Diane Jaworski, Enza Korompay, Michael Korompay, Ahsley Woods	X O	550	59			40					
13	Dianna, Glen, Peter, Robyn, Scott Charlton	X F	540	60			41					8
28	Bert Lancaster, Grantley McCauley, Gina McCauley	X O	530	62			43					
22	Amy, Benjamin, Edwin. Joy, Phil Spark	X F	530	61			42					9
57	Kylie, Robert, Mason, Brooke Dean, David Salotti	X O	520	63			44					
55	Bob, Scott, Lynne McNairn, Martin Robertson	M O	510	64	18							
51	Kathleen Cavill, Maureen Cavill	W F	500	65		3						10
52	Doug, Braeden, Donna, Caitlin Reynolds	X F	500	66			45					11
63	Debbie, Micheal, Ben, Martin Howell	X F	500	67			46					12
37	Julia Preston, Robert Preston	X V	470	69			48			11		
29	Sven Dowideit, Pam Duffy, Mark Bugeja	X O	470	68			47					
34	Jessica, Ian, Peter Almond	X F	450	70			49					13
47	Brooke Andrew, Pip Fasham, Kane Fasham, Mark Mauro	X O	440	71			50					
50	Dominc, Kate, Luke, Nicholas, Peter Yager	X F	340	72			51					14
72	Julie Gray, Geoff Silburn, Mardi Silburn	X O	270	73			52					
36	Debbie Hotchkis, Mike Hotchkis	X V	210	74			53			12		
59	Akiko, Julian, Luke, Selena Ledger	X O	120	75			54					
64	Alf, Angela, Julia, Regina Torrisi	X F	100	76			55					15

SOCIALGAIN - 5th December 1999
HORNSBY HEIGHTS

MULLO'S
WALKS



NSRWA Xmas
Socialgain
Sunday 5 December 1999



SOCIALGAIN - 5th December 1999

HORNSBY HEIGHTS

THE ROVING REPORTER STRIKES AGAIN

Most of us enjoy reading the reports in the newsletter but shy away from writing any articles - for a variety of reasons.

I enjoy participating in the very few Rogaines I can get to - except for the rain, leeches, lawyer vines, prickly plants, snakes, steep hills, deep creeks, cliffs, etc. As members of Dave's Dawdling Ditherers (The Challenge Within - October newsletter), one of us can't navigate (me) and the other one won't (Dave), we blunder along, following other teams, looking for sign posts and seeking help where possible. As soon as I find out how to use a compass, I'll buy one. We are not very experienced, talented or fast so are not competitive.

I would like to contribute to the newsletter but a report on our bumbling efforts would be boring, uninspiring, uneducational (Is that a word?) and embarrassing (to us). Although tips for other teams of "what not do" could be useful. So I am asking for help, as usual, to put together articles which will be a collection of experiences of many teams, officials and/or spectators before, in, or after any event. Just a sentence or two or a 'phone call would be most appreciated - about (almost) anything. Most stories may be based on the truth but I reserve the right to twist, embellish or lie as the occasion requires. You may contact me as follows:-

The Roving Rogaine Reporter
72 Fishing Point Road
NSW 2283
Ph 02 4975 2189

Before giving a brief report on the socialgaine an apology to Marilyn Ferris and Lesley Taylor is warranted over my last report. Both were sincerely thanked for "showing the way when real navigation was needed". This good hearted assistance probably saved the event organisers and possibly the emergency services launching

search parties for us. It is good to see such high profile and successful teams helping out such novices. But not all were happy about the necessary assistance given. The good Samaritans were rebuked by a certain competitor who pointed out his good wife and her partner were assisting his opposition. Now, if you check the results you will see that Garry Ferris and Peter Dunn finished 4th outright and 1st in veteran men's categories in that event, placings we could only dream about - give the ladies a break Garry. My apologies ladies (and the thanks still stand).

The 1999 socialgaine was a great event conducted in great weather at a great venue by great officials. Some of the few stories to emerge were:-

1 Only half of the Dawdling Ditherers, the one who can't navigate, stumbled into the start and put in an urgent request for a replacement partner - one who knew how to navigate. Sue Clarke organised Richard Proudfoot, her next door neighbour, who had finally yielded to her arm twisting to enter a rogaïne, to help out. Richard pushed the lone ditherer for the full six hours to gain a four digit score - not bad for a first event.

2 Another first-up rogaïne, but experienced orienteer, scored over 900. His comment was "I only lost my cool once - in the market."

3 The Family Van Netten got lost on the Great North Walk. Bert claims Sue refused to mark arrows on the ground every 10 metres so he had to hand over the navigation duties to Jamie. It's okay Jamie we know the truth.

4 Kate, Liz and Tom Bunn added to Bert's woes by taking a big points lead and THE lottery ticket.

5 A peacock at control 50 was blamed for distracting and delaying several teams in sighting the "NT" on the prefabricated hut.

6 At least a couple of teams lost quite some time at control 30 trying to find the correct graffiti - like trying to find a tree in a forest. (The answer was "Reagan" and it was the uppermost message).

7 Very late in the event teams passing in opposite directions on the Great North Walk in the vicinity of controls 61, 62, 10 and 80 were commenting to each other "you'll have to go to be back on time". Surprisingly all of those checked on were back on time.

8 Glen Charlton sprinted up the steep hill to control 40 from Benowie Walking Track to ensure his team were first to the ladder and the answer "MERRY XMAS". This was a great effort considering it was hours into the event, they were being overhauled by two other teams and he is only five years old. Well done Glen.

9 Santa Claus was spotted stuffing a pillow down his front while dressing for the "church" group picnic at Crosslands.

10 One mixed team running north on the Great North Walk was spotted not even slowing down at control 65 to count the bridge slats. They just continued to run out of sight. The bewildered observers believe their curiosity was satisfied when the next bridge some distance further south had the same number (48) slats.

11 Last but not least I believe two invitations for sharing the showers again at the next socialgaine have been exchanged.

The Roving Rogaining Reporter.

*The Answer for each
checkpoint question,
and how many
teams visited that
checkpoint.*

#	Answer	Visits	#	Answer	Visits	#	Answer	Visits
33	77	39	51	26	20	61	wombat	14
63	PJ	36	12	Sales	19	31	TH	13
50	NT	35	36	JP	19	74	materials	13
65	48	30	82	Pennant Hills	19	52	brown	12
83	70 cm	30	32	9	18	66	koala	12
85	ANA	29	71	DB	17	11	CK	10
72	1 metre	28	20	10	16	21	Coventry	10
44	3.5m	27	40	Merry Xmas	16	60	car wreck	10
34	car wreck	25	43	16	16	42	Eclipse	9
62	KS	24	54	BW	16	86	Toone	9
53	CO	23	13	5.7km	15	46	HV	7
10	Ozwald	22	37	PK	15	70	4283	7
30	Reagan	22	45	5	15	35	pelican	6
73	13.5 tonnes	22	84	17	15	41	AW	6
80	500m	21	47	red	14	67	Sanyo	6
81	yellow	21	55	yellow	14			

DON'T GET OFF THE BEATEN TRACK

Services

Surveying: Control surveys for natural resource and construction projects, Global Positioning System surveys and services. Project management, geodetic and mapping control surveys as well as survey control information.

Graphics: Design, planning, layout and proofing, electronic publishing (Macintosh and IBM), image scanning, camera contacts, dyelines, printing, bookbinding, planmounting and framing services are all provided for in-house and contract work.

Scanning and Digitising: collection of digital information from source data. Production of working copies from original documents. Data conversion and reformatting.

Aerial Photography: State-wide Photographic coverage, photomosaics and special purpose aerial photography and digital imagery.

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- Digital cadastral information for NSW
- Digitally derived cadastral map products
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- Satellite imagery of NSW
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- Touring maps
- Tourist maps
- Historic map reproductions
- Geographic names gazetteer
- Special publication including: Official Road Directory of NSW Map Reading Guide Atlas of NSW
- Special use maps including: NSW base maps Aboriginal map of NSW Lord Howe Island Colour Photomap NSW Local Government Areas map Sydney CBD colour photomap
- Digital boundaries such as local government, suburb, electoral etc.

CONTACT



Surveyor-General's Department
New South Wales

SURVEYOR-GENERALS DEPARTMENT, Panorama Ave., Baulkham Hills 2155
 Phone (02) 63 228 220

Please send me ☐ a copy of the 1995/96 NSW Atlas ☐ a Map Reading Guide

Send to: Name: _____ Address: _____ P/CODE: _____ Phone No: _____

Application for Membership or Renewal of Membership

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:
Membership Secretary NSWRA, PO Box 584, Chatswood NSW 2057

4th World Rogaining Championships Solomon's Throne - New Zealand

Team No: 170 Geoff & Margaret Peel
Category: Mixed Open

The Dream: It had been a fairly easy decision to enter this event. The first Worlds in VIC had preceded our introduction to the sport. The 2nd in WA we thoroughly enjoyed (placed 64th) and had planned to do the 3rd in Canada but family commitments, and the financial realities of saving to build our dream home had prevented us doing so. Now the 4th World champs were on offer, tantalisingly close to Australia and with our house recently completed and plenty of annual leave accrued we were keen to go. As a bonus the World Masters Orienteering Champs (WMOC) were scheduled for the preceding week on New Zealand's North Island. This would be a great running "holiday"!

Training: Isn't it amazing how these events sneak up on you! Oh well, the eight or so WMOC events would get us fit. (And the training for these? Geoff maybe 5km per week, Margaret even less.) Anyway fitness had never been one of our strong points. At least we took the carbo-loading seriously. New Zealand had much to offer and we had eaten our way around the North Island partaking of such culturally significant foods as Fish n Chips, Creamed Apricot

Turnovers and wonderful flavoured ice-creams such as *Cookies & Cream*, *Jelly Top*, and *Buried Treasure*.

Getting there: Christchurch, Friday afternoon, we boarded our bus and was soon on our way to the hash house and maybe a glance at what was to come tomorrow. The further we went the hillier it got. We were still hoping for it

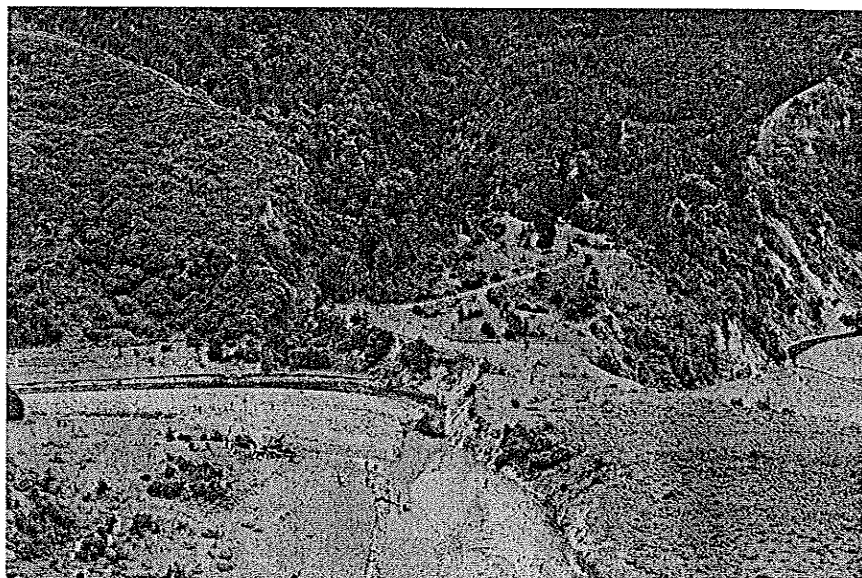
Maybe we'd be safer with any of the aforementioned activities rather than what was panning out to be a scary ride with our bus crawling around bends with tyres on the edge of deep gullies. It was easy to imagine the road edge crumbling and our bus rolling endlessly to the valley floor. Eventually we came upon the hash house nestled on a large grassy plain surrounded on all sides by very big hills.

The Plan: We awoke Saturday morning to find that cloud had settled over the hills. The night had been cool but not cold. Predictions were the cloud would be burnt off during the Morning. We had breakfast and assembled our gear with haste. Our intentions were to stay out all night but what distance could we achieve? We hadn't

stayed out on a 24 hour for a couple of years, even opting to do the "12 in 24" in the *"Brickmans"* in September. Maps were issued at 9:00 a.m. It was printed on plasticised waterproof paper. Hallelujah - that awful rogaining ritual of "contacting" the map was thankfully avoided. A quick inspection of the 250 sq km course revealed little. Controls were difficult to see and it was hard to distinguish between shadowing and vegetation. Colour coding our controls helped but there still seemed no obvious route to take. The notes mentioned that wild pigs might be encountered in the North West. Couple that with the fact that it was also the steepest and highest (up to 938 M) area meant an easy decision to fold over the top ¼ of the map. After an hour it was agreed that we would go toward and down the Western edge of the map then reassess our options from there. With less than 40 minutes to the start our plan was totally changed. We would travel east along and around a large valley that would take us across the map then southwards. From there a general clockwise course would mean that if all went to plan nightfall would find us in the South West section of the map. The significance was that this was big country (300-650M) with controls close to either tracks or fences. Navigation would be relatively easy, the



to flatten out a little when the WR4 sign appeared directing us on to a narrow dirt road toward the North. We didn't know it yet but we were on the map and had been for a little while. We also hadn't realised it yet but we're in for a thrilling ride. You might be interested to know that as well as being unfit we are reasonably unadventurous due to Geoff's fear of heights, lack of swimming ability and predisposition to motion sickness, thus we had avoided all the Bungy jumping, Jet boating, Mountain climbing or White Water Rafting that proliferate all over NZ.



"Ants" cross the Leader River and start the climb to Mt Stewart (938m)

(Continued on page 11)

4th World Rogaining Championships Solomon's Throne - New Zealand

(Continued from page 10)

only disadvantage was that our night would be spent on some fairly exposed hills, not ideal if conditions were to worsen.

The Event: Midday approached. The cloud cover had not lifted – at least it wouldn't be hot. A single gunshot echoed throughout the valley signaling us to commence our 24-hour adventure. The first control was the usual procession. Heading to the next our track seemed to be doing funny things. We panicked and the self doubting (and swearing) began. After a week of Orienteering maps, (1:10000 2.5m contour), we had failed to adjust to the current scale, (1:50000 20m contour). This meant we were "running short" and reading gullies that had no chance of making a wiggle on the map. We adjusted our brains accordingly and probably only lost about 5-10 minutes whilst in our confused state. From here on everything went pretty close to plan except for the neck high thistles, electric barbed wire fences and our lack of speed. Stops were restricted to refilling water bottles (at the plentiful water drops) and the occasional rests on large inclines. Most controls were found efficiently and we seemed to be scoring about a point a minute. Nightfall saw us exactly where we had planned and we afforded ourselves an eight-minute evening meal break at the next water drop. The cloud had now surrounded us limiting visibility to

about 10-15 metres. Conservative navigation was now necessary. We followed tracks and fences keeping a lookout for our attack points. All controls that we attempted were found with relative ease. We strayed from this method once and immediately had trouble in the fog. We quickly retraced our steps back to the safety of the fence line loosing about 10 minutes all up. About midnight Margaret lost a little enthusiasm and asked for an hour's sleep. With the promise of a "better spot" just a bit further ahead we kept pushing on until her request was finally granted just before 4:00 am, our points currently 1030. We slept on top of a hill next to some cattle yards. It was fairly cool. This rest blew out until 5:40 am, a little longer than we had hoped. We woke to find morning was clear. From here our return to the hash house was long but straightforward. Unfortunately we were a bit slower due to fatigue and had to drop a loop (140 points) from our return. Close to home we met up with another mixed team and while everyone was talking, made our worst error costing us about 20 minutes but no points. We reached the HH about 50 minutes early but were fairly exhausted. Our race was over! The morning had only contributed 180 points to our total 1210. For those with access to a map our order of controls was HH, 11, 27, 34, 65, 51, 72, 83, 56, 55, 82, 75, 92, 61, (nightfall), 81, 76, 91, 74, (sleep), 54, 40, 52, 24, 20, HH.

The Warm-down: Physically we were in reasonable shape. Our legs weren't too bad except for Margaret's two barbed wire cuts but our feet were sore due to grass seeds actually penetrating our skin in a couple spots. We quickly washed, changed, decamped and loaded our backpacks, wanting to have all the hard work done so that we could relax during the presentations. The hash house lunch was excellent and plentiful. We ate and chatted to some landholders, learning a bit more about the countryside on which we had been competing. Turned out one fellow was actually the local Lord Mayor.

The Wrap-up: Navigation at our pace, (we only ran once for about a Kilometre), seemed easy. We had selected the right place to be at night (others may disagree) and hence had minimal trouble in the terrible dark hours. Our route choices were conservative, avoiding vegetation and going along ridgelines rather than up and down. Our provisional placing 68th out of 193 teams was satisfying and in retrospect going almost 16 hours with minimal stops and covering approx 65 km in total wasn't a bad effort for a pair that rarely train. Most pleasing was the fact that we have now beaten Sue Clarke in both World Championships we have contested. See you in Czechoslovakia Sue?

Geoff & Margaret Peel

TRANS NATIONAL TEAMS TAKE SOLOMON'S THRONE

Five minutes before the start a lone figure stalked to the north side of the start paddock and looked down the precipitous banks of the Leader River and then up towards the clouded slopes of Mt Stewart. It was clear the Greg Barbour would be tackling his chosen route with commitment. Twenty four hours later Barbour and David Rowlands who together, had placed second in 1998 at Kamloops, Canada has run out convincing winners if the 4th World Rogaining Championships.

Saturday 15 January, after some glorious days, dawned cloudy. It was forecast to lift by noon but when Jonathan Gardiner, part-owner of Woodchester Station, fired his shotgun into the air and 193 teams headed west, nor west, north east and south east, it was still cloudy. As the afternoon wore

on, the cloud lower and damper, it would be a night to test the very best of navigation skills.

Woodchester was the "hash house" base and the surrounding country took in rolling to steep hills, native bush, spur-gully farm paddocks, deeply incised winding rivers and numerous side streams. The night before, Martina Honey from Australia remarked on the often relative flatness of Australian terrain. "You just set your compass and off you go," but not on this North Canterbury map, where route-choice was all important.

Barbour and Rowlands tackled the toughest part of the map first, the NW corner, heading up into the mists of the highest point, Mt Stewart (938m). When they scored the 90 points on the

top, they had 190 points in just three controls. They then continued with a route that tended to circle the map rather than weave into the centre. They collected the NE 90 pointer, the SE one and the fourth one at the south end of the map beside Waiau River. In the light of Sunday morning they at last moved into the centre of the map, entering the complex spur-gully terrain surrounding Solomon's Throne (360m) from which the map took its name.

Women's champions, NZ's Rachel Smith and Encarna Maturana (Spain) took a comparable route to Barbour and Rowlands. Did real life partners, Barbour and Maturana, compare notes on advance or do champion rogainers think alike? Smith and Maturana

(Continued on page 12)

4th World Rogaining Championships Solomon's Throne - New Zealand

TRANS NATIONAL TEAMS TAKE SOLOMON'S THRONE (CONT)

(Continued from page 11)

finished 150 points clear of defending champions, Catherine Hagen and Pam James of Canada. Hagen and James gambled on two final 20 pointers then had a 30 minute dash to make the midday finish time. They were late by a minute, losing 10 points.

Hagen and James could argue that living in different states it was hard for them to train together but then most teams were makeshift anyway. Team changes, which continued almost right to the start, were an organisers' nightmare. Lynne John (Rangiora) and Dorothy Kane (Wellington) met for the first time on the Friday evening but this didn't stop them from taking out the veteran women's grade.

Best performed resident Kiwi Chris Forne, who teamed with Englishman Nick Barrable. Although more than 100 points adrift of the winners, they were somewhat surprise runners up. Forne, though only 22, is no novice. With fifteen years orienteering behind him, he has twice been Canterbury senior champion, as well as twice organising TWALK and completing in several others. While he claimed to be quite comfortable with his navigation in the mist and dark, he admitted it was Barrable that forced the pace.

Jason Markham and Shane Potaka from Linton Army Camp surprised Cantabrians when six months earlier they won PAPA's mid-winter 12 hour rogaine. When Potaka was sent on duty to Antarctica, Markham teamed up with a man almost old enough to be his father, Dieter Wolf, an experienced campaigner from Switzerland. The pairing placed third, 100 points behind

Forne and Barrable.

Defending champion, Nigel Aylott's reputation undid him in the end. He kept waiting for a willing partner to appear, but in the end he was forced to run with a fellow Australian David Baldwin and Adrian Sheppard. The teamed placed 5th (6th overall).

Fourth placed team overall was the winning mixed combination of Christchurch's Jenni Adams and Rob Hart. This pairing literally ran themselves into the ground. Finishing in the last half hour, Hart flopped to the ground metres past the finish line and there he lay as all and sundry stepped around him.

A large number of teams stayed out for the full time, and with two hours to run more than half the teams had yet to return. The final hour became a rush hour, but the minutes slipped away too fast for PAPO's multisport adventure champions, Steve Gunrey and John Howard. They lost 200 points finishing 20 minutes late but even without the penalty they would not have headed Canterbury triathletes Scott Balance and Gavin Hawke who took out the NZ Title.

The night-time activity, in spite of the mist, attracted front the nearby towns of Cheviot. On Sunday morning, the Bush family, owners of the Iona Station (one of 16 farms covered by the map), were asked what had been happening on their farm: "lights were going up and down your hills all night." And not just from competitors torches either. Add to these the 4WD lights of water station patrols and the safety patrols of the Red Cross and local SAR (courtesy of NZOF secretary Amy Clayton).

The tightest competition occurred in the veteran men's grade where less than 200 points separated the first seven teams. It was also here that the rogaining experience of the Australians was prominent with 1st, 2nd and 4th. Paul Hoopman and Leigh Privett (ACT) and Rod Gray and Geoff Lawford (Victoria) both finished with 1890 points. The men from the capital territory, however, finished a mere 3 minutes earlier and took the title on the countback. Third place and the NZ title went to the 1997 NZ open champions, Tony Gazley and Chris Tait (Hutt Valley). Clearly there is no substitute for rogaine experience as Gazley and Tait were able to head teams with better classic orienteering credentials such as Ted van Geldermalsen and Geoff Morrison (6th) and Michael Wood and Derek Morrison (8th).

Undoubtedly the endurance aspects for rogaining and less emphasis on fine navigation brings different skills to the fore. In the super vets (over 55) grade one would be hard-pressed in orienteering to find a better mixed team than Wayne and Trish Aspin. But having to cope with darkness and lack of sleep, they were outmatched by non-orienteers but experienced rogainers, Christchurch brother and sister, Bill and Ann Kennedy, who took the NZ supervet mixed title.

After the misty night, Sunday dawned fine. The prize giving for more than 400 competitors from 14 nations was held in sunshine ending, with Tomas Vaclavek and Tomas Rusek of Czech Republic inviting all to the 5th World Championships in 2002.

Stuart Payne

RESULTS

#	Members	CAT	Team Points	Comment	
182	Simon Angus (NSW Aust), Matt Chamberlain (NSW Aust)	OM	2050	11.32 finish	1
14	David Baldwin (ACT Aust), Adrian Sheppard (ACT Aust), Nigel Aylott (ACT Aust)	OM	2050	11.55 finish	2
133	Ian Edmond (NZ), John Jacoby (Aust.)	OM	2020		3
126	Andrew McComb Jr (South Aust), Peter McComb (South Aust)	OM	1990		4
175	Mike Hotchkis (NSW Aust), Ian Nerrie (NSW Aust)	OM	1910		5
196	Rob Preston (NSW), Andy Hill (NSW)	OM	1890	11.20 finish	6
118	Leigh Privett (Vict.Aust), Paul Hoopman (Vict.Aust)	VM	1890	11.35 finish	6
64	Geoff Lawford (ACT Aust), Rod Gray (ACT Aust)	VM	1890	11.38 finish	6
115	David Nicolson (South Aust), Steve Cooper (South Aust)	OM	1880		9
50	Richard Robinson (Qnld Aust), Peter Merrotsy (Qnld Aust)	VM	1790		10
84	Paul Pacque (Tas. Aust), David Cole (Tas. Aust)	OM	1760		11

4th World Rogaining Championships

Solomon's Throne - New Zealand

RESULTS (CONT)

Value	Team Members	Cat	Points	Comment	Rank
18	Ruhi Afnan (S. Aust), Sandra Afnan (S. Aust)	OX	1740		12
24	Jenny Casanova (S. Aust), Alexandra Tyson (S. Aust)	OW	1680	11.50 finish	13
162	Merv Trease (Vic. Aust), Terry Boyd (Vic. Aust)	VM	1620		14
82	Tim Dent (Vict.Aust), Rob Taylor (Vict.Aust)	SVM	1610		15
25	Geoff Mercer (ACT .Aust), Peter Taylor (ACT .Aust)	OM	1600		16
89	Derek Morris (Vict.Aust), Vivienne Prince (Chch, NZ), Robert Caldwell (Aust)	VX	1550	11.15 finish	17
97	Grant Jeffrey (Vict.Aust), Simon Williamson (Vict.Aust)	OM	1550	11.29 finish	17
13	Jon Smith (S. Aust), Mike Broadbent (S. Aust)	OM	1510		19
132	Martin Meyer (Vict.Aust), Enmoore Lin (Vict.Aust), Andre Zimmerman (Vict.Aust)	OX	1450		20
48	Gregor Wilson (Qnld Aust), Ross Miller (Qnld Aust)	OM	1440	11.19 finish	21
57	Helen Bailey (West Aust), Richard Matthews (West Aust)	VX	1430	11.47 finish	22
95	Matt Thomas (Vict.Aust), Joel Bartley (Vict.Aust)	OM	1430	12.09 (late)	22
66	Chris Solnordal (Vic. Aust), Paul Sharp (Vic. Aust)	OM	1420	10.57 finish	24
26	Helen O'Callaghan (Tas Aust), Tony Woolford (Tas Aust)	OX	1390		25
46	Phil Dufty (Aust), Penny Dufty (Aust)	SVX	1380		26
131	Russell Creed (Qld Aust), Phil Scott (Qld Aust)	VM	1360		27
153	Andrew Cagney (Vic. Aust), Andrew Murphy (Vic. Aust), Bett Koch (Vic. Aust)	OX	1290		28
83	Christine Brown (Tas. Aust), Karen Cole (Tas. Aust)	OW	1280		29
116	Marjo Hill (Vict.Aust), Ian Chambers (Vict.Aust)	SVX	1270		30
170	Margaret Peel (NSW Aust), Geoff Peel (NSW Aust)	OX	1210	11.00 finish	31
27	Ian Cameron (NSW Aust), Susan Kurrle (NSW Aust)	VX	1210	12.09 (late)	31
81	Denise Pike (Vict.Aust), Peter Grover (Vict.Aust)	VX	1150		33
129	Sue Clarke (NSW Aust), Julian Ledger (NSW Aust)	VX	1130	11.28 finish	34
136	Mark Chircop (Aust.), David Cole (Aust.)	OM	1130	11.37 finish	34
49	Kerry Gigante (Vic Aust), Cora Wolswinkel (Vic Aust)	OW	1110	11.40 finish	36
151	Andrea Kneen (Vic. Aust), Kath Hammond (Vic. Aust)	OW	1100	11.35 finish	37
146	Annie Whybourne (N.T Aust.), John Ulrichsen (N.T Aust.)	VX	1100	11.56 finish	37
203	John Nitschke (Sth Aust.), Freya Farrer (Sth Aust.)	VX	1070	11.35 finish	39
15	Sue Brown (ACT Aust), John Brown (ACT Aust)	OX	1050		40
32	Gordon Howitt (Qnld Aust), David Erbacher (Qnld Aust)	SVM	1040	12.02 (late)	41
152	Rochelle O'Hagan (Act. Aust), Mike Dennis (Act. Aust)	OX	1030		42
62	Bob Hawkins (ACT Aust), Alan Sarggant (ACT Aust)	VM	1020		43
106	Ruth Paterson (ACT Aust), Marcelle Gannon (ACT Aust), Katie Webby (ACT Aust)	OW	1000	11.15 finish	44
68	Stephen Honey (Vic Aust), Peter Reid (Vic Aust)	VM	1000		44
77	Noel Schoknecht (West Aust), Nigel McGuckian (West Aust)	VM	970		46
109	Jim Alexander (Vict Aust.), Helen Alexander (Vict Aust.)	SVX	930	11.54 finish	47
210	Trevor Guthrie (Qld. Aust), Meredyth Sauer (Qld. Aust)	VX	920		48
72	Rod Felton (Vic. Aust), Jack Karpinski (Vic. Aust)	OM	890	10.17 finish	49
67	Martina Honey (Vic Aust), Ingrid Harding (Vic Aust)		840	11.41 finish	51
73	Phillip Holman (Vic. Aust), Cameron Plant (Vic. Aust)	OM	840	11.55 finish	51
195	Alison Curtin (NSW), Malcolm Haskins (NSW)	OX	750		56
110	Claire Garrett (Vict Aust.), Robert Mitchell (Vict Aust.)	VX	740	11.37 finish	57
157	Merv English (NSW Aust), Anne Francis (NSW Aust)	VX	720	11.37 finish	59
138	John Harding (Act Aust), Carol Harding (Act Aust)	OX	710	11.12 finish	60
104	Brian Hart (ACT Aust), Stuart Anderson (ACT Aust)	OM	690		61
123	Karen Crebbin (Vic.Aust), Tom Crebbin (Vic.Aust)	OX	660		62
124	Nihal Danis (NSW Aust), Richard Sage (NSW Aust)	VX	630	11.42 finish	64
96	Peter Gordon (NSW.Aust), David Hitchens (NSW.Aust), Thais Turner (NSW.Aust)	OX	620		65
11	Neil Phillips (Vict. Aust), Michael Phillips (Vict. Aust)	OM	610		66
184	Stephen Castle (NSW Aust), Rhonda Monahan (NSW Aust)	OX	590	11.56 finish	67
56	Ainslie Cummins (Vict. Aust), Peter Chen (Vict. Aust)	VX	580		69
117	John Sheahan (Vict.Aust), Jenny Sheahan (Vict.Aust)	SVX	500	11.43 finish	70
155	Jane Pulford (Act. Aust), Anna Pulford (Act. Aust)	OW	460		74
119	Tim Pulford (Act Aust), Lynn Pulford (Act Aust)	VX	380	10.26 finish	75
150	William McLaughlin (Vic. Aust), Julie A Sarll (Vic. Aust)	VX	280	11.38 finish	77
197	Graham Anderson (Vic, AUS), Graeme Hellyer (Vic, AUS)	VM	270		79
93	Kylie McInnes (Vict.Aust), Deanna Stevens (Vict.Aust)	OW	210		81
74	Susan Gurman (Vic. Aust), Stan Gurman (Vic. Aust)	VX	140	11.33 finish	82
70	Lisa Lampe (NSW Aust), Mark Wright (NSW Aust)	OX	120		83
29	Ilze Yeates (Vic. Aust), Peter Yeates (Vic. Aust)	VX	110	10.54 finish	84
125	Dale Emmerton (Vic Aust), Julian Humphrey (Vic Aust)	OM	110	19.00 finish	84

AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS OCT 23/24

SHELLY, NORTH EAST VICTORIA

ROGAINING NEARLY KILLED ME

(Continued from page 1)

ambulance people managed to reassure me and calmly deal with the situation – amazing people.

At Wodonga Hospital they monitored us. I remained taped to the spine board which was agonizingly uncomfortable on my tender head. In waves of pain I tried to escape the straps and become aware that I could move my limbs and use my vocal chords. My girlfriend was taken off for x-rays first, then I was wheeled in as hers were being processed. After my first x-ray the radiologist gave me a thumbs up. I was then allowed to stand up and caught a glimpse of myself in the mirror – I was a mess! Covered in blood, glass and grass. I was shocked by my own

appearance.

I was wheeled back to the waiting room to discover that there was some complications with my girlfriends x-rays. The doctor had called for a specialist in spine injuries to check her x-rays. I was horrified at the thought that I might have severely injured one of my loved ones and went into deep shock.

Twenty minutes later she was given the all clear. It was a long twenty minutes.

After this I was interviewed by the police, who told me that they were going to press formal charges for negligent driving.

In summary I thought I was OK to drive. I had slept seven hours

overnight, had several cups of coffee and food, was feeling alert and planned to drive to Wodonga to fill up the tank, have a break and swap drivers.

We were incredibly lucky. Cars can be replaced, lives cannot. I'm taking the bus next time.

To all the people who stopped and helped I'd like to express my sincere thanks. All three of us are doing well. I have been to physio, my neck is improving and the gash in my head has just about healed. Thank you for helping.

Peter Dart

VOLUNTEERING AND BUS TRAVEL (AND WHY THEY DON'T MIX)

Did I really volunteer?

You bet you did! Volunteered, accepted, contracts drawn up, signed, sealed and delivered!

Well that was that. In a moment of weakness (comfortably relaxing on the bus on the way home from the Aus Champs), I had offered to help out with the catering at the Socialgaine. It was a task that always seemed daunting, and I have always had the utmost admiration for the groups that undertake the responsibility of catering for us in the bush. That admiration remains undiminished, but I encourage people not to be shy of volunteering to organise or help. Why? Because there is a wonderful network of people who can help you and it is nice to put something back into the sport.

Some of the tools available to you.

Need helpers? Graeme Cooper keeps a list of rogainers, (not only those who have entered, but those that have helped out). He kindly supplied a list of names of people to contact, plus others might volunteer some friends!

Catering ideas? Vicki Cooper was a great sounding board, so people who have done it before are a good starting point.

Facilities? Hopefully your organiser has selected a good hash house location

(many thanks Sue and Chippy!!!). The rogaïne association trailer is very well equipped. All you need to do is organise some-one to tow the trailer if you are unable to do so yourself.

Preparation: Split the jobs before the event. I appreciate the help from various people who helped before hand, from making potato salad (thank you Dawn, Jo and others from the Big Foot Mothers Union), placing orders with local suppliers for things like meat, bread, cakes etc (thank you Chippy & Sue Le Carpentier). Phone and faxed lists took away a lot of the physical running around.

On the day: Everyone pitches in and it's great to get to know some of the other rogainers. Thank you Lisa, Mark, Leslie, Bill, John and non rogainers Paul and Jan, plus Dawn, Jo and Marnie.

Don't be shy about volunteering, and don't wait to be called. Give an organiser a call and volunteer. Our sport relies on volunteers and we should all take a turn at helping with some activity and try and relieve the burden from those whose names we frequently see appear on the organisational lists. Even if you are not able to be there on the day of an event, it can be enjoyable to help out before hand, like helping to vet or hang

controls.

Bus Travel:

A bus was organised for those travelling to the Aus Champs in northern Victoria. I can certainly recommend it as a way to travel (even if we almost ended up in Melbourne), and it certainly relieves the burden of driving home long distances when you are more at risk due to fatigue etc, which was reinforced in this newsletter. (But in future I will know to keep my mouth shut about volunteering!) Other pleasures of bus travel are the jokes, brain teasers and other mental exercises to help you prepare for the rogaïne, or to help you relax on the way home!

All in all it was an interesting year of rogaïning for my sister and me. An absolutely delightful Paddy Pallin, the inaugural NT Rogaine combined with an opportunity to revisit some old stamping grounds, and the Aus Champs in NE Victoria.

Kathy Herrmann

LAKE MACQUARIE 12 HR ROGAINE - 18TH SEPTEMBER, 1999

WHERE DID 270 ROGAINER'S GO?

The 1999 Lake Macquarie Rogaine has been and gone. However, a check of the punch cards and Intention Sheets can tell us where our Rogainers went.

The most popular route for the 6hr participants was 11-10-25-55-65-29-14-36-19-27-15-T&D-16-18-24-17. A few adventurous souls went further a field and visited 47 before tackling the rocky pass (and handline!) at the end of Ironback Ridge to find 43-64 and then ...???

In the 12hr, only 5 teams ventured into the

canyons and rainforest of Gap Creek. The most popular route was 29-14-36-47-43-64-54-46-35-62-53-37-34-T&D-16-15-27-19-17. Quite a few groups began with 11-13-26-23-33-43 and then continued much the same route as the others.

While 65 was the most popular 60 pointer, the attention given to 64 was *most impressive* given the wild, isolated location with heavy rainforest and difficult exits. While the Tea & Damper checkpoint was the most popular 50 pointer, 55 deserves

recognition for its magnificent views and popularity. Checkpoint 43 needs recognition in the 40 pointers because of its popularity, particularly with 6hr teams, given its isolation in heavy rainforest and difficult exits. The least visited controls were 44 & 51 with only 3 teams going to these.

Check Point	6hr Visitors	12hr Visitors
10	23	13
11	24	10
12	7	7
13	4	14
14	35	28
15	45	32
16	16	17
17	37	28
18	27	6
19	38	22
21	0	4
22	8	6
23	4	15
24	29	23
25	18	11
26	4	15
27	40	30
28	15	17
29	44	29
31	9	5
32	0	4
33	2	14
34	13	20
35	4	22
36	35	30
37	6	24
38	0	5
41	0	5
42	3	10
43	11	24
44	0	3
45	6	10
46	3	19
47	13	16
51	0	3
52	4	10
53	6	19
54	6	18
55	15	10
56	8	6
T&D	42	40
61	0	4
62	3	19
63	0	11
64	6	16
65	16	9

A COMPETITOR'S PERSPECTIVE

Shane and I had completed in a number of Rogaines now but Doug, whilst certainly a very experienced bushwalker, was new to the sport. We decided that we would walk the event and so set about planning our route on the basis that around 35 kilometres was possible within the 12 hours for this terrain and with the opportunity to use the extensive network of tracks and roads. It was soon apparent that the Gap Creek area was out of contention because of both the terrain in the immediate area and because there was little opportunity to obtain points getting to and from the area. With string and pencil, we planned a loop to the West and Southern areas, returning through the center by dark. If we had time, we would do the small loop to Maclean Lookout to the north.

We set out along the route of the Great North Walk and down the marked track into Congewai Creek. The points came relatively easy even if there was some distance to be walked between controls. The first real bush bash was up the creek to 64. We tried both sides of the stream changing sides as we struck difficulties but crossings were often hard to find and progress was painfully slow. On exiting the bush back on the track we had a break for a drink and on to 54.

It was a difficult decision to omit 46 and 64 but we decided early that this was going to extend us too far with respect of time for the return journey. With this decision we headed up the hill to take advantage of the marked pass below 42. On reaching the base of the cliff we met another team who were having difficulty finding the pass. They were a mixed couple and jointly we retraced their route to see what was possible. I am quite sure what we climbed was not the pass but we did get to the top. The ascent was a real challenge necessitating a team effort with a lot of clambering involving pushing and pulling through a steep and difficult section of cliff. The view at the top was marvellous and for a time I think we almost forgot we were competing in a Rogaine.

We were now back to picking up controls off the side of the track all the way around to Tea and Damper. What a great treat that

was. It was dark now and we were hungry. Doug wasted no time kicking his boots off and relaxing with a mug of tea and damper. I could see we were going to be here for a while.

Once we eventually got going again, we picked up 16 in the creek and headed up through the bush onto the track to 45. It was then back up onto Turner Road and on toward the Hash House. Knowing that another long and extensive break was likely if we got there, I suggested we instead picked up everything in the center to finish the night. Doug did not exactly greet that suggestion with enthusiasm but Shane, I think saw my point and agreed. The rest of the night was spent doing a lot of fast walking out along tracks as near as possible to the markers. We paced counted generally to determine when we were near. We had great success at this and were pleased to reflect that our night scoring was pretty much near what we did in daylight.

We finished the night with minutes to spare and a score of 830. We were pleased with the effort and surprised ourselves how well we fared. Especially since we did not run at all. I reflected later, how we might have done better. A bit of a jog here and there. Should we have gone down to 46 and 63? I am sure we all do it and certainly I spend hours in the days after a Rogaine pondering over the map and considering alternative route choices. Isn't it such a great tactical challenge.

Congratulations are due to the course setters and organizers for a job well done. The map was fantastic and sets a new standard for Rogaining. It showed clearly the time and preparation that had gone into the planning for this event. Great job Robert!

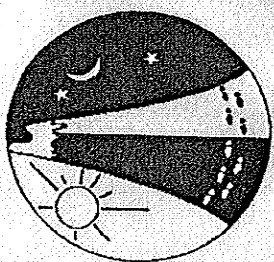
Wil de Sain.

THE 8TH ANNUAL

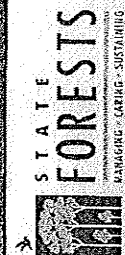
LAKE MACQUARIE 12 HOUR ROGAINE

18TH SEPTEMBER, 1999

Organised by the NSW Rogaining Association Inc.



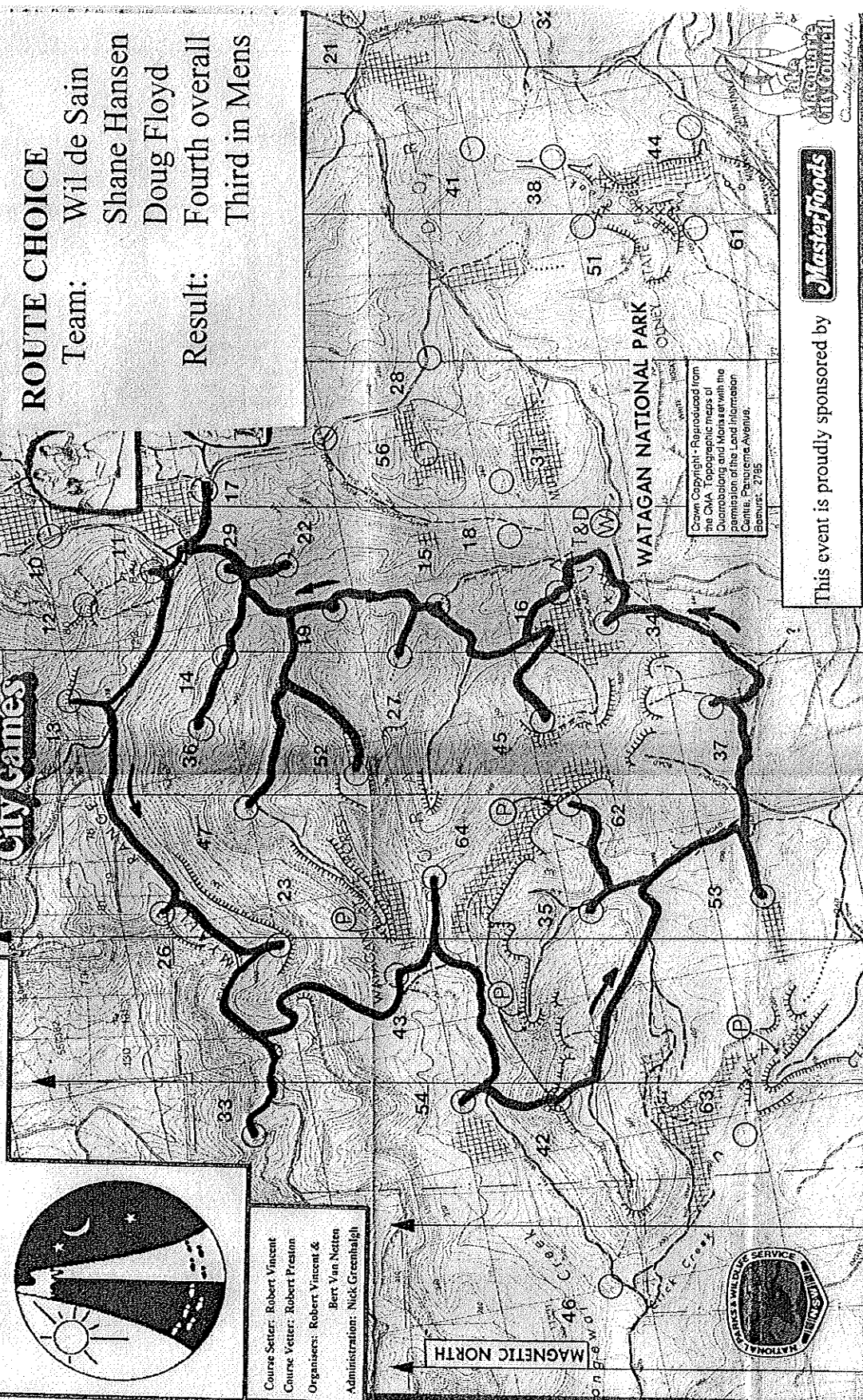
Course Setter: Robert Vincent
Course Vetter: Robert Preston
Organisers: Robert Vincent & Bert Van Natten
Administration: Nick Greenhalgh



SUPPORT ROGAING

ROUTE CHOICE

Team: Wil de Sain
Shane Hansen
Doug Floyd
Result: Fourth overall
Third in Mens



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