



Leapfrog Bulletin



News of our trips and future events.

Issue 29/ November 2006

Bulletin 29 contains information on trips that may be added to. It includes our some of our planned trips into of 2007 so you can get in early and book.

Please check the notes at the end for changes (Leapfrog Club information, participant suitability & rising costs) and other Leapfrog information.

Yass Dance

Date: November 11 - 12

Target Participants: All Party Animals!!!

Cost: \$240.00 \$230.00 for Club Members

TRIP # 190

Here is a chance for you to go and dance the night away. We Leave on Saturday for Yass and party all night. We stay at Wee Jasper on Saturday night and after a late start visit the caves before we have lunch at 'Angela's Stables Tavern' and return home to Canberra.

THIS TRIP HAS HAD A TREMENDOUS RESPONSE AND IS FULL. YOUR ONLY CHANCE TO COME ALONG IS IF WE HAVE A CANCELLATION.

OUR NEXT COUNTRY DANCE WEEK END IS THE TUMUT VALENTINES DAY DANCE IN FEBRUARY.

High Needs Getaway Trip #210

Date: March

Target Participants: People with Higher Needs

Venue: Probably Narooma

Cost: TBA

Trip #210

Leapfrog is planning a camp for people with high needs to get away from it all. At present we are working on the fine details but if you are interested or know somebody who may be, please give us a call at the office.

High need camps are very difficult to organize. We have received enough names to make sure there is interest in the camp. We now have to make sure the camp happens. So don't feel afraid of ringing us up and asking what's happening and reaffirm your interest.

To those who have expressed an interest we now need to have more information from you. So can you get in touch with us.

The things we need to know are:

Name of person coming, address, contact details of person (if applicable) and care/s level of disability (as a guide to what assistance they need) personality of person. Number of days the person would like to be away (week end, 3 days, 4 days, or 5 days.)

Special dietary requirements.

All this we will take into consideration when organising the trip.

Tasmania and Fishing Trip # 191

Date: November 27 to December 9.

Cost: \$2750 for Thirteen Days. (An increase in price and an increase in days) the extra cost covers the higher cost of the flight as all the cheaper flights are gone, gone, gone!

This is exceptional value. **ONLY ONE PLACE LEFT**

Trip #191

HERE WAS AN OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME!

Leapfrog offered 13 days of exploring and fishing in Tasmania.

By the time you read this we will probably be in the last stages of getting ready for the trip. We have only one place available! So if you want to catch the plane with us and also a whole lot of fish, come on board. This is exceptional value for a trip that takes you to places that many people will have never seen. We spend 5 days at Strahan fishing and staying at a wilderness lodge, 3 days at Schuten Island with a fishing boat at our disposal and then down to Dover where we will fish the Bruny Island Straights. I really wanted to do this trip. This is why the cost is so low as I don't get a wage.

Next time, if there is a next time, and I hope there will be a next time, the cost will be at least \$3,900 for the thirteen days. So if you are fit and well and love catching fish, looking at great scenery and having a great time get the last place available. We will also fit in a bit of sight seeing along the way.

New years Trip. Trip #213

Trip: Jervis bay New Year extravaganza.

Date: January 1 to January 7 2007 Monday to Sunday.

Cost: \$1100 INC GST.

TRIP #

HERE IS A NEW YEARS HOLIDAY THAT CAN'T BE BEAT. Come and spend a fabulous time at Jervis Bay. This is one of our favorite trips. You can escape to the beaches and just enjoy being there. Barry Moore will do his magic tours showing you the Koori way of life. This is a trip that most people want to return to. Activities can include chasing dolphins, swimming, Fishing, pipi catching, a night out at the club and general coastal relaxing it will be your choice. If we need a break from all the excitement at Jervis Bay we can take a trip out to Kiama and its legendary Blow Hole or the fun park at Jamberoo or a day trip to Minnamurra Falls. If you like a bit of fishing Barry Moore may be able to take you out to fish the safe waters of Jervis Bay in his new boat.

JERVIS BAY A TRIP # 215

Trip: A team week to Jervis bay January 7 to 14 Monday to Sunday

Cost: \$121 kids who attend school in the ACT. \$110 for Club members

\$418 for adults who are members of the A team and Club members

This is an invitation training week only. A team members and those who are considered as being close to becoming members will be invited on this trip. The emphasis will be on having fun and learning more about the Jervis Bay environment. We will be doing all the usual things at Jervis Bay. Our mate Barry Moore will as usual be helping.

JERVIS BAY B TRIP # 216

Trip: New kids trip to Jervis Bay January 15 to 19 Monday to Friday

Cost: \$121 kids who attend school in the ACT. \$110 for Club members

440 for kids from out of the ACT. \$418 if they are club members

A TEAM MEMBERS TO ASSIST BY INVITATION

Here is a trip for kids who are new or newish to Leapfrog's adventure trips. We will swim. Snorkel, fish, walk, pipi. This is a chance for members of the A team to introduce our new participants to the world of Jervis Bay. We now have a number of new children who have tasted the adventure on our trips and want to try more. This trip is open to young people who have not been on a Leapfrog trip before.

JERVIS BAY C TRIP # 217

Trip: Scuba Jan 19 to 23 Friday to Tuesday

Cost: To be Announced (scuba course fees plus the camp cost for Jervis bay)

Another exclusive trip. A number of people who are in our A team will be asked whether they would like to learn to scuba dive. They will be contacted by me. Hopefully next time we go to Great Keppel Island we will have more than one person (David) who has a scuba license. The trip scuba practical will be held at Jervis Bay as part of our camp down there.

TOPS A (2007) TRIP # 218

Trip: Tops Week end Jan 26 to 29.

New kids trip to the Tops

**Cost: \$121 kids who attend school in the ACT. \$110 for Club members
440 for kids from out of the ACT. \$418 if they are club members
A TEAM MEMBERS. TO ASSIST BY INVITATION.**

The Tops is our mountain retreat hidden away above Tomney's Plain. Here we always see brumbies and often see emus and dingoes. Throw in a few wallabies, lyre birds, and wombats and you have a pretty good stew.

I will be inviting new kids on this trip where we will learn about life in the bush. We have a pretty relaxing time doing some walking, building dams, learning about getting generators working, and maybe doing some fishing with a little swimming thrown in.

BENDETHRA TRIP# 219

Bendethra Caves Week end Feb 9 to 11.

**Cost: \$66 kids who attend school in the ACT. \$55 for Club members
\$330 for kids from out of the ACT. \$297 if they are club members
Special price for Adult members of the A team.**

Bendethra is a special place in a valley in the coastal mountain range between Narooma and Canberra. We leave as soon after school as possible to take advantage of daylight saving. Although only 110 kilometers from Canberra the valley is over 2 hours away. We are camping of course. On the Saturday we will spend the day walking to and exploring the caves. This cave was a show cave over a hundred years ago. There is a metal ladder into the caves and old chains and paths that lead through the labyrinth.

Sunday will be spent having a swim in the crystal clear waters of the swimming hole before packing up and returning home.

Coming Events...

As usual there are a lot of things on the drawing board. They appear in our next bulletin which I will create while away on a short break. But just to whet your appetite.

- A trip to Darwin where you fly up and we spend two or more weeks exploring the Northern end of Australia including the Kimberley's.
- Barrier Reef days on Great Keppel again specializing in scuba.
- Ski week end trips in August
- Skiing in New Zealand
- Valmar Dance at Tumut
- Trips to Katoomba and Sydney

And as they say in the ads much, much more including the steak knives.

And now to the extra information & notes on changes...

Participant Suitability

Each Leapfrog Adventures Inc. trip is designed with specific objectives in mind. Activities and venues chosen are not suitable for all of our participants. For example Fraser Island is not really suitable for people with mobility problems (It is all sand). People with behaviours can find long trips in the troop carriers frustrating.

People with higher needs need special attention and sometimes one on one staffing ratio.

Because of this we cannot supply extra staff within our budget and therefore have to offer specific trips for these people, or the trips will become more expensive for others with lesser needs as the cost of extra staff will be passed on to them.

We at leapfrog always look to make the trip as enjoyable as possible for the group as a whole, this means keeping

group dynamics in mind at all times. When choosing a trip please keep these facts in mind.

We will be offering specific trips for people with high needs and greater behaviors so we suggest you take advantage of these.

If you are not sure about your suitability for a certain trip, give us a buzz at the office and we can have a chat about it.

Rising Costs

We always strive to keep fees as low as possible. You may have noticed the cost of some activities has risen slightly. We unfortunately have to keep up with rising costs which are out of our control (fuel etc.), and our administration time and office hours seem to increase every year. Unfortunately granting bodies don't generally provide us with funding to pay for our every day office costs and that is where between a quarter and a third of our money goes.

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

Out of School Grant.

We again are applying for 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.

Children who do not attend school in the ACT may attend camps but have to pay more so that the grant is not being used for them. Siblings of children with a disability may also attend camps especially where their attendance assists the child with a disability. We are also training a small number of children without a disability to be assistants on trips.

Club Memberships are Nearly due for 2007.

Club memberships are for 12 months. New memberships are due for the year 2007. If you are already a member your membership runs out after December 31 2006.

We no longer have a small grant from Healthpact to assist with the running of our club, which started nearly three years ago. 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 has increased this year due to rising prices and the fact that we no longer have the help from Health pact. It is still a good deal as the discounts on trips quickly covers your membership cost.

Club Membership

Adult working \$60.00

Adult pensioner \$40.00

School attendees \$40.00

Trip Costs Review.

We are presently reviewing our overall costs which go into making a trip work. These costs include office supplies, computer upkeep and repairs, incidental travel other than the actual trips, research of trips, hire of storage area, office heating etc. etc. etc.

Even applying for a grant cost many hundreds of dollars in administration. When we eventually work out what it cost to run Leapfrog there will be inevitably some increase in the cost of our adventures.

Thank you,
Barry Cooper.

**3 Burrinjuck Crescent Duffy ACT 2611/
leapfrog_adventures@bigpond.com
02 62874267 office/ 02 62873261 fax/
0414 908194 mobile
www.leapfrogadventures.com**