

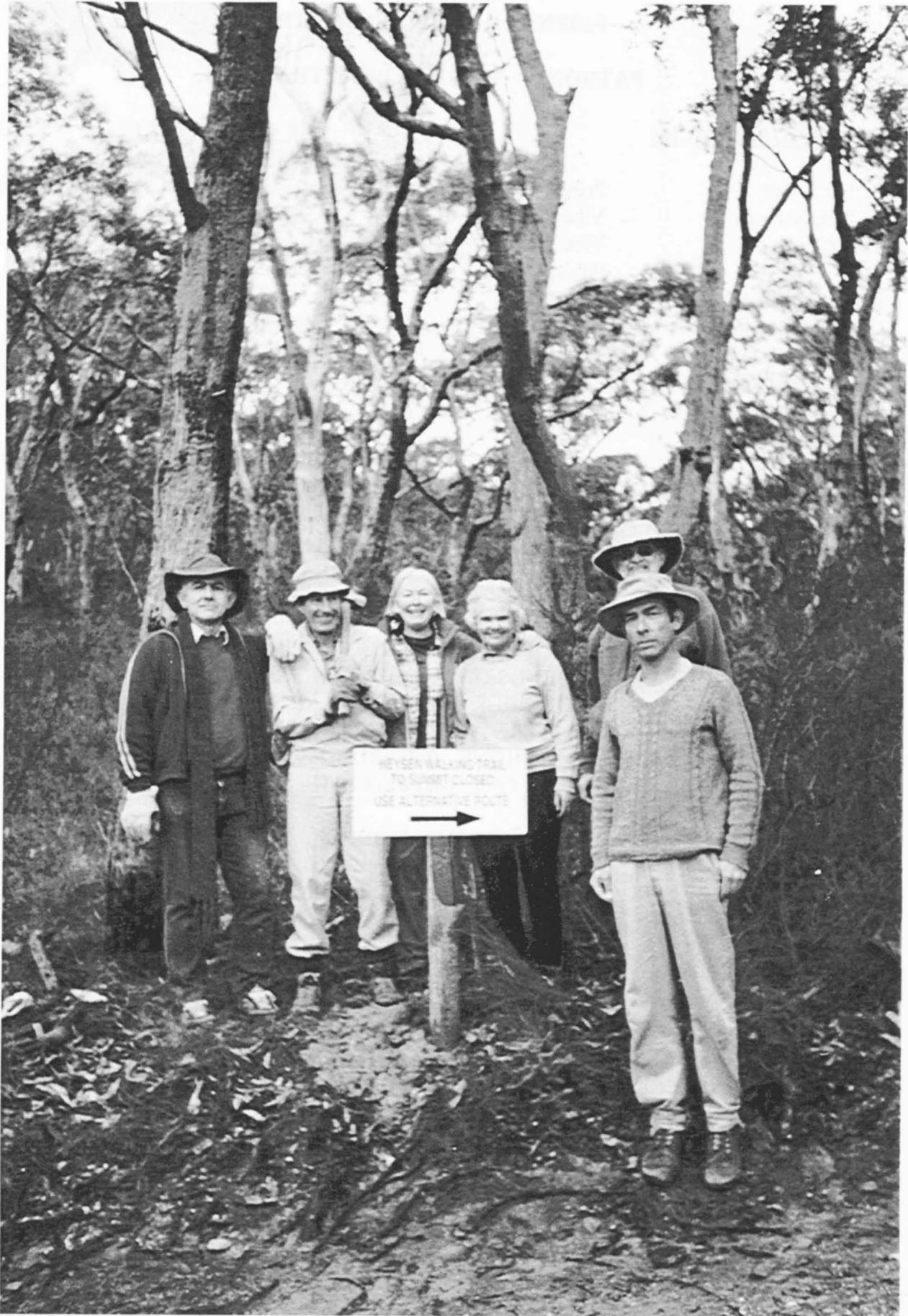
THE TRAILWALKER

ISSUE No. 61

NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF
THE HEYSEN TRAIL AND OTHER WALKING TRAILS INC.

OCTOBER 1996

PRINT POST APPROVED
PP565001/00079



W.E.A. Ramblers working on the trail near Mt. Lofty

The Trail Walker

FRIENDS OF THE HEYSEN TRAIL

PATRON : WARREN BONYTHON A.O.

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HONORARY MEMBERS

Terry Lavender
Jim Crinion
Neville Southgate
Doug Leane
Fred Brooks

SUB COMMITTEES

TRAIL MAINTENANCE

Listed in previous issue

TRAILWALKER

Richard Schmitz

WALKING

Sadie Leupold	Convener
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Marlene Edwards	
Ric Trutwin	
Mick Thomas	
Jon Selby	
Jill McPherson	

FRIENDS OF THE HEYSEN TRAIL
AND OTHER WALKING TRAILS INC
10 PITT STREET ADELAIDE, 5000
PHONE : (08) 8212 6299
FAX : (08) 8211 8041

OFFICE HOURS

Monday	10:00 - 2:30	John Coles / Geoff McNichol
Tuesday	10:00 - 2:30	Lyn Condon
Wednesday	9.30 - 3.00	Richard Schmitz
Thursday	9:30 - 3:00	Richard Schmitz / Arthur Smith
Friday	10:00 - 2:30	Ric Trutwin / Brad Howell /Kath Palyga

EDITORS COLUMN

In this issue check out our reports on maintenance (including reroutes) and walking. Also this issue we have a new Cleland and Waterfall Gully book plus news on the latest innovation at the Friends'. The GOLDEN BOOTS card will be available through the December issue of Trailwalker. Check this issue for further details.

Typist and Editor this issue: Richard Schmitz

The Trail Walker

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Hello again. I am finding it a little difficult to get back into the harness again, after eight and a half weeks touring the Kimberleys and the Northern Territory. There were many highlights, I guess two of the best were the Bungle Bungles (Purnululu National Park), and the Mitchell Falls on the Mitchell Plateau.

The longest walk we did was a two day walk up Piccaninny Gorge in the Bungles. Although relatively flat, it was hard going with a pack, due to sand, loose gravel and thirty five degree heat. We came to look forward to the water crossings.

One of the most noticeable things in Western Australia and the Northern Territory was the number of Rangers in Parks willing and able to offer tourists help, and looking after the excellent camping facilities. South Australia has got a long way to go in that regard.

Trail marking varies a great deal from good, to empty drink cans hanging on branches, to non existent. Part of the problem being that in many areas, everything has to be reinvented after each wet season. Things get washed away, creeks and rivers change course, and two metre high grass grows over the tracks and camp-sites.

Now, back to earth.

It was with regret that the Council had to accept the resignation of Peter Hill from his position as Vice President of the Friends'. Peters work has taken he and Pollyanne back to Western Australia. Peter made a large contribution to the Friends' activities over the many years as Section Leader on trail maintenance, walk leader, council member and Vice President. Pollyanne was also a very willing and able worker. Thanks Peter and Pollyanne, you will be sadly missed, We wish you well, and hope to see you on a return visit.

We were grateful that Liz O'Shea stepped in to fill the vacant position as Vice President.

Another Council vacancy has arisen following the resignation of Helen Amor, due to the pressure of work commitments. Thanks Helen for your contribution.

I am sure there must be many members out there who are more than able to fill the vacancies on Council, and lighten the load on existing members. Please contact the office or myself if you think you can help, or know of somebody you feel may be willing to be co-opted onto Council.

We are also in need of somebody to fill the position of voluntary secretary.

At present that role is being carried out by John Wilson, Ingrid Lingstadt and Richard Schmitz, but that is only a short term solution.

If that position can not be filled on a voluntary basis, we may be forced to revert to paying somebody, part time to fill the position, with the subsequent excessive drain on our finances.

The future arrangements for maintenance of our walking trails are still uncertain. and therefore the future of our walking trails is still uncertain. This is a cause for great concern. One thing that is certain is that our walking trails need Friends' like they have never needed them before. In Government circles the last two years or so seem to have provided nothing but reviews, enquires and little perceivable progress.

We will keep you posted.

Arthur Smith
President

MAINTENANCE MATTERS

As advertised in the previous Trailwalker, the information meeting organised by the Office of Recreation Sport and Racing took place on 22 August, 1996. Four employees of the office - Lyn Parnell, Geof Pearce, Bronte Leake and Adam Best - spoke at some length on the proposed future structure of O.R.S.R, including information about the recent Management Review; the Risk Management Plan; Funding and the Interim Operations Plan.

The meeting concluded with a short address from Peter Beer representing the Federation of S.A. Walking Clubs. After a short break there was an opportunity for questions to be asked.

The main points gleaned during these discussions included ;

- 1/. Confirmation that O.R.S.R. will in future liaise only with the Federation, as their nominated 'peak body' representing walkers in this state.
- 2/. That in line with a recommendation from their recent review, O.R.S.R. will cease direct involvement in trail maintenance, and that this aspect of their work will be outsourced to volunteer groups or to contractors (unspecified).
- 3/. That the Federation as a volunteer group, could apply for a seeding grant to (perhaps) employ a Co-Ordinator, to manage the maintenance work and to liaise with O.R.S.R.
- 4/. The overall budget and work priorities for individual sections of the trails will remain with O.R.S.R, as will matters of insurance, purchase of materials and tools.
- 5/. The workshop at Kidman Park will close. Negotiations with Parks and Wildlife for use of one of their workshops is being pursued.
- 6/. That promotion of the Heysen Trail is seen as an important issue, with an expected link up with the S.A. Tourism Commission, to develop a marketing strategy.
- 7/. That as an interim measure the present arrangements for trail maintenance are to continue - via the Friends Of The Heysen Trail.

Prior to this meeting, representatives from the Friends' and the Federation met on two occasions in an effort to share information and ideas, and to formulate plans. It is expected that this liaison will continue, and, with input from other interested groups, it is hoped that a workable plan will be instigated to ensure the continued maintenance of all our walking trails.

MAINTENANCE SECTION LEADERS MEETING

This bi-monthly meeting - the most recent being on 10 September - is attended by Section Leaders and by at least one employee of the O.R.S.R, and provides a forum for information exchange and for liaison and planning for necessary work on the trails. At the present time, with so many disruptive changes occurring in Government Departments, it is even more important that this essential maintenance work continues, but it does require input from all walkers. The section leaders and their helpers can not always be out there on the trails but are happy to act on any information given to them. So please, if any member notices that markers have disappeared or that the trail has become hazardous and unsafe, send a note to the office in Pitt Street and it will be relayed to the appropriate person.

The next Section Leaders meeting is on Tuesday, November 11, 1996

Liz O'Shea

The Trail Walker

WORKING THE TRAILS

MOUNT LOFTY

A work bee was recently carried out on this section of the Heysen Trail which had been virtually obliterated by the construction work occurring at the summit. In liaison with O.R.S.R. and with Ranger Bob Gouch of Cleland Conservation Park, eight members of the W.E.A. Ramblers marked a detour between Carminow House on Summit Road and the Mount Lofty Youth Hostel. This involves a short walk along Summit Road, but it has a very wide verge and provides safe approach as far as Owens Road for entry into Cleland. The alternative trail from Piccadilly to the Youth Hostel via the Mount Lofty Botanical Gardens has not been affected. (Map 1)

MYPONGA

Further work was carried out by the Ramblers on a section of the Heysen Trail near Munns Road Myponga. (Map 3). A cable on the bridge crossing the creek had broken and it was therefore unsafe to use. In liaison with O.R.S.R. a very short detour was marked, with walkers now crossing the creek via a culvert just further south of the bridge.

Liz O'Shea

WANTED Section Leader for Mount Lofty Walking Trails. Contact the office.

HONORARY MEMBERS

WHO ARE THEY?

The Friends' currently have five honorary members. They are;

Terry Lavender.

Terry was made an honorary member in recognition of his considerable involvement with the Heysen Trail and with the Friends'.

Jim Crinion.

Jim has been a member of the Friends' since its inception in 1986. He was the inaugural President and had contributed long and dedicated service to the Friends', particularly as the Co-Ordinator for many years of the Greening Committee.

Neville Southgate

Neville was a foundation member of the Friends' and has spent two terms as President, one term as Vice President and three terms on Council. He is also a section leader and has spent many hours promoting the Friends' and the Heysen Trail.

Doug Leane and Fred Brooks

These two gentlemen don't need an introduction as their names are well known in the maintenance circles of the Friends'. They have both given exceptional service to the Friends' in the way of Trail Maintenance. They were both foundation members of the Friends' and Fred was nominated on behalf of the Friends for the honour of Volunteer of the Year in 1991.

Ed. Remember we maintain it so you can use it. If you see a problem on the Heysen Trail let us know so that the problem can be remedied.

The Trail Walker

WALKING THE TRAILS

WALKING REPORT

We have recently had a most interesting Walk Leaders meeting. Leaders have found these meetings quite helpful as they are able to all get together and discuss any problems which have occurred. We hope the results will iron out any grey areas and make your walking more enjoyable. More leaders are needed for the 1997 programme. If you have an area where you would like to lead a walk please inform the office and a current walk leader will do a recce with you and be there as a back-up on the day of the walk.

Next year the Trailstarter walks will be more carefully vetted as we are keen to get new people interested in bushwalking. We feel easier areas closer to Adelaide may be more appropriate. In future committee members will vet all of these walks to ensure the person who does not have walking boots will be able to do their first walk in an area where they could adequately cope in sneakers. In some cases an option may be offered when there are two leaders.

Mick Thomas led a most successful Trailblazer Backpacking Weekend in the Mambray Creek area in August. Mick has already planned next years Trailblazers. Unfortunately the beginners Trailblazer will not go ahead in Cape Jervis due to a lack of numbers, but next year the beginners weekend will be held prior to the weekend for experienced backpackers as we feel this may ensure greater follow through.

Next year we are introducing a system where one may purchase a "GOLDEN BOOTS" card. For a payment of \$20.00 this will cover the cost of all Trailstarter, Trailwalker and Summer Walks. Trailrambler walks will also be included if there is no bus fare involved. Persons who want to do a one off walk may still purchase a card at the \$3.00 rate for members and \$4.00 for non members, but we are encouraging the purchase of the annual card which will last for one calendar year. The card is only valid if your Heysen membership is current. (Please note: walkers are not covered by insurance if your membership is not current).

We are very aware of the safety standards in walking as well as environmental impact and a general tightening up has been requested by leaders to avoid a possibility of problems occurring with walkers or landowners.

Spring has finally arrived with its beautiful walking weather and appearance of wildflowers. I have recently come back from a trip to Wilpena Pound and Quorn, and must say now is the time to take a trip to the Flinders Ranges, as it is very refreshingly green with masses of golden wattle and water in many of the creeks. If you have the chance experience it before it dries out.

Enjoy your spring walking before the weather becomes too warm.
Hope to catch up with many of you soon.

Sadie Leupold

The Trail Walker

WALKING PROGRAMME 1996

TRAILSTARTER WALKS

Sunday

October 13	Bradley Howell	Belair National Park
November 10	Bradley Howell	Cox's Scrub
December 8	Jennifer Dow	Afternoon Walk

TRAILWALKER WALKS

Sunday

October 27	Mick Thomas & Axel Lingstadt	Talisker
October 27	Jill McPherson	Reedy Creek
November 24	Jamie Shephard	Morialta
November 24	Colin Edwards	Barossa Gold Fields

GOLDEN BOOTS WALKING CARD

In 1997 the Friends' will introduce a new and more economical method of paying for day walks. The "GOLDEN BOOTS" card will be available in December 1996 and will cost \$20.00 per person. This card will entitle the holder to attend all Trailstarter, Trailwalker and Summer walks. If members do not wish to purchase a Golden Boots card, they can still attend all the day walks at the usual price of \$3.00 per member, and \$4.00 per non member. We are encouraging the purchase of this card to cut the work load on walk leaders.

GOLDEN BOOTS CARD

*SAVE UP TO \$110.00 PER YEAR**

COST PER PERSON \$20.00

AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE IN THE

DECEMBER ISSUE OF TRAILWALKER

*Savings based on two people attending 25 walks per year, at \$3.00 per person per walk, at a total cost of \$150.00. By purchasing this card the card holder agrees to abide by all conditions listed below.

CONDITIONS OF USE

- 1/. The card is only valid for financial members of the Friends'.
- 2/. The card is only valid for the year specified on the card.
- 3/. The card entitles the holder to attend all day walks free of charge.
- 4/. All extended walks and special walks will still be charged for at applicable prices.
- 5/. Each person intending to walk must have their own card.
- 6/. Cards are not transferable.
- 7/. Replacement cards can be purchased for \$5.00 each if lost.
- 8/. Extra items such as bus transport and food will be charged at applicable prices.

The Trail Walker

CASTLE ROCK WALK

My first walk with the Friends' was ably led by Mark Darter, encircling Kersbrook and passing through the native scrub of the small, but interesting Roachdale nature trail, a property given to the National Trust in 1957 by Miss Hilda Roach. The park is well worth a return visit to take in the wide variety of our wonderful flora and bird life. Continuing past the beautiful dairy and horse breeding farms we headed up the ridges to the Heysen Trail which passed through part of Mount Crawford pine forest and woodland. Spectacular views were seen from the peak of Mount Gould towards the Barossa, back across Kersbrook and the delightful town of Gumeracha and the nearby beginnings of the River Torrens.

But for me, and more importantly, this was my opportunity to meet other *Friends'*

So when a flat battery prevented me from joining Ian Robertsons walk to the Hale and Warren Conservation park a few weeks later, I was very disappointed. And when I heard how much others had enjoyed it I was doubly disappointed.

I had met Ric Trutwin and Bradley Howell briefly and looked forward to their Castle Rock walk. After days of rain, the group were treated to a very pleasant day and we warmed up quickly from our steep climb from the Waterfall Gully car park to the top of the falls and beyond to Castle Rock look out, looking back down the gully to the Adelaide plains spreading across to the beaches, the Saint Vincent Gulf and the power station on Torrens Island. While Ric was careful to advise that the paths were in poor condition due to the heavy rain, the washed out tree roots made easy steps. It was a real treat to see a Koala wedged in the fork of a tree right beside the path and at eye level. Blue fairy orchids (*Caladenia deformis*) grew beside the paths and a sharp eye would spot a variety of the Greenhood orchid. The wattles looked splendid interspersed with pink, red, purple and white heath, showing off their blooms to brighten any winter day.

This walk covered an extensive part of the Cleland Conservation Park, also passing by the ruins of Keirs' House. {Ed. see our ad for the nature of cleland for more information on this area}

The unexplained happened when we lost tail-end-Charlie. And wasn't it quiet? We were surprised to catch up to tail-end-'Bradley' and his companions who somehow managed to get ahead of the main group. Luckily we had Mark Darter to act as a stand-in!

Our 21 km walk was rewarded with the best scones in town, hot from the oven, served with whipped cream and strawberry jam, and freshly percolated coffee, at the Waterfall Gully Restaurant. Thanks David and Marilyn, the apple pie was delicious also.

Wendy Hudson

The Trail Walker

CASTLE ROCK SUNDAY 25/8/96

The day was perfect for a 20km walk from Waterfall Gully fine and mild with a light breeze. Twenty five of us set off at 8:30, with Ric as leader to climb the Castle Rock track which proved to be a 'jumper off after five minutes' steepness. Those of us negotiating our way up the rocky terrain, with eyes glued to the ground, missed seeing a Koala in a tree at arms distance from the track. It therefore doesn't always pay to look where you are going!

We made our way along the boundary of Cleland Wildlife Park where a turquoise emu's egg was noted near the fence line. Although they were not very visible, we could hear the birds enjoying the sunshine as much as we were. Lunch was along the Wine Shanty Track (I think) and was a welcome rest after the mornings hills. Ric was telling the truth in that the hardest part of the walk was early in the day.

An hour or so after lunch our tail-end-Charlie either mutinied or went walkabout with a few fellow rebels and managed to end up in front of the leader further down the track. 'Is this a Heysen first?' the cry was heard, 'The tail-marker ending up in front of the leader?' (It is the writers prerogative to ignore any other theories circulating of the groups split at this point in the walk!)

The homeward stretch of the walk was down Chinamans Hut track and the pace quickened in anticipation of the thought of Devonshire tea. And what magnificent hot and crusty scones they were.

Thanks Ric, on behalf of us all, for a great walk. My version of it would not be complete without mentioning the touch of glamour brought by Phyl Powell, who looked most majestic in her newly acquired tiara sun visor, with its 'pearls' sparkling in the sunlight!

Jane Davis



IS THAT REALLY YOU MUM?!!!!

The Trail Walker

WHATS' NEW?

THE NATURE OF CLELAND

2nd Edition By Anne Hardy *AN IDEAL CHRISTMAS PRESENT*

The Nature Of Cleland is a 96 page book filled with colour and black and white photos. The book is divided into three sections outlining historical, physical and biological features of the area. One of the maps in the book show the historic locations, ruins and features of interest in and near the park. Another of the maps show the distribution of vegetation in the park. The biological section shows the different plant communities and the animals which live there. The book uses many photos to show the animal life in the park.

THE NATURE OF CLELAND

ORIGINAL R.R.P \$19.95

NEW R.R.P \$4.95

MEMBERS \$4.50

MAIL ORDER ADD \$2.70 PER BOOK

This book is an excellent reference guide when used in conjunction with the
MOUNT LOFTY SPECIAL MAP

R.R.P \$5.95

MEMBERS \$5.40

MAIL ORDER ADD \$1.00 FOR UP TO 3 MAPS

"SPECIAL OFFER"

**ORDER THE NATURE OF CLELAND BOOK AND
THE MOUNT LOFTY SPECIAL MAP
AND PAY A TOTAL OF \$13.00
PRICE INCLUDES POSTAGE
AND RECEIVE A FREE
FRIENDS OF THE HEYSEN TRAIL
BUMPER STICKER**

SPECIAL OFFER ENDS 19/12/96

PAYMENT CAN BE MADE BY Cash / Cheque / Money Order / Visa / Bankcard / Mastercard

WHAT'S NEW (CONTINUED)

MOUNT LOFTY WALKING TRAILS

R.R.P \$4.20

MEMBERS PRICE \$3.80

MAIL ORDER ADD \$0.70 FOR UP TO 3 MAPS

This is the most recent addition to the Mount Lofty Network Trails map set. This map continues South from where the other maps in the set finish. For orders ask for new Network map.

MINIMUM IMPACT CODE FOR WILDERNESS USE IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Rubbish - carry it in, carry it out

- * Plan to reduce rubbish. Avoid packing too many bottles, cans and wrappings.
- * Don't bury rubbish. It disturbs the soil and is likely to be dug up by animals and scattered by birds and the wind.
- * If fires are permitted, you may burn combustible material, but carry out the rest.
- * If you come across other peoples rubbish, you'll do the wilderness a big favour by carrying that out too.

Washing and hygiene

- * Washing should be done in container collected water.
- * Wash 50m away from rivers, creeks, springs, lakes and other waters. Detergents, toothpaste and soap pollute and harm fish and other water life.
- * Only swim where permitted.
- * Bury all faecal waste and paper. Choose a spot at least 100m from camp-sites and watercourses. If fires are permitted, use extreme care and burn rather than bury paper.

Where there is no walking track or trail

- * Avoid sensitive vegetation as it is easily destroyed by trampling.
- * Follow an animal track.

{Ed. reprinted from Landcruising Australia Wide}

SAFETY FIRST

Are you worried about the safety and protection of your car while you are away walking?
BUMPER 2 BUMPER CAR PARKING is located in Cape Jervis and has parking available in a supervised secure lock-up building with lifts available to the Kangaroo Island Ferry or to the end of your walk. Phone 0140 90852 (all hours) for further details.

The Trail Walker

MEMBERS MONEY MATTERS

As many of you are aware December is the time to renew your membership with the Friends'. The time is fast approaching and for those who wish to renew their membership now your money will be greatly appreciated.

When renewing you will receive your new look membership card. This card entitles you and your family to a 10% discount on maps and books in the Friends' office and a 10% discount on outdoor clothing and outdoor gear at the Scout Outdoor Centre.

The Friends' would like to thank the Scout Outdoor Centre for having the new membership cards printed for us, and paying for the entire amount.

SCOUT OUTDOOR CENTRE PROUDLY SUPPORTING FRIENDS OF THE HEYSEN TRAIL

When sending in your renewal form you can also purchase your 1997 Golden Boots card. A combined membership and golden boots card form will be inserted in the December issue of Trailwalker. If you do not receive a membership form in the December issue, this means that you are currently financial with the Friends'. If this is the case you can still order your Golden Boots card by sending in your name and address details with the appropriate payment.

When sending in your renewal for 1997 please include a self addressed, stamped envelope to cut down on the workload of the Membership Secretary. The 45 cent stamp is optional but it will help keep our costs down.

Membership Renewal Rates for 1997 are

Single	\$15.00	Family	\$24.00	School	\$25.00	Organisation	\$30.00
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New Members Rates for 1997 are

Single	\$20.00	Family	\$29.00	School	\$30.00	Organisation	\$35.00
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{Ed. new members rates include a one off \$5.00 joining fee}

Please ring the office if you would like a membership form sent out to you.

Richard Schmitz
Membership Secretary

TRAILWALKER DEADLINE

All material for the December issue of Trailwalker must be into the Friends' office no later than 19 November 1996. We are always looking for articles.