

Winter Classic and Wayne Cretney Memorial
28th Anniversary, 17th August 2014

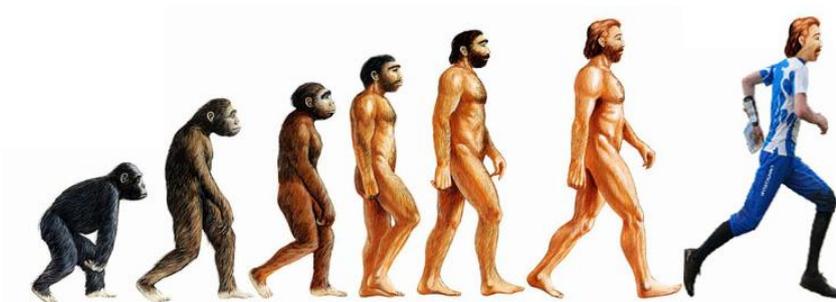
Sunshine, Glorious Sunshine in the Pines



Race Report:

Map: The Missing Link

Location: Karori, Wellington



Planners' Report

Oh what a lovely sunny day in the middle of winter. It certainly makes life a little bit more pleasant for the Winter Classic. Two weeks earlier I was checking control sites in pouring cold rain and reached my limit after only a few hours on the wet and slippery steep slopes. Thankfully, on the day the sunshine was glorious and it must have been nice to run/walk through the deep pine needles and to periodically see some pretty scenery like the far away Karori hills and the meandering North Makara stream on the border of the map.

I gave plenty of warnings but still many chose to try and impersonate Bear Grylls – some picking up the difference between impassable and passable and scrambling up and down the small section of marginally safe cliff above the road – but I was amazed some actually went down what I classed as impassable. I only tried this once during mapping and it certainly got my blood pumping. I'm sure Wayne is looking down and giving you a pat on the back, an 'A' for effort, with a 'C' for route execution.

I heard about more than one person going down a fenceline through a fight – you have to be commended as I tried 3 times to go down one fenceline to map it but gave up each time as it was too thick. I'm sure Wayne is saying – good on you, that's the spirit, commitment and dedication. If you look hard though, I will always give safe (longer) track routes with less climb for the less brave. Look at my route choices on the map links below.

The Kindergarten appealed as the event centre because of the vehicle access, shelter from the weather, and access to cooking facilities for the lovely lunch. Garland Hall (beside the Kindergarten) unfortunately was not available due to a suspicious fire. It must have been pre-ordained as the 'Sunshine' was everywhere. A future event could possibly start down at the mansion in the oasis in the forest.

Unfortunately starting at the Park meant lots of extra climb and a real long haul back up the hill right at the end of the courses – a real character building test.

A good yardstick is that for every 100m of climb on a course you can add about 1km in distance so 8km with 900m climb is equivalent to 17km on a flattish map. I think I got the times about right although course 2 and 3 could have been a tad shorter.

I concentrated on getting the map correct in the virgin (never been mapped before) pine forest. I did not spend enough time remapping Karori Park and mountain bike trails – there are lots of extra tracks and windfalls meant lots of changes – I basically ran out of time. This area needs a remap with a GPS.

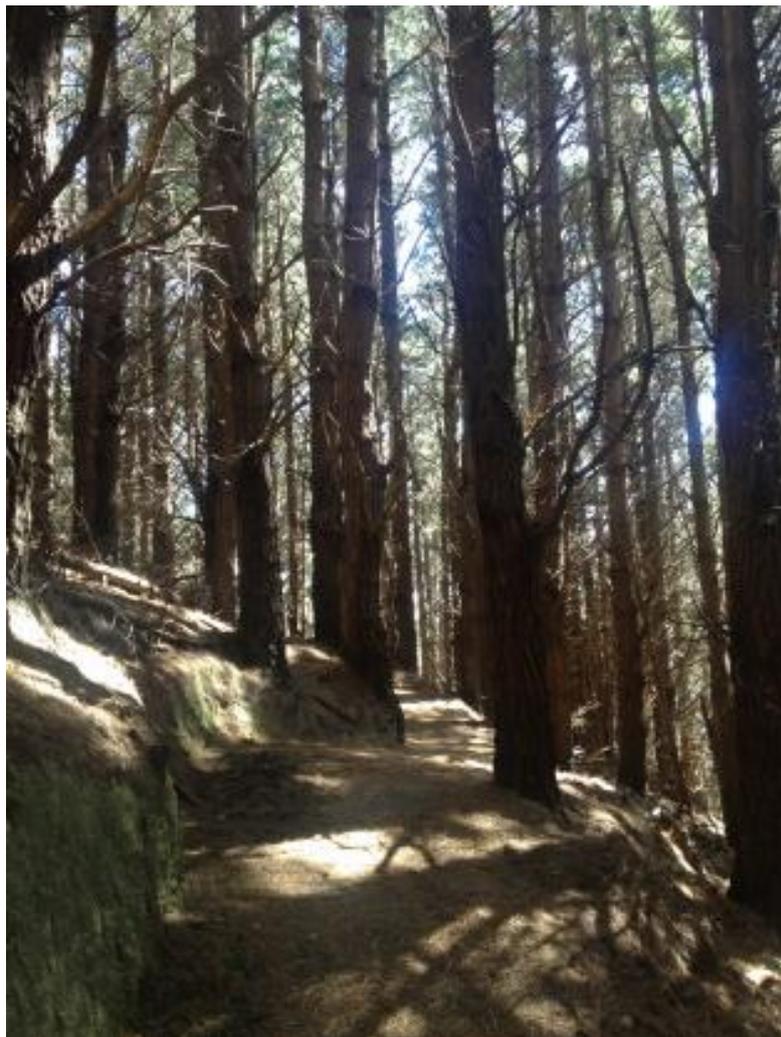
An apology to the junior runners – the trophy did not turn up and I will have to track down who has it.

I forgot to thank a number of deserving people at the prize-giving ceremony so here we go. Thanks again to Alan for doing a lot of the organisation and sportident. A big thanks to my wife Ning for the scrumptious lunch she slaved away creating for a few days and to a lesser extent, my son Everett for helping out – both are long sufferers of my time spent away from home mapping and planning. Thanks to the control collectors – picking up controls only took about 2 hours instead of the 2 days it took me to get all the controls out (it is always awkward hauling standard, flag, SportIdent holder and SportIdent all over the map) .

Lastly, the owners of the private pine plantation – Guy and Liesbeth. They were great to deal with and allowed us to run all around their large house in the pines. They are very happy for us to return but request that permission is obtained each time. Be aware that there are dogs and the owner hunts for goats and wild pigs regularly.

If anyone wants a printed map, please email me, or print off your own copy from the map links below.

Until the next time,
Bryan Teahan.



The pines were a bit steep in places.



There were plenty of fallen trees.

Emails

Hi Bryan,

Thanks to you and team for putting on the Winter Classic on the weekend. (Apart from one 2.7km 'journey' to get a control 200m from where I started) I really enjoyed myself and thought the course was excellent. The gorse to pine forest ratio was surprisingly benign for a winter classic!

Cheers
Dean Ford

Hi Bryan,

Thanks very much for organising this event on interesting terrain.

My abilities weren't up to coping but I still enjoyed my hours wandering around and my son enjoyed getting around the full course even though it took him 4 hours. I'll be revisiting the public part of the course again.

Thanks again,

Barbara Bridger

Bryan,

Thank you for your work on the winter classic event. It is great to see a new area mapped, it is great to have a "different" event like the winter classic, and this was a great course with some really good route choices (which I missed)!

Thanks, Neil Kane

Thanks heaps Bryan, another 'fun' day out!

Unfortunately I got back a bit late for the prize giving, so didn't get to thank you on the day.

Sorry about any mobile induced brevity

Liam Drew

Hi Bryan,

I enjoyed the Winter Classic Rogaine, but unfortunately I broke my partner!

Did anybody find a pair of blue tramping gaiters, I think I left them at the Kindergarten?

Thanks

Cliff Randall

Maps and Courses

Winter Classic Results:

<http://www.winterclassic.co.nz/wc/Resultsclassic2014.htm>

Winter Classic Splits:

<http://www.winterclassic.co.nz/wc/Resultsclassicsplits2014.mht>

- Click on the tabs at the bottom to see the fastest times for each leg.

Team Explorer Rogaine Results:

<http://www.winterclassic.co.nz/wc/ResultsRogaine2014.htm>

Team Explorer Rogaine Splits:

<http://www.winterclassic.co.nz/wc/ResultsRogaine2014Splits.htm>

Courses:

http://www.orienteingresults.com/O/NZOF/WinterClassic/maps/2014_gallery.htm

About the Area

For some bedtime reading:

Karori Tracks:

<http://outdoorz.co.nz/track.php?location=31&title=Karori&trackid=31&tracksid=120&type=ww&tracks=&type=ww&type=ww&type=ww>

Skyline Walkway:

<http://wellington.govt.nz/~media/maps/files/skyline.pdf>

The Makara and Karori Valleys and Their Bearing Upon the Physiographic History of Wellington – Maxwell Gage

http://rsnz.natlib.govt.nz/volume/rsnz_69/rsnz_69_04_003850.pdf

Quotes

“You can't map a sense of humor. Anyway, what is a fantasy map but a space beyond which There Be Dragons? On the Discworld we know that There Be Dragons Everywhere. They might not all have scales and forked tongues, but they Be Here all right, grinning and jostling and trying to sell you souvenirs.”

— [Terry Pratchett](#), *The Color of Magic*

“He lunged for the maps. I grabbed the chair and hit him with it. He went down. I hit him again to make sure he stayed that way, stepped over him, and picked up the maps. “I win.”

— [Ilona Andrews](#), *Magic Burns*

“They were maps that lived, maps that one could study, frown over, and add to; maps, in short, that really meant something.”

— [Gerald Durrell](#), [My Family and Other Animals](#)

“A labyrinth is a symbolic journey . . . but it is a map we can really walk on, blurring the difference between map and world.”

— [Rebecca Solnit](#), [Wanderlust: A History of Walking](#)

“A map does not just chart, it unlocks and formulates meaning; it forms bridges between here and there, between disparate ideas that we did not know were previously connected.”

— [Reif Larsen](#), [The Selected Works of T.S. Spivet](#)

“To put a city in a book, to put the world on one sheet of paper -- maps are the most condensed humanized spaces of all...They make the landscape fit indoors, make us masters of sights we can't see and spaces we can't cover.”

— [Robert Harbison](#), [Eccentric Spaces](#)

“I speak to maps. And sometimes they something back to me. This is not as strange as it sounds, nor is it an unheard of thing. Before maps, the world was limitless. It was maps that gave it shape and made it seem like territory, like something that could be possessed, not just laid waste and plundered. Maps made places on the edges of the imagination seem graspable and placable.”

— [Abdulrazak Gurnah](#), [By the Sea](#)

“Maps codify the miracle of existence.”

— [Nicholas Crane](#), [Mercator: The Man Who Mapped the Planet](#)

“Maps are essential. Planning a journey without a map is like building a house without drawings.”

— [Mark Jenkins](#), [The Hard Way: Stories of Danger, Survival, and the Soul of Adventure](#)

“I am an agnostic on most matters of faith, but on the subject of maps I have always been a true believer. It is on the map, therefore it is, and I am.”

— [Tony Horwitz](#), [One for the Road: An Outback Adventure](#)

"I am told there are people who do not care for maps, and find it hard to believe. The names, the shapes of the woodlands, the courses of the roads and rivers, the prehistoric footsteps of man still distinctly traceable up hill and down dale, the mills and the ruins, the ponds and the ferries, perhaps the standing stone or the druidic circle on the heath; here is an inexhaustible fund of interest for any man with eyes to see or twopence-worth of imagination to understand with"

— Robert Louis Stevenson explaining the inspiration for *Treasure Island*