

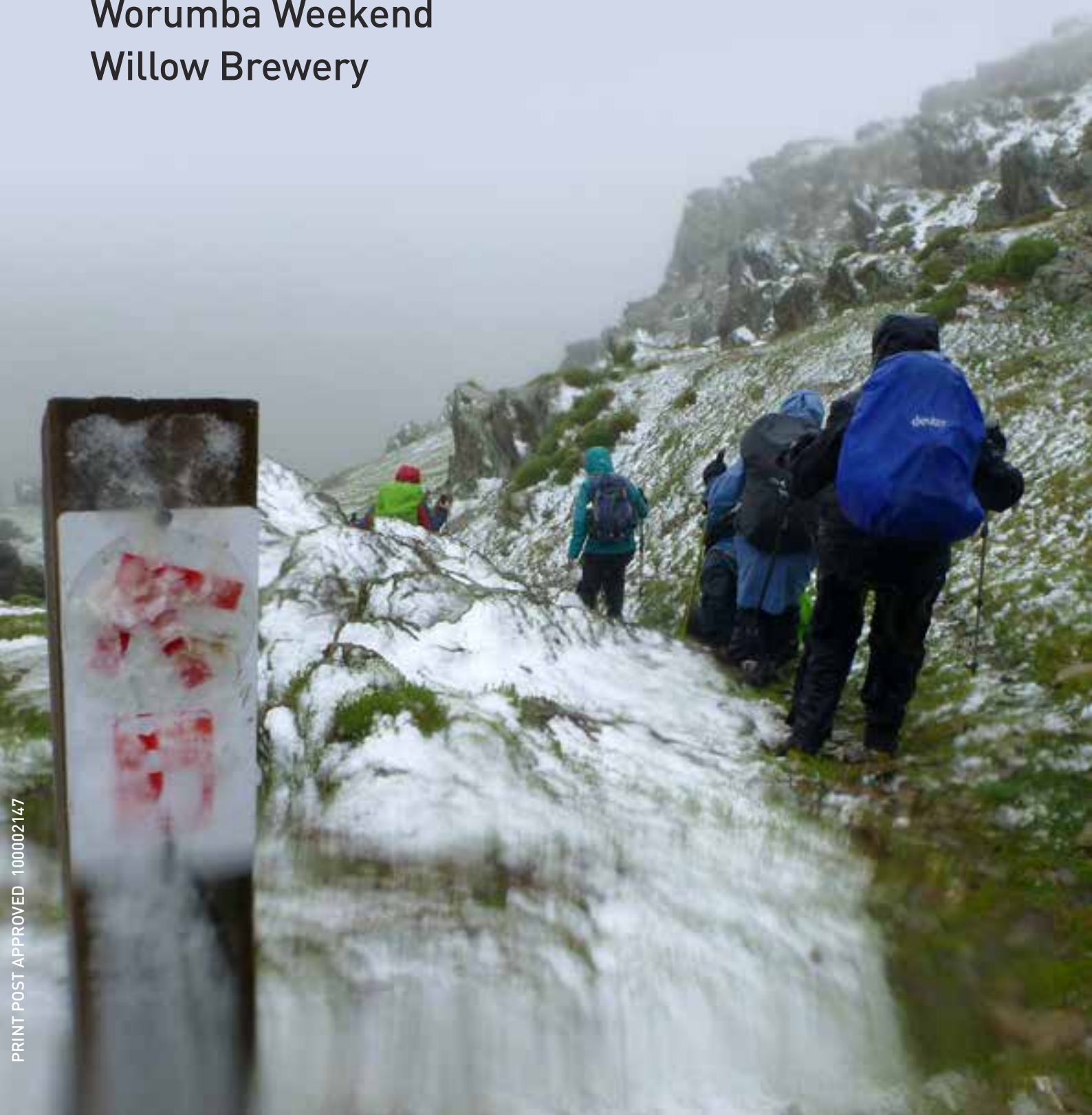


Trailwalker

Spring 2014 Issue 133

Free

Luke's Kokoda Experience
Alan and Neil's NZ Tramp
Worumba Weekend
Willow Brewery





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Contents



Published by the
Friends of the Heysen
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Membership Information

Joining Fee \$10

Single \$25 per year

Family \$40 per year

Schools & Organisations \$60 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.heyseentrail.asn.au/trailwalker

The Trailwalker magazine is published quarterly:

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

The Trailwalker magazine has a distribution of 1050, 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@heyseentrail.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 \$60 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 – 4 issues, would attract 10% saving

Advertising specifications and article submission guidelines are available upon request or by visiting www.heyseentrail.asn.au/trailwalker

Magazine of the Friends of the Heysen Trail

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The Friends of
the Heysen Trail
& Other Walking
Trails

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Neil Nosworthy
Ramya Ramamoorthy
Elizabeth Rogers

Tuesdays

Chris Caspar
Jack Marcelis
Chris Porter
David Rattray
David Roberts

Wednesdays

Myra Betschild
Robin Bodycomb
Gilbert Downs
Wendy Fox

Thursdays

Eve Buckley
Bob Gentle
Julian Monfries

Fridays

Karin Agostino
Cathy Bowditch
Colin Edwards
Dom Henschke
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Relief Staff

Myra Betschild
Graham Loveday
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Sally Fieldhouse	Secretary
Benita Rees	Publicity Officer
Hugh Greenhill	Section 13 Leader

Council Meeting Dates

Wednesday 17 September 2014
Wednesday 15 October 2014
Wednesday 19 November 2014

Summer Trailwalker Deadline

Friday 7 November 2014

Articles, reports and other submissions are welcome from:
members walking on the Heysen Trail or elsewhere;
non-members walking the Heysen Trail;
other interested parties.

To submit an article, contact the Editor at trailwalker@heyseentrail.asn.au.

Contributors are urged to contact the Editor to discuss their article prior to submission.

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Cathy Bowditch



Cover

Snow on Mt Bryan
Photo: Robert Alcock

President

A Word from the President

Robert Alcock



Well, what news from the past few months? The blizzard on Mount Bryan is a strong memory for me. Another End-to-End Minus 1 adventure. See the article in this magazine for the story. It's surprising how different the weather can be on different weekends for the walking groups. These groups

are creating their own stories, and we are happy to hear more of them.

Today I'm travelling to the Flinders Ranges for the final week of our End-to-End 4 group. This is the conclusion of six walking seasons to walk the 1,200km Heysen Trail. And what a year to be up there. The country has been so green, right up the Mount Lofty and Flinders Ranges. I expect the season to be one of the best for the flora, and this will bring out the flowers and the birds. This week will be shared with a good bunch of happy walkers. 38 of them will receive their End-to-End certificate at the concluding celebratory dinner. With a Friends End-to-End group now due to finish each year, the top end of the Heysen, across Wilpena Pound, up through the gorges, valleys and peaks to Parachilna Gorge, will be enjoyed by a growing number of members. This will be my fourth trek along this section, and each time it brings new experiences. I'm really looking forward to sharing this week with the group I've walked with for

the past 6 seasons, and I hope to join other groups in the future.

The Greening group have been busy and Neil Nosworthy has coordinated with 2 of the recent walking groups for them to assist with tree planting. Good examples of group cooperation.

The Friends are getting close to 1,000 members and I expect we may reach this next year. It is pleasing to see a growing membership, both with active walkers, busy trail workers and those that are supporters of this wonderful asset, the Heysen Trail.

An upgraded website will soon be online, with enhancements and some new features. The website receives many compliments, being such a comprehensive source of information on the Heysen Trail, and it's getting even better. Jeremy Carter continues to amaze me with his creativity and capability. Thank you Jeremy, for your contribution and commitment to the Friends, and the South Australian walking community.

The recent member survey has given management of the Friends some valuable feedback and many items to consider. A report is elsewhere in this magazine. It is pleasing to see the high satisfaction levels for different areas of activity, which reflects well on the contribution of a great band of volunteers. Thank you to all those who responded.

Win a Free Calendar

Submit some of your photos for the 2015 Friends of Heysen Trail calendar for a chance to win a free copy of the calendar.

If we use one of them - you win a calendar.

Maximum of four photos per person.

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 setting.

Email your photos to heysentrail@gmail.com by October 1.

Email size can be up to 25MB (your email provider may not allow emails of that size).



News

Heysen Trail walkers from South Africa

Bruce & Dee Lawson, walkers from South Africa visited the Office recently to mark the completion of their End to End walk of the Heysen Trail.

They commenced their walk on the 9th May at Cape Jervis and arrived at Parachilna Gorge Trailhead on 17th July. With 10 rest days, they completed the walk in 'regulation' time. Along the way they meet several End-to-End groups and ultra marathoner Richard Bowles the day before he finished his run.

Bruce was more than impressed by the experience:

"I am not sure I have words to describe the journey but a few that spring to mind would be, awesome, epic, fantastic, and yeah I could carry on for a long time."

When they visited the office to collect their End-to-End certificates and badges they met a number of Office volunteers and experienced Trailwalkers including Jamie Shepherd, Colin Edwards and John Wilson.

We learned that Bruce is no stranger to epic walks. He also told us about a 12,000 km trek from Cape Town to Cairo he undertook a few years ago!

So what made them travel from South Africa to tackle the Heysen? Dee is originally from Adelaide and while visiting family here they several years ago they came across Heysen Trail markers near Wilpena. Bruce asked Dee what they were and the thought grew from there.

Bruce has promised to write an article on his journey for a future edition of the Trailwalker. In the meantime you can read the full story of their adventure at <http://brucedeeonwalkabout.blogspot.com.au/>

Dee & Bruce left us with smiles and the following message:

"We would like to thank you all for the amazing trails you are maintaining and thank you for the splendid work you are all doing. It was a once in a lifetime trip for us and also a life changing experience.

To all the Friends with groups we meet along the way. Thank you for the muffins, sweets but mostly the friendly company."

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Clothing orders are now on-line

You may have seen the news item on the website which advised that we can now purchase shirts and jackets with End-to-End group logos.

The Membership & Marketing committee have established a relationship with Sports Centre on Port Rd at Hindmarsh that will enable members to order clothing online. Orders will be handled directly by the Sports Centre. The current method of ordering clothing 'over the counter' at the Office will be discontinued. However, if you need help, you will still be able to contact the Office for assistance. The link is bit.ly/foht-clothing

Walking Trails get funding commitments in the State Budget

The recent State Budget included \$1.1m for the realignment and further development of the Heysen Trail along the southern coast of the Fleurieu Peninsula at Tunkalilla Beach. The expenditure is set for the June quarter, 2015.

The realignment will continue the trail along the spectacular southern coastline, over Tunk Head and along the cliffs of Balqhiddler Station, avoiding the inland one-day trek around the station.

There is also a further \$2.25m towards the first 50% of the proposed multi-day walking trail in the south west of Kangaroo Island. The trail will feature camping areas and will be constructed in five sections over two and a half years.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING NOTICE OF MEETING

The first Annual General Meeting of the Warren Bonython Heysen Trail Foundation Ltd will be held at 5.00 pm on Wednesday, 15th October 2014 in the Board Room, Uniting Communities, 10 Pitt Street Adelaide.

AGENDA

- 1 Apologies.
- 2 Chairman's Report.
- 3 Financial Report.
- 4 Election of Directors.
- 5 Appointment of Auditor.
- 6 Other Business.
- 7 Close of Meeting.



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FOUNDATION

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John Wilson

Company Secretary

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End of Year Bash, BBQ + Band

Come and see your President boogie to the tune of the foot-tapping Bogaduck Band at the beautiful Paxton Winery in McLaren Vale.

Sunday 30 November, 12-5pm
\$20 per person

Book early! No refunds!
Book at www.heystrail.asn.au/invite or via the office.

Before, bbq and artisan bread provided.
Wine for purchase by the bottle or glass, cash only, no BYO. Bring beer or soft drink, bring Salad or Dessert to share, chair or rug, plates & cutlery.

Paxton Winery
Lot 100 Wheaton Road, McLaren Vale



News

Office Report

Dom Henschke, Office Co-ordinator

New editions of the Southern & Northern guide

DEWNR released updated editions of both of the Heysen Trail guides in June. They are selling well and we have already taken delivery of another 2 boxes of the Southern guide.

Lost your user name or password?

If you are having trouble logging into your online account to book walks or pay your membership fees, help is at hand.

At the top of the home page (<http://www.heystrail.asn.au/>) there is a 'Login help' facility. If you click on that text you will find a 'Recover your details' section. By entering your email address you will be sent an email with your user name and password.

Remember if you are having problems, you can call the office on Ph 8212 6299 between 10.30 and 2.30 on weekdays. We can help you to log on or if you need, we can book you onto your walk.

Membership growth continues

With the increased popularity of our End-to-End walks, membership of the Friends is continuing to grow. As at July 30th we had 964 financial members.

Welcome to new Office volunteers

The Office recently welcomed three new volunteers. While we have a healthy number of volunteers it is nice to have new people joining the team. Robin Bodycomb has joined the Wednesday team on alternate weeks. Robin has been a member of the Friends since late last year. He was one of the hardy souls who logged on a bit before midnight on April 27 to register for the End-to-End 9 walk from Cape Jervis to Cobbler Hill. It is reassuring to know he survived that

experience and the subsequent walks.

Karin Agostino & Cathy Bowditch (who are both walking with End-to-End 8) are doing a tag team in the Office on alternate Fridays. In addition to their End-to-End 8 walks they regularly meet up with friends to walk on Saturday mornings. As committed walkers they have seen how the Membership & Walk registration system operates at both ends.

While it is great to have new volunteers, it is notable that Robin, Karin & Cathy help out at the Friends in addition to their normal work commitments.

End-to-End 8 & 9 walkers in particular, please say hi to Cathy, Karin & Robin when you are out on the trail. For callers to the Office, I'm sure they will assist you if you have questions about your membership, the walk program or walk bookings.

Hi from the Office Wednesday team

In this and future editions of the Trailwalker I am going to introduce you to some of our Office volunteers. We have teams of volunteers who help out in the Office each day of the week. Some members volunteer each week whereas others assist on alternate weeks.

The first group to feel the glare of the spotlight is our Wednesday team. In addition to Robin who I mentioned as a new volunteer, the team comprises Myra Betschild, Gilbert Downs & Wendy Fox.



Some of the Wednesday volunteers – from left to right, Myra, Gilbert & Wendy.



From left to right – Cathy Bowditch & Karin Agostino.

They have been a team together since about 2007, so between them they have a wealth of information about the Friends and the trail.

Myra set out on her walking adventures while living in New Zealand (over there they call it tramping). With a start like that, it is not hard to work out why it has become a big part of her life. So when she moved to SA in the early 1980's it seemed logical to get her tent and backpack and head south from Blinman and Parachilna.

With a group of 5-6 other women, she walked much of what is now the trail well before the trail markers, huts, campsites and tanks that we appreciate today. In addition to being a member of the Friends, Myra also walks with 'Women in the Bush'. As well as volunteering in at the Office, Myra is also a Maintenance Section Leader. Along with Eleanor Martin, she is responsible for looking after Section 5 of the trail (Hindmarsh Tiers Rd to Blackfellows Creek).

Gilbert walked the trail with a friend 'for something to do'. Once he finished that in 2007, he thought he should give something back to the trail and joined the Friends. He duly ticked the 'prepared to volunteer' box on the back of his membership form and in 2008 he took a phone call from Jack Marcelis, who was at that time the Office Manager.

We are fortunate that Gilbert has quietly taken on a number of specialist jobs. Gilbert does us all great favours by maintaining our stocks of maps and books. He is also one of our cash register experts.

Wendy is another long term member, having joined the Friends in 2006. She walked with End-to-End 3 in a family effort with her husband Colin and their dog Ellie. Wendy did the walking with the 'Smell the Roses' group while Colin looked after Elle. All three joined into the post walk socialising.

Wendy currently lives on a property in the hills and is an animal lover from way back. It was almost a natural that Wendy and a walking friend Chris Porter decided to rescue a lost and orphaned lamb they came across

on a roadside in the mid north. The rescue took place after some debate and a rushed trip to the vet – due process was followed as it was apparent that the lamb wouldn't have survived the night in the open. The lamb, since christened Heysen Rose, is still munching grass in the hills, although Wendy leaves her to visit the Office each Wednesday.

Finally, well done to the End-to-End 4 walkers – you've made it to the final stile at Parachilna. Along with the other walk leaders and support team, we especially thank Nick Langsford, End-to-End 4 Co-ordinator for making life easy for the Office over the last few months. We will miss his regular and welcome visits to the Office to keep us informed of the organisational details.

This year the following walkers have received End-to-End certificates and badges to recognise their achievement in completing the Heysen Trail:

Don Barrett
Richard Bowles
Jenny Bubner
Mark Bubner
Ian Hattersley
Murray Henderson
Bruce Lawson
Dee Lawson
Peter Magnisalis
David Markey
John Pratt

New Members

The President and the Council would like to extend a warm welcome to the following 79 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.

Jude Adams	Brianna Dall	John King	Dylan Quinn-Valentine
Melissa Arnold	Maarten de Weerd	Mary Lane	Eloise Quinn-Valentine
Vicki Barrett	Brian Dominy	Stephen Law	Catherine Radloff
Mark Bergin	Tanya Doody	Paul Lehmann	Lisa Robinson
Vanessa Bergin	Tom Doody	Eoin Loftus	Gilbert Roe
David Booth	Amber Drewett	Denise Marshall	Christine Smith
Robyn Booth	Barbara Drewett	Mary McFadden	Adrian Sramek
Eric Brasse	Brenton Drewett	Sharon McGlaughlin	Marie-denise Stevenson
Jane Brister	Carol Dungey	Bob McLoughlin	Janet Sweeney
Cathy Buttignol	Peter Dungey	Helen McLoughlin	Garth Tierney
Frank Castellano	Barry Finn	Paul Megson	Jessica Tierney
Brian Clarke	Carlos Gallardo	Susan Megson	Sam Tierney
Jude Clarke	Lyn George	Chris Michelmore	John Valentine
Catisha Coburn	Henry Harding	Neil Mills	Bill van Riet
Lorraine Colvin	Marguerite Harding	Robert Mulder	Ronda Wallis
Colin Conor	Wolita Harding	Tina Mulder	Kevin Ward
Peta Conor	Ricky Herbert	Marlene Pitman	Julie Whitehead
Kevin Crawshaw	John Hockey	Frank Pivato	Sarah Williams
Ali Cribb	Sarah Holbrook	Nadia Pivato	Philip Woodard
Roxanne Crook	Sean Holbrook	Nicola Quinn	



THE END OF THE WORLD IS NIGH? Activities of the Greening Committee

Words by Neil Nosworthy;
photo courtesy of Graham Bald

2014 Planting

I am sure that the end is not nigh but the Greening Committee hopes that the end of the dreariness of the trail between Worlds End and Burra is nigh. About 700 trees were planted along this section over three days in July. Some of the new plantings replaced the losses from our 2013 plantings but we now have about 850 trees planted there.

Ten volunteers assisted by fourteen walkers from End to End -1 and over thirty from End to End 6 carried out the planting. Thanks to our enthusiastic helpers, this was a relatively easy job, in particular thanks to Dean Mortimer and Lyn Wood for facilitating arrangements with the walking groups. In addition special thanks to Mark Hall through Trees for Life for growing some excellent quality seedlings.

Planting conditions at Worlds End were very good with plenty of soil moisture from recent rains giving the seedlings a good start. The trees were planted with a fertiliser tablet and water absorbing crystals and watered-in with Seasol so we have done our best to give them the best chance to thrive.

The Greening Committee plans to give the trees a supplementary watering in November/December which should help the trees to survive and minimise the losses. We will consider another watering in January/February if that seems necessary.



John Pratt celebrates finishing the trail by planting a tree at Worlds End

2015 Planting

We have placed an order with Trees for Life for ten boxes of trees to be planted in 2015. Once again we expect that Mark Hall will be the grower – his 25th year growing for Trees for Life. As a result we will probably have about 700 trees which we plan to plant along the Bundaleer Channel near Spalding supplementing our 2013 planting. We also expect to use some suitable species to replace any losses at Worlds End. We have not fixed any dates for 2015 but we are most likely to plant in June or July.

If you are interested in assisting us, please contact Neil Nosworthy by email at neil@noztours.com.au or by phone on 0447922617 or 82786577. In addition we welcome any thoughts on future greening projects. If you have an idea, please pass it on to me.

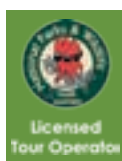
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Echoes of the Heysen Trail



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2.30pm Saturday 1 November 2014

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Free entry

Exhibition 1 Nov - 30 Nov 2014

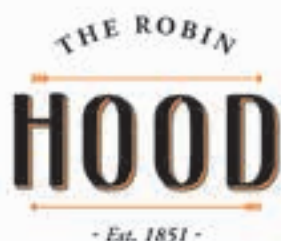
Artists

Marree De Souza

Marika Lis

30% of proceeds to the Friends of the Heysen Trail,
a not-for-profit organisation that maintains the Heysen
Trail in partnership with the Government of SA.

Supported by



Member Survey

Richard Trembath, Chair - Membership and Marketing

Thank you to those members who recently completed our member survey and to those who expressed interest in volunteering.

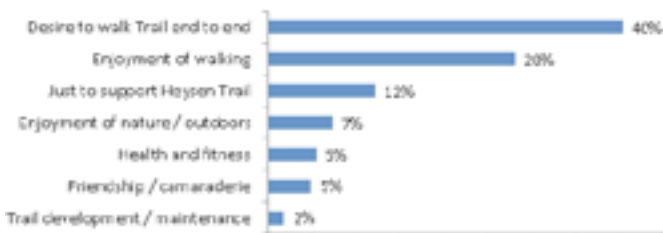
We received 169 responses which was 25% of the individual members on the Friends database with an email address – a good response for this type of survey.

Age Group



The sample was generally consistent with the membership on the basis of age. The average age of adult Friends members is 59 years and one quarter (27%) are aged more than 65 years.

Reason for Joining the Friends



The end to end program has seen significant growth since it was introduced in 2000. The program was the most frequently cited reason for joining the Friends (40%). It continues to grow with End to End 10 scheduled for 2015.

Enjoyment of walking was the most important factor for a further 28% leaving one third (32%) who were members for a number of other reasons.

Walking Program

There was a range of views expressed in regard to the walking program with some interested in more challenging / faster walks for the more dedicated / fitter walkers; opportunities to walk on Saturdays and



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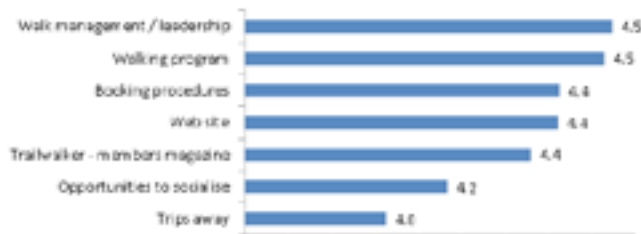
E: events@bibbulmuntrack.org.au

W: bibbulmuntrack.org.au

midweek; additional off Trail walks; more multiday walks; and more interpretation of the areas through which the Trail passes with respect to its natural and cultural history.

The feedback suggests opportunities to expand the walking program and the walking committee will be looking into some options for the future.

Satisfaction with Services - Rating out of 5



Members were generally satisfied with the services provided by the Friends. Lower average ratings were associated with trips away – as some members would like to do more of these – and opportunities to socialise.

While there are many opportunities to socialise within the walking program there may be interest in additional functions and events. The Friends does not have a social committee at present – if any members are interested in establishing a social committee please contact the Office and leave a message for Robert Alcock to contact them.

Trailwalker

Almost all of the responding members (96%) read the Trailwalker. While most read the hard copy (67%), 15% access the magazine online and 19% will read the hard copy and may also access online.

One third of the members (32%) stated that they really enjoy the magazine and value it highly while a further 60% stated that it makes a contribution to their membership.

There were a number of comments regarding the content of the magazine with members interested in more advice and factual information relating to walking the trail, previews of upcoming walks / new walks, health and fitness, as well as lighter information such as jokes and more photos of members.

While readers enjoy the stories contributed by members about their walks interstate or overseas it was suggested they could be edited to some degree.

Again, thank you for responding to the survey. The information provided will be used to further develop and refine our services and to ensure that the Friends as an organisation continues to grow and support its members and the Heysen Trail into the future.

Mt Brown Accommodation Catninga



Catninga B&B



Catninga Shed

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Worumba Weekend

June 2014

by Jo Chesher

Saucy minxes and fair ladies alike were all in a tither. Two of the alpha males were preening and postulating over their proffered 'toothpicks at five paces' – their much-anticipated duel to the death. Alas, did prove to be much ado about nothing, with one of the jousters (jesters?) falling foul to a phantom affliction shortly after word spread of his opponent's deft touch with a toothpick.

Ah – such are the dreams of saucy minxes and fair ladies, only to be thwarted in the shadow of Mount Plantagenet – the mountain we were to climb on our first day at Worumba, and the inspiration for the weekend's Shakespearian theme.

Worumba is a sheep station approximately 30 kms north east of Hawker, which also runs a popular tourism venture including an art gallery, 4-wheel drive experience, and comfortable basic accommodation at its best – base-camp for another legendary Friends of the Heysen Trail weekend away. The property is a walkers' paradise, with picture-postcard landscapes and boundless undulations on tap, and lording it over all is the mighty Plantagenet.



Following our leader into the mist on Plantagenet

It was a beanie, gloves and jackets morning when we headed out into the mist, following in the boot prints of our much lauded leader, Simon Le Scotsman. Little did we know the secret stashed away in his backpack – a Scottish tradition that would be revealed at the summit.

The higher we climbed, the more exposed to the wind – a wind that felt like it was fast-tracked from the Southern Ocean – and yet surprisingly we were still surrounded by an ethereal and persistent fog. By the time we reached the summit the wind was literally blowing us away.

And then, on the top of a mountain in the Flinders Ranges, we shared a sight and sound I guarantee has never been experienced there before in all the eons of



The hills are alive with the sound of.....BAGPIPES!!

time and possibly will not be again – our fearless leader leaning into the wind with his bagpipes and calling up the spirit of his Scottish ancestors. A fleeting and surreal few moments – the swirling mist shrouding what would have been a 360 degree view, a lone piper fruitlessly seeking some semblance of shelter from the summit cairn, and the howling gale shredding the haunting sounds of the pipes and scattering them across the range.

Yes – just a very fleeting experience, because the poor piper's lips were frozen, making it all just a wee bit difficult. And yet, move over Julie... for just a few sacred seconds those hills were truly alive with the sound...!

Plantagenet on that Saturday morning was a stately lordly place swirling with mystery – where you could imagine King Lear's girls doing whatever they did in their dark disloyal and British royal manner – or perhaps Hamlet and Horatio heading for the summit, buffeted by the wind and with the pesky demanding ghost wailing along behind.

The mountain's next door neighbour however, Mount Craig, was a very different kettle of fish. Perhaps when the gods made the Flinders they moulded Plantagenet ever so carefully – plucked out any unnecessary or ill-fitting crags, boulders and rocks and flung them into the air, and they landed in a heap and someone said, "Hey, let's call it Mount Craig".

We climbed Mount Craig the following day in sublime Sunday sunshine, and if you thought that a bagpipe-blowing Scotsman on the summit of Plantagenet was pretty unique, then how would you feel about fairies in pink tutus frolicking around the cairn on craggy Mount Craig? A sight to behold - to be sure!

The descent off Craig was great fun for those who love a vertical challenge. And then there was the point where the descent was so steep that it meant tossing your poles over the edge and bum-sliding down to another



A pink-tutu'd fairy on the cairn at Mount Craig

fairy, who staunchly stood his ground amid the flurry of falling poles and called out words of encouragement to those who felt that they were well and truly stranded between a rock and a hard place.

There were other magic walks over the weekend – over green rolling hills and through magnificent River Gum lined creek beds. It felt like we were walking through a Heysen painting. With so many options, who could not explore some more? And it proved that this was a place to return to many times, with new plots and plans.

But the weekend wasn't just about the ups and downs of



Like walking through a Heysen painting

Flinders Ranges walking. When the sun went down the après walking parties kicked off. On Saturday night the saucy minxes and the fair ladies vamped up and dazzled the alpha males, who were also dressed to impress. Costumes ranged from Friar Tuck in modest brown to Robin Hood resplendent in forest-green velvet, as well as a troop of fetching wenches. Simon Le Scotsman and the Saucy Minx covered the rough-hewn medieval table with a feast fit for a host of hungry walkers – and treated us to the best cocktails ever, designed and named especially for the occasion. And the mead – nectar of nectars – was simply divine. I'm sure even the Bard himself would have approved.

On Sunday night the frivolities continued as we recited passages from Shakespeare. Those of us with a more theatrical bent climbed onto chairs to make just a little more of our 15 seconds of fame, while our resident thespian mouse dashed about on or off cue in the background. Another highlight of the night was sharing an historical identity or someone lesser known but an inspiration to us. This ranged from Nelson Mandela and Joan of Arc, to Charles Todd and an ostrich-riding bare-chested bushranger, to a grandmother and a girlfriend.

There were many other stories that could be told about our weekend at Worumba - this is just a taste - but as someone was heard to say, what happens on the mountain stays on the mountain, so I guess I will just leave it at that.



The author at the top of Mount Craig

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End-to-End Walks

2014 Walk Season Programme

This version released 19 Nov 2013

www.heidsentrail.asn.au

	1st Weekend	2nd Weekend	3rd Weekend	4th Weekend	5th Weekend
May	Sat May 3 - Sun May 4 End-to-End 5 Based in Wirrabara To Wirrabara, Block 9		Sat May 17 - Sun May 18 End-to-End 6 Based in Riverton To Gerkie Gap, Webb Gap	Sun May 25 End-to-End 7 To Mewett Rd	
	Sat May 3 - Sun May 4 End-to-End -1 Based in Spalding To Chlorinator, Marble Hill	Sun May 11 End-to-End 8 To Mt Compass	Sun May 18 End-to-End 9 To Cobbler Hill	Sat May 24 - Sun May 25 End-to-End -1 Based in Clare/Burra To EE George, Hallett	
June	Sat May 31 - Sun Jun 1 End-to-End 5 Based in Melrose To Murraytown, Melrose	End-to-End 4 Sat Jun 7 - Sun Jun 15 Eyre Dept to Mayo Gorge		Sun Jun 22 End-to-End 7 To Mt Crawford	
		Sun Jun 8 End-to-End 8 To Kyeema	Sat Jun 14 - Sun Jun 15 End-to-End 6 Based in Burra To Burra Rd, Worlds End Sun Jun 15 End-to-End 9 To Tappanappa		Sat Jun 28 - Fri Jul 4 End-to-End -1 Based in Burra Hallett to Old Burra Rd
July	Sat Jul 5 - Sun Jul 6 End-to-End 5 Based in Melrose To Alligator Gorge, Horrocks Pass		Sat Jul 19 - Sun Jul 20 End-to-End 6 Based in Burra To Burra, Wandallah	Sun Jul 27 End-to-End 7 To Pewsey Vale	
		Sun Jul 13 End-to-End 8 To Dashwood Gully	Sun Jul 20 End-to-End 9 To Balquidder	Sun Jun 26 - Sun Jul 27 End-to-End -1 Based in Riverton To Webb Gap, Gerkie Gap	
August	Sat Aug 2 - Sun Aug 3 End-to-End 5 Based in Quorn To Broadview, Woolshed Flat	Sat Aug 9 - Sun Aug 17 End-to-End 4 Mayo Gorge to Parachilna		Sun Aug 24 End-to-End 7 To Tanunda	Sat Aug 30 - Sun Aug 31 End-to-End 6 Based in Burra To Hallett, EE George
		Sun Aug 10 End-to-End 8 To Mylor	Sat Aug 16 - Sun Aug 17 End-to-End 6 Based in Burra To Newikie Ck, Dares Hill Sun Aug 17 End-to-End 9 To Waitpinga	Sat Aug 23 - Sun Aug 24 End-to-End -1 Based in Riverton To Peters Hill, Hamilton	
September	Sat Sep 6 - Sun Sep 7 End-to-End 5 Based in Quorn To Quorn, Dutchmans		Sat Sep 20 - Sun Sep 21 End-to-End 6 Based in Spalding To Spalding Rd, Chlorinator	Sun Sep 28 End-to-End 7 To Kapunda	
		Sun Sep 14 End-to-End 8 To Cleland	Sun Sep 21 End-to-End 9 To Tugwell Rd	Sat Sep 27 - Sun Sep 28 End-to-End -1 Based in Kapunda To Kapunda, Tanunda	
October	Sat Oct 4 - Mon Oct 6 End-to-End 5 Based in Pt Augusta To Eyre Dept, Warren Gorge, Buckaringa		Sat Oct 18 - Sun Oct 19 End-to-End 6 Based in Gladstone To Curnows, Raeville	Sat Oct 25 - Sun Oct 26 End-to-End 7 Based in Kapunda To Hamilton, Peters Hill	
		Sun Oct 12 End-to-End 8 To Montacute	Sun Oct 19 End-to-End 9 To Inman Valley	Sat Oct 25 - Sun Oct 26 End-to-End -1 To Pewsey Vale, Mt Crawford	
November					
		Sun Nov 9 End-to-End 8 To Cudlee Ck	Sun Nov 16 End-to-End 9 To Myponga		

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: heidsentrail.asn.au/walks

Walk Registration

Register for a walk either online or over the phone.

Register online at heidsentrail.asn.au, or by phoning the office on 8212 6299.

Walks close between Tuesday and Friday prior to the walk, closing dates and times are listed on each walk event page on the website.

Walk Cancellations

End-to-End walks are not subject to a weather forecast temperature limit, however the walk leader may decide to cancel or amend the event if weather is deemed to present a high risk.

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

Further Information

Details about each walk, the hot weather policy, what to wear and what to bring, walk grades or to print off a colour copy of the programme, visit heidsentrail.asn.au



TrailStarter & TrailWalker Walks

2014 Walk Season Programme

This version released 24 March 2014

www.heyseentrail.asn.au

	1st Weekend	2nd Weekend	3rd Weekend	4th Weekend	5th Weekend
April	Sun Apr 6 Walking EXPO Rymill Park, Adelaide walkingsa.org.au/walkingexpo Two Discovery Walks being led by us: 1) Outer Adelaide Statues 2) Inner Adelaide Street Art	Sun Apr 13 TrailStarter Black Hill Arrienne Wynen	Sun Apr 20 TrailStarter Carrick Hill Richard Milosh	Sun Apr 27 TrailStarter Sturt Gorge Robyn Quinn	
		Sun Apr 13 TrailWalker Bootcamp Run Alan Davis		Sun Apr 27 TrailWalker Montacute Richard Milosh	
May		Sun May 11 TrailStarter Chambers Gully Michael Middleton	Sun May 18 TrailStarter Ashbourne Dean Mortimer	Sun May 25 TrailStarter Mt George Graham Bald	
	Sun May 4 TrailWalker Para Wirra Paul Saxby	Sun May 11 TrailWalker Deep Creek Conservation Park Peter Clark	Sun May 18 TrailWalker Mt Crawford Carol Homewood	Sun May 25 TrailWalker Black Hill Richard Milosh	
June	Sun Jun 1 TrailStarter Onkeeta Trail Gregory Walker	Sun Jun 8 (Long Weekend) TrailStarter Brownhill Creek Graham Bald	Sun Jun 15 TrailStarter TBA TBA	Sun Jun 22 TrailStarter Hallett Cove Dom Henschke	Sun Jun 29 TrailStarter Crafrers Graham Bald
	Sun Jun 1 TrailWalker Montacute Mary Cartland	Sat 7 - Mon Jun 9 (Long Weekend) TrailWalker / Extended Walk Hawker Simon Cameron	Sun Jun 15 TrailWalker Pioneer Womens Trail Peter Solomon Sun Jun 22	Sun Jun 22 TrailWalker Horsnell Gully Richard Milosh	Sun Jun 29 TrailWalker Deep Creek Julian Monfries
July	Sun Jul 6 TrailStarter Ambers Gully Steve Clift	Sun Jul 13 TrailStarter Sleeps Hill Chris Porter	Sun Jul 20 TrailStarter Sturt Gorge Chris O'Brien	Sun Jul 27 TrailStarter Morialta Alan Davis	
	Sun Jul 6 TrailWalker Gandys Gully Neil Rivett	Sat Jul 14 TrailWalker Thomas Hill Steve Clift	Sun Jul 20 TrailWalker Mt Misery Richard Milosh	Sun Jul 27 TrailWalker Sandergrange to Milang Chris Allen	
August	Sun Aug 3 TrailStarter Ansteys Hill Kevin Lilliard	Sun Aug 10 TrailStarter Shiraz Trail, Willunga Peter Solomon	Sun Aug 17 TrailStarter Belair Russell O'Brien	Sun Aug 24 TrailStarter Coxs Scrub Chris Porter	Sun Aug 31 TrailStarter Mylor Graham Bald
	Sun Aug 3 TrailWalker Cleland Mary Cartland	Sun Aug 10 TrailWalker Second Creek Simon Cameron	Sun Aug 17 TrailWalker Warren-Hale Conservation Park Richard Milosh	Sun Aug 24 TrailWalker Onkaparinga Dana Florea	Sun Aug 31 TrailWalker Para Wirra John Potter
September	Sun Sep 7 TrailStarter Newland Head Robyn Quinn	Sun Sep 14 TrailStarter Para Wirra Arrienne Wynen	Sun Sep 21 TrailStarter Mt Lofty Graham Bald	Sun Sep 28 TrailStarter Mt George Carol Homewood	
		Sun Sep 14 TrailWalker Mylor to Mt Lofty Richard Milosh	Sun Sep 21 TrailWalker TBA Ben Wait	Sun Sep 28 TrailWalker TBA TBA	
October	Sun Oct 5 TrailStarter Wirra Peaks Kevin Liddiard	Sun Oct 12 TrailStarter Scott Creek Gregory Walker		Sun Oct 26 TrailStarter Sturt Gorge for Wimps Richard Milosh	
		Sun Oct 12 TrailWalker Aldgate Mary Cartland	Sun Oct 19 TrailWalker Chapel Hill Richard Milosh	Sun Oct 26 TrailWalker Mt Hayfield Peter Clark	

Walk Grades

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Walks close between Tuesday and Friday prior to the walk, closing dates and times are listed on each walk event page on the website.

Walk Cancellations

TrailStarter and TrailWalker walks will be cancelled in the forecast temperature for Adelaide is equal or higher than 32°C.

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

Further Information

Details about each walk, the hot weather policy, what to wear and what to bring, walk grades or to print off a colour copy of the programme, visit heyseentrail.asn.au



Slowest ever completion of the Heysen Trail?

by John Pratt

Could it be that in the same year Richard Bowles recorded the fastest-ever completion of the Heysen Trail in 14 days, 8 hours & 32 minutes, the slowest-ever completion of the trail also occurred?

On July 4 this year I completed walking the full Trail distance when I walked into Burra with End-to-End Minus 1. When I mentioned, at a dinner to celebrate the occasion, that I'd walked the first bit of the Trail with my family in May 1976 (Crafers to Yanagin Road) I heard a comment suggesting I'd perhaps been the slowest person in history to finish it, taking 38 years and 2 months!

As I remember, the Crafers to Yanagin Road was the first part of the trail officially opened. During the period of development of the Heysen Trail I'd thought "I'd like to walk that trail one day".

In September 1982 I walked from Mt Magnificent to Bridgewater with two of my boys, tenting for two nights. This, I'm glad to say, included Kuitpo Forest prior to the disastrous fires in February 1983. In May of 1983 our family trod the Mt Lofty to Bridgewater section but there was no further progress for many years.

In 2003 I thought "If I don't get serious about the Heysen Trail pretty soon, I'm not going to achieve my aim of walking it". So, in November of that year with my wife Elizabeth and a close friend, I started from Cape Jervis with a 1-day walk.

By October 2006, with a range of fellow-walkers and arrangements, Elizabeth and I reached Victor Harbor. However it had not all been "plain sailing" for me. In September 2005 I had a heart attack resulting in 5 by-passes and a prosthetic mitral valve. Undaunted, after recovery and with the blessing (and recent commendation) of my cardiologist, I pressed-on with walking the Trail. This included solo back-packing and day-walks with Elizabeth and, for a few days, another couple.

By October 2010 I'd walked everything south of Burra, and from Hallett to Bundaleer Reservoir. I was looking for a group to join for the remainder of the Trail. Fortuitously, in 2012, I learnt of End-to-End -1 only a few weeks prior to it commencing from Parachilna Gorge.

Spanish Adventures

~ Spain ~

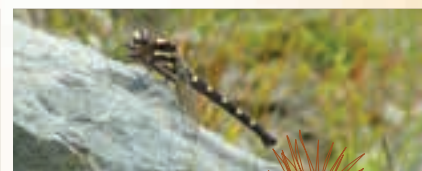
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My wife, Elizabeth, has walked some sections with End-to-End -1, notably across Wilpena Pound. She and I also, with invaluable support from good friends, walked sections of the Trail from near Crystal Brook to Bundaleer Reservoir – sections walked by End-to-End -1 when we were in New Zealand.

Involvement in End-to-End -1 has been pleasurable, challenging (eg, the Stony Creek flood and Mt Bryan in a blizzard and snow), yet very rewarding. I can only hold Dean Mortimer in high regard for his fine leadership of the group, attention to detail and promotion of a team spirit amongst participants.

I'm not greatly fussed about whether I am the slowest on record to complete the Heysen Trail or not. The certificate of completion is all I need and I'm proud of it. However, if anyone has taken longer than me to complete the Trail I, and I think Robert Alcock, Friends of Heysen Trail President, would be interested to know.

My grateful thanks go to the Friends of Heysen Trail and all people involved in maintaining the Friends and its programs as well as maintaining the Trail itself.

I have dedicated my completion of the Trail to the memory of my close friend, Alastair Blake, who joined in the first leg from Cape Jervis and who lost his life to cancer earlier this year.



John receives a guard of honor after completing what he started in 1976



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It never rains... but it pours

Tramping in New Zealand with Neil Rivett

by Alan Davis

“Hey Neil, get up here quick, mate”... I was excited and rightly so. For hours we had been beating a path up through the forest from Downie’s Hut following an old track that probably hadn’t seen any maintenance for many years. After more than a week of rain all the side streams had been flooded and the crossings tricky to say the least. Even worse were the vast areas of treefall blocking our progress, each which had to be carefully negotiated.

The country was beautiful however there had been little opportunity to enjoy it and the thought that having come this far we might have to return to the hut had given me a sleepless night. My old map showed a two strand walkwire across the river here, but I’d heard some years ago it had been removed for safety reasons and there’d been no mention of it being replaced. In normal flows, the Matakītaki can be forded with care below the forks, but at the moment it resembled the Yangtze in flood. But peering through the forest we could clearly see a three wire bridge across the river and I knew, no matter what the weather continued to throw at us, we would achieve our aim of making it through to Lewis Pass.

Neil and I were on a long traverse through Nelson Lakes, surely one of the loveliest National Parks in New Zealand. For some reason, visitors to the South Island tend to give the place a miss as the walks here don’t make their bucket list. Well if you like buckets, sure, head elsewhere but if following up forested valleys, climbing over alpine passes, camping out by little lakes and tarns and exploring along mountain ranges are more your cup of tea, Nelson Lakes is hard to beat.

The classic multi day walks through the park are the north, south traverses, the most popular (if that word can be used) going via Blue Lake over the Waiau Pass. A more challenging but stunning trip crosses David Saddle then heads out via the East and West Branches of the Matakītaki River. However we’d decided to create our own route following the ranges and open tops further to the west before dropping down to the West Matakītaki at Bob’s Hut. The only requirement to pull this off was 12-13 days of fine weather.

We’d begun our trip from Mt Robert carpark, a few kms out of St Arnaud. Tracks radiate from here in all directions including two in to Lake Angelus. If the weather is half decent take the high route via Robert Ridge. The aptly named Pinchgut Track will have you at the treeline in a couple of hours having climbed about 800 metres and then it’s an amble up onto the ridge. The views are simply superb and we could see all the way to the dark, brooding mountains of the Kahurangi in the far northwest corner of the island. The ridge is rough and rocky under foot but quite safe unless there are high

winds and it’s well marked with poles. Watching Neil huff and puff up to the final saddle I couldn’t help but ask the question, how does all this compare to hiking in New Guinea? He is of course a Kokoda veteran, of the track that is, not the battle (he’s not that old)... “This is bloody harder”... Didn’t have the heart to tell him at this stage our first couple of days were only sightseeing but as I suspected Neil would be up to everything the trip would throw at us and there was plenty to come.

It would be hard to imagine a more dramatic setting than Angelus Hut sitting on a rise overlooking the lake. In winter the whole valley is snowed in, the lake freezes over and a shovel is left on the roof of the hut so those lucky enough to make it up here can dig their way inside, but in summer it is transformed into an alpine garden. This is a wonderful place and no trip to Nelson Lakes is complete without a visit here. We set up camp on the lake just in time as the rain which had been threatening for most of the afternoon finally arrived and it continued right through the night, only easing at dawn.

Our route from Angelus was out to the west, climbing above Hinapouri Tarn onto the ridgeline that winds its way over Mt Cedric. As with Robert Ridge, the views are fantastic but the fun ends when you drop down to the treeline and begin the 900 metre descent through the forest which after the rain was a nightmare. Enough



Robert Ridge

said. But there is a track and it ends just metres from one of the large overnight huts on the Travis Sabine Circuit. Arriving here for a late lunch, we pondered our next move as the rain began to tumble down. As more and more trampers began to fill the place, we eventually looked at each other and said, "let's get out of here". What a top decision this turned out to be. Following the Circuit for about an hour, after crossing a swing bridge over the spectacular Sabine Gorge we turned onto a track heading through the forest around Lake Rotoroa. Nothing too difficult here except for one creek crossing which was about waist deep. Finally about 6pm we pushed our way down to the little D'Urville Hut which sits just above the lake, the whiff of smoke in the forest close by letting us know we'd have company tonight.

We were to share our evening with five others, two lads on a canoe trip around the lake, a lovely little English girl, Andrea who hiked in a short skirt and bright red lipstick (don't be fooled though she was a vastly experienced trumper) and Mark and Kirsten, a fit, strong Kiwi couple a week into a nine day trip through Nelson Lakes. Kirsty, though, had the strange habit of wandering around the hut in the morning knickerless, something which Andrea said later rendered Neil and I quiet for the only time during our stay.

Farewelling our new friends next morning (they were the last hikers we were to see for the next ten days) it was time to roll up our sleeves and get into some real tramping. Following the D'Urville River upstream we eventually found a little sidetrack heading off to our right which climbed steadily to a saddle before descending gradually through the forest above Tiraumea Stream to a hut on the river flats. Pausing here for lunch, the afternoon's fun awaited us, the climb up to Mole Saddle. This was a tough gig, the rough track undulating up and down crossing a myriad of streams, sidling around steep embankments before the final two hours, a relentless climb up a forested spur to the treeline. It was now well after 6pm and a freezing wind blowing across the open tops soon had us scurrying for our polar fleeces. We'd hoped to camp on Mole Saddle but the poled route was buried in cloud so there was nothing for it but to find a sheltered spot and pitch the tents. Only problem was our water supplies were rather diminished so it meant no hot feed or a cuppa for dinner. Not that it bothered Neil because a couple of minutes after crawling into our sleeping bags I could hear him happily snoring away.

A chilly morning greeted us and, away early, within ten minutes we were on Mole Saddle. This would be a great spot to camp in fine weather but alas it wasn't to be, perhaps another time. From the Saddle it's necessary



Lake Angelus

to routefind up onto the Mole Tops as there are no tracks but having missed brekkie along with the previous night's dinner, we decided to drop down to Mole Hut first, a little two man bivvy set back against the forest in a clearing above the river. Rather than retrace our steps back to the Saddle though, I decided to look for a way up through the forest behind the hut. It was a good decision as it turned out to be a straight forward climb, we were soon at the treeline and then made our way onto a spur that gave a direct route up onto the range overlooking the Tops. The weather which had been crappy for most of the climb cleared just as we summited the main ridge giving us our first look down over this lovely country. The Mole Tops consist of a series of breathtakingly beautiful high alpine basins which nestle below the surrounding mountains. Following the main ridgeline southwards we found a mini saddle which gave access to



The Mole Tops



the southern basin. On a little raised snowgrass mound above a tarn we pitched camp in high spirits.

Our plan each morning was to be up at 6.15am and away by 7.30am. But first light ("Happy New Year Neil") bought a pleasant surprise, the beginning of a snowstorm lasting two hours to be replaced by heavy rain. Only able to emerge from our cocoons about 4pm we were soon driven back inside when another storm passed right over us. Huge claps of thunder, wind gusts which threatened to demolish the tents at any moment and hail was followed by more rain but after an hour or so calm resumed and the sun even came out. The following morning showed little improvement in the weather as the temperature had plummeted and cloud descended right over the Tops. We had to devise an exit strategy or face the possibility of being trapped up here for days. Managing to pack up in the high winds, I set a compass bearing and we were off. Climbing up to the main ridge and with visibility down to a few metres, the next two hours were quite stressful, trying to navigate a way down through a series of bluffs until, (through luck or good management) we found the source of the left branch of Watsons Creek. When an hour or so later we caught a first glimpse of the forest below, for one dreaded moment I thought Neil was going to kiss me.

Of course the forest meant relative safety and also a track down Watsons Creek. When planning the trip, I thought this stage would be one of the most difficult. The map showed the creek as being steep sided, almost canyon like in places but overall the track wasn't too bad although several sections required great care. At one point we dropped down to the river and just gazed in awe at the heavily forested far bank rising near vertically for hundreds of metres before disappearing into the clouds. Mid afternoon the track levelled out and the Matakita River was finally glimpsed, only problem being the next stage of our trip required us being on the far bank and the river was unfordable. But there was a contingency plan for this, a bridge over the river about 90 minutes downstream. This added of course another 3 hours to what had already been a tough day and it was to be after 7pm before a rough and ready camp was made by the side of the track.

We were on the cusp of the most challenging section of our walk, the climb up to Nardoo Peak then a 4 day traverse all in untracked country above the treeline through to Sunset Creek then down to Bob's Hut. But waking in the morning with the rain tumbling down and the mountains all immersed in cloud, I knew it wasn't to be. I crawled into Neil's tent and broke the news that we'd have to head to Bob's via the Matakita Valley and Downie's Hut. This of course would mean backtracking to where we'd dropped down to the river from the Tops

the day before. However having retraced our steps, at the first side stream up valley, Peak Creek, we came to a halt. It was flooded and too dangerous to ford so in the time honoured Kiwi tradition the tents were pitched

by the side of the track and the waiting game began. By morning the level had fallen and we were finally able to cross.

Well, the historians will tell you Downie's Hut is more than 100 years old but little beyond that. Following the broad track up the Matakita Valley, I'd suggest this was probably a stock route once. But there was some head scratching when



Downie's Hut - outside and inside



after an hour or so the track came to an abrupt halt at the embankment above the river. Maybe in normal flows you drop down into the riverbed and just follow upstream but after the heavy rain this was impossible so we began the first of two difficult bushbashes during which Neil snapped one of his trekking poles. (Who needs two anyway?) Early afternoon the hut was finally spotted set back against the forest. Downie's may be old but I'll take character over comfort any day, however the hut must have seen some maintenance in recent years because my notes described it as being in poor condition. The timber shingle roof is now protected by iron and the fireplace has been repaired. But the weather broke again about 5pm and it rained relentlessly for the next 18 hours which meant of course all the side streams would be flooded and impassable once more.

With a day and two nights to spend here, in relative comfort and under the meditative influence of a warm fire, I'd love to say we dwelled on the metaphysical aspects of life, the universe and everything. Unfortunately our conversations just never seemed to rise above the level of being an endless stream of mindless drivel. One might gather that despite everything, we still remained in good spirits... Alas though, my concerns about being able to cross the Matakita would give me a sleepless second night. But our tough tramp the following morning would lead to the jubilation of finding the three wire bridge over the river. I've used these contraptions many times before

but it was a new experience for Neil. A second and longer bridge crosses the west branch of the river and after another fight with more treefall, early afternoon we finally arrived at Bob's Hut. This is a GREAT spot. I've passed through here before not stopping for the night but we had every intention of rectifying that this time. With the sun finally making a prolonged appearance after 10 days, it was time to do some washing, though I must add seeing Neil naked standing knee deep in the river was definitely one of the low points of the trip.

The following day was perhaps the hardest of the whole walk. The barometer which had been on the rise for the previous 24 hours suddenly began to plummet and we set off in the morning just as the rain began to fall again. The climb up to top of the West Matakita was to take us about 8 hours without a break, the initial bash through the forest followed by constant crossings and recrossings of the main river, then the long slog in the stream bed itself which, given the weather over the last 10 days was very much in flood. Reaching the head of the valley soaked to the skin and freezing, we just threw up the tents, crawled into our sleeping bags and spent the next few hours trying to thaw out. The worst of the rain had gone by morning but low cloud was going to make navigation out of the valley difficult. To cross into the Maruia, you have to climb over what the old maps call the "6000 ft Pass." Fortunately having come this way once before, I knew the route so we found the pass quite easily though it had begun to snow again. The descent to the valley floor is down an enormous scree slope, then it's the "simple" matter of following the river downstream through the usual suspects, snowgrass, tussocks and a long final bushbash in the forest. Mid



Bob's Hut

afternoon we dropped onto a well formed track, the St James Walkway and about 3pm arrived at Cannibal Gorge Hut. Early evening, footsteps on the verandah meant we were going to have company on our last night. A group of 9 walkers from the Auckland Tramping Club, plus two smaller parties, meant a full, noisy but friendly hut and plenty of hands to keep the combustion stove roaring. So to our thirteenth and final morning, the easy few hours out to Lewis Pass where, with some irony, we had to pause and put some sunscreen on.....Yes, it had been a tough trip but despite everything, we'd had a ball.



Crossing the West Matakita



Head of the West Matakita



Snow worries

by Robert Alcock

We drove through a torrential downpour on Mt Bryan East Road, on the way to the bus pick-up point. Then sleet was being flung aside by the windscreen wipers. It was going to be a cold day.

As we approached the bus on Mt Dare Summit Road, the rain stopped. I did the u turn to park, and there was Mt Bryan, clear and bright, with broken cloud allowing a patch of clear sky amongst the dark heavy clouds. "The weather is clearing" I announced. Today the prediction for Burra was just 2 - 9mm of rain, with strong winds.

Well, the clouds again covered the mountain before the bus left, and rain was falling as we bussed to Hallett to start the walk. Water was lying on the sodden ground and by the time we left the road to commence the climb to Mt Bryan, the rain was heavy. We copped the west wind and occasional hail hit our backs as we climbed, the wind was at least helping with the climb. A break for the morning snack was with rain falling. Climbing on, some sleety stuff was flying past, then I noticed it was white! Snow was flying past. And soon sticking to coats and backpacks. The fingers were numb, yet the body cosy while we walked. To take photos I had to watch that the finger was on the button. No finger-tip feeling. Along the ridge to the summit the snow had settled on the green grass. A real winter wonderland - a magnificent sight. A vista of white snow covering the green grass, stretching out til it disappeared into the mist.

With the snow and howling gale, it was a blizzard. In South Australia? The snow was not heavy, yet stung the face when turning into it. It was fortunate that we were walking away from it. Many backpack covers were being blown off, again and again. I was revelling in this snowy experience, all the way to the summit. Here we



Sliding down from the top of Mt Bryan

re-grouped in the lee of the shed, pleased to be out of that wind. The summit was a beautiful sight, covered in white in the mist. The view from the "seat/throne" was a white-out.

Not able to linger long, we then had the treacherous steep descent. Snow had settled on the long green grass, with the wet grass and soggy earth below it. On the steep slope there was little grip for the boots. Many sat down and slid. A narrow watercourse was rocky and provided some "steps" while it lasted. We were fortunate the 20 walkers were experienced and took their time. We all made it safely down the steep slopes, then to the road. Looking back, Mt Bryan was lost in the misty clouds. Some 2 hours had passed from the time the snow started until we were off the slippery slopes.

This was a rare experience we all enjoyed. How many Heysen walkers, or others, get to experience a blizzard in SA? We were so fortunate to witness this.



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E2E-1 (that was the temperature!)

by Jane Haar

Hallett to Old Burra Road week based in Burra June 27th to July 4th 2014

Theme: Le Tour de Burra

Going to Farrell Flat for dinner with End to End -1 reminded me of the time we also dined there with End to End 3. At that time the theme was 'Irish' and we had a limerick competition. Those memories got me started and I presented the following limerick to the End to End -1 group before dinner after our adventurous day in the snow. We had a wonderful evening at Gally's Meeting House in Farrell Flat hosted by Sally and Garry Fieldhouse of the Burra Branch of the Friends of the Heysen Trail.



The throne on Mt Bryan summit

Dear Lord we thank you for this food
And while I am in the mood
I'd like to thank you for The Friends
With whom we walk the End to Ends
In all weather, bad and good.

Today the weather was quite tryin'
When we were climbing Mt Bryan
A treat for all who had a go
First rain and hail, then snow!
And no, I am not lyin'

We were so bold
As we walked in the cold
With icy hands and feet
Through wind, snow and sleet
What a tale to be told!

Then on the descent
How slowly we went
Till an icy slide for a thrill
Got us down that cold hill
And into the wind we leant

Now here we are at Farrell Flat
It's not where the trail is at
We just came here for our dinner
And pick a tour de Burra winner
And that my friends is that!



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Walking the Kokoda, 2014

by Luke Adams

I won't forget standing in the mist on top of Brigade Hill, listening to fellow walkers read poems about the men who fought there and the loss and grief their families endured for the boys left behind. It was a powerful moment, and I don't think anyone had a dry eye.

Shane, our trek leader employed by Kokoda Spirit, asked us to turn around and face the Papuan porters and staff as they launched into a gospel song followed by the PNG national anthem. They sang loudly and in tune, we responded with Advance Australia Fair in our own self-conscious way. By the time we finished, everyone was covered in a fine wet mist that clung to our hair. I hadn't come for the emotion, I'd signed up for the walking, but this morning made the whole trip very special.

The Kokoda Track had been on my bucket list for many years and seemed an excellent and obtainable adventure.

I left home at 4:30am on a cold and wet Sunday morning and headed to the airport for the flight to Brisbane and then on to Port Moresby. Meeting the trip leader for dinner that evening, he gave me a briefing on what to expect. I met the other 18 participants the next morning and we loaded the bus for the start of the trip. The first stop was the Bomana War Cemetery on the outskirts of Port Moresby. It's sobering to see the headstones of 3000 fallen Australians. Walking among them you realize the futility of it all, the average age seemed to be about 24. I couldn't imagine my adult sons heading off to war.



Bamboo bridge

We re-boarded for the start of the track at Owers Corner, the staging post for troops beginning the Kokoda campaign in 1942. Here we met our PNG staff including my own porter, Dominic. We had a lovely lunch and took lots of group photos. The walk began by descending to the Goldie River. We were soon introduced to the steep slippery mud that would be our constant companion for the next eight days. Steep hills, long descents, impenetrable jungle and mud. mud and more mud are the hallmarks of this trek.



Bomana War Cemetery

The routine each day was to wake at 5am, pack the sleeping gear, clothes and tent, and hand the walking packs over to the porters. We'd enjoy a breakfast of cereal, coffee and sometimes pancakes, get organized and hit the track by 6:45. Each of us would wander along at our own pace with our ever-present porter. We'd walk for a few hours, have a short break, then continue on until lunch at about 1pm. This meal was typically a long affair with cooked noodles, baked beans, biscuits and steaming hot tea.

It was then back to the trail for a couple of hours, arriving at camp between 4 and 5pm. The porters would help pitch the tents and we'd organize our bedding for the night. A communal dinner in the shelter huts next to the camping areas would be followed by a good-natured discussion on the highs and lows of the day.

The highlights of the walk, along with the memorial ceremony on Brigade Hill, included finding a rusty old .303 bullet

in the mud, viewing the live munitions found on the battlefields, spending time at the fantastic Australian-sponsored memorial at Isurava, and walking into Kokoda as a group to celebrate the end of a successful trek. We had a brief memorial gathering at Kokoda and marked the occasion by downing a couple of cold SP beers.

On the last day of the trip we waited out a particularly long storm then packed up wet tents and gear and walked down to the Kokoda airfield. Again it was a matter of hurry up and wait, as the flight was delayed due to low cloud. After a couple of hours we heard the familiar sound of a TropicAir nine-seater. Luckily I was on the first flight out. Thirty minutes later we'd reversed our eight-day route and were back in 'civilization', the smoky and hot Port Moresby airport.

Washing off eight days of mud and sweat in the hotel was bliss. A lunch of beef burgers and beers with new friends by the hotel pool certainly hit the spot. Once all three flights had arrived we met up for a celebratory dinner at the Port Moresby Yacht Club.

It was a shock to the system to arrive back in cold and windy Adelaide late the next day!



A rusty old .303 bullet found in the mud

Summary

I would recommend this challenging walk to anyone interested in one of Australia's most famous battles, one in which Australia's sovereignty was at stake.



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History along our Trails

by Steve Clift

There are many years of history along our trails, but how much do we know about it!

Old majestic buildings, scratching in the earth from an old mine or a broken down farm house. All were once the dreams of our forefathers, a story to be told of hope and hardship and now, just shattered aspirations.

All of our trails, including the Heysen Trail are about the journey, not the destination. There are people in our organisation that are passionate about birds, animals, history and geology, but how much do the rest of us really appreciate, as we saunter past, heading towards our destination.

Over time maybe, with some help from these passionate members, we can in a small way bridge this gap in our knowledge and enjoy the journey more.

As you walk through Pichi Richi Pass on the Heysen Trail, you come off a rocky ridge to the west of the railway, then follow the rail line in a general northern direction for several kilometres, before coming to a small railway station called "Willows Halt" and a stone building adjacent. This area appears on Heysen Trail, Northern Guide Map 3.9. This is a part of the story about that building.



Old Willows Brewery Restaurant 2013.
Photo: Robert Alcock

'Beauchamp's', and the brewery had changed hands. William Taylor, owner and licensee of Taylor's Hotel in Port Augusta, purchased the brewery when Beauchamp moved to Melrose.

William Taylor was well known in and around Port Augusta and the north. He had become very successful in latter years after a difficult time in the mid-1860s when licensee of the Hookina Hotel which he had built in 1862. At the time the drought was having a ruinous effect everywhere and by 1866 he was having trouble paying his debts as there was virtually no trade. His situation improved for him later, as in 1877 he came to Port Augusta and built a hotel known as Taylor's (later Exchange) on Commercial Road at a cost of £3,000. He actually built the hotel before the licence was granted and there was concern by locals in case it was refused, there being opposition from certain quarters. On the day Taylor returned from the hearing of the Licensing Bench in Clare the local brass band played outside the hotel in celebration. Taylor was licensee until 1880 when he sold the hotel to William Knapman of Port Pirie for £11,000, a remarkable increase in value.

When Taylor took possession of the brewery in Pichi Richi, which he renamed Willow, Charles Gray, in his customary way, moved on and Charles Williams, son of John Williams of Nuriootpa became the brewer and also licensee of Beauchamp's hotel from 1881-82 when it closed. By late 1881 Taylor was offering the lease of the brewery for seven or ten years. The advertisement stated the brewery was a first-class stone building complete with all necessary brewing equipment and an aerated water machine. In the usual way of selling agents the hyperbole was patent:

The site of the above brewery is unquestionably the best in the North. It is convenient to a railway station, surrounded by the Flinders Range Mountains, is thoroughly protected from the summer hot winds, and



Willow Brewery
(on left) and
manager's house
c.1880.
SLSA B9350

WILLOW BREWERY, PICHI RICHI

Extract from "Beer Barons or Bankrupts? Early Brewers in South Australia" by Alison Painter

The decade of the 1870's was a period of growth in Port Augusta.....

During the same period a brewery was established in Pichi Richi, the Pass between Port Augusta and Quorn where the narrow gauge railway was under construction. The brewery built by William Beauchamp, licensee of the Globe Hotel in Port Augusta and previously at Pichi Richi Inn, was formally opened on 3 July 1879 and named Pichi Richi. Charles Gray, late of Beltana, was the brewer in charge and his ability was sufficient guarantee of the quality of the ale brewed, stated the Port Augusta Dispatch.

Early the following year Beauchamp was licensee of the other inn in Pichi Richi which became known as

as for wood and water it is simply a matter of help yourself, and from the rapidly increasing population in the North, this presents an opportunity rarely to be met of making a rapid fortune.

Evidently no one was tempted by the promise of a 'rapid fortune' and brewing continued at the Willow Brewery.

The reason for the sale may have been because Taylor had intentions of building a brewery in Port Augusta and in July 1880 had purchased an allotment in Tassie Street near the waterfront. In September 1880, as the transfer of the property was being finalised, he was involved in a court case with Thomas Sara, a timber merchant. The case was actually two claims – Sara was claiming £100 damages against Taylor for libellous words, while Taylor was claiming £100 damages against Sara for defective work on the construction of two fermenting tuns he had ordered in March. Apparently Taylor had called Sara 'a damned rogue' because the tuns leaked and would not hold beer. After a day-long hearing Taylor was awarded damages of £26 10s 9d. Charles Williams, brewer at Pichi Richi, later told the Port Augusta Dispatch journalist sixteen hogsheads of beer, worth about £68,

had been lost from the faulty tuns. In early 1881 Taylor was advertising bottled ale and porter, brewed in Pichi Richi, and cordials available from his 'new bottling establishment' on Tassie Street. Later that year he built his third hotel, the Extension, in the 'suburbs' of Port Augusta and was licensee from October 1881 to June 1882.

Taylor's activities in Port Augusta were curtailed when he returned to the Hookina Hotel in 1882. In January 1883, the William Brewery in Pichi Richi burnt down; the fire was thought to have started when sparks from the engine of a train blew on to the roof. The railway line that ran close behind the brewery was at about the same level as the roof of the brewery and, as the upper section of the building was constructed of timber, fire took hold rapidly. This was the end of brewing in Pichi Richi and in 1884 Taylor, who was in ill-health, offered all his properties in Port Augusta and Hookina for sale; he died in 1886.

The building up until recently was operated as the Old Willows Brewery Restaurant.

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Trail Maintenance

The Friends of the Heysen are a volunteer organisation dedicated to the promotion and maintenance of the Heysen Trail. The organisation depends on members and where appropriate non-members for information and comments on the condition, location and safety of the trail for all walkers. All comments are welcome, both good and bad, collated and forwarded to the appropriate Section Leader for action. Details on the location referred to would be appreciated.

Maintenance Coordinator Colin Edwards 8264 1492 (H)

Section	Map and GR	Section Leader	Contact
1. Cape Jervis to Tapanappa	Southern Guidebook, Maps 1.1-1.3 Cape to GR 518 530	Albert and Margaret Schmidke	8381 8861 (H)
2A. Tapanappa to Waitpinga Campground	Southern Guidebook, Maps 1.3-1.5 GR 518 530 to 735 544	Roger Dunn	8260 2146 (H)
2B. Waitpinga Campground to Back Valley Rd	Southern Guidebook, Maps 1.5-2.2 GR 735 544 to 761 649	John Quinn	8294 3115 (H)
3. Back Valley Road to Moon Hill	Southern Guidebook, Maps 2.2-2.3 GR 761 649 to 682 726	Wandergruppe Bushwalkers, Hermann Schmidt	8344 4072 (H)
4. Moon Hill to Hindmarsh Tiers Road	Southern Guidebook, Maps 2.3-2.5 GR 682 726 to 737 803	Wandergruppe Bushwalkers, Hermann Schmidt	8344 4072 (H)
5. Hindmarsh Tiers Road to Blackfellows Creek Road	Southern Guidebook, Maps 2.5-2.7 GR 737 803 to 889 908	Women in the Bush Eleanor Martin Myra Betschild	8431 8187 (H) 8331 2992 (H)
6. Blackfellows Creek Road to Glen Bold	Southern Guidebook, Maps 2.7-3.2 GR 889 908 to 962 161	Richard Webb	8381 5308 (H)
7. Glen Bold to Piccadilly	Southern Guidebook, Maps 3.2-3.4 GR 962 161 to 924 264	Norrie Hamilton	8332 1982 (H)
8. Piccadilly to Norton Summit	Southern Guidebook, Maps 3.4-3.4 GR 924 264 to 922 332	WEA Ramblers Liz O'Shea	8352 1636 (H)
9. Norton Summit to Cudlee Creek	Southern Guidebook, Maps 3.5-3.7 GR 922 332 to 013 424	Colin Edwards	8264 1492 (H)
10. Cudlee Creek to Bethany	Southern Guidebook, Maps 3.7-4.4 GR 013 424 to 148 759	John Potter	0418 835 321
11. Bethany to Hamilton	Southern Guidebook, Maps 4.4-5.2 GR 148 759 to 045 102	John Potter	0418 835 321
12. Hamilton to Huppatz Hut	Southern Guidebook, Maps 5.2-5.9 GR 045 102 to 086 509	Dom Henschke	0422 430 330
13. Huppatz Hut to Spalding	Southern Guidebook, Maps 5.9-6.12 GR 086 509 to 785 903	Burra Branch Hugh Greenhill	8843 8115 (H)
14. Spalding to Georgetown	Northern Guidebook, Maps 1.1-1.6 GR 785 903 to 574 058	Kevin Liddiard	8289 4236 (H)
15. Georgetown to Mt Remarkable	Northern Guidebook, Maps 1.6-2.11 GR 574 058 to 345 667	A.R.P.A. Milton Turner Ron Capel	8263 2393 (H) 8251 7717 (H)
16. Mt Remarkable to Horrocks Pass Rd	Northern Guidebook, Maps 2.11-3.4 GR 345 667 to 250 828	Julie Starkey Gary Wright	8667 5077 (H) 8667 5077 (H)
17A. Horrocks Pass Rd to Dutchmans Stern	Northern Guidebook, Maps 3.4-4.2 GR 250 828 to 807 227	Michael Kerin	8642 4728 (H)
17B. Dutchmans Stern to Wilpena Pound	Northern Guidebook, Maps 4.2-5.8 GR 807 227 to 723 094	Simon Cameron	0401 623 436
18. Wilpena Pound to Parachilna Gorge	Northern Guidebook, Maps 5.8-6.8 GR 723 094 to 645 528	Alpana Station Operation Flinders Gavin Campbell	8648 4626 8242 3233 8296 8613 (H)



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