Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award Qualifying Expedition Report.
Pre-Log:

Date:
17.10.14-18.10.14

Location:
Mt Lagoon/Colo River

Items Packed:

- Backpack
- 4 Litres of Water
- NutBars
- Deb
- Gravy
- Tent
- Sleeping Bag
- Sleeping Mat
- Gaterade Powder
- Apples
- Toilet Paper
- Knife
- Lighter
- Head Torch
- Spare Clothes

Group Members:

- Micheal Censic
- Shannon Stweart
- Emily Tyrell
- Nicola Palamar
- Tom Dickson
- Steph Kilby
- Cody Cantin
- Natalie Axiak
Route Plan/ Field Notes

Day 1:

The first day of our hike was quite the exiting one, consisting of wrong turns, uphill climbs, fire trails... a lot of fire trails and the best of all swimming. The day began at Sams way, when at 8:30am teachers began letting the first of us embark on our walk. Little did we know we were heading down the wrong path. Each group walked roughly 10km before group 4 brought to our attention that we may have been going the wrong way. After turning around and walking back to the beginning we stopped for a quick snack. We then re embarked on our new journey down the right path. The weather was overcast but at about 11am it began to sprinkle, resulting in us needing to stop in order to put our wet weather gear on. The hike down Sams way was quite easy until we reached the locked gate where majority of the walk for the next few kilometres was uphill. After this uphill climb we made our decent down the large distances of fire trails. At checkpoint 3 the fire trails turned into a much narrower bush path which made for a magnitude of scratches. We eventually stopped for lunch at checkpoint 6 at about 3pm. It was at this point that made for a great view of the Colo River. After lunch we had to walk down a steep windy path until we met up with Mr Lans at the Colo fire shed. After this component of the walk the hike was quite easy as all it consisted of was a gravel road. We then stopped at a set of mailboxes where we turned left and walked until we found a plain grass field. We were surrounded by a wildlife reserve. We all waited her until all groups arrived from there we made our way to camp and settled around the fire after we had a quick swim in the Colo River. Then it was bedtime.
Day 2:

Day 2 began with an extremely early start majority of us were up just after 6am and prepared to pack up and begin our journey. After a quick briefing and group allocating we were on our way up the hardest part of our journey yet. We needed to almost climb an extremely steep hill requiring us to climb rocks and weave through branches. Although the difficulty of this leg it was quite enjoyable when we got to see the marvellous view of the surrounding hills and trees. At the top of the hill we met with Miss Jose where she escorted us the viewpoint of the mountain, which was an extremely fantastic view. After this we made our way down a narrow foot track which again involved us to jump across rocks and other un-even surfaces. We then arrived at a familiar checkpoint, checkpoint 4 from day 1. When we reached this checkpoint is was just the same as day 1 but in reverse. The only difference being that the weather had cleared up and the temperature had risen. Once we had reached the locked gate we awaited the few remaining groups, we were almost home. After a quick walk down the first hill we were back at the bus and ready to depart home. The today was extremely entertaining yet physically draining at the same time.
Reflections

Highlights:

The qualifying Duke of Ed hike was definitely one to remember from the tireless effort from walking in the totally wrong direction for an hour to the amazing views of upper Colo and the Colo River. One of the most memorable moments I believe will be playing freezing frizzbe in the Colo River featuring most teachers and some of my good friends. The reason why I enjoyed this portion of the hike was that I really felt it brought together the people involved with Duke of Ed and just serves as a reminder about how enjoyable all the camps had been.

Personal Impressions:

I believe over this past year Duke of Ed has really helped me to overcome a lot of the challenges that I could not have before. At the start of the year I truly believed that conquering a 30km hike was near impossible but now after doing it three times, I can truly say I feel a sense of accomplishment. I owe this all to Duke of Ed and all of the supervisors involved. All three camps have given me the ability to grow closer to a lot of my peers as well as feel accomplished within myself. Although feeling accomplishment is good nothing can beat the feeling of finally entering camp after a long hard day of hiking. I can honestly say that Duke of Ed has greatly affected not only the way I see tasks but the way I execute them. I know plan things through and am always a lot better prepared just like how you need to be with Duke of Ed. DoE also taught me how to organise and prioritise which will help me later on in life as well as during high school. I am extremely happy that I made the choice to take part in Duke of Ed over the course of 2014.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DETAILS</th>
<th>DISTANCE</th>
<th>BEARING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DAY: DAY ONE</td>
<td>MEI 4300 9031-3-S</td>
<td>MAP:</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**ROUTE PLAN**

**8586933**

**DAY ONE**

**MEI 4300 9031-3-S**

**MAP:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Distance</th>
<th>Bearing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lower Cold Road</td>
<td>2:30</td>
<td>1/2 mile</td>
<td>270°</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Picnic Stop</td>
<td>3:00</td>
<td>2:15</td>
<td>270°</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Cold Road</td>
<td>3:30</td>
<td>1 mile</td>
<td>270°</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We arrived at the picnic stop where a short hike began. The hike continued on down the road and along the river. We encountered some water and mud along the way. The hike continued on down the road towards the Lower Cold Road. After taking a short break to recover, we continued on the hike. The hike concluded near the Lower Cold Road.

We arrived at the Lower Cold Road where a short break was taken. We then continued on the hike, encountering some water and mud along the way. The hike continued on down the road towards the Lower Cold Road. After taking a short break to recover, we continued on the hike. The hike concluded near the Lower Cold Road.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>RMK</th>
<th>Topography</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drove to get to the junction of S25 W and T3 W Trail. We had briefly reached the trail head.</td>
<td>800m</td>
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<tr>
<td>Everyone was ready to head out.</td>
<td>807.94</td>
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<tr>
<td>At 10:45 we arrived at the locked gate - we were almost home. All our groups gathered here for a quick break.</td>
<td>5.2km</td>
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<td>We continued on the trail.</td>
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<tr>
<td>We arrived at 11:05am and took our group photo. From here the path began to widen.</td>
<td>1.6km</td>
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<tr>
<td>We went up to 11:10am and stopped for lunch. The view here was breath-taking.</td>
<td>160°</td>
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<tr>
<td>We continued on the trail.</td>
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<tr>
<td>We arrived at 11:20am and took our second group photo. We arrived at 11:25am and took our third group photo.</td>
<td>2.3km</td>
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<tr>
<td>We went back down the trail. The path did not get much better.</td>
<td>11:30am</td>
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<td>We arrived at 11:35am and took our fourth group photo. We would love to complete this route soon.</td>
<td>12:00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>We left the picnic area at 12:00pm and continued our way along the trail.</td>
<td>300m</td>
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**ROUTE PLAN**

**DAY: TWO**

**MAP: 4X4 MAP 030-3-8**