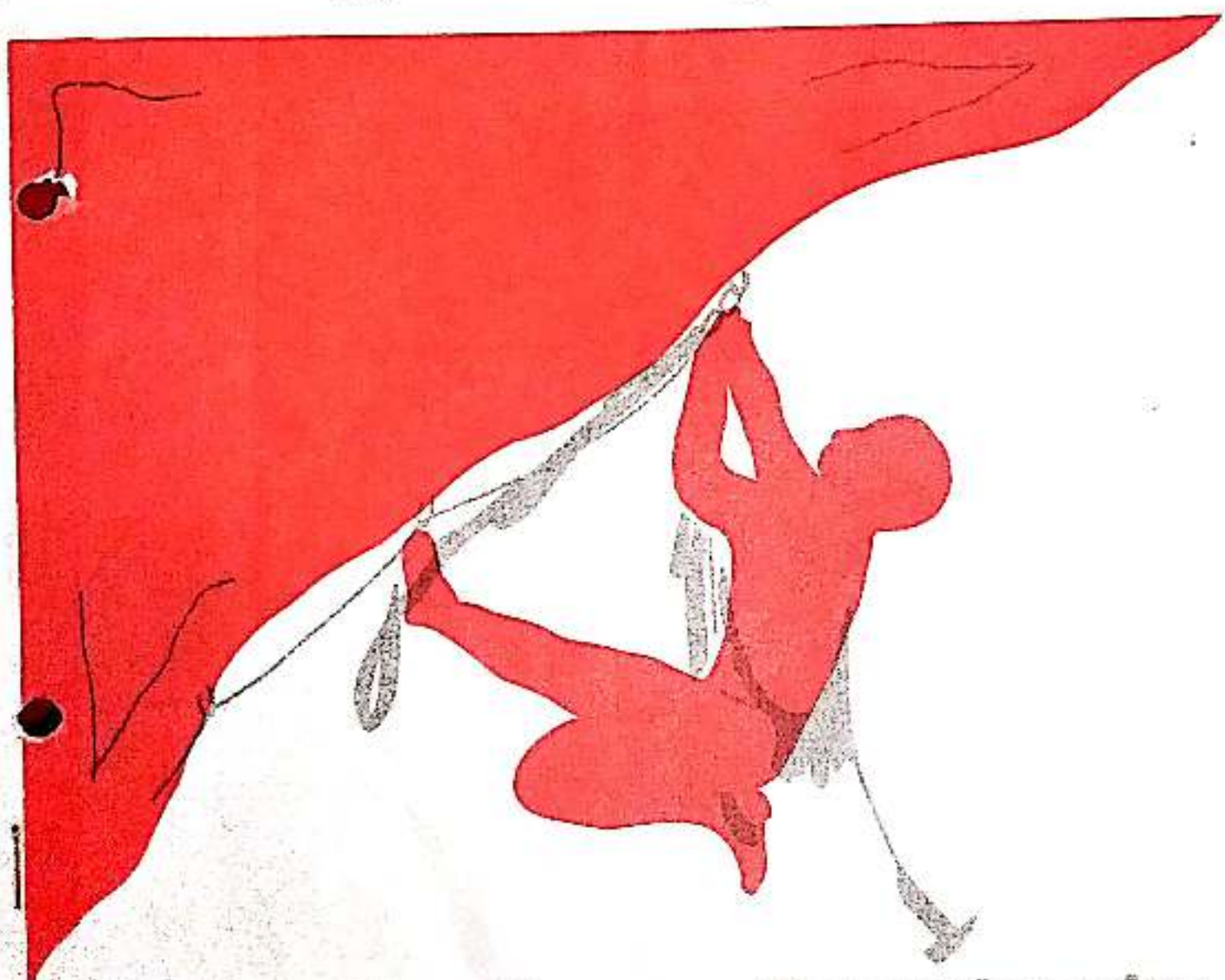


MOBSAC



**Journal of the Mountaineering
and Bushwalking clubs
University of New South Wales
May 1973**

MOBSAC

JOURNAL OF THE MOUNTAINEERING
AND BUSHWALKING CLUBS
UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

MAY, 1973

CONTENTS

EDITORIAL	PAGE 1
HUT BOUND	2
QUICK ROUND-UP OF CANOEING	4
SELECTING EQUIPMENT	5
THOSE ELONGATED THINGS, DEVOID OF LIMBS	8
THE ESKIMO ROLE	10
ARR WELL, YAH GET THAT THOUGH	17
CLIMBING UP OVER	19



This magazine acts as a mirror to our club - the image will be whatever members wish it to be - it can reflect a responsible, vigorous group, active in walking and conservation, providing a useful function in the community -- or it can show a sickly .. half-hearted club with a small number of enthusiasts doing all the work, while the rest of the members bludge.

This is your magazine. Don't be selfish, if you had a good time on a trip, let the others know about it too. If you've got something on your mind, or an idea or just want to rave, lets hear about it. This magazine can be a source of information, so if you want to know something contact us by writing to:

The Editors,
Mobsac,
Box 2, The Union,
University of N.S.W.,
KENSINGTON. 2033.

or straight to the editors, Ross Vining and Bill Blunt.

EDITORIAL

With the coming of the cooler weather and the approach of the skiing season everyone's mind should be turned to safety. Over the last two years people have lost their lives: a walker froze to death only several hundred yards from a hut when a sudden blizzard developed and last year a skier died after becoming separated from the main party. Don't say, "it can't happen to me", you'd be kidding yourself if you did. It can happen, to me and you, if you're not prepared for it. Make sure you've got the best and proper gear, there's one leader to obey, and that the party stays together. If need be rope up or sit down.

We don't want any tragedies this year, or next. So don't be a fool.

HUT ROUND

Strike! Across to NEW ZEALAND, MT. COOK. skiplane ride to the top of the glacier, one day into the hut, then bang, the weather closes in. It's 5.30, almost time for bed after the radio sched.

Dinner was good. Dinner? Eaten all day anyway. Flapjacks - flapjacks a' la Gido (with chocolate) - flapjacks a' la Broderick (with cheese) - flapjacks a' la Classen (with onion) - flapjacks a' la Murchison (with any combination of the above), toppings to order.

Better write smaller - not enough paper. Can always use grot paper.

The grot. Quite pleasant once you've made the effort to get up there. Just sit down and gaze tranquilly into the white-out. Count the snow flakes drifting through the door. Much better now than was last night in the wind. Was quite strong that wind. Organise an expedition to get snow for water - one to shovel, one to hold the tin down, the other to hold the other two down. The rest to take photos of the fools outside.

Lie in bed (?) and listen to the wind outside. Pleasant night's sleep last night. Gently rocked to sleep by the swaying of the hut. Watch the rope swinging from the rafters.

No wind this morning. Just snow. And snow. And white-ness. So quiet. So clean. Beautiful. Bigger it, we're here to climb not to look out the bloody window.

Get up, go outside for a leak. Shit it's cold out there. Get back into your bag and warm up again. Still snowing. No climbing tomorrow either by the ock of it. Too many avalanches and crevasses that can't be seen. Another day of eating and sleeping.

Could play draughts. Someone else has done some time in here. They've made up a set of draughts from white candles and coloured cardboard. Sick of playing draughts anyway. Keep losing.

What else is there to do? Sleep. Eat. Write bullshit like this. It'll be radio time in fifteen minutes. That should fill in half an hour or so. Comforting to know there are other people stuck in huts doing nothing too.

Drip. Condensation or a leak in the roof? It's raining now. Bigger. Nothing worse than sleeping in clumps of wet feathers. Sleep around it. Wonder what tomorrow'll be like. Surely no climbing. It's warm in here. just pleasant in this bag.

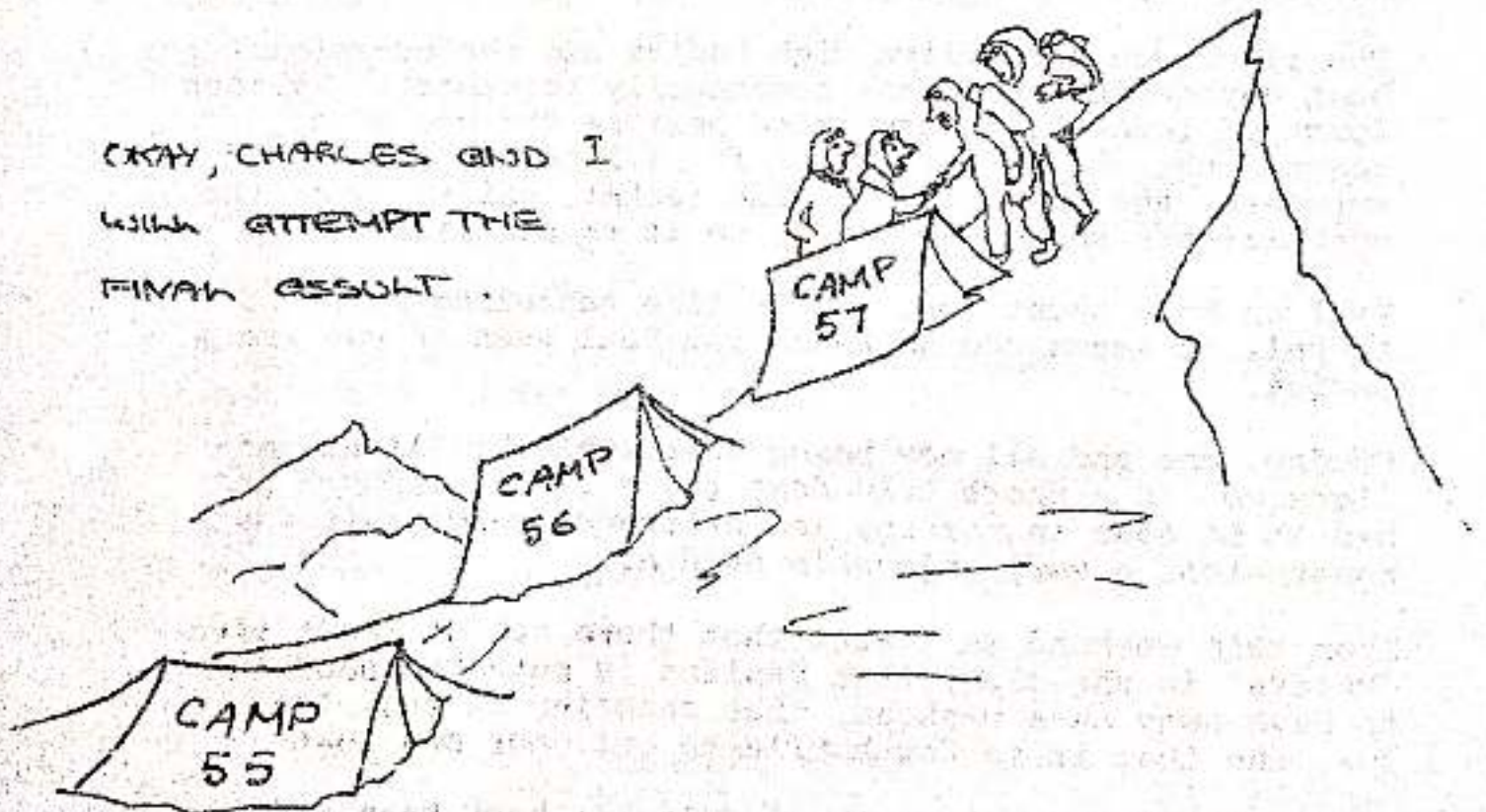
Lie on your back and watch the drips form on the roof. It's getting dark out there. Doze. Perhaps it'll clear while we're still asleep. No. Still, I wonder.

Bloody hell. It's dark outside, what time is it? 1 a.m. Oh! You can see stars? I don't care. It's cold out there, too cold, much too cold. Besides it's probably windy. No wind, oh, good frost too? Yes. I know that we're here to climb mountains but still, at 1 o'clock in the morning? Nothing I like better than five and a half spoons of cold muesli.

Wonder when the weather's going to close in again.....

By Peter Cole

OKAY, CHARLES AND I
WILL ATTEMPT THE
FINAL ASSAULT.



DEFINITION - POTANY: THE ART OF INSULTING WILDFLOWERS IN LATIN.

QUICK ROUNDUP OF CANOEING

During orientation week when we all had time and following quite some rain the canoeists amongst us spent two or three afternoons paddling the rushing TORONORA.

Though the most hazardous part of each afternoon was negotiating the water board's road the paddling provided challenge for both novice and experienced. For the novice it was difficult to keep the boat going in a straight line especially against the current and once mastered it was time for a rest in the backwater watching our heroes and heroines battling the monster stopper or shooting the waterfall above it.

Twenty five people made it down to CHILDOULA, later in March, for two days holiday, and for many an introduction to canoeing with the club. Notable jetsetters Meg, Peter C. and Matthew decided not to arrive until the party was really swinging and duly arrived at 5.00 a.m. Saturday.

The river was soon alive with bodies and the occasional boat chundering down (not necessarily together). Various forms of locomotion were tried besides the use of a canoe: the philistines tried it with nothing on but swimmers, the plebs with a life jacket, whilst Simon the sophisticate showed us how to do it on his lilo.

Paul de Rome spent most of his time schooling us on how to roll it seems and so thank you Paul even if you are a sadist.

Sunday, one and all now being thoroughly brilliant paddlers we did a short trip down the river. Although it had to be done in morning and afternoon convoys it was nonetheless a very enjoyable paddle.

From this weekend we learnt that there are at least five "Peters" in the club, that Pauline is nuts but good fun to have away on a weekend, that canoeing is fun, fun, fun, and that it is worthwhile to get your own boat.

After that weekend many short splashes have been made on the harbour for a night, afternoon or day. Several of us have even learnt how to roll on these sojourns. For those still in the dark see the other canoeing article.

As well, many, many weekends have since been spent boat-building. In fact it appears that the club mould is booked out for the next three weekends. Anybody who is interested in boat building or learning about it is most welcome to lend a hand. See us at the Chancellors court or the next Club Meeting on the

Our latest expedition over Easter was to MACQUARIE RIVER where in an idyllic Puck Finn setting we camped by the river. Two main trips were paddled, one downstream about eight miles and one from upstream down about the same distance. Both had very pleasing scenery and were travelled at a pleasantly slow pace with the many shallow rapids providing spice. The weekend also turned up two of the best camp fires I've been to (could have been better with good song books but not much) and some fine cooking. The most remarkable recipe was steak cooked in detergent.

Ron Baldeston

SELECTING EQUIPMENT

This article is the first in what will hopefully be a continuing series. With a bit of luck it might even continue as far as the next MOBSAC. Nothing I say here is necessarily correct - it is only intended as a guide, and as such is only my personal opinion. The articles are aimed at those who have only recently joined one of the clubs, and who, although they have limited experience, have reached the stage where they want to start buying equipment. Hopefully this will give people some idea of what is available, what to look for, and what to avoid.

There are only three acceptable retailers of bushwalking and climbing gear in Sydney:

Raddy Pallin,
69 Liverpool Street,
Sydney, 2000
Phone 2602686, 61-7215

Mountain Equipment,
17 Falcon Street,
CROWS NEST. 2065.
Phone 439-2454

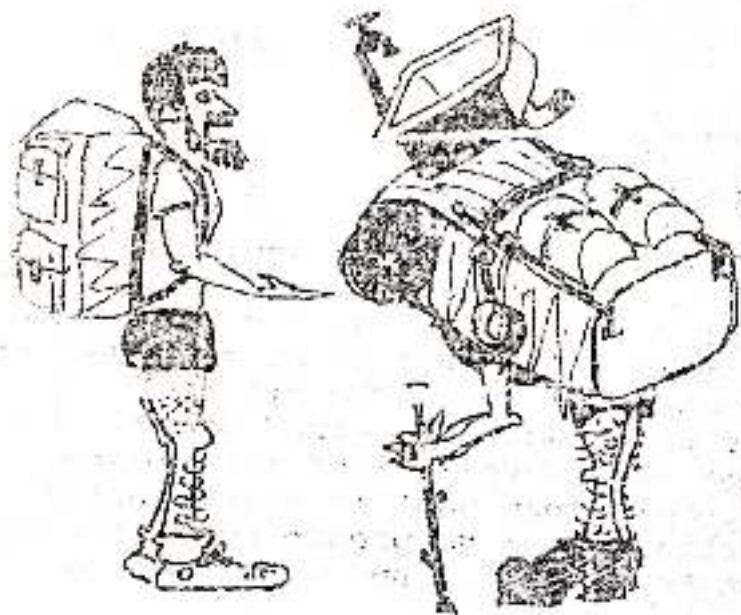
Southern Cross Equipment,
Shop 8, Chatswood Arcade,
399 Victoria Avenue,
CHATSWOOD. 2067.
Phone 412-3372

Southern Cross have a bigger shop at Hornsby, but you will have to ring them at Chatswood to find out exactly where it is. Scout Shops may also be acceptable. in

general, gear from disposals stores and department stores, is not adequate. Before buying anything, shop around the above stores and collect catalogues to tell you the full range of what is available and their prices.

Now to get down to details. First of all, we'll consider packs. Criteria for selecting a pack, in approximate order of importance, are durability, comfort, size, features, weight, ease of packing. Weight is deliberately

near the end because the difference in weight between a "heavy" and a "light" pack is negligible compared to the weight of its contents. Comfort is most important - durability only comes first because a pack that falls apart is obviously no good.



There are a number of different types of packs, but only one is really suitable for Australian conditions. Frameless packs fail dismally on points of comfort, size and ease of packing. A-frames, in general, also fail on these, but not so badly.

H-frames pass everything, and high-load packs fail on a single point of comfort - they catch on bushes, trees, and when ducking under fallen logs.

Now that we are left with only H-frame packs, let's consider the more common brands:

Flinders Ranges: two sizes, each available in normal and lightweight. The ordinary packs are good, but there have been several reports that the lightweight models fail on durability. One of the more common brands. They have a good map pocket, synthetic webbing is now available, some have a waistband and are average priced.

Mountain Mule: Not quite so strong or large, but very light, and have a good reputation. Synthetic webbing, waterproofed bottom, ingenious and handy camera pocket. Map pocket spoiled by short zip, no side lacing, poor buckles on tapes for top flap. Slightly more expensive.

Paddymade: Also very common. Range of sizes, good map pocket, waterproof bottom available, leather straps. Also make a very light, rather smaller L-frame, which appears to be a good pack.

Desirable features on a pack are a waterproofed bottom (prevents wear and tear and keeps the bottom of the load dry when the ground is wet); a good map pocket in the top flap or elsewhere (maps are very hard to look after if there isn't a proper place for them); synthetic webbing (more comfortable and lighter than leather); and side lacing (not essential, but handy for small loads). Most packs have most of these features, but few have all. Other brands of packs which would be worth investigating if you can't find what you want in those above, would be Hallmark, Roman, and Korrimor. These aren't very common, and I don't know much about them.

Before buying a pack, first decide what compromise between capacity and weight suits you. I feel that it is advisable to get the biggest pack you will be prepared to carry, as an undersized pack can be a great nuisance on extended trips, or other occasions such as when an injured or slow person's equipment has to be shared among the rest of the party. (It does happen to everyone at some time or other.) Once you have decided what size pack you want, the final choice is only one of personal preference for the details. Even cost should be only a detail, because a pack with which you are not entirely happy can be a nuisance or source of worry in bad conditions. Remember it has to last you a long time.

By Peter Tuft

(Editors comments: For climbing most framed packs are quite useless, being cumbersome and wide, getting jammed in chimneys and cracks. For climbing purposes a special climbing pack should be chosen - the Williams or the new Chovinard Jensen. The best thing to do would be to ask around and consult the catalogues.)

THOSE ELONGATED THINGS
DEVOID OF LIMBS

Snakes may be described as greatly elongate, scaly reptiles devoid of limbs. Some of the main differences between snakes and lizards are (I) the tongue of the snake is rod-like and deeply forked, whereas among lizards only the geannas have rod-like tongues - other lizards have broad fleshy tongues that may have a small V-shaped nick at the tip; (II) a snake has no external ears, but lizards have an opening on each side of the head; (III) snakes have no eyelids, the eye being covered by a hard transparent scale, but lizards have eyelids, in some cases movable. (IV) the lower jaw bone of lizards is in one piece, whereas in snakes it is in two pieces, united in front by a very elastic ligament. By this arrangement the lower jaws can be separated, enabling snakes to swallow large objects whole, whilst lizards cannot swallow large objects but have to chew or tear them to pieces first.



Skull of black, tiger, and brown snakes. Fangs at front of maxillary bone and followed by several other small teeth.

The vision of snakes is restricted to comparatively short distances but within that range is acute. The eyes are capable of extremely limited movement. Snakes that are active by day generally have round pupils, whilst those that move around in the late evening or by night have vertical pupils. Their sense of smell is acute, and the well known flickering of the tongue is an added aid in this direction. Recent experiments indicate that the tongue when protruded, picks up minute particles and transfers them to two pits in the roof of the mouth known as Jacobson's organs and the delicate epithelium detects chemical particles or scent. These organs are not found in man or any other animal.

Having no external ear, no ear drum, and only the most rudimentary internal mechanism for hearing, it is doubtful whether snakes hear at all in the sense in which we speak of hearing. Rather a hearing sense seems to have been developed by picking up vibrations transmitted through the ground.

Locomotion is by means of the ribs which may number more than two hundred on each side. Snakes move forward by throwing the body into a number of horizontal curves, each outward bend pushing against some rough surface. Except for short bursts of speed a snake cannot race a man or even outdistance him during a fast walk. The speed of movement is largely dependent on the external temperature and snakes will be relatively sluggish in cool weather.

All snakes can swim. The black snake frequents swamps and river valleys where it feeds extensively on frogs. Snakes can remain under water for a considerable time especially if the water is cold. This is because they have a large supply of air in the air-sac, which they gradually pass through their lung. Being at relatively low temperatures they do not need so much oxygen.

DO NOT KILL SNAKES, LEAVE THEM ALONE...AND THEY WILL LEAVE YOU ALONE.

Courtesy, NBC JOURNAL

JOKE - HA, HA, HA, HA, HA, HA, HA, HA, HA, HA, HA, HA

What is the last thing you take off before going to bed?
Your feet off the floor.

NEWS FLASH, NEWS FLASH, NEWS FLASH

Ross, Linda, Alan and several people from the Chemistry School spent a cold wet and miserable night (Sunday 29th) huddled around a fire (?) half way up MURDERING GULLY near KAHANGRA WALLS. They had just made a slow but uneventful descent of KALANG FALLS when darkness overtook them on their return. Ross was sleeping soundly when I rang him this afternoon (Monday).

THE ESKIMO ROLE

The following article is taken from a book about canoeing, the title of which I don't possess but if you would like to know more about it you could try contacting Lyn Brown

The Editor

The leading up drills are as follows:

Capsize

The basic capsize drill is learned or, in the case of skilled canoeists, practised as follows:

1. Lean forward.
2. Relax the legs.
3. Place the hands on each side of cockpit beside hips.
4. Take two deep breaths.
5. Capsize.
6. Wait (snort out air through nose to keep water out of facial sinuses).
7. Beat three times on the bottom of the canoe.
8. Forward roll out of cockpit.
9. Come up holding canoe in one hand, and paddle in the other.
10. Repeat with spray deck on.
11. Try for longer and longer delays, say ten seconds plus using a noseclip.

Assisted Roll

This requires an assistant. It is not, strictly speaking, a roll but does give confidence both to the paddler and the assistant.

1. Sit in the canoe with knees braced and spray deck on.
2. Lean forward and try to clasp the hands under the canoe.
3. Remaining in this position, capsize towards partner.
4. Partner at once takes hold of far gunwale of canoe and pulls paddler upright.
5. Check that paddler is still locked forward, hands under canoe.
6. Repeat. Paddler this time beats twice to show that he is under self control, and then waits as long as he feels he can - usually about 7 to 10 seconds. He then beats once more on the upturned hull and the partner at once rights him and the canoe. Wear a noseclip.

See illustration overleaf.



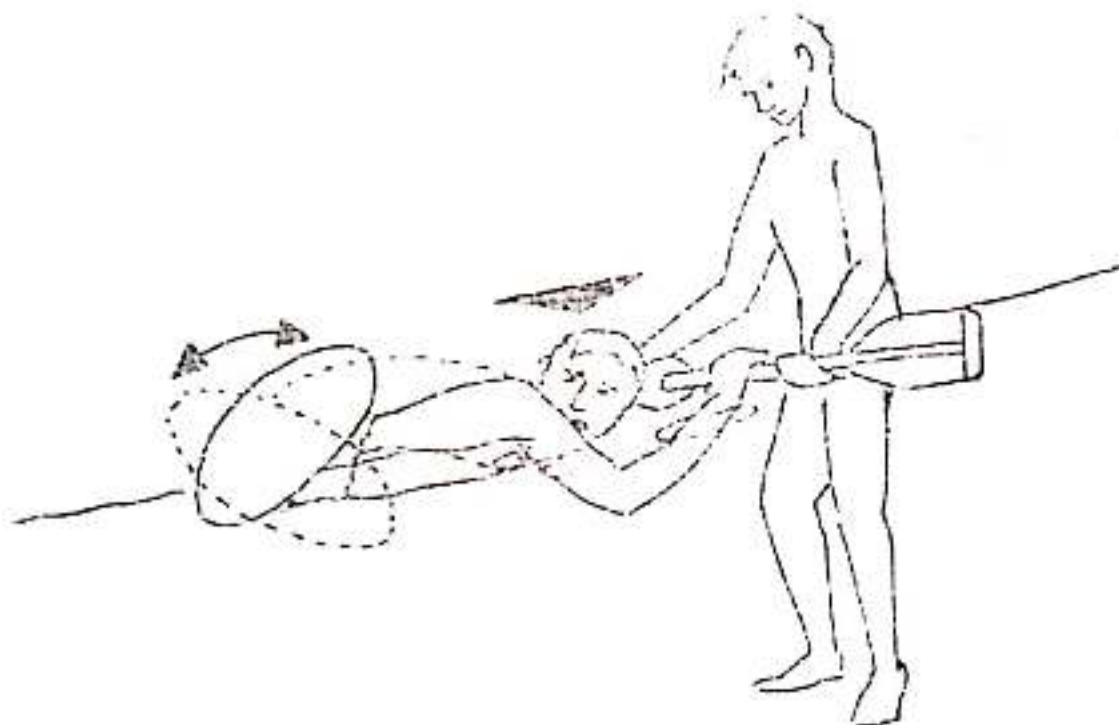
Assisted roll

Hip flick drill

This is essential to the establishing of good rolling techniques. If the roll later shows six consecutive failures go back to this drill and use it as a reliable fall back position and exercise.

1. Lock into the canoe with spray deck on.
2. Place both hands on bath rail alongside.
3. Lie on the water, head just above water.
4. Partner may hold the paddle blade above the paddler's head to stop him lifting his head more than an inch or so above the surface. Let him breathe.
5. Tilt the canoe using hips until it flips over the point of balance.
6. By lunging upwards with the lower knee flick the canoe back onto balance. It is important not to raise the head.
7. Make this rapid flick action, off balance-on balance.
8. Repeat, say, twelve times each side.
9. It is important that the partner checks that the paddler makes a distinct flicking action to bring the canoe on balance and that the movement springs from the middle and not the arms.

10. The purpose is to pattern the bodily movements into putting the canoe back onto balance first so that the body may be 'poured' back into position when canoe is on balance. Lifting the body first leads to struggles for balance.



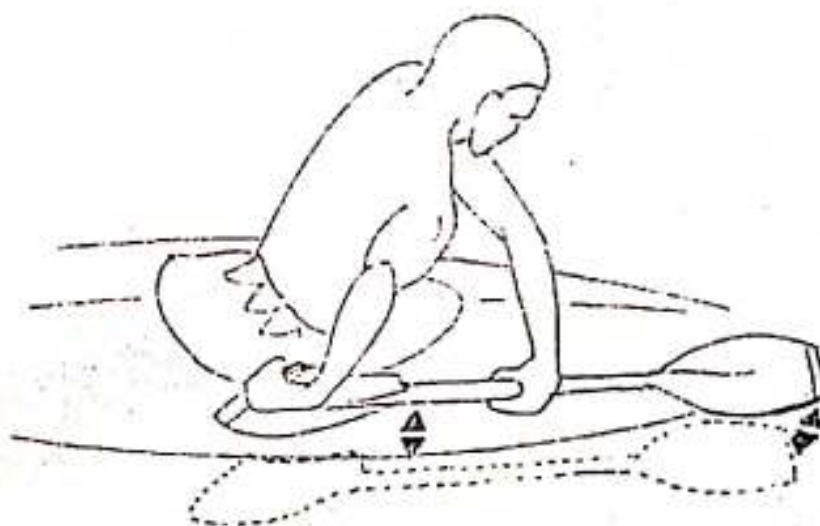
Hip tick drill

Dry paddle drills

The first is to ensure that the paddle at least begins in the right position.

1. Sit upright in the canoe hands on paddle so that the put-across position is used.
2. Wind up the paddle so that the rear wrist is turned outward and the forward hand and arm slightly flexed.
3. Check that the fore blade is tilted face upward and outward.
4. Fore blade must be held tightly onto the forelock.
5. Place whole of paddle on the water surface alongside
Replace on deck.
6. Repeat, say, twelve times.

See illustration overleaf.



Dry paddle drill

Wet paddle drill

This is further to ensure that the paddle begins its move correctly.

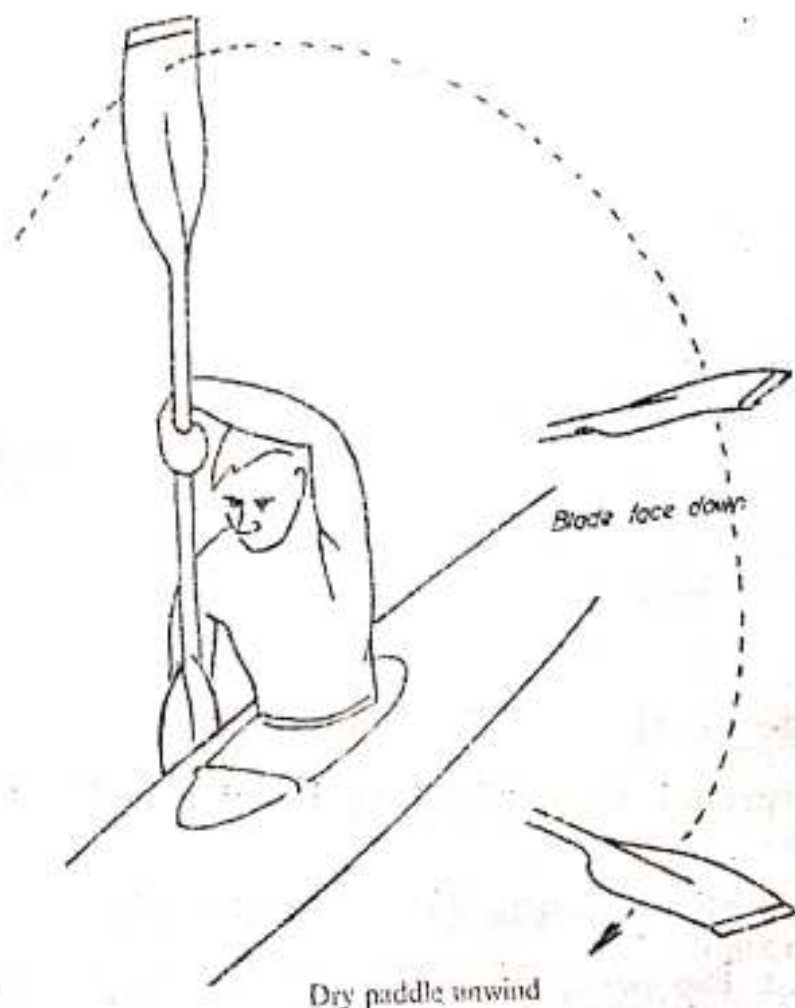
1. Take hold of paddle as in previous exercise.
2. Capsize.
3. Repeat the movement as in previous exercise, so that the paddle appears on the water surface alongside the canoe and parallel.
4. Replace the paddle on the foredeck which is under water.
5. Partner now rolls paddler up.
6. Check that fore paddle blade is in its proper position at the proper angle.

Dry Paddle unwind

This exercise assists paddler in feeling the way that the arms and body move to make the strike when rolling (the associated roll of the canoe makes the move quite different when seen from the surface).

1. Wind up paddle.
2. Lean forward.
3. Place paddle on the water alongside as described.
4. Lift off water in sweeping curve up over head so that the upper arm bicep rubs past the ear.
5. Keep the rearmost part of the swing about level with the cockpit.
6. Swing the paddle down onto water.
7. Tilt the leading edge of blade upwards and sweep it forward in a sculling movement across the surface of the water.

See illustration overleaf.



Wet paddle unwind

This where the roll proper begins. Repeated practice and returns to the hop flick and paddle on-off drills should assist rolling after a short while. There are some, a very few, who roll first time after such a lead up. Others go through the lead up, fail several times, go back to fall-back drills and then rest. Fifteen minutes later they try again and succeed. This is mostly done by young men, aged from 15 to 18, who are physically fit, well built and water confident. Others will learn more slowly and require frequent repetitions of the orientation and confidence drills. Most of the power of rolling comes from learning to relax the muscles not needed for the action rather than bunching up every available fibre.

1. Sit in the canoe, locked in with spray deck on.
2. Wind up paddle. Check blade angle and shaft position.
3. Capsize.
4. Place paddle alongside.

5. STRIKE
6. Don't think about it now.
7. Try six repetitions; if each is a failure go back to fall back drills.
8. Rest for fifteen minutes.
9. Try again.

FAULTS THAT HAPPEN WHEN ROLLING

1. Paddle strikes across the canoe in the wrong direction.

Go back to 'on-off' paddle drill - dry, then wet. An assistant can help by momentarily holding the paddle blade whilst pushing the bows of the canoe away, thus putting the canoeist in correct attitude for the strike.

2. Failure to wait before striking.

As the canoe is turning over the strike begins. This results in the paddle slicing down deep, striking the bottom and not providing effective lift.

3. Paddle angle wrong at start of strike.

The paddler waits but his paddle blade angle is such that its outer edge is angled downwards and thus strikes and slices downwards as in fault 2. Do not confuse fault 2 with fault 3.

4. Paddle not held firmly to foredeck as action begins.

The blade drifts downwards off the deck of the upturned canoe before the strike begins. The strike is too low and ineffective.

5. Paddle sets off correctly but immediately sinks too low.

This is because the action is being taken too far forward. The full unwinding swing of the body and arm, so that the bicep rubs the ear, is not being used.

6. Paddle sets off correctly but feels heavy and dead as it sinks to the bottom.

This is the result of too much paddle angle. The angle of attack of the blade to the water is so steep that the blade is in a stalled position, loses lift from sculling action and simply sinks low. This sinking of the blade is characterised by its slowness and heaviness.

16.

7. The paddle sets off correctly but loses its angle of attack which becomes negative and the blade slips swiftly down to the bottom.

This is similar to fault 3; it differs from 6 by its swiftness.

8. Paddle and swing correct but paddler appears momentarily then falls back.

This is failure to use the effective lift created by the skimming blade. I recommend a punch, a lunge with the knee and a predetermination to go hard for the roll.

9. Paddler rises up, hovers, falls back. Canoe is noticeably not on balance.

Go back to hip flick.

10. Paddler swings paddle too far back, and is laid back at an angle, or remains sitting up straight. Laid back at an angle, his muscles don't work. Sitting up, his muscles are overloaded by the high rotational inertia of the body-canoe unit.

Sometimes the paddler will take naturally to the Steyr roll and this should be considered at this point. Many women seem to roll better when laid back along the rear deck. Sometimes they use a Pawlata wind-up to a Steyr roll. The important thing is to decide whether the paddler is to persist with the forward position of the Pawlata as described or transfer at once to the lay-back of the Steyr roll. In any even a sitting-up position is hopeless.

11. Paddler rises up, canoe almost on balance, and then flops back.

Try using the reverse sculling action at the end of the stroke so that the planing paddle blade slips forward toward the bows whilst the last bit of balance is regained.

Author Unknown

JOKE - HA, HA, HA, HA, HA, HA, HA, HA, HA, HA, HA, HA

"Why does a woman say she's been shopping when she hasn't bought a thing?"

"Why does a man say he's been fishing when he hasn't caught a thing?"

ADVERTISEMENT

Positions Vacant - Wanted several enthusiastic helpers to produce this journal.

ARR VELL, YAH GET THAT THOUGH

Standing, soaped up, under a cold shower at 5.00 on a Saturday morning, mightn't be much fun usually, but on this particular morning it seemed as though the world might end.

You're half way thru your shower serenade when everything starts to wobble.

"I must be having a dizzy spell, but that's funny, what's that queer rumble - I wasn't at the pub last night (that I can remember)."

"Earthquake?"

"You've gotta be joking, go back to sleep," you say to yourself.

"Earthquake!"

"Perhaps this guy ain't mucking around."

Within a minute of reaching the door you're trying to get your pants on - could be embarrassing otherwise.

(One guy in the college rushed out into Anzac Parade with a towel - you may well ask if that was all he took on his trip. Yes it was, for he'd left his key in his room which he'd instinctively locked behind him. I'm sure you don't want me to tell you the consequences.)

You reach the common room along with several others, only half dressed, some perhaps less - I wasn't in the mood for noting down the other's nightly attire. They stare at you and you at them, looking dumbfounded, aghast, disbelief, call it what you want, it ain't funny.

It's only later you ask questions. Will the cliff be there? What about the guys in the camping cave? Why

didn't the bloody college collapse? ... and so the questions pour out, perhaps faster than the Malabar sewer in a thunderstorm.

Perhaps not the most ordinary start to a climbing weekend, especially when you haven't climbed for three months, but that's the way it goes sometimes ...

... where did you say we pick him up Bob ... OK then you better go straight across this intersection, no wait, better have a look ... No that's the wrong way, let's go left (Bob starts the car moving left) ... Stop, Stop, look out, stop ... Bang ... "I think we've had an accident Bob", a voice mutters behind my right ear ... Bob perhaps we go home now, what, with the earthquake and now this prang, I think someone's trying to tell us something.

Well despite the start, we managed to find MT. BOYCE, along with quite a few other people. The weekend was the first climbing instruction on for the year. As usual there was the ever recurring problem of plenty of beginners and very few leaders and instructors. Despite a large lack of gear, several climbs were ascended. Warwick and Ross had completed the second ascent of GROPA (M4) by mid afternoon after seven people including myself had made the ascent of TONJAN CORNER (8) and SCHNISHENHOUSEN (10) while Mike and a number of beginners received rope burns from practice belaying. Mike lead a climb while Ross and myself finished the day by climbing ERIE, perhaps one of the most beautiful climbs as dusk settles silently over the KANIMBLA VALLEY as the striking of a piton hammer echoes along the cliff line.

"Anyone coming up the pub for a quick drink?"

Within minutes the cave was empty except for Warwick, people had dispersed to the mountain pubs as if some uncontrollable force had sucked them like the dirt going down the plughole in the bath at home. No matter which beer you choose, they all have an effect on an empty stomach, especially that of one particular weary climber. That walk back to the cave seemed very long. The road, railway lines, fences, gutters, rocks, stumps, and trees. They all made vivid impressions on my mind as they went thru 360°.

Sunday morning woke very heavy, the cliffs looked hard and formidable but the sun was well up in the cloudless blue sky. Bob and myself escaped from the Maddening crowd in the cave reasonably early, as climbers go. Before we returned for lunch we did GENTLY MINE (14 for



DONT TALK
 LIKE YOU FEEL
 FOR ALL THAT
 PATRIOTIC STAZZ.

tall climber, 15 otherwise) and Bob lead LUCY (13) a mad desperate struggle from a crack, over a chockstone, into a chimney and then a fight with a large tussock of grass before the final exit chimney. Meanwhile several other climbs were ascended by various parties (2 to 8 people per party).

The weekend finished with a rather desperate ascent of SNOOPY (14) by Ross and myself.

Bill Blunt

CLIMBING UP OVER

Since the christmas break quite a few trips have been going.

The instructional was the first weekend with about 20 people: Warwick and Ross completed the second ascent of GROPA (14); Ross and Dill - SNOOPY (14); Bob and Bill - LUCY (13) and GENTLY MINE (14); Bill, John and Alan did ABSEIL CORNER (11); while ERIE (13) had about

three ascents in the two days. Climbs like TONGAN CORNER, CANADIAN CORNER, ABSEIL SLAB, SCHNISHENHOUSEN, SWEET IRISH and ABSEIL SLAB remained popular, each having several ascents, usually with large parties.

The following weekend saw two new routes and the repeats and attempts of several established routes in the VOLGAN VALLEY. One new route by Bill and Paul involved jamming for 15 metres till it met the first belay of Blasphemy. It's called THE BLASPHEMY VARIANT. The other new route by Warwick, Auto and Jim is about grade (15) and involves a tight chimney. Ross and Peter Pavlov also climbed BACK OFF (15) and BOULDER CLIMB (14).

The following Saturday saw the crowds back at WIRINDI. The Saturday was plagued by showers but several climbs were completed. Bill and Paul found THE CARTHAGINEAN (13) to their liking before Bill did PHANTOM (13) with some MMS climbers. Ross lead PHANTOM later only to find that his seconds couldn't get off the ground (you didn't pull hard enough) resulting in him abseiling off. He also did HOCUS FOCUS (12) with Paul, Virginia and John before evening fell. On the Sunday Ross, Warwick and Andrew Stewart climbed LITTLE RICK in the COLONG area, while Bill, still at WIRINDI climbed SSCC 1 (14) with Bob and Alan while watching PTORTISE (ex club member) lead PSYCHOPATH (19). The afternoon finished with an ascent of the beautiful TOMBSTONE WALL (15).

By the next weekend some of the climbers had work to complete or were too tired to think about climbing. A one day trip was organised to the NARROW NECK and resulted in Mike and Helen Swain doing SLOTH WALL (11) while Bill and Ross backed off the direct route just short of the overhang. Instead they did 100 foot SLAB VARIANT (13). With no lunch, the afternoon saw an ascent of MANIAC (18) by Mike, Ross and Bill.

Since then Paul, John and Virginia made an epic ascent of the WEST WALL (13) of the THREE SISTERS in 9½ hours. What happened Paul? The record is said to be 45 minutes.

At Easter several carloads of odd bods - climbers, walkers, good for nothings and cavers (?) turned up at PERISHER only to leave after an hour. Their new destination was to be BOOROOMBA, a climbing area only several miles from CANBERRA. Several others from SRC and MMS happened along also. Some of the best ascents included: FIASCO (MVS) by Warwick and Bryden Allen, ZOGG (VS) by Warwick and some SRC guys. HERMES (MVS) had two ascents. Bill and Ross later had an interesting ascent of PETER PAN (HS) with some circus acrobatics and yelling.

ROYES CRACK (HS) had ascents and was found by most to be easier than the said grade. NATRIK (HS) was climbed by Ross and a second (name escapes me).

Other climbs like: POSSUM (S), SUNSTROKE (VD), HORTENSIA (MS), SQUARE GULLY (VD), BIGFLAKE and MARMALADE (MS), RUNNING CRACK (MS), RISE AND FALL (VD), JACKS CRACK (HVD), OVERHAND CORNER (MS), ATCHISON'S NEEDLE (MS), and AQUANORT (VD) all had at least one ascent.

With the numbers of new climbers and leaders we hope that these pages may grow so that the journal becomes bigger and thicker.

Go and climb up and over.'
HA. HA. HA.

FROM THE EDITORS

We'd like to thank everyone who contributed and helped in the production of this journal and hope they and more do the same for the others to come.

A special thank you to Stuart MacDonald for his tremendous work with Mobsac last year. He managed the editing, typing, writing and production for several issues with little help. Thanks Stu!

Thanks to the Students' Union for their assistance.

NEXT ISSUE

More from Peter Tuft on sleeping bags and groundsheets. The flora and fauna section will have something else and I'm sure there'll be a report on the Inter-varsity Canoeing. More Climbing Up Over and perhaps an article on climbing rope; their uses, strengths, limits, etc. and an article on climbing ethics.

IF SOMEONE HAS READ THIS JOURNAL OVER YOUR SHOLDER, THEN HIT HIM AND TELL HIM TO JOIN THE CLUB - IT'LL BE SENT TO HIM THEN (ONLY THE MOUNTAINEERING CLUB MEMBERS RECEIVE THEIRS BY THE POST SO YOU BUSHWALKERS KNOW WHAT TO DO).

THANK YOU

BILL

POSTSCRIPT

CONSERVATION ON THE CLIFF

Sydney Rockclimbing Club
May '73

Dear Mobsac'er,

Greetings and salutations from Sydney Rockclimbing Club and congratulations on such a good magazine. The reason we are writing to you is to enlist your aid.

Recently it has been brought to the attention of the club that much "piton damage" is occurring on the cliffs in Sydney climbing areas, particularly Mount Peddington. Sandstone being a relatively soft rock is particularly vulnerable to this form of "erosion". Hence it is high time that we started to examine this problem more fully.

The subject was discussed at our May meeting and it was generally agreed that the principle offenders are those not already in a climbing club, thus we must try and reach those people. If you are at a climbing area encourage other climbers to leave pitons behind then even if you "don't intend to use them" the temptation to pound-a-peg when in a "gripping" situation is not there. Also try to place "nuts" and not bash them in - this is a habit not easily broken.

You will no-doubt hear much more of this subject in the near future as it is envisaged that a combined Club's committee be established to try and bring about general agreement amongst the Sydney Clubs.

Till then, climb clean.

Yours,
Warwick Williams.
Pres. Sydney Rockclimbing
Club.

NOTICE: Next Mountaineering Club meeting, May 10th, 7.00 pm
Meeting Rooms 1 & 2, Stage 3. Slides in the Town Hall later.

A program of activities will be sent out within a couple of weeks.