

Mareeba Metro: Organisers Wrap Up.

Over 80 Hikers and Bikers braved the near perfect conditions on Sunday for what for many was an in depth look at Mareeba's hidden treasures. Twenty new faces swelled the ranks and hopefully will continue on to bush rogaining in the near future. The course was intended to showcase Rod Gray's orienteering map which was the colour centerpiece of the 60 checkpoint challenge. At a scale of 1:2500 the orienteering map had 20 coloured dots over a 20 hectare area whilst the surrounding traditional cadastral map at 1:25000 saw bikers having to cover at least 30km to complete the course in 3 hours.

The results page will show that a couple of biking teams did and a few of the leading runners gave it a fair nudge as well. A few of the impressive team efforts which didn't get a chance to be mentioned at the presentations include: Novice bikers ScootaCo parents and children (Xavier 4yrs and Sarah 6 yrs) riding for two and one half hours and then having sprints on the oval. Seasoned Mareeba veteran Helen Holt with novice daughter Zoe notched up an impressive 800 points in the hike event. On the podium – both with an equally impressive 980 points we see couples Meredith and Blair Cunningham (past Mareeba residents) and novices Sonya and Robbie Millar (locals) who swam the river and obviously chanced all those easements to get within striking range of the experienced Team TAS. (Darren must be in training for XPD 2010).

One of the biggest smiles belonged to co-winner Graeme Bradford who is looking surprising fit in his bike shorts this season (also taking a tilt at XPD 2010).

Thanks heaps to our regular sponsors Adventure Equipment and Its Extreme and to Cairns Bike Hub for their generous support.

Organiser Terry McClelland