



The Epic

*Newsletter of the ANU
Mountaineering Club*

Autumn 2005

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Tips for the budding photographer

Complete our telling survey to see what sort of climber you are!!

THE EPIC

The EPIC is the quarterly newsletter of the ANU Mountaineering Club.

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All contributions, including photos and artwork, are eagerly accepted. Photos at 300psi resolution via email are preferred, prints accepted. All care/no responsibility is taken.

Try to limit articles to 600 words. Articles submitted may be edited for length and style.

Note: *If you're printing the EPIC from the website, make sure you print as an 'image' to avoid any formatting problems with your print-out.*

Club Membership:

\$15/year students

\$20/year non-students (plus SRA Membership Fees - Approx. \$120 for non-students)

Front Cover Photo: Sunrise over Kosciuszko National Park. Photo: Bronwen Davies

Editor's Blurb

Well, Autumn in Canberra this year has been incredibly dry, but that hasn't stopped people getting out and about and enjoying the Club's activities.

This season has been incredibly successful for the Club, with lots of canyoning, climbing, kayaking and bushwalking trips happening. The highlight being the Blueys Extravaganza.

Despite the unseasonably warm weather, we're still hoping for some snow soon, so get your name down for a beginner's ski trip and prepare yourselves for other winter activities like snow-shoeing and ice-climbing!

So, get out there and get active! Enjoy!

Pat, Bron and Andrew



Sam Margerison's new fashion statement - who needs a beanie!! Photo: Bronwen Davies

President's report by Annabel Battersby

Hi to all our new members and returning members,

We've had a great start to the year with some successful large trips - the Huge Days Out at Jervis Bay and the Blue Mountains Extravaganza Weekend at Mt Wilson. I would like to give a huge thank you to Samantha Keech-Marx and Samuel Beckman for organising these events. These events were again the largest ever held (with 75 people attending the Huge Days Out!) and it was a major logistical effort to carry off. It's great that everything went smoothly, and so many new members have been introduced to Club activities and other people in the Club. I warmly welcome all new members and I hope you have a great year with the Club.

I'm very pleased to see that rock climbing is developing very well this year, with lots of trips and a strong group of climbers. On a related topic, the ANU Mountaineering Club will soon begin a fundraising campaign at our monthly slide nights for a local climbing cause. The Canberra Climbers Association is currently doing re-bolting activities in Namadgi (Booroomba Rocks especially) and the Club has decided to support this financially through fundraising and a Club donation. We will be having a special guest at our slide night in August (Wednesday, 3rd August) and this will be a big event to raise money for this cause. Keep your eyes on the Fridge Door to see what is happening with upcoming slide nights and this fundraising effort!

In a week or so we will also know the outcome of the Grant Application submitted to the ANU Sports and Recreation Association in March. We will hopefully have funding for more equipment purchases, the Women In Sport program and subsidising competition entry fees. This year the Women in Sport program is expanding into White Water activities - with a kayaking skills training component. Look out

for upcoming notices of the program on the email list.

Other news has been the issue of Voluntary Student Unionism - the Club is going to review our expenses and costs and we will be holding a 'workshop' to determine how the Club can continue to function, should our funding from the GSF fees and Sports and Recreation Association be severely reduced if VSU is introduced. One potential problem is the Climbing Wall, which is currently heavily subsidised by GSF fees. I will be asking interested members of the Club to attend the workshop to have discussions about these issues in late June/early July, but we expect this to be an ongoing topic for the rest of the year within the Club.

Now that the weather is chillier I hope you are all consoling yourselves with the thought of winter sports - soon we can go to the Snowy Mountains for days of cross-country and telemark skiing, ice climbing and snow-shoeing. Check out the Fridge Door for upcoming trips and enjoy the snow!



Top-roping action at Arapiles. Photo: Betsey Adams

Tumut Cruise by Sam Beckman

Dave, Rhonda, Brian, Dom, Leah, Matt H, Troy, Catherine B and I headed over the hills and far away to see what rivers we could find on a pleasant day in mid-February. We drove out through the Brindabellas past stands of furry eucalypts recovering after the 2003 fires. First stop was a look at the Goodradigbee, looking more like a tame farm stream than the challenging white water it's reputed to be. Then it was off to put in below Blowering Dam



Cruising down the Tumut River. Photo: Dave Boland

on the Tumut River. Water was being released for irrigation so it was full and fast flowing, and provided some good practice for a few beginners in the group. We floated through beautiful countryside, with peaceful fields filled with cows and fruit orchards on the flats surrounded by bush-covered hills. Juicy looking nectarines were growing close to the banks, and it was tempting to nab a few but no-one ended up making the effort of actually getting out of their boat and climbing up!

After a pleasant break on the grassy inside of a bend we continued downstream, a few of us stopping to play on a little wave that had formed in front of some threatening looking blackberries. We took out at a bridge and picnic area where we changed into dry gear and soaked up some more sun. After the cars were shuttled back down we loaded up the boats and moseyed back home via Gundagai. All in all, a very pleasant day in some peaceful and very Australian surrounds.

Whungee Wheengee by Betsey Adams

Whungee Wheengee was my first canyon. One of the early clues might have been my attempt to put a borrowed wet suit on backwards and inside out. After this was kindly pointed out to me (at least before the photographer noticed...) it was off for our descent into the canyon.

The canyon is very aptly named - the first half of the trip was WHEENGHEE!!! It had two glowworm caves, a sump, some fun narrow passages, a water slide, abseils through water, and more. The second half of the trip was a bit on the *whingey* side though, as we had to swim up the Wollongambe forever (ok, about an hour - but it felt like forever).

The poor trip leaders had to deal with a handful of very big whiney kids on a repetitive track of "Are we there yet?" Everyone was quite relieved when we made it to the exit. Poor Garth then had to confront the fact that his "dry" bag was filled with water. All in all, it was a wonderful experience - especially as a first - a beautiful canyon, good company, and plenty of moosing.



Canyoning in Bowen Creek, Blue Mtns. Photo: Bronwen Davies



Arapiles in Autumn by Betsey Adams

Amazing!!! How else to describe Arapiles? After all, it's only the best place on Earth (at least, if you like to climb trad). Like all good climbers (I mean uni students....) term break means only one thing - Arapiles. You're never there long enough, but any time at all is better than none. This Arapiles adventure consisted of eight people - four who were hardcore enough to come down for five days (*dirty jobs!*).

The first half of the week was a bit less intense as only half the group was there. With fewer people around to mitigate the annoyance, Clancy-rage reached new levels. When death threats were not being entertained, some climbing was accomplished - including Clancy falling off and piking on Los Endos (22). For the rest of us, most of the climbing consisted of long easy classics - some very relaxing climbing. Well, except for watching the carabiner drop from the chimney of the last

pitch of Lamplighter (14).....

The party started on Wednesday with the arrival of the MOOSE and some STUPID FRENCH!!!! It was off to town for dinner as it was Katie's birthday - there's no better place for a birthday than Arapiles. The fine birthday tradition continued and Katie received an awesome orange helmet for her birthday. After the birthday dinner, Andrew and Betsey discovered that grocery shopping while slightly intoxicated led to interesting results the next day with the exciting discovery that forest fruits (all red!) lollies had been purchased in vast quantities the night before.

Climbing in the second half of the week was a good mix of group top-roping and multipitch climbing. We had a group party at Central Gully Left after a trip to the Mountain Shop to retrieve Katie's birthday helmet. Tanya went up her first multipitch, Siren (9), skilfully led by Betsey- yea! Katie climbed 'I'm a little dinosaur' (18), fulling earning her rights to the name K-Rex. Andrew and Katie found their way up Missing Link (17). Tim, Tanya, Pierre, and Lily were all introduced to Agamemnon (10) - bridge above the void! Katie defended her title of "Greatest Roof Climber in the World!" by successfully climbing Resignation (15). Arapiles being the perfect place for it, both Pierre and Lily had their first trad leads - Pierre on Tiptoe Ridge (5) and Lily on Hammer (3).

A bit of bouldering occurred on the side (shhh... don't tell climbing we were cheating on her). Tanya attempted the hands-free problem and while spotting her Betsey suffered from a thirty-second memory blank (at which time Tanya may or may not have used a crimp). Betsey managed to avoid piking on the highball boulder problem and actually send it. The mantle problem stumped Tanya like so many others. Of course no Arapiles trip is complete without a trip to the squeeze traverse boulder for an initiation. This trip was particularly fun as we hooked up with Hugh and some random Pommies to go to the boulder. Tanya, Katie, and Lily were all properly initiated to Arapiles



and managed to complete the squeeze. Andrew and Pierre, however, both piked after partially inserting themselves. Betsey and Clancy had repeat performances of the squeeze, while Tim cited success on earlier trips and disdained to repeat himself. On the last night, just to get that last hit of rock in; Tim, Tanya, Betsey, and Clancy headed to the cave boulder - the funkiest boulder problem in the world. Tanya invented a new boulder problem and named it "The Rutting Moose", graded conservatively at Arapiles 6.

On Friday night, Betsey, Andrew, Lily, Katie and Pierre drove into The Sham to attend the "One Perfect Fest" music festival which featured Spiderbait and The Spazzy's. Betsey won a last-moose-standing contest in the bouncy castle. The quote from the evening was (in the most intense and hoarse voice possible) "As long as you are alive, and as long as we are alive, rock and roll will never die!" from the lead singer for Airbourne. Andrew started a trend of availing one's self of legal drugs - coffee! - and the night was full of fun throughout.

There was another visitor to Arapiles - Stucky. Stucky is a fluffly horsehead on a stick who leapt to the defence of the poor and innocent throughout the trip. In addition, it was discovered that Tanya is a treacherous

Kiwi. She made the remarkable discovery that, indeed, New Zealanders have an accent. The most memorable moment would be when a perfectly innocent Kiwi came over to camp to inquire into whether somebody had found a nut that he had lost on "the last putch of the climb," and, much to his dismay, Tanya commenced to roll around on the ground laughing. That wasn't the only ground-rolling laughter moment of the trip. During the first half of the week a Betsey-ism had Clancy almost on the ground (it was rocky) and Andrew laughed off a boulder. Standing on top of a boulder with *huge* ledges for the feet, Betsey managed to slip (but catch herself) right as she got to "There may be people who can climb it, but I'm not...."

Despite how the trip report may seem, a fair bit of climbing was actually accomplished while at Arapiles. The authors simply feel that a listing of climbs ticked and the manner of the tick (red point, pink point, brown-with-purple-stripes point, etc.) is not nearly as interesting as stories about us embarrassing ourselves.

A message from Pierre:

Ben c'est pas mal du tout Arapiles, ce f'ot une semaine pleine d'Émotions, de challenges, de d'Écouvertes, d'amitiÉ (hou c'est beau ce je dis, je sens que je vais faire pleurer Maurice).

Par contre je ne suis pas arrivÉ † sao°ler Betsey (stupid AMERICAN), ce qui sera surement la d'Éception de mon s'Éjour ici :)

En tout les cas je vous remerciÉ tous pour le fabuleux semestre que j'ai passÉ en Australie gr,ce † l'ANUMC et tout ces membres accueillants, sympathiques. Ne changez rien, tout est parfait, awesome.

A day at Penrith by Sam Beckman

Sam Beckman. Photo: Dave Boland



There were 7 takers for a trip to the world-class Penrith white water stadium a few weeks ago. There were probably about that many methods for dealing with the early morning start. Andrew C definitely took out the prize for the weirdest with his hot chips soaked in coffee eating stunt.

After finally navigating our way through the mayhem of roads that is the western fringe of Sydney, we pulled in to the stadium, unloaded all the gear, signed our life away on the indemnity forms, and jumped into the kayaks to burn round the man-made grade 3 course. The pace was fast to begin with, with all of us (relatively) fresh. The course was hectic with many other boaters out, including groups of rafts, some impressive elderly kayakers who belied their age once they took charge of the rapids, and an equally impressive hoard of young kids ripping the place apart with their snazzy play boats and solid Eskimo rolls.

Despite their initial reservations, Andrew B, Dave, Nathan and Terry charged the course. Andrew C looked comfortable as always, and Andre perhaps clocked up the most surfing time of us all. The odd swim didn't seem to put anyone off, and everyone showed impressive rolling in the moving water. Those pool sessions showed some good results. After boasting early on that I certainly didn't plan to swim, at one stage I caught an edge, tipped and said hello to some of the plastic rocks, and in my fatigue took the lazy option out and swam the boat into a nearby eddy. Though he was filming when I capsized, fortunately Terry didn't capture the swimming bit!

Nevertheless, it was a sign that the day was drawing to a close. Constant paddling for hours on end with only a brief lunch break in between tired us out quite thoroughly! It was a great day, with plenty of rapid running, eddy hopping, boat swapping, surfing, rolling, and encouragement. Though we were all knackered by the end, it was also a very satisfying feeling. Penrith may well be seeing the likes of Andre, Andrew B, Andrew C, Dave, Nathan, Terry and myself again in the not too distant future.



Nathan West. Photo: Dave Boland

Byangee Mountain Bushwalk

by Sam Margerison

This is a walk that I hadn't done for a few years, so I decided it was time to revisit an old favourite bushwalking destination of mine. Byangee is a spectacular sandstone outcrop in the Budawangs, located between the Castle and Pigeon House Mountain, and looking a bit like a crocodile when viewed from above. The date was set for early April to aim for a balance between having a reasonable amount of daylight without having to struggle up steep tracks in summer temperatures more appropriate to malaria patients than weather.

Asha, Kate and Annie, Florian, Cheryl, Angelina, Ian, Mike and Leo. Photo: Sam Margerison



A cast of 11 people was assembled from those insane enough to brave the 6 am departure time to allow enough daylight to complete the walk. To sweeten the deal, a stop was made at the Braidwood bakery for first or second breakfast and compulsory caffeine shots for the drivers and anyone else needing to wake up. Arrival at the Long Gully campsite was greeted by numerous leeches, who proceeded to latch onto Ian and Annie (a.k.a, the Energizer Bunny), fortunately only to clothing. Once the passengers were removed, the walk began with a crossing of the Yadboro river using a handy fallen log, which gave Mika an opportunity for photos of formation bridge

crossing. Conversation levels dropped rapidly as the track steepened while we slogged up to the base of the Castle. The shade of the spectacular cliffs and a couple of mini-waterfalls gave us the chance to cool off a bit as we edged round to Castle Gap back into the sun. Despite it being early April, Leo's thermometer confirmed that the temperature was in the low thirties.

The next tricky bit is finding the right place to climb up onto the summit itself. A rock spire at the side of the track was usefully pointed out by the guidebook as a sign you've gone slightly too far along the edge of Byangee. With a short backtrack, the correct cairn was located, and the exciting part of the walk began with a squeeze through two narrow rock chutes.

Once the party had emerged like wombats from the second chute, we were rewarded with a relatively easy stroll up to the plateau. It was time for a well-earned gourmet lunch while admiring views of the Castle, Clyde river, Shrouded Gods Mountain and of course Pigeon House. After lunch Mika opted to expand his photo collection, while the rest of the party did a short side trip along the scrub-covered top to the summit for the obligatory photos, and more awesome views. The Energizer Bunny was all for continuing a few k's further to Pickering Point at the eastern end of Byangee, but was outvoted by those not keen to walk in the dark.

Returning via the same route, we reached the carpark in good time, and those with high levels of antifreeze in their blood opted to cool off in the river. Mika's car was chosen to lead the convoy back along the dirt road to the highway, being judged most likely to scare off the roos. Back in Braidwood, we replenished our depleted energy levels at another favourite ANUMC eatery, the Braidwood Pizzeria, before the final drive home.

Once again, a great walk with a great group of people!

How much of a Sportoclimbus Wankeii are you?

by Ben Davies

Do you hang out at the meat packing cool room trying to convince workers of the wonderful benefits (and chick-pulling powers) of down puffer jackets? Only know the figure-eight OR double bowline knot? Tape your fingers to carry the shopping bags to your subaru outback parked in the carpark? Complain that the cafe latte is burning your sensitive finger tips? Hang a quickdraw above your workstation to practice clipping while at work?

Ask weekly at the local outdoors shop when your North Face underpants and Prana sweatbands are coming in? Would you consider batting for the other team if you found out Chris Sharma was available? Carry a chalk bag and brush around and draw tick marks under door handles? Believe that "run-outs" only happen in Cricket?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, rate yourself on the following scale:
a = 0 points, b = 1 point, c = 2 points

Do you climb trad?

- a) Is there anything else?
- b) I climb both sport and trad
- c) What's trad climbing?

What is your fave route style?

- a) Vegetated cracks are the cutting edge mate!
- b) Anything on clean, solid rock
- c) If it's not overhung, its not worth it...

How big is your rack?

- a) Massive, weighs 2 tons with a full set of hexes
- b) A selection of nuts, cams, and draws
- c) Only small, funky, lightweight and colour coded draws

Your rope:

- a) Hemp is the only rope
- b) A nice 10.5mm
- c) 8.9mm, 60m and trashed beyond belief

Bolts:

- a) None. If it needs fixed gear, bash in a single manky pin
- b) Only to keep you off the deck if there is no trad gear.
- c) Every half metre (thus avoiding needing to take a stick to dog your way to the top)

Carrot bolts:

- a) Evil things.
- b) If they're there, I'll use them.
- c) Something mum tries to feed me after a sesh with the bros on the latest ultra-sick project.

Campfire talk is

- a) Full of stories of the good old days!
- b) Anything goes
- c) "So I sez, gaston the flake and dyno for the mono..."

Shoes

- a) Big ankle high boots
- b) Pleasantly snug laceups
- c) Slippers/velcros 3 sizes below street shoes

Favorite climbing attire:

- a) Woollen vest and long sleeved shirt
- b) Whatever fits the climate
- c) Prana shorts and a beanie (in all weather)

Favorite belaying attire:

- a) Woollen vest and long sleeved shirt
- b) Whatever fits the climate
- c) Massive puffy 'North Face' down jacket

A beanie is:

- a) No substitute for a big beard
- b) For cooler weather
- c) Permanently stuck on my head

When should you climb shirtless? (sports bra for the ladies):

- a) Never
- b) Only if its stinking hot
- c) Always (gotta show off my pecs/tats/nipple peircing man!)

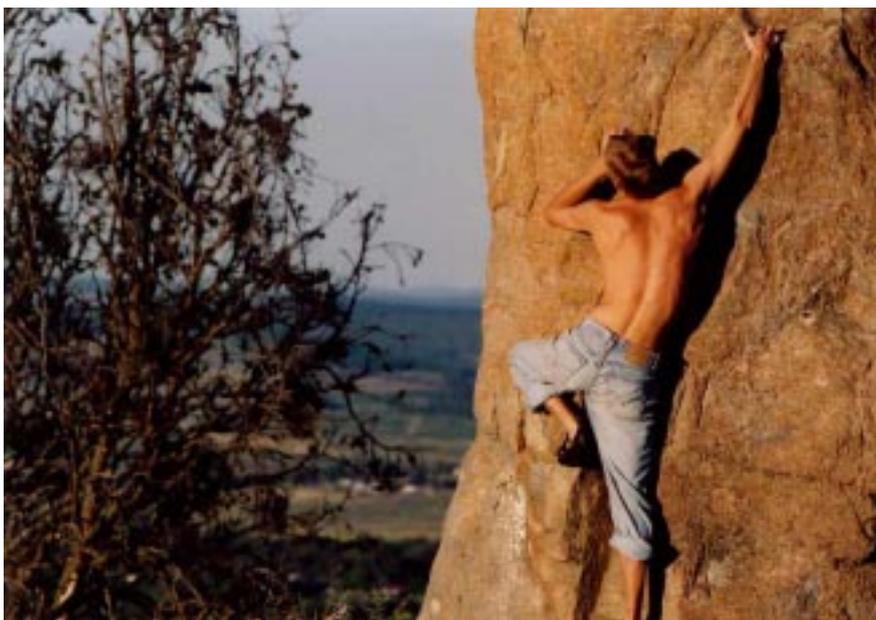
Score

0 - 5: Bah, hang your head in shame trad climber! You're going to have to try a lot harder if you aspire to being a sportoclimbus wankeii.

6 - 14: You occupy the grey zone between a trad and sport climber. Some more shirtlessness and beanies will improve your score.

15 - 23: Definitely a sport climber, but yet to reach the elusive pinnacle. Resist all urges to fall back towards the dark (trad) side.

24: You are the ultimate sportoclimbus wankeii specimen. Say no more!



Note from Editors: Hmmmmmm, shirt off, no gear... Looks like a fine specimen of the Sportoclimbus Wankeii!!! All that's missing is the beanie!! Wonder who it is? ;0)

Bungleboori Canyoning by Penny Baker

On the last weekend of last term I got to go on my first canyoning trip to the Bungleboori canyon near Lithgow. Under the inspired leadership of John and with a bunch of other fine mountaineering folk, we set off on the Friday night, met up in Lithgow and arrived late at night at the top of the walking track where we spent the night under a brilliant full moon. Setting off early in the morning it didn't take us long to get to the start of the Hole in the Wall Canyon where we donned wetsuits and the excitement began.

We did several abseils and jumps and swam (well doggy paddled for some) through caves where it got about as narrow as shoulder width and took a bit of wedging to get through with bags etc. At other parts the canyon widened enough for bright yellow sunlight to stream in and remind everyone there to see it why they like canyoning so much.

We arrived at the junction where the Hole in the Wall canyon becomes literally a hole in the wall of the grander Bungleboori canyon, and spent the afternoon wading down the river until we came to one of the welcome sandy beaches where to ponder what next.

As the day was already getting on we headed up out of the canyon towards the plateau where we would camp that night. Those still bubbling with energy (John, Vaughn and Damien) set off again to explore while the rest of us made it as far as the little creek down the slope where we discussed most philosophically that the water did indeed have a funny sort of soapy taste to it. Later that

night we returned to our camp on the mountaintop and watched a magnificent 360 degree sunset. Then there was dinner, campfire, much merriment and a little port. And I would say most of us have fond memories of some excellent chocolatey stuff John cooked for us.

The following day we did the Banks canyon to where it joined the Bungleboori again and we arrived back at the Hole in the Wall from the other direction. The scenery was equally spectacular on the second day, with several more exciting abseils (which everyone else expertly bounded down, and I equally enthusiastically inched down), down through mossy waterfalls and into cool river water.

Then there were some lovely tropical looking ferny pools and waterfalls ideal for shampoo ads, but slightly less lovely after simulation of said shampoo ad. After this there was another long paddle down the river, with momentary pauses to enjoy some welcome patches of sunlight, until we finally crawled out thoroughly exhausted and a wee bit chilly onto a sandy shore, and prepared to struggle manfully back up the track to the cars. I don't know how everyone else fared but on the way home I was dead tired and fell asleep the instant I crawled into bed at home that night. But it was the most fun I've had in ages, and I hope when the weather warms up again there'll be lots more canyoning trips!

Memorable moments:

1. Trying to make head or tail of a slightly ethereal photo of Jim hovering upside down over a sun dappled stream. (Well he was jumping in see...)
2. Sophie and Jessica's brilliant rendition of the Charleston Shuffle(?) complete with oversize and sodden packs adding life and unique rhythm to the performance
3. Sharing a narrow part of the canyon with a non-too-pleased waterborne tigersnake
4. Pierre's funny French antics and evil expressions for the camera
5. Glow worms!!
6. Sterling demonstrations of the qualities admired in our nation's defence forces (was he

in the army?) on the part of Damien.

7. The adventures of Tucki's poor camera, which was luckily under warranty due to the infallible watertight gear it was protected by (the little plastic bags)

8. Vaughan and John's expert handling of abseiling concerns, and many thanks to John for leading a really fun trip through one of the most beautiful places in the Blue Mountains

The Colo Chronicles by John McGrath

The following is about the love of the land, accepting her as she is, and embracing a developing intimacy.



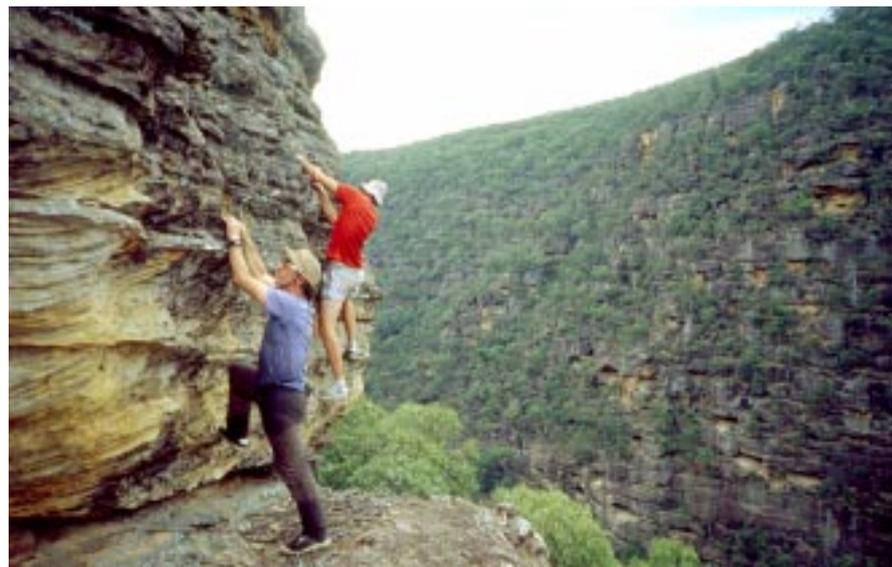
The Colo downstream from Woolshed. Photo: John McGrath

Where it's steep and deep lies a river like no other. Serene on a sunny day, one wades it knee deep through sandy beds seeking out the

shade of a river oak. However, should the heavens rumble though, the Colo can engorge a full 10m up the Wollemi cliff walls. Humbling proof resides in logs decorating the roofs of overhangs, lest we ever forget that nature is dynamic.

I have been to the Colo three times now, driven by an insatiable desire to explore the biggest wilderness area in NSW, that also happens to dissect the Wollemi. After all, why not? Pre-

I hope the friends that I take there are similarly affected by the humbling nature of this land. Admittedly that can appear hard when battling up a scrambling ridge in 35°C heat. Not two weeks ago even I felt nauseous due to heat, direct sun and dehydration as we toiled three-quarters of the way up a pass. Three strong men abandoned more ambitious plans and instead opted for puddlemania, an escape off the ridge to the nearest creek in a semi-desperate search for soul restoring water.



Chris & Jack's lunch break antics. Photo: John McGrath

history remnant trees and aboriginal art sites are still being found there and it's not even 100km from Australia's biggest city! Canyons remain untrodden by human feet. What else lies there? What canyons, trees, art, rock forms, bird displays await around the next bend? Am I good enough, determined enough to challenge the puzzling difficulty of this playground? The (Wollemi) Colo Wilderness appears timeless, my/our own existence inconsequential in comparison. How paradoxical I should devote so much of my time to seeing what lies over the next ridge.

In my opinion, one of the key attractions of the Colo lies in its timeless splendour. But interlinked in its history are attempts at its exploitation. The most outrageous was the secret proposal to dam it at Boorai Ck. A chance discovery by bushwalkers and much lobbying thwarted the plan and led to the Wollemi Wilderness enactment. And so my favourite playground was born in white eyes.

As we abseiled into a tributary the predicted thunderstorm hit and it was pure joy abseiling in drenching rain. Sometimes it just feels so right, so good to be alive... Drained by heat and constant rock scrambling we set up camp in an overhang and cooked jaffles right on dark. It stormed 2m away from our sleeping bags, as we shut our senses to the sound and light show provided by thunder and the luciferase activity of glow-worms. Needless to say, we slept

well and long.

The idea for that trip came from some barefoot reconnaissance up Colo tributaries on a two night lilo trip last Christmas. That time we slept on sandy beaches, and waded, swam, walked and ran the rapids from Wollemi Ck to Boorai Ck. From Crawford's Lookout we were faced with a formidable and unnerving obstruction - the precipitous gorge and characteristic broken cliffs as far as the eye was allowed to see. Careful searching located a steep but safe pass and before long we relished in tranquil waters. No other problems presented themselves in two days, only an unwillingness to leave as the Colo had treated us like Kings and Queens.

The first venture to the Colo though was a torid-type affair. It was certainly an eye opener to the otherworldliness of this wilderness though. It was pretty much the only time in my experience that a walk described as "Hard" in a guidebook proved to be.

Immediately we were alone in unknown country as we drove in on the Friday night.

We ended up stopping driving at 1am after a couple of hours of sawing away fallen trees every 100m along the firetrack. It took us until nearly midday the next day to locate ourselves on the map as the road we had driven on was not on the 1:25000 sheet! A bush lashing ensued in the scrub as we toiled onto the planned firetrack. Then much careful route finding was required to descend through steep mineral natural defences and thence to sign the Clews Cave logbook. Our efforts were rewarded, celebrating Alex's birthday on a nothing short of supreme Colo beach camp, cliffs towering above.

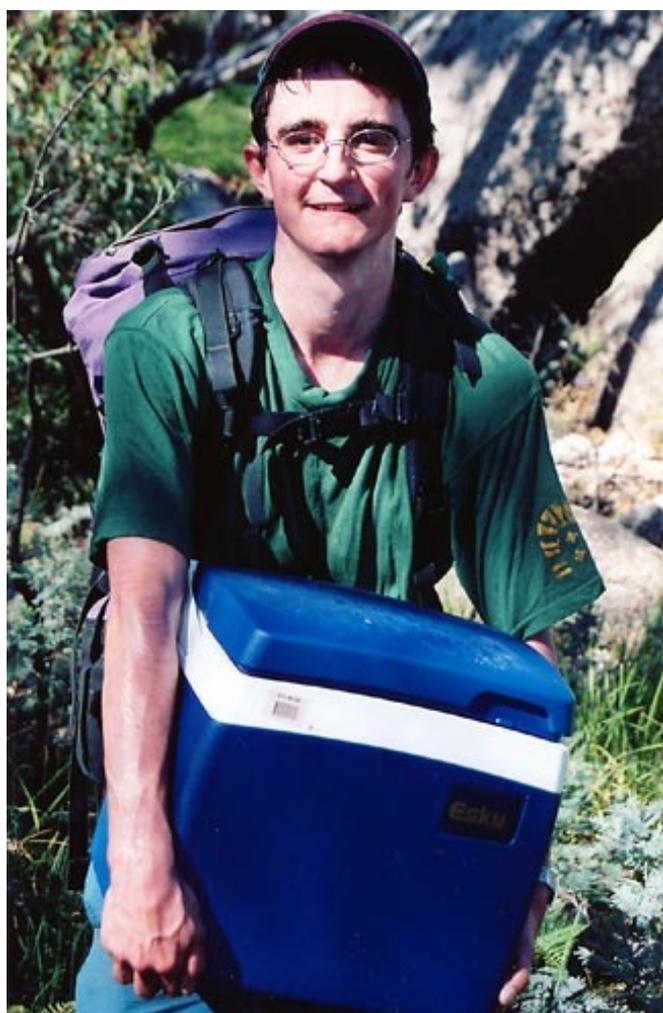
We swam and played our way down pools and rapids, but not so easily as two lilos died in the process and we resorted to the very physical task of pushing waterlogged packs down through rocks. We were exhausted by the time we got to our exit! Again slow progress restrained us as we scrambled up a high waterfall and then up through small clifflines and scratchy bush, eventually navigating through thick bush well after dark to the assumed secret location of our cars. Was it really worth it you might think? I am forced to ask back have you ever reaped the rewards with little effort? All participants of that trip felt elated that they had been privy to such an experience. The Colo had touched them... and fair worn them out too!

To walk the Colo is certainly to shed a tear. A tear of wonderment, a tear of angst, a tear of exhaustion, a tear of frustration for having to go home. Everyday I keep an imprint of the 300m abyss and its arrangement of millions of boulders and cliffs weathered shades of red, orange and grey. It may appear surprising that travelling the rough country of the Colo Wilderness ends up giving energy, not taking it. But that is the secret. I encourage you to seek out that kind of feeling of unity in your own Colo Wilderness.

The Battle for the Cloisters by Ben Davies

Our exalted climbing officer Oliver probably knew what he was getting himself in for when a mere 22 people signed up for his Orroral granite climbing trip. Not a normal group size by any means! Come Sunday morning, and for those of us meeting at Sam's house, things went like clockwork. Everyone arrived within 30 seconds of each other, executing a fine demonstration of well choreographed synchronised parking. From there it was off to the Cloisters...

Later as we zipped up the dirt road to the Orroral Ridge carpark, we passed a group of small, hunched people bearing the weight of



A determined Sam carries the refreshments for the day. Photo: Ben Davies

very large packs. As we cruised past, their heads turned, revealing sweaty beetroot-red faces, mouths agape, their eyes wide and pleading at us for salvation. In a matter of seconds we'd left them in a cloud of dust. Up top, club cars began arriving and spewing forth more and more fresh faced climbers. Mucking about, pisstaking, and dodgy humour has been proliferating within the club, and this continued unabated in the carpark whilst waiting for the last cars.

Clancy's recent 'modelling' work featuring in at least one discussion. The outward bounders staggered into the carpark in a huge cloud of flies. Their packs were unceremoniously dumped, and they collapsed onto the ground in pools of sweat. Finally the last club car turned up, and we debated splitting up our group between the Cloisters and Tower Rocks. For a while, it appeared that the 'Battle for the Cloisters' (thanks Tim) would be on between Outward Bound and the ANUMC. As it happened, they were off to Tower Rocks and we stuck with the original plan of the Cloisters (thus negating the need to beat back the hordes with a #11 hex). Our massive posse headed down the road to the tune of the rack symphony - clanking hexes and jingling nuts.

Sam apparently followed the style of ye olde Pommy expeditions of the 1900s, figuring that a grand old day out should be accompanied by copious quantities of good food and beverages (after all, expeditions should be fun!). This he combined with the full swing of Ozness, bringing a fully laden esky along. Later he was seen sweating his way through shrubbery on the way to the crag.

At least one other 'porter' was seen carrying it, perhaps in order to get some goodies from it later on. Crafty! At some stage we got to the crag and spread out, slinging topropes down slab and crack routes. A couple of us went down to Astral Wall, eventually finding

it after a battle through shrubbery and piles of rocks (read: the Granite Guide Cloisters map is not to scale!). Topropes were set up for two grade 15 cracks, and self declared sport climbers and newbies hurled themselves at them. The idea of hand and foot jamming didn't appeal to some, so some dicey laybacking and smearing had to suffice.

A few got into the art of jamming and hauled themselves up the lines, arriving at the top to discover an awesome vista of the Orroral Valley and hillsides dotted with granite boulders. Truc was first up on Silk Degrees, a fine hand crack. As a self declared 'sport climber' some grunting and puffing was heard on the ascent along with some muttering of "I'll never listen to Clancy or Ben again". She reached the top and we had a bit of a laugh. Then the rest of the crew threw themselves at the line. Those going last discovered the delights of grease and sweat left in the crack from previous ascensionists...



Ahhhhh.... That tastes good!!! Oliver. Photo: Ben Davies
And NO! We're not sponsored by Bundaberg Ginger Beer!

Tuross Coast Trip by Garrick Larkin & Lisa Bambic

We made it back to the packs and the moment came when Sam opened his esky. Cool white fog spilled forth. Cold bottles of ginger beer were passed about and they certainly hit the spot! Sam then proceeded to indulge, delighting his taste buds with pate and other delicacies. At this stage, amusing discussions sprang forth, one liners from Nicola and humour. This included some new climbers finding the word "rack" funny, as well as those things people tell you when climbing which sound really wrong, but aren't (ask a climber for more details).

The hours of the afternoon were spent teaching the art of gear placement, knots, and setting up anchors. Clancy headed off to the Belfry and had some pants filling issues while soloing (and escaping from) an easy chimney in walking boots. Eventually we headed back, thrashing through shrubbery and quoting Monty Python.

Upon returning to the carpark, the amusement continued, someone from the Commie Climbers Collective had dragged his trusty Lada up the hill, attractively decorated with large red stars on the doors and unintelligible Cyrillic text. Some pommy guy had parked his hired van near the Lada and left the lights on. As we left, there was a twinge of pity for the poor guy, pushing a van down the hill in darkness is not exactly fun...

The Tuross Coast Trip is the ANU Sailing Club equivalent of Huge Days Out and since last year has been combined with the Mountaineering Club. The combination of sailing boats, windsurfers, kayaks and a surf beach makes for an awesome weekend of water related fun!

The plan for the weekend is to hang out in a caravan park beside the ocean, have a party each night and of course enjoy the water sports. This semesters trip on the first weekend of the uni holidays (8-10 April) attracted 45 participants from both clubs including a growing category of 'Mountaineering Sailors' who aren't satisfied with joining just one SRA club.

Upon arriving on Friday night there was already a heap of tents and a rowdy crowd around an esky making it obvious that those who came down Friday lunchtime were well and truly into the swing of things! Once everybody settled in and set up their tents it was off to the beach for a beach party. John Warren procured wood from somewhere and soon there was a bonfire. While there were a few

complaints that the wood was from an old fence and may have been treated most people were happy with the warmth provided! The night had one other notable incident when several people who shall remain nameless were caught naked and drunk in the caravan park swimming pool at 2am. While very funny they had the misfortune of being caught by the park manager who had been



Saturday night BBQ at Tuross. Photo: Garrick Larkin

woken by their drunken frivolity. Given that we have never made any commotion in the park before (the beach is a different story) the group was quickly forgiven when we apologised in the morning.

On Saturday morning most people slept in and spent the morning hanging out on the beach. The strong rip on the surf beach acted like a magnet for exchange students. Thanks to Nathan West and David Fisher (who should consider a career in surf lifesaving) the only consequence was a practical lesson on the dangers of Australian beaches. After the morning at the beach most people spent the afternoon with some lazy sailing down by the lake enjoying the warm weather and excellent wind.

On Saturday night there was the traditional BBQ dinner followed by another beach party with more fence palings on the fire. For some unknown reason nobody wanted to drink the cask spirits (yes you can get spirits in a cask). Something (probably alcohol) inspired a few members to go midnight skinny dipping in the ocean. Overall it was a good night with most people staying up late to enjoy the fire and the warm night on the beach.

The highlight of Sunday was the surf kayaking organised by Andrew Collins. The surf was very unpredictable and I doubt there was a single beginner who didn't go for a swim at some stage! Despite the surf it was fantastic that so many people who had never kayaked got to try it out. Having spent another relaxing day by the beach, in the surf or on a boat the weekend was over way too quickly although there was still time to stop for pizza in Braidwood.

With winter on the way there won't be much sailing for the next few months with the exception of nice dry yachts. However keep a look out for the next Tuross or equivalent trip which will be around October when it has warmed up and the next round of beginners sailing courses are almost finished.



Sunday morning. Photo: Garrick Larkin

PS: Despite being the biggest Tuross trip yet this years was the easiest to organise because so many people helped out. Big thanks to David Fisher and Paul Glass for keeping an eye on the sailing, Andrew Collins for running the kayaking and Gulliver Dalton for organising the BBQ.

DISCOUNTS!

ANUMC members are reminded that they are entitled to a 10% discount at:

- * Kathmandu Outdoor Equipment in Civic;
- * Belconnen Camping World;
- * Mountain Designs in Braddon;
- * Snowgum (Scout Outdoor Centre) in Braddon;
- * Camping & Ski Equipment (CSE) in Phillip;
- * Paddy Pallin in Braddon;

AND a 15% discount at:

- * Jurkewicz Adventure Sports in Fyshwick, upon showing their membership card.

Another perspective of the Tuross trip by Andre Stoffel

Due to growing interest the kayak section of the Mountaineering Club has recently been quite active. Despite the weekly paddling on Canberra's lake and rolling sessions in the civic pool we have done quite a few trips.

Among these, the most outstanding were probably a 'joint venture' together with the Sailing club to the startling waves of Tuross Head, an exciting one-day excursion to the Penrith Whitewater Stadium (location of this year's Freestyle World Championship) and, most recently, a week-end at Joalah Holiday Park at Depot Beach (North Durras).

Since every successful trip needs a minimal amount of pre-trip organization we firstly met up on Thursday evening at the ANUMC's boat shed to prepare the gear, load the trailer and arrange the transportation. Getting this done pretty quickly, there was only one more night (to sleep) until 16 people in 6 cars headed down to the coast on Friday evening.

After a decent 2 hours and a half cruise we were warmly welcomed by an amazing number of kangaroos that roam freely around the holiday park. Being an exchange student I have seen a few kangaroos before, but once again I was stunned by their cuteness and friendliness; it would happen that, suddenly, 30 pairs of cute little hungry eyes stare at you during lunch. The remaining hours of the night we spend putting up the tents, accommodating our waterfront cabin and getting to know each other.

While I was still rolled in my sleeping bag the most keen paddlers and surfers got up at 6ish on Saturday morning to enjoy a decent dawn paddling/surf in the bulging waves. Having a common breakfast at around eight o'clock,

people found themselves in various groups, spending the day either surf kayaking in the waves, sea kayaking to a nearby island or exploring the lake of Durras. Though everybody spent the day in their own way we gathered in the evening in our cosy cabin socializing, playing games (Scrabble was the game of the night) or just relaxing.

Later this night, some of us went out for a nocturnal ramble and experienced the richness of Australia's wildlife. Tiny creatures emit light (a.k.a. 'bio-luminescence') when trashed in the foam pile of booming waves smothering the sea in a bizarre glint. Unfortunately cameras are not capable of catching this phenomenon, and hence experiencing them in real life is the only way to see this astounding effect.

According to Andrew Collins also well worth seeing is a cave at the northern bound of the bay. But unfortunately we were not able to find this hideaway for the local bats in the dark as we were equipped with only a single head torch.

On Sunday morning a mild and sunny day embraced us and right after breakfast we set off for an awesome surf in the warm ocean water. As the waves were coming steady it was time to initiate some little playboat moves such as spins, flip overs and even boofing on a reef that stuck out was possible. The ones that still couldn't get enough also enjoyed the evening in the waves.

As the sunset came nearer we packed our gear, put down the tents and prepared to get on the road again. Physically worn out, but enriched by a stunning experience in one of Australia's finest environments we were ready to face another couple of weeks of everyday life in university or at work until we will set up for the next trip.

Photography Tips

by Ben Davies

This article aims to provide several simple yet effective tips to taking better photos. You don't have to be a master photographer with a massive SLR and 14 different lenses to take good shots. Nice photos can be taken simply by taking a few easy steps. The club has a great resource in terms of the photo albums website, so if you haven't already done so, these tips will hopefully help you get some good shots online. I'm skipping any tips on equipment, since many of you already have a camera. Without further ado:

#1 Image Simplification

How many times have you seen pictures where the 'subject' is a tiny blip, or simply lost amongst other competing subject matter? There are a couple of possible remedies, depending on what you're trying to capture. If you are trying to emphasise a single subject (eg. a person), get in close and fill the viewfinder. This helps cut out other visual distractions. Don't be afraid to crop some details out if necessary (eg. perhaps a head/shoulders portrait instead of a full body length one). Another simple trick is to place the subject off-centre, rather than in the dead centre of the frame. How many times have you seen a subject placed near the left or right third of the image?

#2 Light

There are times when the light is simply not right. Midday light is generally harsh and creates ugly shadowing or washed out scenes. Sometimes the light may be gloomy and create dull pictures. Soft early morning or late afternoon light is far nicer, and great for those dreamy landscape shots. If the light isn't right, perhaps leave your camera in the bag and save it for better conditions.



Mt Sturgiss, Budawangs. Photo: Bronwen Davies

#3 Composition for Landscapes

Want those mountains to look more dramatic? Try placing them in the top third of the image, cutting out some sky. Try and find some subject of interest for the foreground too. Alternatively, if the clouds are nice, place the mountains in the lower third of the frame for a nice effect. Having the horizon in the middle of the picture often leads to flat, unimpressive images.

#4 Fill in Flash

Ever seen those photos of people with their faces half shaded by a helmet, or some nearby shrubbery? I thought so. There is a simple solution, the "fill in flash", which can work wonders when you are trying to

photograph a scene of highly contrasting light and dark sections. Simply set your camera to flash, even if it is in daylight (some cameras have a special function for this). The idea is the flash lights up the shaded areas and provides a more balanced light across the scene, resulting in photographs with more detail.

#5 Development

For those who have avoided digital thus far, if you want the best results, there is no excuse for using an el-cheapo development house. Whilst you may pay less, the results aren't worth it. More expensive development leads to greater sharpness (in non-shaky images!) and more vivid colours. Ask a few of the film buffs around the club to recommend a developer.

#6 Presentation

After you've got some shots, you may want to show them off, perhaps on the club site, in an album, or in a slideshow. A couple of

straightforward techniques can be used to improve your collection, and convince viewers of your amazing photographic technique. Firstly, leave low quality pictures out! To give you some idea of what I mean, on Hot Rock I took over 1200 photos on a fairly selective basis (as opposed to the digital shutterbugs). Despite this, I still turfed over 75% of them for quality reasons, and only about 10% of the total made it to the slideshow. Avoid endless repeats of similar pics, simply choose the best of the lot and stick with it. For digital images, don't be afraid to make simple changes. Try cropping images to remove distractions and emphasise the subject more (this can work well if the subject is small).

There are loads of resources on the net as well, and those can provide a lot more than I can in a simple article. So next time you go to snap away, stop for a second and assess the scene. A few changes to your approach could make all the difference!



Penrith whitewater, Andre S. Photo: Dave Boland



For more information on any trip, please go to the ANUMC website
(<http://anumc.anu.edu.au>)

or contact the trip leader directly.

All pre-trips are held at the Gearstore unless otherwise organised by trip leader

Distance

S (hort) - under 12km per day
M (edium) - 12-20km per day
L (ong) - over 20km per day
1km is added to the stated length of a walk
for each 100m of height gained

Difficulty

E (asy) -all on good tracks / fire trails, over flattish ground
M (edium) - some off-track walking or with possible mild bush
bashing or rock scrambling and some up and down, but
mostly on reasonable tracks
R (ough) - steep climbs, heaps of bush-bashing, rock
scrambling, stinging trees, blackberries, etc.
W (et) - compulsory swims, walking through rivers and
swamps.

Sun 1 May - Tue 14 Jun - Stupidly Early- season ski trip



A fine tradition continues. Every year around May, at the first signs of a flurry of snow, some seriously desperate types slap on the worst, most-trashed set of rock-hopping skis they can get their hands on, catch the chairlift up from Thredbo and try to find a skiable patch of snow (or, more likely, ice-encrusted rock) somewhere on the Main Range. Despite the tropical evenings we've been having lately, this year will probably be no different. As soon as the first credible snowfall hits the ground, we'll be out there—just watch the mailing lists for details. Now, if we all chant 'Snow' long enough and loud enough, it just might happen...or it might not snow until July. One or the other.

- Suitable for: Int
- Pretrip meeting: TBA
- Costs: ~\$30

Contact: Matthew May,
matthew.may@anu.edu.au, 6125 2872(wk),
040 8929 503(mob)

Thu 26 - Sun 29 May - Light to Light walk, Ben Boyd NP



This beautiful three day walk covers 31km of dramatic coastline in Ben Boyd National Park. We'll start at Green Cape Lighthouse in the South and walk through to Boyd's Tower in the North (hence the name of the walk!), via headlands and sheltered coves, red rocky outcrops and pristine beaches. Hopefully it will still be warm enough to swim and hang out in the sunshine on the beach... We'll leave Thursday night and do the car shuffle thing in the morning before starting the walk. We'll be back late Sunday night. Suitable for reasonably fit people with some overnight walking experience. Please contact me asap if you're interested.

- Length: Med
- Difficulty: Easy
- Suitable for: Int/Adv
- Map: Pambula 1:25,000, Eden 1:25,000
- Distance: 31km
- Pretrip meeting: Tuesday 24th May, 5.30pm
- Costs: petrol & camping fees TBC

Contact: Ulla Keech-Marx,
keechmarx@netspeed.com.au, 02 6262
7576(ah), 02 6262 7576(wk), 0408 647
665(mob)



Sat 28 May - Roadgaine

Mountaineers have their seven summits. Canberrans have their 700+m summits. This is a madcap fun day trip to climb/ walk/ run/ pogo stick up/ down all the 700+m peaks of Canberra. There are 16 of them. We will use cars to drive from the base of one peak to the base of the other peak. A great chance for all the people learning network theory and the travelling salesman problem to find a circuit that minimises the distance driven. Maybe a competition who finds the shortest driving distance and still climb all the peaks?

- Length: Long
- Difficulty: Easy
- Suitable for: Beg/Int/Adv
- Map: n/a
- Limit on Numbers: open
- Pretrip meeting: email
- Costs: ????

Contact: Nic Bendeli, bendeli_anumc,
62964310(ah)



Sun 5 Jun - Bungonia Gorge Daywalk

This State recreation area near Marulan is famous for its vertical cave and canyon systems. I propose to do a circular walk, with a lot of verticality, along well made tracks. We start along the edge of the escarpment overlooking the Shoalhaven Gorge. The start is all downhill through grass tree forests. Eventually we reach the bottom of the gorge, walking downstream on the dry human sized boulder strewn river bed, . Of course we will stop for lunch somewhere, before walking downstream again until we find the ridge running track to take us back up 400m altitude to the car park. My trusty

guidebook and memory tell me there will be 5 hours walking time for the circuit. Total distance is as short at 6km, but a lot of steep down and up . If there has been much rain in the week leading up to this trip we will walk somewhere else. Rather than be washed into the Gorge, the big wet weather alternate will be Tilleys or Tinderries.

- Length: Short
- Difficulty: Med
- Suitable for: Beg
- Map: Bungonia
- Limit on Numbers: 16
- Distance: 6km
- Pretrip meeting: 02/06/06 @6pm
- Costs: 10

Contact: Ian Munro, budawang@hotmail.com,
0262881112(ah), 0431978617(mob)

Sat 11 - Mon 13 Jun - Get to know your backyard

Get to know your local area. Namadgi and Kosciuszko. A bushwalk starting at the Orroral gate. Day 1: Cotter Gap, Cotter Hut, Murray Gap and Bimberi. Day 2: McKeahneys Creek, Leura Gap, Pocket Hut, Oldfields Hut. Day 3: return to the car via Murray Gap and Cotter Gap. A great trip encompassing many great areas of the Parks and relatively easy walking on a mixture of tracks and firetrails. You must be able to walk at least 20 km a day and be prepared for snowstorm.

- Length: Long
- Difficulty: Rough
- Suitable for: Beg/Int/Adv
- Limit on Numbers: 8
- Distance: 60km
- Pretrip meeting: email
- Costs: \$5

Contact: Nic Bendeli, bendeli_anumc,
62964310(ah)



Sat 25 - Sun 26 Jun - Beginner Skiing 1.

Every year once the snow gods start smiling, I start smiling and head up to Kosi for some cross-country skiing. If you've never been cross-country skiing before and would like to give it a go, then these are the trips for you! Playing yoyo in the resorts can be good fun and is a great way to work on your telemark technique, but out in the back country away from the noise and the crowds, surrounded a truly fairy tail landscape (please excuse the cliché, I'm having fun here. :-)) is another experience altogether. On this trip, we will head up early Saturday morning to find a nice friendly area to learn the basics with a few games and some general tom foolery. Saturday night is spent car camping at Island bend, which is below the snow line (most of the time). On Sunday we will put these skills to use and head a little further out into the back country on a short tour. These trips are always very popular, so if you are interested, send me an email early. The cost is \$45 dollars and includes petrol, parks entry and snow chains hire. The club has skis boots and poles you can hire at a cost of \$5, however you will need to provide all your own appropriate clothing. See the ?OK, I'm going skiing, What do I need to bring along? page linked from the Cross-Country skiing info page on the website, or have a chat to me. If you've no idea what this is all about, check out the photo gallery. See you out there.

- Length: Short
- Difficulty: Easy
- Suitable for: Beg
- Pretrip meeting: 5:30pm 23 Jun
- Costs: ~45 + gear hire

Contact: Nathan West,
nathan.west@defence.gov.au, 62496701(ah),
 62650718(wk), 0402039751(mob)



Sat 25 Jun - Sun 3 Jul - Wolgan Winter Wonderland

A week's climbing at the Wolgan valley on sheltered and sunny rock faces. It should be

good fun, and a last chance for some climbing and chilling around a campfire before I head back to the States. Numbers will be limited by cars/leaders, and the dates are somewhat flexible depending on drivers - limited by exams and my leaving the country. As this is remote trad climbing you need previous climbing experience - you should at least be seconding confidently. If you're unsure, feel free to contact me.

- Suitable for: Int/Adv
- Limit on Numbers: dependent cars/leaders
- Pretrip meeting: 5:45 Thurs June 23
- Costs: ~\$50 petrol

Contact: Betsey Adams,
eakadams@gmail.com, 6279 4155(ah), 0404 401 426(mob)

Sun 26 Jun - Corn Trail

This is an historic trail in Mongo National Park (20km south of Braidwood) that was used in the 1830s by early settlers to carry produce (mainly corn) up and down Clyde Mountain. The walk starts at the top of the mountain and descends through forest to the head of the Bolero Valley, crossing mountain ridges and rainforest valleys. Much of the walk is along the Buckenbowra River. We will either do a car shuffle and walk up or down (depending on the group), OR have two groups (one going up and one going down). The walking is not difficult, but there is a change in elevation of nearly 600m over the length of the track, so you'll need to be reasonably fit (to go up) or have good knees (to go down)!



- Length: Med
- Difficulty: Med
- Suitable for: Beg/Int/Adv
- Map: Araluen 1:25000
- Limit on Numbers: 12
- Distance: 15km
- Pretrip meeting: Tuesday 21st June,

5.30pm

- Costs: petrol money

Contact: Ulla Keech-Marx,
keechmarx@netspeed.com.au, 02 6262
7576(ah), 02 6262 7576(wk), 0408 647
665(mob)

Sat 2 - Sun 3 Jul - Beginner Skiing 2.



Every year once the snow gods start smiling, I start smiling and head up to Kosi for some cross-country skiing. If you've never been cross-country skiing before and would like to give it a go, then these are the trips for you! Playing yoyo in the resorts can be good fun and is a great way to work on your telemark technique, but out in the back country away from the noise and the crowds, surrounded a truly fairy tail landscape (please excuse the cliché, I'm having fun here. :-)) is another experience altogether. On this trip, we will head up early Saturday morning to find a nice friendly area to learn the basics with a few games and some general tom foolery. Saturday night is spent car camping at Island bend, which is below the snow line (most of the time). On Sunday we will put these skills to use and head a little further out into the back country on a short tour. These trips are always very popular, so if you are interested, send me an email early. The cost is \$45 dollars and includes petrol, parks entry and snow chains hire. The club has skis boots and poles you can hire at a cost of \$5, however you will need to provide all your own appropriate clothing. See the ?OK, I'm going skiing, What do I need to bring along? page linked from the Cross-Country skiing info page on the website, or have a chat to me. If you've no idea what this is all about, check out the photo gallery. See you out there.

- Length: Short
- Difficulty: Easy
- Suitable for: Beg
- Pretrip meeting: 5:30pm 30 Jun
- Costs: ~45 + gear hire

Contact: Nathan West,
nathan.west@defence.gov.au, 62496701(ah),
62650718(wk), 0402039751(mob)

Sun 3 Jul - Canyoning 101



A great day trip to a little visited canyon in the Bungonia area. No a wet suit will not be required. The canyon is dry! The first abseil is jaw dropping as it plunges 70m and the ropes are only 50m!. Fortunately there is a ledge about 40m to swap over. Thereafter there are about half a dozen short abseil until we get to the Shoalhaven. Pleasant walk out via a steep ridge. You must have abseiling experience but not necessarily canyoning experience.

- Length: Med
- Difficulty: Rough
- Suitable for: Beg/Int/Adv
- Limit on Numbers: 8
- Pretrip meeting: email
- Costs: 20

Contact: Nic Bendeli, bendeli_anumc,
62964310(ah)

Sat 9 - Sun 10 Jul - Beginner Skiing 3.



Every year once the snow gods start smiling, I start smiling and head up to Kosi for some cross-country skiing. If you've never been cross-country skiing before and would like to give it a go, then these are the trips for you! Playing yoyo in the resorts can be good fun and is a great way to work on your telemark technique, but out in the back country away from the noise and the crowds, surrounded a truly fairy tail landscape (please excuse the cliché, I'm having fun here. :-)) is another experience altogether. On this trip, we will head up early Saturday morning to find a nice friendly area to learn the basics with a few games and some general tom foolery. Saturday night is spent car camping at Island bend, which is below the snow line (most of the time). On Sunday we will put these skills to use and head a little further out into the back country on a short tour. These trips are always very popular, so if you are interested, send me an email early.

The cost is \$45 dollars and includes petrol, parks entry and snow chains hire. The club has skis boots and poles you can hire at a cost of \$5, however you will need to provide all your own appropriate clothing. See the ?OK, I'm going skiing, What do I need to bring along? page linked from the Cross-Country skiing info page on the website, or have a chat to me. If you've no idea what this is all about, check out the photo gallery. See you out there.

- Length: Short
- Difficulty: Easy
- Suitable for: Beg
- Pretrip meeting: 5:30pm 7 Jul
- Costs: ~45 + gear hire

Contact: Nathan West,
nathan.west@defence.gov.au, 62496701(ah),
 62650718(wk), 0402039751(mob)

Sat 16 - Sun 17 Jul - Beginner Skiing 4.



Every year once the snow gods start smiling, I start smiling and head up to Kosi for some some cross-country skiing. If you've never been cross-country skiing before and would like to give it a go, then these are the trips for you! Playing yoyo in the resorts can be good fun and is a great way to work on your telemark technique, but out in the back country away from the noise and the crowds, surrounded a truly fairy tail landscape (please excuse the cliché, I'm having fun here. :-)) is another experience altogether. On this trip, we will head up early Saturday morning to find a nice friendly area to learn the basics with a few games

and some general tom foolery. Saturday night is spent car camping at Island bend, which is below the snow line (most of the time). On Sunday we will put these skills to use and head a little further out into the back country on a short tour. These trips are always very popular, so if you are interested, send me an email early. The cost is \$45 dollars and includes petrol, parks entry and snow chains hire. The club has skis boots and poles you can hire at a cost of \$5, however you will need to provide all your own appropriate clothing. See the ?OK, I'm going skiing, What do I need to bring along? page linked from the Cross-Country skiing info page on the website, or have a chat to me. If you've no idea what this is all about, check out the photo gallery. See you out there.

- Length: Short
- Difficulty: Easy
- Suitable for: Beg
- Pretrip meeting: 5:30pm 14 Jul
- Costs: ~45 + gear hire

Contact: Nathan West,
nathan.west@defence.gov.au, 62496701(ah),
 62650718(wk), 0402039751(mob)



The gang on top of Mt Gungarten - Mika's Easter Walk. Photo: Bronwen Davies

Program of weekly events

All Weekly events are FREE to Club members, unless otherwise indicated.

Monday Evening:

Climbing at the ANU gym,
5.30pm - 8.30pm
Contact: Andrew Butterfield,
Andrew.butterfield@anu.edu.au

Tuesday Evening:

Afternoon paddling
ANU Boat Shed, 6pm - Dusk
Contact: Matthew May (0408 929 503)
matthew.may@anu.edu.au

Post-Trip Socialising
ANU Bar, 6.15pm onwards
Drop by after returning your gear to have
a drink while sharing exaggerated stories
of your recent exploits.

Wednesday Evening:

Climbing at the ANU gym,
5.30pm - 8.30pm
Contact: Andrew Butterfield,
Andrew.butterfield@anu.edu.au

Thursday Morning:

Dawn Paddling
ANU Boat Shed,
6.30am - 8am

Contact: David Boland,
David.Boland@affa.gov.au

Thursday Evening:

Women's Climbing Night
6pm - 8pm
Contact: Marta Cielinski,
marta@rsc.anu.edu.au

Mountain Bike Ride
6pm from 11 Street Pl Watson.
Contact: Penny (0415 478 417) or Rob
(0412 622 990) Burrell
**ALWAYS RING TO CONFIRM TIME
AND ATTENDANCE!**

Afternoon paddling
ANU Boat Shed, 6pm - Dusk
Contact: Andrew Collins (0427 809 286)
andrew.collins@hic.gov.au

Friday Morning:

Road Ride
6am from Tilley's, Lyneham Shops
Up Black Mountain. Feel free to take your
MTB at your own pace.
Contact: Penny (0415 478 417) or Rob
(0412 622 990) Burrell
**ALWAYS RING TO CONFIRM TIME
AND ATTENDANCE!**

ANUMC CONTACTS

Committee for 2005

General enquiries should go to the club mobile: 0418 293 502. But, anyone listed below is more than happy to talk to anyone about the club and its activities.

Executive

Position	Person	Home	Mobile	Work	E-mail
President	Annabel Bettersby	6295 1924	0404 020 549		beianna@hotmail.com
Vice-President	Corinna Paeper		0439 468 324	6125 4740	corinna.paeper@anu.edu.au
Treasurer	Sam Margerison	6281 2004	0413 004 928		samuel.margerison@apvma.gov.au
Secretary	Rhonda Mann		0412 932 633	6272 4265	rhonda.mann@affa.gov.au
Social Officer	Sam Beckman				greentreecow@yahoo.com.au
General Officers	Garrick Larkin		0404 292 691		u3299815@anu.edu.au
	Claire Hazlett		0402 757 977		claire.hazlett@gmail.google.com

Activity Officers

Position	Person	Home	Mobile	Work	E-mail
Bushwalking	Sam Keech-Marx	6161 9044	0419 699 044		sam_keeckmarx@yahoo.com.au
Canyoning	Nic Bendeli	6296 4310			bendeli_anumc@care2.com
Climbing Wall	Andrew Butterfield	6249 1251			andrew.butterfield@anu.edu.au
	Andrew Scott		0410 309 556	6125 4132	ajscott@rsc.anu.edu.au
	Marta Cielinski	6257 9779	0401 062 496	6125 0170	marta@rsc.anu.edu.au
Women's Night:	Truc Nguyen	6257 5717	0401 607 931		truc.nguyen@anu.edu.au
	Simone Ward	6299 5806	0415 308 090		simonesoverseas@hotmail.com
Rockclimbing	Oliver Story	6247 4756	0410 781 711	6125 3651	oliver.story@anu.edu.au
Kayaking	David Boland	6249 1314	0427 548 139	6272 3339	david.boland@affa.gov.au
Sea Kayaking	Andrew Collins	6247 4756	0427 809 286	6124 6029	andrewcollins@homemail.com.au
MTB	Penny Burrell		0415 478 417	6201 2139	pennyfudge@hotmail.com
	Rob Burrell		0412 622 990		
Mountainteering	Richard Salmons		0422 552 545	6261 1049	richardsalmons@yahoo.com.au
Orienteering & Rogaining	Paul Lloyd		0411 281 107		u3322183@anu.edu.au
XC Skiing	Nathan West	6249 6701	0402 039 751	6265 0718	nathan.west@defence.gov.au

Administration

Position	Person	Home	Mobile	Work	E-mail
Gear Store	Matthew Montgomery	6247 5970		6252 6487	matthew.montgomery@abs.gov.au
	Alex Lee	6255 7850		6125 0348	
	Matthew Hollingworth		0404 021 682	6283 2024	mholling@eudoramail.com
	Matt May	6248 6280	0408 929 503	6125 2872	matthew.may@anu.edu.au
	Jo Gifkins	6251 4026		6252 7185	jo.gifkins@abs.gov.au
	Jess Trevena	6247 9270		6249 6579	j.trevena@bom.gov.au
Epic Editors	Patrick Keating	6262 6194	0428 747 111	6271 1233	patrick.keating@optusnet.com.au
	Bronwen Davies	6292 3240	0408 251 020		bronwen.davies@webone.com.au
	Andrew Peters		0428 888 845		andrewjpeters@yahoo.com.au
Granite Guide Database	Nicole Lorimer				nicole.l@austarmetro.com.au
Web Form / New Website	Oliver Story	6247 4756	0410 781 711	6125 3651	oliver.story@anu.edu.au
Webmaster	Pietro Abate				pietro.abate@anu.edu.au
	Garth Coghlan	6249 6701			u3222193@anu.edu.au