

Myles van der Heu

King's High School, Dunedin, \$600. Consolation Award for Pyke River-Big Bay circuit



Myles van der Heu on the Kepler Track

Myles is a multi-talented pupil whose interests span mountain biking, soccer and music, as well as tramping. He also mentors a youth group, Outram Oasis, for year 5 to year 8 pupils that builds character and values through activities-based learning. Myles is working towards his gold Duke of Edinburgh Award after gaining his silver award by organising a tramp on the Kepler Track. Myles proposes to lead a trip with a party of three school friends on the Pike River–Big Bay Track. The party plans to fly into Martins Bay, where they will spend a night at the nearby hut. From there, they will tramp to Big Bay, go over the Pyke Crossing, past Lake Wilmot, and visit Olivine and Lake Alabaster huts before finishing at the Hollyford Road. The party will use both tents and huts. Although tracked in most places, the region has high rainfall and many potential obstacles such as large rivers, swamps and boggy lake edges that will challenge a young party. It should also provide Myles and his party with good lessons in organisational and logistical skills. Myles will apply the skills and lessons learnt to his mentoring programmes, thereby encouraging more of his friends to undertake similar trips.

FMC wishes Myles and his party the best of luck for the trip and looks forward to reading about his adventures.

Are you under 30 years, a member of a FMC-affiliated club or associated school or polytechnic and inspired to take on a challenging trip? Have you planned an ambitious trip but needed a kick start incentive? Check out the Scholarships Section on the FMC website (www.fmc.org.nz) and start formulating your ideas for the next round: applications close on 30 September 2011.