Welcome to the Summer edition of EPIC, the ANU Mountaineering Club magazine. Whether you are a long time member, or have just joined the club, we hope that you enjoy the Summer edition of the EPIC as much as the ANUMCers have enjoyed their trips in the outdoors. Unfortunately, we had to farewell two of our editors earlier this year. Mike and Jackie Hobbins are returning to Colorado, USA and we’d like to wish them all the best on their travels and we hope to see them back in Australia some time in the future.

This edition introduces our 2009 Executive and Committee and includes a number of trip reports from our two main summer activities; canyoning (pg. 10) and kayaking (pg. 18). If you are new to the club and are unsure about the best way to conduct yourself, make sure you check out The Gentleman’s Guide to the Australian Bush (pg. 16) and Love, Sex and Scandal (pg. 20). If you are still at a loss, you could always follow the lead of those who have been inducted to the ANUMC Hall of Fame (pg. 22).

As always we’ll be looking for new inclusions to the EPIC, so if you have an idea for a column, have put up a new climbing route, would like to share your favourite back country recipes (see GRUB pg. 21) or have a trip report, be sure to contact us.

So, when you’re off on your next trip, keep in mind sending in a contribution for the next edition of EPIC!

**LAUREN BARTSCH**

Lauren left the warmer climes of northern NSW and moved to Canberra in late-2007. After wondering for some months what it is that people do when there is no beach nearby, she joined the ANUMC. Having spent part of her younger years hiking throughout the dry, but beautiful, Flinders Ranges in SA, she has since relished the experience of walking through the (comparatively) green and lush national parks surrounding Canberra. You’ll see Lauren about on bushwalks and hopefully future skiing trips; just keep an eye out for the hot pink socks.

**LLOYD WHITE**

Lloyd White is a PhD student at the ANU. He is currently researching the geological history of mountain building in the Indian Himalaya. When he's not off somewhere playing with rocks, he can be found on the soccer field, behind a camera and/or bushwalking.

**MIKE AND JACKIE HOBbins**

Mike Hobbins is a Research Hydrologist at ANU. Although born in Cooma, NSW, he left Australia as a babe in arms, only returning three years ago. He cut his climbing teeth (not as painful as it sounds) on the Cascade volcanoes of the US Pacific Northwest before moving to Colorado for his Ph.D.. There he fell in love with the Rocky Mountains—climbing them and writing about climbing them—and with Jackie. Jackie is a wicked rock-climber, and has kindly been helping the other EPIC editors with graphic design issues in her spare time.
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Welcome to the ANUMC in 2009! Whether you are a new member or a life member, you are part of one of the special clubs at the ANU. Having been getting out in the outdoors since 1967, the club continues to be one of the most active clubs on campus and one of the most active outdoors clubs in Canberra, running over 100 trips a year. It is not just the number of trips however that makes the ANUMC special. We offer trips for all levels of experience, from easy day walks in Namadgi to 3 week mountaineering expeditions in New Zealand and everything in between. The club is also run by an extremely dedicated and competent team of volunteers. Some of them have been associated with the club for upwards of 20 years, and all of them strive to keep the club moving forward and care passionately about its success.

Keep an eye out in 2009 for the big club weekends. Along with the usual circus of activities taking place on any normal weekend, the club runs a number of weekends a year aimed at getting as many members as possible out together. The Blues Extravaganza is on the Canberra Day long weekend. The entire club packs up and heads up to the Blue Mountains for a weekend climbing, walking and canyoning. A few weeks later, we pack the trailers with kayaks and head down to Jervis Bay for our second Huges Days Out down the coast. As the weather cools and the snow (hopefully) falls, we head up to the alps on the first weekend of semester 2 to have Huge Days Out again, but this time in the snow. Finally, just when the fluff is falling and you are thinking about exams, put down the books, pack up your tux and grog, don your boots and head off to Cocktails on the Castle. Yes, it is what it seems; a cocktail party on top of a mountain in the middle of the Budawangs- why not?

The club has also recently started an Expedition fund. The ANUMC has a long tradition of highly adventurous trips. The 1970’s saw Himalayan mountaineering expeditions involving former ANUMC members and Australian mountaineering legends Tim McCartney Snape and Lincoln Hall and in recent years, ANUMC members have been involved in Alaskan mountaineering expeditions. The club is very keen that these highly adventurous trips remain part of its activities into the future. To that end, members are now able to apply for an expedition grant where the club will donate a sum of money to feasible expeditions to not only help with costs but aid them in obtaining other sponsorship. So if you have ever wanted to kayak to Antarctica or unicycle selected plateaus of north western Mongolia, this is your chance. Get thinking and get applying!

I hope all members have a fantastic year with the ANUMC in 2009. To be part of the ANUMC is to be part of something special and it is much more than just a student outdoors club. It a group of people that not only share a common love of the outdoors, but who have spent significant parts of their life contributing to the development and success of the club and who care deeply about its success. Come take a look.

Yours in the outdoors,

Jack Chenoweth
ANUMC President
About the ANUMC

The ANUMC is one of the most active outdoor clubs in Canberra. Club members organise many trips, including bushwalking, canyoning, rock climbing, cross country skiing, mountain biking, kayaking and many more!

Why should you join the ANUMC?

It's a chance to meet heaps of other like minded outdoors people. The ANUMC is a varied bunch and caters for all types, whether you are a social bushwalker or a gung ho climber. We also run regular social functions so it’s easy to get to know people.

It’s one of the easiest and cheapest ways to get into the outdoors. With our extensive gear hire program, we can help you get out there with no fuss.

It’s a great chance to develop your leadership skills. The ANUMC is always looking for more trip leaders! We have a great support and training network to help new trips leaders gain confidence and skills. Don’t see a trip you want to go on? Then run your own.

You can climb at an indoor climbing wall for 2 nights a week for free. Sick of paying $15 a time on a commercial wall- then join the ANUMC.

How much does it cost?

Membership for 2009 costs $30 for ANU students (both full and part time) and $50 for non ANU students. The membership year runs from 1 February 2009 to 28 February 2010. Memberships for people joining on or after 1 September 2009 cost only $20 for ANU students and $30 for non-students to reflect the reduced time covered. Non-students must be members of the ANU Sport and Recreation Association before joining the ANU Mountaineering Club. Please contact the ANU Sport and Recreation Association directly for conditions of membership.

Non-members may participate in a limited number of club trips for a small fee. While this isn’t the preferred option, it’s a chance to see what the club is all about.

Who’s Who?

EXEcutiVe coMMittee

PRESIDENT: JACK CEnOWETH

Jack joined the club in 2005 and entered primarily as a bushwalker and skier. Having now added climbing to that repertoire he continues to try to get out there as much as possible despite the difficulties of trying to combine this with a career as a violinist. He has been a gear store officer and a General Officer and has returned in 2009 to start his second year as the club’s president. He still maintains that snowshoeing is the (very) poor man’s skiing.

VICE PRESIDENT: STEPH G00DRICK

Steph has been a member of the ANUMC since 2006 and became Social Officer for the club in the same year. Having spent most of the last 8 yrs globetrotting in between work and study (the last being Central Asia) she is definitely Canberra bound now and will be pushing for those bushwalking, kayaking, cycling, skiing, canyoning etc trips to get rolling!
**Who's Who?**

**TREASURER: SAM MARGERISON**

When he’s not drafting grant applications, stocktaking or doing the club accounts, Sam can be found bushwalking, canyoning, climbing, mountain biking, skiing, in fact pretty much any of the club activities. Sam joined the club in 1998, has been the treasurer for the last four years, and still hasn’t run away to the Cayman Islands with the money.

**SECRETARY: LAURA MUNSIE**

Laura joined the club in 2006 and is a very keen and active bushwalker. She spends her days behind a desk as a Public Servant, but what she really enjoys doing is getting outdoors, hauling a huge (or ultra light) pack for some kilometres, and then setting up camp and enjoying fine backcountry cuisine and the excellent company of her fellow ANUMCers.

**SOCIAL OFFICER: LAUREN BARTSCH**

Having sustained a few (minor and not so minor) injuries in late 2008, Lauren will be taking a backseat on the more adventurous activities on offer in the ANUMC for the next few months. She intends however, to stay just as active in the social side of the club. So if you like to enjoy all things outdoorsy at a more leisurely pace, be sure to keep an eye out for the social events on the trip calendar.

**GENERAL OFFICER: HELEN LINDSAY**

Helen enjoys escaping from her PhD whenever she can by any means possible (canyoning, mountain biking, climbing, rogaining, skiing, bushwalking and occasionally paddling or running). She dislikes spiders, heights, and deep patches of mud on bike trails, but refuses to let any of these things stop her getting away from her computer. Helen is a general officer, and is always happy to help with generalities.

**GENERAL OFFICER: TOM GLEESON**

Tom is one of those Dunlop Volley wearing philosophical types who believes that there is some truth to the saying that every mark above 50% represents a waste of effort and time which could have been better spent bushwalking/canyoning/cross-country skiing. He is happy to have a rant whenever he has an audience, and can be found each Wednesday night at the Uni Pub eating steak, studying maps, and planning the next trip!
Who's Who?

GENERAL COMMITTEE

KAYAKING OFFICER: DAVE BOLAND

Dave has been paddling for about 5 years, and spends far too much time frowning at the radar on the BoM website. When not trying to predict river flows from the rainfall data, he can often be found splashing around in the lake or ocean, dangling halfway up a cliff, or falling down a snowy slope.

BUSHWALKING OFFICER: JULIAN TALBOT

Julian Talbot is largely non-combustible. Julian Talbot doesn't get out of bed for less than $10 a day. Julian Talbot should not be used as a floatation device and has been a member of ANUMC for 2 years. He has lived, hiked, camped, swum, kayaked, abseiled, caved, cycled, partied and generally played in most parts of Australia (as well as in a few other countries). He has also been a member of a number of outdoor clubs including the 'Wherethehellarewe Club', the Army Reserves and some fine but informal wine appreciation clubs. Julian is prone to taking completely unnecessary risks and makes an excellent travel/adventure companion.

CANYONING OFFICER: FINN LATTIMORE

Finn joined the ANUMC in 2004. She enjoys rock climbing and canyoning and and would like to get into more kayaking, bushwalking and skiing if only there were time for everything.

MOUNTAIN BIKING OFFICER: SONIA GRAHAM

Sonia joined the club in 2004, not long after moving to Canberra from Sydney. She loves the outdoors and activities like abseiling, walking or bike riding (as long as there aren't too many hills/climbing involved). Since moving to Canberra, Sonia has taken to riding her bike to get almost everywhere around town. She has ridden over 8000 km's in that time, saving the planet from more than a tonne of tailpipe emissions!

CLIMBING OFFICER: ANDREW PETERS

Hearing mysterious tales of a long lost city on the Molonglo River, Andrew came to city called 'Canberra' to study Arts/Law in 2004. He immediately joined the ANUMC, and hasn't left since. Already a bushwalking devotee, he has since expanded his range of activities to include cross-country skiing, rockclimbing, and mountaineering. In between study and work, Andrew also finds time to be the club's climbing officer.
Who’s Who?

Cross-Country Skiing Officer: Garrick Larkin

Garrick joined the ANUMC in 2000 as a first year and took up XC skiing because it was so cheap compared to downhill. Garrick is also involved in a range of other outdoors activities especially bushwalking, sailing and kayaking.

Rogaining Officer: Felix Schill

Felix came to Australia almost 6 years ago to join the Mountaineering Club (and also to do a PhD in computer science, but that’s done now...). He enjoys running, bushwalking, climbing, biking and canyoning, and most other outdoor activities. He is a competitive rogainer, the sport of long distance cross country navigation. He will happily help you to put to a rogaining team together, or give navigation tips. Felix also organises the weekly cross (country) running group. When he is not running around Canberra’s forests, he can often be found hanging around at the climbing wall.

Climbing Wall Officer: Michal Matuszewski

Michal moved from Poland to Australia in 2007 to explore its wilderness and rock climbing opportunities. He joined the club soon after and has enjoyed many bushwalking, climbing, canyoning and occasionally, dancing trips. He is also a keen but highly amateur skier and surfer. In his spare time he works as a quantum physicist at the ANU.

Granite Guide Officer: Ben Davies

After something of a hiatus, Ben has rejoined the committee again as Granite Guide Officer. His main interests are mountain biking and photography, though he has been seen (in rare instances) down canyons or in a kayak. There have been recent unconfirmed sightings of a return to the climbing wall, and rumour has it that he intends to occasionally put the bike aside and run a few walks. Watch the fridge door for upcoming rides and bushwalks to check out some rarely visited areas...

Gear Store Officer: Kylie Mulligan

Kylie is an interesting specimen. Kylie is also a graduate of the Narrabundah college outdoor education program. On the suggestion of her physiotherapist, she stopped incurring the same old boring injuries on the sports field and started incurring the same old boring injuries walking up mountains. She can, from time to time, be found in the gear store, helping all you lovely adventurers find the right gear for the trip.
GEAR STORE OFFICER: FIONA BECK

Fiona grew up in Botswana before trading the wilds of Africa for the shiny lights of Glasgow. After 6 years in the cold Australia seemed like a good option, so she arrived in 2007 to take up a PhD in Solar Energy and take up every outdoor sport known to man. Currently obsessive about mountain biking, she also dapples in climbing, bush walking, kayaking, cross country skiing and shoe shoeing.

GEAR STORE OFFICER: FIONA JINMAN

Fiona has been an active member of the Club for a number of years as a gearstore officer and former canyoning officer. Fiona is an enthusiastic canyoner, climbs when not canyoning, gleefully frolicks in the snow during winter months and squeezes in paddling in any spare time! Has also been known to bushwalk and potter around on a mountain bike.

GEAR STORE OFFICER: GABRIELA SCHEUFLE

Gabriela has been enjoying the Australian outdoors for about 3 years after having successfully escaped from Europe. About a year ago, she moved from Brisbane to Canberra, where she discovered the club and with it the joy of canyoning. She is also engaged in trips, which involve rock-climbing, hiking, cross-country skiing, and salsa dancing. As a brand new gear-store officer, she will confuse people who look for advice on hiring gear.

WEBSITE OFFICER: DAVID PRICE

David enjoys canyoning and climbing as well as most other outdoor activities. In between working as a software developer and doing lots of outdoor stuff, he occasionally finds time to build and maintain the club's web site.

DATABASE AND MAILING LISTS OFFICER: ALANA WILKES

Alana is a farm girl from Armidale NSW, and moved to Canberra in 2007 as a grad. She now works in the water area of the Commonwealth Environment Department. Alana's been a member of ANUMC since then, enjoys kayaking and walking with the club and is keen to try a snow trip this year. Alana also likes camping, bird watching, gardening and cooking. She also plays social netball, soccer, squash and tennis.
A Summer of Canyoning

3 Canyon Trips

TOM GLEESON

The ANUMC has had a busy canyoning season during the summer period of 2008-2009. We have visited many favourite locations including the Blue Mountains, Kanangra, Bungonia and even the Brindabellas. The state of canyoning, as an activity of the ANUMC is looking quite healthy, thanks to the commitment of regular leaders such as Nic Bendeli and Fiona Jinman, as well as the club’s investment in leadership training courses. Trips have been combined with the Sydney University Bushwalkers (SUBW) which has facilitated the exchange of knowledge between the two clubs. A few short reports are written below to offer a taste of what canyoning with the ANUMC is all about.

Claustral Canyon & Dargans Creek Canyon (December 13 – 14, 2008).
Nic B, Greg S and Tom G combined with Dave Noble and a group of SUBW canyoneers on an unseasonably chilly mid-December weekend to descend what is considered as one of the most beautiful canyons in the Blue Mountains, Claustral Canyon. It is a canyon of terrifying power. It has killed experienced canyoneers, and, as such, demands respect and attention. After a windy night camping at Mt Wilson, the Claustral group sans Greg visited the short but picturesque Dargans Creek. This was a very pleasant canyon with a very chilly swim and an interesting climb out via railway nails hammered into a tall tree! The famous abseil through the “Black Hole of Calcutta” was one of the highlights of this trip.

Bungonia Falls & Jerrara Falls

(Brindabellas) (December 20-21, 2008).
Nic B and Tom G enjoyed a sunny day meandering along Bungonia Creek, practising and refining a few safety techniques in preparation for the next day. Abseiling into the creek was long and interesting, and presented us with tremendous views down the gorge. We removed many of the decayed slings, carrying them out with us (they are on display at the gear store as a reminder of what is not safe!). Some canyoneers claim that Jerrara is their favourite canyon. It is certainly a very good daytrip! The creek cuts its way through a winding gorge until dropping over Jerrara Falls many metres below. The three pitches down Jerrara Falls demand good communication and a high level of safety and vigilance. The reward is a series of spectacular abseils.

A warning to canyoneers visiting Jerrara. Do not do any water jumps until you have confirmed the depth of water. Safety must always come first when canyoning!

Waterfall Creek (January 10, 2009)

This is Canberra’s “own canyon”, located deep in the Brindabellas. Nic B lead this great daytrip, with Jack P, Dave P, Finn L and Tom G acting as the happy trip participants. Dave and Finn put the skills they picked up on the recent canyoning training course to use. The relatively early return to Canberra was celebrated in style with a cappuccino or two at the trendy Front Cafe in Lyneham!

Has my amateur prose sparked your interest in canyoning? Maybe I’m biased.

Claustral Canyon & Dargans Creek Canyon

Claustral Canyon & Dargans Creek Canyon (December 13 – 14, 2008).

Bungonia Falls & Jerrara Falls

Bungonia Falls & Jerrara Falls (December 20-21, 2008).

Waterfall Creek (January 10, 2009)

Has my amateur prose sparked your interest in canyoning? Maybe I’m biased.
but I think canyoning is one of the best ways to get out of Canberra on a weekend. Add yourself to the canyoning email list and keep an eye on the “Trip Calendar” for upcoming canyoning trips, as well as a slide night! Safe canyoning!

Despite being an ANUMC member I am not overly fond of bakeries. Consequently, when we rocked up to Cooma and found that the two bakeries that are normally available to us were closed, I took this to be a good omen. I knew that we were going to have a great day and Tuross was going to be a great canyon.

We were a veritable dream team of amateur canyoneers. Lead by Fiona Jinman the team consisted of Mel, Michal, David, Trinity and Tony. Not knowing what lay ahead and equipped only with gear, enthusiasm and a general thirst for life, we forged ahead into Tuross Canyon in the Wadbilaga National Park.

Under the experienced, and occasionally diverted, gaze of Fiona each of us successfully negotiated our way over, around and under a maze of giant boulders. We swam along stretches of still, dark water as the walls of the canyon threatened to close in on us, all the while partaking in pleasant and occasionally humorous conversation.

Our trip finished at the waterfall where we drank in the view, followed by responsible amounts of champagne in plastic flutes. Over lunch we entertained each other by swapping personal horror/adventure stories, of which David appeared to have quite a few. Fiona also took the opportunity to whip out a Santa hat and looked ridiculous under the guise of being festive.

The day concluded with a snack stop at Cooma where Tony checked out the local real estate while the rest of us discussed the benefits of Coke over Coke Zero. As foretold, it proved to be a tremendously fun day.
A Summer of Canyoning

Fi’s Blue Mountains Canyoning Trilogy coincided with my Dutch friend Leo’s first visit to Australia. I’d shown him some photos of previous canyoning trips and he was very keen to try canyoning. As the rest of the group (Finn, David P, Felix and Gabriela) were experienced canyoneers, Fi agreed to have Leo along, provided that I gave him a refresher on abseiling before the trip and helped him with gear.

On the Thursday morning before our trip I took Leo shopping for volley- 

leys and a wetsuit. On Thursday afternoon it stormed. We spent Thursday evening sitting in a cafe watching the rain and wait-

ing for the pre-trip meeting.

Helen: “You know, if the weather is like this in the Blue Mountains”, (lightning) “we may not be able to go canyoning.” (thunder) “It’s not always easy to get out of a canyon once you’re in…”

Leo: “Oh no! But I have volleyes and a wetsuit…” (CRASH!

Helen: “…and they can float…."

Leo: “…and I might not have another chance to go canyoning in Australia!” (FLASH!

Helen: “ and some abseils aren’t safe if there’s too much water”

Leo: “Are there canyons we can still do in a storm?”

(KABOOM!) Helen: “It might not be much fun. But we’ll see what Fi says at the pre-trip meeting.”

Leo: “Isn’t there supposed to be a drought in this country?”

The original plan was to do Claustral, Grand and Empress Canyons, but as none of the group had done Claustral before and it’s a dark, cold canyon with a tunnel swim, we weren’t too keen to try it with two storms predicted to converge around Mt Wilson on Saturday morning.

After tossing around various ideas including postponing the trip for a week (not the suggestion Leo favoured!) or doing a couple of local canyons, we decided to try our luck in the Blue Mountains (after agreeing that if the weather was as terrible as forecast, we might end up spending the weekend in a pub). We choose two “dry” canyons, Juggler for Saturday, which is a short enough canyon that we were able to leave Saturday morning and avoid setting up tents in the rain on Friday night, and, Yileen for Sunday, which is a short day canyon with a “climactic” 60m final abseil. Felix seemed quite happy to avoid doing Grand Canyon for the forty-second time.

Leo and I prepared ourselves for the final abseil of Yileen by visiting Black Mountain tower on Friday. Conveniently the viewing platform is 60m above the entrance to the tower. Getting a sense of the distance we would abseil on Sunday was probably not the best idea - 60m is a very long way down and I dislike heights.

By the time we reached Blackheath on Saturday the storms were behind us and there was blue sky in front. Felix’s 1985 Honda Accord performed admirably on the bumpy gravel road to the start of Juggler canyon, although at one point we thought Fi was showing off her car’s superior offroad capabilities when she turned around as we got to the bottom, just parking, though. The track to Juggler Canyon was a little overgrown. Helmets and wetsuits were both put to good use for the walk in.

The canyoning guidebook suggests that there are five abseils in Juggler Canyon, but two of them can easily be scrambled. The first abseil was a narrow slot with a waterfall and a handy tree stump that made the abseiling easier at the overhangs. After some wading through the creek and crawling along mossy logs, we reached the second abseil, a gentle start followed by very slimy overhang with a finish in a shallow pool. Not too long after we arrived at the final and best abseil, over the edge into a cavern then 18m in the air. Overall, Jugglers is a quick, fun canyon with interesting abseils and easy entrance and exit tracks. It would be a good choice for a cool day as we were never more than knee deep in water.

It was only 3:30pm when we got to the exit of Grand Canyon, also the start of the exit trail for Juggler. There was some suggestion of a quick run through Grand Canyon. Oddly enough, Felix was first to agree, shortly followed by Leo and David. The boys took off at a cracking pace to the start of Grand Canyon, and all enjoyed it despite the swims being very cold and the many logs in the canyon due to the recent rain. Felix returned with renewed enthusiasm for Grand Canyon. It was particularly pretty in the mist and incredibly enjoyable when followed by deep dish pies at the Mt Victoria pub.

When we pitched our tents at the Mt Wilson campsite, we overheard a few other canyoneers discussing their plans for Sun-
A Summer of Canyoning

day, Yileen seemed to be a popular choice because of the recent bad weather. We decided on an early start to avoid the crowds. Leo even managed to get up early enough to take a short bushwalk before we left for the canyon, before 8 am! The area around Yileen canyon has obviously been affected by bushfires, because when we reached the creek we were covered in streaks of black. Promised several times by Finn and David that there was only one short swim that was absolutely necessary, I decided to join them in shunning wetsuits for the day. This made for some entertaining scrambling around the edges of pools while those who had suited up splashed though. It was certainly fun to try, though I did miss the extra padding of the wetsuit on a few occasions. The one short swim is preceded by either an abseil or an 8m jump. David jumped, but he was much too quick for us to get the camera out! Now soaking, I did rapidly get cold waiting at the top of the second last abseil. But then, so did everyone else. Leo passed the time trying to teach me to roll an “r”:

Helen: “Ar?”
Leo: “No, Arrrrrrrrrrrr”
Helen (shivering): “Brrrrrrrrrr rrr brrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr

Leo: “Much better!” David and Felix found a way of scrambling down the abseil (“a fantastic downclimb in the dark behind a waterfall, through a cave, a little exposed but doable”), but this meant that we had to get Felix’s pack down to him. Finn tried to attach it with a Munter hitch and let it slide down, but it wouldn’t, so she clipped it directly to the rope. Then it did slide, and very fast. Felix was glad it hit the water before it hit him. It made an excellent splash!

We dried out at a lovely sunny lunch spot with a view down the final abseil. It was actually not as intimidating as I’d anticipated. It was certainly a long way down, with the valley dropping away much further, but the start is easy, the rock curves gently down and the view was worth the height! Back at the cars after the pleasant walkback from the canyon, we tossed around the idea of doing Empress, but decided the drivers would be happier after a stop for pancakes instead of another canyon. Next time we’ll aim for a Blueys Tetralogy, possibly even the one we plan! Thank you to Fi for organising a great trip.

Photos Helen Lindsay
Leadership Weekend

Mika:

"The wind picked up and the temperature dropped rapidly as it began to rain more heavily. The track we’d been following for several hours deteriorated and soon vanished. We were forced to make yet another creek crossing and scramble uphill through thick, soaking wet scrub, all the while searching for a clear, level piece of ground big enough to accommodate half a dozen tents. The light was fading fast as we arrived; wet, tired, and chilled to the bone, at a small grassy frost hollow dominated on three sides by the ragged silhouette of the nearby ranges. As we hurried to establish camp the clouds cleared and the temperature dropped below freezing. It was then I realised that one, possibly more, of the group was hypothermic … ."

Duncan:

"I was seventeen, it was a hot mid-summer day, it was the first four day walk I had ever led. On the second day we had left our packs behind for a day walk and that night we were stuck, too far away to return to our camp. We had been beating through Budawang scrub for two days without food. Leanne had never been bushwalking before and was exhausted and had a blister on one heel the size of a golf ball. Brendan had a serious burn on the sole of his foot where he had slipped into the fire we had started to keep us warm overnight. Richard hadn’t been walking much in the last twenty years and was feeling it hard. I had collapsed from heat exhaustion earlier in the day and felt responsible for the mess we were in. And now we were so tired and delirious with hunger, we couldn’t agree which way to go……"

"Oscar Wilde once said, “experience is the name everyone gives their mistakes.” Fortunately the ANUMC is blessed with a wealth of people with a long history of mistakes. People like Mika and Duncan who, between them, have led more than 150 trips for the Club and are amongst its most ‘mistaken’ trip leaders. Always ready to learn from their vast and growing list of mistakes, each year these two generous souls willingly share their wealth of experience with interested Club members on the annual ANUMC Leadership Weekend.

The Leadership Weekend is an intense and fun two day training program covering skills and knowledge relevant to leading in the Australian bush. This unique event, now in its eleventh year, is designed for ANUMC members with some outdoor experience who are interested in developing their outdoor leadership skills and hopefully leading trips for the Club.

The program consists of an extended 1.5 hour pre-trip meeting and tutorial followed by two days out bush in an area familiar to the ANUMC. The outdoor program consists of a series of short bushwalks with daypacks, interactive scenarios and lessons that explore the challenges of safely leading others in remote and not so remote locations. Exactly what is involved and where we’re going is not revealed in advance as surprises are part of the challenge of leadership. Issues dealt with include trip planning and risk management, navigation, crisis management, and conflict resolution in the bush and lots more. All participants will experience first hand what it’s like to deal with these and other leadership challenges in the bush with the aim of learning from each other and building our confidence and ability to safely lead trips. While the focus is on bushwalking, the skills and experiences are relevant to all ANUMC outdoor activities.

Be assured that it’s not all hard work. On Saturday night we’ll camp somewhere nice and not too far from the cars. This means you can bring along some of the special little goodies you really enjoy around a campfire but hate having to carry long distances.

So, if you’d like to hear more about how Mika and Duncan survived the episodes above, or if you’d like to share your experiences (or mistakes) with others so they might learn from them, then come on the Leadership Weekend. It’s sure to be a lot of fun. See the trip calendar for details.

Photos courtesy of Mika Konttainen
New Zealand Expedition
CHARLES JENKINS

The inaugural ANUMC Expedition Fund award was made to Charles Jenkins, who was the former ANUMC Mountaineering Officer. Charles won the award to lead an expedition to climb the Sabre, in the Darrans region of the South Island of New Zealand. The plan is for a group of “old hands” and younger, less experienced climbers to attempt this photogenic mountain, set in one of the most spectacular wilderness areas of New Zealand. There are various routes up the peak, including the original East Ridge and the now-classic North Ridge, offering 500m of mid-grade rock climbing. Whether these routes are within the capabilities of the expedition remains to be seen; nothing could be further from climbing in the gym, and even the longest routes at Booombo are a quarter of the length. So, despite all the preparation that can be fit into our busy working lives, we anticipate some challenges and excitement - not least from the infamous Darrans weather! The group sets out in mid-February, so with luck there will be exciting tales to tell at a slide evening sometime in March or April.

Mount Kenya Expedition
MATTHEW HOLLINGWORTH

Thanks to the fantastic generosity of the ANUMC Expedition Fund, I’m putting together a trip to Mount Kenya for September of this year. This will undoubtedly be an unforgettable experience! Mount Kenya is a prominent peak in the middle of Kenya, seventeen kilometres from the equator. Its twin summits, Nelion and Batian, reach altitudes of 5,188m and 5,199m respectively. The Mount Kenya massif rises 5,000m above the plains of the Mount Kenya National Park, giving the mountain an impressive prominence. Members of the expedition will fly to Nairobi and arrange transport and supplies for the trip. We will then make a multi-day trek to altitude, hopefully via the Chogoria Route to a base camp at Austria Hut. The approach gains 3,000m in elevation and passes through some amazing and exotic scenery. Once established we will attempt the Normal Route on Nelion, involving roughly twenty pitches of scrambling and roped climbing of technical difficulty up to 12 or 13 in the Australian grading system. On the summit we will be at the second-highest point in Africa!

I’m looking for participants for this trip. Prerequisites include a good degree of fitness and experience with efficient climbing on long, easy rock routes. Interested readers should contact me via the Trip Calendar on the club’s website.

Photo: “Looking towards Sabre from Adelaide Saddle. (Photo credit: Cosley & Houston Alpine Guides).
The rapid and almost overwhelming changes in society over recent decades have led to an arguably uncertain role for contemporary man. Previously unquestionable truths have become blurred and unsure. There were a few minor changes in gender roles, transport, technology, communications and world affairs, but even more disconcerting was the disappearance of frames from the outside of rucksacks. Tent designs are no longer prefixed by the letter ‘A’. A fleece used to be what happened to you to at the bookies, not an item of clothing. Beards became unfashionable.

The accumulation of such changes have understandably led some contemporary men to become...

The stark, isolated, at times dangerous nature of the Australian bush may seem to excuse, even demand, abandonment of all pretense and a return to primitive modes of conduct. Rather, the bush provides an ideal arena in which to demonstrate, practise and utilise the qualities of a bygone era, of a species nearly extinct, of an escape from uncertainty: that of the gentleman. We at the ANUMC have prepared a guide to assist members conduct themselves in this most appropriate of manners.

1. Authority

Initiative and leadership remain admirable qualities, however one must recognise when to defer judgement. It is often wise to do so on matters of housing and interior decoration, ...

... and to recognised and trustworthy leaders, especially when every single piece of their clothing matches.
2. **Diplomacy**

Conversation and wit are both enjoyable and powerful, ...

... but consider that tact may require silence, ...

... in order to avoid becoming stuck in a difficult situation.

3. **Composure**

Anger may culminate in throwing heavy objects down tall cliffs.

A state of steady relaxation is the preferable mindset.

Admire it.

4. **Beauty**

Practise this advice and you may receive a commensurate reward.

So, old boy, see you out there on some jolly expedition with a straight back, kind hand, shaven face, lively tongue and ready smile. Tally ho!
"South coast gale warning... afternoon thunderstorms... possible light hail... squalls... snow on the southern tablelands."

After monitoring the weather forecast all week long and cursing at the BOM website, the group left all common sense behind and headed down the coast anyway. Only those that weren’t in the ute towing the trailer full of kayaks thought the adventure began when we got to our destination. The Clyde offered some potentially hairy situations but these were skilfully negotiated by Christo at the helm of his trusty Hilux. We all arrived safe and sound with the weather working with us enabling us to pitch our tents easily in the dark. Watching from the beach at Oaky, the storm front down south lit up the night sky, and seemed to vindicate our change in destination (from Ben Boyd).

Paul took first swims the next morning, braving the surf in a kayak at sunrise. Following brekky, we packed the sea kayaks and headed towards Wasp Island from Durras. But with a strong swell and wind, getting the kayak to go where one wanted was tricky, so we made our way back to the beach through the rain.

After a nice warm cup of coffee and lunch it was off to South Durras beach to go surf kayaking with the play boats. We all felt very safe with our own Lifeguard Alana running in and out of the surf (in her jeans no less) to rescue those that had capsized. A valuable lesson was learnt this day... make sure you have access to your spray deck’s ripcord! Lots of fun was had by all.

Following up a great day on the water, we retreated to our vestibule castle to enjoy gourmet food and exquisite company. Herbal Teas, Blue Brie and Quince, Exotic Chocolates and several cooking flames flickering away added to the ambience of the evening. A group trip down to the beach to listen to the waves crash on the shore concluded our second day of adventure.

The rain continued throughout the night and into the morning allowing us all a nice sleep in until we could wait no longer for the rain to subside. As we got ourselves ready for our next adventure on the Clyde river we looked at the small streams of water running along the dirt track optimistic that we could all make it up the steep track out...

Initially, our optimism seemed justified as first Matt, in his newly purchased Subaru, and then Christo, in his trusty Hilux, made it up the steep dirt track slope without incident. But then, as Dave rounded the final corner of the track in his death-defying Daewoo, the unthinkable happened; the wheels started to spin and the car came to a halt only metres from the bottom of the steep slope. A repeated attempt, in which Dave tried to take the track at high speed, also failed. We all started to wonder if Dave would ever get his car out of Murramarang National Park...The thought of being stuck for a week at the beach was tempting to many participants. However, Lyn and Christo were keen to try out the winching skills they had recently acquired on a 4WD course. After dumping the kayak trailer at the top of the hill Christo drove half way down and parked pointing the winch attached to his bullbar towards the stranded Daewoo. Christo was then able to winch Dave part of the way up before reversing further up the hill to pull Dave along. There were cheers all round when Dave finally got to the top. Then the inevitable happened when Vlad’s Camry proved no better on the wet dirt road and the winching had to happen all over again.

With the rain starting up again we made our way in convoy to Nelligen. After having taken shelter in a tiny cafe for a hearty lunch, we put in for a gentle paddle under sail up the Clyde River - a marked contrast to our efforts the day before. A peaceful and relaxing ride was a fitting end to a successful weekend of all-round fun and adventure. Arriving at our destination a couple of hours later where our vehicles were patiently waiting for us, we loaded up all our gear - again - and headed back to Canberra, picking up where we left off with our town lives, and quietly dreaming of our next adventure...
The six of us set out bright and early for Tallowa Dam, stopping for apple pies and ice cream at the 'World's Best Pies' shop. Once we arrived at the dam, we unloaded the boats and gear, and set off. We were determined to beat the swarms of school kids that were further up the river so we could claim a good campsite. The paddling started off gently enough, allowing us plenty of opportunity for reptile and raptor spotting in the early stages of the trip. The gorge was a sight to behold with cliff faces towering above the tree line and the river meandering along its own pathway to who knows where. As the afternoon progressed, the breeze picked up a bit but unfortunately for us it was blowing in the wrong direction, thwarting our intention of taking it easy under sail for at least part of the way. After our Herculean effort we reached a suitable campsite. After parking the canoes, the wind promptly changed direction. We set up camp, had a swim and then used the wind to sail a bit further up the river to check out the "rapids". Upon returning to camp, it was still too early for dinner, but not for a game of cards. We played a 5-player, jokerless version of 500, which kept us continually wondering who our partner was, if anyone at all. Dinner was hearty and plentiful, and was gently washed down with some scrumpdidliumptious port, rum and raisin chocolate (that had to be resolidified in the cool, flowing river) and honeycomb chocolate (which also suffered the same fate as the rum and raisin).

Fearing bedtime with the shrill cries of wild goats echoing off the cliffs, memories of very large lizards roaming the riverbank during the day and rumours of snake strikes on past trips, the evening proved remarkably uneventful punctuated only by a short period of softly falling rain in the wee small hours. The usual cacophony of birdsong heralded daybreak and we quickly scoffed some breakfast, broke camp and set off again on the return trip. This time we were lucky enough to sit back and relax whilst our kayaks were manoeuvred through the calmish water by the gentle breeze blowing at our backs and in our keenly erected sails.

Alas, after half an hour of 'plain sailing' the wind promptly whipped around and was in our faces for the rest of the way back. We resorted to hanging onto dead trees sticking out of the water to avoid going backwards. We made it back to the dam, with the wind changing again at the very last minute to allow Sonia to sail into shore. After stopping again at the pie shop, the tired selves with full bellies that weren't driving snoozed all the way back to Canberra, content after a fun and scenic weekend.
Is the ANUMC full of over-sexed, hormone driven members and hopeless romantics, all cruising the bush in search of their next sexual conquest or love interest? Ill-informed urbanities, computer game addicts and study junkies might think so. Why, after all, would anybody voluntarily leave the comforts of home and seek wilderness unless it was for vulgar, indecent reasons or an obsession for love and romance?

This erroneous perception of the ANUMC is often encountered early in the academic year, from about Market Day onwards, when hoards of enthusiastic folk rush to sign up for the ANUMC. Most join for the awesome array of opportunities for outdoor adventure sports. Some charitable souls join simply to donate their membership fees and are then never seen again. A few, however, try to join for more primeval reasons.

It’s little wonder that lonely singles should turn lustful eyes towards the most active club on campus with its many desirable members. There are alluring mountain princesses and strapping young Adonis, rock climbers with abs as hard as the rock they climb, bold and indefatigable bushwalkers, broad shouldered kayakers, lean and bronzed canoeists, bikers with trim and taught buttocks and legs, skiers as cool as the snow they traverse and charismatic trip leaders. Moreover, these gorgeous people are also wonderfully open and welcoming, always ready to share a campfire with new and old friends. This captivating wealth of talent not withstanding, the ANUMC is not a lonely-hearts singles club. Nor is it a pick-up joint. Anybody hoping to score is better off going to a bar or nightclub, the SRA gym or an exercise class.

Joining the ANUMC should be for the love of the outdoors, a desire to explore, the thrill of adventure or perhaps an addiction to adrenaline, not a quest for a spouse or that tawdry one night stand. People do, however, seek to join the ANUMC for misplaced reasons. Consider the following conversation I once had with a prospective new member seeking the good oil on the Club.

“Are there many women?” he asked after I’d told him in glowing terms about our awesome gearstore and many exciting forthcoming trips.

“Pardon me?”

“Are there lots of women? You know, single good looking women?”

“Why do you ask?”

“Because ever since my divorce I’ve been trying to meet new women.”

“Oh. Look, the mountaineering club is an outdoor club. We’re into bushwalking, rock climbing, paddling and paddling, canyoning and skiing. That sort of thing”

“I’m more interested in the social nights.”

“Well, actually many of our social events are held out bush,” and I then described Cocktails on The Castle, the Mid Winter Feast and the Blue Mountains Extravaganza.

“That sounds a bit extreme.”

“Not really. There are photos on the web page,” I offered helpfully.

“Thanks. I might have a look.”

Nothing further was ever heard from that budding urban Romeo.

Despite the shared love of the outdoors, or perhaps because of it, club romances are nonetheless common. Most members, the club’s altruistic trip leaders for example, clearly join for noble motives. Many subsequently find themselves in a relationship with somebody they met on a club trip. Whether it’s sharing sweaty pheromones, breath-taking landscapes, daunting challenges, or thrilling adrenalin rushes, these shared experiences seem to build happy and lasting bonds. Just take a closer look at the happy folks on the Executive and the Committee. Or who always shares your trip leader’s tent.

While there are romances aplenty, saucy scandals are rare. Don’t expect something Clintonesque despite the power and charisma of the ANUMC Presidency. Our Presidents, those paragons of virtue, do not succumb to the seductive temptation of their many admiring followers and adoring groupies. If they do, they are exceptionally discrete about it. Nudity, that other staple of the gossip rags, is likewise a poor source of scandal.

With all this nudity and sleeping together one wonders if there might be scope in this fine newsletter for a gossip column, complete with racy photos, to feed the readership’s salacious and malnourished appetite. Certainly, with the profusion of digital cameras in the Club, there is ample potential for budding paparazzi to capture any indiscreet moment or evidence of the latest fling. Scandals aside, ANUMC romances have inevitably led to countless marriages and, the ultimate result of serendipitous first encounters on ANUMC trips, children. ANUMC linked weddings, often in an outdoors setting, occur all the time, even if they are not advertised on the trip calendar. ANUMC offspring moreover, are becoming so common that one might wonder if they represent a sinister plot to breed a generation of super kids genetically predisposed to become the great adventurers and environmental activists of the future.

Nevertheless, the point remains. The ANUMC is not a singles club. It is a club for outdoor enthusiasts.

The Club will embrace with warmth and affection new members with pure motives focused on the activities and the environment. Later, probably when you least expect it, you might just meet your soul mate.

[Editor’s Note: Mika met his wife Emma on an ANUMC bushwalk in 1997. They have two children, both experienced bushwalkers at the age of 3 and 7].

Love blooming on Mt Morgan: Kat and Jevon
Photo courtesy of Mika Konttainen
Chocolate Fondue
By Kylie Mulligan

Serves: as many as you’re willing to share with, although I have made this go around 8 people

Ingredients:
500 grams dark chocolate (semi sweet is best)
1 tin reduced fat thickened cream (find it in the sweetened condensed milk section)
1 teensy bottle contreau (optional – if you don’t want to use alcohol substitute 1 Tbs orange zest)
Plus a selection of the following:
- Italian sponge biscuits
- Dried apricots or apricot delight
- Fresh strawberries
- Fresh bananas
- Mixed nuts etc
- Pineapple
- Madeira cake

Method:
Chop up all the fruit/nuts/cake for dipping into bite sized pieces. Chase others away from the chopped up fruit. Brandishing a knife and screaming like a banshee usually works.
Combine chocolate, cream and contreau/orange zest in a pan and melt together, stirring constantly. There are two methods of melting, depending on which type of stove you have. If you have a stove that can simmer (simmerlite, trangia), light it on a very low heat and heat the ingredients directly over the stove. If you have a whisperlite or similar blowtorch style stove, you will need two saucepans for this operation in a bain marie configuration, where one saucepan contains boiling water and sits directly over the flame and the second one contains the chocolate mixture and is held over, not in, the boiling water.

Once the chocolate mixture is an even colour, remove from heat, grab a fork and dip away!

This is a heavy recipe to pack in, so I only bring the fresh fruit if it’s only an overnight walk and it’s for a special occasion.

Eggplant and Spinach Terrines
Prepared by Steve Lade for Cocktails on the Castle ‘08
Recipe adapted from V. Ferguson (Ed.), Vegetarian, Anness Publishing Limited, New York, 2002

Ingredients:
1 eggplant
2 tbsp extra virgin olive oil
2 zucchini, thinly sliced
Leaves from 1 small thyme sprig
4 firm tomatoes, peeled and seeded
4 basil leaves, finely sliced
300 g baby spinach leaves
1 garlic clove, crushed
1 tbsp butter
1 tsp nutmeg
Salt and ground black pepper
1/2 roasted red capsicum, skinned and chopped
1 tbsp balsamic vinegar, to serve
1 2.5-inch metal cake ring or similar
1 mountain

At home:
Preheat the oven to 190°C.
Slice the eggplant into four discs of equal size. Heat half the oil in a frying pan and fry the eggplant slices on both sides until brown. Place them on a baking sheet and cook in the oven for 10 minutes. Transfer to a plate lined with paper towels. Heat half the remaining oil in a frying pan and fry the zucchini for 2 minutes, then drain on the paper towels.
Season with salt and pepper and sprinkle with thyme leaves.
Place the tomatoes, basil and remaining oil in a heavy frying pan and cook for 5-8 minutes. Cook the spinach, garlic and butter in a saucepan, allowing all the water to evaporate. Drain well, add the nutmeg, then season with salt and pepper.
Place the eggplant, zucchini, tomato mixture, spinach and capsicum in separate plastic bags and freeze overnight. The balsamic vinegar can be bagged too, if you dare. On departure, place bags deep in your pack along with a frozen water bottle, to try to minimise the growth of little nasties. Don’t forget the metal ring.

On the mountain:
Line the bottom and 1/2 inch of the sides of the cake ring with a quarter of the spinach leaves, leaving no gaps. Place a quarter of the zucchini slices around the edge of the ring, inside the spinach leaves, overlapping the slices slightly. Squeeze out excess liquid from a quarter of the tomato mixture, and press down firmly inside the ring. Place one disc of eggplant on top, trimming the edges to fit. Invert onto a plate and repeat for three more terrines. Serve with roasted capsicum and drizzled with balsamic vinegar.

Steve’s terrines Photo: Tom Gleeson
Established in 1999 the ANUMC Hall of Fame recognises outstanding personal contributions to the Club. The award is represented by a wood handled ice axe which, back in the 1970s, was one of several in the ANUMC gearstore and was likely to have been used on various club mountaineering expeditions to New Zealand and Nepal. The following ANUMC members have been inducted into the Hall of Fame. Their names are engraved onto the ice axe handle.

1999 WILL KEOGH

The inaugural Hall of Fame was awarded to Will Keogh. Aside from several years as XC skiing officer, Will’s contributions to the Club included serving for four years on the Executive as Treasurer (1999), Vice-President (1996-97), and President (1998). As the Club’s first web page editor he played a leading role in establishing an ANUMC web presence in 1996 and managing it for sometime thereafter. An active trip leader, Will also helped coordinate numerous first aid courses for the Club. In 2000 the ANU Sports and Recreation Association (SRA) recognised Will’s contribution to the Club and awarded him the Peter McCullagh Award for “Outstanding participation and long-term administrative services to the ANUMC.”

Duncan joined the ANUMC in 1993 and served for seven years on the Executive/Committee as President (1997), Vice-President (1999), Treasurer (2000), Bushwalking Officer (1994-96) and Epic Editor (1995-98). An active trip leader, Duncan helped lead the ANUMC’s first Cocktails on The Castle trip in 1994, first Midwinter Feast in 1995 and first Leadership Weekend in 1998. In 1998 he helped coordinate the production of the ANUMC Granite Guide and wrote the indispensable pocket guide, “As much Bushlore as will fit on two pages.” In 2000 the SRA awarded Duncan the Peter McCullagh Award for “Outstanding participation and long-term administrative services to the ANUMC.” Duncan was elected onto the ANU Sports Council in 2000, served as its Vice-President in 2002 and President from 2003-2005. He was made a Life Member of the SRA in 2006.

2001 MIKA KONTIAINEN

Mika joined the ANUMC in 1996 and served for four years on the Executive/Committee as Bushwalking Officer (1998-2000), Trip Convenor (1999-2000) and Vice President (2000). He also served as Acting President for periods in 1999 and 2000. He was actively involved in ghost editing The Epic, wrote the ANUMC Trip Leaders Guide, helped introduce EPIRBS to the Club and each year as Bushwalking Officer coordinated numerous training activities including the Leadership Weekend, bushcraft and search and rescue training. A prolific trip leader, by 2001 he had led 75 ANUMC trips, including 40 in the last two years. In 2005 Mika reached an unprecedented milestone of 100 trips led for the Club and was awarded Life Membership of the ANUMC.

Since joining the ANUMC in 1998 John served four years on the Executive/Committee as Social Officer (1999 – 2000), XC Skiing Officer (1999 – 2000), Epic Editor (2001) and Bushwalking Officer (2002). Always keen to go further, faster, harder, John is famous for his epic bushwalking, canyoning and skiing trips and his efforts to enhance the public profile of the Club. John first attracted positive media coverage for the ANUMC in 2000 when he completed the Australian Alps Walking Track. He did so again in 2002 when, following the tragic death of an ANUMC member in a fatal car accident on a Club trip, he conceived, coordinated and led a fundraising walk from Kiandra to Kosciuszko in 46 hrs that raised almost $20,000 for the SnowyHydro Southcare Helicopter rescue service. John subsequently ran dawn paddling all year round from 2003-2005.

2003 ANNABEL BATTERSBY

Annabel joined the ANUMC in 1999 and began leading trips soon after. In addition to numerous bushwalking, canyoning, rock climbing and snow shoeing trips, Annabel was particularly active in coordinating and leading training activities aimed at the less experienced members of the Club and prospective trip leaders. As Treasurer (2003), she obtained competition funding and “Women in Sport” funding for the club for the first time and co-ordinated three “Women in Sport” training weekends. She designed the online trip-submission system implemented by Pietro Abate and Oliver Story in 2004. Annabel also played a leading role in coordinating many large and complex events such as Huge Days Out, Blue Mountains Extravaganza and Cocktails at The Castle. She served as Social Officer (2000), Epic Editor (2003), Gear Store Officer (2004), and was heavily involved in the planning and coordination of the 2002 Kiandra to Kosciuszko fundraiser. Annabel subsequently served as President in 2003 and was awarded the Peter McCullagh Award by the ANUSRA for services to the Mountaineering Club in June 2006.
ANUMC Hall of Fame

2004 MATT MAY
Matt is a gear store legend. Having joined the ANUMC in 2000 he promptly volunteered as Gear Store Officer. With amazing dedication, for the next five years he could be found behind the gear store counter on an almost weekly basis cheerfully helping members hire and return gear. He also led numerous bushwalking and skiing trips, showing a commendable tolerance for the inexperienced and plain stupid. In addition to this exemplary commitment (especially during the ski season) he also served as Epic Editor (2001), XC Skiing Officer (2002) and President (2003). As President, Matt was well respected and took the role seriously, taking an interest in every aspect of the running of the Club and attending every social event and BBQ. Matt continued to serve as Gear Store Officer until 2008 (an incredible nine years) and was further recognised with Life Membership of the ANUMC in 2007.

2005 BRON DAVIES
Bron contributed significantly to the Club since joining in 2002. She served on the Committee for over three years as Social Officer (2003), Bushwalking Officer (2003-04) and Epic Editor (2004-05) and led several trips each year including bushwalking and rock climbing trips. In 2004 and 2005 she led Cocktails on The Castle and in 2002 helped manage media arrangements for the Club’s Kiandra to Kosciuszko fundraising bushwalk for the SnowyHydro Southcare Helicopter and was heavily involved in the planning and coordination of the fundraiser. Bron continued to serve as Epic Editor in 2006 and 2008.

2006 SAM MARGERISON
Sam ‘Moneybags’ Margerison joined the ANUMC in 1998 and subsequently served as Database Officer (2000-04) and Gearstore Officer (2000 and intermittently since then) before discovering his true calling as Treasurer. For two years (2005-06), Sam managed the ANUMC’s finances with the highest level of integrity. His foresight and dedication gave placed the ANUMC on a solid financial footing while maximising the use of available funds for the benefit of all members. Sam was/is always a willing and reliable volunteer at Club events such as social nights, BBQs and O-Week stalls, and in this way he quietly keeps the club running. An active trip leader, Sam continued to serve as Treasurer (2007-09) and was further recognised in 2007 with Life Membership of the ANUMC.

2007 SAM KEECH-MARX
Renowned for her persistent shoulder injuries (and winning the Bandaid Award in 2005 and 2006) Sam’s contributions to the ANUMC since joining in 1999 included serving on the Committee/Executive as General Officer (2002), Secretary (2003-04 and 2006), Bushwalking Officer (2005-06) and President (2006-07). Sam also served on the ANU Sport and Recreation Council from 2002-2006. She also led numerous trips each year, including 3 Huge Days Out and is often heavily involved in organising other major ANUMC events, including the 40th Anniversary celebration in 2007.

2008 DAVID PRICE
Dave joined the ANUMC in 2001 and became especially active in 2005, soon becoming a driving force in the Club’s climbing fraternity. As Climbing Wall Officer (2006 - 2007) and Rock Climbing Officer (2008) he introduced new measures to support emerging climbing trip leaders and increase the amount of climbing trips being run. The ANUMC is, however, most grateful to Dave as the saviour of the ANUMC website. Fundamentally dependent upon the Internet for the coordination of trips, the administration of the Club and communication with its members, the ANUMC averted the disastrous prospect in first semester of losing the entire website thanks to Dave’s foresight and monumental personal effort. Along with his team of volunteers, he oversaw the construction of a new club website in a very short time frame and has continued to manage and maintain the website.
Remembering Andrew Butterfield

Andrew James Butterfield died yesterday in Christchurch NZ after a long battle with bowel cancer. He was 37. His family and I were at his bedside.

Perhaps you don’t recall Andrew, he was the tall skinny one with the scraggly hair always tied back in a pony tail. Apparently he was going to get it cut. He never did.

Andrew was a vibrant member of the club. As Gear Store and Rockclimbing Officers, he, like many others, contributed countless hours of his time to ensure others had a good time. As a trip leader, he regularly ran climbing trips to Araps, Point Perp, Nowra, Booroomba, The Blues and Beyond. He was also a keen canyoner and bushwalker and used to enjoy navigating his way through the bush. Thanks to him, we never got lost! After I left Canberra, he became involved in Kayaking and I believe enjoyed the early morning rolling sessions as well as trips further afield.

Regards,

Elizabeth Ryan (ex ANUMC member and best friend of Andrew James Butterfield)

MATTHEW HOLLINGSWORTH

There is a lot to be said for the quiet ones. Outgoing people may seduce us with their confidence, but the unassuming types often hide more depth. When we lost Andrew last November, we lost a modest man whose generosity and intellect was as ample as his stature.

I met Andrew in my first year in Canberra, when he was in the depths of battle with his PhD. We climbed together for several years thereafter. I identified with his bashful nature, and was sold on his gentle humour, cogent conversation and aptitude for adventure. You could talk to him about anything; he’d inevitably respond with something worth hearing (though often, only if you coaxed it from him!) We shared a love of climbing and a compatible view of the world.

He was a fine partner in our early explorations of the climbing on offer in this part of the world. Our longer routes in the Blueys and the Warrumbungles remain highlights of my outdoor life. I still smile whenever I recall his declaration: “My best day on rock, ever!” We had some exceptional days.

As my focus had drifted from climbing, I saw less of Andrew. In recent years we’d chatted in passing from time to time, but it’d been a while since I’d been out bush with Andrew, let alone tied in together. I’ll regret this procrastination. His death caught me by surprise and was a real shock. I wish I could have talked to him during his illness; I’m sure he would have had strong composure and some unexpected insights. I hope that he was at peace, and knew that friends from all over (even neglectful ones like me) would find the world sadder for his absence. Andrew my old friend, I’ll miss you.
FEBRUARY

Kayaking Eurobodalla nature coast
Salih Ozgul
Start: 20/02/2009 - 5:30pm
End: 22/02/2009 - 3:00pm
Difficulty: Medium

Beginners daywalk to Square Rock
Tom Gleeson
Sunday 22nd of February
Difficulty: Easy

Welcome BBQ and Introductory Slide Night
Sam Keech-Marx
Start: 25/02/2009 - 6:00pm
End: 25/02/2009 - 9:00pm

Beginners overnight bushwalk to Canowie Brook
Tom Gleeson
Start: Saturday 28th Feb
End: Sunday 1st of March
Difficulty: Easy

Introduction to abseiling - Kambah rocks
Finnian Lattimore
Start: 28/02/2009 - 1:00pm
End: 28/02/2009 - 6:00pm
Difficulty: Easy

MARCH

Tuross River (Beginner’s) Canyoning
Nicolas Bendeli
Start: 01/03/2009 - 7:30am
End: 01/03/2009 - 7:00pm
Difficulty: Easy

Introduction to abseiling
Finnian Lattimore
Start: 02/03/2009 - 5:30pm
End: 02/03/2009 - 8:00pm
Difficulty: Easy

JULY

First Timers and Beginners Ski Lesson
(Planning Date)
Garrick Larkin
Start: 11/07/2009 - 8:30am
End: 12/07/2009 - 7:00pm
Difficulty: Easy
For more information visit http://anumc.anu.edu.au