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### **Trip Report**

Mount Becher (snowshoeing)

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Thu Dec 01, 2016 Leader: **Joe Lumsdon** Co-Leader: **Susan Osso** 

Trips are not always just a straight up straight down event as we learned today without any 'harm done'. The trip began with a short discussion at Harmston of how snowshoeing is definitely different than day by day hiking.

Snowshoes were used right from the first step at the Forbidden ski hill at 8:45 am. By about 10:30 am three members turned back, they returned to the vehicles by just after noon.

Five members ascended in poor conditions as the weather changed over the few hours since starting, from breaks of sun to a windy snow condition.

So the lesson was you don't always have to be at the top. Weather controls. Care for each other and staying together works best. The best practice is to have a communication device to help when a decision is made by part of the group to turn back. Seven members were out for 5 hours 5 minutes. Trail condition is good. Thanks to all for a great day of fresh air exercise.

#### Tim's report:

There was much more snow today than on a trip I did in the middle of December last year. Some skiers and snowshoers had done a good job on the trail, but not today. At the main gully just below the last haul to the summit the route was in the usual winter position to the right of the gully.

It was very foggy, windy and cold on the summit so we only stayed there for a short break before heading back down below the gully for a lunch break.

Quite a lot of the trail had been used by boot walkers as well indicated by plenty of deep holes and a very uneven trail in places especially nearer to the trailhead.

A shame that we didn't have more sunshine, but still a good day of exercise and a nice walk in the park.

Thanks Joe for organizing the trip.



# Red sky in the morning! [Tim Penney photo]



Deep snow and a bit of blue sky at about the halfway mark.

[Tim Penney photo]



Fun on the steep sections
[Tim Penney photo]



# Dull, foggy and snowing on the summit [Tim Penney photo]



Blue sky and fresh air [Carol Querengesser photo]



Tea time [Carol Querengesser photo]



We were watched by a rather large "snowy owl" [Ed Tickner photo]



Can You Spot the Snowshoer at the Bottom of the Photo?

[Susan Osso photo]



Avalanche Risk? Just Don't Sneeze! [Susan Osso photo]

**Report contributors:** Joe Lumsdon, Susan Osso, Tim Penney, Carol Querengesser, Ed Tickner,

**Participant list (10 of 10):** Jim Guthrie, Andrew Ireson, Shawna Kirby, Joe Lumsdon, Glenn Ord, Susan Osso, Tim Penney, Carol Querengesser, Ed Tickner, Mary Weiler,

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