

Colo Bulletin

9 Colo 2

11/5/18



High Ropes Course

The High Ropes Course was an excellent activity to be involved in at Colo. The High Ropes were great for many reasons such as how fun they were. Everyone had a great time even if the heights were out of their comfort zone.

I learnt that sometimes the best experiences come from when you push outside your personal comfort zone. There were plenty of times where boys got around those who were really out of their comfort zone which allowed them to go beyond what they had anticipated.

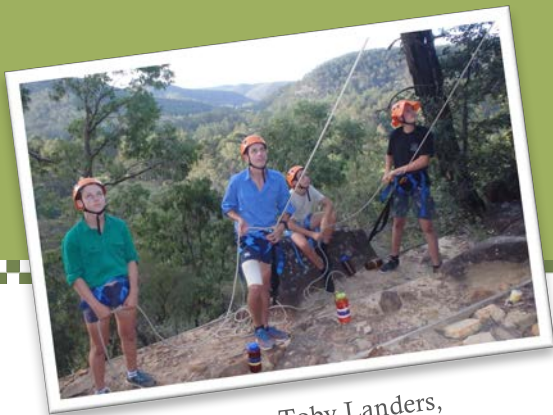
I'm sure most people climbing were out of their comfort zone, some more than others, but each individual had a go and did their best to overcome fears. In the end, the High Ropes Course was a great activity and a perfect start to the week ahead.

By Isaac Dermody

Top Right: Leaping for the trapeze bar on 'Leap of Faith'

Top Left: Spencer Benjamin on the 'Gut Wrencher'

Bottom Left: Xavier Houston and Archie Gallagher climbing the 'Giants Ladder'



Jack Johnston, Toby Landers, Kahya Gursel and John Piekuta



Kurtis Castorina climbing



Bernard Lund, Edward Scarf, Archie Gallagher and Jonathan Chan belaying

Rock Climbing

Rock climbing at Colo presented many challenges and moments of pleasure to all boys involved in the activity. Personally, I expanded my ability in climbing and belaying. A moment of trust and pushing me outside of my comfort zone was when I had to trust my close friend Kahya Gursel to successfully lower me from the famous ‘Stairway to Heaven’ climb. In this moment, I was exhilarated by fear by putting my fate in his hands.

The shorter climb presented great comradery with everyone sticking behind each other, pushing to

complete the climb from the ground and the rock face. One member who displayed a brilliant example of comradery to me was my mate Alexander Stapleton. He constantly told me jokes whilst belaying to make the climb enjoyable and a team job.

Learning the skill to belay and match the climbers rate is the greatest skill I have taken away from the Colo camp so far. I now know how to safely assist someone whilst scaling 20-meter-high faces such as ‘Sub Tuum’ and ‘Stairway to Heaven’.

At the start of the activity many boys were tired and particularly worn out

from the massive Mountain Bike ride. However, the excitement of the rocky faces presented everyone with a new wave of energy, excitement, mateship and Joy. The approach to the activity was highly successful and allowed almost everyone to push their ability.

By John Piekuta

Cooking On Fires

This year at Colo we cooked Burgers and Nachos on the fire for our meals at night. Both meals were delicious and tasted better knowing that we made them. The sense of accomplishment as well as the independence and responsibility for our own fires was my personal favourite part of this experience. William Sheekey was a great taste tester for our group after we cooked the meals.

Looking back on the experience, cooking the food on hot coals rather than the burning flame would have assisted us to avoid dirt in our food and cook with more control.

By Bernard Lund



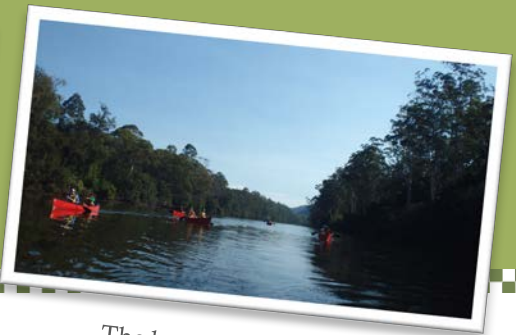
Toby Landers, Alexander Stapleton, Archie Gallagher and Nicholas Costigan in the Colo Kitchen



Bernard Lund and Kahya Gursel



Archie Gallagher and Spencer Benjamin



The beautiful Colo River

Canoeing

Our day out on the water canoeing was a day well spent, featuring many challenges and also many rewards. As a whole, the day was fairly easy but there were some times where it was not.

Before we started the journey, Mr Binder told us something which stuck with most of us, "We're going to paddle 14 kilometres, but you could either go 12 or 20." By this he meant

that you could paddle straight and take a good line or you could paddle side to side and do a lot more work than you need to. Good communication with your partner ensured a short journey.

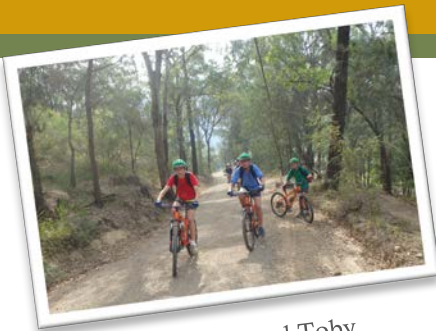
Throughout the activity there was a plethora of flora and fauna lining the banks giving us a good idea about the beauty of what was around us. One of the most memorable parts was when my partner (Hamish

Alston) and I took a slight detour to have a look at a rock cave that had formed over the water. Another enjoyable moment was when after lunch some of the group, including myself, had a swim in the river (which was quite cold).

On the way back to the Colo camp site we drove past many farms that had Arabic horses in them, making a great conversation starter to talk about horses.

By Robbie Johnston

Mountain Biking



Alexander Stapleton and Toby Landers riding



Archie Gallagher in the 'Action Position'



Isaac Dermody on the fire trail

Today my group went mountain biking, and as you would expect, we were ecstatic! Mr Bolding gave us the safety run down then we got our gear and hit the tracks.

Sir taught us the Action Position. Then we got to put our training to the test, with multiple challenging tracks including 'Bunny Run', 'S bends', 'O' Dear' and the most thrilling of all – 'Magic Carpet'.

After doing one long super trail of the Colo property, we made a group decision to go exploring off site along the fire trails. We were told that we would have to ride up a really challenging mountain, but, we were up for the challenge!

Peddling hard and in 'granny gear' we were off. Legs burning every meter we peddled, the only thing that got us up

the mountain was the determination and the reward of a packed lunch.

We made it! 15 minutes of firing thighs and red hot sun, but nothing 1 liter of water can't fix. Now was the time for downhill. Zooming down the mountain at lightning speeds but always in control, we were stoked. Fun things must end.

By Spencer Benjamin



Walking down the steep gully



Ned Greenwell hiking in the gully



Sebastian Crawshaw, Hamish Alston, Ned Greenwell, Luca Panuccio and Burnard Lund

Overnight Expedition and Campout

On the overnight campout we had a blast especially with the hike to the campsite. The hike was around 9 km's and was very hard climbing up and around the mountain range.

Our group stopped at marker 4 the same place where we first came in year 7 on the hike down to Colo. It was great reminiscing the times overlooking the lagoon and every other part of the Joeys Colo property.

The steep walk down the hill was 120m downhill and was very steep from the dead leaves. A lot of people slipped and were grazed by the rocks.

When we finally arrived at the campground the view was amazing with one side of cows and open paddock and the other of the cliff face that we had walked down that afternoon.

When my group set up we had the challenge of organisation and we worked well as we got dinner out of the way before dark. Thankfully the same thing happened the next morning with a productive bacon sandwich session after the extremely heavy winds which had kept everyone awake during the night.

By Kurtis Castorina.



Pausing for a break with amazing views



Eamon O'Shanassy passing under an impressive over-hang



Time for a chat