



Pic: Carolyn Matthews

13<sup>th</sup> March 2017 – MOUNT SUGARLOAF

# SETTERS REPORT

Geoff Peel

Firstly I'd like to thank everybody that attended this event. It is certainly more fulfilling from a setters point of view to have a good number of competitors testing themselves on the courses you have spent hours designing and placing. I'm sure the morning's weather conditions kept a lot of others away, but over sixty participants braved the "conditions". As it turned out, apart from it being a little eerily & beautifully foggy and slightly slippery underfoot, the weather wasn't a big factor with most runners wet from sweat rather than precipitation falling from the skies. I think that those attending would have been pleased they took the decision to come along. Surprisingly some of those in attendance included competitors that drove up through pouring rain from Sydney (we had a NTM competitor but he was in the local area anyway) and even a few first-timers, all of them delighted with completing their first ever bush orienteering course.

Winning times were a few minutes slower than I had expected, which I suspect was caused by the added caution due to the slippery conditions underfoot. Maybe it was the last climb, which in hindsight was not a good idea. In reality it was just to get everyone heading in the same direction to the finish. I wanted to avoid runners coming in at pace along the lower asphalt track. If the weather had been fine our tents would have been set up there and I wanted no chance of collision between competitors and spectators/picnickers. Think of it as great start of the season endurance training. You'll thank me later, especially those travelling to ACT next weekend and taking on the Isaac Ridge map.



Pics: Carolyn Matthews

As some of you will know, I took on this event with a relatively short timeline, hence I didn't have as much planning or checking time as I would normally like. This manifested itself as one slightly dodgy control placement, 151 (Moderate & Hard courses), which was placed about 20 metres away on a higher unmapped area of rocky ground. Additionally, a large unmapped rock-face in the area added to the confusion. Apologies to those that lost significant time here but I just didn't have time for a thorough course check nor did my vetters with only about half the sites getting a second opinion. At least it was a training event so competition points were not lost.

I hope you found the area interesting, challenging and as beautiful as I did. The running was quite good around the crown and in many other places with the exception of a few areas that had sections of fallen timber. I tried to avoid the worst of the vegetation but even the light green sections were readily traversed although they reduced visibility somewhat. I reckon this map should be used for an NOY event next year while the going is good.

Finally, a big shout out to all that assisted in the organisation, planning and staging of the event. I will risk omitting somebody (apologies if I do) by naming them.....

- Geoff Todkill - map printing preparation
- Jeff Guy - map printing, timing and results
- Joy Guy - entry desk, setup & pack-up
- Carolyn Rigby - entry desk
- Tim Tew - setup
- Margaret Peel - cupcakes, string course & pack-up
- Andrew Power - vetting
- David Kitchener - permissions, setup & control collection
- Rudi Landsiedel - control collection
- Kim van Metten - control collection
- Craig family - control collection
- Glenn Burgess - control collection
- Denis Lyons - vetting, starter, setup & control collection



See you all at the club's Night Championships, Wed 5<sup>th</sup> April at Thomas Halton Park (Valentine)  
Remember to bring your own head lamp or torch and insect repellent.