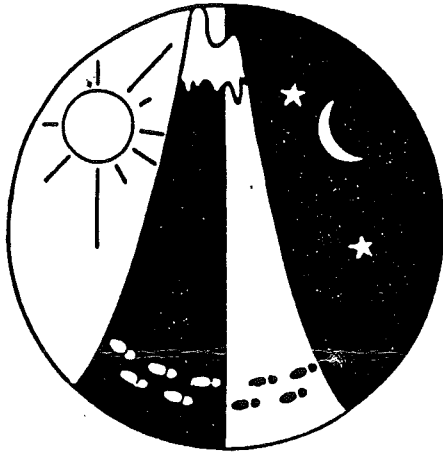


NSW ROGAINING NEWSLETTER

Number 38

March 1993



In this issue:

It wasn't half hot at Homebush! - full results and reports from the metrogame.

The weather turns nasty at the ACT Championships in the Snowy Mountains(again!)

Entry forms for the Bugs Bunny Easter Rogaine and the Paddy Pallin Rogaine

AGM Report

The 1993 Calendar

George's Goodbye

GRAVESTONES and GARDENS ***The Metrogame, Sunday 28th February 1993***

The inaugural NSWRA Metrogame was held on the last day of Summer in and around the demographic heart of Sydney, an interesting area in that it contains parklands, Flemington markets, a car ferry, century-old buildings (did you notice that Rivendell is 100 this year?), industrial zones, Rookwood cemetery, the Parramatta River and traditional suburbia. One wonders how it all fitted onto a 1:25000 A4 piece of paper!

Most hardship was associated with the heat, about 30° at noon, which resulted in some sore heads, hot feet and very drippy ice cream cones for dessert. Fortunately there were ample "water" stations (including milk bars, pubs and cafes) to keep people hydrated. Peter Watterson set a most diverse course, using treasure hunt-type questions to identify the control points rather than the traditional flags that would only have been stolen. This provides an added attraction in that the course remains there for anyone else to use at their leisure. An associated complication, and part of the fun, is that some of the questions can be easily misinterpreted, so the organisers were very lenient with some of the answers provided. The fig tree diameter, for example ... we accepted anything between 20 and 40 metres although we thought such adept navigators would be more proficient at measuring distance. For the team who claimed that the person who gave quinine to the world was "Mrs Quinine" we decided that they may have been guessing.

The Mortlake car ferry provided a challenge for the competitive teams, to co-ordinate with the ferry timetable, a 30 minute cycle. The final winners, Arthur and Michael, just missed it from Mortlake so chose to run back via Rivendell and Ryde Bridge and use the ferry on a return trip from Putney. When they got to Putney they'd also just missed it, so they again ran back via Ryde Bridge. The vast majority of people were content to relax and enjoy the enforced rest while waiting for, and being transported by, the ferry. One junior team used the ferry seven times, with the vain hope that they could get points for each crossing.

The most evocative control was undoubtedly the "headless woman on an island". The most misleading was probably the "number of spotted gums" in a front-yard ... apparently they were lemon-scented gums, so everyone except Meg was wrong!

Thanks to Peter Watterson and Lynne Dunbar for a fun day and the special treillage trophies. Alan Mansfield and Trevor Gollan vetted the course. Warwick Marsden, Betty Chen and Tony Maloney helped with administration. John Keats and the Seven Hills Scouts provided appropriate appetite satisfaction afterwards.

Trevor Gollan

A Family First

Although the male members of our family entered the Paddy Pallin event last year, the Metrogaine was our first whole family's experience of rogaining.

Upon being handed our maps, we planned to do a loop of all the Bicentennial Park control points in the morning and to return to the hash house and our car for lunch. In the afternoon, we would do a loop of the controls on the south side of the Parramatta River. We decided that Rookwood Cemetery and the north side of the river were beyond our range. This meant we would stay generally within the 'green' zones of our colourful maps and see parts of Sydney we had been planning to see for some time.

After the start, we were soon at the big fig tree which overlooks the Olympic stadium site. It will be interesting to see what this looks like in seven years time! We had no problems with the questions until control #24 - 'a sculpture, most SW part'. Was the last word visible from the south west 'MOON' or 'BETWEEN'? The treillage question was simple after we realised there were 4 flights of 13 steps (total 52) in each stairwell.

We calculated our morning's speed (3.5 kph) while having a long lunch and reckoned that we could achieve the rest of our plan. We set off towards The Graffiti Wall, the first control on the way to the Repatriation Hospital. This confused us because the subway shown on the map at control #36 was itself a tubular wall of graffiti and it wasn't until we emerged from the subway defeated after a thorough search that we saw 'I LOVE YOU'!

Proudly, we wrote our answers for controls worth 70 and 80 points and were glad we didn't go over the punt for a mere 110 points. The 2.5 km walk back from control #33 to the HH included a visit to a milk bar and the sight of the family walking in single file, spread out over 100 metres, eating ice blocks. We had enough time left to visit the bird's nest at #22 near the HH before reporting in with 3 minutes to spare.

I assume that the urban setting of the Metrogaine meant that organisers could not hang the traditional markers at control points. This forced competitors to carry pens or pencils (our first pen retired early) and to answer questions as evidence of visiting controls. This was not as simple as it sounds. Where do you carry a pen if you don't have a shirt pocket? Would it have helped to have a clipboard or other hard surface to write upon?

While contemplating these questions we had a sausage or three and saw our score hung up with only a few other scores above it. We had earned 670 points and come sixth in the family category. We felt pride in our hearts. Only the more senior of us felt pain in our thighs next day!

Bill, Alison, Sam and Jane Gribble

And what does Watto have to say ...

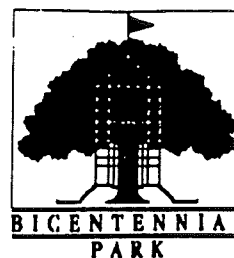
Not many rogaine course setters get the opportunity to set controls like #90 - "A headless woman on an island"

When I spotted her a few years ago while jogging around Rookwood Cemetery (I was jogging, not her), I realised the potential of the area for a Metrogaine. It has been very absorbing since, discovering interesting places accessible to walkers, especially the two estates, "Rivendell" and "Yaralla", bequeathed to the public, appropriately, by the Walker family. Quite often, I would lie awake at night, rephrasing the quiz questions. A trick I used to help get to sleep was to try to think only of control 52, a family vault with a lifesize angel asleep on the roof.

One entrant who was also charmed by this beautiful sculpture was Arthur Kingsland. He and Michael Burton were overall winners on 28th Feb, completing the course in 4 h. 20 min. In general, scores were very creditable, especially given the noon temperature of 29° C.

For those who couldn't make it on the 28th Feb, the course is permanently open during daylight hours (since quiz questions were set instead of control flags). The course was designed for a 6-hour event, but could well be tackled in 2 or 3 sections, for training, fun or sightseeing. The areas covered are:

Homebush Bicentennial Park (the Hash House location), Flemington Market, Rookwood Cemetery (here only contours have been provided on the map, no roads), and both banks of the Parramatta River (with a free ferry ride between). Features include parks, bays, sculptures, gatehouses, cafes and a fair bit of history.



Colour A4 maps are available at \$2 each, plus \$1 for A4 postage (or enclose your own stamped, self-addressed, long envelope, if you don't mind them folded up). Send your cheque, made out to: NSW Rogaining Association, to me:

Peter Watterson, 13 Driver St, Denistone NSW 2114.

I'll send you the maps, instruction sheets and control lists.

If there is sufficient public demand (especially, for example, from a Venturer group or orienteering club), we could rerun the event (probably self-catered, using the BBQs there). Let me know if you're interested, on phone (02)8046091 (H) or (02)3302319 (W).

Peter Watterson

METROGAINE		Bicentennial Park, Homebush		28th February, 1993						
Team	Name	Score	Time	O	M	W	X	V	J	F
36	Arthur Kingsland, Michael Burton	1300	2.21	1	1					
16	Anthony Maloney, Julian Ledger, John Le Carpentier	1300	3.24	2	2					
54	Andrew Wisniewski, Marcello Venuto	1290	3.59	3	3					
30	David Palmisano, David Green	1190	3.50	4	4					
28	Meg Thornton, Lyn Williams, Robyn Tuft	1130	?	5		1				
71	Andrew Lumsden, Mark Ward	1120	3.54	6	5					
69	Georgia Marantos, Stavros Vasiliov	1120	3.55	7			1			
85	Robert Loader, Stephen Castle	1110	3.57	8	6					
19	Chris & Peter Coyne	1090	3.58	9	7					
10	Stephan Wagner, Ron O'Connor	1070	3.46	10	8					
13	Merv English, Anne Francis, Deborah Cox	1070	3.48	11			2			
9	Peter & Kathy Coventry	1020	3.51	12			3			
55	David Noble, Gary Jackson	1000	3.54	13	9					
29	Richard Connors, Andrew Palmisano, Stephen Pehm	990	3.53	14	10					
57	Maureen Cavill, Heather White	990	3.59	15		2				
22	Peter, Glenn & Ian Meyer	980	3.47	16	11					1
38	Bruce, Carl & Julia Chessman	980	3.57	17			4			2
81	Ian Hawkes, Glen Wallace	960	4.00	18	12					
58	Richard Palmer, Tracey-Ann Palmer	950	3.57	19			5			
52	Michael Bergmann, Garnet Brownbill, Nick Tolley	940	3.58	20	13				1	
12	Ian Griffiths, Paul Morgan	930	3.21	21	14					
6	Bill & Mark Pigram, Wal Mills	930	3.49	22	15					3
43	Ron, Rob, Mike & Rachel Hutchings	930	3.58	23			6			4
26	Donn Christie, Andrew Buckle	920	3.52	24	16				2	
87	Chris Menzies, Susan Cameron	890	3.59	25			7			
44	Wendy Hird, Adam Oliver, Stewart White, Jenny Haviland	870	3.47	26			8			
86	Lara D'Abreo, Nila Sarma, Paramuir Thind	870	3.53	27			9			
56	Alf & Regina Torrisi	850	3.52	28			10			

Team Name	Score	Time	O	M	W	X	V	J	F
42 John Bishop, Nick Evans	850	3.53	29	17					
41 John Oakley, Terry Brett	850	?	30	18					
53 Terry Funk, Jennifer Borrell, Lynda Bates	840	3.42	31		3				
78 George & Christopher Collins	840	3.51	32	19					5
46 Ian & Meg Neuhaus	840	3.52	33			11			
8 Philippa & Stewart Amery	800	3.45	34			12			
62 Connie McNamee, Clare Bellis, Adrienne Lambert	790	3.48	35		4				
72 Grahame & Rosemary Walker, John Cole	790	3.53	36			13			
23 Moonbi Kilgour, Simon Taylor	770	3.52	37			14			
3 Julie & Peter Gray, Ian Penboss	730	3.23	38			15			
2 Terry & Helen Murphy, Lee Pledger	730	3.43	39			16	1		
33 Donna & Paul Bonnefin, Rebecca Chaffer	710	3.51	40			17			
84 Tom & Janelle Denny	700	2.58	41			18			
27 Vicki & Graeme Cooper	700	3.49	42			19	2		
39 Cherry Harrop, Paul Lemarshall	690	3.46	43		5				
4 Joanne Vanderstok, Rosemary Seberry	680	3.36	44		6				
18 Bill, Alison, Sam & Jane Gribble	670	3.57	45			20			6
51 Mike Hanratty, John Revai	660	3.26	46	20					
68 Tony & Jennie Bond	660	3.39	47			21	3		
11 Jillian McDonald, Margaret James	650	2.46	48		7				
40 Sue Mudge, Mark Strizek	650	3.47	49		8				
47 Geoff Silburn, Lynne Jolliffe	650	3.48	50			22			
49 Phil, Joy, Amy, Benjamin & Edwin Spark	640	4.01	51			23			7
64 Robert, Julie & Davina Rogers, Pam Dunn	630	3.58	52			24			
79 JSue, David & Peter Le Carpentier	610	3.53	53			25			8
21 Glenda Johnson, Robyn Reid, Kerry Norton	560	3.10	54		9				
48 Gail, Hans & Joel Roland	540	3.14	55			26			9
67 Matthew Wotton, Damien & Daniel Green, Paul Wilson, Trent Hewitt	500	3.13	56	21				3	
1 Jim, Helen, Christian & Bronwyn Meek	480	3.40	57			27			10
24 Maurice Smith, Paul Elliot	470	3.40	58	22					
74 Wal & Paul Knoke, David Lanbourne, David Cassar, Nady Kerbage	420	3.51	59	23					11
20 Martin Bouman, Milton Lai	420	4.00	60	24					
35 Kitty, Steve, Glen & Gillian Harrison	410	3.52	61			28			12
66 Simon Dunn, Jordon Rogers, Nicholas Smith	350	4.01	62	25				4	
70 Kay, Kristen & Lucia Gollan, Mika Uchiyama	330	2.10	63		10				13
34 Wanda Bonnefin, Monica Simpson, Janine, David & Michelle Taylor	320	2.41	64			29			14
59 Sandra Chapman, Terry Wiles, Hisami Imai	320	4.03	65			30			
15 Ian, Annette, Lachlan & Stephanie Payne	300	4.04	66			31			15
88 Leonie Saldern, Lyn Rosser	260	1.00	67		11				
73 Maree McAlinden, Geoff Little	260	1.05	68			32			
80 Bert, Dianne, Kim & Jamie van Netten	250	3.12	69			33			16
31 Bruce, Karen, Jarrah & Lachlan Macaulay	240	2.27	70			34			17
82 Clive, Lorraine, Brett, Chris & Shaun Foster	240	3.20	71			35			18
75 Shane Brooks, Dean Harding, Jean Claude Saade	180	2.25	72	26				5	
63 Tim, Carmen & Anita Fox	150	1.45	73			36			19
76 Stephan Pawelzyk, Nathan Brooks, Scott Duncan, David Deacon	150	2.33	74	27				6	
37 Maurice Ripley, Sarah Fitzherbert	30	3.57	75			37			
65 Karen Dunn, Suzanne Gaydon, Samantha Blake	dnf	3.50	76		12			7	

O - overall M - men W - women X - mixed V - veteran J - junior F -family

This Newsletter was edited by George Collins for the NSW Rogaining Association and printed by the University of Wollongong Printery.. Contributions are always welcome and should be sent to 4/68 St Thomas St, Clovelly 2031. Wordprocessor text files on diskette will save us retyping your article.

NSW Rogaining Association Inc.



Homebush
METROGAINE
inaugural use:
28 February 1993

Scale: (exact)

1:25,700 (approx.)

Gridlines: Magnetic North, 1993,
1 km apart.

Rookwood contour interval: 4 m.

Index: Hash House

Out-of-bounds (or impassable fence or road)

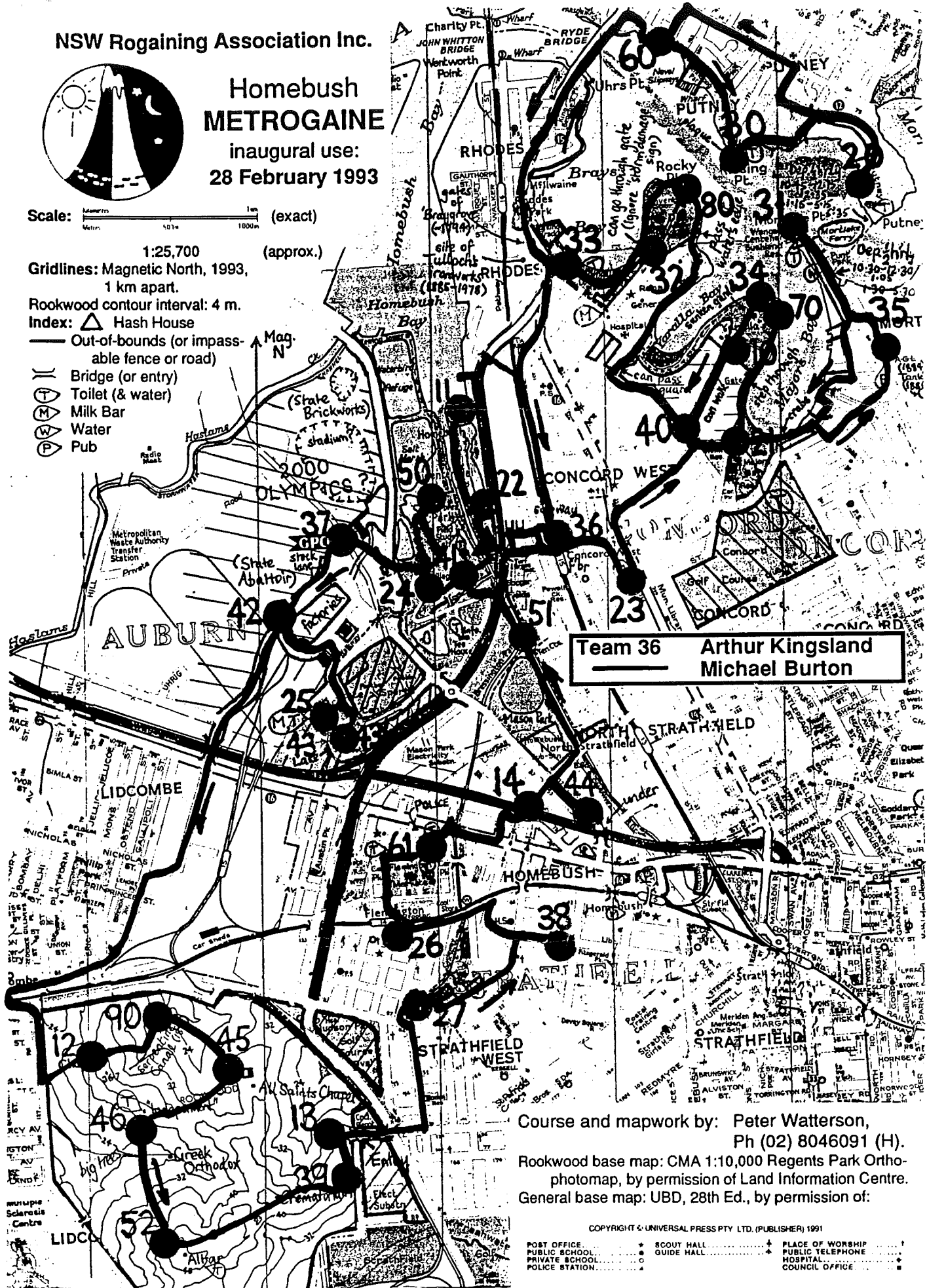
Bridge (or entry)

Toilet (& water)

Milk Bar

Water

Pub



Team 36 Arthur Kingsland
Michael Burton

Course and mapwork by: Peter Watterson,
Ph (02) 8046091 (H).
Rookwood base map: CMA 1:10,000 Regents Park Ortho-
photomap, by permission of Land Information Centre.
General base map: UBD, 28th Ed., by permission of:

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|----------------|------------|------------------|
| POST OFFICE | SCOUT HALL | PLACE OF WORSHIP |
| PUBLIC SCHOOL | GUIDE HALL | PUBLIC TELEPHONE |
| PRIVATE SCHOOL | | HOSPITAL |
| POLICE STATION | | COUNCIL OFFICE |

THE END OF SUMMER ACT Championships, 6-7th March 1993

A long trip in the bus on Friday night brought us to a wonderful area near Cooleman Caves in the mid-north of the Kosciusko National Park. An impressive array of snow-grass plains, limestone and granite outcrops, vistas over the Goodradigbee Valley to the Brindabella Range, deserted huts ... and reports of waterfalls in the lower reaches of Peppercorn Creek.

A lot of NSWRA people joined in, some with memories of the nearby Kiandra event in 1989 (one of Warwick's top three according to the last newsletter). Not to be outdone we had just as much rain, almost continuous from midnight, after a warm and sultry evening with plenty of distant lightning. The pyrotechnics continued throughout, as heavier storms passed by, adding excitement and danger to the teams high on Peppercorn Mountain. Julian and Tony, Peter & Greg were all stranded high on the rocky, slippery ridgetop with lightning all around and fog/cloud reducing visibility to less than 5 metres.

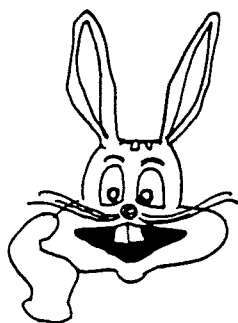
Very few teams stayed out for the entire night. It was very hard work coping with the rain, thick understorey in the forest, and tussock grass by the mountain streams. Many of the gun teams returned during the night and didn't venture out again. From midnight to dawn in a Fairydown sleeping bag I unfortunately missed out on most of the hardships. One person succumbed to hypothermia, to be rescued by the organisers (I hear that he is OK but don't know how serious the situation really was). It is a major concern when life-threatening conditions arise although I felt it was much colder and dangerous at the '89 Kiandra rogaine where the rain was accompanied by strong, shivering wind.

We headed into the Cooleman Mountains initially. It seemed that the bush was constantly grabbing or denying access, so I nicknamed it "fightback" scrub - nifty name, huh? It was a real pleasure to emerge on a 4WD trail and stretch out the legs. It was rugged, interesting, even exciting country. I'm glad there was a cosy hash house for protection and, as at the Metrogaine the previous Sunday, I appreciated the ice cream for dessert. Thanks to Greg Dunstone, Peter Whitfield, Gary Caitcheon and crew.

Trevor Gollan

GET YOUR ENTRIES IN FOR...

The Bugs Bunny Easter Rogaine - 10th - 11th April, 1993



Entries close at the end of this week for what is shaping up to be a very interesting event. Tony Maloney and company are promising a course which includes a wide variety of vegetation designed to satisfy the full range of navigation skills. There's only a 24-hour event on offer but remember that you are free to return to the hash house as often and for as long as you like. It's out near Grenfell and offers the chance to make the travelling easy by using the public holidays on the Friday and/or Monday. For details of the 'bus give Warwick Marsden a ring on 047 51 6797 but, most importantly, get that entry form in now. Although there was one in the last newsletter, there's another one enclosed.

The 1993 Canberra Cycles 6 Hour Cycle-gaine - Sunday 18th April, 1993

On the week after Easter our ACT comrades are holding their third cyclegaine in conjunction with Canberra Cycles. Here in NSW we are yet to venture into this type of event so it might be worthwhile checking out our national capital in Autumn and participating in this different form of our sport. The event will be held in eucalypt/pine forest approximately 1 hours drive east of Canberra from 10 am to 4 pm with a barbeque and associated refreshments provided after. Although the courses will be set with teams of 2 to 4 cyclists in mind, teams may also compete on foot if they wish. Enquiries and entry forms can be obtained from 06 291 6970 or 06 292 2362 after hours and from David Baker on 06 289 8835 during business hours.



The 30th Paddy Pallin Rogaine - Sunday 11th July, 1993



Also enclosed is an entry form for this year's Paddy Pallin rogaine which will be held in bushland just to the south of Sydney. The hash house will be at an established campsite offering both tent sites and dormitory style accommodation. And if that doesn't encourage you to come down and stay the Saturday night, then there will also be a bush dance, following on from the very successful bush dance held after the WRC. The weary bones of most rogainers creaked somewhat but the kids certainly enjoyed it! This time we'll all be fresh, have a good time, sleep well and be ready to hit the bush at 9 am the next morning. The course is being set by a team led by John Barnes and Andrew Perry and will cater for all grades of rogainers.

Once again we have strong support from the Paddy Pallin organisation and, following a tradition started in 1991 after Paddy's death, a donation will be made from the event fees to an organisation that he supported and encouraged during his life. Past recipients have been the NSW Search and Rescue Organisation and the Scouts. This year there'll be a donation to the Youth Hostels Association of NSW which is celebrating its 50th anniversary and the money will go to a recycling project being initiated in Youth Hostels.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

We've had enough of elections for quite a while. But in case you missed the important ones, the 1993/94 NSWRA Committee is:

President	Alan Mansfield	4/68 St Thomas St, Clovelly 2031	02 665 4925
Secretary	Trevor Gollan	39 Greenslopes Ave, Mt Ousley 2519	042 85 4053
Treasurer	Tony Maloney	15/15-17 Hart Dr, Wentworthville 2145	02 636 2063
Editors	Sonia Kupina	4/68 St Thomas St, Clovelly 2031	02 665 4925
	Marnie Holmes	11/10 May St, Eastwood 2122	
Event Organiser	Warwick Marsden	34 The Glen Cres, Springwood 2777	047 51 6797
Publicity	Julian Ledger	108 Cressy Rd, East Ryde 2112	02 888 1954
Creche Organiser	Anne Francis	62A Delmar Pde, Dee Why 2099	02 982 4836
Equipment	John Keats	109 Mississippi Rd, Seven Hills 2147	02 636 2364
ARA Rep.	Peter Watterson	13 Driver St, Denistone 2114	02 804 6091
Committee	Graeme Cooper	Cluny Rd MSF2005, Armidale 2350	067 72 3584
	David Sigley	7 Keith St, Peakhurst 2210	02 53 9937

THE 1993 CALENDAR

April 10/11	NSWRA Easter 24-hour	Grenfell
April 18	ACTRA Cyclegaine	Canberra
May 2	ACTRA 6 hour	
May 8/9	Queensland 6&12-hour	
June 26/27	Search and Rescue Rogaine	Bell
July 11	Paddy Pallin Rogaine	South - close to Sydney
August 7/8	Queensland Championships	
August 28/29	NSWRA Championships	South Coast
October 30	NSWRA Spring 12-hour	Lake Macquarie

For ACTRA and Queensland events, contact the Secretary for the appropriate Association.

ACT	Keith Thomas	06 248 7816
Qld	Eric Andrews	07 268 3338

EDITORIAL - Hello and Goodbye

Two years as newsletter editor and somehow I've managed to avoid writing an editorial! At the start, when Andy Blakers was still living next door, he used to be more than happy to thunder forth on some of the finer points of the sport. His creamed rice seems to have been taken up enthusiastically by many competitors but his idea of setting 200 controls on a 300 m spacing remains to be implemented by someone keen to hold a 24 hour event on an area of 6 km by 3 km. Equally, his first missive bemoaning events with a scoring policy where controls are weighted by factors in the range 1 to 10 fell on deaf ears. This is a crusade I think he should have stuck with - I believe a 1 to 3 range would be fairer.

Fortunately, just as Andy moved down to Canberra (he was always a member of the ACTRA anyway - their membership fees are cheaper!), the NSWRA came out with its selection criteria for the World Championships. This really put the cat amongst the pigeons (or should I say the runners amongst the bushwalkers) because some of the speedsters thought that their disdain for 24-hour events was going to preclude them from the WRC. Although their fears were unnecessary (NSW failed to meet its quota), the controversy kept the newsletter full enough, making extra editorial comment unnecessary. These articles also stirred our former editor into action and Warwick's word processor ran hot with enough material for most of the newsletters last year. Warwick got so enthusiastic that he took over the whole of the first edition this year.

And now we come to March and Sonia and Marnie have taken over the editorship and I've got one last chance to have my say. Should I argue the case for uniform control distribution? (I'm a great supporter of the hexagonal grid.) Or should I bore you with my belief that the highest scoring controls should be close to the hash house and the low scoring ones left to the edges where the gun teams can fight it out? (It'd change the look of the result sheet!) Or perhaps I should bemoan the fact that there's at least half a course out there in NSW that I set but was never used (the southern half of the Evans Crown event)?

No - I won't do any of those things. Instead I'll tell you how much I've enjoyed editing the newsletter and thank all those who've contributed. Especially those who ran into me out on the course and were cajoled into writing an article for the next edition! It's always a pleasure to read what other people thought of an event, even if you didn't compete yourself. This is one of the nice things about rogaining. After an event there's nothing people like more than to discuss route choices and the 'incidents' that occurred at different points on the map. Even novices can be seen sharing their courses with the winners, tracing out their tracks with an enthusiasm that cheers the soul.

Every team has a story to tell and we don't all get a chance to hear them so the newsletter is a great means of sharing your story with others. I'm sure Sonia and Marnie would love to be inundated with articles from the Easter rogaine and even stories from the ACT Championships or Metrogaine would still be accepted.

The Newsletter is the means by which we maintain ourselves as an association rather than just being a sequence of events and I've been privileged to have a part in it over the last two years. To Trev Gollan and Warwick Marsden a big thankyou for the support and articles. And to all those who've contributed, I am very grateful. Pity we don't get more photographs but I guess not many of us take a camera with us on the course.

So to quote from that Oscar winning rabbit ... 'that's all folks!'

George Collins

