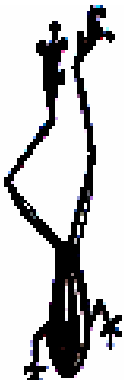




Leapfrog Bulletin



News of our trips and future events.

Issue 22 January 2005

Since last time.

We have had our usual interesting adventures with two trips to Jervis Bay and one trip to The Tops where we did some creek reclamation work. On the second JERVIS bay trip we had one of those perfect days fishing off Mary's beach point. The air was clear, the water warm and clear the fish were biting.

Out of School Grant.

We again have a grant from the Commonwealth Government through ACT Department of Education, Youth and Family Services Special Education Section to do activities with kids with special needs who attend school in the ACT. This enables us to offer highly subsidised trips to students. In the case of economic need these trips can be free of charge. Such is the success of what we have done we are now extending our offers to a larger group of students. Any student who attends school in the ACT is eligible. If you wish to be included in our camps give me a ring.

Club Memberships are due.

We have received a small grant from Healthpact to assist with the running of our club, which started nearly two years ago. New memberships are due for this year. Club membership entitles you to discounts on most trips, participation in club outings, the opportunity to raise funds to help pay for special club only member outings and the ability to plan trips that you might like to do. You will also get first notice of up and coming trips.

Club Membership

Adult working \$30.00

Adult pensioner \$20.00

School attendees \$20.00

Club Fundraising:

Miniature head torch usually cost \$49.95 our price \$25.00. These are an ideal present. They can be carried in your pocket on night trips and have a battery life of, would you believe, 100,000 hours. All profits go to the Leapfrog Club.

Some important Changes and News.

With this bulletin you will find a year plan of Leapfrog Adventures Inc. activities for the year. This will enable you to plan ahead. This will also enable our participants to get all of their information and monies for trips in well ahead of time. In the past, often at departure time, forms and money would be handed to the leader before leaving. This has led to great confusion. So we at leapfrog have been working hard over the last few months to get everything organized so that the office works more efficiently. We ask you to help too. We have also established the following to assist with the smooth running of trips.

Day trips and week end trips.

- MONEY FOR THE TRIP AND ALL FORMS ARE TO BE FORWARDED TO US NO LATER THAN ONE WEEK BEFORE DEPARTURE. IF THE NUMBERS FOR THE TRIP ARE LESS THAN THE MINIMUM, CANCELLATION WILL OCCUR TWO WEEKS BEFORE THE PROPOSED DEPARTURE. MONEY PAID FOR THE TRIP WILL BE REFUNDED IN FULL.

Five day to seven-day trips.

- MONEY FOR THE TRIP AND ALL FORMS ARE TO BE FORWARDED TO US NO LATER THAN THREE WEEKS BEFORE DEPARTURE IF THE NUMBERS FOR THE TRIP ARE LESS THAN THE MINIMUM, CANCELLATION WILL OCCUR THREE WEEKS BEFORE THE PROPOSED DEPARTURE. MONEY PAID FOR THE TRIP WILL BE REFUNDED IN FULL.

Trips longer than seven days.

- MONEY FOR THE TRIP AND ALL FORMS ARE TO BE FORWARDED TO US NO LATER THAN 6 WEEKS BEFORE DEPARTURE WITH AN INITIAL DEPOSIT PAID ON BOOKING. IF THE NUMBERS FOR THE TRIP ARE LESS THAN THE MINIMUM, CANCELLATION WILL OCCUR TEN WEEKS BEFORE THE PROPOSED DEPARTURE. MONEY PAID FOR THE TRIP WILL BE REFUNDED IN FULL.

Future Bulletins.

Running the Leapfrog Adventures Inc. office has become a major cost component of our trips. To cut down costs, in the future, we will be sending bulletins out to only our frequent fliers. (Frequent fliers are people who have done at least on trip with us in the last three years or people who request to be on the mailing list within the past year.) The bulletin will also be posted on our web site and notification will be made of its publication in the Fridge Door of the Canberra Times and in special cases in the public notices. We will also send bulletins via E-mail. If you would like information sent to you via E-mail please contact us.

And so Finally to the trips

Trip# 136 Bendethra Caves

Date: February 12 and 13.

A team kids only. Cost \$44.00 for kids covered by our grant.

An invitation only trip to Bendethra Caves to train the A team kids group to assist with a trip in two week- ends time.

Trip# 133 Bendethra Caves Trip 2.

Date: February 26 to 27.

A,B and C teams. Cost \$44.00 for kids covered by the grant, \$88 for siblings and \$220.00 for students who attend school outside the ACT

A mainly invitation only trip to camp at the Bendethra Caves area, but if you would like to come give us a ring.

We visit the caves and have a camping experience in an isolated area. Bendethra is a little over a 100 kilometers from the ACT. Here the verdant swale broaches the tumbling brook. Fish, well at least eels abound in the tumbling waters. We camp using our new Porioz all weather tents close to a fantastic, small, clear, swimming pool. Saturday is spent walking to the Caves and doing some exploring in a cave that was a commercial cave over a hundred years ago. Some of the old ladders and climbing chains can still be found here

Trip # 137 tops weekend for all.

Date: Friday March 18 to Monday March 21

Cost: \$88 for children who attend school in the ACT.

\$176 for siblings

\$440 For Adults or kids who don't attend school in the ACT.

We drive to the Tops on Friday night. The next couple of days are spent bush walking, swimming, a bit of fishing and some working on the creek building dams. The Tops will be our mountain retreat in the ski season so we will do some work-getting ready for the snow in August.

Summer in the mountains is great. It's a time when we get to play around in a lot of water. We will be playing in the creek, building new dams and fishing in a nearby dam for trout (I saw a few large trout there a couple of month ago). A trip to the caves is on the agenda and of course a swim at the hot pool with a walk to Buddong falls are a must.

This is an opportunity to explore this beautiful alpine area. There are fantastic walks outside our door, small streams with trout abounding, emus and brumbies and roos, monster trees in old growth forests.

Trip #140 Easter Fishing trip.

Date: March 24 to 28.

Cost: \$440.00 or \$88.00 for kids covered by the grant.

This is a camp that is for people who love fishing and are keen to learn more. My aboriginal mate Barry Moore will accompany us. We camp by the Kiah River and fish and fish and fish with a bit of swimming and canoeing thrown in. You can bring your favourite rod and lures if you like but all that is also supplied. Our job will be to teach you what to do. Your job will be catch fish. On this trip we even catch our own bait.

Trip # 138 Northern Camping trip.

Date: April 7 to April 19.

Cost: \$1320.00 for adults \$ 264.00 for kids who are covered by our out of school Grant.

Come with Barry Moore and I along the coast to Northern NSW. We will do a lot of fishing and swimming on this trip with some snorkeling thrown in. This is a trip for the outdoor enthusiast. We drive our way half way up the coast of New South Wales. We go as far as Coffs Harbour Then return via the inland route. At some stage on the trip we will go out ocean fishing.

Trip # 141 C group trip. Wee Jasper Caving and Canoeing.

Date: April 21 to 25

Cost: \$88.00.

This trip is for newcomers who wish to become members of the Leapfrog Adventures Inc. kids group. This is the first trip in some time that will specialize in getting new kids with a disability into the swing of things. I will have along some of our seasoned veterans to help out and show the new comers the way. We will do some beginning river crossings, canoeing, bush walking, and of course some caving. If you have a child whom you think would benefit from doing activities aimed at increasing their self-esteem and along the way learning new skills please contact us.

Trips in May and June

School age kids who attend school in the ACT will be invited to learn to rock climb with Armando Corvini. Armando is a very experienced rock-climbing instructor. He will do a beginners course which will enable kids from the A team to have a knowledge of basic knots, belaying techniques and rock climbing techniques. This course will be by invitation only but if you think you should be invited give me a ring.

July

During July school holidays there will be two trips offered. One will be to the Tops for final preparation for the ski season. The other trip will be a trip traveling to secret places in NSW.

Trips in August

This is our ski month so keep some weekends free. We will do a lot of cross country skiing and some down hill and snow boarding.

Trip: #142 Great Keppel Island Trip

Date: 10 days in late September to early October.

Cost: \$2200.00 or \$550.00 for kids who attend school in the ACT.

Spend 8 full days on Great Keppel Island with the sea at your doorstep and great snorkeling to be had OR join in and do some scuba diving on the reef. There are jet boats to hire or sail one of the catamarans. This is a great offer for such a splendid holiday. You will be joining with a group of young people who will be doing some scuba diving. You may wish to join in also. Please give me a ring if you are interested.

New Zealand Again!

November 19 to 30

Cost \$3300.00

Last time we only had three people booked. So we will try one more time. We have shortened our stay so that we can afford to use more cabin accommodation on our trip. This is your chance to explore the North Island of New Zealand at a reasonably leisurely pace. We will travel around the Island visiting places like Rotor, The Bay of Islands, Cape Reinga, The Coromandel Peninsula, Mount Egmont, Mount Ontario. In fact we will try seeing as much as we can without busting a boiler. There will be of course the mandatory swimming in hot pools, and eating the wonderful seafood along with maybe a bit of trout fishing before hitting the duty free shops at Auckland Airport.

The Year Plan.

The year plan that I have included with this bulletin is not complete. We will be adding to it during the year. However it should give you an idea of things to come so that you can save for them and plan your activities. Please if you want to go on any of the trips get in touch with me as soon as possible. Some of the longer costs are based on us getting an early warning of bookings so that we can take advantage of cheap fares.

Discounts on trips:

Discounts on trips now apply for members of the Leapfrog club. So it's time to think whether you would like to become a member. Membership would mean that we would have to have a meeting or two but it would also mean that you would have a say in what we plan for the future. Membership would also mean a bit of work for members but it would also mean that we can apply for grants and we can fund raise for trips. **If you are a member it means that you can take \$10.00 off each trip in this bulletin. There will be more offers of discounts in the future.**

Barry

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