



2014 Committee

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In this Newsletter

Welcome to the Northern Territory Rogaining Association's February 2011 newsletter. This edition contains interesting information on:

- Chinwag and 2014 Calendar of events
- Next event "Red rocks & Green Grass" at Coomalie Farm
- 'A little left of Lee' Wrap up

Rogaine NT chinwag

Welcome to NTRA's 2014 year, which started with some parts challenging course set by JP covering the bushland around Lee Point and the Northern Suburbs. It was a very well attended, the Hash House site at Lee Point was well sited to catch the sea breezes and competitors stayed around to enjoy the food and await the results. The AGM that followed was for the first time in several years well attended.

The committee now has a new look with several new faces, but has gratefully retained the services of the stalwarts in JP (Jon Potter has been President for many and is still a driving force behind the association), and Christine Marron (who as secretary got everything very well organised behind the scenes so events ran smoothly).

We still in need urgent need for a person to assist with the development of newsletters and publicity so if anyone is interested please do not hesitate to contact us.

The program for the rest of year consists of:

- **Red Rocks** and **Green Grass** Rogaine: a 6 hour bush event on **21st June** in the Coomalie region (read on for details).
- **Northern Territory 24 hour champs, Rollingstock Reminisce Rogaine (RRR)** scheduled for the **6th/7th September**, centred at the Adelaide River Railway Precinct. It will be complimented with a 12 hour roving option and at this stage, the planned course, is all on track for a challenging and enjoyable event.

Our final event for the year is a joint semi-bush metro/cyclegaine event on **8th November**. Details later course organisers are still formulating a plan.



The ARA, and all State associations including the NTRA, submitted a bid to the IRF to host the 2016 World Rogaining Championships in the NT. This bid was successful, the

event will be held in a similar location to the successful 2007 ARC at Ross River Homestead/Resort, 90 km East of Alice Springs. JP is the Director of the event but all other aspects are being organised by people from the southern states. If anyone wants to be involved in this event please get in touch with the NTRA committee. See you all at the next event.

From the Rogaining Committee

Next Rogaine:

Saturday, 21st June 2014

6 Hour Rogaine, and in conjunction with, for the first time **"Come and Try"** for the enthusiastic bush lovers who need help navigating a topographic map.

Where: Coomalie Farm (just south of the Batchelor turn-off, taking the next left turn.)

Start Time: 2 pm

Make a week-end of it. Camping is free.

Coomalie Farm was the site of much activity during WWII. It still maintains a working airstrip and Chapel. Listen to local historian and owner of the property Richard Luxton give an interesting talk on Sunday morning about the history of Batchelor's strategic location and role during WWII. *And did you know, that in 1945 at the Batchelor WWII Hospital site, was the place for the first human trials for Florey' and Chain's new antibiotic, "the wonder drug", on wounded or sick troops.* Still today there are remnants of WWII scattered throughout the course, including much debris from everyday living. Some controls will include these special locations.

Contact the event secretary if you would like to take part but don't have a partner. Evening Meal and Breakfast will be provided and included as part of the Rogaine entry fee. The **"Come and try"** option will have concessions on cost

Workshop/Coaching:

Prior to the event on **11th June**, starting at **7 pm**, the N.T. Rogaining Association will conduct a 2 hour workshop to assist those who would like to refine their rogaining strategies and map reading ability. This would be particularly beneficial to all newcomers.

- Learn the rules of rogaining;
- Reading a topographic map,
- How to plan your course;
- Refine your map reading ability, and
- Overall strategy to winning rogaines!

Bookings are essential, please telephone **8985 6885** or email seedymari@gmail.com.au for more details.



'A little left of Lee' - Setters Report

2014 and where to set the first event? In the Top End it is becoming increasingly difficult to find areas that tick all the boxes for a quality event, especially early in the season. This being the case, it has been traditional for the first one or two sorties each year to be in metrogaine or suburbagaine format.

As it had been some time since Lee point and surrounds had been used, it became an obvious choice to get the year rolling. A 75% / 25% street / bush format with ample bush tracks for the bikes (even though experience tells us that the most efficient route is to clean up the street sections first) was chosen for the enjoyment of those like myself who believe that real rogaines have trees and bushes and mud and green ants and wet feet and scrub chook mounds and rocks etc, etc. And so it proved to be with winners in both foot and bike, for the most part staying out of the mud.

The course included two new suburbs so getting our hands on an up to date event map was somewhat of an obstacle...but...with excellent support from a ridiculously overworked Greg Heron at Maps NT and then some slick computer magic from Ben (vice pres) Saunders, a usable map surfaced at the 11th hour.

Apart from the abovementioned two, the other key people who put this last minute hurdy gurdy together need to be recognised:- Christine, for her initial work as event secretary; Marj, for taking over till event start, vetting the course and then running the catering corps; Mark, for jumping in to sort out the result spreadsheet initially and then again on the night when the brown stuff hit the whirly thing; Catherine, for giving up her Saturday arvo / night to run the admin and results table; Simon and Ben, who laboriously prepare, transport, set up, repack and then sort out the equipment for every event; Jane, the cook...and, of course, the competitors, who had the good sense and foresight to spend 6 hours enjoying the best (by far) sport on the planet, rather than waste time doing something inherently more sensible.

Only one tiny whinge – we, of results table ilk, would like to request that returning teams hand in their score cards and then very quickly bugger off to the tucker area to conduct their sometimes very loud and expressive post mortems. It's difficult enough to process results in the peace and quiet, let alone in a rookery...and it should be noted that future events with similar entry numbers need four/five results staff.

'a little left of Lee' – Foot Sloggers Slant on Things

After a bit of light pestering, I agreed to join Dan Eakins, my last year's 6hr rogaïne partner, to do this year's 6hr event at Lee Point in mid-March. So we put our entry in, scheduled a couple of long runs together to get ourselves prepared and identify our shortcomings in the fitness department, and then looked forward to event day with a healthy mix of anticipation and resignation.

The start was out at the far end of Lee Point, beyond the hospital, and the checkpoints stretched all the way back to the Rapid Creek area and across to Leanyer. Rough measurements of the map with pieces of string suggested that the course would not be clean-up-able in 6 hours. Exactly how much to attempt, was the question. Having covered around 40 km in last year's event, at all sorts of speeds ranging from marathon pace to eventually a rather slow walk, we budgeted on around 40 km again with all things going well, with the intent being to begin things at a more conservative pace this time, to ensure that neither party died part way through the course.

Having checked the tide, we began our route with the 80 pointer on the beach, then headed south through the monsoon forest, picking up all the checkpoints north of the hospital



on the west side of Lee Point road. Whilst a group of six slightly isolated checkpoints on the east side of the road looked like temptingly good value on paper, we were both unfamiliar with the area in there and suspected it could be slow going. We decided we would be better off spending our energy on other groups of six equally points-rich checkpoints, such as those closest to the Rapid Creek mouth footbridge.

It was hot in the sun as we jogged our way south and the first two hours felt like hard work. The clouds to the east were being a tease, but never got their act together to do anything. We took a welcome cool-off under the shower just inland from the nude beach in the coastal reserve and then kept going down to Dripstone cliffs, before heading inland on the north side of the university and looping north up to the hospital. At the hospital we had another cool off, refilling water supplies from the chilled bubbler inside the doorway of the Emergency Department, before heading south again to pass through Nakara and then turning west along the bottom side of the University.

It was now after half past five. We had become behind in our estimated schedule quite early on, as the monsoon forest tracks were slower than we predicted, but the cooler evening temperatures and straight forward navigation in the streets area helped us to feel like things might get back on track. After picking up the high points around Rapid Creek we made our way north through Alawa to the Casuarina Shopping Centre area, stopping for water at the service station at the western end of Vanderlin Drive. From there we wiggled our way through Wanguri and into Leanyer, hurrying along to get in and out of the parks, cul-de-sacs and curvy roads whilst there was still a little light to see with. Dan's familiarity with Leanyer was very useful, as he could identify shortcuts through parks and open areas that did not show on the map.

In order to be certain on returning to Lee Point by 9.00pm, we estimated we needed to be finished in Leanyer by 7.40 pm, and we were, just. By 8.00pm we were in at the well-lit bbq shelter in the new development of Muirhead, where we took four minutes to sit down, have a couple of lolly snakes and reassess our last hour's plan. We figured we had just enough time to duck into Lyons for some of the checkpoints, but not all of them, and we had no time to search for things if we didn't find them – we would just have to keep moving. By 8.30pm we needed to be out again on the Lee Point road heading for home, but theoretically with enough time to duck in to the bushy area to get a thirty pointer and flag 81.

Searching for the Kenyans in the causeway right near the road at the end of our Lyons loop cost us a little time although we did eventually get it. Then north of there, up in the bushy area on the east side of Lee Point road, we never saw the piece of junk that was beside the track for thirty points, but Dan miraculously spotted the flag at 81 as I was about to retreat to the track. We trotted north out of there feeling relieved and a bit lucky. Judging by the maze of squashed grass and the number of teams we passed going in the opposite direction to us, we weren't the only ones who had found the track network a bit nebulous. Back on the bitumen road we continued towards Lee Point. After the success at 81 we agreed to have a stab at the two checkpoints in the bush directly to the east of the Hash House area, although the attack points were pretty vague to lead us in and we could afford no searching time. As it turned out, night visibility was essentially nil in there as the spear grass was over head high and reflected torch light well without illuminating anything else.

We found neither checkpoint, but there was not much else we could have done with

the time I figured. With seven minutes to go it was time to bail from the general vicinity of 61 and we headed blindly for the road, thankfully coming out of the bush only a couple of hundred metres south of the Hash House. This enabled us to run down the road to reach home with around 30 seconds to spare.



'a little left of Lee' Results

Team	Names	Event	Pts	Time	Ranking in Class										Controls Visited	
					All	MO	MV	WO	WV	WS	XO	XV	XS	F		
2	Susanne Casanova, Dan Eakins	6	3250	0d:05:59:02	1						1					56
26	Rebecca Hughes, Felix Dance, James Anderson	6	2420	0d:05:57:35	2						2					41
19	Michael Dunbar, Russell Willis	6	2290	0d:06:00:15	3		1									36
11	Robyn Liddle, Dave Liddle	6	2080	0d:05:54:45	4								1			39
4	Sue Berger, Verena Tinning	6	2050	0d:05:50:02	5					1						35
14	Duncan Rance, Phil Giffard	6	1960	0d:05:50:41	6		2									33
18	Simon Saunders, Ben Saunders	6	1940	0d:05:59:04	7	1										37
6	Asha Mahasuria, Tori Sherrock, Corrinne Fabian, Rose Stephens	6	1900	0d:05:45:25	8					2						35
7	Peter Stephens, Kent Murray	6	1900	0d:05:46:40	9	2										35
28	Cathy Shilton, Plaxy Purich	6	1830	0d:05:52:30	10					3						33
8	Trevor Paynter, Peter Lambert	6	1660	0d:05:59:01	11	3										30
12	Emily Pritchard, Julianne Giffard	6	1530	0d:05:38:04	12					4						29
3	Adele Northwood, Matthew Northwood, Briony Holdsworth	6	1180	0d:05:46:17	13								1			22
29	Sheryl Sturgess, Natalie Milic, Jim Lee	6	1150	0d:05:33:40	14						3					21
30	Deborah Holt, Annie Black	6	1000	0d:04:35:58	15					5						20
21	Helen Pitts, Sonja Brown, Jackson Brown	6	740	0d:04:05:03	16										1	14
10	Michael Fong, Cathy Fong, Michele Samuels	6	710	0d:05:42:44	17							4				15
32	Jewel Dowlry, Stuart Dowlry	6	510	0d:02:57:50	18										2	9
27	Julie Maslin, Jane Farr	6	490	0d:04:05:30	19						1					12
15	Lauren Toll, Ann-Marie Rowston, Manuela Sieberth, Fiona Crick	6	350	0d:03:48:27	20				1							8
1	Mikhailia Bromwich, Shannon McRae, Sheree Jeeves	6	0	DSQ	21				2							13
9	Lachlan Hallet, Matt Jong	4	3250	0d:03:58:40	1	1										58
24	Aaron Caden, Emma Winterflood	4	2510	0d:03:39:39	2						1					42
20	Chris O'Connor, Felicity Watt, Stuart Young	4	1970	0d:03:51:10	3						2					38
17	Penny McIntyre, Greg Robson, Vicki Potter, Paul Potter	4	1740	0d:03:40:52	4								1			32
13	Nadia Phillips, Liam Phillips, Liam Samuels	4	1420	0d:03:46:05	5						3					27
25	Jane-Marie Kerslake, Dave Grant	4	1390	0d:03:38:17	6								2			27
16	Ashley Marsh, Jenna Dennison, Ruairidh De Gruyther	4	1020	0d:03:58:40	7	2										18
22	Lesley Anderson, Karen Walsh	4	900	0d:02:32:25	8						1					20
5	Sue Rose, Di Hebblewhite	4	770	0d:03:22:34	9						2					15
31	Martin Boland, Yasmin Antwertinger	4	350	0d:02:08:59	10								4			9
23	Asha Searle, Evan McRobb	4	0	DNS	11								5			0

All up we had a great time. It felt like one of the most anticipated events in recent years – in the lead-up I heard it being discussed in a number of circles, including running group/triathlon and workplace, and perhaps as a result, it seemed to be one of the biggest turnouts we've seen for a while. It was fantastic last year to see so many new people embracing the 6 hour events. Now it seems that people are coming back again to have another go, which is excellent!

Although we didn't see many teams for the first few hours out on course, by the evening we were crossing paths regularly with several, which made it feel quite social. The atmosphere at the end was great, with everyone sitting about on the grass and saying G'day to one another and swapping stories with other teams.

We would like to thank JP for his hard work in setting the course and getting the map ready, as well as the admin staff who helped with entries, setting up, map handout, results processing, packing up etc, and the catering bunch who made sure there was enough food prepared to feed everyone.

Thanks to NTRA for such a fun event and well done to everyone who came and participated.

Susanne Casanova & Dan Eakins



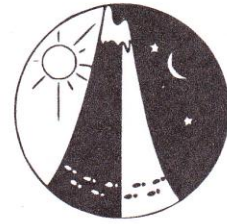
NTRA presents

'a little left of Lee'

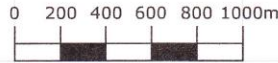
Saturday 15th March, 2014

6 hour outer-suburgaine

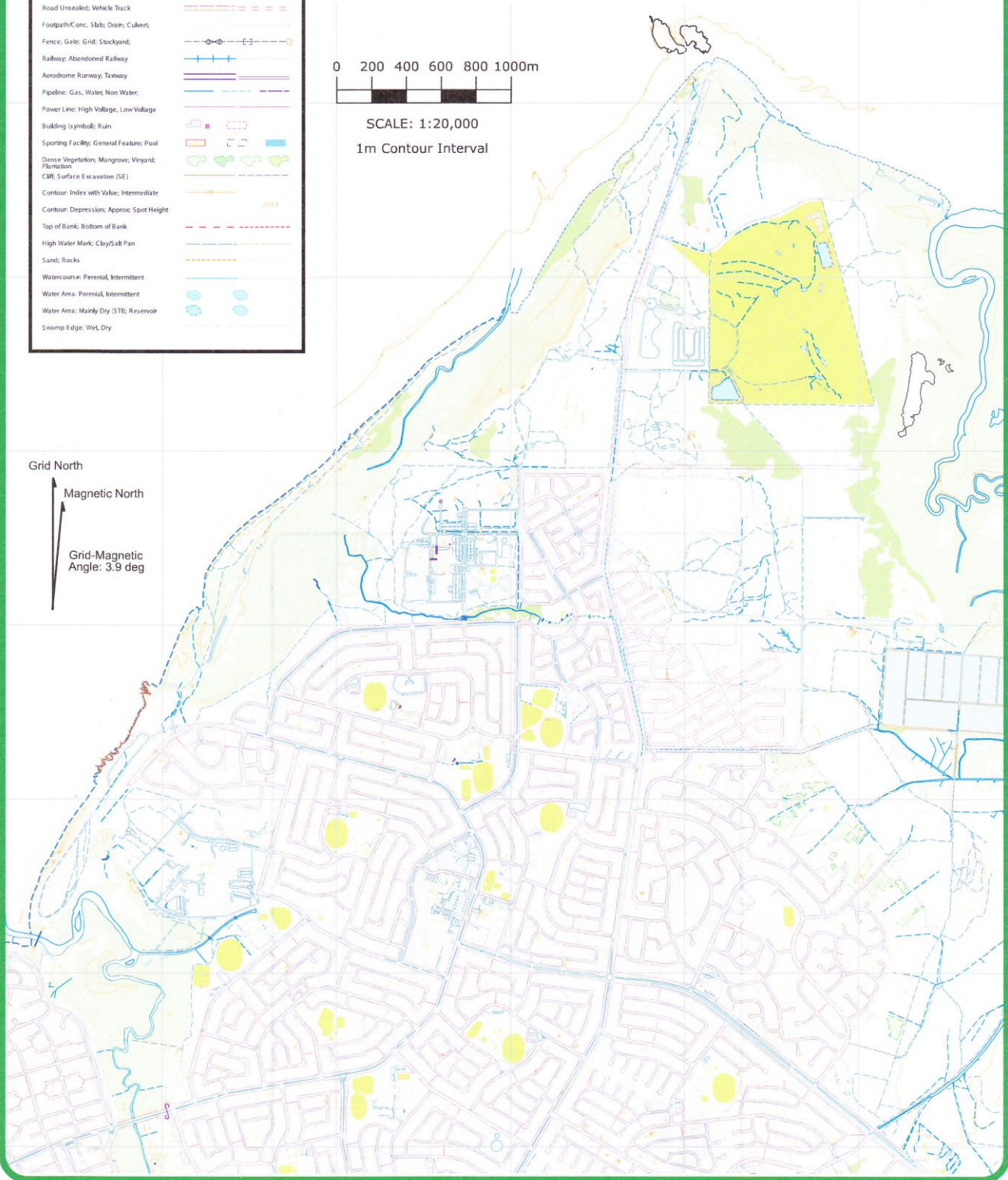
4 hour cyclegaine



Legend	
Road: Sealed, Kerbed; Bridge	
Road Unsealed; Vehicle Track	
Footpath/Conc. Slab; Drain; Culvert	
Fence; Gate; Grid; Stockyard	
Railway: Abandoned Railway	
Aerodrome Runway; Taxiway	
Pipeline: Gas, Water, Non Water	
Power Line: High Voltage, Low Voltage	
Building (symbol); Ruin	
Sporting Facility; General Feature; Pool	
Dense Vegetation; Mangrove; Vinyard; Plantation	
C&M; Surface Excavation (SE)	
Contour: Index with Value; Intermediate	
Contour: Depressions; Approx. Spot Height	
Top of Bank; Bottom of Bank	
High Water Mark; Clay/Silt Pan	
Sand; Rocks	
Watercourse: Perennial, Intermittent	
Water Area: Perennial, Intermittent	
Water Area: Mainly Dry (ST); Reservoir	
Swamp Edge: Wet, Dry	



SCALE: 1:20,000
1m Contour Interval



Grid North

Magnetic North

Grid-Magnetic
Angle: 3.9 deg



'a little left of Lee' – Pedal Power Point of View

I can't say I prepared for the event apart from fill up the camelback and purchase a map holder and connect it to the bike handle bars. It that rotates! My partner for the event was the ever-capable Lachlan.

After we received the maps there was some deliberation as to how to tackle to course. Eventually we decided that Lachlan's map holder would be dedicated to displaying the map. My map holder was to be purely for the questions, with the score card attached to the amp board with a clothes peg. We were convinced this would be optimal split of duties.

Our route choice was generic. Get the bush controls in the light and the street controls in low light. Simple!

We head out to first control (A) and we're the only one to head down this track. Lachlan heads into the trees to (A) and easily locates it. It was all going to plan. Over the bumps and ruts on the path, travelling towards our second control (B), my map holder suddenly drops off. Connecting the map holder with a single Allen bolt, instead of the mandatory two, then not bringing any Allen keys, bad idea! What was I thinking! After some debate as to what to do next we decide to "hide" my map holder in the bush to collect latter. That throws our plans out the window. We continue with either my map in sweaty progressively hands or in my jersey. Not ideal – but hey, it'll probably work.

We continue to buffalo creek. What can I say? It was Muddy!! Capital M. In some parts my big 29'er wheels were half submerged. It was a hard slog, though there were some groups on road bikes doing it tougher. Perhaps not the best choice!!

Like many of the other bike groups out there we had difficulties with control ©. After spending some time looking for the control under the most obvious attack point – well the attack point which most people decided to take – we decided to try another attack point, this time from lee point road. I followed Lachlan through the trees and wasn't too convinced that we'll find. In a few minutes I was proven wrong.

After Buffalo creek controls and the controls behind the hospital it's all the street controls we have left. Progressively as we travel from control to control my map starts to disintegrate. By 8pm the map was non-existent. Thankfully I hadn't lost the score card like previous events.

By 8.50pm we were still in Lyon's. I'm now getting a little worried. We had at least 3klm to get back to the hash house. This was going to be tight! I hadn't cycled this fast since the Tour de Timor. Lachlan even got a control (D) at the caravan park on the way back. 8.59 and were back at the hash house. 1 minute to spare minus one map holder and a map. End result 3250 point. Spookily the same result as Dan and Susanne on foot.

Matt Jong & Lachlan Hallett

Stand-In Newsletter Editor's Note: Apologies for the lateness of getting this to you but I would like to thank the busy people for supplying the articles. Hopefully there is someone who would like to take over this role. It is not onerous, as we only have another 3 events this year.

You have received this newsletter as a result of participating/showing an interest in one of our events. If you do not wish to receive correspondence from the NTRA, please reply to this email and put "unsubscribe" in the heading.

