



# The Trailwalker

Magazine of the Friends of the Heysen Trail

Issue 118 Summer 2011

**Delight in the  
Dolomites**

**Our Trip to The  
Grampians**

**The Bungle  
Bungle**

**Heysen Trail -  
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### Membership Information

Joining Fee \$10

Single \$20 per year

Family \$30 per year

Organisations \$50 per year

Membership is valid from the date of payment until the end of the corresponding month in the following year.

### Trailwalker Magazine

Views expressed in contributed articles are those of the authors, and not necessarily those of the Friends of the Heysen Trail.

The Trailwalker magazine is available by subscription or online at [www.heystrail.asn.au/trailwalker](http://www.heystrail.asn.au/trailwalker)

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- Autumn (March)
- Winter (June)
- Spring (September)
- Summer (December)

The Trailwalker magazine has a distribution of 1200, and an estimated readership of approximately twice that number.

Articles, reports and other submissions by members and other interested parties are welcome and should be emailed to the Trailwalker Editor at [trailwalker@heystrail.asn.au](mailto:trailwalker@heystrail.asn.au)

The submission deadline is usually the first Friday of the month prior to the month of publication.

### Advertising Rates

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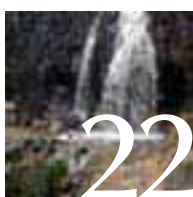
# Contents

## Regular Features

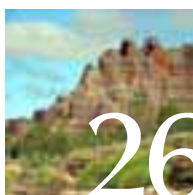
- 5 Presidents's Report
- 5 Cover
- 6 Office Report
- 6 Walking Committee Report
- 7 Brief News
- 8 Walking SA Report
- 10 Burra Branch Activities
- 31 Trail Maintenance Sections
- 16 **2010/11 Walk Programme**



- 18 **Delight in the Dolomites**



- 22 **Our Trip to the Grampians**



- 26 **The Bungle Bungle**



- 29 **Heysen Trail - End to End**

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Wed 16th February 2011  
Wed 16th March 2011

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David Rattray

### Maintenance Coordinator

Gavin Campbell

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Hao Zheng  
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Zhaolong Huang (Isabella)

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Phone 8212 6299 Fax 8212 1930

***Please Note: The Office will  
closed on Friday 17th December  
and reopen on Tuesday 18th  
January 2011***

### Monday 10.30 - 2.30

Mike Parsons, Robyn Quinn,  
Elizabeth Rogers,

### Wednesday 10.30 - 2.30

Myra Betschild, Gilbert Downs,  
Wendy Fox, Jack Marcelis

### Friday 10.30 - 2.30

Colin Edwards, Sandy Melbourne,  
Jamie Shephard

### Tuesday 10.30 - 2.30

Dawn Bon, Chris Caspar,  
Chris Porter, David Rattray,  
David Roberts

### Thursday 10.30 - 2.30

Bob Gentle, Julian Monfries  
Trevor Barns

### Saturday & Sunday Closed

### Relief Staff

Jim Alvey, David Beaton,  
Jack Marcelis

# President's Report 2011

*Simon Cameron*

**The walking season finishes and the silly season begins. So what can we wish for the Heysen Trail? It is now over thirty years old, but it is still an adolescent with some ugly spots and not sure of its future direction.**

Front Cover

## The Boardwalk at Long Gully



The Long Gully Boardwalk is between the Jupiter Creek Goldfields and Chapel Hill. It is a swampy area which drains into the Mount Bold Reservoir. This photo was taken on the End 2 End 4 walk on 25th July 2010 by Barry Brown

The strategic planning of 2007 and 2008 have not lead to clear goal setting with regard to re-routing and development. Some of the problem seems to be financial and like all prudent parents the Department of Environment and Natural Resources has to live within a budget. Plans for major re-routing and track re-development, particularly in the Flinders Ranges look like one makeover too many. The FOHT position has always been that re-routing should be kept to a minimum and primarily for safety reasons with scenic as secondary.

What I ask from Santa is that the Trail is moved off all bitumen roads, with the busy ones like Summit Hill Rd near Norton Summit and Main North Rd near Wilmington topping the list. This requires the attention of a hapless elf, preferably called Terry in honour of the late great mover and shaker, to negotiate the realignments with landowners. An elf who has lived the Trail and loves it would be the best present I can hope for.

The FOHT keeps the Trail clothed and puts on the pimple cream, but we have no power to move it out of its slugabed inertia. It has taken 3 years to even get water tanks to the point of construction, and trail heads at either end make the Sistine Chapel look rushed. So let's forget the grand visions and pretentious futures. Let's get the basics right- a well marked trail with stiles, stepping and benching where needed and camp grounds at reasonable intervals with some amenities for campers. The fact that walkers still need to camp illegally while traversing the Trail is simply not good enough.

If no management elves magically appear this Christmas with a burning ambition to make the Heysen a world standard trail I won't necessarily lose my faith in Father Christmas. Instead of sitting on someone's knee I think I will keep buying and making presents just like friends have always done.

**See you on the Trail!**

# Office Report

**By David Rattray**  
**Office Coordinator**

I was contemplating the success of the Friends this year whilst kayaking the River Murray last week but was brought back to reality when I discovered on return that the front office computer had 'crashed'. The new computer was operating within the week. Fortunately the walk season had finished and computing needs were minimal. In the week I was away the office emailed all members about the calendar, received the calendar and began the posting of it. All calendars have been sold.

Trevor Gaunt, for personal reasons, has had to take leave of absence from his usual office duties on a Monday. Thank you, Trevor, for your assistance and we hope you will be able to return soon. Holidays and injuries to some other office volunteers have caused a

few problems. Thank you to everyone who has stepped up to overcome the hurdles. We are always grateful of any new office volunteer. Please contact the office if you are interested in assisting.

The office committee is working with the Friends webmaster, Jeremy, to merge the online walk registration database with the offline membership database. The merger will simplify the walk registration process and improve the notification of meeting place for walks. Eventually it is planned to allow individuals to maintain their own membership details. Membership renewal processes will be automated and will be available online. Walk leaders will be able to verify membership and golden boots card holders more easily. We aim

to have the new merged system in place for the start of the 2011 walking season.

To assist the merger and to ensure the membership database is as accurate as possible a copy of your and your family's membership profile is included with this Trailwalker. Please take the time to check the details. If any corrections are needed, use the form on the website ([www.heystrail.asn.au/membership](http://www.heystrail.asn.au/membership)), or email or phone the office.

At the time of writing this report there are 879 members of the Friends; a net increase of 26 this year. Forty percent of members are walkers, one of whom has walked on 28 occasions. Fifty walkers have walked more than 10 times this year.

The office will close on Friday 17 December and reopen on Tuesday 18 January after an office training day on Monday 17 January. Online walk registrations for Twilight walks will be available and unchanged during this period.

***Finally Seasons Greetings to all members.***

---

# Walking Committee

**By Arrienne Wynen**  
**Walking Committee Chairperson**

It is hard to believe that the end of the walk season has arrived. The committee spends a lot of time planning the program to provide a varied choice of walks for all interests and abilities and sometimes it seems that we have just finished planning one season and the next is upon us. The 2011 program is nearly finalised and once again it is a mixture of day walks, End to End walks and at least one weekend away walk.

The 2011 season will see E2E3 finishing in August but E2E6 will

commence their journey from Cape Jervis in April. We will be walking the Lavender Trail commencing in April and completing in November. This is a chance to walk another great South Australian trail in the company of friends. Of course E2E4 and E2E5 will continue their way and Trailstarters and Trailwalkers will be available on most Sundays. There will be an extended walk to a mystery location on the October long weekend and also we plan to have a group help celebrate the Burra Branch's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary in late September.

Our annual walk leader training day will be held on March 6th and if you have any interest in leading, tail ending or just becoming more involved then I encourage you to book onto this day. There is no cost involved and you will be able to book via the web or the office. Until then take the chance to relax, enjoy Christmas and keep in touch with our Twilight walks on a Wednesday night.

# Brief News



***We wish you all a Merry Christmas  
and a Safe and Happy New Year.***

## **Preliminary notice of the AGM**

on Friday  
25th March 2011 at the  
Woodville Lawn Bowling  
Club.

## **Please Check Your Membership Details**

A print-off from the membership database has been included in your Trailwalker envelope. Please check your details, if there are any changes please update your details by either visiting our website at - [www.heyseentrail.asn.au/membership](http://www.heyseentrail.asn.au/membership) or by phoning the office (prior to their closure on December 17th, or when they reopen on January 18th 2011).

## **Next Issue Deadline**

Submissions for the Autumn edition of the Trailwalker will close on Friday 4th February 2011.

## **New Members**

The President and the Council would like to extend a warm welcome to the following members, who have joined the Friends since the last edition of the Trailwalker, and urge them to become involved in the voluntary, walking and social aspects of the Association.

Patrick Cronin  
Wendy Drewett  
Ann Ewer  
Margaret Forbes  
Lyndall Fredericks  
Jeremy George  
David Hardon  
Jack Hayton  
Jenny Hayton  
Rosemary Henning  
Rob Higgins  
Cheryl Jeffery  
Bruce Moffat  
Natasha Moore  
Samantha Nicholls

Gill Piccinato  
Alison Schwarz  
Anna Skirrow  
John Skirrow  
Robert Smedley  
Noeleen Smith  
Monika Stasiak  
Polly Taylor  
Jennifer Thompson  
Caroline Watson  
James Watson  
Sarah Williams

The Walking Federation of South Australia, Inc.

# Walking SA

*By Thelma Anderson*  
*Walking Access Committee*

## **Jenny Prider -**

All walkers will deplore the unfortunate accident that claimed the life of Jenny - a well-known walker and club leader; also a member of the Road Runners Club in earlier years. Her valuable contribution to walking in South Australia will be sadly missed. The condolences of the walking community are sincerely extended to her family.

## **Roads (Opening and Closing) Act 1991**

The Office of the Surveyor-General has released a Discussion Paper to provide a Review of the Roads (Opening and Closing) Act 1991. The Review identifies the continued protection of the public interest being served by legislative intervention and the Roads Opening and Closing Act provides the level of protection required. Consequently a number of recommendations to amend the Act in particular circumstances have been prepared by the Surveyor-General for comment by persons and organisations that may be affected. The Heysen Trail of course is an outstanding example of the application of the Roads (Opening and Closing) Act as the greater length of the Trail has been designated along undeveloped road reserves giving all walkers and other recreational users a vested interest in ensuring protection of the ownership of these valuable public rights of way.

## **Yankalilla Council**

Two ratepayers within this local government area have successfully applied to Council for "exclusive use" of undeveloped road reserves contained within their respective properties as provided by legislation included under the Local Government Act. Walking SA has received advice of two additional landowners who have made a similar request for "exclusive use" of undeveloped road reserves bisecting their respective properties. An on-site inspection of the relative

areas will be made by our volunteers to assess the value of these road reserves to the walking community.

## **Application to Close Morgan Road, Kersbrook**

An application by an adjoining landowner to close and sell an undeveloped road reserve at Kersbrook was recently rejected by Adelaide Hills Council. Strong objection was expressed by an enthusiastic horse lobby within the district, also individual walkers as well as Walking SA. Morgan Road has been identified since the nineteen seventies by the National Fitness Council as a "network" trail, providing links for walkers to the National Trust property "Roachdale", also to adjacent forest areas and the nearby township of Kersbrook. A small creek crossing the particular undeveloped road reserve (Morgan Road) has been blocked to form a dam, but walkers can safely negotiate this section by taking due care. The road reserve has also been identified for retention as part of the Mount Lofty Walking Trails system, currently under review by Walking SA.

## **Mount Lofty Walking Trails**

Discussion continues with other agencies to ensure the retention and availability of walking opportunities remaining within the original South Australian walking system formerly known as the Network Trails. Meetings are being held between various relevant parties with a view to the preparation of a Grant Application for funding, particularly for materials, to enable marking of the Trails by volunteers, together with the publication of coloured leaflets describing walks in various locations contained within the Onkaparinga (Cadastral series) map.

## **Heysen Trail along Davenport Road**

The issue of the "Courier" newspaper, dated 4 August, 2010 contained

an item relating to a proposal for Council to start formal procedures to close the road reserve and then sell it to the Mount Lofty Golf Club! It is clear that current members of Council are completely oblivious of the history of Davenport Road and of an attempt at an earlier time in history to close and sell a section of this valuable walking trail (the Heysen Trail) to the Mount Lofty Golf Club. This attempt had become an agenda item at a Council meeting in the late eighties (attended by Terry and Ann Lavender) and was also the subject of a Protest March through the Golf Course to Arbury Park by members of the Friends of the Heysen Trail, led by Warren Bonython,.

Staff of the Department of Recreation and Sport and members of the Friends of the Heysen Trail and Other Walking Trails voiced strong objection to a proposal by Stirling Council to sell Davenport Road to Mount Lofty Golf Club thereby relinquishing public access along the undeveloped road that had been designated as a section of the now well-renowned Heysen trail. The item was duly discussed by Council members and in the closing stages of discussion a letter was produced by the Chairman and read to the meeting. It had been received from a local resident who was also a practising lawyer and resident in the Stirling district! On the basis of the contents of the letter Council members (and the gallery) voted unanimously not to close Davenport Road! A right of way for walkers using the Heysen Trail is referred to in the current newspaper item, but any such tenuous arrangement is totally unacceptable with no security for any part of the Heysen Trail that becomes private land, including golf courses. Walkers have already trodden that path and it has now become time to move into the future with security. Clearly, no part of the Heysen Trail

is negotiable! It is also protected within provisions of the Roads (Opening and Closing) Act. Throughout the State, the status of golf courses is changing where for various reasons (financial, lack of patronage, usurped for other activities, etc.) they are being either sold or converted to other purposes. The Heysen Trail is the State's most valuable recreational asset and must remain in situ for the benefit and enjoyment of all future generations.

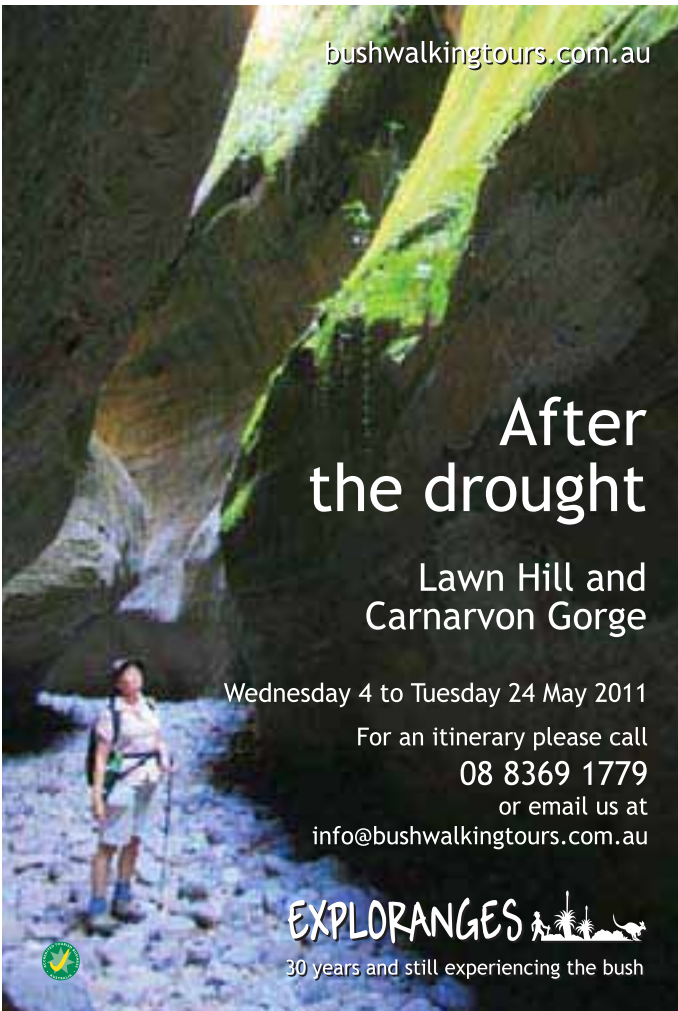
### Walking SA Annual General Meeting

Tiffany Scholtz, Executive Officer of the River Murray Urban Users Committee, was the Guest Speaker at the Annual General Meeting of Walking SA, held at the Fullarton Centre in August. Since then the rain has continued to fall and the River Murray has started to run its course to the sea with benefits to all along the way. During the talk Tiffany referred to public environmental involvement volunteering opportunities through an organisation entitled "i care communities". Details are available on Murray Care's website:

[www.murrayusers.sa.gov.au](http://www.murrayusers.sa.gov.au);

Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/pages/MurrayCare/415423962176>;

Or phone Tiffany direct on (08) 8374 1491. □




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## WOMEN AND THE FRIENDS

By Jack Marcelis

All organisations have a culture. It's something that defines the way things are done and the feeling you get from a place, and is almost always a reflection of the people who run it.

At the Friends of the Heysen Trail, just a few years ago, outsiders would have seen the place as a bit of a boys' club. Our office was akin to a garage, and when it came to working with members we needed a tune up. People with 'the knowledge' were overwhelmingly male and, invariably, made you feel that you had a lot to learn.

Now, in 2010, the culture has changed a lot. We're set-up to serve you better and our staff are more professional than ever. Part of the credit for this is because more women are working here and because they have grown steadily amongst our membership.

When I looked at just how far we have come, we now have nearly 900 members, with more than half of them women. It's changing the Friends for the better but there's still more to be done. For instance, only 2 out of 13 Council members and only 1 out of 10 Council Committee chairmen are women. More women in these roles

could lead to broader representation for all of our members in the future.

We're very pleased to report that women are now working extensively in the office and lead about a third of our walks highlighting the very best of the Heysen Trail. □

# BURRA BRANCH ACTIVITIES

*Compiled by Jenny Reid with  
Walk Reports by Sally Fieldhouse and Ken Farmer  
Photos by Penny Shepley  
Burra Branch Members*

## **22 August - Camel's Hump Range Walk by Sally Fieldhouse**

Scheduled walks for the 2010 Burra Group of FOHT seemed an excellent opportunity for Participating Year 10 students from Burra Community School to attempt the Duke of Edinburgh Award, of which "Community Participation" and "Adventurous Journey" are two compulsory sections, to clock up experience and hours toward their goals.

Student Jack Williams lead the Camel's Hump walk supervised by Penny Shepley, after having done some significant ground proofing with me prior to the walk, plus some time spent in map interpretation and seeking guidance from the Parks' Office where applicable.

Camel's Hump Range walk was picture perfect on the day, however on the pre-walk day was quite a different scenario, with horizontal wind and rain, with only the rock wall for shelter. I could appreciate the warning given by one landholder, where weather conditions at that height vary greatly in a short time frame. We certainly experienced all of that. Lack of access could have made planning difficult for emergency services if required. We could well appreciate large stock loss on nights where shearing wind and desperately cold temperatures would be fatal.

The views are panoramic wherever you looked, but deadly if you took a step while appreciating the scenery around you. The northern end of the wall is skeletal at best, most having been used in farm house and shed construction over the years. However, the less access and steepness of terrain has left the wall well intact, particularly



*At the top of Mt Remarkable*

where it has been fenced off and cattle excluded. The xanthorrea community on some sections was stunning, but not under any heritage agreement. Ground covers were also diverse, if you cared to stop and observe in the scree and in between boulders.

Whilst the wall runs for some 30 odd kilometres, the group on the day achieved about a third of the distance. The gradient of the hills is a challenge for thigh and calf muscles. The vistas are something else when the wind is low and temperatures reasonable - many would like to continue their trail in next year's calendar.

The walkers were treated with a hearty afternoon tea with high conversation from their lofty experiences. Jack Williams, by all reports, did an outstanding job in group management, particularly catering for age, stamina

and the thought of a yet a higher and loose rock climb to pick through.

One can only hope that the conservation ethic of appreciating wild and intact bush communities will grow. Youth considers a challenge in a slightly different light of physical attributes and mental stamina, with the never ending banter of dialogue. The common ground is the environment in which we all share.

## **18-19 September - Mount Remarkable Climb by Ken Farmer**

A dozen members of the Burra group of FOHT scaled Mount Remarkable on the 18th September, starting from the massive World War I monument situated in Melrose. Located on the hill overlooking the town (it is quite impossible not to notice this as you enter the town) the Monument was constructed to commemorate the fallen

from World War I with funds raised from local subscriptions.

Mount Remarkable was named as such by Edward John Eyre because although nominally part of the Southern Flinders Ranges it rises abruptly from the plain. Some geologists believe it could have once been twice the present height of about 963 metres (3160 feet), making it about the 25<sup>th</sup> highest point in the State. The Mount dominates Melrose and in midsummer results in the disappearance of the sun soon after midday.

The origin of the name of the town will never be certain as there are 3 variations - a Scottish town, a Scottish Abbey and a settler of that name from Mount Pleasant who was negotiating early for land in the district. Settlement in the area had begun in the first decade after the colony's founding, with settlement occurring simultaneously at nearby Bangor (now deserted).

Apart from one washed away spot that required some negotiating, the trail was in good order and presented no difficulties to those on the walk. The early part of the climb gave some great views but on a very narrow path care was needed as one needed to stop before looking out at the view. One thing observed was a very straight road through a town marked as Bridgewater (not generally well-known and no doubt now deserted). Also sighted on the mountain sides were the ruins of a small plane which crashed in fog in 1980 killing all those on board.

Two members lagged badly on the climb and tried to claim that they had slipped and rolled 30 metres down one of the scree slopes but this was not generally accepted by the remainder of the group and all walkers duly made it to the top. Coming down was slightly harder as some footwear did not cope with jarring

stones all that well, the leader being seen afterwards restoring his feet in a bucket of hot water.

Arthur Simpson was at the accommodation awaiting our return with a set of dog spikes which he had us all try, the objective being to land these on my towel, the closer to the towel, the higher the score with youth being a winner on the day. And as usual was on hand to see that the BBQ was firing and was available for all, both at night and next morning, for his usual specialty, the egg and bacon breakfast. Before departing a walk around Melrose culminated with coffee at the Blacksmith's coffee shop.

### 24 October - Hopkins Creek Walk by Sally Fieldhouse

The late October walk through Hopkins Creek Conservation Park was far more difficult to plan, simply because of steep and rugged terrain, and total lack of trails to navigate with. Whilst creek lines provided spectacular micro climates, with small and secluded permanent pools, walking is difficult and very uneven without concentration on where to put the next step. Again this walk was led by participating Year 10 students from Burra Community School who are undertaking the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

The pre-walk the week previous constituted climbing up steep rock faces and lightly loose rocky ground and after several hours of this and burning calf muscles, the students had to re-consider the fitness ability of the 50 plus age group, impact on the slopes, and time to get to all points of the park.

Students had to plan three waypoints within the park, all in



Arthur Commands the BBQ



Rock Climbing

different areas in the very diverse and changing landscape.

One student, whilst waiting with bounding energy for the participants to gather at the start point, had a not well co-ordinated encounter with a rope swing in a permanent pool within the Burra Creek gorge, so started out with sodden jeans and boots full of



Walkers at Melrose



Penny Admires Grass Tree



Ken Farmer and Friend



Camel's Hump Walk

water. Participants could but ponder just what this leadership team was about to put them through. However, the group thoroughly enjoyed their experience, despite the pace kept by students, and time taken by the adults to identify specific species or stop to appreciate the sheer beauty and biodiversity of that special place, having to slow down and wait was a slightly frustrating exercise.

Students disappearing into the distance made adults have to take the lead at times, however natural spectacular events like huge wind blown old red gums which had succumbed to age, and crashed into the opposite bank of the creek was amusing to say the least. Standing back and observing the bounding energy of youth scuttling

along and across huge fallen limbs was similar to watching a troop of monkeys in a rainforest canopy. This time adults pushed ahead, and waited for youth to catch up.

Students used the FOHT walk as a practice run, laying cone waypoints en route. The exercise the following week saw these leaders take two separate groups of students through the park, starting at opposite ends of the route. This had to be unassisted by adults, but well shadowed behind the scenes by volunteer Kevin McCleod and myself. The use of radio was vital in keeping track of group progress.

From observing these students take on this challenge, there is no fear or anxiety in trailing through rugged and

uncompromising country they had not traversed before. Appreciation of beauty and landscape with spectacular biodiversity became a very second priority to group dynamics and incessant discussion on matters highly irrelevant while reveling in the experience of total freedom.

A huge thanks to supervising FOHT members Penny Shepley and Kevin McCleod for making the time available to work with youth of this community. Students are learning valuable leadership skills for later life. I cannot fail to mention the support of Parks' staff, particularly District Ranger Ian Falkenberg, and Michelle Harvey of the St. John Ambulance Service. Burra Community School management requires thanks for believing in the program, however time allocation to co-ordinate this, and is highly unaccounted for.



Camel's Hump Walk



## Accommodation in the Wirrabara Forest, Southern Flinders Ranges

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Email: [info@taralee.com.au](mailto:info@taralee.com.au)  
Web: [www.taralee.com.au](http://www.taralee.com.au)

# BURRA BRANCH MAINTENANCE REPORT

*By Hugh & Kate Greenhill  
Burra Branch Maintenance - Section 13*



*Blackjack Shelter Before Repairs*



*Blackjack Shelter After Repairs*

## **Blackjack Shelter Repair**

During September a fairly large windstorm swept through the Mount Bryan East district. Plenty of trees had limbs torn off and some trees were ripped out of the ground. The Old Bryan East School building was very lucky as a tree fell just in front of the building, however not so the nice front iron gate, which was all bent up.

The Blackjack Shelter was another casualty to the wind, with three of the shelter's four support posts having dry rot. The single good post prevented the shelter from completely toppling over. Repairs to the shelter have been carried out and it is upright once more. The toilet roof was also blown off and was found some distance away in many pieces. This has now been replaced.

## **Spalding reroute of the Heysen Trail**

The reroute as shown in the new Southern Map book hasn't yet been undertaken, however I plan to have it in place by the 2011 walking season.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

***OPENING OF THE WALKING SEASON***

**SUNDAY 3 April 2011**

**11am – 3pm**

**Tea Tree Gully Oval**

**The Friends of the Heysen Trail**

in conjunction with **Walking SA** are organising the Opening

**The Friends of the Heysen Trail**

will be celebrating their **25th** Anniversary

NB – Unfortunately the Friends 2011 calendar shows an earlier planned date of 10 April

Confirmed - the Opening has now been set and booked for the 3 April

# Media Release

Jean Byrne  
Marketing Manager



## ***On a clear day...***

A special itinerary showcasing the 'Best of the Bibbulmun' and venturing into the Stirling Range National Park near Albany, will depart from Perth on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2011. Led by experienced guides from the Bibbulmun Track Foundation the 8-day tour will take in some of the very best bits of the Track.

The Bibbulmun Track in Western Australia is one of the world's great long-distance walk trails, stretching almost 1000 kilometres from Kalamunda in the Perth Hills to Albany on the south coast. The Track passes through some of the most diverse and beautiful coastal, forest and rural areas of Australia's south west, and this special tour allows

participants to experience glimpses of the very best sections of this award-winning track.

The itinerary combines full and half-day walks with off-track accommodation and extends beyond the Bibbulmun Track into the Stirling Range National Park near Albany where participants climb to the summit of Bluff Knoll (1073 metres) to experience the breathtaking 360° views. Lead Guide, Steve Sertis, said "On a clear day you really can see forever! Climbing Bluff Knoll is an exciting challenge for the group but the amazing views are a great reward".

A private bus provides transport to and from the Track each day and participants

will experience a number of unique eco-tourism attractions in the region. Each evening the group returns to comfortable accommodation in the rural towns and villages along the Track to relax and enjoy the local fayre.

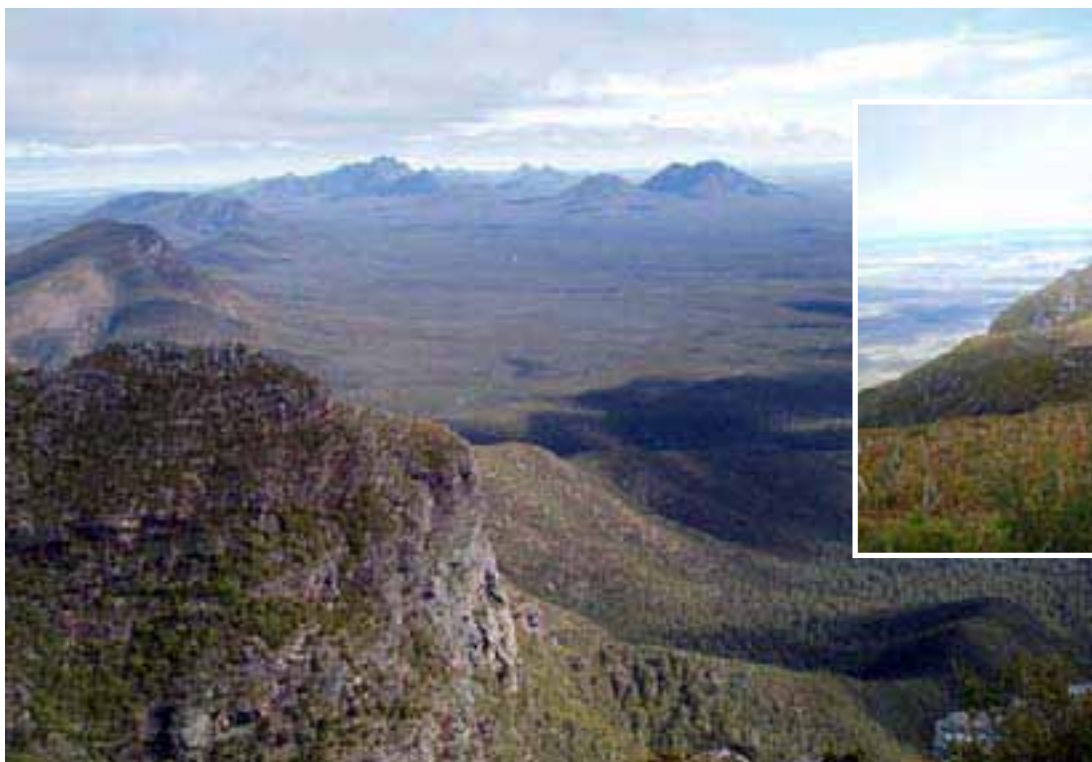
Participants need carry only a small daypack, and the flexible itinerary caters for all levels of experience.

The Bibbulmun Track Foundation is a not-for-profit, community-based organisation established to provide support for the management, maintenance and marketing of the Bibbulmun Track. They have been conducting guided walks on the Bibbulmun Track for a number of years. All proceeds from this trip support the ongoing sustainability of the Bibbulmun Track.

## ***For more information -***

Phone (08) 9481 0551,  
Send an email to  
[events@bibbulmuntrack.org.au](mailto:events@bibbulmuntrack.org.au)  
Or go to [www.bibbulmuntrack.org.au](http://www.bibbulmuntrack.org.au)

Contact Jean Byrne, Marketing Manager  
Phone: (08) 9321 0649  
Email:  
[marketing@bibbulmuntrack.org.au](mailto:marketing@bibbulmuntrack.org.au) or  
Linda Daniels, Executive Director  
Phone: (08) 9481 0551  
Email:  
[friends@bibbulmuntrack.org.au](mailto:friends@bibbulmuntrack.org.au) ■



*Steve at Bluff Knoll*

*Bluff Knoll in the Stirling Range*

## Bibbulmun & Beyond 8-day walking tour 9th–16th May 2011

Experience the best of WA's  
long-distance track and  
beyond... into the  
Stirling Ranges near Albany!



Explore a cross-section of the Bibbulmun Track—giant boulders, jarrah, karri and tingle forests, spectacular ocean views and coastal heathlands.

- ♦ Fully guided full & half day walks.
- ♦ Comfortable motel & chalet accommodation.
- ♦ All meals and transfers

Don't delay  
Tour fills fast!



For more information contact:  
The **Bibbulmun Track Foundation**  
Phone (08) 9481 0551  
Email: [events@bibbulmuntrack.org.au](mailto:events@bibbulmuntrack.org.au)  
Web: [www.bibbulmuntrack.org.au](http://www.bibbulmuntrack.org.au)

**Cost: \$2400 per person  
(max 16 people)**

## Heysen Returns to Paradise

The annual **Australia Day BBQ** for the Friends'

**Thorndon Park Reserve, Paradise** – (the former Reservoir)

**Address:** Just off Gorge Road on **Hamilton Tce**, Paradise, 5075-  
Gregory's Map: 167 Ref: C3

Wednesday 26th January 2011

9.45am – Walkers arrive at the Hamilton Tce car park

10am - Walk departs (led by John Potter)

12 noon onwards – bring your own BBQ lunch under the trees.

- BYO meat, salads/nibbles to share, drinks, plates & chairs (yes booze is allowed).
- BBQ plate (cook your own) and tables provided.
- Large shady picnic areas
- There are electric BBQs and we will bring a gas BBQ and our marquee.
- Kiosk is open and Reservoir Hotel is across the road.
- No cost, and no booking required to attend the walk or the BBQ – if you are there you will be there.
- No dogs allowed due to numerous ducks and birdlife.



## 2010-2011 Twilight Walk Programme

2011 Wa

	December	January	February	March		April	May	
1st Week of month	Wed Dec 1 Mt George Chris Porter	Wed Jan 5 Amber Gully Steve Clift	Wed Feb 2 Seacliff Gavin Campbell	Wed Mar 2 TBA Michael Middleton	Trail Starter	Sun Apr 3 Opening of the Walk Season Tea Tree Gully	Sun May 1 Trailstarter Sleeps Gully Chris Porter	
					Trail Walker		Sun May 1 Trailwalker Chambers Gully Richard Milosh	
					End-to-End		Sun May 1 End-to-End 5	
2nd Week of month	Wed Dec 8 Semaphore Julian Monfries	Wed Jan 12 Lochiel & Torrens Linear Parks Barry Brown	Wed Feb 9 North Adelaide Barry Brown	Wed Mar 9 Walkerville Barry Brown	Trail Starter	Sun Apr 10 Trail Starter Scott Creek Russell O'Brien	Mother's Day   	Sun May 8 Trailstarter Onkaparinga Gorge Steven Salib Brown
					Trail Walker	Sun Apr 10 Trailwalker Lavender Trail		Sun May 8 Trailwalker Lavender Trail
					End-to-End			
3rd Week of month	Wed Dec 15 North Adelaide Barry Brown	Wed Jan 19 Port Adelaide Arrienne Wynen	Wed Feb 16 Blackwood Liz Barry	Wed Mar 16 Western Linear Park Lyn Wood	Trail Starter	Sun Apr 17 Trailstarter TBA David Carter	Sun May 15 Trailstarter Mt George Graham Bald	
					Trail Walker	Sun Apr 17 Trailwalker Gandys Gully Richard Milosh	Sun May 15 Trailwalker Aldgate Gavin Campbell	
					End-to-End	Sun Apr 17 End-to-End 6 Cape Jervis to Cobbler Hill	Sun May 15 End-to-End 6	
4th Week of month	Wed Dec 22 Walkerville Robert Alcock	Wed Jan 26 Australia Day BBQ Thorndon Pk	Wed Feb 23 Adelaide Steven Salib Brown		Trail Starter	Easter   	Sun May 22 Trailstarter TBA	
					Trail Walker		Sun May 22 Trailwalker Crafers Richard Milosh	
					End-to-End		Sun May 22 End-to-End 4	
5th Week of month	Wed Dec 29 Morialta David Carter				Trail Starter		Sun May 29 Trailwalker Oliphant CP Michael Middleton	
					Trail Walker		Sun May 29 Trailwalker Ashbourne Dean Mortimer	
					End-to-End			

For further information about each walk, walk grades, frequently asked questions or to print of (www.heysentrail.asn.au/walks)

## Walk Grades

There are five different grades of walk on the Friends of the Heysen Trail walk programme. Four of these operate during the walk season, generally from April to November when it is not Fire Ban Season:

- Trail Starter
- Trail Walker
- Trail Rambler
- End-to-End

When it is not walk season, generally during the summer Fire Ban Season, a fifth walk grade, Summer Twilight Walks, operate.

Details of each walk grade are provided on the website.

## Registering for Walks

You must register for a walk, either online or over the phone.

Register online (by Wed prior please) at [www.heysentrail.asn.au](http://www.heysentrail.asn.au), or by phone the office on 8212 6299 (during the hours listed on page 3).

# Walk Season Programme for the Friends of the Heysen Trail

June		July		August		September		October		November			
Sun Jun 5 Trailstarter TBA Rhonda Dempster		Sun Jul 3 Trailstarter Black Hill Steve Clift		Sun Aug 7 Trailstarter Christie Creek Lyn Wood		Father's Day	Sun Sept 4 Trailstarter Scott Creek Steven Salib Brown		October Long Weekend	Sun Oct 2 Trailstarter Flower Walk David Carter			
Sun Jun 5 Trailwalker Montactute Richard Milosh		Sun Jul 3 Trailwalker Morialta Michael Middleton		Sun Aug 7 Trailwalker TBA			Sun Sept 4 Trailwalker TBA Mary Cartland			Sun Oct 2 Trailwalker Para Wirra Barry Brown			
Sun Jun 5 End-to-End 5		Sun Jul 3 End-to-End 5					Sun Sept 4 End-to-End 5			Fri Sep 30-Mon Oct 3 Trip Away Innes National Park			
June Long Weekend	Sun Jun 12 Trailstarter TBA		Sun Jul 10 Trailstarter Strathalbyn Jerry Foster		Sun Aug 14 Trailstarter Middle Sea-to-Summit Steven Salib Brown		Sun Sept 11 Trailstarter Sturt Gorge Ben Wait			Sun Oct 9 Trailstarter TBA Michael Middleton			
	Sun Jun 12 Sea-to-Summit SARRC		Sun Jul 10 Trailwalker Lavendar Trail		Sun Aug 14 Trailwalker Kersbrook Barry Brown		Sun Sept 11 Trailwalker Lavender Trail		Sun Oct 9 Trailwalker Lavender Trail				
	Fri Jun 10 to Tues Jun 14 End-to-End 3								Sun Oct 9 End-to-End 5				
	Sun Jun 19 Trailstarter Para Wirra Arrienne Wynen		Sun Jul 17 Trailstarter Brownhill Creek Graham Bald		Sun Aug 21 Trailstarter TBA TBA		Sun Sept 18 Trailstarter Mt Lofty Circuit Graham Bald		Sun Oct 16 Trailstarter Chambers Gully Ben Wait				
Sun Jun 19 Trailwalker Lavender Trail		Sun Jul 17 Trailwalker Mt Lofty David Carter		Sun Aug 21 Trailwalker Lavender Trail		Sun Sept 18 Trailwalker Mt Crawford Barry Brown		Sun Oct 16 Trailwalker Warren/Hale Richard Milosh		Sun Nov 20 Trailwalker TBA			
Sun Jun 19 End-to-End 6		Sun Jul 17 End-to-End 6		Sun Aug 21 End-to-End 6		Sun Sept 18 End-to-End 6		Sun Oct 16 End-to-End 6		<div></div> <div>The Friends of the Heysen Trail</div> <div>10 Pitt Street Adelaide 5000</div> <div>Phone 08 8212 6299 www.heyseentrail.asn.au</div>			
Sun Jun 26 Trailstarter O'Halloran Hill Gavin Campbell		Sun Jul 24 Trailstarter TBA Chris Porter		Sun Aug 28 Trailstarter Mylor Graham Bald		Sun Sept 25 Trailstarter TBA Lyn Wood		Sun Oct 23 Trailstarter TBA					
Sun Jun 26 Trailwalker Onkaparinga Gorge Richard Milosh		Sun Jul 24 Trailwalker Mt Misery Richard Milosh		Sun Aug 28 Trailwalker TBA TBA		Sun Sept 25 Burra Anniversary		Sun Oct 23 Trailwalker Black Hill Mary Cartland					
Sun Jun 26 End-to-End 4		Sun Jul 24 End-to-End 4		Sun Aug 28 End-to-End 4		Sun Sept 25 End-to-End 4		Sun Oct 23 End-to-End 4					
		Sun Jul 31 Trailstarter TBA		Key to Walk Programme								Sun Oct 30 Trailstarter TBA	
		Sun Jul 31 Trailwalker Pioneer Women's (reverse) Mary Cartland										Sun Oct 30 Trailwalker Mt Gould Steve Clift	
		Sun Jul 31 End-to-End 5		An explanation of walk grades and details for each walk event are published on the website						Sun Oct 30 End-to-End 5			
				<div><div>Trail Starter walk</div><div>Trail Walker walk</div><div>End-to-End walk</div><div>Other walk event</div></div>									



## The Friends of the Heysen Trail

10 Pitt Street  
Adelaide 5000  
Phone 08 8212 6299  
[www.heysentrail.asn.au](http://www.heysentrail.asn.au)

This version released  
29 Nov 2010

For a colour copy of the programme, visit

## Walk Cancellations

Walks are cancelled if the broadcasted forecast is for temperatures over 32°C. For simplicity, this can be determined the night prior to the walk on the 7pm ABC evening news weather forecast, based upon the Bureau of Meteorology's routine 4pm forecast. Even if the forecast is later revised, the walk remains cancelled. End-to-End walks will be rescheduled to the following month. This doesn't apply to Summer Twilight Walks.

If unforeseen circumstances arise and you are no longer able to participate in the walk, please notify the office as soon as possible, preferably by 4pm Friday, or leave a message on the answering machine after this time.

# DELIGHT IN THE DOLOMITES



*Dailer Hotel and Alpe de Tires*

**Our trip to the Dolomites started uncertainly but we were thrilled by the amazing scenery, enjoyed the walking and were fascinated by the culture. Most of us have experienced the highs and lows of walking and not just from the hills and the valleys. So it was for us in our visit to the Dolomites in northern Italy.**

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**STORY AND PHOTOS BY ANN & NEIL NOSWORTHY**

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**A**fter enjoying the astonishing art and architecture of Florence, we caught the train to Verona and Bolzano (or Bozen) in the South Tyrol up the Adige River valley which leads to the Brenner Pass and Munich in Germany. The scenery was splendid with a fast flowing river, extensive vineyards and apple orchards and many old castles and great houses perched on the high cliffs on both sides of the valley.

We had planned three days walking based at Tierser Alpl, a refugio about 40 km from Bolzano. Our instructions had been to get to Bolzano where Judith,

the refugio owner, would look after us. We contacted Judith a few days before our arrival and told her that we were coming by the train to Bolzano. Her response was "see you there". So we were a little surprised when we arrived at Bolzano train station and there was no-one there to meet us. Ann rang the refugio and eventually found someone who spoke sufficient English to tell us what was happening. No, they did not provide a transfer. To get to the refugio, we needed to catch a bus to Seis, take the cable car to Compatsch on Seiser Alm and then walk or find a taxi.

The bus and cable car presented no problems and we arrived at Compatsch about 4.30 pm. There was no way that we could lug our 60 kg of luggage another two hours on foot up the mountains. We eventually summoned a taxi for a 60 euros ride up a steep winding mountain road to get to the refugio - the last 3 km or so were only suitable for 4WD. To add to our woes, we learnt that we had to pay for our showers and hire a bath towel which was about the size of a large handkerchief. We retired grumbling about our lot and, for the first time in 5 months on the road, contemplated leaving the next morning.

In the morning, our perspective was better. A good look at our location and the magnificent scenery seduced us. So we stayed for the 3 days walking that we had planned.

Tierser Alpl refugio is situated just below a saddle between bare, rugged, rocky peaks looking out over deep, green valleys. The altitude is 2440 metres which is about 12 metres higher than Mt Kosciuszko. The refugio accommodates about 50 people in private rooms with bunk beds or dormitories and shared ablution facilities. There is a restaurant and bar serving food and drinks for guests and passing walkers and riders. One curiosity for us was that dogs were allowed in the refugio. They shared the bedrooms and the dining room - something that you won't see in Australia.

We were fascinated by the culture of the area. While we were still in Italy, most people spoke German, the food was German influenced and the Austrian flag and colours of red and white were everywhere. This was hardly surprising because the South Tyrol had been part of Austria until

the end of the First World War when it was annexed by Italy.

We walked about 10 km each day partly because of the altitude and because the trails were very steep in parts. But the scenery was consistently magnificent from the rugged mountains to the lush green valleys criss-crossed with rivers, roads and trails and dotted with houses and lodges - it took our breathe away.

The first day was cold, windy and damp in the morning but we headed down the track that we had driven up the night before. It was a very steep down, little wonder we were uneasy when we arrived. But we pressed on marvelling at the grand panorama which unfolded in front of us. We continued around in a loop to the Gasthof Dailer Hotel where we enjoyed one of the great pleasures of walking in Europe - a cooked meal, a glass of wine and a good cup of coffee. (We need these culinary opportunities on the Heysen Trail.) But we had to do penance on the way back to Tierser Alpl. A thunderstorm started while we were eating and it pelted with rain.

There was no sign of a let up so we headed off up the hill. Despite full wet weather gear, we were well soaked after an hour's slog up the steep hill. A small consolation was the numerous small waterfalls which appeared from nowhere on the hillsides during the downpour. Of course, the rain stopped just as we reached the refugio.

That night, there was a clear sky with a full moon and a light snowfall before morning. The surrounding hills and valleys were dusted with snow which lasted until exposed to the sun. The higher mountains received heavier snowfalls giving us classic alpine views of snow capped peaks and green valleys. The temperature at 8.00 am was 1°C so we did not head off until after 10.00 am when it was a balmy 5°C but the weather was fine and sunny. We walked to the Refugio Bolzano which took us about 3 hours along a good trail which was steep and rocky in parts. Large numbers of people were out on the trail which was a little amazing considering they had a 2 hour walk up from the valley, walking is clearly a very popular pastime. We enjoyed lunch at the refugio and



*Dolomites Delight*

walked back to Tierser Alpl in lovely sunshine.

There are numerous walking trails in the area and we watched many people going up and down the goat track up the cliff across from our refugio. We also spotted a trail leading steeply down to a nearby valley. The guide ropes suggested that these trails were a bit hard for Ann so we stuck to the easier trail for our third walk. We headed down hill again towards the Plattekofelhutte all the while admiring the panoramic view. Along the way we could hear tinkling bells of sheep grazing high on the slopes and we passed herds of cattle and horses. Down the valley, we spotted a mob of mountain goats including some with huge horns which looked about 1.5 metres long. We also came across a rarity in Europe, wildlife - there were several alpine marmots, the largest of the squirrels, living in burrows up on the ridges. We finished our walk back at our refugio with some apple strudel with cream and coffee in balmy afternoon sunshine, just the way to finish a walk.

After 3 days exhilaration at Tierser Alpl, we returned to Bolzano to catch a train to Venice. Stefan the manager drove us down to Seis so we didn't have to walk. The trip down the mountain in the car gave us another opportunity to appreciate the spectacular scenery. The walking was great, the scenery out of this world and our visit was thoroughly worthwhile. ■



Full Moon over Tierser Alpl



Ann at Tierser Alpl Refugio



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ABN: 22 852 916 624

I'm Rob Higgins, I operate a small group touring business, fully catered, I use a well equipped Toyota Landcruiser Troopie, that can accommodate 1 to 6 people in comfort (with forward facing seats), a well equipped trailer that includes a portable kitchen and camping equipment. Single tent accommodation or twin share.

### ***Selected Proposed Trips for 2011***

<u>Carnarvon Gorge / Alice Springs</u> Sunday 1st May to Monday 23rd May	23 Days Adelaide to Adelaide \$ 4174.50 per person
<u>Canning Stock Route / Rudall River / Broome</u> Tuesday 5th July to Wednesday 27th July 2011	23 Days Alice Springs to Broome \$ 4174.50 per person
<u>Bungle Bungles / Canning Stock Route</u> Monday 1st August to Tuesday 23rd August 2011	23 Days Broome to Alice Springs \$ 4174.50 per person

Tag-Along 4WD Vehicles 23 Day Tours A maximum of 5 vehicles on any trip, Self Catered Tag-Along or Fully Catered Tag-Along

***More Itineraries & information on the web site***

# What's What?

A column with info on equipment and walking

## 17 Countries ~ 6 Weeks One Pair of Underwear (Ok, maybe Two)

I don't know about you but walking makes me perspire. There is nothing worse in my opinion than using cotton undies while doing any prolonged exercise. The cotton gets wet and if it is a long day chaffing starts to be an issue.

For the last few years I have been swearing by my Exoficio Travel Undies, they were originally designed for travelling but I have found them excellent for all forms of high energy activities. The Exoficio "Give N Go" Fabric is moisture wicking, odour resistant and quick drying. They seem more breathable than my cotton undies. While they definitely are not a fashion statement on me they certainly are comfortable when it counts.

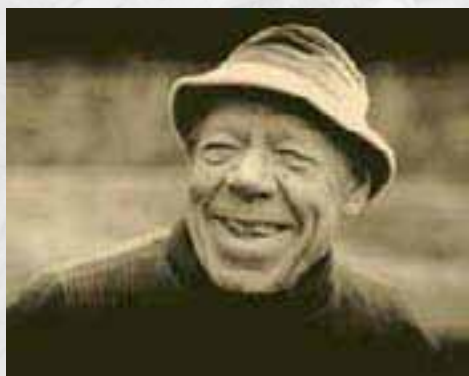


(Available in both men's and women's models)

## 80 Years in Business 1930 to 2010

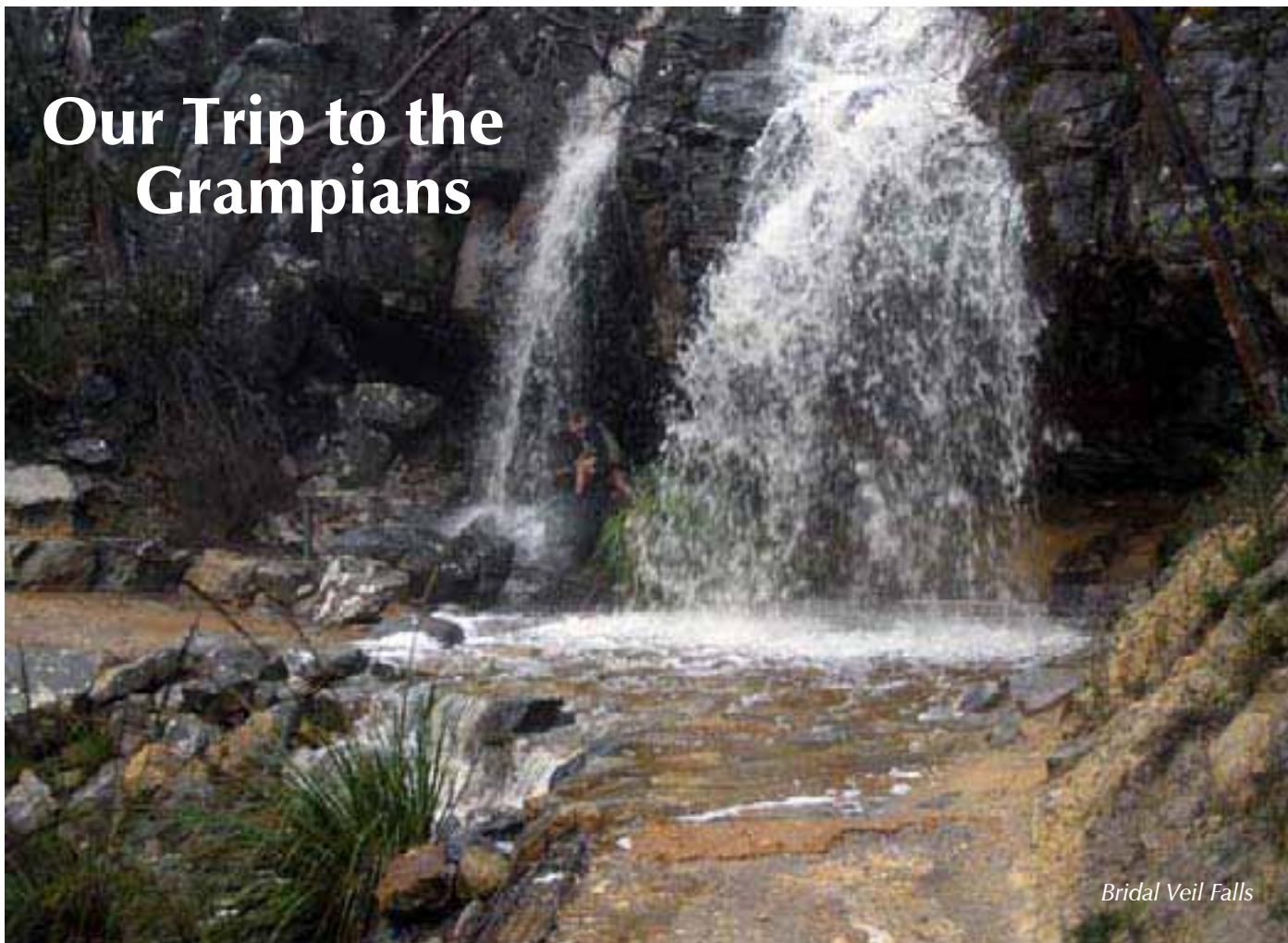
When Paddy Pallin started making his own gear in his spare bedroom in 1930 it was a first for Australian Bushwalkers. Supply actually created demand as Paddy introduced lightweight functional alternatives to the heavy and inefficient bushwalking gear available at the time. Paddy did not start his business without hesitations. He had lost his job during the depression and had a new wife and mortgage to support. However he plucked up the courage to something that he always dreamed of. Such is the story of a true adventurer. Starting the business is an adventure in itself but Paddy went on to have over six decades of adventures through land, rivers & snow. His philosophies are still at the heart of the brand.

*"The only trips I regret are the ones I did not do" Paddy Pallin*



*Paddy Pallin*

# Our Trip to the Grampians



*Bridal Veil Falls*

**Come September we normally pack our walking gear and head for Laura. There we set up a base camp and undertake a series of arduous but enjoyable walks over three days. After three years it was time for a change so we decided on the Grampians, basing ourselves at Hall's Gap.**

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*Story by Roger Curnow, Photos by Kym Holman*

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**O**ver the past ten years three of us Jim McKessor, Ian (Henry) Lawson and I have walked consistently together in Australia with Henry and I venturing overseas to undertake the Coast 2 Coast and Cleveland Way in the UK. Last year we were joined by Kym Holman, who on his first outing encountered three days of 40 degree plus temperatures. Who would consider climbing Mt.Cavern in Mambray Creek National Park on such a day?

This year we were heading into predicted

weather of torrential rain, gale force winds and flood warnings. There were several long looks at Kym, was he the catalyst. We left on the Friday, but literally at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour Henry called to say he was a non-starter, confined to bed. We certainly weren't off to a good start and as we headed up the freeway in pouring rain, there was doubt that a weekend of walking was in serious jeopardy.

We arrived in Hall's Gap six hours later after an obligatory lunch stop at the Keith bakery. Looking to save time

we took a dirt back road into Hall's Gap just past Dadswell's Bridge, and had to navigate a complete section under water before we hit bitumen. It wasn't a good sign.

On arrival there was misty rain and plenty of surface water but overall did not look to bad. Short lived, it started raining about 8.00 pm and rained throughout the night, accompanied by strong winds. Saturday morning had us in high spirits but a little sceptical of whether we would accomplish much walking. Our plan was to climb

Brigg's Bluff, hoping that the weather would clear by the time we started. We decided to take the bitumen road through Wartook Valley and then turnoff on Roses Gap Road. However shortly after the turnoff we were flagged down by a local couple sheltering under a tree from the rain. They told us that a tree was down further up and they had got bogged trying to go around. We backed tracked to Hall's Gap in pouring rain, dropping off one of them at a farm on the way.

It was on the way back that we noticed a turn-off to the Balconies and feeling that we needed to do something, regardless of the weather we turned in. Now I am quite sure that in normal circumstances that the look-out view would have been spectacular, however we were confronted by a complete white-out. Not to be deterred, with Gortex jackets on we ventured up the one kilometre dirt trail to the Balconies. It took some doing as the track was under water in parts, however we were at least sheltered from the wind. The Balconies were impressive, glistening in the rain and you could easily imagine how more impressive they would look if the weather had been kinder.

Anyway it was back to the warmth of the car and on to Hall's Gap. On the road again we encountered the turn-off to the Pinnacle Car Park and ventured in. It was then we decided to return to the Cabin, have lunch and then return to climb the Pinnacle. Leaving the car-park we were brought to a sudden stop as a tree collapsed over the road 100 metres in front of us, completely blocking both sides. Gortex jackets on again it was out in the rain to clear a path, as other cars banked up and waited. Good deed undertaken we headed to the cabin.

Several hours later with the weather looking like it was trying to break we headed back to the Pinnacle car park. We donned full weather gear (a good move as it turned out) and set-off. Obviously not thinking clearly we took the path up the Grand Canyon only to be turned back after 100 metres due to the track underwater from the flooded stream beside it. It was a short back track and onto the main path. The water on the rocks and the Grand Canyon made for great photos albeit that it was raining steadily. The climb is

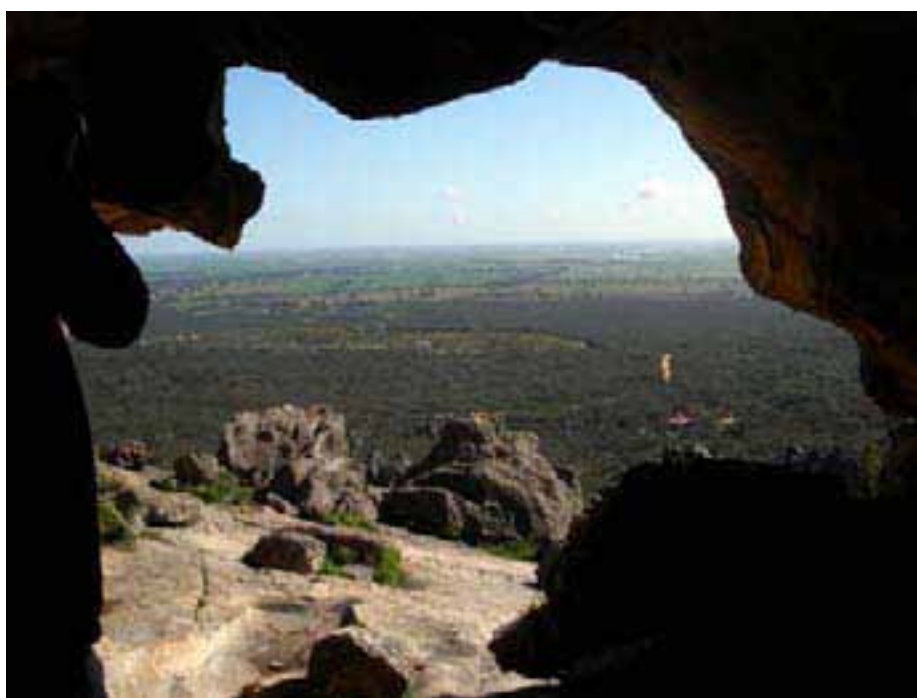
not that strenuous and there is several interesting sections where you navigate through lengthy narrow gaps between solid rock outcrops before you reach the top. A highlight was Bridal Veil Falls where we were forced to go behind the cascading water to navigate the track. It was extremely cold on the top and the views overlooking Hall's Gap were obscured by the rain and mist. Still it had been 26 years since I had been here for the Halls Gap-Stawell Marathon and even with the inclement weather it was easy to pick out how the town had grown since that time. We decided to take the Wonderland Car-park loop trail back and it made for easier walking and was very scenic, even given the conditions. We made one more attempt to descend via the Grand Canyon track, however water over the track deterred us again. All in all given the conditions the walk was worthwhile.

Sunday we awoke to overcast conditions but no rain. It was all go as we proceeded to Beehive Falls carpark taking the Mt. Zero road, cutting numerous kilometres off Saturday's attempted route. The sun was out when we arrived and it was an easy walk to the falls. The Falls were spectacular and cascading volumes of water, so much, that the track crossing in front was under water. There was no way downstream to cross, so with a little ingenuity we built a rough bridge of stones which we were able to navigate

over without falling in.

Once across it was a severe climb, at times taking the odd shower of water that was falling from above us. We rested on top before proceeding upwards towards Briggs Bluff. We could see the bluff and as the crow flies it was not that far, however a quick look at the terrain between us and the bluff indicated that we were going to do a bit of circumnavigating to reach it. And so it was, a climb up a side canyon and a walk away from the bluff on a flat rock ledge until we were able to cross over and then proceed directly to Briggs Bluff, upwards of course. We were rewarded with spectacular views of the Wimmera Region before us and the Wimmera river in flood. The wind chill factor quickly drove us from the top and we headed down after only a short break at the top to gain respite. It was a far easier traverse going down and even navigating the track across the face of Beehive Falls did not appear as daunting as when we had set off.

It was back to Hall's Gap with a visit to Clematis Falls on our mind. We parked the car behind the oval and after negotiating the muddy track to the falls we were amply rewarded. The amount of surface water that had fallen in the past days now provided us with a view of the falls in its full splendour. With an appetite for more we ventured to Chatauqua Peak that



*Hollow Mountain*

over looks Halls Gap Caravan Park and provides good views of the Pinnacle and other surrounding peaks overlooking Hall's Gap. It was on the ridge that we had to shelter from a passing shower, a reminder that the weather hadn't entirely cleared. A quick descent down into Hall's Gap and a visit to the ice creamery ended an eventful day's walking of about 17 km.

Monday morning and there was not a cloud in the sky. We were heading home to Adelaide but not before we had visited Hollow Mountain and the Gulgurn Marja Shelter. We took the Mt Zero dirt road to Beehive Falls car park, continuing on to Hollow Mountain carpark, a distance of about 34 km from Hall's Gap but heading in the right direction for Horsham and Adelaide.

We arrived at 8.30 am in perfect conditions for walking and the taking of photo's. A short 750 metres walk brought us to the site of the aboriginal paintings at the Gulgurn Marja Shelter. They were quite spectacular with hand paintings in ochre very predominant.

They are situated under a ridge that looks out towards Horsham and the Wimmera River and the view of the ridge line is worth the visit alone.

Back at the car park we set off on the track to Hollow Mountain. The walk to the base is relatively easy but you need to concentrate as you take the climb up the side of the mountain. As you ascend the views of the car park below and surrounding ridges are very scenic. Once on top you have the views of Mt Zero and Mt Stapylton but it is the rock formations on Hollow Mountain that make it all worthwhile. There are caverns and rock crevices, some only wide enough to squeeze through and one cavern that enables you to walk right through, hence the name Hollow Mountain. It is a must for walkers. We could have spent more time on the mountain but for the return journey to Adelaide that awaited us.

We will be back, and another visit to Hollow Mountain is a must. ■

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## Nominations For Honorary Membership

**N**ominations of members (including self-nominations) are invited to be submitted to the Honorary Membership sub-committee of the Council, including name, address, contact numbers, and qualifications.

Recommendations from the sub-committee will then be considered by the Council, before being presented to the full membership at the next AGM. In order to be considered for the 2011 AGM, nominations should be received by the end of January, 2011.

### Guidelines for Honorary Membership (Distinguished Service)

- (i) normally at least 10 years of paid membership as an Ordinary, Family or Life Member;  
AND
- (ii) at least 6 years of substantial voluntary contributions to the Association, including especially one or more of
  - Membership of Council
  - Chair of Walking Committee
  - Regular Walk Leadership Roles
  - Chair of Maintenance Committee
  - Maintenance Section Leader or Volunteer
  - Office Volunteer

### Guidelines for Honorary Membership (Exceptional)

Substantial and sustained contributions to promotion, development and/or maintenance of the Heysen Trail, or the Association other than as a paid member or volunteer through, for example, public service support, media support etc.

# Kangaroo Island Weekend

November 2010

Story by Robert Alcock, Photo by Christine Bowen



The Kangaroo Island Group less, 2 photographers

**T**wenty-one members had some fun, and most learnt new things, from climbing huge boulders, to shipwreck history, and John finally realising his huge fluoro boy was better being released back to the wilds, after carrying it for about a kilometre.

Wonderful to see the profusion of wildflowers, including orchids, and we did finally get to see a live koala. One kangaroo got a little too close, and went off with a bruised rump, the goannas stood their ground for the cameras, although the echidna just wanted to run.

From bleak windswept western cliffs, to a cosy waterfall amongst yakka

valleys, to sandy Sahara, we walked and talked (well 2 never stopped), and lunched on the rocks at Australia's most beautiful beach (Yvonne Bay). Robert failed in his attempt to better John's swan dive into the water at Stokes Bay.

Blue wrens through the kitchen window, parrots, cockatoos and many others brought out Wendy's birding binoculars. For the sweet of tooth, we finished off with a couple of honey ice-creams at the honey farm.

A wonderful weekend we all had. How quickly they go. Thanks to Hugh of

Burra for leading us, on the bus and on the walks; to Kitchen Commander Mary, who ensured we never went hungry; and thanks to all the walkers who pitched in to help out, from stacking the trailer, fire monitor Jenny who baked us each evening, to helping fix Jack's chocolate craving on Saturday afternoon. It made it easy for everyone to relax and enjoy themselves, well most of us for most of the time.

Congratulations to Judith who won the quiz - "Kilometres of bus travel on the weekend - 767 km".

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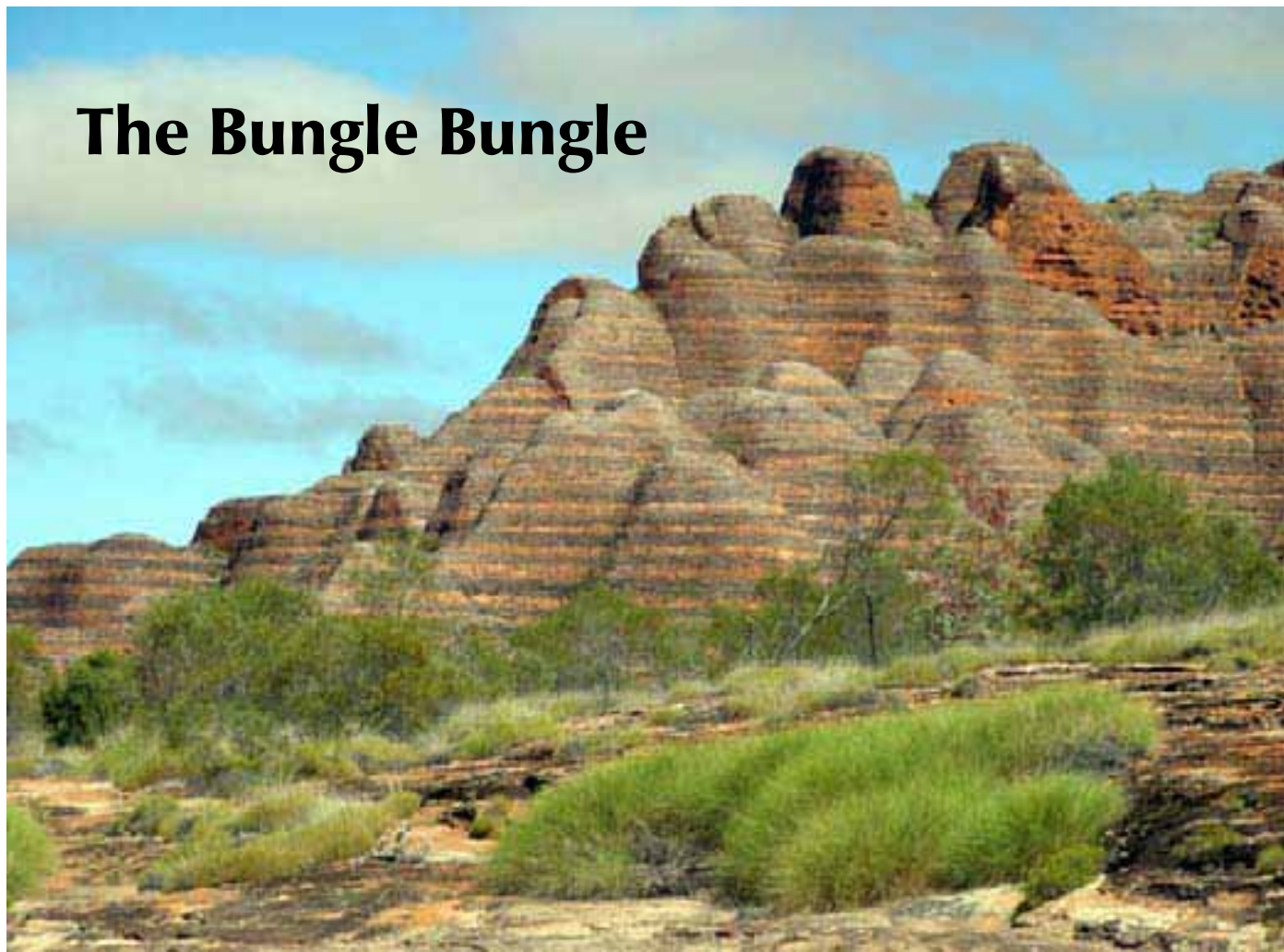


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# The Bungle Bungle



*The Bungle Bungle*

**Although known to local pastoralists and indigenous folk, the beehive shaped rock formations of the Bungle Bungle were unknown to the outside world until the mid 1980s. Walking through this dramatic landscape is a truly special experience.**

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*Story & Photos by Jeremy Carter*

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**T**he Bungle Bungle, in Western Australia's Purnululu National Park in the Kimberley, did not appear on maps, nor was it photographed, not even named. A helicopter camera crew discovered it by accident, making its dramatic scenery known to Australians and the rest of the world. The local pastoralists saw it only as a source of a river, the business of cattle kept them occupied. Gold was discovered in nearby Halls Creek in the 1880s, but still the land held the secret of

the Bungle Bungle. To the indigenous folk it had special meaning, but we know they like to keep their secrets sometimes, and why not?

*"If I share, too many white men will come all right, and they will go on doing this. Sticky beak all right, and look for something. If they find something goody goody, they'll take it" <sup>1</sup>*

Some stuff is still a well guarded secret by the indigenous folk, like their rock

art, which includes depictions of crocodiles, and burial sites.

This is one of the iconic places I wanted to visit on my four month trip, I think you will see why in some of the photos. To enter Cathedral Gorge one is filled with awe. Walking through a narrow gorge, the sheer cliffs tower 200 metres above on each side. The gorge floor is occupied by a flat creek. It feels like you are about to stumble upon an ancient city in the desert, Petra maybe. Not

a noise can be heard, it's one of the places in the world that seems to call for silence. Walking several hundred metres through this narrow space, the gorge suddenly opens up, revealing a huge amphitheatre formation. The area, made round by rolling boulders as the water runs down the cliff above, open to the sky in a narrow opening. The middle occupied by a shallow pond, a reminder of how much water would be here during the wet season. The roof ceiling provides a perfect environment for your echo, the place calls for silence but at the same time wants sounds to reverberate around its walls.

Naturally the Bungle Bungle has more to reveal than just this one special place. The drive from Kununurra down Highway One is spectacular in itself, but is merely setting the scene for the Bungle Bungle. The 50 km 4WD road in from the highway hints a little more, only very close to the park does one see for the first time the mountains of the Bungle Bungle. The orange cliffs rise abruptly from the plains. Dramatic as they are though, they are not the Bungle Bungle one sees in photos. It is only when you drive further in, or better still, walk further in, that one sees their iconic and true beauty - the striped beehive formations. These are the most exceptional examples of sandstone cone karsts anywhere in the world. Standing up to 250 metres tall, they create an intricate maze of twists and turns, almost a city of rock sky-rises (to borrow a phrase from the national park literature.)

The sandstone is an ancient riverbed, uplifted high above the surrounding plains. Weathering and erosion slowly formed the distinct shapes we know today, as new rivers were formed through the old riverbed. The sandstone is sedimentary, layers of

gray or orange rock. The grey rock has a high clay and moisture content, allowing cyanobacteria to grow on the surface. The orange bands have a lower clay and hence moisture content, preventing the cyanobacteria from growing. This layer oxidises forming the distinct rusty orange colour. Occasionally recent landslides reveal the true colour of this band - a bright silver white colour.

It was through this that we undertook a two day hike. We would have spent three days on this hike, the gorges warrant further exploration, but we had to get to distant Katherine to fix our crippled car. We spent a day hiking along the Piccaninny Gorge, camped beside a rock pool, then hiked back. Had we that third day, we would have explored some of the five side gorges that are present in the upper gorge beyond our campsite. Although only a 14 kilometre hike in, it is difficult going. Following the creekbed is either sandy or soft gravel, navigating eroded rocks or large boulders.

On the first day we had lunch at the distinct Elbow in the gorge, well, so we thought, until we came upon a more distinct Elbow further upstream. It really was slow walking.

We had the gorge almost to ourselves, beyond the tourist bus groups near the very start of the gorge we passed only two other parties. Both had chosen to hike in and out in a single day, both were jealous we would have so much time to explore and would have such a magnificent campsite. The campsite we chose - we could camp anywhere we liked - was beside a rockpool. Cliffs soared high above us, the rockpool being in the corner of the gorge. During the Wet water would cascade down the cliff, filling the rockpool and overflowing into the main gorge creek.

During the day the gorge was filled with a cacophony of bird sounds, echoing up and down the gorge. As night fell, silence descended. Our voices could be heard echoing far up and down the gorge, in the silence we could finally appreciate how far the echo travelled. Our campsite was fitted with a security device, not that it was needed in this isolated place - the cliffs the other side of the rock pool amplified the sounds from the main gorge creek, we could easily have heard footsteps as they approached from either upstream or downstream.

This place lived up to my expectations, it really is a very special place in Australia. At 12 hours drive from Darwin, or nine from Broome, sitting on the eastern fringe of the Kimberley, it isn't easy to access but well worth the effort.

**1. Interview on ABC's Stateline, 28/5/2010, concerning rockart in Kakadu. URL: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/video/2010/05/28/2912636.htm>** ■



*The cavern at the end of Cathedral Gorge*

# Heysen Highlight - For Valour

## Crystal Brook Main Street

By Simon Cameron

Walking the entire length of the Heysen Trail is a heroic endeavour, and a moment should be taken to pay homage to the only Victoria Cross winner commemorated along the way.

Arthur Percy Sullivan is also unique in winning his award for Valour in Russia in 1919. Known as the "diggers who signed on for more", 200-300 Australians volunteered to fight the Bolsheviks in northern Russia. Great Britain was attempting to secure repayment of loans to its former ally and had seized the ports of Murmansk and Archangel, coming up against the Red Army.

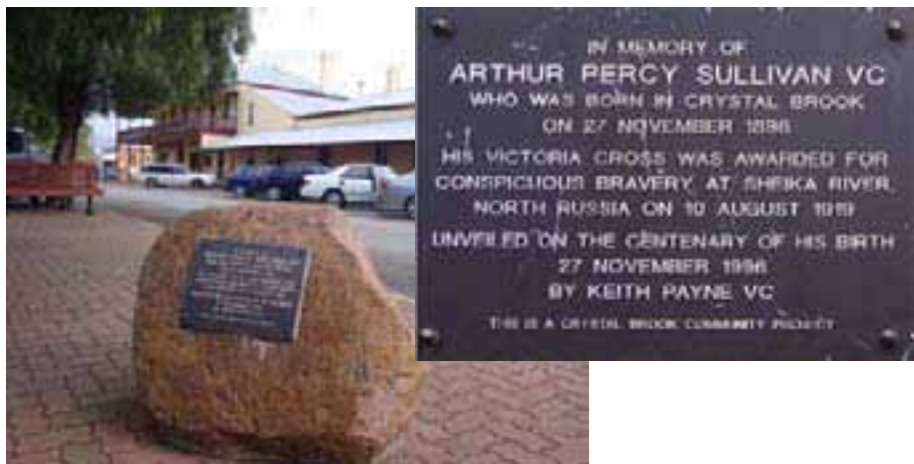
In 1919, a few months after the Armistice, The Australian Imperial Force was still stuck in Belgium and France, waiting demobilisation, delayed by the world wide shortage of shipping.

First in, first out was the principle and the 22 year old Sullivan had only enlisted in April 1918, and deployed in October. Like many of the Russian

volunteers, the northern fighting was an opportunity for adventure and escape from the boredom of the demob camps. Sullivan's adventure took him to the Archangel. Crossing a river in a tactical retreat on the 10<sup>th</sup> August 1919, his officer and three others fell into a river and he rescued all four while under fire.

He was born in Adelaide, but grew up in Crystal Brook, joining the local bank in 1913. After the war he returned to the Brook for a short time, but his banking career landed him in Sydney. Having survived the wastes of Russia, he was chosen to form part of the honour guard at George VI's coronation in 1937, only to be knocked down by a cyclist and fatally crack his head near the Westminster barracks.

The bronze plaque to Sullivan sits at the south end of the shady main street and is an ideal stop for an ice-cream before exploring the historic town.▣



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# Heysen Trail - End-to-End

*Story by Patrick J Cronin*

**My 12 year journey finished on the 21<sup>st</sup> October 2010. What journey? The Heysen Trail from end-to-end! This is a 1200 kilometre trail from the southern tip of South Australia, Cape Jervis, to the northern end of the Flinders Ranges that is at Parachilna. There were beers all round at the Prairie Hotel thanks to my companion John!**

The journey began in 1998 while on a school camp with the Outdoor Ed excursion at Christian Brothers College (CBC). At that time we were introducing the Duke of Edinburgh Awards to CBC, and the Duke trainees accompanied us on this Outdoor Ed excursion in the Thomas Hill area. They explained to us what the Heysen Trail was, and I secretly decided this would be my 'challenge-extreme'! Yvonne was one of the accompanying teachers, and by coincidence was in Parachilna (works at the Prairie) on the day of my completion. So of course there was a celebratory dinner with a few more red wines!

Since 1998, I have managed to squeeze in a few days each year for camping and travelling and walking. There were many good friends who accompanied me or drove me to spots on the trail (with some being very difficult to find). Early in my walk, with one of my companions, John, we carried everything including camping gear, food and water in the difficult area around the Montacute Conservation Park. I soon decided I needed driver-friends who would either drop off and pick me up, or drive their car to one end and mine at the other. This was much better. From Cape Jervis, to Waitpinga and the Inman Valley, I had John, Al, Tony and Dean at various times.

Through Mt Compass in among the dairy farms, my driver was Peter. Up through the Kuitpo Forest with Jock. Walking on a number of hikes here

with Julie through Chookarloo, Rocky Creek and Glen Bold. From Mt Crawford through Mt Lofty and to the Barossa were Margaret, Julie, and Pearl, and some sections with John. More lately I was able to fill in some sections with Wendy. Apart from losing, our bearings, losing a car or two, taking the wrong turns, or not having Heysen markers, there seemed to be always a happy end to the day. Kaiser Stuhl Park was a beautiful walk with Julie. Later I did a camp over-night courtesy of another John in the Tanunda Caravan Park.

Kapunda through Hamilton, Marrabel and the Tothill Ranges was with Pearl. We did some of this on bikes (car at the other end). Having done the walk, do you think we could find our way back to the car on the bikes? You guessed it: No! Getting lost seemed to be my trademark. Once we went into a pub, bought a beer for the locals, and then said can you take us to Roselea Rd? Where? One gentleman did! The re-routing of the trail from Roselea Rd to Burra was interesting! More getting lost and found.



*Patrick and The Last Stile*

What an interesting town Burra is, and the story of Sir George Hubert Wilkins. I felt he was a kindred spirit. Burra was headquarters for a number of walks with Pearl, John, and others at various times. It was great to camp at various places including Bundaleer Forest and Crystal Brook. Following the Morgan pipe line was easy, but then came Wirrabara Forest! It was not the trail that was hard, but the weather. On this walk continuous rain, difficult tracks, muddy slippery slopes and then to cap it off, a couple of dobermans in a property on the edge of the forest. Scared? I'll say!

The Melrose-Mt Remarkable leg was with bike and trusty car (1977 Lancer hatch classic). It was a bit difficult walking down Mt Remarkable in the

dark! Spear Creek was a great camping spot with Dennis and Margaret who took me out in the morning and found me again at the end of the day. Dennis was an air force navigator in the war. Was I lucky! A phone call from Mt Brown to my friend Julie was fun, as she was still in school and here's me being retired and free! Woolshed Flat is interesting in that the Trail decides to give you alternative options. John was not very impressed. It cost him hours waiting in the wrong spot!

The trail from Woolshed Flat to Quorn evoked many memories because I had run the Pichi Richi marathon through here in the early eighties. I was a lot fitter then. Pichi Richi Pass often has the initial letters rubbed out by humorous locals, certainly not we walkers. Lovely to walk along the railway line (not allowed but easier). Julie and I walked into Quorn like this. Mass in the outback towns is something. The locals don't mind how you straggle in. It seems walking the Heysen is no big deal to them.

Now we were getting into real country. The trail ran from Quorn, around the

Dutchmans Stern and into Hawker, although on one occasion walking from north to south. Coming into camp in the dark is scary, but with John always waiting with a cold beer, and then a warm up glass of wine or two, it was well worth the effort. How did Edward John Eyre find water at Eyre Depot? That's a long way from Port Augusta where he started the Nullarbor crossing. Julie and I had some very nice walking down the Calabrinde Road and through the gentle slopes of the South Flinders (Yappala) ranges. Now for the hardest bit of the walk: Up Warren Gorge, Middle Gorge, and Mt Arden; then on to Bucharanga Gorge. Proby's grave is a reminder of pioneer hardships. Maybe Proby had been a Heysen walker? Malcolm and Julie Juett of Argadells were magnificent hosts. We enjoyed a large camp fire a few more red wines. The Willochra River is a magnificent sight, although not much water. Perhaps the Murray might be like this one day. Margaret walked with me in a section southwards from Moralana Scenic Drive. It wasn't very scenic where we were, down the Wonoka Creek, and Dennis anxiously waiting in the car for us arriving about

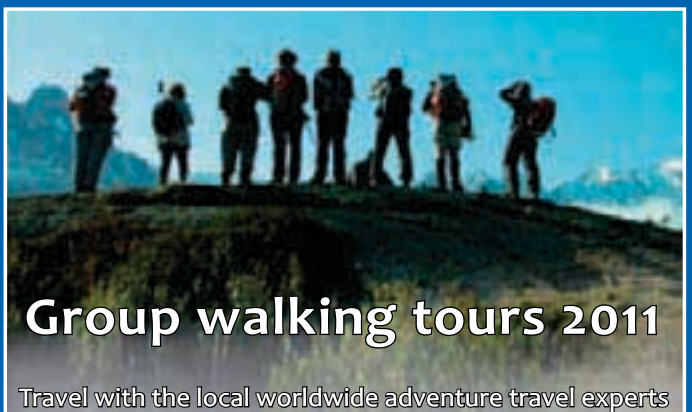
two hours late!

Now with Burke and Wills for the last dash: Moralana Drive through Black Gap and Bridle Gap into Wilpena Pound. The caravan park was restful sight. John used his bike to come into meet me as the track was well worn. Most tracks through Wilpena are well worn and easy to follow. The Bunyeroo Valley was beautiful with ABC range on one side, and Wilpena range on the other. Further up through the Aroona ruins is the magnificent Heysen range. Quite difficult walking between Brachina Gorge and the Yanyanna Hut. Aroona to Parachilna was a long walk, but seeing John who had come in to meet me was great. Now the last few kilometres with badly blistered feet, dehydration setting in and interminable flies, made the final stile a sight to behold. What a great structure. See the photo.

Who would think that 12 years ago, I would want to do this trail? Well I am glad I did, and I still have all my friends (I think)! Thank you any way to them all. ■



For more information contact **Geoff** or **Skye**  
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# Trail Maintenance Sections

The Heysen Trail is graciously maintained by volunteers. If you discover a problem on the Heysen Trail, please contact the Friends of the Heysen Trail office, or the Maintenance Co-ordinator or relevant Maintenance Section Leader listed. We welcome feedback on the condition of the Heysen Trail, constructive suggestions on improvements that could be made, and general comments or enquiries about the Trail.

**Maintenance Co-ordinators** Gavin Campbell 8296 8613 (H)  
**Maintenance Committee Chairman** Colin Edwards 8264 1492 (H)

Section	Map	Section Leader	Contact
1. Cape Jervis to Tapanappa	Southern Guidebook, Maps 1.1-1.3	Bob Gentle Barry Brown	8294 7287 (H) 8261 1692 (H)
2A. Tapanappa to Waitpinga Campground	Southern Guidebook, Maps 1.3-1.5	Roger Dunn & Friends	8260 2146 (H)
2B. Waitpinga Campground to Back Valley Rd	Southern Guidebook, Maps 1.5-2.2	Geoffrey & Pamela Gardner	8552 5213 (H)
3. Back Valley Road to Moon Hill	Southern Guidebook, Maps 3 2.2-2.3	Michael Scott	0400 293 132
4. Moon Hill to Hindmarsh Tiers Road	Southern Guidebook, Maps 2.3-2.5	Hermann Schmidt (Wandergruppe Bushwalkers, German Association)	8344 4072 (H)
5. Hindmarsh Tiers Road to Blackfellows Creek Road	Southern Guidebook, Maps 2.5-2.7	Eleanor Martin Myra Betschild (Women in the Bush)	8341 6024 (H) 8331 2992
6. Blackfellows Creek Road to Glen Bold	Southern Guidebook, Maps 2.7-3.2	Richard Webb	8381 5308 (H)
7. Glen Bold to Piccadilly	Southern Guidebook, Maps 3.2-3.4	Thelma Anderson Trevor Lee	8278 4420 (H) 8398 0516 (H)
8. Piccadilly to Norton Summit	Southern Guidebook, Maps 3.4-3.4	Liz O'Shea (WEA Ramblers)	8352 1636 (H)
9. Norton Summit to Cudlee Creek	Southern Guidebook, Maps 3.5-3.7	Colin Edwards Graham O'Reilly	8264 1492 (H) 8397 1217 (H)
10. Cudlee Creek to Bethany	Southern Guidebook, Maps 3.7-4.4	John Potter	8337 9515 (H)
11. Bethany to Hamilton	Southern Guidebook, Maps 4.4-5.3	John Potter Joyce Heinjus	8337 9515 (H) 8525 2054 (H)
12. Hamilton to Huppatz Hut	Southern Guidebook, Maps 5.3-5.9	Norrie Hamilton	8332 1982 (H)
13. Huppatz Hut to Spalding	Southern Guidebook, Maps 5.9-6.12	Hugh Greenhill (Burra Branch)	8843 8115 (H)
14. Spalding to Georgetown	Northern Guidebook, Maps 1.1-1.6	Kevin Liddiard	8289 4236 (H)
15. Georgetown to Mt Remarkable	Northern Guidebook, Maps 1.6-2.11	Mary Cameron Ian Pool (ARPA)	8165 1025 (H)
16. Mt Remarkable to Horrocks Pass Rd	Northern Guidebook, Maps 2.11-3.4	Graham Hill	8632 4804 (H)
17A. Horrocks Pass Rd to Dutchmans Stern	Northern Guidebook, Maps 3.4-4.1	Michael Kerin	8642 4728 (H)
17B. Dutchmans Stern to Wilpena	Northern Guidebook, Maps 4.2-5.7	Gavin & Marie Campbell	8296 8613 (H)
18. Wilpena to Parachilna	Northern Guidebook, Maps 5.8-6.8	David Henery (Alpana Station) Operation Flinders	8648 4626 (H) 8242 3233

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