

Whroo - Maxi 3 Hour XX

INTER CLUB AND INTER SCHOOL TEAM CHALLENGE

Presented by Nillumbik Emus OC



HEALTH THROUGH ORIENTEERING



Nillumbik Emus Orienteering Club welcomes you to Whroo and the 20th Anniversary running of the MAXI. Thank you for your participation in the event and we hope you all have a great day.

Thanks to Parks Victoria and The Department of Sustainability and Environment for permission to run today's event, Thanks also to Ian and Lauris Stirling (catering); Ron Frederick (controller) and members of Nillumbik Emus for assisting with the catering and running of today's event.

Emergency: In case of medical emergency or injury please make the patient as comfortable as possible and send for help. If members of another team are needed they must render assistance as the safety of all participants is paramount. If you have a mobile phone, call Rob Edmonds on **0438010786** and/or **112** for help.

Registration: You may register from 9:30 am. Check your team category and number and advise registration officials of any changes. Collect your pre-marked maps, clues descriptions and map bags.

- Each person should take compass; personal first aid kit; energy food; warm clothing; whistle; waterproof jacket; plastic map cover and water. There will be water stops.
- Each team must stay together at all times. Teams that split up will be disqualified.
- Controls are worth various points according to difficulty and distance. You may visit the controls in any order.
- Final instructions will be given at 10:50 am, for an 11 am start. Teams must finish within 3 hours in order not to incur a penalty. Teams must stay and finish together. There will be 10 points deducted for each minute or part thereof late. Teams, more than 30 minutes late, will be disqualified.
- At the finish, download your Si Stick to record your points. Provisional results will be displayed.

Presentations: This will take place as soon as possible after the event by 3 pm. There will be a draw for lucky spot prizes as well as certificates for category placegetters.

Catering:

- Soup/bread and tea/coffee, cake and fruit will be provided.
- Bring your own plate, cup and cutlery. The assembly area has toilets.

Results: will be published on the O'Vic website. <http://www.vicorienteeing.asn.au>.

Balaclava Mine became the largest open cut gold mine in Victoria, producing enormous wealth, but today, it remains like a volcanic crater in the forested landscape, with a stairway down to the former tramway tunnel that exits on the south side of the hill, while a myriad of other tunnels and shafts remain inaccessible and hidden from view. The once bustling, thriving and settled Whroo township is now deserted with the less obvious relics of its past glory scattered throughout numerous alluvial and reef goldmining sites in the surrounding State Forest.



A cemetery lies on a lonely hillside and contains some 400 graves, reflecting the harshness of life on the goldfields. Not far from the cemetery, on Spring Hill, is the **Ngurai-Illam-Wurrung Rock Well**, reputedly used by Aborigines and later enlarged by gold miners so that they could immerse billies. It is thought the Aborigines protected the waterhole with a rock to prevent pollution by animals and debris, and to reduce evaporation. The Aboriginal name for the waterhole - "Wooroo" meaning mouth, is the origin of the name Whroo.

The Whroo State Forest provides spectacular displays of wildflowers including wattles during spring and magnificent Grasstrees (Xanthorrhoea). Grasstree flowers can be used as a compass. The flowers on the warmer, sunnier side of the spike (usually the north facing side) often open before the flowers on the cooler side facing away from the sun.

