

EASTER EXPEDITION, 10-15/April/2009

TO LAKE TABOURIE AND PIGEON HOUSE MOUNTAIN

On Good Friday morning a group of 3 Leaders and 13 Scouts set off on the longest Troop camp ever attempted; 5 days and 4 nights. Morning tea break was at the Sublime Point lookout where we had great views along the coast.



Sublime Point Lookout.

Lunch stop was at the blow hole at Kiama, but it wasn't blowing.



The Blow Hole at Kiama, not blowing.

We arrived at Lake Tabourie early afternoon and set-up camp beside the lake.



Lake views just meters from camp.



Camp site.

On Saturday morning we packed our back packs for a full day adventure and drove west on dirt roads towards Pigeon House Mountain. Lots of other people had decided to do the same outing and the car park at the start of the walk was full to capacity after we arrived. The first section of the walk was a very steep ascent and where the track reached a ridge we stopped for first morning tea.



Morning tea break.



The summit in sight.

The second section of the walk was fairly level along a ridge top.



A level ridge top section of the track.



Getting closer to the summit.

The last section towards the summit became steep again with lots of steps and then ladders for the final ascent to the summit.



Lots of ladders to reach the summit.



More ladders.

The summit was a crowded place, but we found a nice spot for lunch with views to the north-west over massive valleys to huge escarpment walls and mountains beyond.



Bangor Scouts near the 720m summit of Pigeon House Mountain.



Wildlife near the summit.



Views from the summit were smoky due to back burning.



View north east to Jarvis Bay.



Rugged escarpments to the north west.

After a long break at the summit, the return journey was down hill all the way.



Farewell to the last ladder.



Afternoon tea break.



Resting in the picnic shelter at the end of the hike.

We returned to camp and had an invigorating swim in the surf, a refreshing shower, a delicious dinner and a good night's sleep. After a Scouts Own by the lake on a beautiful sunny Sunday morning we enjoyed the beach and at low tide in the afternoon we walked across the sand spit to Crampton Island. On a circum-navigation of the island we found crabs, starfish, an octopus, squirting cunji, anemone, sea urchins, and saw schools of fish off the rock ledges. Monday was a wet day spent mostly under cover answering training questions and taking short walks around the lake and beach. Tuesday was pack up and go home day and luckily the rain held off so we packed up dry.