



THRUTCH
Newsletter of the
Sydney Rockclimbing Club
July 2006



About the Sydney Rockclimbing Club (SRC)

The SRC aims to be a meeting point for climbers and, to this end, runs frequent social events, such as monthly meetings and gym nights.

The SRC does NOT organise outdoor climbing trips **yet** (nor does it provide instruction of any kind). Any outdoor climbing undertaken together by members of the club is by their own private arrangement.

SRC MEETINGS

Meetings of the SRC are held at 7.30 pm on the first Wednesday of every month (except January) at the Petersham RSL, 7a Regent St., Petersham.

MEMBERSHIP DETAILS

Membership is valid for one year from July; half price membership is available for new members from January to June.

Membership gets you:

- Subscription to Thrutch for one year (11 issues)
- Discounted guide books and climbing gym entry
- Socialising and entertainment
- Talks/slideshows by occasional guest presenters
- Access to the SRC library

Download Membership forms from

www.sydneyrockies.org.au

Send membership subscriptions accompanied by the signed waiver form to:

The Membership Secretary,
Sydney Rockclimbing Club
PO Box A592, Sydney South, NSW 1235

MEMBERSHIP FEES

- Single - \$30.00 (for new members)
- Single - \$20.00 (for renewals)
- Student or Junior - \$15.00
- Veteran (over 55 & 10 year m'ship) - \$15.00
- Hard copy of Thrutch - additional \$10.00

THRUTCH

Thrutch is the Newsletter of the SRC. Contributions preferably typed, on disk or via email - are always welcome, photos especially so.

Send Thrutch Contributions to: Thrutch Editor, Sydney Rockclimbing Club PO Box A592, Sydney South, NSW, 1235 or Email: thrutch@sydneyrockies.org.au

GET THRUTCH VIA EMAIL!

If you received this newsletter as a paper copy, you may be interested to learn that you'll get it a lot faster if you have it delivered via email. To arrange for electronic delivery, contact the membership secretary at:

membership@sydneyrockies.org.au

Note: If you use a limited space free email account address (such as Yahoo or Hotmail), you need to keep at least 1MB space available in your account at all times or your electronic copy of Thrutch may not reach you.

CORRESPONDENCE

Send general correspondence to:
The Secretary, Sydney Rockclimbing Club
PO Box A592, Sydney South, NSW 1235
Route Descriptions

Send new route descriptions to:
Sydney Rockclimbing Club
PO Box A592, Sydney South, NSW 1235

SRC COMMITTEE - 2004/2005

President	Niall Doherty (<i>Acting</i>)
Vice President	Rod Smith
Secretary	Sandra Parker
Treasurer	Anna Beardmore
Librarian	Kit Wong
Membership	Karni Daniel
Access	Kevin Westren
Thrutch Editor	Ray Haak
Business Manager	Rod Smith <i>until further notice</i>
IT Officer	Niall Doherty
Social Secretary	Kellie Howe

COVER SHOT!

Jiun Der Chung on **Pilot Error (20)** at the Araps

Photo by Unknown

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WARNING! Rock climbing is dangerous. You could be injured or killed if you attempt any of the activities described. There is NO substitute for experience.





WHAT IS IN THIS ISSUE?

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FOUND IN THE INBOX

This time a very different article by Jiun Der Chung about a run on Pilot error on the Arraps. And because it is different Jiun has the helmet this time.

Then we have Luke Merrit who is now the person to contact if you want to climb indoor in St Leonards you can just give him a call on 0438 619 470 or look for him in the gym he will be the one wearing a Sydney Rockies Shirt and if you see more than one person wearing that T Shirt just ask one of them as they all know him. Luke thanks for volunteering for that.

And the biggest news is that we now finally can start with organising club trips again. Eventhough we still have to fill in a waiver and stick to rules like wearing a helmet etc. (It feels as if I am talking to myself), We do have cover for our members in case they get an accident BUT NOT for Personal Liability in the case you hurt someone else than yourself and thats why we have to fill in that waiver.

I hope that this is taking off soon and we are ready now. The club has purchased six emergency packs to be taken on club trips for the little accidents. You can organise the trips yourself by just contacting the trip convener and tell him your plans and he will give you the OK, the forms to sign and he will collect the forms after the trip and safe keep it for atleast 3 years. This position of trip convener is vacant at the moment but in his kindness Rod Smith has taken up this position for the moment. The position of trip convener does not imply that you have to attend the committee meetings as the committee has decided that this is not really a committee position.

ALSO FOUND:

The next SRC meeting (Wed 2 Aug) is the Annual General Meeting. As part of the proceedings, members must elect a new committee for the next year. All committee positions will be open.

The President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Access Officer, Librarian, Thrutch Editor and IT Officer are all willing to be re-nominated and continue in their present positions. Note that I am currently filling two positions - President and IT Officer. Of course if you feel you would like to contest one of the positions you are free to do so.

The Membership Secretary, Business Manager and Social Secretary positions will become vacant at the AGM. We have not had a dedicated Business Secretary for the last year.

Our Membership Secretary, Karni Daniel, and Social Secretary Kellie Howe are both resigning. On behalf of the committee, I would like to thank them for the work they have put in to their respective roles over the past few years.

The role of Membership Secretary is especially vital to the club, even more so now that we are to recommence running climbing trips. The duties of the role are:

- Attending club meetings to greet new members, provide application forms, process applications, provide receipts and membership cards, and collect cash and cheques.
- Collect mailed applications and send out cards and receipts
- Enter details of all new applications into the Rockies database, check that details of existing members haven't changed and update as necessary.
- Bank cash/cheques and provide details of amounts and date of deposit to Treasurer.
- Provide email addresses to IT Officer for addition to Rockies email list.





If you feel that you can contribute to the running of the club by undertaking this important role, please let me know! We really need to have someone fill this position.

The Business Manager administers the purchase and sale of guidebooks, published both by the SRC and others, to members and to retailers. The business manager should be prepared to make occasional visits to outdoor stores to check their stocks of guidebooks and offer more for sale if necessary.

The Social Secretary organises events such as post-gym drinks, group movie attendances, the annual dinner, and other social events as they see fit or as suggested by members.

Being on the committee does not take up too much of one's time. Committee members just need to attend most club meetings, plus most committee meetings (of which there are about 4 per year).

Existing members can renew membership up until the end of the meeting for the discount rate of \$20. After that it is \$30.

Club business at the meeting will be:

- Brief annual report from each office holder.
- Elections for committee positions.

Afterwards we will have a show-and-tell slide session. So bring a digital pic or two on a USB stick or CD, display it on the screen and relate the story! A prize for the picture that gets the loudest applause.

The Lucky Door Prize for the meeting will be a ***LINK CAM***. The latest technology in camming devices from Omega Pacific, these devices have just been released and are worth some \$200. Only financial members who attend the meeting are eligible for the draw, so be there for your chance!

See you on the night.

On behalf of the SRC Committee.

Regards

Niall Doherty SRC President

For all the Nowra-heads amongst you:

Planet Mossvale (18) at Thompsons Point was recently rebolted (not by me). The route is the long arete left of Gun Barrel Highway, which starts as for Birdsville Track then traverses left before the top of the flake. It has seen few, if any, ascents in recent years due the poor condition of the old carrot bolts. It now has 11 rings/U-bolts and a 2U anchor. It's quite long so requires a 60m rope with a knot in the belayer's end.

Apparently it is still a bit dirty but has the makings of a three star classic. A worthwhile addition to the shortish list of moderate grade climbs at TP, and might serve to reduce the length of the queue on Vanderholics!

On another Nowra note, the anchor rings on the easy climbs at the walkdown gully (Santa's Little Helper, Woderwick etc) are badly worn from top-roping. Twice in the past three years stainless steel twist shackles have been fitted and subsequently stolen. On these, and in fact on any route with ring or U anchors, please top-roped through your own draws or carabiners and not directly through the anchors. Last person up should know how to rethread.

By Niall Doherty

INFO FOR THE NERDS

If you own a distress beacon - which may also be called an:

* EPIRB (Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon) Mariners,

* ELT (Emergency Locator Transmitter) Aviators.

* PLB (Personal Locator Beacon) Bush walkers & 4 wheel drive etc.

or are planning to purchase one, you should know that from 2009 only one type will be detected by the Cospas-Sarsat satellite system. That is the digital 406 MHz distress beacon.





PILOT ERROR, A PHOTOGRAPHIC EXPOSE

By **Jiun Der Chung**

Despite the reputation of the climbing community (the 80's lycra clad climbers not withstanding) to be tough, gritty, adventurous sorts, when it comes down to it, which climber isn't vain enough to want to have a photo of themselves doing something spectacular.

Hence during the Easter break, Greg Hislop one of SRC's newer members, Jonas Kuginis and I went down to Arapalies for some fun and frolic. Having tasted the heady delights of Pilot Error (20), a soft "one move wonder" roof at King Rat Gully, I had no trouble convincing the boys to go back for some monkeying around for the camera. As the boys often say about me, given the choice between a safe belay and a good photo, I go for the good photo every time.

The roof itself is protected by a ring bolt, however, as clipping it involves leaning out

into space off an crimpy undercling, it is a good idea to protect the move with a couple of cams in the break up underneath the roof. It is an intimidating start but once you get your hands on the massive jugs, it is a sweet little couple of moves.

Now it must be said that it wasn't the most ideal conditions for photo taking. It was a rather grey cloudy day and there was a rather chill wind blowing. Never-the-less, the boys did the manly thing and took off their shirts for the exercise, in order to show off their hunkiness. Jonas, Mr Buffness himself, lead the way, showing the rest of us how it was done. Greg, despite his hatred of rooves, got up in fine style despite taking the obligatory fall required in all fine dramas.

I on the other hand, being rather allergic to the cold as well being aware of my lack of hunkiness, spared everyone the sight of my body and kept both my beanie and jumper firmly on. But as can be seen from the photos, I am not without vanity on my part. Enjoy.









REGULAR GYM SESSIONS!

Come and play on:

- Tuesday evenings — **St Peters**. Just rock up look for the familiar faces, or ask around!
- Wednesday mornings — Climb Fit, **St Leonards**.
9–11am Contact Barbara & David Darmanin (9869 8834)
- Thursday evenings — **St Peters**. Just ask for Luke the one with the SRC shirt

CLUB MEETINGS

Club meetings are held at 7.30 pm, Petersham RSL on the first Wednesday of each month excluding January.

- **Wednesday, 2nd August 2006**
This is the AGM again so be there and vote for your committee members win a LINK CAM and bring digital photos to show on disc or usb and win more. See you there.

Guide Books For Sale

Title	RRP*	SRC Members' Price**
Rockclimbing In The Hunter Valley, Tim Haasnoot	\$35.00	\$25
Rockclimbs in the Upper Blue Mountains	\$35	\$15 Reduced
Climb Northern Tasmania	\$35	\$25
Wolgan Valley - Selected Climbing Areas	\$35	\$20
A Boulderers Guide to Lindfield Rocks	\$9.95	\$6
Point Perpendicular	\$35	\$20
Nowra Guide	\$35	\$20
Sydney Bouldering Guide	\$40	\$22

*Some stores charge substantially more! **Postage (if required) is extra, from \$2.00 to \$5.00 depending on the postcode and weight of book. To place an order, contact Rod Smith, Business Manager, at business@sydneyrockies.org.au.