

2010 Socialgaine Course Setters Notes

Everyone involved in the course setting hopes that you enjoy the “*Salt-Pan Explorer*” 2010 Socialgaine. Wikipedia suggests that salt-pans are excellent places to set land-speed records. Images of exploring gold-panners also come to mind. For this rogaime, we’ve tried to live up to these images by providing a course with a bonanza of points, with lots of exploring and running, including into other teams!

Tracks: In addition to the base map, 2 different sorts of track are marked:

Long dashed purple lines represent some clear and wide tracks on the course.

Short dashed purple lines are “practicable routes”, often but not necessarily along tracks, that the course setters think might be useful. Note: I could have drawn other routes, but I sought a balance for usefulness (e.g. in trials, sometimes short dashed lines gave the wrong impression, so they were removed).

As with all maps this one has imperfections. A very large amount of effort was expended to make it as good as possible. Apologies in advance for any mistakes or omissions – they are mine alone (Paul B).

Tracks, particularly in the National Park, should be used as an indicative guide only.

Controls: All questions are landscape based (ie. no flags) due to external guidelines of our use of the areas on the course. Some questions were trickier to create than others – please be patient in this regard. We really wanted to open up some of the more interesting parts of the course. There are a limited number of letter box questions; again, please be patient when we have tried to create novel questions.

No-Go Areas: You are NOT to go in the river, on the M5 motorway, or on the railway line – under any circumstances – for safety reasons. Possible penalty is disqualification.

Caution - Major Roads: There are several busy roads on the course. Davies Rd, Fairford Rd, Henry Lawson Drive, The River Rd, and Forest Rd are all busy. Ideally cross at lights (marked with green crossing point symbol). Henry Lawson Drive north east of Salt-Pan Ck has a central barrier (not to be crossed) along much of its length (as does some of Davies Rd). Henry Lawson Drive in the south-west of the course has no pedestrian lights. Practise extreme care when crossing this road. Care should be taken when moving near any roads.

Tide Times: High tide is scheduled for approximately 3pm (low tide 7.40am and 8.45pm).


If hot weather – Go easy: if there is hot weather, drink lots of water and often. There are bubblers in many of the parks on the course, as well as quite a lot of shops to buy drinks / food (see next page).


Toilets: Many of the parks on the course have toilets. Toilets that should definitely be accessible on a Sunday include the toilets at the park at Little Salt Pan Creek between control 72 and 61 and the toilet in Davies Reserve near Control 50 and the toilets in Evatt Park, Lugarno (near control 121). There are toilets in Gannons Park and in the main part of Georges River National Park south of Henry Lawson Dr.

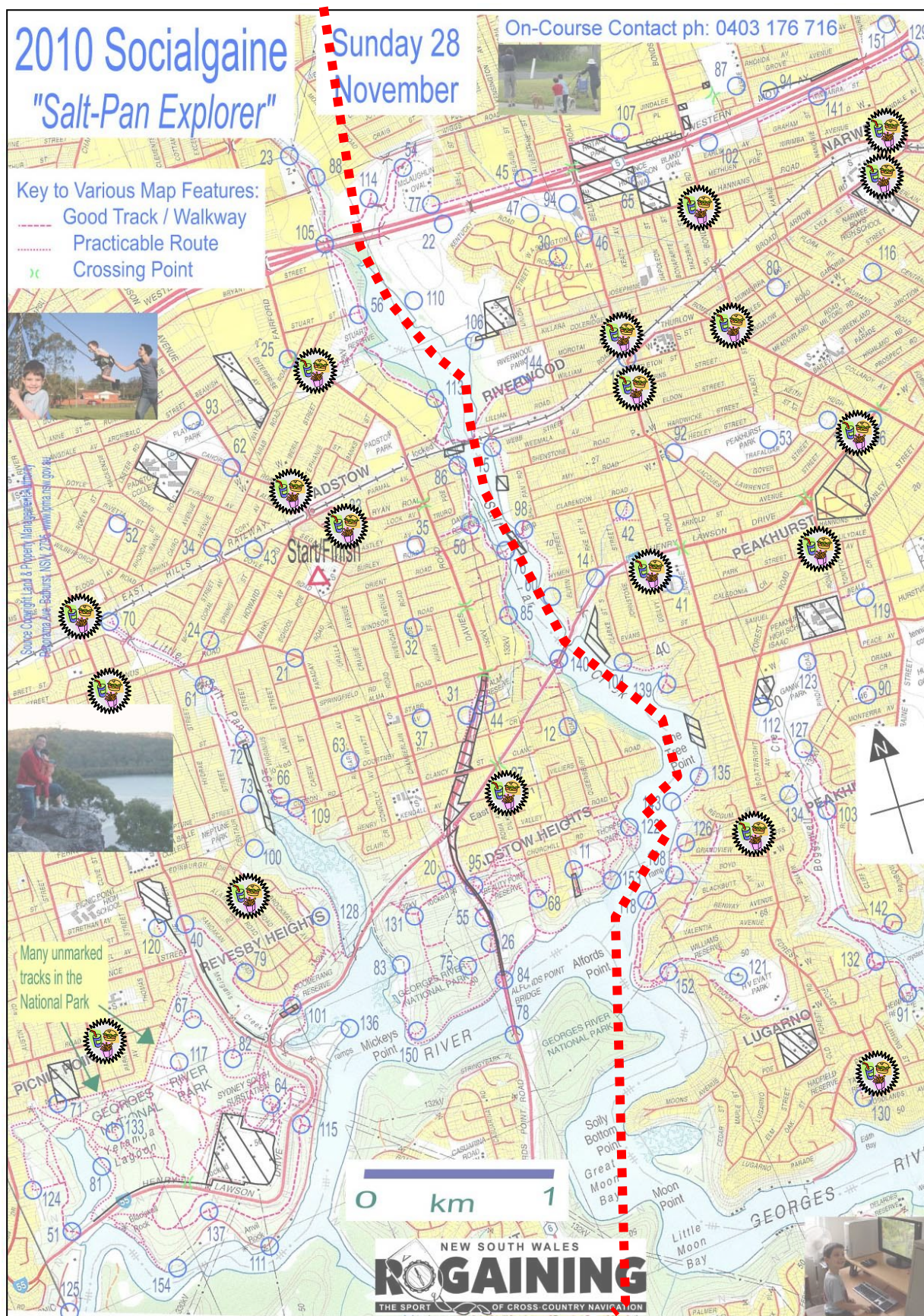
Notes on particular parts of the course:

- Eastern side of the very top of Salt-Pan Creek – the open space around 110: this contains a grassy plateau area with a dirt road circumnavigating it.
- Western side of Lugarno – between 143 and 126: this is one of the more adventurous legs on the course. There are decent passages through the sandstone on the slope, and the vegetation is good.
- River in south-west corner of map – river bank and slope north of 154: another very doable adventurous leg. Fishermen regularly travel along here, with some scrambling on sandstone possible.
- Revesby Heights and the western side of Little Salt-Pan Creek – 73, 100 and 128: these controls are at the backs of the houses. Travelling from 73 to 100 requires passing a scout hall and getting to the back of the houses beyond.
- South west section of Georges River National Park – 82 and 133: setters put some masking tape at these controls. If you confirm the location by finding the tape, great; it is possible that the tape will have been removed by members of the public though.

Thanks: for vetting, massive thanks to Gareth Denyer and family and Jason Tsui. For being great setting companions -Bronwyn, Alexander, Dominic, and Ellie the Dog. Thanks to Jason for taking on the coordinator role. A big thanks to Padstow Park PS and Georges River National Park.

Shops: The map below shows the location of some of the food/drink shops  on the course.

Course Divide as per Clue Sheets: The map also shows the dividing line  between east and west of Salt-Pan Creek, which the clues are separated by into the double-sided A4 sheets.



Note: the base image here may not be the final version of the course map (in terms of control values)