



NSW ROGAINING ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

(the sport of cross country navigation)

Newsletter #23 - February 1990

- FINANCIAL

- UNFINANCIAL

- COMPLIMENTARY

President:	Greg Harrigan, 15 Halley St, Bexley 2207	(02) 50 6762
Secretary:	Peter Wherry, 2 Biloela Pl, Gymea 2227	(02) 525 4865
Treasurer:	John Keats, 109 Mississippi Rd, Seven Hills 2147	(02) 636 2364
Editor:(Ed)	Warwick Marsden, PO Box 271, Kensington 2033	(02) 399 7814
Publicity:	Jennifer Borrell, PO Box 843, Castle Hill 2154	(02) 634 3163
Committee:	Ian Dempsey, 5 Richley Ave, Kahibah 2290	(049) 43 5790
	Trevor Gollan, 39 Greenslopes Ave, Mt Ousley 2519	(042) 84 2293
	Peter and Robyn Tuft, 6 The Commennarra Pky, Pymble 2073	(02) 44 1325
	Dianne and Bert Van Netten, Lot 2 Cessnock Rd, Freeman's Waterhole	(049) 59 5935

NSWRA/ACTRA EVENTS CALENDER - 1990

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Coordinator/Course Setter/Admin/Catering</u>	<u>Full moon</u>
24 March	Autumn 6/12h	B van Netten/ - /Rosemary Austen/Paula Holyoake	11 March
5/6 May	Aust Champs	Phil Creaser (ACTRA)	9 May
17 June	Paddy Pallin 6h	Warwick Marsden/ - / - /Big Foot OC	
23/24 June	S & R Rogaine	Bob Cavill (NSW Search and Rescue)	8 July
4 August	Winter 12h	Trevor Gollan/George Collins/ - / -	6 August
8/9 Sept	NSW Champs	Graeme Cooper and the NTOC	5 Sept
27 Oct	ACT 12h	ACTRA	2 Nov

ACTRA Contact: Phil Creaser, 3 Paroo Pl, Kaleen 2617 (062) 414 604

Victorian Events: 3/3 (8h), 7-8/4 (8/24h), 2/6 (12h), 7/7 (6h), 11/8 (snogaine), 1/8 (12h), 6-7/10 (Vic Champs), 3-4/11 (24h with SARA), 2/12 (cyclogaine)

VRA Contact: Joan Ryan (03) 347 4261

WA Events: 5/5 (12h), 9-10/6 (WA Champs), 4-5/8 (24h), 6/10 (12h)

WARA Contact: Julie Hartmann (09) 387 5183

SA Events: 21/4 (12h). (Flinders Ranges the weekend after Easter), 4-5/8 (SA Champs), 3-4/11

SARA Contact: Phil Hazell (08) 363 1145

NSWRA Annual General Meeting - Sunday 25th March

Your Association's AGM will be held at the Hash House on the day (Sunday) after the Autumn Rogaine. As the venue is just "up the Putty Rd" we'll start at about 8am to allow those of you in Sydney who couldn't make the rogaine to come to the meeting.

There'll be the usual election of office bearers and a lively discussion of rogaining rules, the purchase of equipment and organising rogaines. As always we'd welcome new faces even if it's only in a "spectator capacity". The workload on the Committee isn't great apart from organising events but as always many hands make light work. If you want something raised but can't make the meeting give Peter Wherry a call to put it onto the agenda.

WELCOME TO THE NINETIES!

Well we're up and running (walking, ambling or however else you manage to find your way around) again. As you can see from the calendar on the front page it looks like being another good year for the NSWRA and our counterparts in other states. We'll provide the events but it'll be up to you to make them a success!

1990 Memberships are now due! For the third year in a row it'll only cost you \$10 for a single and \$15 for a household. Groups of scouts or similar can join for \$25. Please send your cheque, (payable to the NSWRA) with your name and address to Peter Wherry or John Keats or **include your membership with your entry to the Autumn Rogaine!!**

AUTUMN 6/12 hour ROGAINE, PUTTY ROAD - 24th MARCH

As usual Bert Van Netten has had a hand in course setting our first event with a little help from Rodger and Rosemary Austen & Co. It appears that Bert has mellowed a bit because I hear that the terrain is reasonably open without the nettles, blackberries and lawyer vines which have become his trademark. The area varies from undulating to fairly steep and should provide interest for all comers.

There'll be a few experienced rogainers on hand to "ease" novices and first-timers into the sport so if you've got any friends who you'd like to introduce to the sport then this event would be a good one to bring them to.

The entry form is enclosed (on the inside of the wrapper - I try to save paper wherever possible). If you have any questions give Warwick a call on (02)399 7814.

AUSTALIAN ROGAING CHAMPIONSHIPS, CANBERRA - 5/6 MAY

Don't be put off by the fancy title; this rogaine's for everyone - aren't they all? There's a (very entertaining) entry form enclosed and here's a few words from the organiser:

"This year's Rogaining Championships will be held at Dingo Dell some 35 minute's drive from downtown Canberra on May 5th and 6th. The 24 hour championship event will be accompanied by an 8 hour event and two separate 4 hour events (non-championship). The terrain varies from dry sclerophyll to wet sclerophyll and from flat to steep. There are also a number of tracks and open areas. The event is being presented by the ACT Rogaining Association with support from Paddy Pallin and the ACT Community Development Fund.

"In keeping with the spirit of Rogaining, there will be a hash cafe ('The Dingo') with some tempting morsels (Dingoburgers) and a campfire for those who enjoy stimulating company while others suffer. So come along and enjoy yourself at the year's Premier Rogaining Event. We can guarantee no rain in the ACT part of the Rogaine area but cannot promise anything on the NSW side.

"There will also be an interstate competition this year to determine Australia's top Rogaining State (or Territory)."

"CROSS-COUNTRY NAVIGATION"

This book is a much expanded version of "Rogaining", concentrating on navigation. It comprises three sections: Basic navigation (all you need to know never to be lost again), Advanced navigation (including snow, desert, thick bush, use of sun and stars) and Rogaining (including organising events). Also included are full moon dates, results of previous rogaines and sun navigation tables.

You can get a copy of this wonderful book by sending \$17.95 (including post and handling) to ORIA Book Offer, PO Box 228, Cottesloe, WA 6011; cheques payable to ORIA and don't forget to include your name and address!! Alternatively you can get a copy at the next NSWRA rogaine for \$18. (We had been selling them for \$20 and will gladly refund \$2.05 to any rogainers who purchased them at this price and who feel cheated. Give Warwick Marsden a call on 399 7814.)

Sales of the book are going well and the feedback from purchasers has been very favorable. So if you don't believe all this hype, ask someone who's bought one for an unbiased opinion.

MAILBAG

As I've mentioned previously there's little that delights an editor more than (intelligent) feedback. I am pleased to share two such letters with you.

Dear Ed,

SOME FEEDBACK ON THE 16 HOUR MURRUMBO EVENT

We think the popularity of the vent is itself significant feedback: 37 people in 13 teams entered the event compared with 26 (12) in the 24 hour event.

We enjoyed the event very much. The whole rogaine was well organised and the food was brilliant (esp the vegie burgers). We were glad of our "legitimate" 8 hour break (which included a "wakeup call" from the helpful organisers - we need to buy an alarm clock). If the 16 hour event had not been offered we would have stuck with the 8 hour event and missed out on something new. However, we felt that 24 hours would leave us zombie-like in the following week as we may have been too oppressed by guilt to happily break for 8 hours.

ALSO, we did venture into the Mines of Moria (i.e. tunnel). We began this with some sensible "train drills", lying face-down in the corner of the tunnel and imagining ourselves resisting the suction created by a supersonic goods train! (One of our number had seen this technique in a movie, so we knew it was credible.) We set off with determination; however, the the whisper of a balrog made us nervous, and after a few hundred metres we reversed direction, rapidly.

Anyway we vote "YES" for 16 hour events, "YES" for vegie burgers, "YES" for port for 16 hour competitors and "YES" for a recognition of the different categories within the different length events!

Andrew Sands, Diana Simes (and Clare Crofts, we think)

And from ACT's irrepressible Andrew Calder some welcome constructive comments:

TIME: 24 hours is challenging and exhausting, but classical. I love them and hopefully the NSW Champs in the New England in September will see me in my first serious 24 hour vent in four years. Nevertheless, lesser times are equally rewarding - each to their own. But I do believe that 6/8 hour events must be offered with 12/24 hour events to encourage wider participation (even though "they" could enter the 12/24 hour event and compete for a lesser time.

MAPS: I admit unashamed bias - the map should be whatever provides good and fair competition, preferably in an interesting area with a good mix of open and forest, hillier/steeper and undulating! To date quite an assortment of maps have been used from topographical, photoreduced photocopied, adjoining orienteering maps, plus several specially prepared. One point on premarked: provide the master map an hour before start time and let the competitors do the work.

COURSE SETTING: I am a firm believer that the challenges should be plentiful, but between the controls and in determining which (if not all) controls to visit; an approach which apparently conflicts with our overseas cousins. I believe competitors prefer to "frequently" find those elusive orange and white markers - certainly no more than 30 minutes apart generally with some a little further. Extra markers can be included for the 6/8 hour events (i.e. markers known only to them, as we did at Kiandra). I believe this approach is important especially if the weather is adverse. I also believe 24 hour courses should, if possible, encourage competitors to return to the hash house, even if only for some warm food/drink and a change of socks etc.

I am glad to see the NSWRA's forward planning; it is the sign of a well organised and managed association. But I would like to see a few more new hands blooded, possibly on short events as were the hashmen at Namadgi. It is tragic that too many people "burn-out" by doing too much (in many sports).

I thoroughly enjoyed Murrumbo - the sunset/moonrise and moonset/sunrise will forever be memorable. As were the flowers - there were so many! May your next rogaine be your best and may your compass always point North.

Andy Calder

Andrew & Co also organised the High-O at Kiandra over the Australia Day weekend. In total contrast with last year's event the first day was held in brilliant sunshine while the second day was cool, overcast and dry - "perfect orienteering/rogaining weather". A great event - thanks to the ACTRA!!

ARA News

As a person who has at times been critical of the Australian Rogaining Association (ARA) for its neglect of the smaller states I am delighted to say that I received a great newsletter in January - my efforts looked paltry in comparison. Rather than reproduce its 13 pages I'll extract and summarise:

First up was Richard Matthew's President's Report in which he points out that the ARA needs information about rogaining in its component States to function properly so if you have any news or views send it to me (Warwick Marsden, PO Box 271, Kensington 2033) and I'll pass it on ... after pinching it for this newsletter! Or send it to the ARA Secretary, David Stephens, 14 Sutcliffe St, Dalkeith, WA 6009. Richard then addressed the lack of Rogaining Associations in Tasmania and Queensland:

"I am very keen to try and develop the sport in Queensland and Tasmania. NSWRA is holding an event up near the border in September this year and I hope they are able to sell it to the Queenslanders. Maybe they could buy a few politicians to help promote the event as I am sure there'll be a few out of jobs at the moment. (NB: Rogaining is not a sport for wimps!) I don't know of any ventures in Tassie; any ideas? Could we consider underwriting an event from ARA funds? we need a good contact in Tasmania - which State has exported a rogainer to Tasmania?"*

(*As I'm typing this the demise of Peter Dowding and his WA Inc mates is imminent! Richard is from WA and perhaps should be careful of his stone throwing!!)

Then follows a very comprehensive and readable section, "Around the States" which includes news of rogaining in the various States, a list of office bearers' names and addresses and the 1990 Programmes. The VRA is running a slogan competition whose entries include "Rogaining - For People Only" and "Rogaining - The Bushman's Dream, A foot's Worst Nightmare".

There is a report on the International Rogaining Federation (IRF) and "The need for one code":

".... Australia is in the unique position now of having developed a sport in which other countries wish to participate. And in sharing our sport there is a need for us to do so with all the guidelines in place so that we may assist countries which are adopting our sport to operate and conduct events in accordance with known and established rules and practices in Australia. Whilst it is wonderful that we have our own football games, it would be nice if we were able to play other countries. Football is a classic example of every country interpreting the rules and designing a personalised game.

"Rogaining, whilst it has had its origins in Orienteering, has different purposes and we must ensure that countries adopting our sport understand these differences and do not absorb one into the other."

The newsletter finished off with a timetable for the IRF and a discussion of sponsorship in the ARA. It's not clear who produced the newsletter (my copy has "Happy New Year, Greg" at the top) but let me congratulate him/her/them on a great first effort. A copy will be available at the rogaine on March 23rd for those who'd like a read.

IRF News

Neil Phillips also produced another well compiled newsletter for the IRF in January.

There's notice of two Canadian Rogaines in 1990:

1. 19/20 May in British Columbia

2. 14/15 August near Calgary - "The World's Most Awesome Rogaine". This event is being held in conjunction with the orienteering World Cup and APOC festival and is limited to 350 entrants. As it is likely that this event will reach that number, if you're planning a trip and want to include it then I suggest that you register early. For entry forms and other details of overseas' events, call Warwick Marsden on (03) 399 7814. A copy of the IRF Newsletter will also be on display on March 23rd at the Autumn Rogaine.

The IRF is up and running with a committee of nine headed by Neil with David Stephens (WARA) as Secretary and members from a number of State associations as well as Canada and USA. We wish them well and will do our best to support them by keeping Rogaining strong in NSW!



NSW ROGAINING ASSOCIATION

AUTUMN ROGAINE

SATURDAY 24th MARCH 1990

This event will take place in eucalypt forest about 60 to 90 minutes northwest of Sydney on the Putty Road. The forest is generally open and the terrain varies from gently undulating to steep with easy navigation around the hash house and more challenging areas further afield. There will be both 6h and 12h events.

<u>COST:</u>	12h event	\$16 - for members of a rogaining association * \$21 - for non-members
	6h event	\$14 - for members of a rogaining association * \$19 - for non-members

(* - 1990 memberships were due on 1st January - \$10 for singles; \$15 for households; non-financial members don't (necessarily) receive newsletters to ensure that you continue to get information on forthcoming events please send your membership with the entry form.)

MAP: 1:25,000 topographic

ENTRIES CLOSE: Friday, March 9th. Late entries will be accepted but entrants may have to purchase their own maps.

FURTHER INFORMATION: Warwick Marsden (02) 399 7814

NSWRA AUTUMN ROGAINE - MARCH 24th

TEAM NAME: _____ (20 letter/spaces maximum)

TEAM CONTACT: _____ PHONE: _____

EVENT (please circle): 12 hour 6 hour

SECTION: OPEN WOMEN MIXED VETERAN (combined ages over 80) JUNIOR (all under 18)

TEAM MEMBERS

ADDRESSES

FEES (incl membership?)

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

ENTRIES TO: Autumn Rogaine, PO Box 271, Kensington 2033

Please include stamped, self-addressed envelope for final instructions.

Cheques payable to 'N.S.W.R.A.'