



Trailwalker

Summer 2016 Issue 138

Free





**5 Ordinary People
End-to-End Silly Sixers
A day walk in Switzerland
Friends Office moves to new location**




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Contents



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

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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 heysentrail.asn.au/trailwalker

The Trailwalker magazine is published quarterly:

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

The Trailwalker magazine has a distribution of 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@heysentrail.asn.au

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

Advertising Rates

1/8 page vertical \$40 per issue
1/4 page \$60 per issue
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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 heysentrail.asn.au/trailwalker

Magazine of the Friends of the Heysen Trail Issue 138 Summer 2016



President's Report

5

News

News

6



Greening Committee

13



Walks

16



End-to-End Silly Sixers

18



5 Ordinary people

22



A day walk in Switzerland

26



Walking SA News

29





The Friends of
the Heysen Trail
& Other Walking
Trails

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Lyn Wood	Walking
David Rattray	Office
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Julian Monfries	Honorary Membership

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Sally Fieldhouse	Secretary
Benita Rees	Publicity Officer
Hugh Greenhill	Section 13 Leader

Council Meeting Dates

Wednesday 16 December 2015
Wednesday 20 January 2016
Wednesday 17 February 2016

Summer Trailwalker Deadline

Friday 5 February 2016

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@heysentrail.asn.au.

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

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the Honourable
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Shuzhen Lu (Lucy)
Xiao Luo (Lilian).
Man Jiawen (Mandy)



Cover

Stile before Tunkalilla Hill, Heysen Trail
Photo: Mary Cartland

President

A Word from the President

Robert Alcock



The walking has slowed. The Friends Christmas picnic is in the past. The festive season must be upon us. After a busy year I am realising I had better start thinking of Christmas, and the coming new year.

The Friends have moved. Our office has been relocated to Epworth Building, 33 Pirie Street. The office will be sorted and functional by the time you read this Trailwalker. Thanks to all the helpers who sorted, packed and those who gave up a Saturday to get everything not thrown out into the new offices. Note the office will have its annual shut down from 11 December to 18 January 2016.

Our walk season has concluded, with all programmed walks being completed, even if there were a few warm days to cope with. End to End Five completed the Trail at Parachilna Gorge in August, and End to End minus One finished in October. Both the Parachilna Gorge and the Cape Jervis Trailheads were decorated to welcome the finishers, and provided a colourful backdrop for the celebrations. I was pleased to present finishing certificates at both the celebration dinners, which included a minus One certificate to myself.

Wednesday Twilight Walks have commenced, and with a range of walks from north to south, you can find the ones that suits and join in the fun. Reports of fun and good dining have come in from the first few walks.

The Friends Christmas picnic was held at Belair for the first time - and a resounding success it was. Great company, delicious food, bopping dance band, loads of lawn for the games and perfect weather, all added to a wonderful day. Was good to catch-up with so many familiar faces. We received so many compliments on the organisation and venue, that we will be looking to return in 12 months. Thanks go to the Belair Rangers who waived the venue fee and provided complimentary entry to our members. And many thanks to chief organiser John Newland, plus all those who stepped in to help on the day.

Colin and the German Walking Group have been able to find a route to by-pass the bitumen road walk at Inman Valley. The re-route is now complete,

with just one crossing of the main road. Colin and I have walked the route and it's wonderful to "follow the fence", and climb 8 new stiles, with no traffic in sight. Another good outcome to overcome the previous safety concerns of sharing the main road.

Morialta Park celebrated their 100th birthday with a picnic at the park. Thankfully we had members and friends turn up for the organised walks. I found it a good relaxing day with the members who came to promote the Heysen Trail. Unfortunately few of the public turned up to join in and enjoy the activities. Pleasing though was the number of walkers, including many family groups, who were out using the Parks network of trails. Would have been good for more of them to pop into the picnic activities as well.

As previously flagged, the Lavender Federation Trail will cross the Heysen Trail at Webb Gap, in the Tothill Range. SARTI, the Friends and others, will hold a function to mark the occasion. To be held on 17 April 2016 this will be an opportunity to showcase both trails and involve local groups.

With an extensive check and upgrade of the trail infrastructure over the next 5 years, the Trail Development committee are considering the purchase of a suitable 4x4 vehicle. I am keen to hear from anyone with a contact we could talk to regarding sponsorship of either a vehicle, or the maintenance of a vehicle. Contact me or the office with details.

The Warren Bonython Heysen Trail Foundation are planning a "Walk for Warren" on 1 May next year. Open to all walkers, including families. To be held at Newland Head/Waitpinga Camp Ground, with a mix of short and long walking opportunities. More as the plan develops.

Richard Trembath has looked at the visitor and day trippers who bushwalk in South Australia. His paper uses industry standard methods to report the estimated expenditure made by daytrip and overnight visitors in SA who bushwalk, as \$450 Million per year. This is a substantial sum. We will use this paper in discussion with the Tourism Commission in regard to product development under the State's current nature based tourism strategy.

Merry Christmas and I wish you all to experience exciting hiking in 2016.



News

Nominations for Honorary Membership

Nominations of members (including self-nominations) are invited to be submitted to Julian Monfries, Chairman, Honorary Membership sub-committee of the Council, including name, address, contact numbers, and qualifications.

Recommendations from the sub-committee will then be considered by the Council, before being presented to the full membership at the next AGM.

In order to be considered for the 2016 AGM, nominations should be received by the end of January, 2016.

Guidelines for Honorary Membership (Distinguished Service)

(i) normally at least 10 years of paid membership as an Ordinary, Family or Life Member;

AND

(ii) at least 6 years of substantial voluntary contributions to the Association,

including especially one or more of

- Membership of Council
- Chair of the various sub-committees
- Regular Walk Leadership Roles
- Maintenance Section Leader or Volunteer
- Office Volunteer

Guidelines for Honorary Membership (Exceptional)

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

Wanted - End-to-End 11 Group Coordinator

Are you interested in becoming the coordinator for the next End-to-End group commencing in 2016? The End-to-End groups walk the Heysen Trail over a period of 6 years. You may have a group of friends who would like to assist in the leading of the group.

The coordination involves being the point of contact for the group, organising buses to transport the walkers, updating the internet information for the group, etc.

Training and support will be provided by experienced walk leaders.

If you have enjoyed walking the Heysen Trail and are interested in assisting a new group to complete their journey along the Trail, please contact Lyn Wood via the Friends' office (8212 6299).

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Summer Closure of high-risk Finders Ranges National Park walking trails (from Walking SA news feed)

In the interests of public safety the following walking trails in Finders Ranges National Park will be closed from 1 December 2015 to 29 February 2016:

- St Mary Peak inside trail
- St Mary Peak outside trail
- Cooinda Campsite
- Malloga Falls Hike
- Mount Ohlssen-Bagge Hike

The decision to close some trails this summer was made by the national park rangers after several serious incidents in previous years involving walkers who were ill-prepared, had insufficient water and low fitness levels to undertake these challenging hikes during the high temperatures. The closures will reduce the risk to walkers and potentially to emergency services personnel who undertake search and rescues over summer when temperatures are at their hottest.

All other 15 walking trails in the Finders Ranges National Park will remain open, however summer temperatures and conditions can often make bushwalking dangerous and walkers should be prepared when bushwalking.

Best Bushwalks in South Australia

The October edition of Bushwalk.com eMag is out – with a focus on the best walks in South Australia. The articles include a profile on the Friends of the Heysen Trail.

Other articles include:

- Introduction to South Australia's best places to walk by Walking SA
- Bushwalking Leadership South Australia
- A Weekend in Deep Creek Conservation Park
- Letter from the Minister Hon Ian Keith Hunter MLC, South Australian Minister for Environment.

<http://emag.bushwalk.com/BWA201510.pdf>

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News

Office Report

Dom Henschke, Office Manager

Our move to the new office

As reported in the autumn edition, the Office Committee had been searching for new premises. It wasn't long after that edition went to press that we found a new home, which we moved into in late November.

Our office is now located at:

Suite 212, Second floor,

Epworth Building,

33 Pirie Street, Adelaide SA 5000

Phone

(08) 8212 6299

As well as keeping our existing phone number, our email and website addresses remain unchanged.

Please note that we no longer have a fax number. The usage of that has declined dramatically in recent years and it is not worth the expense of leasing an additional line.

Our business hours are also unchanged – Monday to Friday 10.30am to 2.30pm.

Due to the conditions of the lease, we are unable to display our 'Friends of the Heysen Trail' signage on the exterior of the building. However the Friends name appears on the tenant directory in the ground floor foyer and also on the second floor.

Access to the second floor is available by a lift or stairs.

Northern Guidebook now out of print.

We reported in the last issue that DEWNR have phased out production of the Heysen Trail guidebooks. They have been replaced by a series of 8 Heysen Trail sheet maps.

In August we secured the last copies of the Northern Guidebook, but we sold the last of them in September.

If you still want to purchase a Northern Guidebook, you may find one at other suppliers such walking equipment stores, map shops or the RAA on line store.

We do still have supplies of the Southern Guidebook and the full range of sheet maps.

The maps can be purchased as a set or individually - either from the office or our on line store.

The maps are priced at \$15.00 each and of course, members receive a 10% discount

Congratulations to walkers who have recently received E2E certificates & badges

The following walkers completed their Heysen Trail adventure in recent months:

Robert Hirsch	Dianne Walker	Kylie Allen	Susan Gilchrist	Cathy Kelly
Josh Cardwell	Peter Wilson	Peter Simons	John Babister	Dean Mortimer
Paula Stephenson	Imelda Jolly	Elizabeth Oram	Judy McAdam	Eve Buckley
Tony Sutton	Andrew Jolly	Dom Henschke	Vicki Cox	Greg Kelly
Dan March-Feltham	Jo Chesher	Marlene Henschke	Jerry Foster	Jane Haar
Andrew MacDonald	David Szilassy	Helen Morgante	Colin Edwards	Mary Cartland
Ian Small	Rob Kooymans	Wendy Wake-Dyster	Karen Williams	Michael Middleton
Chris O'Brien	Dana Florea	Peter Clark	Robert Alcock	Neville Haar
Russell O'Brien	Chris Porter	Carol Homewood	Carol Clark	Peter Solomon

New Members

The President and the Council would like to extend a warm welcome to the following 22 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.

Maria Barredo	Beverley Grubel	Lynda McCarty	Tiziana Saffi
Judith Birchmore	David Hawke	Denise Moriarty	Brett Sander
Ian Budenberg	Alette Jacobs	Monica Ogierman	Catherine Scougall
Rosemary Budenberg	Amy Johansen	Patricia Pigou	Melissa Williams
Wenfeng Chen	Beth MacGillivray	Soussan Pryor	
David Corbett	David MacGillivray	Paul Saffi	

Walking SA news and Heysen Trail updates

Do you want to receive news updates from Walking SA, news about the Heysen Trail, including re-routes and Friend's activities?

You can decide what information you want to receive by making selections within your member's account.

Once you've logged in, click on the 'Account' tab in the right hand section of the menu bar (the grey strip at the top of the page). That will open up the Account page. On the left hand margin you will see the sidebar menu and towards the bottom of that, you will find the 'Subscription options' line.

Within Subscription options, you will see a range of information services including:

- Trailwalker postal subscription
- Email subscriptions for topics (including The Friends)
- The Heysen Trail (including trail re-routes)
- Hiking

One of the hiking options provides news updates from Walking SA.

Members of the Friends are affiliate members of Walking SA and you can receive a wide range of excellent information from them. However, in accordance with our Privacy Policy, we do not disclose personal member information (including email addresses) to other organisations, including Walking SA.

So if you wish to receive news and information from Walking SA, you need to select that tick box.

Once you have selected the subscriptions you want, don't forget to click on the 'Save changes' button.

ALPANA STATION – *Escape the crowds*

Bushwalkers Transport Service

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

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website address www.alpanastation.com
Bookings Essential



News

Office closure

Please note that the Office will close for a holiday break at 2.30pm on Friday December 11, 2015. It will re-open on Tuesday January 20 at 10.30am.

Over the Christmas break the on line shop continues to operate, although with extended delivery dates. Normally we undertake to despatch orders within 3 business days.

Over the period of the office closure, we will aim to despatch orders within 5 business days.

Interested in volunteering in the Office?

Monday January 19, 2016 is our office Volunteers training day. If you are interested in volunteering, preferably for a day a week, the training day is a good opportunity to come along to meet other volunteers and find out what we do.

We have a number of volunteers rostered to each day, so you will be joining a team of interesting people whatever day you are free. Don't worry; we know our volunteers have busy lives. We are flexible and expect you will take time off for holidays and other commitments.

So, if you are interested, please email the Office (heysentrail@heysentrail.com.au). We will be delighted to answer any questions you may have.

Best wishes for Christmas & the New Year.

2015 has again been a big year for the Office volunteers. For the last 3 years the Office Committee has been anticipating a 'year of consolidation'. Instead we have seen challenges (no more bushfires please) and changes such as the introduction of the on-line store, website and office system upgrades. This year has topped the lot, with the search for and our move to the new office.

I guess we don't know what 2016 will bring, but now is an opportune time to thank the Committee and our volunteers for their efforts this year. I trust that they, along with all our members, have a safe and enjoyable break. I hope to see you somewhere along the trail in 2016.



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Letter to the Editor

Have a look at those stamps. They were issued by Australia Post in mid July 2015 and are entitled "Great Australian Walks". There are a set of four stamps all of the same value: 70c

The first stamp depicts a view of the National Pass, NSW. The second stamp commemorates the Cape to Cape Track, WA. The third stamp shows the Larapinta Trail, NT. The fourth stamps represents the Overland Track, Tas.

Have a good look at those stamps. Don't you think there is something odd about them?

A series of four stamps that suppose to represent "the varied and spectacular terrain of Australia (which) is a bushwalkers' paradise." An Australia Post news release (8 July 2015), describes the stamps as a showcase for "spectacular bushwalking destinations".

Once again, have a good look at those stamps. What do you see?

The Heysen Trail is not shown.

Which makes me wonder what are the decision making processes behind the release of a set of new stamps in Australia?

I have many questions: Why only four stamps? Why was the Heysen Trail not on a stamp? Who decides what subject matter needs commemorating on a stamp? How is that decision made? Did anyone approach the FOHT committee about the idea of issuing a series of stamps about "Great Australian Walks"? Is the message about the existence of the Heysen Trail not reaching beyond Adelaide?

Richard Milosh

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Every little bit counts

by Liz O'Shea

The WEA Ramblers celebrated it's 90th birthday earlier this year, remembering the occasion in 1925 when WEA students – then attached to the S.A. University – united to form a club to organise hikes, to enjoy the environment and to participate in conservation issues. The Club is now smaller in number but continues to organise fortnightly daywalks and the occasional long weekend 'camp' further afield. Individual members have always participated in trail issues, including the making of the Heysen Trail and continue this particular involvement by maintaining responsibility for Section 8 of the trail between Piccadilly and Norton Summit.

As I recall, our first involvement as a Club was in 1983 when the then Leader, Penny McGee, organised for us to attend a 'workshop' organised by Terry Lavender and his fellow employees from the D.R.S. It was held somewhere in the hills and had us moving mounds of earth from A to B, digging holes, erecting posts and suchlike – not something that we did every day! This was the start of our involvement but it was when the late Doug Leane (Hon. Member of the Friends) and his team moved to the Barossa area – sometime in the late 80s – and he suggested that the Ramblers take over Section 8 that our commitment commenced in earnest.



WEA Ramblers doing their bit

Section 8 is not long – approx. 20 kms – but being in an urban area we have had to realign the trail on numerous occasions. For instance, when Highways decided to widen the Old Norton Summit Road it obliterated a safe trail, requiring a realignment onto the Giles property – and a constant battle with the invasive broom! A later realignment of this section had the trail move to within Horsnell Gully CP and an exit onto Woods Hill Road – and then the only way

to maintain a link was through private property to Lobethal Rd. This of course necessitated negotiations with the trail Managers and the signing of agreements – a lengthy process. Further Highways activities meant that the trail along Summit Rd. near Mt. Lofty became hazardous but the realignment along Summers Hill Rd. was only achieved after prolonged negotiations and debates over property boundaries. It was a similar situation at the Summit and Greenhill Road intersection – as vehicle traffic in the hills increased so the trail had to be moved to 'safer' areas. Within Cleland CP the trail is on safe ground, with the only confusion caused by the 'new' signage but I think everyone is now accustomed to this.

The DEWNR is the present Manager of the trail and has tightened up its responsibilities for OHSW as it relates to volunteer involvement, but the WEA Ramblers plan to continue to contribute to trail maintenance, as it knows that 'every little bit counts'! – and appreciates the opportunities that the Heysen Trail provides for safe and happy walking.

Liz O'Shea WEA Ramblers

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Can't see the trees for the

Activities of the Greening Committee

Words by Neil Nosworthy

Photo courtesy of Jane Haar

Growing trees beyond Goyder's Line is fraught with difficulty as the Greening Committee has found out. After three years of planting at Worlds End near Burra, our best specimen is not yet up to waist high.

Worlds End

Four volunteers returned to Worlds End in early November to water the trees planted there. The result of this year's plantings is a mixed bag. The saltbush has done well but we picked up 80 empty trees guards. The dry spring clearly has had an impact although the survival rate is no worse than previous years. On the positive side, most of the survivors from previous years were showing good new growth.

Hopefully the trees received another watering with the subsequent good rains around Burra (59mm) and Robertstown (41mm). The plan is to return for another watering before Christmas.

Spalding

Our watering crew also visited the trees that we planted this year along the Bundaleer Channel near Spalding. We were greeted with a sea of wild oats and scarcely a tree in sight. But braving the snakes, we plunged into the wild oats and discovered that most (maybe 80%) of our 2015 plantings have survived.

The trees needed a good watering and our entreaties were duly rewarded with 60 mm at Spalding over the subsequent days surely giving the trees a boost.

2016 Plantings

Our new tree grower, Jenny Pascoe, has scheduled a potting session for the end of November in preparation for our 2016 planting.

The Greening Committee plans to plant a further 500 trees at Worlds End in 2016. We have scheduled the planting for Friday 29th April and Saturday 30th April plus Sunday 1st May if required. However the timing may depend on the weather conditions and potential scheduling conflicts.

Strategic Plan

In response to a request from Council, the Greening Committee is working on a strategic plan of greening activities over the period from 2016-2021. If you have any ideas, please contact Neil Nosworthy by email at neil@noztours.com.au or by phone on 0447922617 or 82786577 or through the office by email at heysentrail@heysentrail.asn.au or by phone on 82126299.



Looking for our trees at Spalding

The Friends of the Heysen Trail thank KENNARDS HIRE for their ongoing support of the Heysen Trail'

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News

Walking Committee Report

Lyn Wood, Walking Committee Chairperson

Where has 2015 gone? We have come to the end of another successful walking season.

The End-to-End groups have been very popular again. There were 7 End-to-End groups hiking the Trail in 2015. Congratulations to 2 End-to-End groups which completed the Trail this year. The End-to-End 5 group completed the Trail in August after a 6 year journey and the End-to-End Minus 1 group completed the Trail from North to South after a 3 year journey.

I would like to thank all of the End-to-End coordinators, the leaders of each group and the people who support each group: without you these groups would not happen.

At present, we do not have an End-to-End 11 coordinator to commence a new group in 2016, so if you are at all interested in coordinating a new group then please contact me via the office. You will be given all

the assistance you require for getting started. I am sure you will find coordinating/leading a group along the Trail will be very rewarding and great fun.

The Trailstarter and Trailwalker walks have again proven popular each week. Thank you to all of the leaders who volunteer their time to plan and lead these walks.

The Twilight walking program has now begun. These walks are a way of retaining some fitness over the summer and are very social. The groups usually go for a meal after the walk.

The Lavender Federation Trail is winding its way towards Clare. In April 2016, the Lavender Federation Trail will cross the Heysen Trail at Webb Gap. Celebrations are in the pipeline to celebrate this occasion.

Keep an eye out for the 2016 walking program (refer pages 16 and 17 - editor): there are some interesting walks planned.

Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year. See you somewhere on the Trail in 2016.

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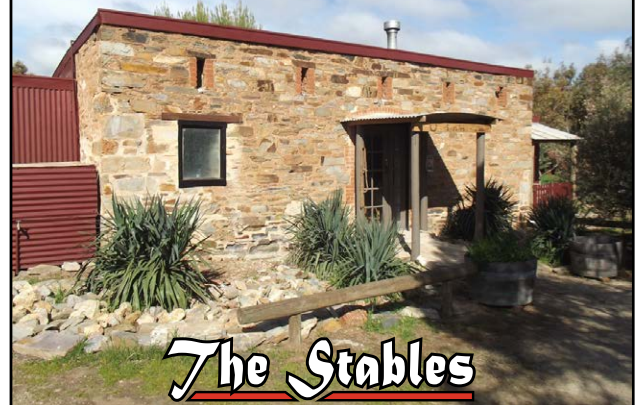
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2015-2016 Twilight Walk Programme

	October	November	December	January	February	March
1st Week of month		Wed Nov 4 Taverna Walk Brompton Richard Milosh	Wed Dec 2 Beaumont Mary Cartland	Wed Jan 6 Linear Park Lyn Wood	Wed Feb 3 Mt George Chris Porter	Wed Mar 2 Glenelg Chris Porter
2nd Week of month		Wed Nov 11 Anstey's Hill Robert Alcock	Wed Dec 9 Chambers Gully Arrienne Wynen	Wed Jan 13 West Beach to Grange Michael Middleton	Wed Feb 10 Wild Dog Gully Peter Clark	Wed Mar 9 Semaphore Hysterical Walk Julian Monfries
3rd Week of month		Wed Nov 18 German Club Walk Richard Milosh	Wed Dec 16 Black Hill Mary Cartland	Wed Jan 20 Craigburn Farm Dana Florea	Wed Feb 17 Cleland Adam Matthews	Wed Mar 16 Ginza Walk Richard Milosh
4th Week of month		Wed Nov 25 Marino Robyn Quinn	Wed Dec 23 no walk	Wed Jan 27 Coro Valley Robyn Quinn	Wed Feb 24 Tennyson/West Lakes Michael Middleton	Wed Mar 23 Brighton/Kingston Park Carol Homewood
5th Week of month	Register for these walks at heysentrail.asn.au/walks/		Sat Dec 26 Boxing Day Walk	 The Friends of the Heysen Trail Suite 212, Epworth Building, 33 Pirie Street Adelaide 5000 Phone 08 8212 6299 heysentrail.asn.au This version released 3 November 2015		
			Wed Dec 30 no walk			

Tuesday Trailstarters

As a trial, Russell O'Brien has kindly offered to lead some mid-week walks during the 2016 walking season. They will be Trailstarters and will be held monthly on a Tuesday. Please support this initiative.

May: Tuesday 3rd, Kuitpo
 June: Tuesday 7th, Scott Creek
 July: Tuesday 5th, Sturt Gorge (to be confirmed)
 August: Tuesday 16th, Belair
 September: Tuesday 6th, Bridgewater

Please make a note of these dates as these walks do not appear on the program on page 17. They will appear on the website and bookings can be made in the usual manner.

Myra Betschild - a truly senior citizen - pictured atop Mt Magnificent on her final field trip out as joint Leader of Maintenance Section 5 in the southern Mt Lofty Ranges. After ten years of contributing to the ongoing task of keeping the trail in good shape, it's now time to 'down tools' and hand over to the next generation! Great effort, Myra





End-to-End Walks

2016 Walk Season Programme

This version released 12 November 2015

heysentrail.asn.au

	1st Weekend	2nd Weekend	3rd Weekend	4th Weekend	5th Weekend
May	Sun May 1 End-to-End 10 Myponga to Mt Compass	Sat May 7 – Sun May 8 End-to-End 7 Raeville to Locks Ruin to Bowman Park Sat May 7 – Sun May 8 End-to-End 8 Worlds End to Burra to Wandallah Sun May 8 End-to-End 9 Nugget Rd to Mt Crawford	Sun May 15	Sun May 22	Sat May 28 – Sun May 29 End-to-End 7 Bowman Park to Mills Rd to Wirrabara Sun May 29 End-to-End 9 Mt Crawford to Pewsey Vale
June	Sat June 4 – Mon Jun 13 End-to-End 6 Quorn to Mayo Gorge Sun June 5 End-to-End 10 Mt Compass to Kyeema	Sun June 12	Sun June 19 End-to-End 9 Pewsey Vale to Tanunda	Sat June 25 – Sun June 26 End-to-End 7 Wirrabara to Block 9 Rd to Murraytown Sat June 25 – Sun June 26 End-to-End 8 Wandallah to Newikie Ck to Dares Hill Summit Rd	
July	Sun July 3 End-to-End 10 Kyeema to Dashwood Gully	Sat July 9 – Sun July 10 End-to-End 8 Dares Hill Summit Rd to Hallett to EE George Rd Quarry	Sun July 17 End-to-End 9 Tanunda to Kapunda	Sat July 23 – Sun July 24 End-to-End 7 Murraytown to Melrose to Alligator Gorge Rd Sat July 23 – Sun July 24 End-to-End 8 Cudlee Creek to Mewett Rd to Mt Crawford	
August	Sat Aug 6 – Sun Aug 7 End-to-End 8 EE George Rd Quarry to Spalding to Chlorinator Sun Aug 7 End-to-End 10 Dashwood Gully to Mylor	Sun Aug 14	Sat Aug 20 – Sun Aug 28 End-to-End 6 Mayo Gorge to Parachilna Sat Aug 20 – Sun Aug 21 End-to-End 9 Kapunda to Hamilton to Peters Hill	Sat Aug 27 – Sun Aug 28 End-to-End 7 Alligator Gorge Rd to Horrocks Pass to Broadview	
September	Sun Sept 4 End-to-End 10 Mylor to Cleland	Sat Sept 10 – Sun Sept 11 End-to-End 8 Chlorinator to Curnows Hut to Raeville	Sat Sept 17 – Sun Sept 18 End-to-End 9 Peters Hill to Gerkie Gap to Webb Gap	Sat Sept 24 – Sun Sept 25 End-to-End 7 Broadview to Woolshed Flat to Quorn	
October	Sun Oct 2 End-to-End 10 Cleland to Montacute Heights	Sat Oct 8 – Sun Oct 9 End-to-End 8 Raeville to Locks Ruin to Bowman Park	Sat Oct 15 – Sun Oct 16 End-to-End 9 Webb Gap to Burra Rd to Worlds End	Sun Oct 23	
November	Sun Nov 6 End-to-End 10 Montacute Heights to Cudlee Creek	Sun Nov 13	Sun Nov 20	Sun Nov 27	

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: heysentrail.asn.au/walks

Walk Registration

Register for a walk either online or over the phone.

Register online at heysentrail.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 weather policy, what to wear and what to bring, walk grades or to print off a colour copy of the programme, visit heysentrail.asn.au



TrailStarter & TrailWalker Walks

2016 Walk Season Programme

This version released 12 November 2015
heysentrail.asn.au

	1st Weekend	2nd Weekend	3rd Weekend	4th Weekend	5th Weekend
April			Sun April 17 TrailStarter Onkaparinga Robyn Quinn	Apr 22-25 Anzac Weekend Trip Away Grampians Simon Cameron	
			Sun April 17 TrailWalker Cleland Adam Matthews		
May	Sun May 1 TrailStarter Warren Bonython Foundation Walk	Sun May 8 TrailStarter Sturt Gorge Chris O'Brien	Sun May 15 TrailStarter Brownhill Creek Richard Milosh	Sun May 22 TrailStarter Trott Park Noeleen Smith	Sun May 29 TrailStarter Black Hill Esteban Garrido
	Sat Apr 30 - Sun May 1 TrailWalker Lavender Federation Trail Stephen Salib-Brown	Sun May 8 TrailWalker Boot Camp - Cleland Peter Solomon	Sun May 15 TrailWalker Yurrebilla -1 Michael Middleton	Sun May 22 TrailWalker Horsnell Gully Richard Milosh	Sun May 29 TrailWalker Morialta Dana Florea
June	Sun June 5 TrailStarter Bethany Peter Solomon	Sun June 12 TrailStarter Crafers Richard Milosh	Sun June 19 TrailStarter Belair Chris O'Brien	Sun June 26 TrailStarter Ambers Gully Richard Milosh	
	Sat June 4 - Sun June 5 TrailWalker Lavender Federation Trail Stephen Salib-Brown	Sun June 12 TrailWalker TBA TBA	Sun June 19 TrailWalker Yurrebilla -1 Mary Cartland	Sun June 26 TrailWalker Gandys Gully Rollercoaster Neil Rivett	
July	Sun July 3 TrailStarter Horsnell Gully Kevin Liddiard	Sun July 10 TrailStarter Sturt Gorge Robyn Quinn	Sun July 17 TrailStarter Mount George Chris Porter	Sun July 24 TrailStarter Scott Creek Adam Matthews	Sun July 31 TrailStarter Sea to Summit Half Alan Davis
	Sat July 2 - Sun July 3 TrailWalker Lavender Federation Trail Stephen Salib-Brown	Sun July 10 TrailWalker Montacute Mary Cartland	Sun July 17 TrailWalker Yurrebilla -1 Michael Middleton	Sun July 24 TrailWalker Mount Misery Richard Milosh	Sun July 31 TrailWalker Sea to Summit Full Alan Davis
August	Sun August 7 TrailStarter Waite Dana Florea	Sun August 14 TrailStarter Mt Crawford Robyn Quinn	Sun August 21 TrailStarter Parra Wirra Arrienne Wynen	Sun August 28 TrailStarter Blewitt Springs Noeleen Smith	
	Sat August 6 - Sun August 7 TrailWalker Lavender Federation Trail Stephen Salib-Brown	Sun August 14 TrailWalker Scott Creek Chris O'Brien	Sun August 21 TrailWalker Yurrebilla -1 Mary Cartland	Sun August 28 TrailWalker Mount Hayfield Peter Clark	
September	Sun Sept 4 TrailStarter Mount Lofty Graham Bald	Sun Sept 11 TrailStarter Cox's Scrub Chris Porter	Sun Sept 18 TrailStarter Marys Gully Arrienne Wynen	Sun Sept 25 TrailStarter Anstey Hill John Babister	
	Sat 3 Sept - Sun Sept 4 TrailWalker Lavender Federation Trail Stephen Salib-Brown	Sun Sept 11 TrailWalker Horsnell Gully Simon Cameron	Sun Sept 18 TrailWalker Morialta Adam Matthews	Sun Sept 25 TrailWalker TBA TBA	
October	Sun Oct 2 TrailStarter Mt Barker Graham Bald	Sun Oct 9 TrailStarter Mount George Adam Matthews	Sun Oct 16 TrailStarter Cleland Michael Middleton	Sun Oct 23 TrailStarter TBA TBA	Sun Oct 30 TrailStarter TBA TBA
	Oct 1-3 Long Weekend TrailWalker Lavender Federation Trail Stephen Salib-Brown	Sun Oct 9 TrailWalker Shepherds Hill Simon Cameron	Sun Oct 18 TrailWalker TBA TBA	Sun Oct 23 TrailWalker Beaumont Spur John Babister	Sun Oct 30 TrailWalker TBA TBA

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 heysentrail.asn.au

End-to-End Reports

The Camaraderie of a Walking Group – E2E6

By Greg Martin

Photography by Philip Bell and Greg Boundy

Our last weekend of the 2015 walking season summed up the year for many End-to-End Sixers. After 255kms of walking – from the Chlorination Station at Spalding North on the first weekend of May to Quorn on 20 September – Sixers had many highlights for the year. But for most it was that last night in Quorn that best captured the camaraderie of the group.

After a tough 19km walk over Mt Brown, we met at Emily's Bistro in Quorn for a roast lamb dinner with



End-to-End Sixers dressed from quacks to queens at the 'Q-themed' dinner in Quorn (PHOTO: Philip Bell)

the theme 'Q'. Sixers arrived dressed as quacks, queens and in quilts. There was an after dinner quiz, organised by Phil Bell and Greg Boundy, where either the questions or the answers involved the letter Q: from the music of Queen and Status Quo, to another name for quondong (wild or desert peach) and a movie made in Quorn (Sunday Too Far Away). After the quiz we watched another Q-themed movie on the Bistro's big screen, Priscilla, Queen of the Desert.

It is this camaraderie that was noted by many Sixers as their highlight. We walk at a different pace – particularly uphill – and enjoy different levels of fitness, but End-to-End 6 always walks as a group; reforming at stiles, gates and summits. While some of the fitter walkers have been known to race for the cars when they finally come into view, we never splinter into more than one walking group. Even Carlos Gallardo, one of our fittest walkers, commented on how impressive it was that we always stayed as a group. For Carlos this said much about the congeniality of the group.

Many Sixers wanted to thank their leaders – Lyn Wood, Chris Allen, Lucy Richards and Neil Rivett – for achieving this togetherness. Admittedly, there were occasions when our leaders did lose the trail or our meeting place; and boy, did they endure constant reminding throughout the rest of the day's walk. But despite these playful mumblings, they always kept us safe and on the Heysen Trail. They did have a reliable back-up in Mark Curtis's wonderful facility to read his GPS maps to ensure that we were not too far off the trail if we lost a marker.

Another feature of this camaraderie was the Silly Sixers award. At the start of every walk Phil Bell would announce last walk's winner. The Silly Sixer would be presented with a tiny silver plastic cup to tie on their backpack and a silly hat to wear on the day's walk. Award winners included Greg Boundy who got to wear his silly hat after Mt Remarkable when he was asked if he'd seen the cairn at the summit. Greg replied that he



Greg Boundy wears his Silly Sixers hat behind a cairn he mistook for a can (PHOTO: Philip Bell)



Kara Turner with her Silly Sixers award ... seeing a snake was certainly a lowlight (PHOTO: Philip Bell)

hadn't seen any can! For the rest of the weekend Greg was reminded what a cairn looked like every time we came across a pile of rocks. "This, Greg, is a cairn." Kara Turner won her Silly Sixers, which included a toy blue snake, for her reaction upon seeing a snake near where she had just stepped. While Kara thought the Silly Sixers award was a highlight, seeing the snake rated one of the lowlights of the year.

When asked of their highlights many walkers talked about the challenge of Mt Remarkable. We did the walk on Saturday 15 August and, what was a feature of all our walks this year, it was a clear and sunny day. Because it involved such a long and demanding walk



Early morning on Mt Remarkable and the mist beyond Melrose (PHOTO: Philip Bell)



A tough climb up Mt Brown for views that made it a highlight (PHOTO: Greg Boundy)

of 28kms, we started the climb earlier than normal. One group left the suspension bridge at the Melrose Caravan Park at 6.45am. The rest assembled at 7.15 at the North Star Hotel. We met for breakfast at the summit. The early group enjoyed a sunrise over Melrose; while both groups talked about the mist across the plain as the sun rose on a cold August morning. The surprise for many was not so much the climb to the summit of Mt Remarkable; that was something of an anti-climax compared to the long clamber over rocky creek beds to Alligator Gorge.

An equally challenging walk was our last of the year in September when we faced a three kilometre hike up from Broadview Homestead just to get to the trail and begin the climb to the summit of Mt Brown. For Brendan Gore the view from the top, across to Port Augusta and the top of Spencer Gulf, was a highlight. Again the day was clear with temperatures reaching 29°C.

Another memorable weekend was in June, along the Crystal Brook from Bowman Park to Mt Zion, and across the saddle in Wirrabara Forest Reserve. The weather again was clear, if cold, and the countryside green after good autumn rainfalls. The walk offered stunning views west to the Gulf, Port Pirie and Port Germein, and possibly Whyalla through the distant haze for those with better eyesight or imaginations. For Valerie Boundy this weekend of walking from Bowman Park to Wirrabara with its views west to the Gulf and east to Laura, Stone Hut and Wirrabara in the distance were easily her highlight. Also, she added, the revegetation that has happened so quickly after the devastating 2014 Wirrabara Forest fires that destroyed an estimated 90 per cent of the reserve.

Nikki Birrell-Price's highlight was the weather. Throughout winter End-to-End 6 had mostly fine weather for our weekends away, based at Gladstone, Laura, Melrose and Quorn. It meant that we could enjoy the scenery and not be hunkered down in hooded wet weather gear, straining against rain and wind. Nikki also enjoyed the walking more as she felt herself a lot fitter than when she walked many of the same trails with End-to-End 2.



End-to-End Sixers atop Mt Brown on another clear and sunny day (PHOTO: Philip Bell)



View of Upper Spencer Gulf from the ridge on descent of Mt Brown (PHOTO: Greg Boundy)





A slippery descent from Mt Remarkable but at least it's downhill (PHOTO: Greg Boundy)

For Adam and Suzanne Matthews it was the incredible scenery, particularly in the Southern Flinders where good rains made the creeks flow and the ranges green with pasture grasses. It was also how the group came even closer together. And, they had to add, the Laura Bakery! Others agreed with James Wenzel that those Golden North Honey Twin Towers that surprised us at lunch and on our last walk had to be one of the highlights. Also for James it was the weather and creeks that flowed freely with water.

One of Horst Zemkus's many memories of the year was the first weekend at Gladstone when he punctured a water pipe at the caravan park with his tent peg. It was only when he returned a fortnight later that the caravan park owners explained it wasn't simply a garden irrigation pipe, as they first thought. It was the main

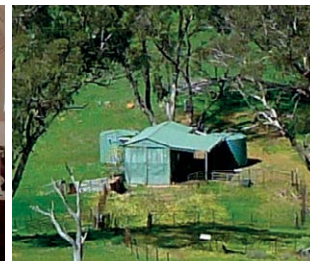


Wirrabara Forest Reserve and the devastation of the 2014 bushfires (PHOTO: Philip Bell)

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pipe supplying water to the public toilets in the park next door. The plumber was there all day repairing the leak while Gladstone was without a public toilet. The park owners were sympathetic. However, they did ask Horst to pitch his tent this time down at the far end of the park.

John Wallace's highlight was Mt Bryan. When I pointed out that we did that walk last year, John was quick to explain it was a catch-up for him. "It wasn't because the group weren't there," John assured me, "it was the view from the top".

All Sixers thought their leaders Lyn, Chris and Lucy, and Neil deserved a special thanks. Their contribution made this year's walking full of many memorable highlights.

Next year End-to-End Sixers look forward to two full weeks of walking to complete the Heysen Trail. In June, based in Quorn and Hawker, and Rawnsley Park in August. We are sure one of the highlights in 2016 will be completing the Heysen Trail after starting together as a group in 2011.

End-to-End 7 2015

by Peter Larsson

In this our 4th year, End-to-End 7 continued their journey north from Hamilton to Raeville, just out of Georgetown. The Trail took us through the Tothill Ranges, the Hallelujah Hills, Worlds End, the bald hills of Burra, Newikie Creek, Tourilie Gorge, Mt Bryan, and then along the water channel through Spalding.

This journey was marked by crossing Goyders line, and passing our halfway mark along the Trail.

The year was also marked by weekends away, a new feature for the group to experience a brief holiday while sharing a meal and drink or two with other walkers - and encountering some interesting and sometimes challenging country accommodation.

Throughout their previous 3 years walking the trail, the group had been blessed with ideal weather conditions, which became the inspiration behind the creation of the Blessed 7s award. This award - an engraved Huon pine plaque provided by Phillip Keane - is awarded monthly for 'outstanding achievements' amongst

the group. Some of the past recipients have included the 'hill runners', the 'drinks boys' and the 'walking wounded'. The weather gods continued to smile favourably as we progressed through the Newikie Creek area on schedule and without any wet weather disruptions that had affected other End-to-End groups in previous years.

The essence of each day on the trail was once again well captured in photos taken by Dale Searcy, an early recipient of the Blessed 7s award. Dale's photos are always eagerly anticipated, especially by those of us who have been chatting away with their head down.

Thanks again Dale for sharing these photos which can be viewed at flickr.com/photos/wilbyar.

My thanks to Julie, Judith, Graham and Simon for their assistance, leadership and support throughout the year, particularly when I was not able to lead the group. Special thanks also to David Keelan who has managed to drive his vehicle into the most inaccessible places to provide water and support for those of us walking the trail.

Well done End-to-End 7 walkers and I look forward to sharing your company on the Trail next year.

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5 Ordinary people - 1 extraordinary family

by Erina Sipos (Mum)

Footloose and kid-free, a nice long hike seemed just the thing to prescribe myself amid fears of an imminent depressive episode in mid 2014. With three days and three nights to spare, Luke, a friend and I ventured off to attempt hiking the southernmost 91km of the Heysen Trail, from Cape Jervis to Inman Valley General Store. Unfit, inexperienced and having only glossed over the guide book, it would be no mean feat. What I lacked in experience, Luke's rigorous army training more than made up for. What I lacked in fitness, I apologise and hang my head in shame for. What I lacked in knowledge of the trail's unrelenting terrain I soon gained as I put one foot in front of the other. Uphill. Downhill. Uphill. Downhill. Walkers follow beach. Walkers follow road. Walkers follow fence. Repeat. Nonetheless, we beheld all that is the glory and the beauty of the southern tip of the trail and we fell in love with nature all over again. Limping into Inman Valley-out of food, blistered and in agony-we felt such elation. Such pride in our achievement.

Light headed with vanity and fuelled by chicken pies and hot coffee, something of the pain was erased as we loafed at Yankalilla Bakery. And that's the defining moment when we gave voice to our desire to hike the beautifully difficult Heysen in it's entirety-and the kids would come too we announced-much to their surprise.

To say they were delighted would be a lie. A big fat lie. Worried about missing friends and being disconnected from their electronic vices were the biggest complaints. If we were going to pull this off we needed to gain momentum. Fast. So we applied for a Summit Club Adventure Sponsorship with Kathmandu. We nearly



5 ordinary people.....

fell over dead when they agreed to kit our kids out with gear. Finally, as we begun to get the children to venture outdoors in preparation, the idea grew on them.

The months that ensued were full of training and research, planning and packing. Forty-two boxes



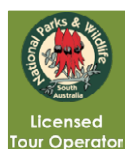
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- South Coast Track - 9 Day Trek - Tasmania
- Walls of Jerusalem - 6 Day Circuit - Tasmania
- Flinders Island - 7 Day Trek - Tasmania
- Jatbula Trail - 6 Day Full Pack Hike - NT
- Larapinta Trail - 6, 9 and 16 Day Treks - NT
- Kakadu - 9 Day Off Track Explorer - NT

filled to the brim with 10 weeks of food and resources to sustain our life in the magic outdoors. Seventy-two kilos of gear and rations compressed into five packs. Thirty something encouraging letters from classmates and teachers. And hundreds of kilometres of training hikes. There was no stopping us now.

Somehow it was still not enough to prepare us for what lay ahead. The first three days on the Heysen were painful. We dragged ourselves only six kilometres on our first day. It was pathetic. We didn't even make the first campsite. (Sorry if the owner of the private land at Parachilna Gorge is reading this; we left no trace, promise.) The second and third days were not much better. It was hard going. Noah, our youngest, couldn't bear the feeling of his pack, or shoes, or shirt. Every time we started off again after a break he complained for 20 minutes straight and dumped his pack in protest. It wore thin very quickly. We could've packed up and gone home but we still would have had to walk to Wilpena Pound first so we kept on.

Rain that threatened to be confidence-breaking, hit just as we had Yanyanna Hut in our sights. We ran like turtles but made it inside just before the 16 hour down pour. We delighted in not having to set up the tents and in the opportunity to lie shoulder to shoulder and take turns reading from the log book. It told of hikers like us, that had gone before us, proving that the trail could be conquered. Hikers we felt we knew. Even if their entries were only short.

Exhausted and not having seen a single soul (other than each other) for 6 days, we arrived at the humming Wilpena Pound Resort. It didn't matter that the rain persisted. We downed hot pies and cold ice creams while rummaging through the first three of our 42 food resupply boxes and then soaked off the hiker-hobo grit under steaming hot showers. We set up camp in nothing more than thongs (the shoe variety), thermal pants and rain coats. Everything else went in the washing machine and Noah and Emily idly played cards next to the laundry, waiting for the machine to thump to a stop. A new routine was birthed.

An upgrade from our unpowered tent site to a suite at the resort, along with an invitation to dinner and breakfast to boot, came from the resort manager while we perused the kiosk for items we might just need. Life was looking up. Morale went through the roof. We gladly traded in our tinned chicken and cous cous for surf and turf and a side of greens.

I wish I could say it was all smooth sailing from there. But it wasn't. We still had to summit Mt Arden. That day we learnt that hiking is a type and shadow of life. There are ups and downs. And more ups and downs. And false crests after false hopes. But then there are triumphs and victories shrouded in spectacular sunsets and life is worth the living, once more.



A great way to experience the outdoors

A few short days later we lost the trail on Pichi Richi pass, not being able to see the trail markers for the scrub. We had already been delayed leaving Quorn, having to wash and dry one of the down sleeping bags at first light, and having left a hiking pole at the railway station when posing for a photograph. We never made it to camp that night. And that's the first time we uttered aloud some choice words and the unspeakable question; "Why are we really doing this?". Only, no-one had the answer. The days turned into weeks and the still unanswered question remained.



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Friends along the way weren't afraid to ask the question. Family friends with fresh popcorn from Port Augusta Cinema's asked over a campfire at Buckaringa North. (We didn't get the memo that the fire season was extended). New friends asked over dinner at Quorn. The Spalding publican asked while informing us we were a day behind potential trail friends. Good friends asked over Black Sheep Pizza and Barber Shop haircuts in Burra. True friends from our other life asked while picnicking with us at Mount Lofty Botanic Gardens. Woodhouse, Marabel, Tanunda, Norton Summit, Crystal Brook, Inman Valley, Balquidder. Old friends. New friends. Good friends. Trail friends. True friends. And our beloved extended family too. They all asked.

Every day held new experiences that showed promise of holding the answer. Red range held the first backtrack for lost items; a tidy 9km round trip - a lesson in that for everyone. Eyre Depot held water rations and a fire experience we should probably never mention in print. Wonoka Creek held mud baths and the thrill of underage driving in a trusty farm ute. Hallet held the promise of a new kitty for Emily, having worn me down after years of begging and kilometre after kilometre of hearing what her imagined life with a pet cat would be like. Mount Crawford held a busload of sweaty year 7's who didn't seem to notice that we got lost. There are not enough markers in that forest! Somewhere else held hours of Yo Mamma jokes being told to Grandpa in drizzling rain. Curnows Hut held our hopes of dry firewood and a cabin after a day of pelting rain and



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fierce winds along a ridgetop. Smith Hill tank held a cold water hair washing experience and splitting headache. Laura held another hobo experience; drying our long hair under the hand dryers. A paddock with a gazillion cows held the 1000km mark. Kapunda held the realisation that Luke would be forced to leave the trail due to stress fractures in his shins and the children and I would go on without him. Rusted out cars. Bee hives. Cows. Bulls. Baby lambs. Dying sheep. Mountains. Dried up streams. The Milky Way. Processionary caterpillars. Bardi grubs. Rain moths. Ant bites. Fly stings. Squelchy wet boots. Solitude. 360 degree sunsets. Misty mornings. Muddy bums. Ladybug colonies. Reroutes. Flat GPS batteries. Trail buddies. A night off the trail. Pebbles in shoes. Prickles in socks. Watching grass grow. A finishing welcome party at Cape Jervis, with an honorary arch of hiking poles and hot pies at Yankalilla Bakery once again.

So why did we, 5 ordinary people, really spend 69 days carrying heavy packs so we could sleep in teeny tents and eat rations from fold up bowls for 69 nights? I can't

tell you. Except to say that we did it for us. Because we could. And you can too. Eli, Emily and Noah (our three children); of whom we are incredibly proud, are only 9, 10 and 12 years old. The youngest ever to hike the spectacular and confronting Heysen Trail. And they loved it. No lie.



.....1 extra-ordinary family

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A Wonderful Walk in Switzerland on the

by Richard Milosh

Zermatt - Gornergrat - Zermatt
To my anonymous reader, a letter...

If, like me, you wake up one cloudless dawn morning in your top bunk bed on the third floor of the Zermatt Youth Hostel, and open the wooden shutters that kept the freezing night air at bay, you will admire, as I have, the rose tinted first rays of sunshine on the flanks of the



Zermatt Youth Hostel, my room with a view is on the third floor, the first one on the left with the wide open windows!

Matterhorn Mountain rising majestically at one end of Zermatt. You will, no doubt, as a newbie in this part of the world, reach for your digital camera and capture that glorious, breath taking moment.



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Zermatt, (1608 m), once a collection of farmhouses, now a tourist resort thanks to the Matterhorn, winter skiing and summer walks.

Yes, dear reader, I was lucky to have had that experience. But first things first - breakfast, Youth Hostel style, awaits downstairs, where you will arrive just one minute before 7.00 to avoid the long queue, for the orange juice, bread, cream cheese, yoghurt, thin slices of processed meat, cereals, jam, (but no eggs), and move on to the coffee or tea machine, before finding a relatively quiet space on one of the many refectory style tables where you will deposit your tray, sit down and as you are buttering your bread, suddenly grasp where you have seen the Matterhorn before.

The Matterhorn ... you know, that mountain with a ring of stars around it. You saw it as you sat full of anticipation in the darkened theatre next to your mum and dad, the overture, of that Cowboy and Indian movie, you'd been waiting to see all week, when you were young, very young, before television, long before computers. Yes, dear reader, I am of that generation. Not the X, Y or Z but the HB generation (has been). Forgive my nostalgic musings.

After breakfast, when you have brushed your teeth and marvelled for the third time at the ingenuity of Swiss plumbing, you head for the exit, wearing your eiderdown jacket - the one you bought 4 years ago in Adelaide and never wore. You feel a bit self conscious but never mind, the air is quite nippy at 1608m as you head down hill, by narrow lanes, and turn left across a bridge over a fast flowing stream and just before you reach the only main road of Zermatt on the corner by the church, you will see them - silent, reproachful, eternal sentinels - dead of the Matterhorn. At another time, at a more leisurely pace, you will read the inscriptions and maybe shed a tear.

Right now the dead can wait. You are in a hurry to reach a place where you will have the "Matterhorn

e spectacular side

Experience", because the brochure in your hand says so and Swiss trains run on time. Your pace quickens as you head towards that station, thinking it is a pity Australia is so far away. You hardly blink at the shop windows with their tempting high quality Swiss watches on display, this early in the morning. You know they are beyond your means.

You wish you could have just another coffee and a pastry as you glance at the freshly baked regional delicacies in the pastry shop window. You don't stop. You are made of sterner stuff.

Oh, another endearing feature, you will have noticed: all vehicles on the streets of Zermatt are electric. Taxis, mini vans, utes, you name it, they are all electric. The Swiss have it all.

At the end of the main street, you turn right and enter the Zermatt station and surprise, surprise, you are not alone. Like you, hundreds of tourists are eagerly waiting to climb aboard the Gornergrat Bahn, the



The Gornergrat Bahn heading for Gornergrat.

clog mountain train. You have to be quick to find a seat on the train as you slowly advance in a jam packed, camera armed throng towards the wide open sliding doors of the red carriages. The four carriages are soon filled and with a clunk and a shudder you notice the scenery outside sliding away at an angle. Findelbach, Riffelalp, Rotenboden ... don't you like those Swiss German names as the electric mountain train steadily winds its way progressively further and further up, well above the tree line.

Inside a sea of expectant faces... Outside, the Swiss Alps are playing a game of hide and seek with you. A mountain top suddenly appears around a corner then it is lost to view. Digital cameras work overtime capturing



Not Rundle Mall, but the viewing platform at Gornergrat station.

the scenery through clean windows. Yes, you would have noticed, the Swiss trains not only run on time but are also surprisingly dirt free.

You are deposited half an hour later at Gornergrat, the last station, 3089 metres up and minus 2° Centigrade, clear blue skies, sunshine reflecting



The rose tinted flanks of the Matterhorn at 6.10 AM on a clear summer morning.

from glaciers and distant snow covered fields. The Matterhorn, there it is, you can almost touch it. The mountain rises, over 1400 m above Gornergrat. You are wearing 2 layers underneath your \$99 eiderdown jacket, you feel insulated from the bracing cold, only just.

A vast crowd of sightseers disgorges from the Gornergrat Bahn onto a viewing platform facing the Matterhorn. You stand amidst the crowd and look bemused as tourists around you pose with an expert smile for a photograph or a selfie. This is definitely not the bush, more like Rundle Mall, you think. What can you do? In Switzerland, you are seldom really alone.

You leave philosophical musings aside as the need for food becomes far more urgent. A big duty free souvenir shop awaits to relieve you from your Swiss Francs. You head for the buffet instead and choose an apple strudel with warm custard followed by a café crème. A reassuring feeling sinks in your body as you enjoy your morning tea, 3089 metres up.

You leave somewhat reluctantly the comforting warmth of the dining room, and after one more visit to the well marked WC, step outside the building and breath in a lungful of crisp cold air. You are now ready to walk back to Zermatt. It is 11.00 o'clock in the morning. Such a civilized time for a walk.



Richard Milosh enjoying his brief time at Gornergrat.



I told you so: "It's all the way down to Zermatt".





A panorama of snow covered mountains, near Gornergrat.

Zermatt ... four hours away. "It is all downhill from now." For once, this often heard statement by walk leaders, is plausible.

After checking the helpful trail markers, and your free map courtesy of the information counter, you follow the line of walkers stretching ahead in the distance. It is almost that simple. The path is rocky and Zermatt is down there somewhere out of sight in a narrow valley. A couple of hours later after walking, amidst a panorama of awe inspiring snow capped mountains, you are ready for lunch and what better place than the Buffet - Bar Riffelberg which happens to be conveniently located along the path just for that very purpose.

Fear not, in Switzerland, you will always find some place to drink and eat in the most remote location. Just as well, you think, because the goulash soup with croutons you chose at the self serve buffet has hit the right spot. You start imagining the Heysen Trail with buffet bars every 10 kilometres ... but deep down you know it will never happen and wonder why.

Your mid afternoon stroll continues downhill, and you notice the presence of cable cars heading in a variety of directions. Soon you enter the forests and before you know it, the buildings of Zermatt appear.

You are just in time for a Kaffee Luz to celebrate your achievement and you will follow this with a Rösti for dinner. You promise yourself you will return...one day.



Yes! A selfie, why not? Quite different from Mt Lofty...

Richard Milosh is a walk leader with Friends of the Heysen Trail and ARPA. The walk described was done in summer, on 6 September 2015 with the ARPA Swiss Tour organised by Albert Kuster.

Zermatt (1608 m) is located in Southern part of Switzerland near the Italian border and is very accessible by the Swiss network of trains.

For up to date information on Gornergrat:
www.gornergrat.ch

Kaffee Luz: Very hot sweetened weak coffee with a generous amount of Schnapps served in a tall glass. Ideal for a cold winter or a cold rainy day or anytime really.

Rösti: Crisp and golden shredded potatoes fried and or baked with the addition of cheese, bacon, chives, cream, etc often served on a frying pan or a very hot dinner plate. Ideal for lunch or dinner with a cold local beer.

Walking SA

2015 Trails Audit

From December 2014 to March 2015, Walking SA conducted a broad Trails Audit to identify issues related to the management and maintenance of walking trails in South Australia and the Northern Territory. I coordinated the distribution of a questionnaire to 135 groups, and collation and analysis of responses. Participants included local Councils, State government authorities, Walking Clubs, Friends groups, and LGA consultants.

Detailed feedback was received, with responses from Local Councils being particularly significant. In summary, the survey identified:

- 136 Walking Trails, many of which form part of larger trails networks.
- Information as to who is responsible for maintenance of specific trails
- Funding for trails development largely comes directly from LGA budgets – with most on-going trail maintenance carried out by paid council staff
- Additional funding is provided by the State and Federal governments.
- The support of volunteer groups is essential, valued and impressive. The Roxby LGA's Emu Trail is funded by BHP Billiton.
- Safety is a common issue – e.g. danger for walkers on shared-use trails, signage, trail surfaces, grading in terms of difficulty.
- Maintenance involves regular inspections and monitoring, fire prevention and recovery, keeping maps and signs updated.

- Awareness of delivering a walking 'experience' – e.g. minimising biodiversity impact, providing local history and heritage opportunities, redesigning to improve function.
- Ownership is an issue in Central Australia – e.g. traditional owners, 4 land tenures on the Mt Gillen climb.

Walking SA greatly appreciates the input of all respondents and has integrated the findings of the survey into ongoing strategic planning – e.g.:

- Assistance with funding applications
- Promotion of the health benefits of walking
- Facilitation of information about walking trails, community engagement in trails initiatives, coordination of interagency forums to develop trails across LGA boundaries.
- Maintenance of walking thoroughfares – e.g. preservation of unmade road reserves

As a direct result of the survey, Walking SA has a large database of Trails with information regarding their management and the identification of responsible authorities. This database serves as a reference point for Walking SA in its work with affiliated members, and as a resource in responding to enquiries from the wider community.

Jim McLean
Board member
WalkingSA



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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.

Trail Development 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 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		
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	Graham Loveday	8331 7595 (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	Michael Wienel	0424 739 037
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 Neil Finlay	0455 989 144 0427 327 370
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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