

# September News

Kia ora,

Spring has arrived and we can celebrate another successful and hugely fun Wily Weka, in no small part to Daniel Penney's efforts. Daniel is the ultimate handy-man, get-it-done legend of our club and he went over and above to make this year's edition happen! It was great to see so many turn out despite the weather looking a little bleak the days beforehand. Fortunately the rain held off for most of the day and we were able to enjoy the full extent of the amazing Cable Bay Adventure Park.



The Australian Orienteering Championships which includes the Southern Cross Secondary Schools Trans-Tasman Challenge is happening this week. All the best to Zefa, Tide, Riley, Lani and Eddie who are all competing and no doubt will be able to teach their Aussie counterparts a thing or two about navigating in their own backyard.

Happy adventuring, Matt O



# **Upcoming Events**

Event	Distance	Location	Dates	Time	Categories	More Info
Canterbury Champs	Relay	Castle Hill Village	Saturday 14th October	ТВА	Public	More info here
	Long	Hogsback, Castle Hill	Sunday 15th October	ТВА	Public	More info here
National Orienteering Champs	Sprint	Hastings, Hawkes Bay	Friday 20th October	ТВА	All race classes listed here	Early-bird Registration closes Monday, 17th July.  Enter here.  More info
	Middle	Mangatarata, Waipukurau	Saturday 21st October	ТВА		
	Long	Tuna Nui, Sherenden	Sunday 22nd October	ТВА		
	Relay	Tuna Nui, Sherenden	Monday 23rd October	ТВА		
Australasian 24 hr Rogaining Champs	3, 6, 15 & 24 hr	Lake Tekapo	16-17th December	ТВА	Championship and non championship categories	More info here

See our <u>Events</u> or <u>Facebook</u> pages for all of our upcoming events and details (and results after each event). We endeavour to keep all details up to date, but please let us know if you have any questions or see any discrepancies.

# **Orienteering in Australia**

### **MTBO**

Club members, Pat Higgins and Georgia Whitla had very successful showings at both the NSW and Australia MTBO champs in Australia at the beginning of the month. The Australia vs NZ challenge occurred over the champs, with all NZ riders results counting for points. The NZ team ended up coming away with the win and bringing the banner home.





Georgia at the start line

#### Southern Cross Challenge

Best of luck to our junior orienteers (Lani Murray, Tide Fa'avae, Eddie Swain, Riley Croxford, Zefa Fa'avae) who have arrived in Perth for the Australian Schools champs, racing begins this weekend. Live results can be followed <a href="here">here</a>.

# Wily Weka debrief

Team Lis Kev & Cam comprising Lisa and Cam Algie and Kevin O'Donnell took out the 6 hr race at Wily Weka. Kevin has written about his team's race and their winning route.

"We recently put together a new adventure racing team and had/have a super exciting summer planned of racing. This was all working towards the big show of Godzone (boohoo ©) but started with the equally impressive Wily Weka!



I always find the hardest part of a rogaine (especially a multi discipline long event) is plotting a course. At first glance the map looks like a blur and it always takes me a few minutes to work out what's up, what's down and what might link together. My new team mates taught me a great trick of putting a map bag over the map and using it to plot potential routes that can be wiped off as needed. You never get it right first go so this is super helpful!



The Runaways consisting of Maegan and Lizzie all smiles out on the 6 hour course

Being the eternal optimist I'll usually plan to clear the course but leave plenty of egress routes for that inevitable moment where I realise it just isn't going to happen. For this event we thought that clearing the mountain bike leg would be worth the points on offer and would be a load of fun so we committed to that before making the transition. The foot section looked to us like three big loops with some out and backs in the middle of the course. We planned on the smaller loop being last so we could drop or shorten it if needed. The big question though was what was the bush like between 111, 132 and 115.....



Marauding Miromiro captured out on course



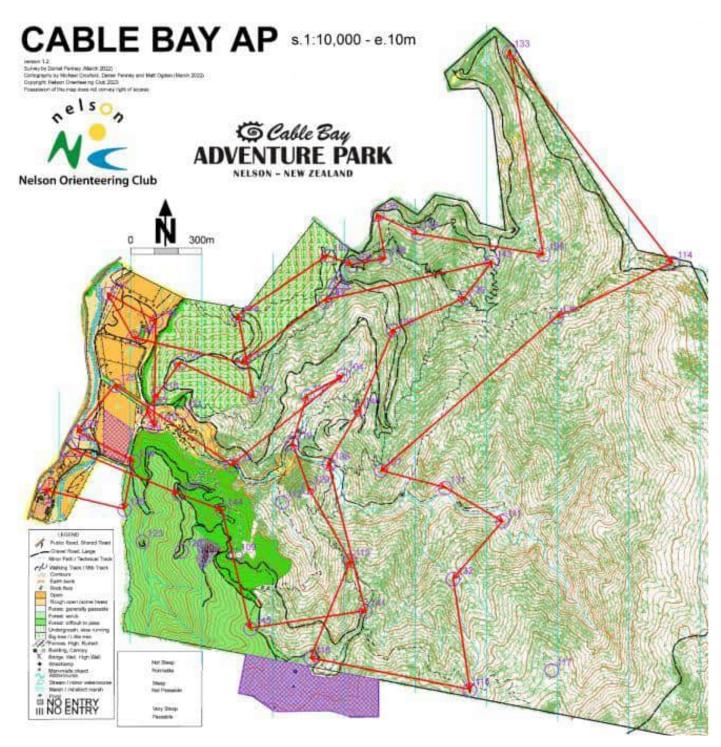
Within about 4mins of being on the course we were full of lactic acid grinding our way up the extremely steep hill on the south side of the course. We picked up the controls easily and then had the fun bit of screaming down the mountain bike track towards the river and a bridge. "Where the hell is the bridge?" I often say mid race that the map is wrong, its usually not and its just me being a muppet, but this time it was. We naved off other features to confirm where we were then carried on, picking up the bridge control further down river.

The next part of the course for us was fun with pretty smooth nav, we even said, half way through the run, that we were looking like we would clear it, ha ha fooled again! We got into the bush to go 131, 111, 132, 117 and everything slowed down. Past 132 we started having the 'what can we, what can't we' conversations. This is honestly the most fun part, looking at the watch, assessing the map, adding up the points, guessing at the times and then plotting a course that you change again 15mins later. The pressure always builds here and you need to stay tight as a team. Cam suggested that he navs to the control while I plot the wider course, great suggestion and this teamwork paid dividends. We did our final improvised loop, got on the bikes and arrived with 14 seconds to spare, nailed it!"



Kevin and teammates (Cam and Lisa) crossing the bridge at to get to the finish line before time runs out





Team Lis, Cam, & Kev's route at Wily Weka



## Symbol of the month

#### <u>Terrace</u>

A terrace is a level area on a slope, could also be described as a bench.

Мар	Control Description	Example

#### Volunteer Q & A

This month we caught up with Daniel Penny to ask him a couple of questions. Daniel is the club secretary, he's planned many successful events for the club, most recently the Wlly Weka.



**Q:** You recently planned and executed the very successful Wily Weka at Cable Bay, what was a challenge and a highlight you encountered during the process?

A: Why thank you. The challenges were plentiful, for a start I had big plans for the Wily Weka at Cable Bay with the plan to start the event in the Glenduan and race across the hill down into Cable Bay Adventure Park. Of course the very first step in organising any event is to get the landowners permission so I rang the farm opposite Cable Bay Adventure Park and they were very happy with my plan until I told them the date.... It was right bang smack in the middle of lambing and just simply was not going to work! Luckily for me the highlights were just as plentiful, definitely seeing the mountain bikers of the club relish the chance to show off their skills on the fabulous trails of Cable Bay was the biggest highlight for me on the day.



**Q:** I agree, it was great to see the mountain bikers out and thank you for planning a course that incorporated mountain biking! When you've organised other rogaine and sprint events for the club you sometimes try to incorporate an additional challenge to the event that brings an element of novelty. How do you come up with these ideas, what is one of your favourites that you've done, and can you let us in on any of your ideas that you're thinking of using in the future?

**A:** I love trying something different with events, I find the mental challenge and problem solving part of nav sports the best part. I get inspiration from events I find online and try to apply them in the most basic way. My favourite one was inspired by the Barkley Marathons approximate 12 hour loop and was probably one of the first ones I tried, last year at Isle Park. I called it "Don't get dropped" where competitors had to get controls in order but the controls "timed out" every minute. I absolutely loved this idea and I think I got so excited and nervous that I forgot to explain it until the last minute and I suspect half the people had no idea what I was saying! I have lots more ideas but can't give them away, you'll have to wait until December and see!

**Q:** Awesome, I can't wait to find out what you've got planned for December! Back to you though, what is something you're working towards right now?

**A:** Training for the upcoming adventure race "season". Maegan and I are entered in the WTF3 and Southern Lakes events and looking for a True West team. We just got a double packraft and are spending the weekends in the hills thrashing ourselves.

Thanks Daniel, and best of luck for your races coming up too!



Some of the terrain encountered at the NSW MTBO champs in



# **Junior camp**

There are two training opportunities for juniors coming up in December:

## Years 5-8:

When: Friday afternoon 15th December - Sunday 17th December.

Where: Camp will be based at Spencer Beach Top 10 Holiday Park, Christchurch.

More info to come, keep an eye on the info page on the PAPO website

## Year 9-13:

When: Thursday afternoon 14th December - Tuesday 19th December.

Where: Camp will be based at Woodend Christian Camp.

Applications are open now, and be sure to keep an eye on the info page on the PAPO website for

more information

Thanks for reading! See you next month.