

## INTRODUCTION

by Ray Jerrems

I am writing these memoirs as the Founding President of Garingal Orienteering Club for the 40<sup>th</sup> birthday of the club (i.e. in 2013).

Garingal was for practical purposes (for a month it had a different name) formed on 9<sup>th</sup> September 1973. Little would the founding members have dreamed that it would still be going strong well into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Recreational clubs come and go. Many start with high ideals and aspirations, only to flounder because they lack a vision, and lack that essential element of attracting members who are willing to put in a lot of time and effort to keep the vision alive.

Garingal has been fortunate in that it started with a vision, and it has always had a band of enthusiastic members who have worked hard in administrative, technical and other areas to keep abreast of the times. The fact that it is still thriving is also a tribute to the fact that it has met, and is still meeting, the expectations of its members. These expectations cover the spectrum of camaraderie, a love of competition, exercise and use of one's intellect and, of course, HAVING FUN.

At last, after almost 40 years, I have embarked on documenting the history of the early days of the Club to capture those events which we have heard about over the years but risk losing as memories dim. The club has a heritage which needs to be recorded. Its 40<sup>th</sup> year is the ideal time to do it.

My memoirs start with an account of how the club was formed, and then record what ensued in the following two years, drawing on my recollections and miscellaneous records.

I have structured my memoirs by using categories with the objective of breaking down a mass of information into bite sizes. I have therefore adopted the following Parts:

- A. General History
- B. Members' stories
- C. Mapping history
- D. Profiles of members.

## PART A - GENERAL HISTORY

### **Introduction**

This Part is intended to cover the Club's general history from the time of its creation in September 1973 through to its second anniversary in September 1975.

### **Why the Club was formed**

The Club was not formed because of any disenchantment with existing arrangements for orienteering, it was formed simply because the Orienteering Association of NSW wanted clubs to be formed, in addition to the one existing Club (Bennelong Occasional Orienteers, as it was called at the time, formed in December 1971). The purpose of this plan was to regionalise the administration of the sport because the speed of increase in Association membership was making the Association unwieldy. The intention was that local Clubs would organise events, coordinate mapping in their areas, arrange publicity etc.

### **Our Inaugural Meeting**

Our low-key inaugural meeting was held on 9<sup>th</sup> September 1973. It was attended by 14 potential members: Peter Hicks, Bill Hunter, Hugh Braithwaite, Sandy Potter, Owen Hales, Peter Brand, John Knox, myself and my wife Diane, Ron Stitzinger, Bob green, Jim Farquhar, Bob Jerrems and Maurie Lenton, with Brian Wright from the Association as observer. I chaired the meeting, not a very onerous job.

Officers elected were President (me), Secretary (my wife Diane), Treasurer (Jim Farquhar), Committee Members Hugh Braithwaite, Sandy Potter and Peter Tuft.

Like most meetings, someone wanted to go home early, and someone (in the eyes of other attendees) talked too much. Someone even made the daring suggestion that we should have a constitution. Here are parts of my report, as set out in the Newsletter issued to celebrate the event:

*"The inaugural meeting of the Club was held in atmosphere of quiet acceptance of the fact that there is a need for a new orienteering club.*

*A bearded gentleman who obviously wanted to get home before the hotels closed suggested that a draft constitution should be circulated... and discussed at a later date. Strict rules of meeting procedures will be applied to Bill Hunter at the meeting."*

Sadly, Bill passed away a short time ago, in his early eighties.

I am sure that if the members attending the inaugural meeting were told that the Club that they had formed in such a casual way would still be going strong 40 years later they would have been amazed. And very proud.

### **Later Committees**

The 1974 AGM was held on 10<sup>th</sup> May 1974. I was re-elected as president, Joyce Crawley Secretary, Ron West Treasurer, Equipment Officer Sandy Potter, Committee Members Lars Winberg, Torq Murray, Di Jerrems.

At the 1975 AGM held in May 1975 I was re-elected President, Sybil Winberg Secretary, Ron West Treasurer, Equipment Officer Sandy Potter, Committee Members Torq Murray, Peter Hicks, Ron Stitzinger.

### **Origin of the Name "Garingal"**

This has no doubt been discussed over the years, but here is my version, which one might say is "from the horse's mouth".

I was a member of the first Club formed at the behest of the NSW Orienteering Association, Bennelong Occasional Orienteers (BOO). I was approached by the Association to form another northside Club, based further up the North Shore Line from BOO's catchment area. A number of BOO friends said they would help by joining the new club, and one of the early questions was the name for the Club. Initially we called it "Illawong", suggested by my wife Diane because it sounded nice and means "view of the water", but soon we decided to use a more local name. The name "Ku-ring-gai" (as used by the Council) was too complicated to spell properly, but we decided to still keep the aboriginal theme of the name of the local tribe. Two variations of pronunciation emerged from my research, being "Karingal" and "Garingal". We opted for "Garingal" because a southern club had set its heart on using "Kareelah", which would (like Karingal) abbreviate to "KO". Also, conveniently, we thought that "GO" had a better (and perhaps less confrontational) ring to it anyway.

### **The First Club shirts**

The dye was cast regarding the initials of the Club when we printed the first T-shirts with the large letters "GO". There was no turning back!

You may have seen them. The colour choice for plain T-shirts was very limited. Previously the Orienteering Association had attractive white shirts with red lettering, and BOO's had similar colouring, but of course they

needed constant washing. We thought that a darker colour would need less washing so we chose a tan colour, sometimes referred to irreverently as "nappy brown".

Commercial screen printing of logos and illustrations on T shirts was quite expensive so we decided to have the simplicity of the letters "GO". A friend made the screen for nothing and the processing equipment consisted of the screen, a pot of black printers' dye and a production line using our dining room table.

My wife commented in a Newsletter that "they are really great to wear shopping if you enjoy looking at other peoples' faces".

The selection of sizes was interesting. Most of the women took "SM" (34 inches), and most of the men took "M". We bought a few "L" sizes because there were a few very large men (in my estimation at the time). It is humorous to look at my old "M" T- shirt now. Thanks to a number of washes and my having put on a lot of bulk in the meantime the T-shirt looks tiny!

The cost of the T-shirts? We charged the princely sum of \$2-00 per shirt to cover our costs!

From my records I can tell you that our petite members who bought 34 inch T-shirts were my wife Diane, Margaret Tollis, Monica Doyle and Jean Farquhar. I bought a roomy 38" model, allowing for shrinkage (ah, those were the days!).

In retrospect, the brown colour was rather drab, the later versions with a green goanna were far more picturesque.

### **The Club's Annual Budget**

Originally membership fees were low because our overheads were low. Most of our annual fees went to the Orienteering Association to cover its overheads (including public risk insurance, required by the National Parks and Wildlife Service and Councils when their lands were being used for events). Initially the Association lent the Clubs compasses (for hire to newcomers) and checkpoint buckets but this was found to be impractical as the number of events quickly increased. So we bought the necessary equipment. We made some profit from entry fees for events.

The Treasurer's Report given on 26<sup>th</sup> March 1974 showed that we had the princely sum of \$119.70 in kitty.

In our first year the membership fee (as stated in the November 1973 Newsletter) was an exhorbitant \$1-00 or 5 roubles, but this assumed that the person belonged to the Orienteering Association. The next mention I can find of fees is in the May 1975 Newsletter, where it was announced very apologetically that for a number of reasons the previous fees of \$2-00 for families and seniors and \$1-00 for juniors and students (the latter included Ian Cameron, who first competed in the second month of the Club's operation) was being raised to \$8-00 for families, \$7-00 for Seniors , and \$3-00 for juniors (under 16) and full time students. Oh well, all good things have to come to an end sometime!

### **Club Events**

After the Club was formed we quickly swung into action with regular (at least one a month) "Club Events" using existing maps, of which there were quite a number. The particular advantage of Club events was that we were not limited to using the large starting areas previously needed for State events, we could use small clearings.

These events were comparatively easy to prepare and attracted many visitors from nearby suburbs. The most important thing was to have as many members as possible rostered to help instruct visitors on elementary map reading. This did not preclude the members from competing, they could get an early start or compete later.

Although the simplicity of the black and white maps would probably frustrate modern orienteers, we used to tell visitors that all they needed to know for a novice course was how to read a street directory because all they had to do was follow tracks. Also, we used to design novice courses so that as far as possible they were scenic. We had some courses with a checkpoint on a waterfall or at a lookout, my best effort probably being a spectacular waratah at Duffy's Forest.

In addition to attracting visitors, these events were an excellent way of training members to assist in running events, a nursery ground for many members who later made wonderful contributions. Our juniors also received a lot of extra practice in competing and improved quickly.

The enthusiasm of members to contribute to these events was a key element in the growth of the Club. We developed an esprit de corps which carried us through the most demanding times. Take for example the Club event held at Macquarie Uni in November 1974, using the recently completed September 1974 Lane Cove River map (see Mapping Report for technical details). About 230 people competed, the first time (according to the November 1974 Newsletter) that we had exceeded 200.

The organizers were run off their feet, but it was exciting to see that the new area (mapped by Ian Cameron, my brother, Graham Carter and Bill Saxby) was so eminently suitable for beginners. This was demonstrated by the number of events (including night events) held in the area and the fact that Ian Cameron later put in a permanent course there with its own colour map. In addition, it was outside our traditional North Shore area, expanding our membership catchment.

### **We Build the Club's Membership**

At the inaugural meeting of the Club in September 1973 we had 14 members, mostly drawn from Bennelong Occasional Orienteers, but we built the membership up to about 63 by December of that year. We had about 133 members by July 1974, probably making us the biggest orienteering club in Australia at the time. Almost a 100% increase in 9 months, which is not too bad. Although I do not have specific figures, the membership would have kept growing after that.

By comparison, I have a list of BOO members for 1974-5, showing a total of 45 members.

Orienteering was a growth sport at the time, and we obtained local press coverage which attracted people to events (more about this later). We ran a Club event at least every month, and our attendance and join-up rate was high. We also held social nights.

We had a chatty monthly Newsletter which referred to the coming events. After every Club event or State event run by the Club I sat down and sent a copy of the most recent Newsletter and covering personal note to everyone who had ticked the box at an event to say it was their first event. I kept a record in a book (which I still have) of everybody who received a newsletter. I carried this on until about May 1974, by which time I probably decided that our membership was high enough for us to rely on newcomers contacting us rather than us contacting them.

### **Media coverage**

Orienteering received general coverage in the Press over a period of time, and Garingal received frequent mentions in local newspapers in "What's On" types of columns. Our best local effort was an article in the Hornsby Times (as it was then) of Wednesday, February 13, 1974, where a short article and large photo appeared on page 3. The black and white photo included myself, Hugh Braithwaite and his two young boys, and the article gave Garingal a strong plug. It also gave our telephone numbers. [see scan "Hornsby Times article"]

Earlier a large article had appeared in the "Outdoors" magazine.

## *Ray Jerrems' Memoires of the Early Years of Garingal*

The Australasian Post of November 28, 1974, a magazine with a nationwide circulation running into hundreds of thousands, had a large feature article on orienteering. Written by Garingal member Toy Martin, the three-page article did not specifically mention Garingal, but three of the large coloured photos featured Garingal members comprising myself, Jim and Jenny Farquhar, and teenager Rosemary Morrow.

We also received television coverage, one particular instance being recorded in our newsletter of August/September 1974 which had the following item:

*"Andrew Hislop and Brian Wilmott found a lady lost in the bush at Ingleside and, surprisingly for a "lady" these days, she was quite helpless and distraught. They rescued the poor soul, explaining what orienteering is and taking her around some of the novice course. This Brave and Thoughtful Deed was recorded in detail by a television team in the bushes. The film will be shown on Channel 2's "Target" series in September. The series is designed for audiences up to early teens, however adults are allowed to watch it too. Tell your friends."*

I rather suspect that I wrote the item tongue in cheek, the television team would have supplied the "lady" and lined up the boys beforehand. Followers of Winnie the Pooh will detect that "Brave and Thoughtful Deed" was borrowed by me from A.A. Milne.

The item demonstrates the public interest in orienteering. The reference to Andrew is also interesting, he later represented Australia in Nordic Skiing in the Olympics, just as Toy Martin's husband Ross had done in the 1960s.

We also put a paid entry in the telephone white pages and I put the results of events in the Sports Section of the Sydney Morning Herald. Although the latter was quite a lot of trouble because I had a print deadline that night to meet, when I would have much preferred to relax after an event, members were excited to see their names in print and rushed around telling their friends. I doubt whether we attracted many new members but it was good PR.

### **The Critical Role of our Mapping Teams**

The mapping for the Lane Cove River map referred to above highlights the critical role of Garingal's mapping teams (their maps are described in more detail in the following Mapping Report). Obviously, the development of maps is always important to the continuing existence of orienteering clubs, but in the period immediately after the creation of the Club the development of maps was more than important, it was critical. We had to come up with variety in our venues to satisfy the public's interest. The output of the mapping teams, particularly in the light of the limited technical facilities available at the time, was outstanding.

The teams were led by Ian Cameron, my brother Bob, and myself. Assistants included Peter Tuft, Bill Saxby, John Oakley, Peter Hicks, Bill Hunter, Mike Kitchener, Terry Perram, John Hennessy, John Hodsdon, Torq Murray, Ron West, Jim Farquhar and Ron Stitzinger. Usually there were three mapping projects being undertaken at the same time.

### **The Monthly Newsletter**

The Newsletter was about a page long. Sometimes irreverent, it reported the results of events held in the previous month, recounted some humorous anecdotes, included some gossip, and welcomed new members. I drafted it and my wife Diane typed it onto a Gestetner stencil. These stencils were "sudden death" because if you made a mistake they were very difficult to correct. If only we had word processing in those days! I then had the stencil run off by a firm at North Sydney near where I worked. This was a lot cheaper than paying for dry photocopying, which was in its infancy at that time. I used coloured paper to make the newsletters distinctive.

As mentioned earlier, I kept a list of everybody I sent newsletters to. My wife was long suffering, sometimes I addressed over 30 envelopes and recorded the names while sitting in bed the night of an event.

Costs for the November 1973 newsletter were paper \$3-02, duplicating \$1-00, stamps \$3-50. The low postage cost resulted from the fact that I handed out newsletters to members at events to reduce costs.

I have copies of most of the Newsletters we issued. They are a great source of information.

### **Very Expensive Events**

Organisers of modern-day events eat your hearts out. No need for a spreadsheet in the old days!

Our first Club event was held on 7<sup>th</sup> October 1973, possibly at Turramurra. With an entry fee of 40 cents per competitor we made the grand total of \$22-60. Readers with a mathematical leaning will tell me that that the grand total does not divide by 40, so somebody underpaid or overpaid. Nobody leave the room! Perhaps there was a component of compass hire. In any case the figure indicates that we had about 50 competitors.

Then came the crunch, the moment of truth arrived, we had to deduct our expenses. These came to the considerable figure of \$2-66. This was made up of cordial (for drinking) \$1-44, polythene bags (for maps) 54 cents, crayons (for checkpoints) 28 cents, carbon paper (this one has me stumped) 40 cents. I should in all conscience refund the 40 cents because its relevance cannot be demonstrated. I wonder what 40 cents plus 40 years interest would amount to?

At the next event (possibly at McCarrs Creek) our expenses were a more realistic \$19-51, which included map printing (\$4-05), air photos etc (\$2-50), and publicity (\$6-00). The last item has me puzzled, perhaps we put feature advertisements in the local newspapers or hired an aerial signwriter.

### **The Red Bucket Brigade**

In the early days we used bright red garden buckets for check points. They could be seen from a distance, however they limited us somewhat because the bucket had to be hung upside down on a strong bush or tree. We overcame the problem of not having strong bushes or trees on rocky features by using checkpoint descriptions like "near rocky outcrop", placing the bucket where it could be seen from the designated feature. It was heavy work carrying the buckets and I often got strange looks from bushwalkers who I ran past, so I set up the buckets at off peak times so that I did not waste time stopping to answer the obvious questions (eg "where's the fire?"). Holes drilled in the bottom deterred passers-by from pinching them for use in their gardens, but we still took the precaution of putting them out on the morning of the event if they were to be placed in locations where they could be seen by the public.

I remember stories about small boys being seen heading victoriously into the distance clutching red buckets, but luckily it did not happen to me. The prospect of having the last checkpoint on an Open course disappearing was too horrible to contemplate.

Each bucket had a letter of the alphabet painted on it, and a crayon was tied by string so that it hung down from the bucket. When you reached the checkpoint you wrote the bucket letter on your card as proof that you had reached the checkpoint. It was a good idea for the course setters to hang the bucket and adjust the string so that the crayon was out of reach of passing possums who may have fancied a change of diet. I kept a spare pencil in my pocket in case an excited competitor accidentally pulled the crayon off its string, or a passerby pinched it, or a possum ate it.

I will now move on to Members' stories.

## **PART B - MEMBERS' STORIES**

### **Introduction**

This Part has been reserved for members' stories which have not been incorporated in other parts of these memoirs. The stories, about events that occurred for the two years covered by the Memoirs, can be serious or humorous, and long or short (or in between). Some of my contributions may need to be cut out in the interests of brevity, but at least they may prod readers' memories about similar things that may have happened in later years.

### **Following Doctor's Orders**

Garingal members are normally very healthy, and (naturally) always follow doctor's orders. This was proved beyond doubt at the NOSH event at Murray's Run in the Wollombi Valley on 8<sup>th</sup> September 1974. A large number of contestants camped out the night before near the start area and enjoyed a campfire. Some more adventurous souls, including Garingal's promising Elizabeth Atkin, decided to sample the local camaraderie at the Wollombi Pub, some miles (via a devious route) down the road.

It was there that they discovered the medicinal qualities of a local product called Doctor Jurd's Jungle Juice, allegedly some relative to muscat (a fortified wine). Elizabeth and her carload of companions became so convinced of its medicinal qualities, as described on the bottles by the eminent Doctor Jurd, that they drank quite a lot of it. In this they were encouraged by the convivial locals who invited them to take part in a singalong.

In due course Elizabeth and her companions were feeling so healthy from imbibing the Jungle Juice that they decided to return to the campsite, but they lost their way completely and ended up sleeping the night in the car in a paddock. They arrived rather sheepishly at the campsite in the morning, looking rather the worse for wear, just as we were getting worried. As recorded in the Club Newsletter, happily Elizabeth demonstrated the health giving qualities of the product by coming third in the Senior Women's event!

### **The Drum on Garingal Barbecues**

Garingal became well known for the fact that it had a barbecue after every event it organised, fire restrictions permitting. This provided a great way of people mingling and chatting, rather than merely hopping in their cars and disappearing into the distance.

In the 1970s some people had small portable barbecues (heated by gas or briquettes) which could cook enough food for a few families, but there were no large public barbecues except for the occasional ones provided in official picnic areas. To remedy this I bought an empty steel "44 gallon" drum and scrounged some water pipe. My father cut the drum into halves length ways with an oxy torch and welded legs (made from waterpipe) on the halves. Refrigerator shelves provided the grills. Our orienteering areas were littered with fallen branches, so we had a plentiful supply of fuel.

Somehow I could fit the barbecues on the roof of our VW. I must admit that I lifted them with a lot more aplomb than I would do these days.

The result was two robust barbecues with an almost unlimited capacity to cook for a hungry Orienteering Club!

### **Spotting the Dummy**

No, this is not a spelling mistake. When I say "spotting" I do not mean "spitting".

It refers to the first social function held by the newly formed Club on Sunday November 25<sup>th</sup> 1973 at the home of founding member Bill Hunter in St Ives. The function started at 3 pm with a bushwalk and a swim, then a barbecue, followed by a mini night orienteering event on an adjacent oval and surrounding bushland.

Bill was our only Ph.D at the time, having obtained his doctorate for a system of detecting enemy submarines, a subject rather remote from orienteering. To quote from the Newsletter:

*"Bill Hunter showed a fiendish sense of humour in the night event-a realistic man size dummy was sprawled in the bush near one checkpoint, illuminated by an intermittently flashing red light. It appeared very dead and did not respond to mouth to mouth". To the chagrin of Bill, who had spent a lot of time and ingenuity setting up the dummy, nobody arrived at the finish in a state of terror.*

An aftermath to the barbecue was that Bill and his wife May lost a bone handled knife, a silver-plated fork and a floral plastic table cloth. In return they received a glass beer mug and a pair of size 7 sandals and socks (no use to Bill, who had large feet designed to trample down scrub).

### **The Black and White Minstrel Show**

At one North Turrumurra event we had the start in a clearing in the grounds of the former St Columban's Catholic College on Bobbin Head Road, where access to the clearing was through a locked gate. I borrowed the key from the Principal of the College and promised faithfully to return it to him personally as soon as possible after the event.

There had been a fire through part of the National Park a few years earlier, which was great for clearing out the scrub, but when I finished picking up the checkpoint buckets after the event I was covered in black stripes from head to foot and my face was covered with black smudges where I had wiped off perspiration, and I had no change of clothes. I trotted back to the College, only to find that a fete was being held in the grounds, with the Principal (in full regalia) presiding on a dais with the official party.

Sheepishly I sidled up to him with the key, hoping nobody would notice me, but he insisted on introducing me to his companions, one of whom he said was a Cardinal. Small children sucking lollies stopped to goggle at the apparition, no doubt to the embarrassment of their parents, who had instilled in their children the principle that "cleanliness is nigh unto godliness".

The official party all laughed uproariously and were interested in hearing about orienteering. In retrospect they probably found me a welcome diversion from making small talk between themselves. I marvelled at their aplomb in keeping straight faces as we chatted. Even so, I was relieved to be able to make my escape and go home to a well deserved bath.

### **One for the Girls!**

With our burgeoning membership, referred to earlier, Garingal soon had a very strong junior contingent. For a relay event in late 1974 we have the following Club Newsletter account:

*"Few people realised that when Susan Cox (just 14) sprinted over the line, she was the third runner in Garingal's Junior Men's team. Susan is not necessarily a "women's lib" enthusiast, it was a case of us not being able to raise a third junior so she took over the baton from Michael Morgan and Greg Bax for her first senior-standard event. Her father and coach Malcolm (who with fellow GO Veteran Men's No.1 team members Jim Farquhar and Hugh Braithwaite had been a comfortable winner of the Veteran Men's event) was so excited when she finished he nearly swallowed his pipe. Except for school exams we could have fielded at least 2 teams."*

Even more demonstrative of our reserve of junior talent, Rosey Morrow was selected that month for the Australian Junior Women's team to compete in New Zealand, in addition to Toy Martin who was in the Women's Team.

### **The Orienteering Dynasty**

Jim Farquhar, our first Treasurer and a Chartered Accountant, was part of an orienteering dynasty. His sister joined the Club. His wife Jennifer was Dick Mountstephens' sister (Dick was BOO President at one stage). Finally, Jennifer's sister Rosemary was the mother of David, Rod and Andrew Hislop, talented young GO members.



### **The Case of the Bush Dunny**

I bet none of our readers can beat this story, it is surely unique in the annals of orienteering in New South Wales.

I was helping with a major event at Deep Creek opposite the Narrabeen Fitness Camp on Wakehurst Parkway. The nearest toilet was at the Fitness Camp, over a kilometre away by road or track from the start area, so I was asked to build one instead. It was to be modelled on the traditional country "Long Drop". I bought a long roll of 1.8 metre wide hessian, and a toilet seat which was fitted with legs. I then cleared a small area in a thicket of wattle saplings a safe distance from the start area, surrounded it with the hessian strung up on pickets and dug a deep hole, sitting the toilet arrangement on top of the hole. I then strung a red tape along the entry track to a sign on a stake reading "vacant" on one side and "occupied" on the other, so that potential users could rotate the sign appropriately.

I received quite a lot of compliments about my edifice, mostly from the ladies. Nobody complained of falling down the hole, which was very fortunate (for me, as well as the users).

I was very pleased with my handywork but it was quite a lot of work to construct, so I never repeated the process. Instead, I stated where public toilets could be located in the literature about the event and left it to competitors to sort it out.

By discontinuing the project we lost a golden opportunity to add to the usual acronym "DNF". We could have had an additional acronym "DNF (FID)", meaning "Did Not Finish (Fell Into Dunny)".

Next time you are enthroned in comfort in your tiled bathroom, spare a thought for those redoubtable orienteers of yesteryear balanced precariously on my bush dunny!

For the next Part we now move on to that perennial subject of "Mapping History".

## **PART C-MAPPING HISTORY**

The purpose of this Part is to provide a summary of the mapping activities carried out by Garingal during its first two year period, with a preliminary section explaining which mapping areas were taken over by Garingal when it was formed. I have divided this Part into the following Sections:

- (a) Areas taken over by Garingal when the club was formed
- (b) New areas mapped by Garingal in B/W
- (c) Black and white maps' technical considerations
- (d) Areas mapped by Garingal in colour

### **(a) Areas taken over by Garingal when it was formed.**

Before Garingal was formed all mapping on the north side of the harbour had been carried out in the name of BOO. With minor exceptions relating to the other new clubs (NOSH and Wetsocs), the existing mapped areas were split up between BOO and GO. This was done in a very cooperative spirit in an informal way. It so happened that about half the previous BOO mappers joined Garingal and took their maps with them. This is how it worked:

- BOO kept the Duffy's Forest area (at the end of Booralie Road, Terrey Hills)

- BOO kept the Narrabeen Fitness Camp area and the Manly Dam area
- BOO kept the Spring Gully area (between Wahroonga and Asquith)
- Garingal took over the McCarrs Creek/Ingleside area
- Garingal took over the Middle Creek/Deep Creek area at Narrabeen
- Garingal took over the North Turramurra area off Bobbin Head Road.
- The small Seaforth map running adjacent to Wakehurst Parkway from Seaforth Oval was shared by the two Clubs

**(b) Areas mapped later by Garingal in black and white maps**

- Lane Cove River Valley. Not covered in the above list was the Lane Cove River Valley, the upper end of which had been mapped by BOO, and the area below De Burghs Bridge, which had been mapped by Wetsocs in March 1974 (however Wetsocs folded shortly afterwards and its mappers joined Garingal). Garingal took over and mapped/remapped the middle part of the valley later, thanks mainly to Ian Cameron (see later for more details).
- Dobroyd Point near Manly (Mike Kitchener and John Hennessy). Drawn in February 1975, scale 1:5000, contour interval 6 metres, based on SPA maps.
- Balls Head, Waverton (my brother Bob and myself).

**(c) Black and white maps-technical considerations**

This was an interesting phase in the Club's development, so I have spent some time going back over it. Also, I bet we did some things which would make modern orienteers shudder!

One of the main problems with black and white maps from the viewpoint of map makers was the scales of the base maps. The base maps in Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park (eg Duffy's Forest, McCarrs Creek, North Turramurra) came from the Central Mapping Authority 1:25,000 series with 25 foot contours, but fortunately the occasional maps drawn for specific purposes (eg State Planning Authority maps at Narrabeen and Lane Cove Valley) had much larger scales with smaller contour intervals.

The contours on the 1:25,000 base maps were almost useless for map-plotting purposes because they had been smoothed out. They did not show small gullies and small jutting areas, which are useful for pick-up points. Another obvious drawback of 1:25,000 base maps was the lack of detail that could be shown.

Despite these shortcomings B&W maps had the significant advantage that once we had printed off the first maps (this had to be done commercially because the original draft was large and had to be reduced to the correct calculated size) we could run copies run off on a photocopier at short notice. It also meant that we could easily add details to the master maps for later events.

They say that necessity is the mother of invention. My practice with early maps was to design the courses for an event and then draw in sufficient detail on the maps for competitors to locate the checkpoints and find their way between them. Pity help anyone who ran significantly off course because outside the main routes the early maps only had contours and occasional major features to help them!

The first B&W Garingal map of the Lane Cove River area (from De Burghs Bridge upstream) also took in the Macquarie University area. The map, printed in September 1974, with a scale of 1:10,000 and contour interval

of 6 metres, was based on 1:3,168 SPA maps, with field work by Ian Cameron, my brother Bob, Graham Carter and Bill Saxby.

This map was a landmark for a number of reasons. Firstly, from a technical viewpoint it reached the limit of how much information could be crammed on a B&W map and still be readable. Secondly, the mapping covered the area very thoroughly, with the result that it could be used from a number of start areas. Thirdly, it took in a large area of open country at Macquarie Uni and surrounding areas, unlike any other areas previously mapped by GO and BOO in the Metropolitan Area. Fourthly,

One solution to the shortcomings of the 1:25,000 scale was to blow up the base map photographically to (for instance) 1:10,000. This gave more room for details. But this could produce problems, as can be seen from my following anecdote:

Does size really matter (a question of scale)?

At last, after 40 years of living with guilt I can now salve my conscience.

On one occasion I had a puzzling time finalising a black and white map for North Turrumurra, in the National Park. For a base contour map I arranged for the relevant part of the National Parks and Wildlife Service's Special Projects 1:25000 map (which I had used for my earlier 1972 orienteering map) to be blown up by a friend of a friend who had a large camera and a darkroom. I asked for the 1:25000 map to be blown up so that it was 1:10,000 allowing me to fit more detail on the map, but unfortunately the photographer muddled up the mathematics and it came out at between 1:8000 and 1:9000.

Eventually I worked out the error because my fieldwork measurements would not "close", but it was too late to redraw the base map so we went on as if everything was OK. I set the check points so that the take-off points were near major features, where the competitors would look for the feature rather than use pacing. Some of the Open competitors were a little puzzled but attributed their errors in judgment of distance to the rough terrain.

This just goes to show that size does matter.

**(d) Areas mapped by Garingal in colour.**

Fundamentally it was a waste of time trying to convert the orienteering maps using the 1:25,000 base maps to colour. This held us back until we started mapping areas with more suitable base maps, starting off with B&W maps as pilots. Technically speaking it was quite a jump to colour maps, which might sound strange to modern orienteers who have always mapped in colour and run on colour maps. Another factor was the cost of the colour maps (recorded as being \$120 for each of the following maps), which made a large hole in the Club's budget at the time but would not even register on the Richter scale these days.

Middle and Deep Creek map. Although Kareela and Uringa Clubs had been producing colours maps for some time, thanks largely to the efforts of David Lotty, the first northside colour map was produced by Garingal for Middle and Deep Creeks at Narrabeen in April 1975. This was (unusually) a three-colour map (black, orange and blue) with a scale of 1:10,000, contour interval 6 metres. In retrospect I have no recollection of why I chose to draw the map with the orange colour, but blue was obviously appropriate for the creeks, swamps, marshes, lakes and billabongs.

This map was a pleasure to produce because we had the excellent State Planning Authority base maps. I remember one occasion Bob and I were plotting our way along a line of outcrops, when we reached a fire trail passing through the outcrop line 20 metres earlier than expected. At first, we blamed the base map, but when we picked our way along a further 20 metres we found traces of the earlier original trail which had been re-aligned to the current route after the base map was drawn.

Our ability to plot within an accuracy of 10 metres was a revelation to us.

I drew this map using transparent overlays laid on top of a glass fish tank (which I still have) which served as a light table. I put the tank on its side so that glass was on top and put a reading lamp inside it. All the linework was done with a 0.2 mm pen, except for the contours, where I had a little gadget with 3 wheels and a swinging arm which held a pen. Until I had drawn all the contours on a map I had no idea how many there were (Dave Lotty had drawn the contours for our earlier black and white maps).

Castlereagh State Forest. This area, on the Blacktown to Richmond Road, was a huge flat to lightly undulating area mapped to a scale of 1:20,000 with a contour interval of two metres. The mapping team of Ian Cameron and Bob Jerrems used 1:4000 orthophoto base maps and the June 1975 map was drawn by Bill Pringle.

This map was used for State events but was too far out of town for Club events.

McCarrs Creek. There was an interesting story about the McCarrs Creek coloured map (dated August 1975, scale 1:15,000, contour interval 5 metres). Previously a 1:25,000 base map had been used to produce about three B&W maps and we had hit the wall in terms of accuracy. Production of a colour map using the base map was out of the question.

I worked for the Water Conservation and Irrigation Commission, which earlier in 1975 had bought a whizzbang new photogrammetry machine to do its own mapping. The machine filled a small room. One of the photogrammetrists was Ron Wright, who was interested in orienteering and had competed with Uringa. He agreed to plot the McCarrs Creek area for us, using very recent (1970?) air photos. In addition to the usual plotting of contours, roads and prominent tracks he plotted features we nominated which would give us starting points for detailed mapping like cliff lines, large flat rocks, marsh boundaries etc. The final map gave us four major starting areas (the Scout Camp off Chiltern Road, Ingleside; Chiltern Road itself; The Duck Hole on McCarrs Creek; and the Bushfire Brigade depot on McCarrs Creek Road. Suddenly mapping was fun again!

I drew this five colour map using the "fish tank" technique again. Mainly my brother Bob and I shared the fieldwork. We were running late on drawing the map so I worked on the map all one Saturday, all Saturday night and Sunday (a total of 36 hours straight), with Bob popping in with updates. I did not let on to my wife that I had been up all night. No doubt other readers have had similar experiences.

*Balls Head, lower Lane Cove River???* (there may have been more colour maps)

## **PART D - PROFILES OF SELECTED MEMBERS**

### **Introduction**

This Part is intended to cover profiles of prominent club members who made significant contributions to the Club during the period of this Chapter. I have started (very modestly!) with myself and my brother Bob. Other candidates that come to mind are Toy Martin and Ian Cameron, who would need to supply much of the necessary information and give their permission.

### **PROFILE - RAY JERREMS**

Personal details: born in Sydney in 1942, high school education at North Sydney Technical High School, Bachelor of Laws (Sydney), solicitor 1967-2002. Married Diane 1971, two children Roger and Anita.

Previous outdoor interests: scouting, bushwalking, ski touring, Nordic ski racing, cross country running, rockclimbing.

*Ray Jerrems' Memoires of the Early Years of Garingal*

Administrative experience: I had been on the Committee of the Coast and Mountain Bushwalking Club (including 2 years as President and 2 years as Magazine Editor) for over a decade. The Club had had over 200 members after I organized a build-up programme. I also had been on a National Trust sub-committee. My wife Diane had also been secretary of a large social club. Finally, I had organized events for the Orienteering Association and BOO.

Orienteering highlights: In State Senior Men's team 3 years (1972-4). Second at State event Salvation Creek. President of Garingal 1973-5. Organized numerous events for Garingal, mapped a number of areas.

**PROFILE - BOB JERREMS**

Personal details: born in Sydney in 1947, high school education at Chatswood High School. Bachelor of Commerce (UNSW).

Previous outdoor interests: Bushwalking, ski touring.

Orienteering highlights: Foundation member and life member of Garingal. Competed in "B" Class, often well placed. Organized numerous events for Club, mapped a large number of areas.

**PROFILE-TOY MARTIN**

Represented the USA as a speed skater in the 1968 Olympics. Australian Women's Nordic Ski Champion early 1970s.....