

CDMC

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Mount Alan Brooks & Mount Elma 8-5-2011 (snowshoeing)

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Sun May 08, 2011

 Leader: **Tim Penney**

Co-Leader:

Arriving at the Courthouse this morning I was excited to see such a good turnout of club members for today's two hikes. However, when all the car pooling and waiver signing had been completed, I was left with only 4 hardy hikers who wanted to try the snowshoe trip.

In no way deterred by this small, but strong, group we departed from the Raven Lodge at 8:43 after having successfully navigated our vehicles around all the snow that has been liberally spread around the parking lot to aid in its hastened melting.

As soon as we started out it became apparent that it was going to be fairly hard going in very soft snow. In some ways it was almost harder than early winter snowshoeing because of the very soft and wet snow. The conditions didn't change much until we were at the top of Mount Allan Brooks, where we stopped for our lunch break. The weather was quite reasonable, though, with some blue sky and sunshine. The tops of the local mountains, however, were not visible due to the fairly low cloud.

After our pleasant lunch stop we took off down the south ridge of the mountain towards the saddle above Lake Helen Mackenzie. We actually did a lot of bum sliding because the soft snow made it hard to gain solid footing whilst standing. We crossed the saddle area with no unnecessary elevation loss and then ascended the west flank of Mount Elma, crossed just below the summit, and stopped for a tea break at the lookout. From there it was more bum sliding down the steep sections of the north ridge, past Kooso Lake on our left, and eventually down to and across Battleship Lake.

We arrived back at the Raven Lodge exactly 7 hours after this morning's start, a bunch of happy snowshoers, albeit a bit tired after slogging through the soft snow.

[A few more photos](#) are available for viewing.



GPS map
[Tim Penney photo]



GPS satellite overlay
[Tim Penney photo]



*Part way up the north side of
Mount Allan Brooks
[Tim Penney photo]*



*Closer to the summit
[Tim Penney photo]*



*Karl, breaking trail
[Tim Penney photo]*



*Len and Bob with Divers Lake in
the background
[Tim Penney photo]*



*Bob & Carol with Divers Lake in
the background
[Tim Penney photo]*



*Still snow on the trees
[Tim Penney photo]*



*Last stretch of the ridge to the
summit of Alan Brooks
[Tim Penney photo]*



*Last stop at the north end of
Battleship Lake
[Tim Penney photo]*

Report contributors: Tim P,

Participant list (5 of 5): Carol H, Tim P, Bob S, Karl S, Len W,

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