



EXPLORER LEVEL JOURNEY

16-17/10/2009

Joshua Massingham

1 Pre-Hike Preparations

1.1 Training and Planning Activities

Planning meetings with action items in minutes took place

- 15/Feb - first planning meeting
- 8/May - set tentative date for hike
- 26/Jun - second planning meeting
- 4/Sep - third planning meeting and loaded pack weigh in
- 13/Sep - all day practice hike with full load
- 25/Sep - fourth planning meeting
- 15/Oct – last meeting and loaded pack weigh in

1.2 Menu and Food Quantities

We had for Saturday lunch and morning tea BYO and cuppa soup for afternoon tea. For dinner we had lamb casserole with rice and Gatorade powder to drink. For desert we had chocolate pudding. On Sunday we had uncle Tobbys apple and cinnamon porridge. For morning tea we had trail mix and for lunch we had sayos with jam and cheese spread.

1.3 Personal Gear List

Compass, map, matches, toilet paper, book, underwear, shirt, pants jumper, pillow, socks, sleeping bag, newspaper, poles and pegs for tent, mess kit

1.4 Patrol Gear List

Billy x2, spoon.

1.5 Pack Weights

NAME	BODY WEIGHT	20%SAFE LOAD	SAFE ALL UP	ACTUAL ALL UP
Lachlan D	58	11.6	69.6	68
Lachlan H	53	10.6	63.9	64
Jack	43	8.6	51.6	54
Joshua	41	8.2	49.2	50
Daniel	49	10	59	60

1.6 Transport Arrangements

- Mum drove me to Sutherland station to meet at 8:00am on Friday the 16/Oct
- 8:23 train from Sutherland to Heathcote.
- Walking from Heathcote to Helensburgh.
- Private car Pickup from Helensburgh train station by 15:00 on Sat 17/Oct

1.7 Patrol Members

Lachlan Dunn and I were in a patrol together. There were three other scouts and two leaders.

1.8 Maps Used

- Campbelltown 9029-1n 1:25000 topographic map copyright department of lands 2000
- Appin 9029-1s 1:25000 topographic map copyright department of lands 2000
- Heathcote to waterfall walk maps, track notes and photos from wild walks bushwalking online guidebook.

2 Notes Taken On Hike

2.1 Friday 16/Oct

- 8:00 - Arrive at Sutherland buy ticket waiting for train
- 8:23 - Boarded train to Heathcote
- 8:30 - Jack tries science experiment, he fails.
- 8:35 - Arrived at Heathcote train station Daniel already lost, don't know if he will make it. Egil can't work the GPS.
- 8:56 - Entered the 'friendly trail' heading west south west. It is slightly chilly and Jack and Daniel nearly get lost.
- 9:25 - Crossed the water supply pipe line on a small metal bridge and head in a south west direction.
- 9:40 - Reached Mirang Pool. The pipe is on our left we get on and walk along in daring show of skill and balance. Also passed a sign that said Sarah's Knob
- 10:00 - Arrived at battery causeway and take of our jackets to face the harsh unyielding sunshine on our backs, and have morning tea. Daniel goes primitive. Lachlan forgets his lunch, he will go cannibalistic soon.
- 10:30 - Departed battery causeway and nearly got lost but turned left into the Bullawarring trail heading south it was rough and overgrown.
- 11:10 - After a steady climb we reached a sign post to lake Eckersley. We continued south on the Bullawarring trail.
- 11:30 - Met a group of girls on their duke of Edinburgh hike.
- 11:40 - Met a group of boys doing the same thing.
- 12:25 - The tracked dropped and we found ourselves out a great place for lunch on the flat rocks beside a creek. We took our shoes off and had a muck around in the water and Jack and Lachlan were hunting me.
- 13:48 - Departed lunch spot heading south and shortly turned east.
- 14:30 - The track does leads us to king fisher pools and we stopped to take some pictures and explore the caves
- 14:40 - Leaving the caves we passed through the camping area for a toilet break and then rejoined the main track heading east south east.



- 15:10 - Arrive at a junction with a wide fire trail and we turned right heading south. After a short distance the wide trail follows the eastern shore of Lake Toolooma.
- 15:35 - We are finally there yesssssssss OMG we are here finally.
- 16:20 - The tents are set up and we start a fire for the billy and burnt some ants on a stick.
- 16:45 - Enjoy a cup-a-soup and we realized that Lachlan forgot his meskit no wonder his bag was so light!
- 16:50 - We decided that we should have finished and washed up dinner by 19:00 before it gets dark. Daniels patrols dinner failed as they didn't read the instruction on there Mac Cheese which said it needed butter and milk.
- 20:30 - Went to bed.

2.2 Saturday 17/Oct

- 8:30 - Out of bed late because nobody woke me and got out to a campfire it was freezing and I didn't have a mat which made it worse.
- 10:45 - Departed Camp Coutts heading south on wide fire trails. It was hot!
- 11:20 - Reached the princess Hwy and sat in the shade and watched people go by and beep their horns at us.
- 11:40 - Reached a wide concrete bridge and Lachlan had his Gandalf staff and we thought it would be funny if Gandalf went in the middle of the road and said in a deep and serious voice "YOU SHALL NOTOOF" and be hit by a truck.
- 12:00 - OMG its lunch and I'm so hungry (and if I'm hungry imagine Lachlan (now times that by ten(divide by two)and you have got how hungry he is (this was his face ☹) We came across a railroad and it was under maintenance(this is why we couldn't get a train home (☹).
- 12:10 - Stopped for lunch finally and Gandalf and Jack had an ultimate battle.....Jack lost.
- 13:05 - OMG we have reached civilization finally....what we're not at the station you have got to be kidding me! ☹
- 13:25 - Arrived at Wilson's creek and found a dog which we played with it eventually getting rid of all our staves....BOO HOO.
- 13:35 - Left Wilson's Creek heading east up hill to the Helensburgh station. When we got there we had a patrol council and discussed some things we could have done better.
- 14:22 - Departed by car for home.

3 Assessment

3.1 LESSONS LEARNED

- Use a checklist. Our patrol forgot matches and newspaper.
- Read your information. We nearly got lost several times.
- Bring more for lunch. We were starving.
- Keep the fire going. Keep a large stock of fire wood so the billy will boil and stay at the same temp to cook things and you won't have to find new fire wood every time it goes out!

3.2 Things that worked well

- Our dinner was really good with frozen lamb casserole with rice.
- We all had a go at navigating and we all put in 100% effort.