

BC MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

AUGUST - SEPT 2002

NEWSLETTER

 VOL. 80 NO. 7

EVENING SOCIALS

Evening socials are usually held in the ANZA club, upstairs room (corner of 8th Ave. and Ontario, Vancouver) starting at 7:30 p.m. Cookies, tea, and coffee are provided
Tuesday, 10 September - Entertainment will be a slide show by Ragil Chamgoula on mountaineering in Russia.

Tellot Glacier peaks, Waddington Range



Mt. Garibaldi in 1917. Photo - H.B. Hinman, BCMC archives.



HONORARY PRESIDENTS - Esther and Martin Kafer

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The **BC MOUNTAINEERING CLUB NEWSLETTER** is an official publication of the B.C. Mountaineering Club and is published 10 times per year (every month except July and September).

Submissions - of any written, drawn, or photographic material relevant to the B.C. Mountaineering Club are welcome. If possible, submissions should be sent to the editor by email or on a diskette. Deadline for submissions is the first Tuesday of the month preceding the publication month. Send submissions to Michael Feller (email - feller@interchg.ubc.ca, ph. 270-4050).

Editorial policy - All submitted material relevant to the B.C. Mountaineering Club will be published unless the club executive decides otherwise. Submitted material may be edited for clarity or brevity, or for consistency with club policies.

Opinions and comments expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the B.C. Mountaineering Club.

SCHEDULED TRIPS

Participation on club trips is open to any person with adequate skills and experience, subject to the approval of the trip organizer. All non-member participants must sign a disclosure and waiver form relieving the club and all other participants on the trip from any liability. A trip organizer is not a certified guide. The function of the organizer is to organize the trip, ensure that it gets underway, know the access to the area, and know a route or routes on the climb.

It is expected that each person on a club trip has the necessary skills, experience, fitness, and equipment. The organizer may specify certain equipment mandatory for participation in a trip. Any person who attempts to participate in a club trip without such mandatory equipment, may be requested to withdraw from the trip. Each person on a club trip is responsible for his or her own safety and for checking the equipment used. Please be considerate and call the trip organizer by Thursday evening for weekend trips, and by Friday for Sunday trips.

If you are given a ride, please remember to pay the driver your portion of the car costs. If you decide not to go on a trip for which you have previously registered, please be courteous and inform the trip organizer.

ORGANIZER

August 2-5: Southern Chilcotins More in the Southern Chilcotin, scrambling this time.	B3	Rick Raynsford	604-922-1897
August 3-5: Liberty Bell Rock climbing in the Washington Pass area of north central Washington.	A5/2353 m	Dave and Wendy Morriss	604-732-9896
August 10-11: Mt. Weart Mountaineering in Garibaldi park, ascending via the N Face.	C4-5/2870 m	Paul Morton	604-874-7372
August 10-11: Skihist Mtn. Climbing on the highest mountain in SW B.C. in the Kwoiek Ck. area.	C3/2970 m	Murray Lashmar	604-221-4183
August 10-13: Seton Ridge area Hiking and scrambling NE of Pemberton. Joint trip with the ACC.	A2-B3	Pam Krannitz	604-946-9942
August 17-18: Mt. Steele Hiking in the Tetrahedron park area near Sechelt.	B2	Alfred Menninga	604-886-0775
August 17-18: Macdonald Pk. Scrambling above Chilliwack Lake.	B2/2225 m	Alice Obermajer	604-520-0580
August 18: Panorama Ridge or W. Thompson hut Hiking and scrambling in Garibaldi park or somewhere else.	B2-3	Werner Himmelsbach	604-932-3740
August 22+: Pacific Crest Trail Lengthy hiking in the U.S. Suitable for those who are work-challenged.	C2	Brian Wood	604-222-1541
August 23-25: Mt. Ronayne Scrambling north of Pemberton.	C3/2255 m	Paul Kubik	604-876-0764
August 24: Upper Chilliwack valley. Hiking amidst the big trees of the upper Chilliwack valley.	B2	Michelle Martineau	604-873-3606
August 24: Table Mtn. Easy hiking near the Mt. Baker ski area in Washington. A family trip.	A1	Len Soet	604-298-5683
August 24-25: Snass Mtn. Hiking at the edge of Manning Park.	B2/2310 m	Jenny Faulkner	604-602-1428
August 31 - Sep 2: Dickson Pk. Hiking and scrambling or climbing near Gun Lake in the southern Chilcotin area.	C3-5/2809 m	David Hughes	604-980-6484
August 31 - Sep 2: Skihist Mtn. Another trip to the highest mountain in SW B.C.	B-C3/2970 m	Emanuele Porra	604-533-7723
September 7-8: Organizer's choice Scrambling or mountaineering somewhere. Contact the organizer for more details.	B2-3	Albert Souza	604-253-4832
September 7-8: Mt. Weart Mountaineering in Garibaldi park, ascending by the N. Face.	C5/2870 m	Anders Ourom	604-228-1798
September 7-8: Snass Mtn. and Snazzy Pk. More hiking at the edge of Manning Park.	B-C2/2310 m	Carol MacMillan	604-879-2947
September 7: Needle Pk. Rock climbing in the Coquihalla area, ascending via the N Ridge.	B4/2075 m	Rich Pawlowicz	604-222-3343
September 13-15: Ochre Mtn. Hiking in the upper Lillooet valley area.	B2/2541 m	Mike Peel	604-444-4068
September 14-15: Upper Downton Ck. Hiking N of the Duffey Lake road.	B2	Greg Stoltmann	604-926-6496
September 15: Mt. Arrowsmith Mountaineering on southern central Vancouver Island.	C3/1817 m	Ralph Hutchinson	250-756-1916

September 21: Brandywine Mtn. Hiking and scrambling in the Cheakamus valley area.	B2/2229 m	Marsha Ablowitz	604-261-8953
September 21: Blanshard Pk. Rock climbing in Golden Ears park, approaching via Evans Ck.	C4/1560 m	Jack Pals	604-463-7552
September 21-22: Needle Pk. A rock climbing traverse of this peak in the Coquihalla area.	C4/2075 m	Marcus Dell	604-274-9511
September 21-22: Suggestions? The organizer will organize a trip somewhere.	?	Brian Steeves	604-408-4889
September 21-22: Pokosha-Sigurd traverse Hiking and scrambling in the Ashlu valley area.	C2	Paul Kubik	604-876-0764
September 22: Nodoubt Pk. Scrambling beyond Chilliwack Lake.	B-C3/2222 m	Murray Lashmar	604-221-4183
September 22: Widgeon Pk. Extended hiking west of Pitt Lake.	D2/1431 m	Peter Gumplinger	604-733-8264
September 28: Capilano Mtn. - bike + hike Cycling and hiking above Howe Sound.	B3/1685 m	Ian McGillivray	604-988-3618
September 28: Frosty Mtn. Hiking in Manning Park.	B2/2423 m	Christine Huber	604-824-1205
September 28: Chilliwack valley area Hiking or scrambling in the Chilliwack area.	?	Ilze Rupners	604-222-3720
October 5: The Black Tusk Hiking and scrambling in Garibaldi park. Joint trip with the ACC.	C3/2315 m	Mirella Lioce	604-736-5079
October 5-6: Mt. Lytton Another fall Coquihalla region classic.	B2/2044 m	Karl Ricker	250-938-1107
October 11: The Black Tusk Another trip to this well known Garibaldi park peak.	C3/2315 m	Aki Nagai	604-986-2756
October 12-14: North Creek cabin Trail clearing and cabin maintenance in the upper Lillooet valley area.	B2	Michael Feller	604-270-4050

WEDNESDAY EVENING ROCK CLIMBING

Throughout August rock climbing will occur in the Squamish area on Wednesday evenings (August 7,

14, 21, and 28). Contact John Black 604-215-2545 or Mark Eversfield at 604-444-5118 for more details.

BCMC SUMMER CAMPS, AUGUST, 2002

Bendor Range-Mt. Truax area, 10-18 August
Following last year's highly successful camp in the Bendor Range, Dave is offering a repeat - This is a minimal cost, hike in and out camp offering a variety of hiking and climbing possibilities, with lots for ev-

eryone. Participants must be club members at the time of application and must be physically fit. For information and registration, contact David Scanlon at 464-3730.

MEMBERSHIP

New Members

The club welcomes the following new members:

Active: Steven Harnng, Martin Karcz

Associate: Marielle Chabot, Henny Coates, Marc Crimeni, Marta Fechere, Danica and LaUra

Meursing, Dave Newcombe, Howard Price, Jennifer Thompson, John Toraason, Gisela Vischer, Kathleen Walker, Flavio Jose Wasniewski, David Webber, and Joerg Zimmerman.

NEWS

More of Garibaldi park to be deleted to allow further expansion of the Whistler downhill ski area.

Comment by M. Feller

An additional area in Flute basin is to be deleted from Garibaldi park to provide for the never-ending expansion of the Whistler downhill ski area, this time to the Flute basin, and one valley closer to Singing Pass. It is unclear what is needed for the ski area expansion since B.C. Parks and Whistler-Blackcomb appear to be giving different rationales - B.C. Parks claiming that a section of the high ridge on the Singing Pass side of Flute basin was needed for skiing purposes, and Whistler-Blackcomb claiming that land within Flute basin was needed to construct a base station for a ski lift. In return, Whistler-Blackcomb is to give back to B.C. Parks, some land lower in the valley which includes a section of the Singing Pass trail. This trail will go to nowhere once Whistler has expanded to Singing Pass, which is the current trend.

Lillooet LRMP process continues

Comment by M. Feller

As a result of 1) substantial lobbying of politicians by various stakeholder groups, including concerted attempts by Lillooet area residents to point out the economic folly of continued promotion of timber interests over tourism interests; 2) arousal of First Nation bands over the way in which the government appeared to be pushing the LRMP, and 3) threats by environmental groups to initiate international boycotts of B.C. forest products if the government comes up with a more environmentally adverse plan than the one our previous government accepted. The B.C. government has continued to delay the release of a final LRMP plan. The government is also conducting yet another socio-economic analysis to provide input into the final plan.

One Lillooet resident who has supported park establishment recently had the wheel nuts to his vehicle's tires loosened, and has received an abusive threatening email written by a functionally illiterate local. Things are heating up with the mining industry on one side and the conservationists and recreationists on the other, all thanks to the government's rescinding of the previous agreement.

Everest trek this November

One of our British based BCMC members, Michael Bromfield, is also the Chairman of one of Britain's largest Special Interest Tour Operators who operated over 190 custom designed Group Tours around the world last year. They were also the only travel company in Britain to be honoured with a Queen's Award for Enterprise. Casterbridge Tours is establishing a new dedicated trekking division, 'Great Walks of the World' and is operating a unique Everest Trek this coming November - 'In the Footsteps of Hillary and Tensing'. Casterbridge can offer a land only package starting from Kathmandu or inclusive of flights from Vancouver and will offer a 10% discount to all BCMC members. The dates will be November 12 - December 6, 2002.

You can contact Casterbridge by telephone, fax or email for a comprehensive colour brochure or alternatively download full details and the itinerary from their website - just go to www.casterbridgetours.com and click onto UK Sales, Theme Tours, then Trekking.

Casterbridge Tours Tel 011 44 1935 810810

Fax 011 44 1935 815815

Email sales@casterbridge-tours.co.uk

N.B. Casterbridge will also be featuring the West Coast Trail as an escorted hike for UK walkers. If any BCMC members are interested in representing Casterbridge in Canada, please contact Michael direct at michael@casterbridge-tours.co.uk

Squamish Forest District winter recreation forum continues

This forum was established by what was BCAL to develop a winter recreation land use plan for the Squamish Forest District. The forum consists of representatives from all motorized, non-motorized, commercial, and public recreation groups which use the area in winter. Club members Monika Bittel and your editor represent the FMCBC and the BCMC, respectively, on this forum. Regular meetings are being held and the region is being discussed, valley by valley. Areas are being proposed for motorized or non-mo-

torized recreation. The entire region has been given a first-pass assessment by July. Use of contentious areas will be discussed during the summer before a draft plan will be made available for public input later this year.

To assist your club representatives, if you come across evidence of snowmobiles or helicopters in unexpected areas, or experience any conflicts with motorized recreationists, please report them to either Monika Bittel (ph 604-983-3097) or your editor (ph 604-270-4050). Our efforts to develop a plan are handicapped by a lack of information on where different users go.

ACCESS NOTES

Grainger Peak

by Paul Kubik

The traditional approach to Grainger Peak has been from Eagle Creek to the SE which provides access to the climbing routes on the south side of the peak. Road deactivation by demented heavy equipment contractors working under the auspices of the BC Ministry of Forests has largely hindered vehicle access up Eagle Creek. This spawn of toads placed over a hundred trenches on the road, as opposed to a conventionally, well-rounded cross-ditch, which channels water off the road while facilitating vehicular access.

In contrast, Trio Creek to the north approaches to within 2 km of a point on the east ridge that is 2.5 km east of the summit. The middle reaches of Trio Creek were logged somewhere between 40 to 60 years ago, based on the size of the second growth forest. When Fairley's alpine guide was published in 1985, Trio Creek roads were horribly overgrown with alder.

Sometime around 1995, logging reached the upper valley near 800 m, about 8km in from the Harrison West road (at Km 50). The water bars or cross-ditches in Trio Creek are well-rounded and would permit vehicular access almost to the road-end in 2002. Numerous deadfall in the last 3km, requiring a chainsaw to clear, prevents access beyond Km 5.

Trio Creek may be used to approach the east ridge of Grainger Peak, which was skied in 2002. From the road end at 696E947N, cross Trio Ck on logs, ~200m upstream of the tributary, which joins Trio Ck. immediately south of the road and drains the large bowls east of the peak. Probably best in late May, when vehicles can be driven quite high and avalanche debris facilitates access through the tributary's lower gorge. The gorge opens into a U-shaped trough choked with slide debris from all sides. At ~1400 m, there is a steep exit right, through a 30m band of scrubby trees, into the pleasant east bowl.

The lower section of the NE side of Grainger Pk. has steep, slabby cliff bands and waterfalls, ~100 m high, which prevent its direct ascent on skis.

TRIP REPORTS

Cloudraker Mtn., 20-21 April, 2002

We 14 met at the St. David's church on Saturday morning, getting away at 7:15 am. We picked up 1 club member in Pemberton en route to the Lizzie Lake logging road.

The road to Lizzie Lake was blocked at the 4 km mark

by 2 massive snow slides. As it turned out, we'd only have been able to drive a few hundred metres more anyway. On my previous trip in mid-May, I had to carry my skis about 2 km. This trip was just about perfect. We only had to carry our skis a few hundred

metres, and – the big plus was the slide alder was still covered.

We left our cars about 11:15, arriving at camp, at the far side of Tao Lake (Running Water) at 4 pm. Access to Tao Lake is easy. The grade is steadily mellow. 9 km from cars to camp.

Saturday was hot and sunny and, after setting up camp, some of our fitter people went up for a ski. The snow was fairly soft and heavy, but those of us who stayed in camp were still envious, wishing we'd gone too. The route I'd taken before went due south. The slope for the first 600 m was a constant 40°-42°, becoming more gradual upon gaining the main body of the glacier. One can ski to within about 60-100 m of Cloudraker's summit, then one can kickstep to the summit up steepish 50° snow.

If you are good, or daring, you may carry your skis to the summit and try skiing down from there. If conditions are good you can have an 800 m vertical ski run down to camp at Tao Lake.

Alas, this was not to be for us this trip. Cloud (fog?) was thick Sunday morning. We went to 2000 m before all but 3 of us bailed out and went back to camp. Doug, Ian, and Adam went on a short distance, waiting for 1½ hours for the elusive and not-appearing sun before they too bailed out. This route is for the most part reasonably safe, but, as always, one must use common sense. There is some cornice hazard on the left, so we kept right as best as we could.

We had a fun group on this trip. A latrine was dug, a huge kitchen made, access (steps) to running water was also dug. Thanks to all who helped.

The ski out? In some places the snow was like porridge and some of us had huge falls! Hard work, yes! Fun, yes!!

We ate at the Pemberton Hotel restaurant. Good food – fast food – good service. This is a place often overlooked by groups and comes highly recommended by us.

Thanks to Chris Trautman, Carol MacMillan, Mary Henderson, Lorrie Lech, Trish Patterson, Tanya Zulkoskey, Andrew Jarzabek, Nancy Henderson, Dennis Vacha, Mike Peel, Trudy Rey, Ian Voboril, Adan Rositch, Doug Hess, and David Scanlon (Organizer). Greg Stoltmann (Reporter).

BCMC top-rope course, 27- 28 April, 2002

The annual mentor-based climbing programs started with the one-day workshop, April 27 or 28, attended by Melissa Kelly, Jim Genge, Nikki Ducharme, Robert Livingstone, Jason Stauffer, Theresa Tham, Damir Sigur, Shawn Dirksen and Liam Grimes.

This is the first time the BCMC has split the Top-Rope program into three days. The reason for this was a feeling that previous groups were “maxed out” with information. Also, the comments from trip organizers who took newer climbers to Skaha or Frenchman's Coolee, suggested that intro-climbers could get a lot more out of the area if they had experience in “following a second”, and learnt how to set up a rappel after the process of following a leader. Skaha and Frenchman's Coolee do not necessarily have a suitable walk-off from climbs so this requires an understanding on the set-up of rappelling off “cold shuts” and so on.

With all this in mind, we started the program by having an introduction on Tuesday evening covering knots and equipment at Queens Park, near the Bloedel Floral Conservatory. On hand with me were Paul Miller and Jack Pals to demonstrate the hardware and talk about the expectations of the program.

Saturday, April 27

My morning started with meeting Caroline Hart, an experienced climber newly arrived from New Zealand keen to volunteer for the BCMC. We drove to the general meeting place at St David's in North Vancouver. On hand to attend the Saturday Program were Nikki Ducharme, Robert Livingstone, Jason Stauffer and Liam Grimes.

The drive to Squamish was smooth and uneventful. Thanks must go to Jack Pals for phoning me prior to my leaving the meeting place suggesting that speeding past Cypress Bowl could be expensive! We were lucky with the weather as it was quite sunny and got progressively warmer during the day — I'm glad Nikki thought to bring sunscreen to share with everyone. Jack Pals and Paul Miller had gone ahead to set up three top-rope systems so we were able to start immediately sorting out belays, ground anchors, call signals, and climbing technique. Having the group

move from Paul to Jack and back with me gave everyone (as Jack put it) "an opportunity to listen to a different, self-opinionated climber." The humor was well taken and the day proceeded very smoothly. Murrin Park has some easy crack routes and some fine friction and everyone enjoyed the varied features on the warm, dry rock. Jack Pals demonstrated a few ways of fist jamming in the cracks of granite and moving over rock while maintaining complete balance.

Later in the day we moved the group over to the Layback Crack 5.7 and, after Paul Miller demonstrated a few ways of climbing a dihedral, the group worked at scrambling up the corner. The group concluded it certainly was not as easy as Paul made it look.

Later in the day I set a top-rope system on Holiday in Cambodia 5.8, an ideal route for the group as it's sustained in the middle due to the lay back necessary to get up it.

Everyone worked hard and maintained a good level of concentration for the day. We wrapped up the proceedings about 4:30 and decided that eating at the Brew Pub in Squamish would be the only sensible way to maintain hydration and carbohydrate levels. Unfortunately half of Squamish had decided to do the same and watch the Hockey. That said, dinner was good and a fine way to end a day of climbing.

My thanks to Paul Miller and Jack Pals for volunteering equipment and time to the BCMC program on Saturday. Thanks also to Caroline Hart for her time and encouragement for the group at Murrin Park - everyone appreciated it.

Sunday, April 28

Sunday morning was fine and cool- just the kind of day we were hoping for. Waiting at the parking lot in North Vancouver were Melissa Kelly, Jim Genge, Theresa Tham, Damir Sigur, Shawn Dirksen & Liam Grimes. Also joining the mentor training assistants were Chris Peck and Deb Harris - it was great to have you along, thanks again.

Prior to the gathering at 9 am Paul, Todd and Elana had gone ahead to set up top ropes. They phoned while were on the way to tell us that Murrin was full of climbers and climbing courses so they were moving to the Little Smoke Bluffs in Squamish. Cell phones may be a curse but they sure can conveniently reorganize plans.

So, after redirecting the team we drove the rest of the way into Squamish.

We gathered as a group at the Boulder Gully and walked in to the Smoke Bluffs. In a few minutes we'd joined the others who had set up a fine set of top-ropes for us on the wall between Stumps and Cat Crack at the North end of the Neat & Cool wall.

This is an excellent area for introducing climbers to Squamish, as the crack and friction routes in this area are a fine introduction to Squamish.

The challenge of the day was definitely the friction routes - it surprised some of the group how a climber could move about with no distinct handholds available. Others had climbed before and knew that trusting your feet is the key.

At the end of the day we talked about knots and anchors and how they related to the area.

As a change of pace we decided to eat in Brackendale at the "Wiggin Pier". We were not disappointed as the fish and chips were as good as we remembered and the service was fast.

My thanks again to all the volunteers and participants - it was a great weekend.

Kit Griffin (Reporter)



**Liam, Nikki, Jason, and Robert at Murrin Park.
Photo - Kit Griffin.**



Shawn on Cat Crack. Photo - Kit Griffin

Rock 2 - Essential Rock Climbing Course, 11-12 May
Well - this was the weekend of climbing we had been planning since November last year; could we extend the club top-rope program to not only cover top-rope skills and rope handling and anchoring, but following a second and setting up the rappel?

Paul Miller, Robert Kellington and I met the group on Thursday, 9 May, at Queen Elizabeth Park for the usual introductions and weekend planning. In this group were Melissa Kelly, Jim Genge, Emanuele Porra, Jason Stauffer, Michelle Jacobs, Rob Sibbald, Martin Godwyn, and Joani Dreef. Also in the group - and continuing on to the Mountaineering Program - were Lani Gibson, Robert Livingstone and Carl Van Maarseveen.

After practising knots and anchors on the timber walkways of Queen Elizabeth Park, we planned our weekend meeting times and the departure from St David's United Church parking lot at 9. To digress for a moment, we have discovered there's a world of difference between departing at 9 and meeting at 9, if you catch my drift.

Saturday morning's weather was perfect and on hand as mentors were Caroline Hart, Robert Kellington, Todd Belcher, Elena Ouliankina, Paul Miller and Jack Pals.

After a morning refresher of knots and anchors at "Ferret's Folly", the group split up with some staying at Ferret's with Todd and Elena, while Paul and Jack took a group to "Call it a Day", and Caroline, Robert

and I took a group to "The Pink Cliff".

The afternoon was spent climbing "as a second" setting anchors and rappelling. It was a lot of work for the crew but everyone worked hard at sorting out the skills.

Thanks to all the Saturday mentors.

We kept the momentum up on Sunday and the group broke up with one third going to the Pink Cliff with Paul Miller and the others moving on with Robert Kellington and me to Ronin's Corner.

Our day at Ronin's was just starting when I saw Fern Webb wandering past us and pressed her into assisting us. My thanks Fern, your work with us was appreciated!

Fern and Emanuele set a top-rope system on Ridge Runner 5.9 and it wasn't long before everyone had a shot at the route. Ridge Runner is particularly interesting as a top-rope climb because directional slings and karabiners need to be placed along the route to keep the rope running along the arete. Normally I'd discourage top-roping this route, as it's a fine lead climb, albeit a touch "sporty" for its grade.

Again, the group worked hard and some much more complex systems were discussed using a variety of materials such as tape and 9mm static rope.

The day ended about 4:30 with everyone saying they were happy (so far) with the new top rope program - I look forward to the group's input next year.

Thank you again Sunday mentors - Paul Miller, Robert Kellington and Fern Webb.

My apologies to those who offered to assist but were not contacted - I assure you, your input would have been VERY welcome. Sometimes you have to remind me of your availability as I have mentors who suddenly can't show up for the program and I can't remember who's available.

Next year I'll nail down the volunteer list in a better way with a sign-up sheet of some variety.

Kit Griffin (reporter)

Anvil Island, 9 June, 2002

I knew this trip might be popular since access was by water taxi and most of us don't have one of those in our garage. So utilizing a phone, fax machine and "industry contacts", I was able to locate a departure point of Lions Bay Marina - with Cormorant Water Taxi - and a landing point at the Day Break Bible camp.

I have to thank the Bible camp again: without their permission this trip would have been very difficult. After the above procedures were in place, we all managed to meet up at the Lions Bay Marina. While we lounged on the wharf, under blue skies, surrounded by cool green oceans, I began to wonder if maybe the water taxi forgot about us. I pictured 12 rebellious BCMC'ers throwing me in the water. Luckily at 8:55 we spotted a shiny aluminum craft ploughing through the waves towards us.

A 20 minute boat ride brought us to the Bible camp and we wandered through the area while some of the camp personnel gave us "who the heck are these guys" stares. Soon enough we were directed to the trail.

A moderate 3 hour climb of about 600 m, with some steep sections, (but nothing to betray the B2 rating) brought us to a great view of the last 100 m rocky ridge leading to the peak.

It looked quite intimidating - even Dick Culbert was worried! (bit of an exaggeration here). Nevertheless, we soldiered on and the actual route was quite simple as it wound around to the northeast side - just as the 103 Hikes said (that should sell a few more copies) and with a short scramble we were on the top overlooking Howe Sound, Horseshoe Bay, Gambier Island and McNab creek. After eating our lunch and basking in the sun for 1.5 hours, we trudged back down; stopping briefly while Alfred had a brief swim in a nearby pond. Within 2.5 hours we were awaiting our water taxi ride back to Lions Bay. A good trip with a good group of hikers.

Participants: Liam Grimes, Dick Culbert, Alfred Menninga, Caroline Hart, Bob Price, Zif House, Tania Zulkoskey, Trish, Michelle Martineau, Yuki Matsumura, Jim Derham-Reid, Mike Peel (Organizer and water taxi skipper and reporter)

Mt. Garibaldi, 23-24 March, 2002

As the week progressed the weather began to look pretty dubious but I decided to go ahead with my Mt. Garibaldi trip anyway with three other people committed.

My primary reason for selecting Garibaldi was to try to snowboard it from the top since I had already skied it twice before. I recorded that the top part of the mountain would be reasonable if the snow was soft, but dangerous for boarding if it was really icy. I kept questioning whether it was worth the efficiency compromises

to use the snowboard.

On Saturday morning I met Ian Voboril, Gerry Egan and James Clark at St. David's church at 7 under amazingly clear skies. After a Petrocan regroup in Brackendale we left the highway about 2 km north of Brohm Lake and took a logging road that would lead us onto Brohm Ridge's north side. After about 2 km the plowed road ended at an artisan's residence, where we parted. A brief discussion with the artisan, who specializes in wildwood carpentry, confirmed that it was OK to park here. The elevation was about 400 m.

We started skiing about 9 am with easy or minimal trailbreaking, but numerous ditches to negotiate became quite exasperating. After 1 hr 10 minutes James had a major malfunction with one of his telebindings so he and Ian spent 45 minutes figuring out how to temporarily fix it. It was lucky that James had an extra small bolt for his Voilé release system.

The road headed basically northeast and eventually into the Culliton Creek drainage. Fairly shortly after first sighting the creek we reached the bottom of two large fairly recent clearcuts, one above the other. At the top was the start of the natural forest zone.

Lunch was had at the base of the clearcut at about 1 pm. The clearcut was a bit of a hot slog and we reached the top of it by about 3. After a rest it was time to follow the snowmobile tracks into the forest to point us in the right direction. We left them fairly quickly though and simply proceeded due east. About half an hour before our camp area I broke one of my splitboard skis but figured it would hold together until camp, which it basically did. Just before camp we of course began to enter the snowmobile horror zone, complete with tracks all over the place and the whine of these infernal machines.

We set up camp in an untracked area with a view of the upper snowmobile cabin about 1 km along the ridge towards Garibaldi. By the time the tents were up the snowmobilers had pretty much left and it turned into a beautiful mellow evening.

After dinner I decided to see if my splitboard would still lock together as a board, which it did. I reasoned that it should be rideable though slower than usual due to an enormous buckling of the P-tex underneath. My plan would now be to try to ascend Garibaldi on my tiny, very lightweight snowshoes

that I use to supplement the splitboard while packing the board up.

The next morning we were up at 5:30 under clear skies and moving by 7:25. Gerry decided not to try for the peak as he had had severe muscle cramps in his legs the previous day. I was able to keep up to the skiers until the big fall line stretch of the Warren Glacier which goes up to the summit bergschrund. As I headed up this stretch my snowshoes began to sink 20-25 cm and I watched Ian and James gradually disappear into the distance. They did eventually wait but I told them to just go on without me, so once again I watched them disappear, wishing now very much that I was on skis. The trailbreaking became even heavier for me - 30 cm into every step and it simply became so tiring that at about 2400 m I decided to pack it in and have lunch while the clouds suddenly began to come up and obscure the visibility.

Ian and James were last sighted very close to the bergschrund, then disappeared from sight, so I had lunch and once in a while took a peek up the slope to see if I could spot them. Eventually I made out one figure trying to ski up to the right of the schrund but then he disappeared. Later I saw what appeared to be a figure tumbling down the snow and then skiing across the slope at a high speed backwards. This was all, however, a trick of the swirling clouds. Eventually I saw James walking down the glacier and then put his skis on. When he reached me he said that he'd nearly lost a pole in the bergschrund, got a little freaked out, and then couldn't deal with the flat light so he decided to wait until visibility improved. It was quite awhile before Ian came down cranking big wide open tele arcs towards us. It seemed that he got within 60 m of the top but was off route, crawling around on rock for awhile.

The fall line section of the glacier had good visibility and my snowboard worked okay. We hit whiteout at the bottom of this pitch and followed our tracks across the big glacial flat back to Brohm Ridge which was also in a partial whiteout. Of course on Brohm Ridge the problem was that there were so many tracks that eventually we all go separated. Luckily for me I spotted a good gliding route to the upper snowmobile cabin and then snowshoed from there back to camp. I was very surprised that I had arrived ahead of James, though the answer came soon enough. Another binding failure and this time no extra bolt. So after pack-

ing, James, Ian and Gerry came up with a solution using heavy duty zap straps. Also, Gerry and James, would descend via the main Brohm Ridge road, which was reasoned to be easier for James' situation. Ian and I would descend via our uphill route and pick the other two up at the bottom of their route.

We broke camp at 5:10 and I knew we would be coming out in the dark. I was appalled at how slow my board was in the shallow slush below camp while Ian's skis seemed to be rocketing. Eventually, after numerous snowboard/snowshoe switchovers, severely slowing Ian down, we reached the clearcut. This proved to be the only decent boarding I would have for the remainder of the trip. Once on the flat road below I had to resort once again to the snowshoes. About an hour below the bottom of the slash at about 7:30 we put on our headlamps.

At the start of what I thought was a fairly continuous downhill I got on the board again but it was very slow. And then of course the ditches began - 22 in all I counted. Near the bottom of the road I had faster snow to ride down on. Finally the trucks were reached at 9:50. About half an hour later we picked up Gerry and James at the bottom of the main Brohm Ridge road. They had been waiting for about 1 1/2 hours. One problem they had encountered was finding the top of their road due to a whiteout that had closed in on them. Still a good trip nonetheless.

Participants: James Clark, Gerry Egan, Ian Voboril, and Greg Stoltmann (Organizer and reporter).

Mount Price, 24 March, 2002

An early start for a long day, our group leaves the rendezvous at Taylor Way by 6:45, precisely the scheduled time. We pass a rental car with all the windows smashed in at the trailhead and followed the trail to and across and beyond Garibaldi Lake. The party, exercising contemporary trail etiquette, spread out over a few km with just about everyone eventually making it to the summit of Mt. Price in fair weather. Bringing up the rear I missed the alpine part of the trip with the sticky snow and fragile crusting character of various snow zones. Descending, we paused at Barrier Lake and narrowly missed an opportunity to get the whole group together, dispersing at the first hint of the safe return from the heights of the rear guard.

11 The Barrier or the trail, we all made it in good shape

to the cars. For the leader of such a large party methinks that a couple of those walky-talky units tying together the front and rear could be useful. Then again, we accomplished the safe return of all with the awareness, responsibility, and patience of the group and without the technology. Mountaincraft.

Participants: Blake Drummond, Cynthia Neal, Stephan Reinker, Ryan, Murray Lashmar, Jos van der Burg, Susan D'Boission, Thomas Cutter, Jane Weller, Ian McGillivray, Chris Kubinsky, Ron Groom, Jerrick, Steve Grant, Paul Kubik, and Blair Mitten (Organizer and reporter).

Mt. Garibaldi via Brohm Ridge 11-12 May, 2002

Garibaldi was the destination and I was struggling to find friends to join me because many had already made the switch from skiing to climbing. I managed to get some friends together and became the "trip leader". This was my first time leading an unofficial club trip. I tried to make it a democracy but was reminded several times that I was the leader - my decision.

Outnumbered by four Australians, there were six of us. We parked at the snowline 7km up the logging road. As we were preparing to ski up the road, we learned that the road would likely be plowed another 2km by the time we returned the following day. I believe poor planning was suggested towards the trip leader!

We approached the west side of Brohm Ridge, following several snowmobile tracks. The weather was warm and sunny. A perfect day for sunburning! After setting up camp on the ridge, we went in search of a few lines to ski. We found an unmarked slope with fresh, deep powder - soft, wet and heavy. After a few somersaults, face plants and huge pinwheels, some returned to camp. Two extreme die-hard skiers went in search of another line to ski and found some great turns on a north-facing slope. Back at camp, we listened to the snowmobiles and the crackling sound of rock and snow crashing down the steep gullies on the west face of Garibaldi. While it was disappointing to see the snow tracked out by the snowmobiles, I reminded myself that it was shared territory. The snowmobilers were friendly and sympathetic. I was entertained by some of their stunts, provided from a distance. As the sun went down, the mountain be-

came peaceful.

Sunday morning, we assessed our sunburns and set out for another fantastic day towards the summit. As we skied over the Warren Glacier we had a spectacular view of the north face of Garibaldi. Once we crossed the bergschrund and reached the summit pyramid's rocks, we took our skis off and approached the summit by foot, in thigh-deep snow. We didn't remain on the summit for long, as it was chilly in the wind. After some great turns back to camp, we packed up and headed out.

The 2km hike from where the snow had been plowed, back to the cars was "desperate" for some. Our final destination was the Brew Pub - the end of an amazing weekend!

Participants: Michael and Evelyn Feller, Caroline Cheung, Grant Else, Nick Ranicar, and Tammie Sibbald (Organizer/leader and reporter).

The Black Tusk, 22 June 2002

Since we had only 3- 4WD vehicles, unfortunately, not everyone who phoned could come on this trip. We met at Taylor Way at 7am, and drove the Black Tusk Microwave road to the snowline. Leaving our cars at 10:45, we got to the gate in about 20 minutes. It was locked. After an early lunch stop on the ridge below the Tusk the speedy rabbit group took off and reached the top of the Tusk around 2pm. The slower turtle group got there around 2:30pm. The only obstacle was the loose scree slope, which we could have by-passed on snow if we had known to walk further around the base before heading up. On the way down we met a snowmobile group doing stunts.

We had fun. It was a beautiful clear sunny day. Views of the Tusk and other mountains were magnificent. Also impressive were some bright red sunburns on necks and knees. For scenic pictures check Allan Palomeares site

http://photos.yahoo.com/alphare_s2001

Participants: Laura Chapman, Pavel Zraly, Ann Lavergne, George Richey, David Jakubeak, Liam Grimes, Allan Palomares, Deb Harris, Chris Peck, Raphael Tsen, Paulette Caile, Marsha Ablowitz (Organizer and reporter)