

# NSW ROGAINING NEWSLETTER

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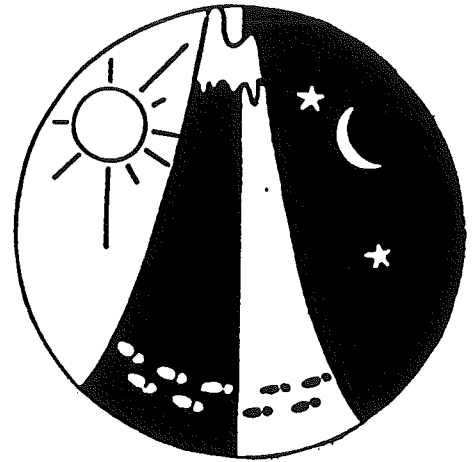
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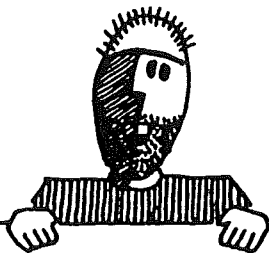
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### 1994 CALENDAR

#### ENTRY FORMS:

*Upside Down 6/12-hour Rogaine*  
*High-O*



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

### ...RARER THAN A TEASPOON IN A YOUTH HOSTEL

by ALAN MANSFIELD

In 1994 the NSWRA will be running seven events, including two major championships (we are the hosts to Australia's premier event 'the OZ Champs' in October 1994), all requiring commitment by members of the NSWRA to make them successful. With membership numbers now approaching 400 you would only need to volunteer once every three to four years for us to have more than enough people to run events. Your help can vary from removing a few flags after the event, preparing a meal for the event, or assisting with course setting even if you can't attend the event on the day. You would certainly have experienced people to assist you as the names that continually appear when it comes to organising events indicates that it has a hold on some people.

*'Become a sports official and decide where to go on the end of season trip' [Roy Slaven and H.G. Nelson - Radio JJJ]...In the case of a rogaîne organiser/helper just enjoy hanging a flag and taking time to stop and smell the roses while knowing that the*

competitors will be out there with blistered feet, racing against the clock.

If you would like to help out at an event in 1994 please contact Warwick Marsden at 34 The Glen Crescent, Springwood 2777 or call him on (047) 51 6797.

The 1994 rogaîne calendar will include our newer programme of two 12-hour events, the Metrogaîne, two 24-hour events, the Paddy Pallin and a proposed social 8-hour event held on an old course. The year will commence in February with the Upside Down Rogaine (entry form enclosed) - it was to be an Australian first but Victoria (the innovators in rogaïning?!) beat us to it. Starting at midnight this 8/12-hour event should test your navigational skills.

On another important point, next year Trevor Gollan our hard working Secretary of the last three years is planning to retire, though I think the desire to set challenging courses has yet to leave his system (I am

sure Trevor sees contour lines on the inside of his eyelids). If you are interested in this position we would like to hear from you before, or at, the 1994 AGM (?prior to the Upside Down Rogaine).

Warwick Marsden has been working hard on giving the NSWRA direction for the coming years and the committee has been busy running/overseeing successful rogaïnes and instigating the creche and buses to events, but many other issues remain embryonic. If you have any ideas or observations contact any member of the committee or write to one of the Editors who will accept all correspondence gladly.

Seasons greetings and see you in the new year.

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITORS



Dear Editor

One of the delights of rogaining is that it has so few rules that one can actually remember them without being a Barry Jones. A former delight was that one could rely on competitive teams to observe them. Not so now!

In the past year I have observed a team split up - members 400m apart horizontally, 100m vertically (i.e. one member missed a

nasty, steep climb). And I have heard a place getting team member describe his route through an out-of-bounds region - a short cut of nearly 2kms. When I timidly asked if this was cheating, he said he did not realise it was out-of-bounds. Out-of-bounds areas at this event were described on the map, in the event information sheet and in the organiser's pre-rogaine talk.

I am warning anyone who cheats in future that if I see or hear about it I will protest. To increase my chances of identifying the team I suggest the NSWRA should require competitors to wear numbers on a bib that will fit over raincoats, etc.

ANDREW LUMSDEN



**MISSION CONTROL**

...we'll know if you've been bad or good - so be good for goodness sake!

**RULE 13:** All team members shall approach to within 20m of and within sight of each checkpoint visited.

## THE LAKE MACQUARIE ROGAINE IN REVIEW

by WIL DE SAIN

Well, it was always intended as a runners' event, but whoever expected to see the course blitzed in the way that Arthur Kingsland and Michael Burton did it? In just 6 hours and 8 minutes these fellows covered 40 controls over some 42.5kms. All this in very dry and warm conditions. They well deserved their win...and an early dinner at the Hash. Almost equally amazing was the effort of second placegetters Steve Keenlyside and Nora O'Donovan (7 hours, 19 minutes). I was fortunate enough to catch a glimpse of this team running down the road from Monrox Dam on one of my many trips up the hill to replenish the water drop there. It was interesting to note that Steve was leading the run at that early stage, but that it was Nora who was well out in front and still running strongly into the Hash at the end. Steve looked as though he had fought a few rounds with that dreaded lawyer vine and was bleeding profusely about the legs... maybe it was the loss of blood that took its toll at the end.

It was also interesting to note the reaction to the point scoring system we adopted. It should have been obvious to competitors that the placement and access of controls did not warrant a diverse range of points in order to differentiate between them on the basis of difficulty. Equal points for each control also allowed for individual team scores to run closer together at the end, and thus encourage keen competition. At the end of the day, with so many teams scoring maximum points it did not matter a great deal in any case. Overall route choice, navigation and to a large extent, fitness were going to dictate a winner.

The reaction and considerable concern to that control marked ES was somewhat funny to observe, but at least it alerted competitors that something was different. At the end of the day, however, I personally thought that it was worth trying (goodness knows how much discussion I have heard around the campfire after events

on this subject), but I would agree with Trevor Gollan's statement that, in a championship event, different points for controls is an integral part of rogaining to further vary the selection of route choice. Certainly over a course that is clearly not possible to complete in the allotted time, different points for controls will add infinitely to the paths that competitors are likely to choose.

It has been an interesting experience to be involved in the setting of a rogaine again, although playing only a minor part to the work and the efforts of Bert Van Netten on this one. I think that some changes at times are worth experimenting with - maybe next time a rogaine purely for the bushwalker through an area completely devoid of roads, major tracks and other man made features. Imagine the efforts to navigate at night in a trackless wilderness...there are still a few areas that offer that possibility around...just a thought!

# SCORING OF CONTROLS

by PETER TUFT

Having been persuaded to write one article on rogaining [Newsletter No. 41] I have become inspired to write a second to discuss an issue on which I feel quite strongly. There has been some discussion of this in recent newsletters, so here are my thoughts on the assignment of score values to controls.

Ever since I first encountered rogaining I have been struck by the arbitrary method that most course setters seemed to use to assign scores to controls. Initially it seemed quite reasonable to me that some controls should be worth more than others, but I often did not agree with the weightings. Accordingly I tried to tackle the question of control scores for the original Wollombi event in a rigorous manner.

I made a list of all the factors that may affect the difficulty of a control - distance from neighbouring controls, navigational difficulty, scrub, elevation, distance from the hash house (which I no longer think is a valid element in the calculation), and perhaps others that I have now forgotten. Then for each control I gave a weighting for each factor and added them all up to obtain what I thought would be an accurate representation of difficulty. To my surprise almost all controls turned out to have about the same overall difficulty. Those that were heavily affected by scrub, or navigational difficulty, or distance from neighbouring controls tended to be rather easy from the point of view of other factors. In other words the various difficulty factors tended to balance each other, with occasional exceptions.

After this discovery I gave up the rigorous mathematical approach and adopted a new philosophy - every control should be worth exactly one point (or ten points if bigger numbers give you a warmer feeling). This was not only very simple but quite realistic. A few years later at the Bungonia event I modified the scoring slightly to allow for the distance of each control from its two nearest neighbours, the philosophy being that a team moving at constant speed should be able to score points at a constant rate. Even on this basis the range of scores was only from 2 to 5 with most controls being either 3 or 4, not the 1 to 10 range that is sometimes seen. In very few cases, if ever, does a 100 point control require 10 times the effort of a 10 point control (ie. if it takes half an hour to get a 10 pointer, then the 100 pointer should take 5 hours - sound fair?).

Rogaining strategy is hard enough without the arbitrary element of widely varying control scores. The well known "travelling



salesman" problem (whereby a salesman has to choose the shortest route to make a large number of sales calls) is famous for being superficially simple yet insoluble by either mathematical analysis or computer number-crunching. Yet the salesman faces a simpler problem than rogainers who also have to cope with a restrictive time limit and only limited knowledge of the conditions on the course. Why add the capricious element of variable control scores?

If all controls have the same value the best team will still win, but the scores will more accurately reflect the effort invested by the also-rans. With widely varying control values it is often the case that the winners may achieve a score 10 times that of a novice team, despite having collected perhaps only 3 times as many controls. Such a gulf in the results is hardly designed to encourage beginners.

One aspect of variable scoring that I consider to be particularly unfair is the practice of basing scores on distance from the hash house. Those who succeed in collecting distant controls get a double reward - not only do they get the high scoring checkpoints, but they also get the benefit of the scores from all the other controls collected along the way. What matters is distance to be travelled from the last control visited, not from the hash house.

I am aware that many rogainers like the excitement of bagging high value checkpoints. However if the sport is to be rational and fair then logic points very strongly to having controls of equal value, or at worst with a very narrow range of scores such as was used at Bungonia. On the other hand if we wish to be capricious, arbitrary and subjective then control scores ranging from 10 to 100 are the way to go.

## COLUMN 3

Did anyone notice that #62 at this year's Paddy Pallin was on the same summit as #41 at the 1985 NSW Championships based at the Darkes Forest hall. More interestingly, is there anyone who went to both?

It seems doubtful, despite Phil Creaser's assertion in his Newsletter #41 article, that he and Bert had any intention of working hard for 24 hours at the Lake Tabourie championships. Did you notice in the "Gentlemen Rogainers" photo that Bert was wearing board-shorts? Perhaps he planned to change from beach-wear to bush-gear before heading inland.

Galaxy hitch-hikers at the Lake Tabourie rogain would have noted that there were 42 teams in the 8-hour, #42 was the most visited control, and team 42 won. But then 42 is merely a transposition of 24-hour.

In the last newsletter Trevor Gollan invited E-mail communications but his address was omitted. It is: [t.gollan@uow.edu.au](mailto:t.gollan@uow.edu.au)

The Committee has decided that membership fees for 1994 will be:

HOUSEHOLD	\$24
INDIVIDUAL	\$17
ASSOCIATE	\$9
JUNIOR/STUDENT	\$6

Heard on ABC radio, a representative of SILVA compasses in Australia described the global positioning satellite compass which can place your position on the earth's surface to within 10m and then with the aid of a hand held hardware/software package called 'Naviaid' allows you to plot a course on digitised maps. A new "Technical" rogaining event category perhaps?

# OF CHALK AND CHEESE (or a Tale of Two Rogaines...)

by MARNIE HOLMES

Over the last month Netta and I have had the varied experience of competing in two completely different styles of 12 hour rogaines, firstly Bert's Lake Macquarie event on 30th October, and secondly Alex's Ball and Chain event on 27th November.

At Lake Macquarie, in the overcast weather threatening to rain at any moment, we looked at the map, prepared food and wet weather gear to take along with us and were somewhat surprised to discover that it was conceivable that we could get all controls in twelve hours as long as we kept moving and there were no untoward circumstances. We planned a route taking full advantage of the many tracks which were in the area and made a little list with several options of where to return to the Hash House from in case we ran short of time.

At the 11 o'clock start we headed north first to follow an anti-clockwise path. We were both tired (yes, right from the start from several previous busy weeks, confided to each other that we would have been quite happy not to have done the event if the other had suggested it...) and decided not to run - except at the end of course, or for show... We walked straight onto every control, 38 included, except for 11. We had been trusting that the roads were correct as marked on the map - a very dangerous assumption. Fortunately we got brought up by our back-stop and after puzzling about just which gully we had got ourselves onto, returned to find the control just where it was supposed to be, close enough!

We had a good drink at the waterdrop on the way north, but were perturbed on our way south, expecting to drink again, to have to trust to the stoicism of our stomachs and top up on water straight from the dam. Fortunately there were no unpleasant consequences!

The highlights of the event were the delightful views from the stroll along the top of the ridge ES-81-65, the sunset we glanced at near 61, the fireflies which graced our path from 49-24-25, and the pleasure of returning to the Hash House at the civilised hour of 9:07 for a decent meal! We had punched every control, walked 44km (or so) and came in 8th overall.

Before the Ball and Chain event Netta and I met at Nerriga and camped near the Endrick River - a very pretty spot that we resolved to go back to for a swim on Sunday. It was a long dusty drive into the Hash House from the Morton National Park road and it looked very steep and thick going. After collecting our maps, drawing the markers onto one and reading the coursesetter's

advice, we made up our minds to head west. Although there were many more of those nasty little red lines, the vegetation sounded a little more friendly.

From 25 we decided to go on to 57, however in hindsight we should have picked up 26 while in the area. It was an extremely hot day and from the outset I felt slow to move - affected by having become used to an overly cool air-conditioned office. We strolled down the creek from 57, looking around and chatting. We were a short distance behind the team we affectionately thought of as Old Bones when they began calling out to us from a perch on the side of the hill, out of the creek. Andrew Wisden had trodden on a nice rock and looked down to see a narrow black head rise beside his foot... I am not fond of snakes, to put it mildly and we looked very carefully at every footstep.

What a feeling to arrive at 28 and look across to see 40 just a few hundred metres away, and then down to see the creek we had to ford to get there. After sliding down the dry rocky scree it was very nice to sit by the cool creek waters, tempting to have a dip and stay for a long time. It was, however, worthwhile to climb, albeit slowly and dryly to the tops of Specimen Hill and Wineglass Tor because the views of the Shoalhaven River were spectacular.

After replenishing our water supplies near Peach Tree Canal (I didn't see a peach tree though) we set off up the creek towards 50. When we found it, probably somewhat higher up the gully than it was marked, we changed our plans and decided to go for 32 first, onto the road and then go to 30. If we hadn't, we would have been another of those teams with 550 points! It was a pretty sunset as we pushed through the bush to 30 and we reflected on the good advice of the organiser to wear leg protection but consider that gaiters could usefully be extended to cover the thigh area as well...

As we approached the party at 13 we decided to dash up the road (at a sedate walk) to pick up 49 (of which we had heard reports that several teams had not found, but we were feeling confident) and then to the Hash House. Off we set, counting paces and watching every passing contour. At what we judged to be the right spot we pressed off the road and down into the gully system. We counted off the appropriate distance and looked around carefully for that dear little orange and white marker.

As we were standing there, another team, who had come from a different direction paced to the same area. Although we



searched the whole area carefully, we couldn't find the marker, nor any tape or other indication at all. A bit disappointed we returned to the Hash House and yet another of those too-spicy hot-to-be-comfortably-eaten curries. After discussion with other teams we discovered that no one had got 49, and Alex conceded that it might not have been hung... We were a little peeved, but that was nothing to how some teams must have felt after searching for three checkpoints in a row on the eastern side which were not placed as marked. We had found all checkpoints we searched for except 49, walked 34 km, drunk 6 litres of water, developed no blisters, and came second overall (and regretted the result which may have been had 49 been there).

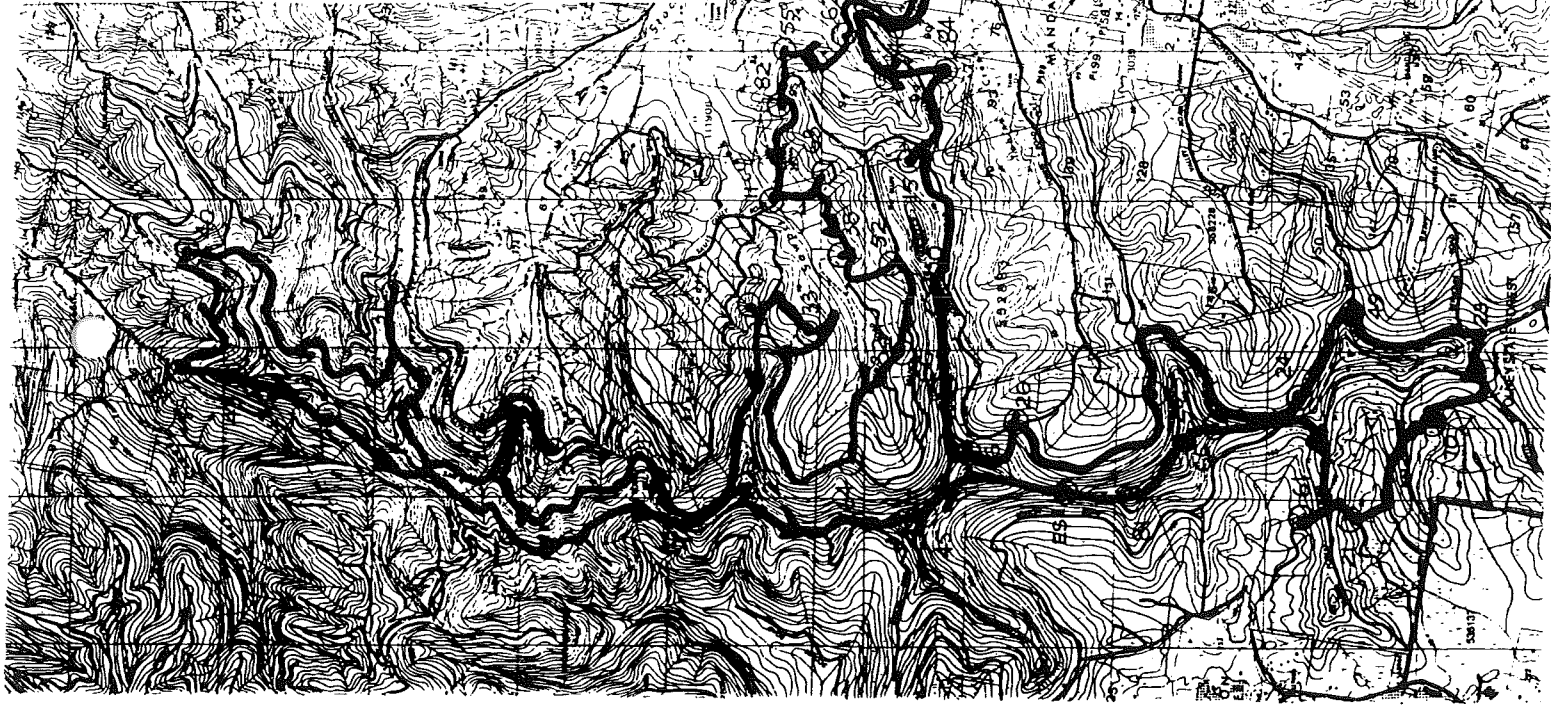
The most memorable parts of the event were the heat, plenty of water at the waterdrops, views from the western escarpment, the misplaced markers and the huge *Leptospermum ? grandiflora* bushes all along the access track from the road.

Thank you to the organisers of both rogaines. Our experiences in these two events have highlighted the importance of supplying enough water, particularly in the late events as summer approaches and of checking and re-checking the accuracy of placement of all checkpoints in the event. And we are looking forward to a wide variety of events again during 1994.

LAKE MACQUARIE  
12 HOUR ROGAINE  
October 30, 1993

1ST PLACE: MENS  
TIME: 6:08  
SCORE: 400

ARTHUR KINGSLAND  
MICHAEL BURTON



LAKE MACQUARIE  
12 HOUR ROGAINE  
October 30, 1993

1ST PLACE: MIXED  
TIME: 7:19  
SCORE: 400

STEVE KEENLYSIDE  
NICOLE O'DONOVAN



## MANDALONG MAILBOX

Quite a few people accepted the invitation to comment on the Lake Macquarie rogaine and, true to the democratic ideals, the opinions were varied.

**LINDSAY YOUNG** was positive: *...The course itself was ideal for a father and son outing...We ambled along with the crowd through 62, 55, 82, 11, 63 and 38. Then on to 33 and 27 up on the ridge. Along Highway 1 through 45, 16, ES, 81, 65 and down to 24. Then back through 25, 26, 66, 100, 52, 15 and home. The fireflies at 15 were amazing. I thought I was hallucinating with fatigue until Brendan said that he saw them too. All in all a very satisfying event...*

**JULIE GRAY** thought it was a nice area.

**MEG THORNTON** lauded the *formidable skill and efficiency of the on-site admin tent, the catering emphasis on high carb, fresh fruit was great, a campfire singer to rival Bernard Bolan...the country was essentially a nice place to travel through...*

**MAURICE RIPLEY** appreciated that *it's always nice to get the lot occasionally...*

So much for the compliments.

One significant subject of complaint was **the course**.

**TONY MURPHY** wrote: *...As regards the course, however, I can't be quite so positive. It was far too short, as evidenced by the fact that the winners collected all of the available controls in just half the allotted time. The equal-points for all controls rule was a surprise, as was the placement of many controls along linear features such as roads or ridges. These factors combined to greatly reduce the number of choices of routes. This reduced the fun and challenge of route planning. It also meant that finding the controls was often a game of follow the leader. On most of the controls I visited the route intention cards showed that most of the teams were proceeding to the same next control...*

**MEG THORNTON** expressed the same sentiments: *...This was a good event for the novice: navigational challenges were minimal, total absence of route choice made it a very social event with a multitude of teams travelling together, the queues into and out of each checkpoint ensured that the risk of a dispiriting geographical embarrassment were almost nil. The features of a rogaining event which are challenging and satisfying to me are the elements of strategy involved in route choice, maximising your potential score by the clever linking of a sequence of varied score checkpoints within the parameters of your personal fitness and skill level, the lure of the gambit involved in your route choice,*

*utilisation of all your accumulated skills such as reading the topography, moving through the scrub quickly, rock scrambling, quick assessment of your capacity to travel through or around a piece of country. One of life's best experiences is to pick up a truly subtle checkpoint through a demanding sequence of accurate and difficult navigational moves. The best rogaines have more in common with a good chess game than an orienteering event...*

**MAURICE RIPLEY**: *...All the controls seemed to have been set off roads or tracks, although admittedly in such an area that would have been hard to avoid. However, they could have been 200-300m instead of 20-30m (often less!) off the roads so that one had to at least think whether a cross-country route was a better alternative to the obvious road route...*

The next major complaint related to **water supplies**.

**TONY MURPHY** pointed out that...*The information sheet stated clearly that there would be no water available on the course. My team decided to take three litres per person. We were then told that there would be water on the course, so we reduced our water carrying by a litre each. We were then rather angry to get to the western water drop at about 5.00 pm and find the water bottles empty! We had to cut short our intended route because we ran out of water. It is not unreasonable to say that no water will be provided on the course. It is unreasonable (and dangerous) to say there will be water, then allow the supply to run dry...*

**MAURICE RIPLEY** had the same experience: *...The water drop in the west was not replenished - we arrived at about 5.30 pm and there were five or six other teams around and no-one got water. We filled our bottles from the adjacent very muddy dam (as did Marnie and Netta, at least) and were lucky not to get sick. A bloke in another team saw us drinking the dam water and gave us some chlorine tablets for our water bottles - didn't taste too bad later when we were thirsty. I will get some and carry them in future...I reckon Bert was lucky it was not a stinking hot day or some people (us!) could have been in trouble...*

Peter Tuff's article on **equi-point controls** in this newsletter was written without any foreknowledge of the Lake Macquarie rogaine. The feedback received regarding equi-points was not supportive.

**MAURICE SMITH** said *...The assignment of 10 points to each control, while it made life easy for the score administrators, I feel took away an essential element of the rogaine. Namely, that of the need for competitors to decide which controls to target. This is where team strategy and tactics is critical in deciding the risk and*

*reward trade-off. Not having variable values meant that this element was eliminated. It is this element that distinguishes rogaines from many other sports...*

**MEG THORNTON** was more grandiloquent: *...A totally rational mind would look at all the defining properties of a particular location, assign weightings for gradient, vegetation, density of adjacent checkpoints, views, arbitrary distance from HH, et al, average all factors and probably most checkpoints would result in a similar weighting. That is a very objective, quantifiable and tangible argument, easy to grasp. That does not mean it is right.*

*My thesis is that human beings do not necessarily find this style of event interesting, fun or rewarding. We are not entirely rational machines. There is a factor in humans which responds to imaginative challenges, is intrigued with strategy and problem solving. Choice of route is interesting when factors like optimising your point score through innovative linking of high value checkpoints versus going for the density of fast low scorers, are included in the decision making process. The question "shall I take the gambit?" is fundamental to all successful games. It is what brings so many of us back for the next event and the one next year and so on into the veterans category. Note that this is not a gamble with a large luck component but a gambit, a calculated assessment based on your own experience, skills and personal capacity...*

**Prize money** will always be an issue.

**MAURICE SMITH** commented *...I would rather see lower entry fees and no cash prizes. While my partner and I enjoy rogaines, we do so for the challenge and competition, rather than the remote chance of winning a cheque at the end of the day...*

A more positive view - some suggestions from **MAURICE SMITH** *...teams of runners need a separate category so that they can compete against similar teams and to give walkers a chance against other walkers. To put teams on an equal "footing" perhaps runners who enter as such should wear a distinctive colour patch on the clothes to identify them. Any other competitor running would be penalised...*

The best suggestion was from **MEG THORNTON** *...having said all this I better offer myself to do some event organising next year...*

Thanks to everyone for their written contributions. I would have liked to print all the letters but was overwhelmed by the volume. **KEEP THOSE LETTERS COMING IN!**

**TREVOR GOLLAN**  
FAX: (042) 21 3477  
E-MAIL: t.gollan@uow.edu.au

# RESULTS

## 12-HOUR ROGAINE LAKE MACQUARIE 30.10.93

Team	Team members	Points	Finish Time	Mixed	Women	Veterans	Junior	Men	Overall
9	Arthur Kingland, Michael Burton	400	5:08					1	1
105	Steve Keenlyside, Nicole O'Donovan	400	6:19	1				2	2
30	Mick Finn, Rob Waller	400	6:21					3	3
4	Ian Cameron, David Lyle	400	7:27					4	4
43	Pauli Viikari, Lucas Molloy	400	7:40					5	5
15	Jo Parr, Simon George	400	8:26	2				6	6
25	Brad Maund, Ken Stradon	400	8:47					7	7
11	Ron Weibrecht, Glen Bridgort	400	8:57					8	8
90	Netta Holmes, Marnie Holmes	400	9:07					9	9
53	Cameron Shorter, Jason Middleweek	400	9:14	1				10	10
47	Selvyn Gilling, Chris Morris	400	9:33					11	11
82	Maurice Ripley, Julian Ledger	400	9:40					12	12
100	Tony Maloney, Andrew Lumsden	400	9:57					13	13
120	Trevor Galan, Steve Chitt	400	10:08					14	14
7	Nike Garben, Richard McNeel	400	10:13					15	15
16	Robyn Tuft, Peter Tuft	400	10:18					16	16
111	Michael Hotchkins, Harry Moss	400	10:24	3				17	17
64	Richard Buttenworth, Jo Burke, Trish Hargreaves	400	10:28	4				18	18
92	Ian Hawkes, Glen Wallace	400	10:54					19	19
49	David Palmiano, David Green	400	10:55					20	20
76	Mark Watson, Jackie Mathwaring	350	10:16	5				21	21
95	Peter Watson, Geoff Ingram	350	10:38					22	22
39	Greg Cave, Sue Cave	350	10:38					23	23
129	Chris Burnden, Sue Burnden	350	10:27	6				24	24
45	Deborah Cox, Melvyn Cox	350	7:39	7				25	25
3	Graham Payne, Steve Smith	350	10:29					17	26
60	Julian Lee, Michael Lawrence, Greg Goldin	350	10:53					18	27
18	Jennifer Borrell, Greg Dunstone	350	10:53					28	28
92	Robyn Kendrew, Sonya Bailey	350	10:55	8				29	29
56	Jo Taylor, John Taylor, Chris Turton	350	8:28	9				33	30
33	Kevin Rogers, Ian Carr	350	9:15					34	31
110	Duane Selman, Nigel Smith, John Stokes	350	10:26					35	32
91	Ron Hutchings, Rob Hutchings	350	9:46					36	33
119	Maurice Smith, Jeff Lockyer, Phil Ogle	350	9:54					37	34
54	Chris Ebnickley, David Kneeshaw	330	10:28					22	34
26	T. Cordingley, Ken Wells, F. McDonald, P. Learoyd	330	10:55					23	35
23	Drew Stones, Bryan Smith	330	10:57					24	36
121	David Hamaty, Vy Darty	330	10:21	3				37	37
98	Barbara Campbell-Allen, Paul Campbell-Allen	320	10:52					25	38
13	David Dash, Ian Deck, Peter Tarnsett	310	6:32	4				38	39
8	Bill Pigram, Peter Coventry	310	7:47	5				40	40
116	Anita Scherer, Ruth Steffen	310	7:58					26	41
84	John Bevin, Peter Manly	310	8:28					27	43
50	Giant Maltres, Richard Cornore	310	9:35	2				28	44
48	Simon Elliot, Peter Folles	310	10:28					29	45
65	Quentin Napier, Derek Busby	310	10:52					30	46
29	Kevin Williams, Steve Lloyd, Steve Jackett	300	6:30	6				31	48
88	Terry Sharp, Marcel Burns	300	6:30					32	47
46	Roger Aulien, Eric Weitzle	300	7:01	7				33	49
94	David Noble, Scott Parsons, Gary Jackson	300	7:59					34	50
101	Warwick Marsden, Geoff Taylor, James Williamson	300	8:29					35	51
59	Carol Castro, Ed Castro, Terry Baudoin	300	8:30	10				36	52
14	Meg Thomson, Lynn Williams	300	8:40					37	53
82	Jilka Kopiva, Rollin Burford	290	7:09	3				38	54
70	Margaret-Anne Reicher, Sue Kennedy	290	7:58					39	55
12	Mike Harrathy, John Oakley, Alf Tonn	290	8:42	4				40	56
93	Jenny Kent, Jonathan Burnett	290	9:26					35	57
79	Wai Mills, Phil Duncon	290	9:40					36	58
19	N. Greenhalgh, A. Amblehead	290	10:10					37	59
31	Peter Amblehead, Joanne Scott	290	10:10					38	61
55	George Collins, Chris Collins	280	8:30					39	62
107	Lynne Dunbar, Janet Watterson	280	9:42	5				60	63
81	M. Coti, Robert Cox, L. Wickham, A. Wickham	280	10:28					61	64

\* EVENT COMMENCED AT 11:00 AM

### RECOLLECTIONS III - ROGAINING IN NSW 1985 TO 1993

It was good to read Ian Dempsey and Peter Tufts' recollections of the NSWRA's formative years. I'm one of the second generation of rogainers as are most of us: we had to ask what rogaining is, we were dragged along by a friend, swore we'd never come back and have been coming back ever since!

My introduction was via the NSW Championships at Howes Valley in 1985. "Veteran" rogainer, Andrew Lumsden (he's actually well under 40 but has been rogaining since 1972) dragged me along. We blitzed the course for the first seven hours and then went pointless for the next seven which included a dry 14km road bash back to the Hash House - I was hooked! The event was organised by Bert and Dianne Van Netten and Ian Dempsey whose enthusiasm for organising events has waned little after ten years.

Bert and Ian make a great team: Bert has little respect for convention and niceties in his attempt to make events enjoyable while Ian has a more conservative approach. A good example of their different styles occurred while collecting markers after this event. They agreed to meet at a given time and place; Bert, however, didn't have a watch or a compass. When he came onto a track he wasn't quite where he thought he was and turned the wrong way. Sensing that he was late he started to jog! After going a fair way luck shone on our Bert (as it often does) and he found a compass. On the way back he was met by a concerned/annoyed Ian who was driving around looking for him. Ian, Bert and Dianne were given life membership of the NSWRA in 1987; in retrospect perhaps a little prematurely, but their contribution and enthusiasm since then has more than justified their status as life members.

The NSW Championships in 1986 were run by the sprightly team of Andrew Blakers and Adrian Spragg in the aptly named Darkes Forest south of Sydney - in the tradition of championship events it was tough going. Both fled overseas shortly after although Andrew returned in 1992 to help out with the newsletter and is about to organise next year's ACT Championships - in friendlier country? The 4 page report (of small typesetting) on the event organisation in the April 1986 newsletter should be read by all budding organisers.

The NSWRA was still being run by its founders with Ian Dempsey as President, Peter Tuft as Vice President and Dianne Van Netten listed as Secretary/Treasurer/Newsletter Editor. This situation remained until 1987. I wondered why Dianne was so keen to have meeting at my place, but while Bert took over the Presidency, Dianne's positions all moved to Sydney with Peter Wherry becoming Secretary and John Keats (a virtual unknown, having just arrived from WA) Treasurer, a position he was to hold for five years. I took over the Newsletter and former Victorian Jennifer Borrell the Publicity. The injection of new blood also included Greg Harrigan as Vice President and Terry Collins and Wendy Davies as "Catering Consultants" (a position they held informally for many years due to their gear and ability to mass produce lots of very appetising dishes); both Greg and Terry did stunts as President in later years.

Like Bert and Ian, Peter Wherry and Greg Harrigan are an unlikely match and have provided many laughs for those who've travelled with them or come across them on the course with their tales of torches that don't work, soggy food and uncomfortable naps in hollow logs. They organised 12 hour events in 1987 at Hilltop and then at, the now infamous, Belanglo State Forest in 1989.

Free of the duties of running the NSWRA, Bert and Dianne teamed up with Wendy and Terry as caterers and Peter Tuft as vector to run NSW's second Australian Championships at Chatsbury near Goulburn in 1987; again it was a huge success complete with platypusses at dawn. (This was one of only five NSW events that I've missed since I started rogaining. I decided to look at the list Trev put in the first newsletter this year and noted that Bert had course set for all five! Nothing personal Bert - or is there a message in there for unsuspecting newcomers? How did you get the name Bert Van Nettle?)

1987 also saw the NSWRA take over the (24 year old) Paddy Pallin event which was a 3 1/2 hour event in which you had to mark your own maps in that time. Terry Sharp and the boys from Worimi ran the event. Worimi, a Youth Detention Centre near Newcastle, has had a long association with rogaining through Terry and John Waddell and Gordon Johnson who can be seen organising their charges at events. The boys, and the occasional girl, usually appreciate the chance to do something different, challenging and which is build up their confidence. In the early days entry fees were paid for with food for the event - barter

was alive and well! Their 1987 event was won by Arthur Kingsland and Terry Farrell; Arthur has since established himself, along with Ian Mackenzie, as an exponent of "short course" rogaining.

With half a dozen rogaines under my belt I volunteered to run the 1988 NSW Championships at Hampton. To get some idea of how one goes about this I offered to help Ian Dempsey with the 12 hour event at Yetholme. Two other rogainers that I hadn't met also lent a hand: Trevor Gollan and Maurice Ripley. It's a well established fact that rogaining in NSW has spread largely through "cells" of rogainers. Trevor and Maurice both worked at Lucas Heights (now ANSTO) which has provided a large number of rogainers over the years. My first contact with these two was around a campfire while course setting; they had come equipped with pewter goblets and a bottle of red wine. Helping organise events is a great way to get to know your fellow rogainers! The event was also my first encounter with the irreplaceable Peter Watterson who took a bottle of champagne, a block of camembert and a female partner into the event - the sunset was apparently magnificent!

(\* I am reminded here of one of Neil Smith's (ARA President in 1993) favorite observations as an organiser: watching a group of helpers who may not have known each other before the event blend into a happy cohesive team as the event progressed.)

The four of us had organised the catering (for the 50 participants) and I had the job of preparing the "spag bol", which was the only thing we ran out of. All that one of the last finishers wanted was some meat! My pledge since that rogaine has been that "no rogainer shall ever go hungry at a rogaine I organise" - so far so good.

Ian Dempsey had also organised the 1988 Paddy Pallin at Putty two weeks beforehand. He adopted the current 6 hour format and saw the numbers go from about 50 to near 200. Again Arthur and Terry won in grand style.

Trevor Gollan got his chance to organise a NSW Championships the following year, 1989. He chose a spectacular area in the Goulburn River valley called Murrumbo; we didn't know it then but this was to be the first of a number of superb areas that Trev was to take us to. Trev also introduced the 16 hour event in an effort to coax more rogainers into the main 24 hour event; it was a great success, if only because I won a bottle of port! The dawn scene of the sun rising in the east as the full moon set in the west is kept in my most treasured memories.

There are two stories worth telling about this event. The first began in the Van Netten's kitchen when Bert made some comment about how blokes were better rogainers than women. Dianne took exception, called their friend Phil Greaser in Canberra, and teamed up with Phil to take out the Open category convincingly. The second is that it was the first event for the Holmes sisters, Netta and Marnie. Netta had regained regularly while at Uni in the mid eighties while Marnie had considered it a strange pursuit and one which she certainly had no intention of becoming involved in; but Netta needed a partner and Marnie didn't have a good excuse - they're now a regular (winning) combination at most events.

During 1988 and 1989 the ACT events had largely been wet while NSW events had been held in glorious sunshine. I boasted as much in the newsletter and lived to regret it.

I was back organising for the first event in 1990 at Mellong, along with Bert and Rosemary and Rodger Austen. The start was held under threatening skies and there were at least two good downpours over the next 12 hours. At this event I came across three more of those "cells" I mentioned above. The Bankstown Bushwalking Club had discovered rogaining through Robyn Arthur, Wil De Sain and Co and had arranged for Peter Wherry, Greg Harrigan and Bert Van Netten to "initiate" some novices - it's a bit frightening to realise that we have so many Peter and Bert trained people at our events! The Bankstown Bushwalkers went on to organise their own event, The Hellraiser, near Buladelah the following year and then to support Bert and Ian with superb catering at their two dash-for-cash events in 1992 and 1993. Trevor Gollan had moved from ANSTO to Wollongong University and had got the Sports Union to organise a bus; from what I remember this was the birth of the steadily growing Wollongong rogaining community. The third cell was less obvious and only in its infancy. It would probably have gone unnoticed had I not had to sit around the fire until 2.15am waiting for Betty Chen to return; the cell's other founder Lara D'Abreo was there to keep me company. Through their North Sydney Girls High friends, Lara's colleagues at CSA and Tosi, and Betty's UNSW medical student friends they have probably been responsible for introducing over thirty others to our great sport. How many similar cells have gone unnoticed by coming back on time?



Betty wasn't the last to return. This honour went to Guy Jarvi, Sarah Tibbey and Sam Neski who decided to camp out rather than do battle with the nasty sandstone cliffs (a move which yielded high praise). They burnt one of their maps to start a fire and then listened to the broadcast of the Federal Election on the radio that Guy had taken a...  
df!

The few drops of rain that fell on the Mellong event were nothing compared to the soaking that the Paddy Pallin event at Tianjara and 12 hour event at Evans Crown were about to endure. Both of these areas are spectacular and deserve a return rogaine in better weather. Trevor Gollan was involved in both and lost half of his Evans Crown course after over 30 cm of rain fell in the week of the event. (That was the inaugural NSW/ACT challenge, a good idea which never seems to have gained the acceptance it deserves.) Trev's weather jinx was to take on a new dimension at the nearby Jaunter the following year when the event was "snowed out"! He is kind enough not to remind me too often that I gave him the August date!

Better weather was in store for the "return" of rogaining to the New England region a month later, Copeton Dam in particular, with its access to the big, beautiful Gwydir granite country. (New England Uni had staged intervarsity rogaines in 1972 and 1980, well before the formation of the NSWRA. They also run an annual 6 hour event.) To support the efforts of Graeme and Vicki Cooper and the Northern Tablelands Orienteering Club, the NSWRA subsidised a coach to take southerners to the event; it proved to be a great way to go and now we try to run buses wherever there is enough demand.

Graeme and Vicki's weather luck didn't last long as their 1992 Plum Pudding event, organised with help from the Gunnedah Bushwalkers, attempted to break the drought in the Manilla region. Here's wishing them fine weather for the 1994 NSW Championships.

If you think I was becoming pre-occupied with the weather, 1991 confirmed the hex that was being wrought on the NSWRA: the Hellraiser did break the drought on the mid North Coast; the Paddy Pallin was held in bright sunshine at Glenbrook, but not before I had to watch the 4 metres of water over the access causeway subside the week before; Wambo had a shower or two; and then the snow turned the Jaunter non-event into one of the most memorable events for all who made the journey. But the showers not only came from the skies: The Bankstown Bushwalkers had gone out and sought sponsorship for The Hellraiser and, despite some setbacks, were able to "shower" (blame the sense of humour on my rogaining partners) half of the competitors with some sort of prize.

The NSW Championships, or Jaunter II, were held in stunning country and stunning weather. I was able to show my guest partner from the UK an echidna, a wombat and mobs of wallabies and kangaroos - a rogaine can be a treasured memory for overseas visitors even if they don't thank you immediately! Jaunter II also signalled an important new direction for rogaining in NSW, a recognition of the need to cater for families. The Hash House at the event was the informal creche for a number of rogaining orphans.

It was Anne Francis, with willing assistance from Merv English, who decided to offer a real creche at Wuuluman near Wellington for the first event the following year, 1992. Creches are now provided at most 12 and 24 hour events with the parents who have benefitted taking turns to do the honours. Most of them are glad to get back onto the course next time!

The 1992 Paddy Pallin, at Mangrove Mountain, was the first event where I can remember lots of families actually taking part. After the Metrogaine earlier this year and the 1993 Paddy Pallin families are now seen as a welcome feature at the less competitive events. These two Paddy Pallins also saw scouts actively involved in running events with Rodger Austen and Eric Merzke of 1st Waitara setting the 1992 event and John Barnes and friends from 1st Killara the 1993 event at Cataract Scout Park. Both courses were well suited to the event with lots of variety in the checkpoints (with some high pointers close to the Hash House), and the course, so that almost all who attended were satisfied. The parents and friends from 1st Waitara also did the catering in grand style for both events while 2nd Seven Hills parents provided a wholesome pre-event meal for the 1993 event. Apart from these scout groups and a few others, rogaining in NSW hasn't managed to attract as many scouts as an outdoor navigational activity such as rogaining would be expected to do.

1992 saw "real" controversy enter NSW rogaining for the first time. The first issue was over who should be allowed to enter the inaugural World Rogaining Championships for which a strict quota was to be applied: regular rogainers or a more competitive new breed. In the end it didn't really matter as NSW didn't fill its quota and the World Champs welcomed all comers. The debate did, however, highlight the competing interests of participatory versus

competitive rogainers and in a way was a precursor to the second contentious issue. Bert and Ian had obtained sponsorship from the Lake Macquarie Games which enabled them to offer substantial prize money (\$1,000, winners take all) in the hope of attracting a more competitive element. In sport where prizes have at best been token, the proposal was greeted with a mixture of disbelief and condemnation. In the end the NSWRA agreed to a three year trial as much out of respect for Bert and Ian as to any wholehearted support.

The first of these events, at Mt Sugarloaf, only attracted only one new team, Tom Landon-Smith and David Hislop, who narrowly edged out the regular speedsters Ian Mackenzie and Arthur Kingsland. The second was held recently in the Watagan Range and did attract a few more new teams, although this time Arthur, along with Mike Burton, took out first prize, the \$1,000 having been divided into three placings for this event.

With the dash-for-cash controversy effectively behind him the previous year, Bert "spiced" up the Watagan event this year, with the help of Wil De Sain (?), by setting a course which involved minimal true cross country navigation and in which all checkpoints were worth 10 points. While some purists, myself included, were somewhat aghast, most of us enjoyed the event but would not like to see it repeated too often. I am sure that Bert still has a few surprises for us over the next few years!

The look of the NSWRA committee has also changed significantly in the nineties with Trevor Gollan taking over the ever increasing Secretarial duties in 1990. Dianne Van Netten took her turn as President in 1990 followed by Terry Collins (with Wendy Davies as Vice President) in 1991 and Alan Mansfield in 1992 and 1993. Alan's work commitments have only allowed him time to run events but he remains keen to see the NSWRA grow and works hard behind the scenes. George Collins gave me a welcome break from the Editorship in 1991 and 1992 and then handed it over to The Girls this year, Sonia Kupina, with assistance from Marnie Holmes; the quality of the newsletter has continued to improve over the years as a result. The treasurer's job was finally wrested from John Keats in 1992 and taken on by Tony Maloney who is carrying on from where John left off and admonishing us for running down our reserves. We were also blessed with the arrival of Julian Ledger from Western Australia whose expertise and enthusiasm as the head of YHA spilled over into rogaining where his skills have been well used in promoting the sport, particularly with the preparation of the brochures each year and acting 2IC for the last four Paddy Pallins. Anne Francis has officially been recognised as Creche Organiser. As well the likes of Graeme Cooper (who manages to make a couple of meetings each year from Armidale!), Peter Watterson, Merv English and Dave Sigley are now contributing to the work of the NSWRA.

The example of Bert's recent event in the Watagans highlights one of the strengths of the great sport of rogaining: the uniqueness of each rogaine. As rogaining in NSW enters its second decade we must strive to preserve not only this uniqueness, but also the balance between the increasingly popular "participatory" and family events such as the Metrogaine and Paddy Pallin and the true long distance cross country "competitive" events which are the essence of our wonderful sport. This balance was met in 1993 with Peter Watterson, Trevor Gollan and Co running our first Metrogaine at the Bicentennial Park, the Paddy Pallin at Cataract Dam and the Watagan events being contrasted with the two 24 hour events: Tony Maloney, Debbie Cox and the 'Gong caterers' Easter "Expedition" event in the Weddin Mountains and Trevor Gollan, Alan Mansfield, Sonia Kupina and Co teaming up to bring us the delights of the South Coast in the recent NSW Championships. We've tried to offer you the same balance in 1994.

(In this article I've only talked about NSWRA events. NSW rogaining has also benefitted from at least two ACTRA events each year. As I write this I am still recovering from a beautiful 12 hour ACT event at Touga in which the course setter aimed "to redress the balance of events which favoured track runners over bushwalkers". This Alex McGregor did in fine style - in spite of a couple of dubious controls. Ken Anderson had done likewise the previous November at Corin; ten hours without a track or road is my idea of a great rogaine!)

The second challenge for us is to preserve the "friendly" nature of the sport. Throughout the eighties it was possible to know almost all of the participants at an event and for people to feel that they were a part of the rogaining "family" after only a few events. With numbers of over 200 regularly coming along to events nowadays, events may be becoming more impersonal. I would like to believe that they're still as friendly as they've always been and can only assume that you're all coming back because rogaining offers you something you enjoy (other than masochism). On with the next ten years, but make sure that you take the time to say "G'day" to the next team you meet out there ...  
Lorraine de (Mervin)

# 1994 - EVENT CALENDAR

DATE	HOURS	EVENT	LOCATION	ORGANIZERS / HELPERS
29/30 JAN 94	2-DAY EVENT 10km, 13km or 18km PER DAY	HIGH-O	KOSCIUSKO N.P.	ACT ROGAINING ASSOC -- ACT --
27 FEB 94	6/12 HOUR	UPSIDE DOWN	SOUTH	ANDREW WISNIEWSKI SET/VET ROLLIE BURFORD SET/VET
10 APR 94	6 HOUR	METROGAINE	SYDNEY	ALAN MANSFIELD SET/VET SONIA KUPINA SET/VET
22/23 MAY 94	8/24 HOUR	NSW CHAMPS	UPPER HUNTER	GRAEME COOPER SET/VET/ADMIN VICKI COOPER CATERING LAN DEMPSEY SET/VET
19 JUN 94	6 HOUR	PADDY PALLIN	? WEST	JULIAN LEDGER ADMIN SUE CLARKE SET/VET
20 AUG 94	6/12 HOUR	LAKE MACQUARIE	HUNTER VALLEY	BERT VAN NETTEN SET/VET
15/16 OCT 94	24 HOUR	AUST CHAMPS	SOUTH WEST	PETER WATTERSON SET/VET TREVOR GOLLAN SET/VET GEOFF BAILEY SET/VET WARWICK MARSDEN ADMIN JOHN KEATS CATERING
26 NOV 94	8 HOUR	XMAS SOCIAL	? WEST	

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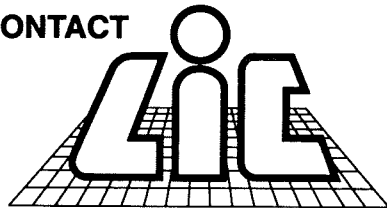
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NSW Local Government Areas map  
Sydney CBD colour photomap
- \*Survey information covering NSW

# NEW YEAR PICNIC

- VENUE:** Bicentennial Park - location of 1993 Metrogaine Hash House [i.e. west end of Victoria Avenue, off George Street, Concord West]  
**DATE:** Sunday, 16 January, 1994  
**TIME:** 3.00 pm → sunset  
**BYO:** Everything, but hot water will be provided [BBQs nearby]  
**RSVP:** Not required

Copies of the 1993 Metrogaine map will be available for those who wish to visit for the first time (or revisit) parts of the course.

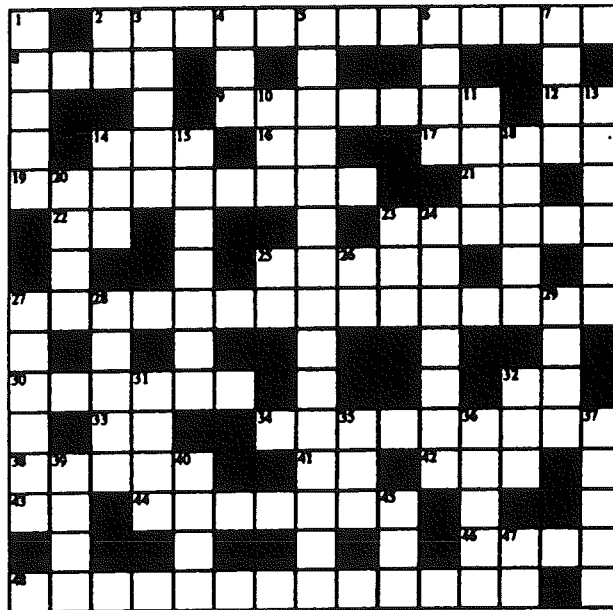


by TREVOR GOLLAN

If you have got all the newsletters and you have been to every event in 1993 then this should be easy! There is a prize for the first correct entry received. Send the completed crossword, your name, address and shirt size to Trevor Gollan.

## ACROSS

2. He finished in the top ten at the Paddy Pallin, partnering Gordon Wilson (5,8)
8. Summit (4)
9. See 46 across
12. One of Alf & Regina Torrisi's partners (initials) at the Bugs Bunny 24-hour (2)
14. Part of a circle (3)
16. Initials of David Newling's partner at the Paddy Pallin (2)
17. Lisa \_\_\_\_\_ partnered Mark Wright at the Paddy Pallin. She sounds like a useful rogainer partner at night (5)
19. He was so impressed with the Metrogaine he decided to reuse the area for the Olympics 2000 (9)
21. The French (2)
22. Initials of a member of the 2nd-placed team at the Paddy Pallin (2)
23. A navigational aid not allowed in rogaines (6)
25. One of the beaches at Lake Tabourie (5)
27. Extremely fast team who won two six-hour rogaines this year (9&6)
30. To bestow or communicate (like final instructions) (6)
32. Initials of Kevin Williams' partner at Lake Tabourie and the Paddy Pallin (2)
33. Initials of Skye Dutton's partner at the Paddy Pallin (2)
34. A hash house staple (5,4)
38. To have or be consumed (5)
41. Opposing compass points are tinny (2)
42. Oil source; oil sauce? (3)
43. The bearing to take from #63 to #50 (Weddin trig) at the Easter 24-hour (2)
44. The wrong route choice to the next control (4,3)
46. & 9. across. Someone who participated in every NSWRA rogainer in 1993 (4,7)
48. See 45 down



## DOWN

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Nest Gully, at Lake Tabourie (5)
2. Initials of Maurice Smith's partner at the Metrogaine (2)
3. What winners find to make them winners (5)
4. Imaginary being with magical powers - could live at the century-old building at the Metrogaine (if you know your Tolkien) (3)
5. Long and rugged rogainer always held in the last weekend in June (6,3,6)
6. & 15. down. He has won more NSWRA 12 and 24-hour rogaines than anyone else (4,7)
7. A large sloping walkway, like a spur up to a plateau (4)
10. What the winners did to win the 6-hour rogainer (3)
11. & 37. down. A natural feature at two NSWRA events this year but never encountered in previous years (4,5)
13. The famous NSWRA van? (6)
14. Unit of current provides insurance (3)
15. See 6 down
18. Intended to find in some anthills (5)
20. Opposed to (4)
23. The sun (3)
24. Rivers, rogaines and a la carte menus. What do they have in common? (7)
25. The State (initials) that hosted the Australian Championships this year (2)
26. Initials of one of the NSWRA founders. He also won this year's Paddy Pallin (2)
27. Youngest member of the Glozier family, at this year's Paddy Pallin (6)
28. A rule of Rogaining (2,3)
29. Phil \_\_\_\_\_ partnered Maurice Smith at Mandalong (4)
31. The sea off Lake Tabourie was named after him (4)
32. A place of bestial debauchery (and its not a hash house!) (3)
35. Something you might encounter on an African rogainer. (3)
36. Another navigational aid not allowed in rogaines (5)
37. See 11 down
39. Of the air, atmosphere (4)
40. \_\_\_\_\_ Luff, an ACTerrier, has been a regular attendee at NSW events for many years. He was at Lake Tabourie (4)
45. & 48. across. The best way to get from #31 to #20 at the Metrogaine (3,8,5)
47. US State (initials), site of this year's World Orienteering Championships (2)

THE NSW ROGAINE  
CROSSWORD - 1993

Julian Ledger  
108 Cressy Rd  
East Ryde 2113

3 F

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