

WOLLONGONG UNIVERSITY OUTDOORS CLUB

NEWSLETTER JULY 1976

11th - 18th July 1976 - SKI TOURING

A weeks cross country skiing for beginners as well as the seasoned skier. The party will be moving around huts in the Brassy Mtn area (Whites River, Schlink Hilton, Tin etc) and it is sure to be an enjoyable week. Contact Ian Burns (289871) or John Graham.

17th, 18th July 1976 - BUSHWALKING

A trip into the Little River Valley. This is an exploratory trip into unknown country and the exact destination, difficulty and route are also unknown. Contact Bevan Jones, Room G9A Elect. Eng. Building, ext 308.

24th, 25th July 1976 - SKI TOURING

Ski touring in the Kiandra area on Saturday and racing in the Cabramurra Tour on Sunday.

27th July 1976 - Tuesday - MEETING

Meeting in the Northern Lounge at 7.30 pm. Wine, Cheese. Slides of recent club trips as well as discussion of coming events. Club emblems for Tee Shirts may be available.

31st July, 1st August 1976 - SKI TOURING

Another beginners trip where the inexperienced will be shown how to ski by the experts (??). The party will most likely go to Whites River hut. Contact John Graham.

7th, 8th August 1976 - SKI TOURING

The venue this trip will be Falls Creek, Victoria. Camping in tents (hopefully below the snow line) and doing day trips on Saturday and Sunday. Contact Ian Burns 289871.

14th, 15th August 1976 - SKI TOURING

Racing in the Paddy Pallin XC Classic on Saturday and day touring on Sunday. Staying at Sawpit Creek overnight. Contact Ian Burns 289871.

21st - 28th August 1976 - SKI TOURING

A week trip from Kiandra to Thredbo for the experienced ski tourer. If you are interested get along to some of the beginner weekends and then see John Graham about this one.

NORDIC SKIING

- AN INTRODUCCATION -

Cross Country skiing may be simply described as bushwalking on skis. It combines the pleasures of skiing with the visual delights of touring through a snow veiled landscape.

One's introduction to Nordic skiing usually consists of day trips around resorts such as Perisher Valley. This is an enjoyable activity and one can still participate in après-ski activities traditionally associated with skiing. The pleasures of wilderness snow country, however, and the ensuing evening feast cooked over a log fire are missed. Outdoor's Club trips usually have an emphasis on weekend (or longer) campouts on and around the Main Range.

One may comfortably camp in snow provided the tourer is correctly equipped. The Outdoors Club has prepared a guide for tourers which is available from the President (John Graham), Secretary (Ian Burns) or the Trip Secretary (Bevan Jones). Shelter is often provided by old stockmans huts, distributed widely throughout the Snowy Mountains, most of which have inviting open log fires. When such huts are not available tents are used (and should always be carried).

Initially, probably the most enticing aspect about Nordic skiing is the cost. Both hire charges and purchase prices are considerably lower than for alpine equipment and there's no need for lift tickets. This enables every student to be able to enjoy a cheap skiing holiday and escape escalating resort costs.

Considering giving it a go? Well, just contact any of the WUCO executive and keep an eye out for special beginner weekends advertised in the newsletters.

* * *
WAXING OR NON WAXING

CROSS COUNTRY SKIS

for HIRE or SALE

ADVICE AND PROFESSIONAL

FITTING READILY AVAILABLE

IF YOU'RE GOING ON A W.U.C.O.

SKI TOUR - SEE US FOR

YOUR GEAR

SKI AND SPORTS CENTRE

2 Atchison Street, - Opp. Waltons Ph. 287878

10% discount on most purchases
to Students - proof required.

*

SUE EDMONDSON SKI HIRE

The club has been fortunate in obtaining a 7% discount on all items purchased at Sue Edmondson's. This offer is only open to Outdoors' Club members. When making purchases just display your WUCO Membership receipt.

MONOLITH VALLEY AND THE CASTLE

WALKERS: Neil Adams - Leader
George Woods
Graeme Lanser
Nicola Ronan

MAPS: Corang (2": 1 mile - Lands Dept)
Budawangs Sketch Map (C.M.W.)

DATE: 3rd, 4th April 1976

This small but intrepid group took the most interesting route up to Monolith Valley. After an overnight camp at Yadbora Flat we drove to and paddled across Oaky Creek (which rises in the gully at the N.W. end of the castle). Then came the long slog up the ridge leading to the southern most point of Renwick's (Mt. Owen) lower plateau. This plateau is gained via a narrow scree filled gully (crevasse?) about two re-entrants to the west of the point. It can be recognised by the fingernail scratches in the rocks all the way up, and the smears of Adam's Blood at the top, where two tons of Ronan dislodged boulders were neatly dodged and held against a blessedly handy stump while Graeme and George scrambled to safety.

Thence up the top plateau via a wedge shaped cleft visible from the bottom ("impossible" they all said "you won't get me up there"). The only tricky bit was the jump up onto a sloping ledge with 400 ft of air below. Saturday night saw us ensconced under the stars beside the usual camp cave in Monolith Valley, but between us and the stars was thick cloud and thin rain. All agreed that the climb and the views en route were well worth it, and the fantastic sight of Monolith Valley as entered from the S.W. was ample compensation for lost skin and sweat.

Sunday saw a quick dash up to the visitors look on the Castle, and a leisurely stroll back down to Oaky Creek, where a couple of our male members, bathing in the bullocky, rather surprised the Yadbora riding school as it trooped through (and vice-versa). A good weekend - a pity there weren't more along to enjoy it.

Neil Adams

WOLLONDILLY RIVER AND BLUE BREAKS WALK

PEOPLE Al Barret
Ian Burns
John Graham
Bevan Jones
Rod Nilsen

MAPS Mittagong (1": 1 mile - Military)
Nattai (2": 1 mile - Lands Dept)
Burraborang "
Yerranderie "
Bindook "
Gundungura Sketch Map

DATE Thursday 20th, Friday 21st, Saturday 22nd, Sunday 23rd May

This was a demanding but very rewarding four day walk in the Southern Blue Mountains. The idea of having this walk arose from the Easter Trip (see previous newsletter) and the area covered was roughly adjacent to that of our Easter trip, with a small overlap.

Access to the start of this walk was by following the road to Wombeyan Caves from the Hume Highway until the bitumen ran out. Shortly after a right turn was taken through grazing land past Mount Wanganderry until the road stopped (about 4-5 miles from the main road). Anyone using this as a

WOLLONDILLY RIVER AND BLUE BREAKS WALK (Cont'd)

The following morning we got away to an early start and followed the Wanganderry fire trail down to the road. We walked along the road past Bonnum Pic and followed a ridge down to the Wollondilly River. We followed the river along to Jooriland Station and then took the road, stopping at Jooriland Creek, a pleasant lunching spot. Water Board vehicles seemed to be ubiquitous after lunch but we were unmolested and continued along the Sheepwalk to the first road Junction. Here we ascended a ridge and after coming down the other side reached, the Tonalli River, which provided a very good campsite.

The next morning we climbed to below the edge of Lacys Tableland and succeeded in passing through a double cliff line to the top. This was at Burragorang G.R. 312853. A rope here was useful for pack hauling. On the plateau the scrub was not too thick and we made good time in going past Lacys Gap to the extreme SW tip of Lacys Tableland. From here we descended to Bull Island Creek. A rope was used in the first part of the descent and although it may not have been absolutely essential, it was reassuring. We camped on Bull Island Creek at the site used on the previous trip.

The third day started with a climb to the top of Vengeance Peninsula (no major difficulties here) and walking along the top of Vengeance Peninsula to Bull Island and the Sentinel. There were magnificent views along here and the going is good except for the places where Vengeance Peninsula narrows in to an almost non-negotiable razor edge. From the Sentinel we journeyed to Gander Head and thence to Byrnes Gap. The difficult part of the day's journey was over but we had a long walk along the road through Yerranderie to Basin Creek, our final campsite.

On the final day we walked along the road to the Sheepwalk Drive and proceeded back along the route used on the final day. It is not easy to convey the many fine things about this trip - the ideal weather, the view of the mist filled Burragorang Valley on the second day, the dramatic shape of Vengeance Peninsula from Bull Island, the mountains silhouetted against the sky as we walked to Basin Creek, and the overcoming of difficulties encountered. This whole area is strongly recommended.

Rod Nillsen

ETTREMA GORGE

PARTY Rod Nillsen Leader
Jim Sligar
Phil Laird
Dave Whitelaw

MAPS Touga (2": 1 mile - Lands Dept)

DATE 12th, 13th June 1976

LOCATION

Proceed through Nowra and take the Braidwood Road going past Sassafras. Shorty before Bulee Gap take a right hand turn northwards (marked by a tin on a pole). Along this road after some kilometres there is a left hand turn to Touga. We took the right hand turn and started walking 1½ kilometres beyond this point.

ROUTE

We proceeded in an easterly direction over about a mile of gently sloping terrain and medium density scrub to Churinga Head where excellent views were to be had of Ettrema Creek over 1000 ft below, and the surrounding escarpments.

ETTREMA GORGE (Cont'd)

We descended Myall Ridge to Myall Creek. Here progress was halted by a deep pool flanked by cliffs. We returned to the foot of Myall Ridge where, on one side of a saddle we would see Myall Creek about 50ft below and on the other side Ettrema Creek about 200 ft below. From here we climbed down to the Northern end of Sentry Box Canyon on Ettrema Creek.

We proceeded to walk and wade along the creek towards Transportation Spur further north. Progress was good until Thompson's Cliff 5 km down was reached. Here we were forced to a halt, blocked by a 50 metre long, over head deep pool of very cold water. As we were unable to pass without incurring much effort/or discomfort we camped nearby instead. Gastronomic delights that night included not one but two cheesecakes. In the morning we retraced our route back to the landslide and then climbed straight up to Naked Pass, a grade of almost 1 to 1 and 1200 ft vertical height. There were more fine panoramic views here. We proceeded N.N.W. then West to Quiera Clearing (detouring around Myall Creek), where we met the road 2½ km's from the cars. Between Naked Pass and Quiera Clearing there were a number of plants in flower, Banksia Encjfolia being particularly profuse and colourful.

This trip introduced us all to some rewarding and apparently seldom visited territory. The Ettrema areas is recommended for future activities. Horizontal distance covered was about 13 kms.

'GONG UNI RACING TEAM

The C.U.R.T. executive has ordained that a selection committee be used to decide eligibility to the team and that intending people or peoples be required to meet the following requirements.

1. Be able to master the standard Whites River Ski Jump to the satisfaction of the selection committee.
2. Be conversant with the theoretical and practical difficulties and simplicities of construction of the modern day igloo.
3. Be able to prepare a dessert that the selection committee feels is of considerable gastronomic merit.
4. Be able to name whom they consider to be the top two Australian Nordic Skiers. The decision of the two members of the selection committee will be final and no correspondence will be entered into.
5. Be able to accomplish one of the following events to the satisfaction of the selection committee:-
 - (a) A prepared 100 yd course in the "three legged" style (suggested for two entrants).
 - (b) A prepared 50 yd course in a snow-gummed down hill section in the "three legged" style.
 - * (c) LIFE MEMBERSHIP - The Standard Whites River Ski Jump "three legged style".

6. Satisfy the selection committee that they can successfully set up and maintain first and second order Bessel functions in a standard 3 pint tea billy and moreover accomplish a successful brew.

NOTES

1. The selection committee will consist of all executive members of G.U.R.T.

2. The executive committee will consist of all persons occupying the following positions:-

President	Social Director
Vice-President	Tour Director
Treasurer	Daddy Racer
Secretary	No. 2 Racer
Official Timer	Logistics Officer
Race Co-ordinator	Team Wax Manager

3. All the above positions will be divided between life members of G.U.R.T.

4. All life members will consist of the following persons by order of the executive -

- (a) Ian Burns
- (b) John Graham

---oOo---