



# The Trailwalker

Magazine of the Friends of the Heysen Trail

Issue 120 Winter 2011

**Financial Report**

**End to End 3 and Lake Eyre**

**Another Summer in  
Aotearoa**

**Easter at Warraweena**

**Arkaroola to Mt Hopeless**

# *Spalding Hotel*

*Now on the Heysen Trail*

With the new re-route through Spalding, the Trail passes the front bar. Warm yourself by the fire or cool down with an icy cold drink and meet the locals after your days walk.

We Offer:

- Accommodation,
- Country Style Meals and a Great Selection of Beverages
- Pick Up and Drop Off service along the trail by arrangement
- Group Accommodation
- Specialty Catering - including Camp Oven Roasts

*Phone Geoff or Josie on 88452006 for bookings or a chat about your walking plans.*

Published by the Friends of the Heysen Trail & Other Walking Trails

10 Pitt Street, Adelaide SA 5000

Phone (08) 8212 6299

Fax (08) 8212 1930

Web [www.heysentrail.asn.au](http://www.heysentrail.asn.au)

Email [heysentrail@heysentrail.asn.au](mailto:heysentrail@heysentrail.asn.au)

Burra Branch

Phone (08) 8843 8115

Email [hugreenh@activ8.net.au](mailto:hugreenh@activ8.net.au)

#### 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.heysentrail.asn.au/trailwalker](http://www.heysentrail.asn.au/trailwalker)

The Trailwalker magazine is published quarterly:

- 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@heysentrail.asn.au](mailto:trailwalker@heysentrail.asn.au)

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

#### Advertising Rates

|                                |                 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1/8 page vertical              | \$40 per issue  |
| 1/4 page horizontal            | \$60 per issue  |
| 1/4 page vertical              | \$60 per issue  |
| 1/3 page vertical              | \$70 per issue  |
| 1/2 page                       | \$100 per issue |
| Full Page                      | \$150 per issue |
| Flyer (supplied for insertion) | \$180 per issue |

A commitment for 12 months advertising, ie 4 issues, would attract 10% saving

Advertising specifications and article submission guidelines are available upon request or by visiting [www.heysentrail.asn.au/trailwalker](http://www.heysentrail.asn.au/trailwalker)

# Contents

## Regular Features

|    |                            |
|----|----------------------------|
| 5  | Presidents's Report        |
| 6  | Cover                      |
| 6  | Office Report              |
| 6  | Walking Committee Report   |
| 7  | Brief News                 |
| 8  | Walking SA Report          |
| 10 | Burra Branch Activities    |
| 10 | Burra Branch Maintenance   |
| 16 | <b>2011 Walk Programme</b> |

|    |                         |
|----|-------------------------|
| 12 | <b>Financial Report</b> |
| 13 | <b>AGM Report</b>       |

|    |   |
|----|---|
| 14 | <b>End to End 3 and Lake Eyre</b><br>Triumph Against the Odds |
|----|---|

|    |   |
|----|---|
| 18 | <b>Another Summer in Aotearoa</b><br>Tramping in the Nelson & Marlborough Regions of NZ |
|----|---|

|    |                             |
|----|-----------------------------|
| 22 | <b>Easter at Warraweena</b> |
|----|-----------------------------|

|    |   |
|----|---|
| 24 | <b>Arkaroola to Mt Hopeless</b><br>When it Rains - Travel North |
|----|---|



**Patron**

C. Warren Bonython AO

**Council Members 2011/12**

Robert Alcock  
Richard Trembath  
Peter Wynen  
John Wilson  
Simon Cameron  
Gavin Campbell  
Jeanette Clarke  
Rhonda Dempster  
Jerry Foster  
Nick Langsford  
Jack Marcelis  
Julian Monfries  
Chris Porter  
David Rattray

President  
Vice President  
Secretary  
Treasurer

**Council Committee Chairs**

Colin Edwards  
Arrienne Wynen  
David Rattray  
Richard Trembath  
Bob Randall

Maintenance  
Walking  
Office  
Marketing & Membership  
Honorary Membership

**Burra Branch Chairs**

Arthur Simpson  
Rodney Rees  
Sally Fieldhouse  
Hugh Greenhill  
Hugh Greenhill  
Celia Manning

President  
Vice President  
Secretary  
Maintenance  
Goyder Tourism Working Party Rep  
Publicity Officer

**Council Meeting Dates 2011**

Wed 15th June  
Wed 20th July  
Wed 17th August  
Wed 21st September  
Wed 19th October  
Wed 21st December  
Wed 16th November

**Honorary Members**

Terry Lavender\*  
Jim Crinion  
Neville Southgate  
Doug Leane\*  
Fred Brooks\*  
Sadie Leupold  
Thelma Anderson  
Kath Palyga  
Richard Schmitz  
Arthur Smith  
Colin Edwards  
Hugh Greenhill  
Jamie Shephard  
Glen Dow  
Barry Finn  
Dean Killmier  
John Wilson  
David Beaton  
Jack Marcelis  
Julian Monfries  
Terry & Frances Gasson

\* (deceased)

**Trailwalker Editor**

Hilary Gillette

**Membership Secretary**

David Rattray

**Office Coordinator**

David Rattray

**Maintenance Coordinator**

Gavin Campbell

**Bookkeepers**

Jeanette Clarke  
Jixin Li (Lucinda)  
Zhaolong Huang (Isabella)  
Yi La (Eva)

**Shop/Office Hours & Volunteers**

**Phone 8212 6299 Fax 8212 1930**

**Monday 10.30 - 2.30**  
Neil Nosworthy 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**  
David Beaton, Myra Betschild,  
Jack Marcelis

# President's Report

*Robert Alcock*

**Winter is back so now I know the walk season is in full swing. I did the End 2 End 4 walk today. Boy what a windy and wet day – we (all 80 walkers), copped a drenching with the driving rain increasing to gale force on the bare hills north of Cudlee Creek.**

**Y**es I know it is awhile since the Opening of the Walk Season in April (a great day, which ran smoothly thanks to the organising committee), and we did have a few showers on the first Lavender walk, yet it is rare that we get the severe winter chills, the cold, wind and rain, that we did today.

It is our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and with Walking SA, we hosted the Opening of the Walk Season, opened by the Mayor of Tea Tree Gully, Miriam Smith, and attended by Tom Kenyon, the Recreation, Sport and Racing Minister. I was pleased to host the luncheon for our special guests, in recognition of their long support and contribution to the Heysen Trail and the Friends. It is the foundation, created and built by them, which we are able to build upon today. And as Simon said in the previous edition, there are so many, a vast array, of volunteers so supportive of our wonderful icon, the Heysen Trail. This spreads the load and keeps the Friends alive and well. I am fortunate, and so grateful, that in this organisation it is not left to a couple at the top to “do it all”. Overall, everything runs very smoothly, which is a testament to **all those** volunteers who are involved – thank you each and everyone of you.

We will be having a 25<sup>th</sup> celebration for all members later in the year, so watch out for details.

This is my first report as President, and I follow some big footprints from many past presidents. I have received so many warm congratulations - thank you all, I hope to live up to your expectations.

#### **Management:**

A lot of us have a vision of the Heysen Trail with the many improvements that it could have, and we can get impatient at the rate of progress. We see untapped potential and want it done now. It is important for us in the Friends to understand that we provide support for a State Government asset, managed by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). We need to work with and through them, plus we need to have the communications open to feed into them the improvements and opportunities that we see and develop.

#### **Trail Development and Maintenance:**

Many section leaders have been very busy with teams out along the Trail clearing and upgrading signage ready for the new season. We have the 10 rainwater tanks prefabricated and paid for – and now we need them up on the track. A team from DENR will be working in the north over the next 2 months and expect to have 2 tanks installed – in the Wirrabarra area and one north of Quorn. Others will then be rolled out when sites and agreements are finalised. The designed rusted steel trailhead sign has finally been

installed at Cape Jervis. Other signs of the rusted steel design are being installed in Deep Creek. Further signs are planned for Parachilna Gorge and along the Trail as approvals and funding come together. Of note is installation of 3 signs on the Trail in the Hallett area. These are designed by DENR and funded by the local wind-farm operator.

#### **Walking:**

The season is well started. End to End 6 has commenced (with high demand for the bus seats) and is reportedly settling down to a sociable group, following the tradition of our End to End groups. A very full program of walks are offered and I encourage our members to support the volunteer walk leaders by getting onto walks that suit them.

#### **Marketing:**

We have received media attention on our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and are to be again featured on Channel 9 Postcards on 29<sup>th</sup> May. Watch out for other items in the media and join us on Facebook, if you are Facebookers. We continue our Heysen Friendly Towns program, with discussions with the Goyder Council continuing. This program will complement the additional signage planned for the Trail. A nice new banner and 2 bright vertical flags were on display at the Adelaide Arcade display and Opening of the Walk Season, and are now available for all our events.

# Office Report

*By David Rattray  
Office Coordinator*

The tempo in the office has increased with the opening of the walk season. End to End six has had two walks – both full. Membership has also increased along with the start of End to End six. We have 73 new members since 1st January. End to End walks generally fill quickly and so members should book early.

Members are reminded that walk bookings open four weeks before the walk. The office volunteers have NO ability to book walkers onto a walk until bookings open. The website provides details of when all walks open for bookings. Bookings and payment can be made online or via the office but only after bookings open. A

priority booking system for regular walkers applies to some End to End walks and the office CANNOT book members onto these walks until bookings are open to the general public. Members who are regular walkers with an End to End group should speak to the walk leader about the priority booking system.

We have started merging the walk registration database with the membership database. Once the merger is completed we anticipate better walking statistics and more accurate membership records. Our membership is currently about 880 and last year over 500 people walked with the Friends.

## Smith's Farmstay

Accommodation ~ Laura

Talyala Hills at Laura in the beautiful Southern Flinders Ranges



*"a little bit of Australia all to yourself"*

5 Bedrooms - great beds  
2 Bathrooms - plenty of hot water  
Marked Bushland Walks on property  
Bed and Breakfast or  
Standard Packages available  
From \$80  
ph/fax 8663 2576  
email: smithsfarmstay@internode.on.net

# Walking Committee

*By Arrienne Wynen  
Walking Committee Chairperson*

The walking season is now well underway. The new End to End 6 is proving just as popular as previous End to Ends and we welcome both old and new Friends of the Heysen Trail members to this group and wish you well on this journey. We have a continuing program of walks on each Sunday that give you a choice of grades and will keep you fit and show you different areas of South Australia. Later in the season is a long weekend walk in the Innes National Park and a week of

walking based at Thredbo. Thredbo is a good base for the many walks available in this very scenic area with a choice of Trailstarter or Trailwalker walks being offered.

The committee continues to look at different options for extended walks and any suggestions are welcome. We are always looking for more leaders and if you are interested in becoming more involved have a chat to the leader on your next walk or contact the office.

## Front Cover



The track from Brachina Gorge to Aroona with the E2E2 group.

Photo by: Helen Cradock  
August 2008.

# Brief News

*Dear Heysen Trailers,*

*I'd just like to express my thanks for the invitation to your 25th celebration lunch at the Opening of the Walking season event on Sunday.*

*I felt very honoured to receive the invitation and enjoyed seeing old friends again.*

*Wishing the Friends many more happy years of walking and every best wish for this special year.*

*Yours sincerely,*

*Carlien Melrose,*

*Past Convenor/President of the ARPA Bushwalkers*

## Warren and Bunty Celebrate their 70th Wedding Anniversary

*Clipping from the newspaper article on 14 April 1941*

**"Mr. and Mrs. Warren Bonython at the reception after their marriage on Saturday.**

**Mrs. Bonython was formerly Miss Cynthia Young."**



## 25th Anniversary - Friends of the Heysen Trail.

**Members** please keep Saturday 8th October 2011 free to celebrate our 25th anniversary.

To be held at Karka Pavilion and Picnic Ground, Belair National Park.

Further details will be published in the Spring Trailwalker and on our website.

## 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.

|                       |                  |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Jan Aamodt            | William Lyons    |
| Juliet Aamodt         | Glenn Marsland   |
| Jaimi A'Court         | Greg Martin      |
| Kym A'Court           | Marjon Martin    |
| Rob A'Court           | Judy McAdam      |
| Sam A'Court           | Samantha McCarty |
| Christopher Aldersley | Lauren McKee     |
| Catherine Anderson    | Stephen Muller   |
| Shirley Armstrong     | Peter Noll       |
| Leanne Bell           | Frank Ortiz      |
| Philip Bell           | Michael Pocock   |
| Greg Boundy           | Lorraine Poole   |
| Valerie Boundy        | Jed Richards     |
| David Bowey           | Phillip Rowland  |
| Elizabeth Bowey       | Albert Schmidke  |
| Tim Brumpton          | Frances Semmler  |
| Victoria Brumpton     | John Sibly       |
| Alan Bundy            | Jennifer Sic     |
| Andrew Castrique      | Edith St George  |
| Robert Dart           | Judy Stacey      |
| Emily De Ruyter       | Amber Stockley   |
| Michelle De Ruyter    | Jodie Stockley   |
| Darrell Delaine       | Rick Stockley    |
| Marcus Dilena         | Catherine Thring |
| Shaun Dodman          | Mark Thring      |
| Sue Durand            | Tony Veinberg    |
| Kym Fullgrave         | John Vugts       |
| Dolka Gurung          | Mary Vugts       |
| Melissa Harrison      | John Wallace     |
| Brenton Herringe      | Evelyn Winkler   |
| Martin Homewood       | Lorraine Wirth   |
| Bradley Jones         | Eric Zuks        |
| Pesa Lenga            |                  |

## Next Issue Deadline

Submissions for the Spring edition of the Trailwalker will close on Friday 5th August 2011.

## The Walking Federation of South Australia, Inc.

# Walking SA

By *Thelma Anderson*  
*Walking Access Committee*

### Official Opening of the 2011 Walking Season

The now well-established event took place this year in a delightful bushland environment at the Tea Tree Gully Oval north-east of Adelaide in perfect sunny, autumn weather on Sunday 3rd April, 2011. The occasion was of particular significance this year as the peak body for walking in South Australia shared the celebration with the Friends of the Heysen Trail and Other Walking Trails, Inc. in celebrating twentyfive years since the formation of that organisation in 1986.

The history of the establishment of the Friends' by Terry Lavender has been well documented in previous issues of "The Trailwalker". The value of his action in establishing a Friends' group to assist with the construction and maintenance of a walking trail that has been sought out by walkers from around the world for its unique walking experience confirms the wisdom and judgment of various governments throughout its history that have contributed to and supported the concept of a long distance walking trail in South Australia. The volunteers who maintain the Trail must be applauded for their efforts and all walkers who reap the benefits of their labours are urged to contribute whenever their circumstances permit.

Representing the current Government this year was the Hon. Thomas Kenyon, the current Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing; also Miriam Smith, the Local Government Mayor of Tea Tree Gully Council. The celebration was highlighted by the attendance of the organisation's Patron, Warren Bonython, AO; also Jim Crinion, the first President of the Friends' Council, together with volunteers from Maintenance Committees and the first Greening Committee.

Robert Alcock was elected President of the Friends at the recently held Annual General Meeting, replacing Simon Cameron who held the position for the past four years. Ron Jackson was elected President of the Walking Federation in August, 2010, hosting this important annual occasion to launch the start of this year's walking activities.

### Mount Lofty Walking Trails

The Walking Federation Committee is pleased, and grateful, with advice received from the Government to the effect that our joint application with Adelaide Hills Council for funding to re-instate some of the remaining Mount Lofty Walking Trails has been successful. Restoration of these trails will enable expansion of scenic opportunities to be linked throughout the Barossa region and the Adelaide Hills and published as coloured promotional leaflets for specific localities, similar to those identified by the Walking Trails Support Group that are currently available.

### Onkaparinga Council

Members of the Walking Access Committee continue to meet regularly with staff involved in recreational walking access and events within this local government area.

### Woodcutters Road

We are grateful for the opportunity to discuss and resolve wide ranging issues, including the availability of undeveloped road reserves for walking access and preservation of rare and endangered native plant species, and at the same time survey suitable trails for horse-riders and cyclists in locations adjacent

to Woodcutters Road.

### Lafferty Road

We are currently discussing sign-posting of Lafferty Road to provide access from Marshall Road to Clarendon. A link is also available to the Scott Creek Conservation Park from the junction of Lafferty Road and Marshall Road.

### Kelly Road

The proposed walking trail between Wilfred Taylor Reserve, Morphett Vale and Clarendon, via Kelly Road remains to be finalised by sign-posting; an on-site inspection may also be required to discuss access between the undeveloped section of Kelly Road to Lovick Road in order to avoid access along Piggott Range Road.

The next meeting with Council is scheduled for a date early in May.

### Saunders Gorge

Members of the Committee are planning an on-site reconnaissance of the Saunders Gorge area where portion of an undeveloped road reserve within the Saunders Gorge property was exchanged for walking access along the ridge within the property, a process within the Roads (Opening and Closing) Act. An on-site inspection of the area by S.A.R.T.I. revealed commanding views of the surrounding countryside before descending to the developed section of Woolford Road adjacent to a heritage stone-walled boundary of the property. Local flora proliferates along one section of the route and various types of accommodation are available for hire to enable an overnight assessment of alternative walking options along adjacent nearby public road reserves.

## Women's Pioneer Trail

Concerted efforts have been made for many years, particularly by volunteer groups including the Walking Federation, Friends of the Heysen Trail, the Hahndorf Branch of the National Trust as well as local government and Government agencies, to secure continuity of the Women's Pioneer Trail between Verdun and Hahndorf.

As referred to in previous issues of "The Trailwalker", with the Onkaparinga River running parallel to the total length of Onkaparinga Valley Road there is no pedestrian access to cross the river except on the narrow road bridge in competition with speeding vehicles, - cars, trucks, buses, semi-trailers. In efforts to clear a pathway for walkers across the bridge it is an extremely difficult and dangerous task for volunteers, and walkers, to compete with the unrealistic task of defining a

walking trail at this location. Sandow Road located at the southern end of the village is ideally situated to provide a safe connection, via a pedestrian bridge across the Onkaparinga River to Hahndorf in order to authenticate the route used by the pioneer women to carry produce to the Adelaide Markets.

Walking SA has received positive responses from all councillors who were e-mailed in our efforts to gauge support from both Adelaide Hills and Mount Barker Councils. Our next step is to obtain an estimate of the cost of providing such an amenity, for which plans are in hand, for an on-site inspection by an engineering company.

## S.A.R.T.I. - Lavender Federation Trail

A recent issue of SARTI'S progress and

plans for further extensions of this high profile walking trail – the Lavender Federation Trail - in the eastern Mount Lofty Ranges between Mount Beevor and Clare via Murray Bridge outlines plans for volunteers to reach Keyneton through an injection of a Government funding grant to the project as the Trail is forged towards its destination at Clare. There is an ideal opportunity for volunteers to become part of the history of this important addition to South Australia's walking trail system by assisting in its construction.

Government grants, both State and local government, have been made available for the purchase of materials and volunteers are now being sought for its installation. Volunteers should contact George Adams (Tel.8262 2611) for further details and information relating to the Federation Trail.

# Seeking Photo Submissions 2012 Heysen Trail Calendar

Keep your camera handy, during the 2011 walk season we are seeking member's photos for our 2012 calendar showcasing the Heysen Trail.

Photos need to be landscape shaped and meet minimum technical specifications, generally a 7 Mega Pixel camera will suffice if on the highest image quality settings.



You can submit any photos now, simply email them to [heysentrail@gmail.com](mailto:heysentrail@gmail.com) (up to 10MB attachment), alternatively photos can be left on disk at the Heysen office.



# Burra Branch Activities

*Compiled by Celia Manning*

*Burra Branch Publicity Officer*

**O**n 6<sup>th</sup> March the Friends of the Heysen Trail Burra Branch held their AGM at Galleys Meeting House, Farrell Flat.

The following office bearers were elected: -

|                          |                         |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>President</b>         | <b>Arthur Simpson</b>   |
| <b>Vice President</b>    | <b>Rodney Rees</b>      |
| <b>Secretary</b>         | <b>Sally Fieldhouse</b> |
| <b>Section Leader</b>    | <b>Hugh Greenhill</b>   |
| <b>Publicity Officer</b> | <b>Celia Manning</b>    |

The program for the rest of the year was also planned. This was followed by a pooled tea, where we enjoyed the opportunity to catch up with friends.

| <b>Burra Branch Friends of Heysen &amp; Other Walking Trails Inc.<br/>2011 Walk Calendar</b> |   |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|---|--|
| <b>Walk</b>  | <b>Date</b>                               | <b>Location</b>                                   | <b>Contact</b>                                  | <b>Telephone</b>                       |
| 1  | Saturday<br>30/4/11                       | Burra Creek CP east of Burra Gorge                | Hugh Greenhill                                  | 8843 8115                              |
| 2  | Wednesday<br>18/5/11                      | Camels Hump Range                                 | Jenny Abbott                                    | 8843 8056                              |
| 3  | Sunday<br>5/6/11                          | Mt Bryan East                                     | Arthur Simpson                                  | 8894 2113                              |
| 4  | Saturday<br>25/6/11                       | Black Rock  | Ken Farmer                                      | 8894 2125                              |
| 5  | Wednesday<br>6/7/11                       | Browne Hill Range, Heysen trail                   | Kate Greenhill                                  | 8843 8115                              |
| 6  | Sunday 24/7/11 or<br>overnight on 23/7/11 | Alligator Gorge                                   | Benita Rees                                     | 8843 0157                              |
| 7  | Saturday<br>13/8/11                       | Full moon walk, Wandillah                         | Garry Fieldhouse                                | 8843 8028                              |
| 8  | Thursday<br>1/9/11                        | Burra to Wandillah, Heysen Trail                  | Penny Shepley                                   | 8892 2737                              |
| 9  | 24/25/9/11                                | Burra 20 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary<br>Celebration | Meredith Mayr,<br>Hugh Greenhill<br>Rodney Rees | 0428 832 023<br>8843 8115<br>8843 0157 |
| 10   | Wednesday<br>12/10/11                     | Sevenhill   | Julie Aamodt                                    | 8843 4034                              |
| 11   | Saturday<br>29/10/11                      | Spring Gully                                      | Meredith Mayr                                   | 0428 832 023                           |

Three weeks later our President, Arthur Simpson welcomed a large gathering of friends and relatives, club members and others to celebrate a milestone birthday. This was also held at Galleys Meeting House.

On the 30<sup>th</sup> April eight of us met at Burra, on a fine Saturday morning, for the first walk of the year for 2011. We pooled cars and drove out to our starting point close to Burra Creek. Hugh, our leader for the day, briefly explained the route, and

showed no mercy by beginning the season with a steep climb on a rocky hillside.

We were rewarded with views in all directions at the top, a good excuse to catch our breath. Our morning tea break was by a dry tributary to the Burra Creek.

During the day we found an abundance of local plants and birds. Also many interesting diggings, varying from old gold diggings, to echidna scratchings and possible pigmy blue tongue

lizard habitats. Lunch was by Burra Creek and the afternoon stretch followed by the creek giving us a variation from the vegetation and topography of the morning.

Our drive back to Burra was by a different route giving us more scenery to enjoy. Thank you to the drivers and Hugh the gate opener. Back at Burra we were revived with a coffee and scones at Gaslights. It was a most enjoyable day.

## Burra Branch Maintenance

*Compiled by Hugh Greenhill*

*Burra Branch Maintenance Co-ordinator (Section 13)*

### Heysen Trail Changes at Spalding

The changes of the Heysen Trail at Spalding are now having the trail pass through the town instead of bypassing by a few kilometres to the east of Spalding. The changes are shown in the Southern Guide map book, map 2010, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition and also on the website on the Re-Routes page

for those without the latest guidebook. In addition to this map there is a last minute change of the Heysen Trail around the Freshwater Creek Weir due to SA Water OHS demands around the weir itself and we cannot walk over the weir wall. The channel has been reinstated after many years out of service. A GPS file of the re-route is also available on the website re-routes page.

Now that the Heysen Trail passes through the town walkers will enjoy the convenience this offers: public transport pick-up/drop-offs on the trail, toilets, accommodation, pub and shops. Please support local business and they in turn will help us, the walking community.



p: **0428 532 071**

e: [tours@outbackbynature.com.au](mailto:tours@outbackbynature.com.au)

w: [www.outbackbynature.com.au](http://www.outbackbynature.com.au)

ABN: 22 852 916 624

I'm Rob Higgins, I operate a small group touring business;

- ◆ We are fully catered, using a well equipped Toyota Landcruiser Troopie, that accommodates 1 to 6 people in comfort (with forward facing seats).
- ◆ Our well equipped trailer includes a portable kitchen and carries all the camping equipment. Single tent accommodation or twin share.

**OUR SPECIALTY :** Tag-Along 4WD Vehicles ◆ **A max of 5 vehicles on any trip;**  
 ◆ **Self Catered Tag-Along** or ◆ **Fully Catered Tag-Along**

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

Canning Stock Route / Rudall River / Broome 23 Days Alice Springs to Broome  
 Tuesday 5th July to Wednesday 27th July 2011

Bungle Bungles / Canning Stock Route 23 Days Broome to Alice Springs  
 Monday 1st August to Tuesday 23rd August 2011

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

# FINANCIAL REPORT TO AGM - MARCH 2011

**John Wilson, Treasurer**

## Summary

During the 2010 financial year, the Friends made a profit of \$12,105. This is a satisfactory result, in line with our performance over recent years, and is what we can expect to raise each year from current plans for our programs and activities.

Net income from walking again was the major contributor to our earnings, mainly as a result of strong support for the End to End walks. Apart from the direct income from individual walks, this support is reflected in higher receipts from the sale of Golden Boots cards and Multi-Walk tickets. The two longer events (to the Grampians and to Kangaroo Island) were also successful.

Income from membership subscriptions increased by almost 10%, reflecting a steady rise in the number of members.

Income from sales of books and maps from our office remained steady, although a write-down of the value of remaining Push the Bush stocks was reflected in a lower overall income from sales. Income from advertising showed a small decrease, while bank interest was higher, due to our increased assets and higher interest rates.

Administrative expenditure for 2010 was about the same as that of the previous year, with increases in promotional spending balanced by lower office expenditure.

The Friends spent only \$1,440 of our funds on trail development, less than budgeted, as the major outlay of \$50,000 planned to be spent in 2010 for a series of water tanks along the Heysen Trail did not occur until early 2011. A further \$3,693, spent on basic materials and expenses, was reimbursed by the Department for Environment and Natural Resources. It should be noted that overall annual expenditure on the Heysen Trail by DENR is about \$400,000.

## 2010 Accounts

The Auditors Report and 2010 Accounts for the Friends were distributed at the AGM. Spare copies are available from the Friends office. Detailed accounts, prepared monthly, are also held at the office and may be inspected by members. The following is a brief summary of the 2010 Accounts.

|                            |                          |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Net Income</b>          | <b>\$</b>                |
| Membership Subscriptions   | 14,420                   |
| Income from Sale of Goods  | 2,392                    |
| Interest                   | 4,562                    |
| Advertising revenue        | 2,938                    |
| Walking                    | 24,875                   |
| Sundry Income              | 2,209                    |
| <b>Total Income</b>        | <b>51,396</b>            |
| <b>Expenditure</b>         |                          |
| Administrative expenses    | 3,210                    |
| Bank fees                  | 2,739                    |
| Insurance/Affiliation      | 5,215                    |
| Office expenses            | 11,911                   |
| Promotional expenses       | 8,992                    |
| Trailwalker costs          | 5,784                    |
| Trail Maintenance          | 1,440                    |
| <b>Total Expenditure</b>   | <b>39,291</b>            |
| <b>Net Surplus</b>         | <b>12,105</b>            |
| <b>Current Assets</b>      |                          |
| Bank Accounts              | 64,490                   |
| CPS, and Term Deposit      | 68,992                   |
| Minor Accounts/Floats      | 505                      |
| Stock on Hand              | 9,683                    |
| Trade debtors              | 1,779                    |
| Plant and Equipment        | 0                        |
| <b>Total Assets</b>        | <b>145,449</b>           |
| <b>Current Liabilities</b> | <b>10,088</b>            |
| <b>Nett Assets</b>         | <b><u>\$ 135,361</u></b> |

# FRIENDS OF THE HEYSEN AND OTHER WALKING TRAILS INC.

## Report on the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting

*Peter Wynen, Secretary*

The 2011 AGM was held on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2011 at Woodville Bowling Club where 45 members attended.

After welcoming our Patron Warren Bonython and his wife Bunty, President Simon Cameron gave a brief rundown of our operations over the past year (refer to his report elsewhere). He concluded by restating our vision of the Heysen Trail becoming a world class walk. He spoke of the gratitude he felt for having had the opportunity to walk the Heysen Trail and how this had mainly been due to the existence of the Friends — he has been pleased to have had the opportunity to give something back to the organisation by filling the role of President for the last four years.

Following the Treasurer's report and the maintenance report the election of officers took place. Robert Alcock has taken on the role of President, John Wilson continues as Treasurer and Peter Wynen continues as Secretary. The role of Vice-President was not filled and was left for the incoming Council to consider (Council has since appointed Richard Trembath to this role). Continuing as Council members were Cliff Walsh, Jerry Foster, Julian Monfries and David Rattray.

Renominating Council members were Gavin Campbell, Jeanette Clarke, Nick Langsford, Chris Porter and Simon Cameron. There was 1 other nomination received, Jack Marcellis.

Retiring from Council was Bob Gentle.

A constitutional change recommended by Council was put to the meeting and accepted. The purpose of this change was to introduce a Student membership category with the intention of attracting younger members to our organisation. An annual fee of \$10, without the need for a joining fee, was set for this new category.

Following the formal part of the meeting, Simon introduced our Guest Speaker: Volker Scholz — past head ranger at Deep Creek and more recently just returned from a secondment to PNG to assist with the management of the Kokoda Track.

### Plan for the trip ahead. Update your will.

*Specialising in wills and estates including:*

- *estate planning*
- *powers of attorney*
- *guardianship*
- *estate litigation*



**Gary Pearce** Solicitor



61 Carrington Street Adelaide South Australia 5000

T 08 8237 0572

M 0419 121 300

E g@garypearce.com.au

## End to End 3 and Lake Eyre



*Dutchmans to Woolshed Flat Crossing*

### **How the E2E3 Roses group beat the Roadrunners to Woolshed Flat and how we beat the road closures to see Lake Eyre on the same weekend.**

---

*Words and photos by Ann and Neil Nosworthy*

---

**W**e were looking forward to the End to End 3 walk last September partly because of the challenge of the climb up Mt Brown and the walk to Dutchmans Stern but also because we planned to go on to William Creek and fly over a flooded Lake Eyre. However the weather gods had other ideas.

After a Friday night of wind and rain with the promise of more to come, President Simon informed us that access to Broadview station was impossible so the planned walk up Mt Brown was abandoned. Instead we would walk from Dutchmans Stern back to Woolshed Flat.

The walk started OK except for crossing a fast flowing Stony Creek by a log and then a leap. But after morning tea, pelting rain and gale force winds set in, and did not let up, until we arrived back at Woolshed Flat about six hours later.

The walking conditions were the worst that we have experienced on E2E3. All creeks were full to overflowing. This resulted in several tricky crossings and wet feet. Walking was a hard slog on a very muddy and wet track into a howling gale and teeming rain. Our lunch spot was more like a survival experiment as we huddled behind a tree eating our pasties before they became sodden and quickly

downing our coffee before it froze. (At the same time, some of the Roadrunners were sipping lattes in the Old Willows Brewery restaurant.)

We followed the trail alongside the railway line back towards the old Willows Brewery. Just as we were crossing the railway bridge, the Pichi Richi train came along and pushed us off the track. Shortly after, Robert, who was leading the Roses group, wisely decided that we would make our way back to the cars via the railway line and the road rather than tackling the ridge the word over the radio was that the track markers to the ridge was difficult to find and some walkers had missed the trail.

We arrived back at the cars about 4.30 pm and discovered that the Roadrunners had been waylaid on the ridge. So for the first and, almost certainly, the only time on E2E3, the Roses beat the Roadrunners to the end of the walk — well done Robert!

On Sunday the weather was better and many of us enjoyed a pleasant walk around Dutchmans Stern while a few pedants went back to complete the ridge section.

The weather also upset our plans to continue north to William Creek and fly over Lake Eyre. The heavy rains resulted in the closure of many roads in the Flinders Ranges and the Oodnadatta Track. Only the track from Coober Pedy to William Creek was open for 4x4s. So we set off early on Monday morning to complete the nine hour drive from Quorn.

The William Creek Road was OK except for a couple of creek crossings and several rutted sections which had been chewed up by vehicles. But the country was amazing. It is very beautiful to travel through the red sand dunes past many pretty, transient lagoons full of water with wild flowers everywhere.

The following morning at William Creek, we crammed into a three seater Cessna with our young female pilot. From the air we



*Ann with the plane*

could see pools of water glistening across the countryside. Then we crossed over the main body of water which extended to the horizon. The lake was a bit muddy due to the recent rains and most of the birds were up the other end but it was an incredible sight to see so much water in the middle of nowhere.

We headed back to Coober Pedy just beating more rain which caused the track to be closed the next day. In the afternoon we had the biggest surprise of the whole trip - every bed in Port Augusta was full on a Tuesday night! So we pressed on home to Adelaide arriving about midnight to end an amazing weekend.



## Snowy Mountains Walk

**Based at Thredbo from Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November to Sat 19<sup>th</sup> November**

**Both Trailstarter and Trailwalker grades which will include the Mt Kosciusko summit and Thredbo river.**

**Cost \$650 members    \$700 for non members**  
**Accommodation in twin share with ensuite facilities. Linen provided but not towels.**

**Included in price are meals from Monday, (Friday night at pub at own cost), park entry and chair lift.**

**Register online or via the Friends' office from 12th June.**

# 2011 Walk Season Programme for the Friends of the

|                   |               | April   | May  | June   | July  | August   |  |
|-------------------|---------------|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| 1st Week of month | Trail Starter | Sun Apr 3<br>Opening of the Walk Season<br>Tea Tree Gully     | Sun May 1<br>Trailstarter<br>Sleeps Gully<br>Chris Porter          | Sun Jun 5<br>Trailwalker<br>TBA<br>Rhonda Dempster               | Sun Jul 3<br>Trailwalker<br>Black Hill<br>Steve Clift                   | Sun Aug 7<br>Trailstarter<br>Christie Creek<br>Lyn Wood    |  |
|                   | Trail Walker  |   | Sun May 1<br>Trailwalker<br>Chambers Gully<br>Richard Milosh       | Sun Jun 5<br>Trailwalker<br>Montactute<br>Richard Milosh         | Sun Jul 3<br>Trailwalker<br>Morialta<br>Michael Middleton               | Sun Aug 7<br>Trailwalker<br>TBA                            |  |
|                   | End-to-End    |   | Sun May 1<br>End-to-End 5  | Sun Jun 5<br>End-to-End 5  | Sun Jul 3<br>End-to-End 5   |  |  |
| 2nd Week of month | Trail Starter | Sun Apr 10<br>Trail Starter<br>Scott Creek<br>Russell O'Brien | Mother's Day   | Sun May 8<br>Trailstarter<br>TBA                                 | Sun Jun 12<br>Trailstarter<br>TBA                                       | Sun Jul 10<br>Trailstarter<br>Strathalbyn<br>Jerry Foster  | Sun Aug 14<br>Trailstarter<br>Middle Sea-to-Summit<br>Steven Salib Brown |
|                   | Trail Walker  | Sun Apr 10<br>Trailwalker<br>Lavender Trail<br>John Potter    |  | Sun May 8<br>Trailwalker<br>Lavender Trail<br>John Potter        | Sun Jun 12<br>Sea-to-Summit<br>SARRC                                    | Sun Jul 10<br>Trailwalker<br>Lavender Trail<br>John Potter | Sun Aug 14<br>Trailwalker<br>Kersbrook<br>Barry Brown                    |
|                   | End-to-End    |   |  |  | Fri Jun 10 to<br>Tues Jun 14<br>End-to-End 3                            |  |  |
| 3rd Week of month | Trail Starter | Sun Apr 17<br>Trailstarter<br>TBA<br>David Carter             | Sun May 15<br>Trailstarter<br>Mt George                            | Sun Jun 19<br>Trailstarter<br>Para Wirra<br>Arrienne Wynen       | Sun Jul 17<br>Trailstarter<br>Brownhill Creek<br>Graham Bald            | Sun Aug 21<br>Trailstarter<br>TBA                          |  |
|                   | Trail Walker  | Sun Apr 17<br>Trailwalker<br>Gandys Gully<br>Richard Milosh   | Sun May 15<br>Trailwalker<br>Aldgate<br>Gavin Campbell             | Sun Jun 19<br>Trailwalker<br>Lavender Trail<br>John Potter       | Sun Jul 17<br>Trailwalker<br>Mt Lofty<br>David Carter                   | Sun Aug 21<br>Trailwalker<br>Lavender Trail<br>John Potter |  |
|                   | End-to-End    | Sun Apr 17<br>End-to-End 6<br>Cape Jervis to Cobbler Hill     | Sun May 15<br>End-to-End 6   | Sun Jun 19<br>End-to-End 6                                       | Sun Jul 17<br>End-to-End 6  | Sun Aug 21<br>End-to-End 6                                 |  |
| 4th Week of month | Trail Starter | Easter  | Sun May 22<br>Trailstarter<br>Mt Lofty & Cleland<br>Arrienne Wynen | Sun Jun 26<br>Trailstarter<br>O'Halloran Hill<br>Gavin Campbell  | Sun Jul 24<br>Trailstarter<br>TBA<br>Chris Porter                       | Sun Aug 28<br>Trailstarter<br>Mylor<br>Graham Bald         |  |
|                   | Trail Walker  |   | Sun May 22<br>Trailwalker<br>Crafers<br>Richard Milosh             | Sun Jun 26<br>Trailwalker<br>Onkaparinga Gorge<br>Richard Milosh | Sun Jul 24<br>Trailwalker<br>Mt Misery<br>Richard Milosh                | Sun Aug 28<br>Trailwalker<br>TBA                           |  |
|                   | End-to-End    |   | Sun May 22<br>End-to-End 4   | Sun Jun 26<br>End-to-End 4                                       | Sun Jul 24<br>End-to-End 4  | Sun Aug 28<br>End-to-End 4                                 |  |
| 5th Week of month | Trail Starter |   | Sun May 29<br>Trailwalker<br>Oliphant CP<br>Michael Middleton      |  | Sun Jul 31<br>Trailstarter<br>TBA                                       | Key to Walk  |  |
|                   | Trail Walker  |   | Sun May 29<br>Trailwalker<br>Ashbourne<br>Dean Mortimer            |  | Sun Jul 31<br>Trailwalker<br>Pioneer Women's (reverse)<br>Mary Cartland |  |  |
|                   | End-to-End    |   |  |  | Sun Jul 31<br>End-to-End 5  |  |  |

Fri Aug 5 to Sun Aug 14  
End-to-End 3

For further information about each walk, walk grades, frequently asked questions or to print off (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).

# Heysen Trail

| September   |  | October   |   | November  |  |
|---|--|---|---|---|--|
| Father's Day  | Sun Sept 4<br>Trailstarter<br><b>Scott Creek</b><br>Steven Salib Brown | October Long Weekend  | Sun Oct 2<br>Trailstarter<br><b>Flower Walk</b><br>David Carter |   |  |
|   | Sun Sept 4<br>Trailwalker<br><b>TBA</b><br>Mary Cartland               |   | Sun Oct 2<br>Trailwalker<br><b>Para Wirra</b><br>Barry Brown    |   |  |
|   | Sun Sept 4<br>End-to-End 5   |   | Fri Sep 30-Mon Oct 3<br>Trip Away<br><b>Innes National Park</b> |   |  |
| Sun Sept 11<br>Trailstarter<br><b>Sturt Gorge</b><br>Ben Wait         | Sun Oct 9<br>Trailstarter<br><b>TBA</b><br>Michael Middleton           | Sun Nov 13<br>Trailstarter<br><b>TBA</b>                          |   | Sat Nov 12 to Sat Nov 19<br>Trip Away - Snowy Mountains |  |
| Sun Sept 11<br>Trailwalker<br><b>Lavender Trail</b><br>John Potter    | Sun Oct 9<br>Trailwalker<br><b>Lavender Trail</b><br>John Potter       | Sun Nov 13<br>Trailwalker<br><b>Lavender Trail</b><br>John Potter |   |   |  |
| Sun Sept 18<br>Trailstarter<br><b>Mt Lofty Circuit</b><br>Graham Bald | Sun Oct 16<br>Trailstarter<br><b>Chambers Gully</b><br>Ben Wait        | Sun Nov 20<br>Trailstarter<br><b>TBA</b>                          |   |   |  |
| Sun Sept 18<br>Trailwalker<br><b>Mt Crawford</b><br>Barry Brown       | Sun Oct 16<br>Trailwalker<br><b>Warren/Hale</b><br>Richard Milosh      | Sun Nov 20<br>Trailwalker<br><b>TBA</b>                           |   |   |  |
| Sun Sept 18<br>End-to-End 6   | Sun Oct 16<br>End-to-End 6   |   |   |   |  |
| Sun Sept 25<br>Trailstarter<br><b>TBA</b><br>Lyn Wood                 | Sun Oct 23<br>Trailstarter<br><b>TBA</b>                               |   |   |   |  |
| Sun Sept 25<br>Burra Anniversary                                      | Sun Oct 23<br>Trailwalker<br><b>Black Hill</b><br>Mary Cartland        |   |   |   |  |
| Sun Sept 25<br>End-to-End 4   | Sun Oct 23<br>End-to-End 4   |   |   |   |  |
| Sun Oct 30<br>Trailstarter<br><b>TBA</b>                              | Sun Oct 30<br>Trailwalker<br><b>Mt Gould</b><br>Steve Clift            |   |   |   |  |
| Sun Oct 30<br>End-to-End 5  |  |   |   |   |  |



## 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  
10 Feb 2011

**Programme**  
 Trailstarter walk  
 Trailwalker walk  
 End-to-End walk  
 Walk event  
 Grades and details for  
 published on the website

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.

## Recommended Clothing and Equipment

Walkers joining our groups need to be appropriately equipped. Prime consideration is your safety, comfort and weather protection. Your safety and the safety of the walking group can be jeopardised by those walkers wearing inappropriate footwear or clothing. Evacuation of a sick or injured walker from an inaccessible area can take many hours. A Walk Leader may decide not to accept people for a walk who are not appropriately dressed or prepared for the local conditions.

What to Wear for Trail Starter and Trail Rambler walks.

- Good walking shoes, or boots with grip soles. Not appropriate for bushwalking are: thongs; sandals; elastic sided boots; and smooth-soled shoes or sneakers.
- Socks suitable to the footwear worn.
- Wet weather gear. A three quarter length waterproof rain jacket is ideal (showerproof spray jackets and quilted parkas are not waterproof and may lead to hypothermia). In summer a poncho style waterproof may be sufficient.
- A warm jumper or jacket of wool or polyester. Cotton shirts and windcheaters provide little insulation when wet, and retain water which quickly cools.
- Shorts, or loose comfortable wool or synthetic pants (jeans are not recommended as they become cold when wet and dry slowly)
- Shade hat and sunscreen in sunny weather. Warm hat/beanie in cooler weather.

For Trail Walker and End-to-End walks, in addition to the above list, depending on walk location and the weather, please also consider

- Thermal underwear
- Waterproof over-trousers
- Gaiters.

What to Bring for Trail Starter and Trail Rambler walks.

- Personal medication requirements, Basic First Aid and Emergency Kit
- UV Sunblock
- Insect Repellent
- Torch
- Lunch and snacks (include some for emergency)
- Plastic bag for rubbish
- Water in secure container; minimum 1 litre, and two litre if temperature will be over 25°C (even more if temperature is forecast to be higher)
- Gear should be carried in a day pack. One with a supporting waist band is recommended.

For Trail Walker and End-to-End walks, in addition to the above list, please bring

- Whistle
- Wide elastic bandage and Triangular bandage with safety pins.

Twilight walks are of shorter duration and generally in more accessible areas. The above recommendations can be modified to suit the walk and weather conditions. The minimum requirements are to dress for the weather conditions and sun protection, wear comfortable walking shoes, a sun hat, sunscreen, and bring 1 litre of water. If unsure, please check with the Walk Leader.

*The clothing and gear outlined above are our recommendations. Note that the Walk Leader may not accept you for a walk if you are not suitably equipped for the local conditions. If unsure, always check with the walk leader.*

# Another Summer in Aotearoa



*Head of the Clarence Valley*

**Sometimes you just can't see the trees for the forest. It was day five of my walk through the Leatham Conservation Area in New Zealand's South Island and I had spent all afternoon trying to find a way across the Raglan Range. Looking at the map everything seemed straight forward.**

---

*Story & Photos by Alan Davis*

---

A little low point on the ridge line between peaks 1938 and 1965 would lead over then down into the headwaters of Lees Creek. But the approach from Branch River up to the pass was blocked by a line of bluffs and I just hadn't been able to find a route onto the tops. Late afternoon, walking back down the valley, I decided to give it one more go before camping out for the night.

Climbing to the top of a large scree slope,

I began sidling along a narrow ledge at the foot of the main range and this turned out to be, at long last, the right way. By 7 pm I clearly had the pass in sight, but of course it was far too late to cross over and get safely down the far side. However every cloud has a silver lining, just below was a little alpine wetland with several tarns and some raised snowgrass mounds, a perfect spot to camp. The gloomy skies that had hung around all day had cleared away leaving a lovely evening.

Finding new places to tramp in New Zealand each summer is never going to be a problem especially when you consider that more than 40 per cent of the South Island is made up of national parks, conservation areas and forestry regions. There is no shortage of information out there if you just want to tramp on tracks, but the locals are much more reticent about letting outsiders know about routes in the more remote areas where, by consensus, the best hiking is found. As a consequence you will find nothing about the Raglan Range and the

Leatham Conservation area in the usual tramping guides and it was only a quiet whisper from a Kiwi friend who raved about a trip up Lees Creek that had aroused my interest. Spectacular valleys are linked by high alpine passes, and one is able to camp out by little tarns and spend quiet nights in rarely visited mountain huts. Yes, without a doubt, this really is a special trip.

The only approach into the western region of Leatham is via a swing bridge over the Wairau River from the Rainbow Road ("road" is perhaps a generous term, it is a summer only four wheel drive track that has become popular with mountain bikers). From here a track heads up to Lees Creek Hut, but if you drop from the bridge down to the Wairau and follow the riverbank north for about an hour, you'll come to the junction with Hellfire Stream. With a mid afternoon start from 6 Mile Creek on the Rainbow Road, it was here I camped on my first night.

Next morning the assault began on the Hellfire and after a couple of hours I was conceding the stream is aptly named.

In normal flows this might be a straight forward route. But 48 hours before a huge weather front had moved across the South Island, and for once it was the Nelson/Marlborough region which had borne the brunt. Hellfire Stream follows a narrow, tightly confined valley and in places the banks climb almost vertically up into the thick forest. Walkers are forced to keep close to the riverbank for long stretches and to cross and recross the creek a number of times. Passage upstream became extremely difficult especially as the speed of the river flow made it almost impossible to judge the water's depth. Gradually the forest began to open out and finally after 6 hours I was at the tree line. When the head of the valley burst into view I knew instantly I was on a winner with this trip. As the Hellfire descends from its source high in the mountains, it drops as a waterfall and then passes through a gorge, so it became necessary to find a route up the western flank of the valley. Climbing to the 1700 metre contour line I sidled onto a long scree slope that sweeps around the head of the valley. Just below the Raglan ridgeline there is a beautiful little tarn (the source

of the Hellfire) and having spied this, I immediately decided to camp the night.

Next morning, climbing above the tarn onto the upper scree, a short sidle led to a steep rock gut and within an hour I was on a tiny col leading over the Raglan Range with an easy descent down into the headwaters of Misery Stream. The views are just superb. Across the valley, several tarns lie high up in the mountains, feeding little side streams that flow into the Misery. It's a long traverse below the range until you pick up Misery Stream just before the tree line. Crossing to the true left and following through the fairly open forest, after an hour or so I came to a large area of river flats and right in the middle of this is Top Misery Hut. Even though it had just gone noon there was no way I was going to miss the chance to spend the night here.

Anyone coming to New Zealand for the first time is amazed at the number of back country huts available to trampers (at last count DOC had about 960 on their books). In the early days many were built by tramping clubs and the popular

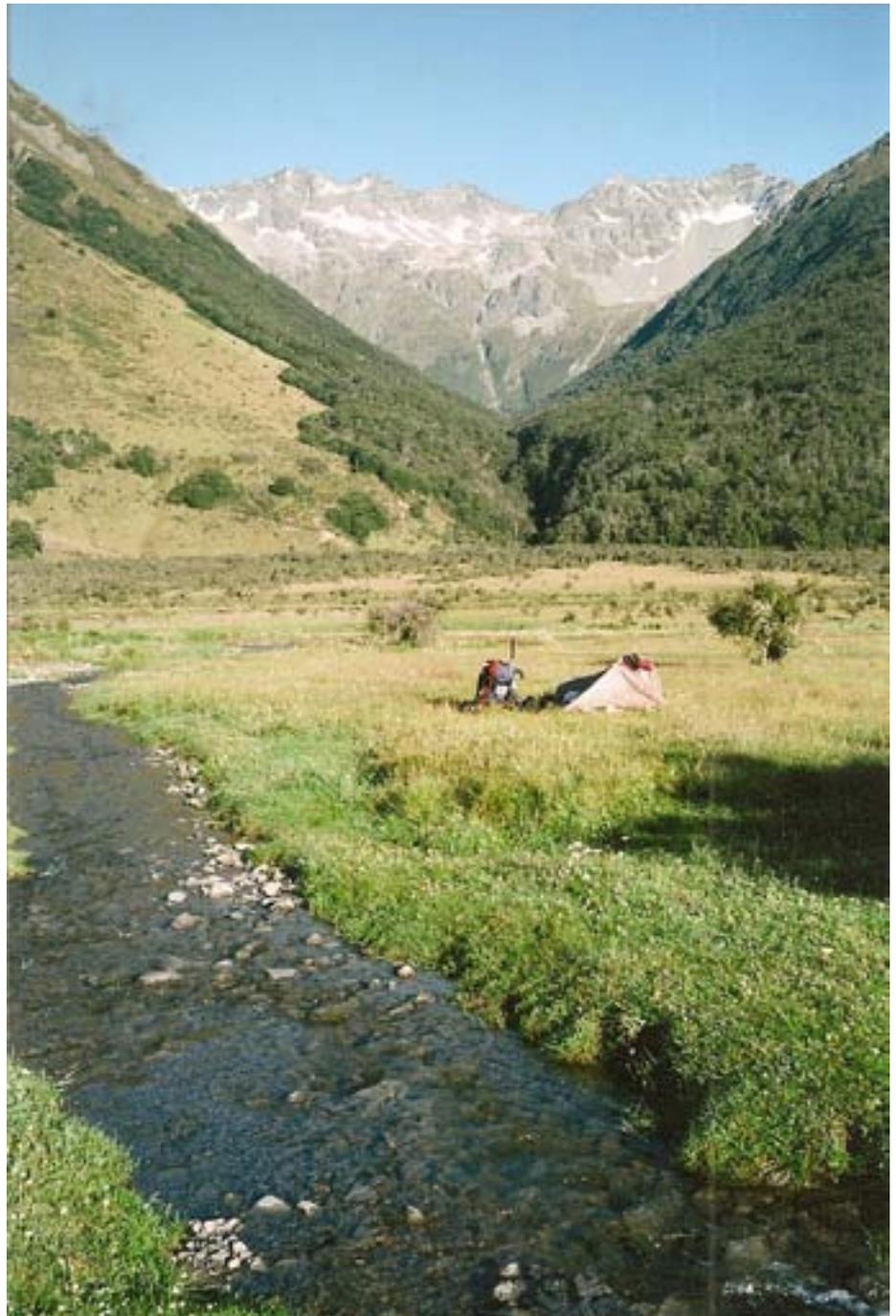


Alan Davis at St James Walkway

walks have always had them. But in the fifties through to the sixties there was a great flurry of activity initiated by the old Forestry Service who cut tracks up in what had previously been inaccessible valleys and then employed contractors to build huts. This was to encourage hunters into the high country to cull the vast herds of deer that were decimating the fragile alpine environment. These days most of the deer have gone along with the hunters, but the huts remain and they are instantly recognisable having been constructed to a standard design. Top Misery is a classic little four bunker, with a pot belly stove, rainwater tank and the usual firewood store under the verandah. I was the first "guest" in six weeks.

A few hundred metres below the hut a large orange permolat triangle indicates the beginning of a track. It crosses the river several times but for the most part follows on the true right. I don't know who named Misery Stream but they must have been having a bad day. It really is a delightful little valley, the forest is quite open and the track looks like it is being maintained. Following this next morning, after about three hours I reached the junction where the Misery flows into the Branch River. There is a track upstream from here, if you could call it that. In places it is more tree fall than track and sections close to the river have been washed away. But it CAN be followed and is infinitely better than trying to bash through the forest. Further up it drops down to cross some large river flats before petering out where the valley divides into left and right branches. Set back on the edge of the forest here is a tiny hut, Branch Bivy. This is as small as they come, about two metres square, a fold down bench serves as a table with one double bunk and open fireplace outside. (You'd want a mighty good sleeping bag up here in mid winter.) The hut book dates back to the old Forestry Service days (that is pre DOC) in 1986. In the time since, only two foreigners have passed through here, and they were both travelling with locals, so I was perhaps the first ever non Kiwi on a solo tramp to the upper Branch Valley. There were only nine entries in the book for 2010, (it was New Year's day so I didn't count mine as the tenth.) Not surprisingly, it was a quiet evening.

From the bivy it's necessary to climb high into the forest to bypass a gorge but after an hour of bush bashing, I decided to take my chances closer to the river.



*Campsite in the Waiau Valley*

And thus to the upper Branch Valley and my attempt to recross the Raglan Range.... but as indicated "all's well that ends well". And it's amazing when you've finally set up camp, taken the boots off and are lying back in the late afternoon sun, "well things weren't really that bad were they?"

Away next morning, in an hour I was finally on the pass. A long descent into the Lees then follows, down rock debris before traversing large scree leftwards to the valley floor. The head of the Lees Valley is just indescribably beautiful, sweeping around in a broad arc, a huge natural

amphitheatre. It beggars belief that only a handful of hikers at best make it up here each year, especially when you consider the same few tracks in New Zealand are flooded with thousands of walkers year in and year out.

The trip down the Lees is fairly straight forward. Just stay on the true right and stick close to the river, especially at the tree line. About half way to Lees Creek Hut, quite amazingly, the river completely disappears under a huge shingle bed and shortly after there is a section of boulder hopping. It was bouncing down through here at one stage that I landed heavily on my

left knee and this was to have ramifications for the rest of the trip. The hut itself is set back against the forest on a large river flat and as it was a warm afternoon, there were plenty of locals (sandflies) out to say hello. For the first time in six days I had company this evening, a family of three had hiked in to spend the night at the hut. Next morning it was a leisurely four hour stroll following a quite good track down the Lees, back to the swing bridge over the Wairau, then a further six km south along the Rainbow Road before heading into Connors Creek Hut. So my week in the Leatham was over and it was time to take stock and consider my options from here.

My original intention (a best case scenario) was to climb from the Connors over to Begley Creek, then after crossing into Nelson Lakes, heading south to Lewis Pass, sort of a high passes traverse. But I felt there was no way my knee could stand a second week in the mountains so in the end I decided on an alternative route that would stick more to valleys. Next morning I followed the road further south for a couple of km before turning westward into the Rainbow Valley. This is followed for a few hours upstream before a climb leads over, then down to a large area of river flats where the Begley and Paske Creeks flow into the Rainbow River. My direction from here was up the Paske and by mid afternoon I was crossing the river to Paske Hut. This is one of my favourite spots anywhere in the New Zealand back country; the head of the valley is simply stunning. It beats me why no one comes up here; I've stayed in the hut three times over the years and have never seen another soul.

Out of bed early next morning, I could hardly walk so a rest day was decided on. The decision was made easier because rain squalls were lashing the hut, and wind gusts which when I was game enough to go outside and measure them, were up to 100 kph. By evening the barometer was rising again and with the return of sunshine the following morning I felt obliged to move on, despite the protestations from my knee. Because I have crossed Paske Saddle before I know the route well. Follow the creek upstream for several km until a spur line pushes down through the forest to the riverbank. Climb here for an hour until the head of the valley comes into view and a further hour has you on the pass. (There's no track of course but it

would be hard to get lost.) The descent is steep and takes at least as long as the climb. It was mid afternoon before I finally made it down to the Clarence River and about 7 pm before I set up camp just above the head of Lake Tennyson.

From the lower end of the lake you can easily access an old stock track that leads over Maling Pass into the Waiau Valley. It was about 3 pm the following day before I crossed the river in here to link up with the Waiau Valley Track. For many years cattle and horses have grazed in the Waiau, which was part of St James Station, but in 2008 the Govt bought back the property for 40 million dollars and the land is now firmly under DOC control, although the Stevenson family still retain possession of their homestead at Ada Flats. Not surprisingly, the track gives the homestead a wide berth and I pitched my tent for the last time about 2 km south of this. After about an hour next morning the Waiau Track links up with the St James Walkway and this is followed all the way south to the Lewis Pass highway. In my comings and goings

over the years, I have now walked most of the St James. At 65 km it is New Zealand's longest walkway. (Please don't ask me the difference between a track and a walkway because I haven't a clue.) Whatever you want to call it, it is a lovely walk, the track is well marked, there are comfortable huts at regular intervals and the highest points, Ada Pass and Anne Saddle aren't going to make you dizzy.

Just before 6 pm I crossed a swing bridge over the Boyle River and wearily trudged up to Boyle Flat Hut. I couldn't think of a nicer place to spend my final night. The hut sits high above the river overlooking the valley. It is spacious with plenty of bunk space, a large living area and the mandatory combustion stove. There were four others here so it made for a chatty evening. The following morning it was the last few hours south to Boyle Village and out to the main highway. So after a fabulous 13 days the trip was over with the week in the Leatham alone worth the price of admission. This is highly recommended.



## ENCOUNTER BAY COSY BLUE STONE COTTAGE TO LET

**Ideal base for walking the Heysen Trail and also for walking the coast - easy walking from the house to Granite Island, The Bluff and Kings Beach**

**One street back from the beach, near Kent Reserve, the bicycle track and wind surfing location**

**The Cottage has 3 bedrooms,  
1 queen size bed, 1 double and two singles**

**Sleeps 5 comfortably and six using the trundle bed**

**The living area has an open fireplace**

**Sunny north facing verandah, a relaxing place to sit at the end of a long active day!!!**

**\$125 per night, up to 4 people, and \$25 pp extra to a max. of 6 people**

**Enquiries and booking to Prue Harris 0413408136**

# Easter at Warraweena

**25 km east of the historic Beltana Township, in the North Western Flinders Ranges, are the ruins of the Sliding Rock smelter and mine site, as well as the township of Cadnia, all within the Warraweena Private Conservation Park. It was here that 14 intrepid walkers spent Easter/Anzac weekend, using the old homestead as the base.**

*Story & Photos by Steve Clift*

There are ten peaks over the 1000 metres in height on the property, with Mt Hack at 1086 metres, being the tallest. Wildlife is common with over 90 species of birds being recorded here, while a number of colonies of yellow-footed rock wallabies are in the gorges near the homestead.

The homestead has been renovated over the past seven years, with the help of Operation Flinders, providing five bedrooms and more than adequate wet areas for our group. The kitchen is large but with only one fridge, the food for the team had to be managed carefully over five days. Car fridges and eskies helped us to cope.

A creaky floor meant that it was impossible to sneak around the homestead at night, the sound melding nicely with the gnawing sound of the mice, as a plague was currently raging. We had been pre-warned by our hosts Gina and Stoney, so food was all stored in sealed plastic containers. The only casualty was a box of Lindt chocolates

stored in one of the vehicles, with access through the motor compartment providing little security from the mice.

The view from the verandah of the homestead was over Sliding Rock Creek, up to a ragged ridge. This glowed in ochre red at sunset each evening, providing a magnificent back drop at the end of each day's walking.

The shearing shed and nearby machinery shed have all collapsed, with old trucks being a monument to the past, as all the stock was removed from the property in 1996.

A small group of eight took to the track on Friday, with a half day walk planned whilst waiting for the remainder of the group to arrive from Adelaide. The Cockatoo Hut track was taken for several kilometres, until a saddle was spotted on the northern ridge, providing easy access to the top. A magnificent view prevailed of the homestead to the east and Cadnia

ruins in the valley floor below. Walkers descended and explored the mine ruins.

The Sliding Rock copper mine and smelter was commenced in 1870, and named after the impressive rock face that dominates the scene, just to the north of the mine. Cadnia (the aboriginal name for "rock") township is adjacent to the mine, and had a sense of permanency, with significant stone ruins evident today, including the Sliding Rock Hotel.

In 1877 disaster struck as the mine was inundated with water and whilst attempts were made to pump it out, it was later abandoned.

The walkers "dined" in the creek under Sliding Rock, then walked along the creek back to the homestead to meet the recent arrivals.

Saturday saw a 4WD shuffle down the creek to the starting point, taking 6.4 km off the walk, which was expected to be in



*Disused stock sheds*



*Summit of Mt Hack 1086 metres*

excess of 20 km anyway. The plan was to hike up the creeks to Cockatoo Hut and then onto Mt Gill, at an impressive 914 metres. Unfortunately, finding the correct creek to walk up was difficult at times, so with the help of a GPS, two cross country detours were required to eventually arrive at the hut for a late lunch.

Mt Gill loomed above us, but due to time lost; there was some trepidation about completing the walk before sunset. Eventually, everyone made a move to tackle the peak, with 11 reaching the summit an hour later.

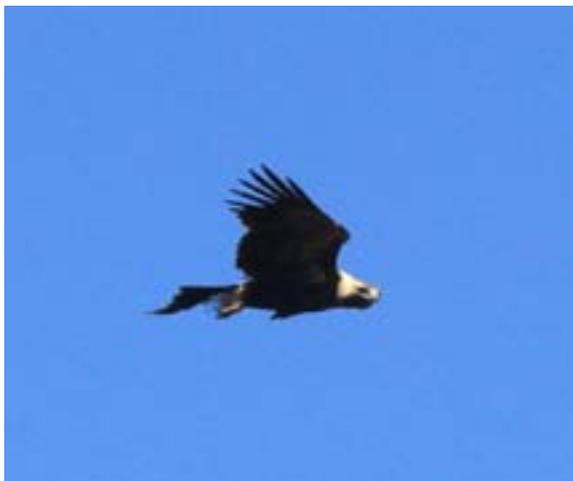
We were cheered by an audience on the peak, as a large number of people (having driven their 4WDs to the top) watched our final scramble up the loose stones. There were views south to Wilpena Pound, north to Warraweena Homestead, east to Patawarta Hill and west to Lake Torrens. A great vantage point.

Everyone then stretched it out back to the vehicles, which thankfully, reduced the return walk, with all of us back to the homestead about 30 minutes before sunset.

Sunday was the planned highlight, with an early start, driving 1 ½ hours over 20 km of rough tracks to the starting point at the base of Mt Hack. It took 2½ hours of pushing through scrub, Golden Orb spiders, up rock faces and scree slopes, to eventually reach the cairn at the peak. All 14 then enjoyed Easter eggs and lunch, with spectacular views of the ranges plus Lake Torrens in the west, Gammon Ranges to the north, and Lake Frome in the east. Four eagles were circling around and below us, keeping a close eye on our activities.

The GPS led us back down the same track to the vehicles, which included a third 4WD kindly lent to us by our hosts, so that we could all get to Mt Hack as one group. Bubbles and beer followed, before the slow return trip along the rough track.

The final day was a short walk, so that everyone could relax in the afternoon, enjoy "happy hour" and prepare for the drive home. We left the homestead and did a loop walk down Sliding Rock Creek and Manning Creek, looking for the



Wedge-tailed Eagle keeping a watchful eye

elusive yellow-footed rock wallaby, without success. It was a pleasant change to be walking through tea-tree lined creeks, with a gentle trickle running, compared to the rock climbing of the previous days.

Happy hour started earlier on this day, clearing the throats of our choir, with hundreds of renditions of songs from the thirties to the eighties around the camp fire, with the stayers singing until just before midnight.

Food was prepared on a rotation with a different theme each night. Pasta, stir-fry and of course the obligatory BBQ. Thanks to all our cooks for sharing the work and preparing the main courses, salads and desserts. Beverages were an evening highlight, with it being a "red wine drinker's heaven".

The weather was perfect and the property amazing. We covered 53 km of beautiful creek beds, ridges, peaks and scrub during the weekend and only just touched the surface of what is available. Photographers were spoiled with views, spiders, bearded dragons, bugs, plus tadpoles and frogs in the drying rock pools. Stoney said there were over 200 people camped on the property, but every group had plenty of their own space. If you are looking for a special place to stay, enjoy the Flinders Ranges and do not want to break the bank, then this is the place.

The only down side was a vehicle breakdown on the way home. Gee I am glad it didn't happen on the track near Mt Hack. All's well though, as we did arrive home safely after several hours delay.



## Flinders Ranges Passenger Service

Walk any northern section of the Heysen AND Mawson trails through the awesome Flinders Ranges:

- \* Melrose
- \* Quorn
- \* Wilpena/Flinders Nat. Park

For more info:

# 8552 4000

[www.genesistours.com.au](http://www.genesistours.com.au)

## Spanish Adventures

~ Spain ~

**Customised Self Guided**

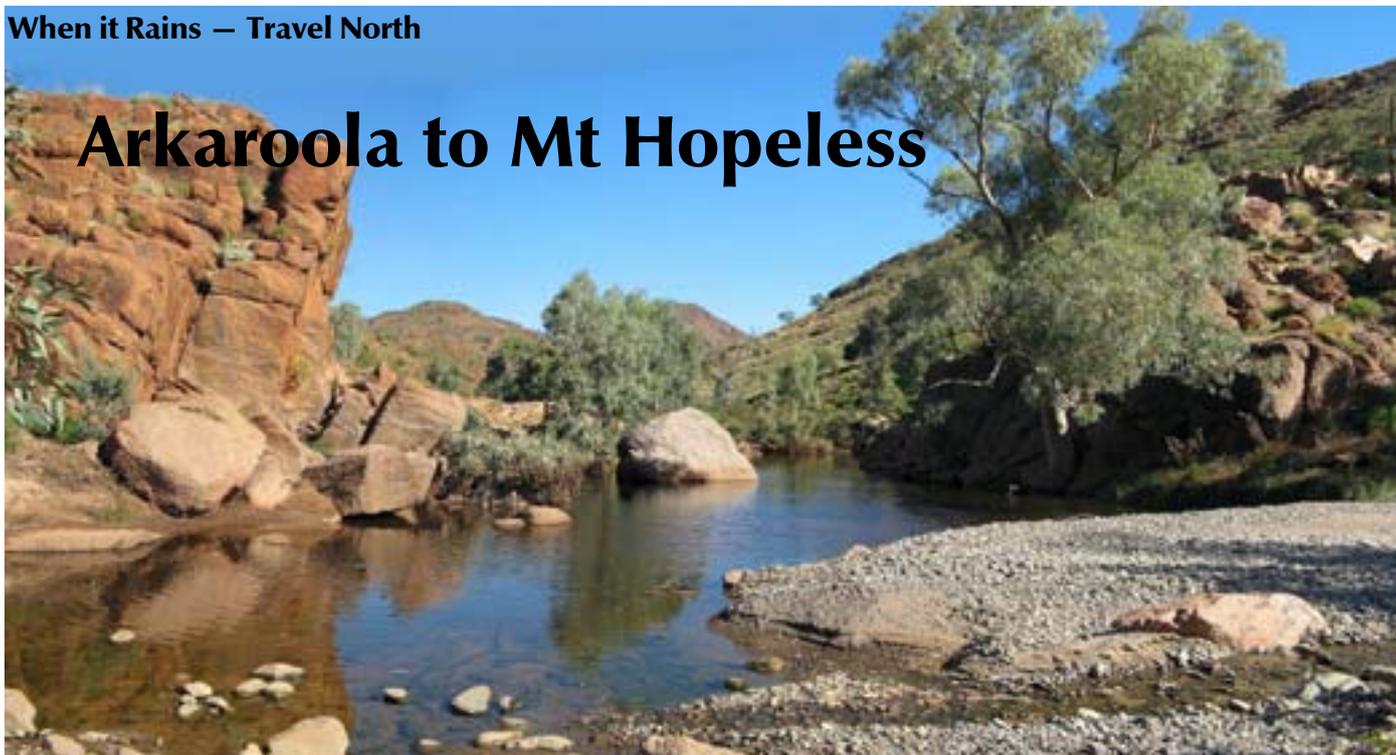
**Cycling or Walking**

- Caminos de Santiago
- Picos De Europa
- Galicia
- Basque Country
- Andalucía

[www.spanishadventures.com](http://www.spanishadventures.com)

Email: Aussie Garry in Santiago:  
[garry@spanishadventures.com](mailto:garry@spanishadventures.com)

# Arkaroola to Mt Hopeless



*A waterhole on Hamilton Creek*

**Rain can put a dampener on many walks but not those in the far north “beyond the Heysen”. A small cadre of Friends have been attempting to emulate the feat of our patron Warren Bonython, and follow the spine of the Flinders Ranges to Mt Hopeless. This has been planned in weekly stages, over the last three years and at first we didn’t realise the blessing bestowed by torrential rains.**

---

*Story by Simon Cameron & Photos by Jeremy Carter*

---

Last year on the day of the drive up, a cloud burst just below Arkaroola closing the roads including the highway to Leigh Creek. Left cooling our heels in Hawker we cursed the skies. In fact the sky provided the answer. The roads may take days to dry out, but once the sky clears it is a quick and safe route into the outback. A route that the locals use all the time.

Flying into Arkaroola from Rawnsley Park opened up an entirely new adventure, and an opportunity to see the country after the spate. The creeks were flowing, the water holes brimming, and the country wearing its first flush of green in 20 years. From dust to lush in the blink of amazed eyes,

and the realisation that in good years the far north offers a new range of walking experience.

This summer we watched the exceptional wet season unfold in the far north and centre of South Australia. This year’s expedition in the first week of April, from Arkaroola to Mt Hopeless, promised something special, and flying was always going to be part of it. However the rains teased us once again, with the station landing strips being damaged by flood. Like the search for Shangri-la we knew that it was green just over the horizon and all we needed was a lift. This time it came by the serendipitous opening of the Arkaroola scenic helicopter service

the week before our departure.

Making flexible plans is a part of any wilderness walk, so we were dropped off at Mt Hopeless, happy to walk south to Arkaroola over seven days, with high expectations of green, green grass leading us home. And what a boon that helicopter gave us, allowing a one way trek over the nearly 30 km gibber from Mt Hopeless to Terrapinna Springs. Our original plan required out and back, and despite being green, that plain is as barren and bleak as any I have trodden. I am happy to never see it again. Enough to know that Mt Hopeless is well named and I would not recommend it to anyone. Better to start or end the trek at Mt Babbage where

some of the early Heysen enthusiasts had hoped to end our trail. Taking the Heysen Trail to Mt Babbage is no longer on the agenda but it is a good destination for wilderness walkers.

At Terrapinna Springs the water climbed the gorge walls, and Hamilton creek gurgled beside us for two days, only to be replaced by Yudnamutna Gorge which out did itself with cascades and waterfalls.

Going “beyond Heysen” is a common urge among the Friends after finishing at Parachilna Gorge. At least three groups have made the effort to reach Mt Hopeless, but I can add that when the rains come the far north offers something truly special and by taking to the skies you can make it happen.

A link to the walk notes is available on the Friends’ website at:  
[www.heysentrail.asn.au/beyond\\_the\\_heysen/](http://www.heysentrail.asn.au/beyond_the_heysen/)



*Graham, Nick, Simon and Jeremy at the Mt Painter summit*



*Terrapinna Springs*

## TARALEE ORCHARDS



### Accommodation in the Wirrabara Forest, Southern Flinders Ranges

Adjacent to the Heysen Trail and close to the Mawson Trail  
 Self contained accommodation for up to 8 people

Paul & Denise Kretschmer  
 Phone: 08 8668 4343  
 Email: [info@taralee.com.au](mailto:info@taralee.com.au)  
 Web: [www.taralee.com.au](http://www.taralee.com.au)

# What's What?

A column with info on equipment and walking

## WILD WINDY WET WINTERLY WALKING

With the change in season to the winter walking months, it is time to consider preparing your outdoor gear for the coming wet and windy weather.

### Rainwear.

Does your Jacket or Over trousers feel wet on the inside?

Do you feel like the fabric isn't breathing properly.

Waterproof Breathable Rainwear has pores that let water vapour (perspiration) out but are small enough not to let rain back in. Dirt, grease & grim will block the pores and reduce the breathability of the garment. The Outer Fabrics of the rainwear usually have a DWR Coating which makes the water bead and helps move the moisture off the fabric. This DWR coating wears off over time making the fabric look and feel wet.

To correctly maintain these fabrics first wash the jackets in a cold water wash with a no fragrance mild washing detergent, something like Sport- Wash detergent is ideal. This will unblock the pores. While the garment is still wet, hang it on a coat hanger and spray with a DWR treatment like Revivex Spray. Allow the jacket or pants to almost completely dry and then tumble dry on a medium heat for 30 minutes to seal the coating onto the fabric. This will ensure the fabric will bead properly.

### Footwear

Walking Boots and Shoes will wear better and remain waterproof longer with a bit of preventative maintenance.

**Leather Walking Boots:** Consider cleaning leather with warm soapy water and a brush if really muddy, once dry apply shoe polish for colour and then applying a thick coating of waterproofing wax with a rag. Leave the boots in sun or warm room for the wax to impregnate the leather fully. We recommend SnoSeal or Nikwax.

**Goretex / Suede Walking Boots:** General Fabric and Suede Boots and shoes have the waterproof fabric on the middle or inside of the footwear, leaving the outside to get wet and muddy. Clean the same as leather boots, with warm soapy water and a brush, allow to dry, and apply a light Scotchguard or Silicon Spray to the outside of the footwear then allow to dry again. This protects the Suede and Nylon without significantly affecting the breathability.

**Note of Warning:** Do not dry any wet footwear next to a fire or open heat source as it can make the footwear shrink & soles peel off. Always dry away from the heat source, take the inner soles out and if possible stuff with newspaper.

### Walking Packs

There is no such thing as a completely waterproof pack. Access points like zips & flaps will eventually let water through if you are out in the elements all day. You will at some stage have to get your lunch out or access the pack in the rain and at that point water will find its way in.

You can increase the waterproofing of your pack by

- Buying a lightweight nylon pack cover
- Spraying your pack with Scotchguard / Silicon Spay
- Pack all your essentials into plastic bags or lightweight dry bags

If the weather looks really bleak doing all of the above will protect you belongings from getting wet.

Being prepared and doing a little preventative maintenance before going into the wild weather, will make the whole experience much more pleasant.

Happy Walking ~ Luke & David, from Paddy Pallin Adelaide



# Public Right of Way

*Submitted by Julian Monfries*

**Further to our plan to publish articles of interest from the very early issues of the Trailwalker, this article comes from Trailwalker No. 2 September 1986.**

This extract deals with the thorny issue of rights of way and public access and covers the history of right of way, how it evolved in Great Britain, and the situation in South Australia. The author is unknown and you will note the article finishes abruptly and is incomplete. The reason? Trailwalker No 2 is the only copy of Trailwalker, which is incomplete. We have all the odd numbered pages and none of the even numbered pages and the article ran over to page 4. If any member has a full copy of Trailwalker No 2 they would like to donate for our archives please feel free to do so.

## Public Right of Way

Right of way across private land in Great Britain is a matter of history. Over centuries of time, the public has had access to the use of certain tracks which interlace the country to permit intercourse between villages. In days gone by, such movement was by way of horseback and as a consequence these tracks became known as bridle paths. Eventually the tracks became roads as the motor vehicle replaced the horse.

Over the country at large however, many bridle paths remained which still traversed private property. As the population increased and usage of the tracks grew, owners of the land through which the tracks passed, started to object, particularly when the farming became

more intensive and abuse of the privilege to use the track occurred. As a result the landowners started to erect signs indicating that 'Trespassers would be prosecuted' and either locked the gates or installed fences across the tracks. Many of these closures were challenged or justified in the courts.

Although no Act prescribed the exact position regarding the set tracks, it was generally upheld that, because the public had used these tracks for a very long time, without challenge by the land-owner, then the track existed as a public right-of-way. In future years, to ensure the continuance of that right, it became necessary for the public to utilise the track on a regular basis. In fact, until the introduction of the 1949 Act, walking clubs regularly walked all the known tracks.

Likewise during the same period, landowners took to fencing off or locking gates and debarring the public to their land to establish their right of ownership. This was considered discharged if this action occurred for one day of the year. The law became so complex with Magistrational decisions that it became necessary in 1949 for the English Government to bring in legislation to clarify the whole position.

This was done by getting the County Authorities of England and Wales, following public consultation, to draw up maps

showing all the existing rights of way. Copies of these maps were then made available for public scrutiny. Once the objections were resolved and incorporated on the final map, then the rights of way became irrefutable.

This Act, known as the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949, clearly defines the right of a person to pass and repass freely on these rights of way. No-one may lawfully interfere with that right - not even the landowner. Nor may the landowner erect notices which might discourage or lead the public to believe that a right of way does not exist.

Such legislation is needed in South Australia, since it is common for landowners who lease public road reserves from the Local Authority, to erect "private property" or "trespassers prosecuted" notices and even lock the gates or erect fences of barbed wire across the reserves. They have no right to take this action because under the Local Government Act 1934, as amended, Section 375 clearly sets out the condition under which councils may let any public road. These conditions do not exclude the right of the public to travel along the road reserve. Furthermore there shall be prominently displayed on every fence erected across a road reserve which has been leased, a notice.....

# The Lavender Federation Trail Commences New Season

By Steve Clift

The new walking season bounced into action in April, with the first major outing for the year being the commencement of a series of walks covering the Lavender Federation Trail, reaching Truro in October.

A bus ride from the Monarto Oval got proceedings underway, with 54 walkers starting the trail from Murray Bridge. A cool day with threatening clouds greeted everyone, with showers prevalent throughout the morning, but then, what is a walking season without airing the wet weather gear?

Wet lands adjacent to the town provided a different vista, with pelicans and seagulls sheltering from the south westerly breeze

Morning tea was in a beautiful gully west of town, adjacent to the Adelaide/Melbourne railway with small native pines and rocky outcrops being more reminiscent of the Flinders Rangers, providing a magnificent surprise.

The trail was well defined and being relatively flat, was a great "leg stretcher" early in the season. Lunch was in the mallee scrub beside the railway again, the timing dictated by a break in showers; however, we were fortunate that the afternoon offered no further moisture. "Sounds of the bush" while dining, was provided by the local Moto x club.

Animal life was prevalent, including giraffe and antelope, plus a local hawk, which was waiting patiently for us to move on, so that he could finish his dinner. A sandy trail finished the 18.2 km walk, being more like preseason training in the sand dunes, as the local motorcycle fraternity had also enjoyed the same road reserve.

The end of the walk was followed by a gathering for afternoon tea, sheltered behind the buildings next to the oval. A special thanks to everyone who contributed biscuits and slices, capping off a great first day to the season.

After 6 months, the fellowship from the gathering at the end was fantastic, setting a precedent for future walks.

The Lavender Federation Trail is a great way for new walkers to experience a special part of South Australia, plus test their abilities for other walks, later in the season. It is not particularly demanding, but gives you the opportunity to mix with walkers of varying experiences and the chance to look at what the walking season ahead, has to offer.

The second walk is in early May, then Bondleigh Road to Fendlers Road on 19th June. Please book early for a great day's activity and fellowship.

This is going to be a special season for walking, due to the large amount of summer rain, so the environment will be very different and perhaps even unique to normal years. Thanks to John Potter and his team, for a great day.

## The Suunto Core Watch

Suunto is a leading designer and manufacturer of sports precision instruments for Bushwalking, Trekking, Skiing and Climbing.

Log walks by time, ascent and descent.

Altimeter with altitude log memory and altitude difference measurement

- ❖ Barometer with storm alarm and weather trend indicator
- ❖ Automatic Altimeter / Barometer switch
- ❖ Compass with digital bearing
- ❖ Depth meter
- ❖ Multiple watch, date and alarm functions
- ❖ Dual time and countdown timer
- ❖ Sunrise/Sunset times for over 400 locations worldwide
- ❖ Digital thermometer
- ❖ User-replaceable battery



228 Rundle St. Adelaide  
Ph: (08) 8232 3155  
Fax: (08) 8232 3156  
TOLL FREE: 1800 039 343

*Paddy Pollin*

**We offer 10% Discount to all Friends of the Heysen Trail Members.**

# Opening of the Walking Season

Reprinted from Walking SA News Winter 2011 Courtesy of Liz O'Shea

The sun shone and the band played at the official opening of the walking season - our annual event which this year took place at The Tea Tree Gully Memorial Oval, in conjunction with The Friends of the Heysen Trail, which was celebrating the 25th anniversary of its formation. In recognition of this occasion they had organised a special lunch for their guests at the nearby RSL hall, whilst outside walkers and members of the public enjoyed the music, gathered walk information or maps, viewed outdoor gear or just met up with colleagues.

"Come 'n' try" walks were well attended, with over 80 registering to participate. These walks were organised by The Friends and The St. Agnes Bushwalkers and, in addition, two historical walks were conducted by the Friends of Highercombe Museum.

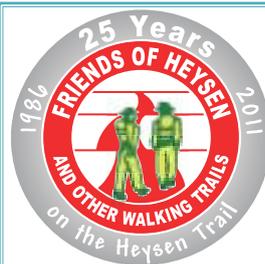
The official opening ceremony took place at 1 pm with a speech of welcome given by our President Ron Jackson, followed by Warren Bonython AO, Patron of The Friends, and Jamie Shephard, a former President of The Friends, who both spoke of the early days of their organization.

Minister for Sport Recreation and Racing, The Honourable Tom Kenyon, then spoke of the importance of outdoor recreation before the Mayor of Tea Tree Gully Council Miriam Smith officially opened the season, whilst calling on Warren Bonython to join her at the front of the dais - and, in so doing, acknowledging his part in the formation of the Heysen Trail - a gesture of camaraderie that was much appreciated by all present.

Thanks must go once again to the organizing committee and to all who participated on the day to make it such a success.



Friends' Booth at the Opening showing off the new banners



## *Innes National Park Long Weekend*

**At the foot of the Yorke Peninsula**

**3 nights from Friday 30<sup>th</sup> Sept to Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct**

**Limestone cliffs and pristine beaches.**

**Leaders Simon Cameron and Lyn Wood**

**Bunk House Accommodation, meals and park entrance.**

**Cost members \$120 , non-members \$150**

**Book online or via the Friends' office from 12th June.**

## In Case of Emergency "ICE"

We all carry our mobile phones with names and numbers stored in its memory. If we were to be involved in an accident or were taken ill, the people attending us would have our mobile but wouldn't know who to call.

Yes, there are sometimes dozens of names stored but which one is the contact person in case of an emergency?

Hence the "ICE" (In case of Emergency) Campaign.

The case of "ICE" is catching on quickly. It is a method of contact during emergency situations. As mobiles are carried by the majority of the population, all you need to do is store the number of a contact person or persons who should be contacted during an emergency under the name "ICE".

In an emergency situation, emergency service personnel and hospital staff would be able to quickly contact the right person by simply dialling the number you have stored as "ICE".

Jack Marcelis

## Discounts Available to Members

The following discounts are available to members. Your membership card must be shown to receive the discount, some exclusions apply.

### **Friends of the Heysen Trail**

10 Pitt St, Adelaide 8212 6299  
10% discount on all maps and books  
(excluding sale items)

### **Adelaide Hatters**

36 Adelaide Arcade, Adelaide 8224 0131  
10% discount

### **Annapurna Outdoor Shop**

210 Rundle St, Adelaide 8223 4633  
10% discount (excluding sale items)

### **Aussie Disposals**

42 Pulteney St, Adelaide 8224 0388  
Elizabeth City Centre 8287 3008  
Colonnades, Noarlunga 8326 3186  
327 Main North Rd, Enfield 8342 4844  
Up to 10% discount

### **Columbia Sportswear Company**

208 Rundle St, Adelaide 8232 0690  
10% discount off recommended retail price

### **Mitchell's Adventure**

Westfield Marion 8296 7700  
Westfield Tea Tree Plaza 8395 9555  
10% discount (excluding sale items and portable fridges)

### **Mountain Designs**

187 Rundle St, Adelaide 8232 1351  
10% discount (excluding sale items)

### **Paddy Pallin**

228 Rundle St, Adelaide 8232 3155  
10% discount (excluding sale items)

### **SA Camping World**

109 Jetty Road, Glenelg 8376 1330  
10% to 15% discount excluding sale items

### **Scout Outdoor Centre**

192 Rundle St, Adelaide 8223 5544  
10% discount on outdoor gear (excluding sale items)

### **Snowy's Outdoors**

92 Richmond Road, Keswick 8351 2111  
Up to 10% discount

### **Trims**

322 King William St, Adelaide 8212 5099  
Westfield Marion 8298 9777  
5% discount

### **Wattyl Paints Centres**

Refer to page 488 of the 2010/11 White Pages for your nearest outlet.

# Scout Outdoor Centre

192 Rundle Street Adelaide SA 5000

Phone **8223 5544** Fax **8223 5347**

Email [soc@scoutnet.net.au](mailto:soc@scoutnet.net.au)

Web [www.soc.com.au](http://www.soc.com.au)

Suppliers of equipment for

**Bushwalking, Daywalking, Trekking, Travel,  
Canoeing, Caving, Rock Climbing,  
Canyoning and Rope Access**



members receive  
**10% discount**

Excludes Sale Items,  
Canoes, GPS and EPIRB's

Stockists of the following leading brands



## ALPANA STATION — *Escape the crowds*

### **Buswalkers Transport Service**

David and Sally Henery of Alpana Station Blinman offer a friendly, flexible and accredited transport service for the **Wilpena, Blinman, Parachilna Gorge Heysen Trail-head** section of the Heysen trail for walkers (individuals or groups).

Based 5 km from Blinman in the Flinders Ranges, Alpana Station also offers:

- **Self-contained accommodation:** quality shearers quarters for up to 14 people and Nungawurtina Hut bush retreat for up to 6 people.
- **Powered sites** with ensuite bathroom facilities for caravans/campers.
- **Bush camping** areas.

### **Nungawurtina Hut & Trail**

An **easy 2 day walk** alternative for not-so-active walkers...

**Stay a night** or two in a new replica pine & pug shepherd's hut en-route from Alpana to the Blinman Pools and Angorichina Tourist Village to be picked up and returned to Alpana.

OR

**4WDdrive:-** Drive yourself or be transported to Nungawurtina Hut and experience a true Flinders retreat in a scenic and serene setting. Suitable for up to 6 people.

### **Contact Details:**

David and Sally Henery

Postal address: PO Box 11, Blinman SA 5730

Phone or fax: 08 8648 4626

Email: [alpana2@bigpond.com.au](mailto:alpana2@bigpond.com.au)

Website: [www.alpana-station.netfirms.com](http://www.alpana-station.netfirms.com)

**Bookings Essential**

# \$10\* fares! you'll love it

# Hurry!

For a limited time, get to Kangaroo Island for just \$10\* when taking your car and booking 2 nights accommodation with Sealink.



Nature trails  
Fishing  
Great accommodation  
Seal Bay  
Remarkable locals  
Tasty cheeses  
Marine Tours  
Seafood  
Local arts  
Honey  
Vivonne Bay  
Romantic sunsets  
Emu Bay  
Wildlife galore  
Cellar doors  
Remarkable Rocks

## Kangaroo Island

## Call 13 13 01



South Australia.  
A brilliant blend.

## SEALINK

Kangaroo Island

\* \$10 passenger fares apply when taking your car and booking 2 nights accommodation. Valid for new bookings, travel to be completed by 31st August 2011. Cancellation fees apply. Further conditions visit [sealink.com.au](http://sealink.com.au)