



Trailwalker



Autumn 2017 Issue 143


Free

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Contents



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

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YouTube youtube.com/HeysenTrail
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Mid North Branch
Phone (08) 8841 3450
Email burra.heyentrail@gmail.com

Membership Information

Single \$25 per year
Family \$40 per year
Schools & Organisations \$60 per year
Membership is valid for 12 months from
the date of payment

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
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
heysentrail.asn.au/trailwalker

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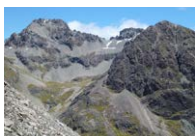
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The Friends of
the Heysen Trail
& Other Walking
Trails

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Open Monday to Friday
10.30am - 2.30pm

Volunteers

Mondays

Graham Loveday
Neil Nosworthy
Elizabeth Rogers

Tuesdays

Chris Caspar
Judy McAdam
Chris Porter
David Rattray
David Roberts

Wednesdays

Myra Betschild
Robin Bodycomb
Gilbert Downs
Wendy Fox
Jack Marcelis

Thursdays

Eve Buckley
Rick James
Julian Monfries
Judy Szekeres

Fridays

Cathy Bowditch
Julia McLachlan
Suzanne Mausolf

Relief Staff

Eve Buckley
Colin Edwards
Dom Henschke
Graham Loveday
Jack Marcelis
Robyn Quinn

About the Friends

Council Members 2016/17

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Julian Monfries	Secretary
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Chris Caspar	
Colin Edwards	
Dom Henschke	
Carol Homewood	
Suzanne Matthews	
John Newland	
Robyn Quinn	
David Rattray	
Richard Trembath	
John Wilson	

Sub-Committee Chairs

Colin Edwards	Trail Development
Neil Nosworthy	Greening
Lyn Wood	Walking
David Rattray	Office
Richard Trembath	Marketing & Membership
Julian Monfries	Honorary Membership

Mid North Branch

Kate Greenhill	President
Sally Fieldhouse	Secretary
Hugh Greenhill	Section 13 Leader

Council Meeting Dates

Wednesday 15 March 2017
Wednesday 19 April 2017
Wednesday 17 May 2017

Summer Trailwalker Deadline

Friday 5 May 2017

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.

Patron

His Excellency
the Honourable
Hieu Van Le AO

Honorary Members

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

Trailwalker Editor

Peter Wynen

Website Editor

Jeremy Carter

Membership Secretary

David Rattray

Office Manager

Dom Henschke

Trail Development Coordinator

Colin Edwards

Bookkeepers

John Wilson
Beiham Yang (Ann)
Mengyuan Chen (Chen)
Yunhan Feng (Hannah)

Cover

Cliff-top views,
near Hanson Bay,
Kangaroo Island
Photo: Peter Wynen



President

A Word from the President Robert Alcock



The time has come – my last report as President! Time to reflect on the past 6 years. So much has changed yet much has remained the same. Our membership has grown and is now around 1,000. This is one indicator of the strength of an organisation and its because of our extensive walk programme,

which continues to power on, with a new End-to-End group starting each year. Importantly, this provides the resources to run our organisation. Our volunteers and our dollars. A couple of walker stats – The Friends had 614 walkers booking onto one or many of 126 walks (days) with 3,923 days walked in 2016. That is a lot of boots we're putting on the trails. And there are a lot of dollars being spent in towns along the trails 1200km length.

Highlights from the past six years –

- Bushfires caused us much grief. 4 years in a row major fires destroyed sections of infrastructure, and 3 of them resulted in long reroutes. These events also delayed much of the work that we had planned to do, with resources going into re-routes and re-establishing long sections of the trail.
- We installed 11 new tanks, plus many camp benches, with much appreciation coming from the walkers out on our trail. A few new toilets as well.
- In 2011 we celebrated the 25th anniversary of the Heysen Trail (HT).
- A new Greening committee was formed and continues to plant and maintain trees and bushes along our trails.
- We lost our Patron when Warren Bonython AO died in 2012. His memorial event "A Day on the Heysen" attracted 556 walkers on the HT in 2013.
- The Warren Bonython Heysen Trail Foundation was formed to provide funding for trail improvements into the future. And a successful first fundraising event, "Walk for the Heysen", was held in May 2016.
- I walked many wet days and hot days, yet none was as memorable as walking through snow. Walkers

with End-to-End minus 1 were soaked with heavy rain before tramping through the snow over Mount Bryan in June 2014. A magnificent spectacle (and so so cold) rarely witnessed in SA.

- We have a new patron – His Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le AC, Governor of SA.
- We appointed an Ambassador – Ron Kandelaars, media personality with ABC891 and Ch 7, and formerly the producer of Ch 9 "Postcards".
- The Friends office was relocated to Pirie Street, a major exercise in itself.
- The Lavender Trail crossed the Heysen Trail and is moving on towards its Clare destination.
- The Friends received a Special Recognition Award at the inaugural Walking SA Awards night 2016.
- The recent reorganisation of the Trail Development committee has provided for shared responsibilities, and now a number of programs can be run concurrently. There are probably some extra things I missed, though that's a good list. And it was achieved with the work of many individuals and groups. The Friends have been very fortunate to have so many wonderful volunteers who get stuck in and get things done. I can't thank them enough. Yes, some put in more than others, (a few put in a lot of time to the Friends), yet all those involved are all doing what they can. It is the strength of our organisation. We continue to grow with new volunteers stepping forward, and there is still heaps of work to do into the future.

My passing comment: The Heysen is an adventure hike, not much of it is a formed path. This pleases most walkers and frustrates just a few walkers. I believe if we ensure we promote the trail as an Adventure Hike, we set it apart from the walking paths provided elsewhere. And the thing that we all love about the Heysen is its diversity. Let's celebrate the diversity and challenges we find on the trail. It makes completing the walk all the more rewarding.

And don't worry, I am not going too far, I will still be involved with the Friends for many years to come. Keep walking, near and far. Remember, so many trails, so little time.



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Email: info@walkswithnature.com.au

Website: www.walkswithnature.com.au



News

A new End-to-End group to commence in 2017.

What better way to see South Australia than walking the Heysen Trail? Starting at Cape Jervis and finishing at Parachilna Gorge, you will get to see parts of SA only accessible by foot and be amazed at how lucky we are having a World Class Trail on our doorstep.

The first End-to-End12 (E2E12) walk is on Sunday May 21st 2017, starting at Cape Jervis and finishing at Cobbler Hill. Registrations for the walk will open on Monday April 3rd at 12:01am.

Volunteer E2E12 co-ordinator Adam Matthews is a keen bushwalker, a passion he shares with his wife Suzanne, who will also be leading the group. They can both be seen walking around the many trails in the Adelaide Hills all year round. Together with four other volunteer leaders who have all finished the trail at least once, they look forward to leading and encouraging you along for what will be an experience that will stay with you forever.

An introductory walk will be held on Sunday April 30th in the Adelaide Hills for registered participants. The

walk should help walkers gauge their fitness levels in preparation for the walk season ahead and allow them to meet their leaders and ask any questions they may have. If you are looking at joining E2E12 don't start your pre-season training too late and make sure you include some HILLS in your regime. All information about the introductory walk will be provided upon registration for the first E2E12 walk

Congratulations to the following walkers who recently received End to End awards for completing their Heysen Trail adventure.

Krista Eager Janet Roberts Gregory Wright

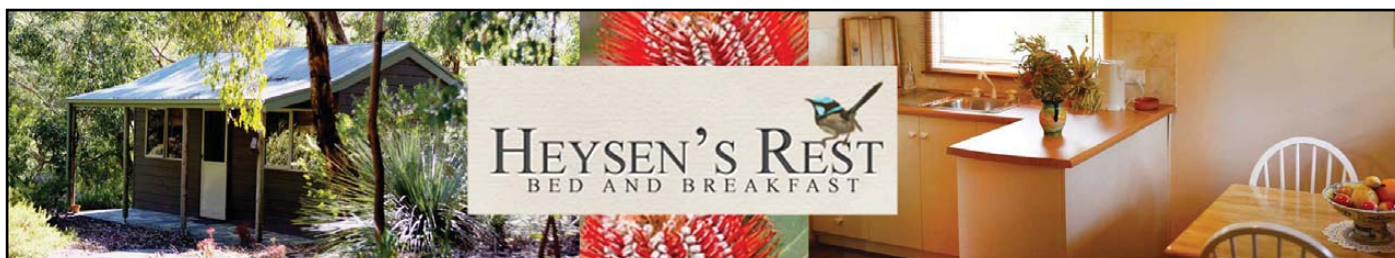
If you or a friend have walked the Heysen Trail from "End to End" and you haven't yet received your complimentary End to End award, you can now apply on-line.

There is an End to End certificate application form on the Friends page on our website. The address for the web page is:
heysentrail.asn.au/friends/end-to-end-certificate/

New Members

The President and the Council would like to extend a warm welcome to the following 21 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.

Julia Archer	Talia Hisgrove	James Rault
Pennelopy Day	Tim Hisgrove	Darron Richardson
Sue Dickson	Wayne Hoban	Debbie Stemberger
Gail Gill	Heather Jensen	Robert Surman
Paul Gill	Amy MacKenzie	Jennifer Trenwith
Brendan Hennessy	Bea Myers	Marilyn Wiley
Laura Hisgrove	Zoe Pennington	Rosemary Willoughby



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The Beginning of the End

by Simon Cameron (reprinted from Issue 131, Autumn 2014)

About this time of the year, resolutions are made and loins girded to start walking the Heysen Trail from End to End. In April and May the aspirants embark from Cape Jervis on a journey into the unknown for most of them. It is a worthy goal for all kinds of reasons, and to help the beginners it is worth reviewing what it takes to reach the end.

It is important to realise that although the Heysen is a marked trail, it is not a made trail, and covers a diversity of terrain from rocky rubble to ankle deep sand. Its diversity makes it one of the most interesting trails in the world, but it is also a challenge. You need to be prepared for windy ridges, washing creeks, rock scrambles, muddy downs and hard tracks. Being a regular road walker will not prepare you for the Heysen. Nor will climbing Mt Lofty, but the Sunday morning climb from Waterfall Gully to the coffee shop will give you the cardiovascular fitness to carry on a conversation for the entire length of the trail. This is valuable since End to End groups perfect the art of walking and talking over the six years it takes to reach the end.

This raises the first important issue that every new Ender needs to consider. Walking with an End to End group is a communal process and not a quiet stroll in the woods, stealthily watching for birds and other fauna. The one bonus from this is that you will not see any snakes if you are reptile phobic. Walking in a group is immensely beneficial. You meet all manner of people with a common interest, and I quickly discovered that walkers are adventurers who see the world as an opportunity to step out. The group also offers a wealth of knowledge and experience. If you are interested in more than where your next footstep is going, then you will be amazed how your curiosity will be answered.

With the group advantages, come responsibilities. You are effectively a part of a team, and there are team rules, and they vary with each walk depending on terrain and conditions. - **listen carefully to the walk briefing for the days instructions.**

In the first two walks from Cape Jervis you will discover the level of fitness required. This will make the difference between striding comfortably and enjoyably along the trail to dragging yourself exhausted to the end. Whether you enjoy the Heysen trail will be determined by the preparation and fitness work that you do. If you just walk once a month you will be plagued by problems such as blisters, muscle soreness and injuries. The minimum training requirement is one "Trailwalker" standard walk every week during the walking season, and thrice weekly summer one hour walks to maintain the fitness. The Friends offer

Trailwalks every Sunday that will build your skill and endurance or you can organise your own walk to suit.

In addition to the minimum, if you want to get stronger and fitter, add in two cardiovascular efforts (raising heart rate) of 20-30 minutes every week. Then when you climb up Mt Arden to survey all before you, your heart will be pounding with exhilaration rather than exhaustion. You will find yourself part of the group rather than trying to catch up to the group.

Having determined to get your fitness to the level required, also know that walking is not just something you learn as a toddler. It is a skilled activity with techniques for every terrain. Learning how to use walking poles correctly, walk over rocks, and descend slopes requires practice, but will make you much safer, and generally less tired. The best way to learn is in a walking club. Watch, ask and listen and the skills of long distance walking are yours.

So is the Heysen trail for you?

Remember that life is a research project and the Heysen Trail offers you all of South Australia.

See you on the trail
Simon Cameron



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The 30th Annual General Meeting of the Friends of the Heysen Trail and Other Walking Trails Inc will be held at 7.30pm on Friday, 24th March 2017 at Woodville Lawn Bowling Club, Oval Avenue, Woodville South. Free car parking will be available in the car park; enter from Koolunda Avenue.

The agenda for this meeting is printed to the right

Nominations are sought from you, our members, for election to the Friends Council at the Annual General Meeting, for all positions including the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and half of the remaining members (our Constitution calls for not less than four and not more than ten non office bearing members).

Council meetings are currently held on the third Wednesday of each month at 5.30pm, in a room adjacent to the Friends office in Epworth House, 33 Pirie Street. Meetings usually conclude by 7.30pm.

In addition to Council, there is an opportunity for members to contribute to one of the various Committees: Walking, Trails Maintenance, Marketing and Membership (inc. Trailwalker), Office and Greening etc.

To nominate, please complete and copy or detach the form below and send it to:

The Secretary

Friends of the Heysen Trail

Suite 212, Epworth House

33 Pirie Street Adelaide, 5000

Agenda

1. Apologies
2. Acceptance of the Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on 18th March 2016
3. President's Report
4. Financial Report
5. Maintenance Report
6. Election of Officers
 - 6.1 President
 - 6.2 Vice President
 - 6.3 Treasurer
 - 6.4 Secretary
 - 6.5 Council Members
7. Appointment of Auditor
8. Election of Honorary Members
9. Other Business
 - 9.1 Setting of annual subscriptions
 - 9.2 Any other business
10. Close of Meeting.

At the conclusion of the business of the evening, Guest Speaker Ron Kandelaars, the Friends Ambassador, will talk about his links with the Heysen Trail through the media.

Tea and coffee will be served at the conclusion of the evening. Please bring a plate of light supper.

Note: Any member wishing to move a motion at the AGM should be aware of the Constitutional requirements as follows: "Notice of any motion proposed to be moved at a General Meeting by any member not being a member of the Council shall be signed by the proposer and seconder and shall be delivered to the Secretary at least seven days before the meeting. No motion moved by any member other than a member of the Council shall be entertained by the meeting unless notice thereof has been given as aforesaid."

Nomination Form

I.....wish to nominate for the position of

President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Council Member.

.....
(Signature of Nominee)

.....
(Proposer)

.....
(Please Print Name)

.....
(Secunder)

Nominations close at 2.00pm On Friday 17th March 2017 at the Friends office

Note: We welcome nominations for Council, particularly from new members. The section of the Friends Constitution relevant to nomination and election to the Council is reproduced on the opposite page

Election of Council Members at AGM

The Section of the Friends Constitution relating to Management of the Association, and to the procedure for nomination and election of members of the Council is reproduced below.

8 MANAGEMENT

- (1) The affairs of the Association shall be managed and controlled by a Council which may exercise on behalf of the Association all the powers conferred on the Association by this Constitution, and may do all such things as are within the objects of the Association except such things as are required to be done by the Association in General Meeting.
- (2) The Council shall consist of the President of the Association, together with a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and not less than four, nor more than ten other members, all of whom shall be elected at an Annual General Meeting of the Association.
- (3) The President shall hold office for a period of two years and shall be eligible for reelection after that period, provided that after three terms in office he or she shall stand down for at least one year.
- (4) The Vice-President, the Secretary, the Treasurer and half of the other members shall retire annually. The members to retire each year shall be determined by the Council which shall ensure, as far as possible, that they shall retire in rotation. A retiring Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer or member shall be eligible for re-election without nomination.
- (5) Nominations for election as President, Vice-President, Secretary or Treasurer, or as a member of the Council shall be invited by notice in the Association's Newsletter or other appropriate publication not less than 21 days before the Annual General Meeting. All persons nominated for election must be members of the Association.
- (6) Nominations must be in writing and must be signed by two members of the Association and by the nominee to signify his willingness to stand for election.

They must include brief biographical details of the nominee for distribution to members at or before the Annual General Meeting and must reach the Secretary of the Association not less than seven days before the Annual General Meeting; provided that if an insufficient number of nominations has been received to fill the vacancies, additional nominations may be accepted at the Annual General Meeting.
- (7) If the number of nominations received is more than the number of vacancies to be filled, an election to fill the vacancies shall be held by secret ballot.

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Friends of the Heysen Trail and Other Walking Trails Inc.

AGM 2017

Come to the Friends' AGM

7.30pm Friday March 24 2017,
at the Woodville Lawn Bowling Club,
(not the 10-pin bowling centre on Port Rd)

Oval Avenue, Woodville South

Hear about our Association's activities in 2016 and the plans for 2017.

Meet your council (they are the people who make the decisions)
and find out how we spend your money.



Guest Speaker: Ron Kandelaars, the Friends Ambassador, will talk about his links with the Heysen Trail through the media. Currently seen on Channel 7 and heard on ABCradio 891, Ron is best known as the writer/producer/presenter (with Keith Conlon) of Channel 9's popular long running travel program 'Postcards'



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Bookings Essential

A NEW YEAR AND NEW EXPERIENCES

Activities of the Greening Committee

Words and photo by Neil Nosworthy

A wet spring in 2016 and a mild summer so far have been good for our trees and have reduced the requirement for watering. In 2017 we plan to continue to water our trees at Worlds End and undertake a new planting along a section of the Lavender Federation Trail near Point Pass. And, as usual, we are looking for opportunities for 2018 and beyond.

Worlds End

2016 was a good year for our trees at Worlds End. We visited the site to water the trees in early December. About 80% of the new planting were still alive and were growing well. The older trees were still making slow progress with the best specimen growing by about 20 cms during the year. However as the pictures show, the tree doesn't provide much shade let alone privacy. But we will continue watering for another season and hope for more progress.

2017 Planting at Point Pass

We are discussing the arrangements of our 2017 planting on the Lavender Federation Trail near Point Pass with a local farmer, John Michalk. While the details for the planting are yet to be finalised, we aim to carry out most of the planting on **Saturday 29th April 2017** following preparations on Friday 28th. Final arrangements will be communicated closer to the event. If you want to be involved, please contact Neil Nosworthy on neil@noztours.com.au.

2018 Projects

As usual, we are looking for new projects for greening the Heysen Trail. Thanks to Kay Sachse who has suggested some more planting along the Bundaleer Channel as well as along Willogoleeche Road near Hallett and Booborowie Road. We will investigate these options but are also interested in any other opportunities. If you have any ideas for improving the environment along the Heysen Trail (not just planting trees), please contact Neil Nosworthy on neil@noztours.com.au.



Our best tree at Worlds End, January 2016



The same tree in December 2016

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MT BROWN ACCOMMODATION

INDULGE YOURSELF ON THE TRAIL...



From the Editor

The article on page 29 of the Summer 2017 issue of the Trailwalker (issue 142) made mention of Walking SA's involvement with the Wirraparinga Trails Project. Jim McLean of Walking SA advises that more information about the project, including maps of the proposal and a full list of the supporting partners is now available at <http://brownhillck.org>.



Shearers Quarters accommodation ~ sleeping up to 17 people

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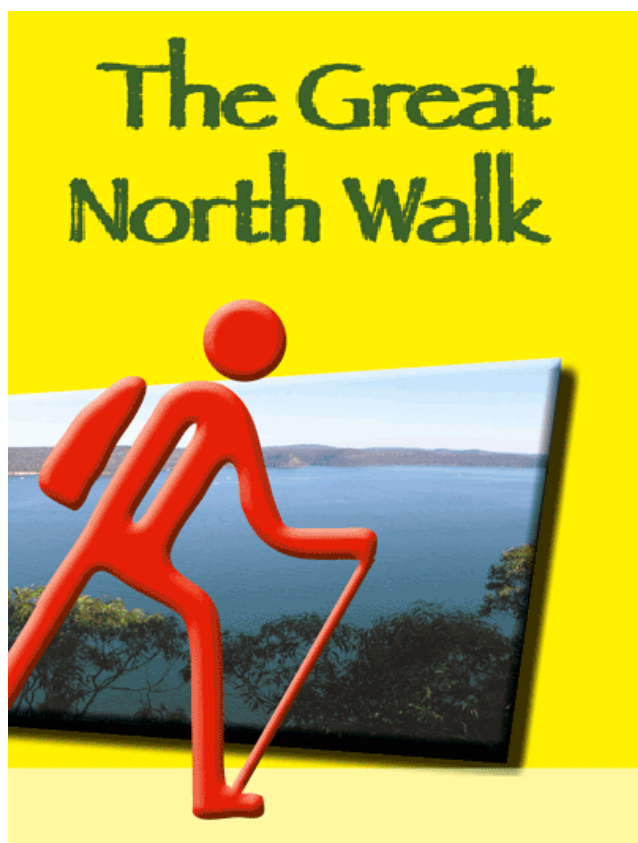
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Great North Walk.....Sydney to Newcastle



Members of The Friends are invited to participate in this extended walk of 250km on the Great North Walk track in October 2017. Created as a Bicentennial project in 1988, the walk starts at Macquarie Park, Sydney and finishes at Queens Wharf, Newcastle. The Great North Walk takes in some of the most impressive scenery in NSW, including a ferry ride on Sydney Harbour, Lane Cove River bushland, State forests, rugged ranges and the Newcastle coastline.

This is an extended walk, so above average fitness is required, as we will average about 25km per day.

Dates: 11th October 2017 – 27th October 2017

Estimated price: \$1600 - \$1700 for accommodation and charter bus

- does not include travel to or from Sydney
- does not include meals
- includes charter bus from Newcastle to Sydney Airport on 27th October 2017

Due to transport and accommodation limitations, the number of walkers is capped at 18 (plus a reserve list).

Public transport will be used for some legs of the walk, particularly in Sydney, so all participants will need to get their own Opal Card to pay for the bus, train and ferry rides.

Registrations open 14th March 2017. A deposit of \$800 per person is required when registering for the walk in order to secure accommodation.

SALE!!

WALKING GUIDE BOOKS AND MAPS

France (Tour Mont Blanc, Dordogne, Provence, Pilgrims' Way)

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Scotland (West Highland Way)

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SALE!!



News



Walk for the Heysen

Supporting our Walking Trails



Walks 5km | 8km | 15km

Mount Crawford Forest

**Sunday
21 May 2017**

Walk for the Heysen

This event is on again in 2017.

The Friends fundraising arm, The Warren Bonython Heysen Trail Foundation will again hold the successful walking event in 2017. Mark in your diary Sunday May 22. We expect the variety of walks will again attract a load of new enthusiastic walkers out to the Mount Crawford area.

Once again we will be asking the Friends and Foundation members to assist on the day. An organising committee has been set-up with Neville Haar as the coordinator general. To be part of the organising group, please email or phone the office with your details. heysentrail@heysentrail.asn.au

Warren Bonython Heysen Trail Foundation

We have received advice from the Australian Taxation Office that donations to the Foundation are now tax deductible. Donations can be made through the website <http://wbheysentrailfoundation.org.au>



Friends of Heysen Trail

French Fancy Weekend

Mt Plantagenet and Worumba Range
(east of Hawker)

Mid July

3 nights from Friday 14th July
Shearers Quarters Twin Share (max 10 persons)
Inc evening meals and aperitifs

Hosts Simon and Jenny Cameron

\$300 per person





2016-2017 Twilight Walk Programme

This version released 10 November 2016
heysentrail.asn.au

	November	December	January	February	March
1st week of month	Wed Nov 2 Marino Sheep Walk Robyn Quinn	Wed Dec 7 Brownhill Creek Robyn Quinn	Wed Jan 4 Glenelg Caroline Prescott	Wed Feb 1 South East Parklands Rosemary Hayward	Wed Mar 1 Wild Dog Glen Sue Dickson
2nd week of month	Wed Nov 9 Thai on Hutt Richard Milosh	Wed Dec 14 Street Art CBD Vicki Cox	Wed Jan 11 Greek on Seaview Richard Milosh	Wed Feb 8 Beaumont Mary Cartland	Wed Mar 8 Bistro on Hyde Park Richard Milosh
3rd week of month	Wed Nov 16 Fifth Creek Wade Mary Cartland	Wed Dec 21 Chambers Gully Arrienne Wynen	Wed Jan 18 Multicultural Adelaide Julian Monfries	Wed Feb 15 Lynton - Mitcham John Babister	Wed Mar 15 Stirling/Crafers Vicki Barrett
4th week of month	Wed Nov 23 Western Linear Park Lyn Wood	Wed Dec 28 No walk	Wed Jan 25 Cleland Adam Matthews	Wed Feb 22 Semaphore Beach Walk Neil Rivett	Wed Mar 22 tba tba
5th week of month	Wed Nov 30 Black Hill Mary Cartland				Wed Mar 29 tba tba

SMALL GROUP WILDERNESS WALKING AND HIKING TOURS

- Larapinta Trail – 3, 6, 9 and 16 Day Treks - NT
- Kakadu – 7 and 9 Day Treks – NT
- Jatbula Trail - 6 Day Trek - NT
- Frenchman's Cap - 5 Day Trek - TAS
- South Coast Track - 9 Day Trek - TAS
- Walls of Jerusalem - 6 Day Trek - TAS
- Flinders Island - 7 Day Trek – TAS
- Overland Track - 6 Day Trek - TAS
- Bungle Bungle Trek – 6 Day Trek - WA

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End-to-End Walks

2017 Walk Season Programme

This version released 6 February 2017

heysentrail.asn.au

	1st Weekend	2nd Weekend	3rd Weekend	4th Weekend	5th Weekend
May	Sat May 6 – Sun May 7 End-to-End 7 Quorn to Dutchman Stern to Eyre Depot Sun May 7 End-to-End 10 Cudlee Creek to Mewett Road Sun May 7 End-to-End 11 Myponga to Mt Compass	Sat May 13 – Sun May 14 End-to-End 8 Bowman Park to Mt Zion to Wirrabara Forest	Sat May 20 – Sun May 21 End-to-End 9 Wandallah to Newikie Ck to Dares Hill Summit Rd Sun May 21 End-to-End 12 Cape Jervis to Cobbler Hill	Sat May 27 – Sun May 28 End-to-End 8 Wandallah to Newikie Ck to Dares Hill Summit Rd Sun May 28 End-to-End 11 Mt Compass to Kyeema	
June	Sun June 4 End-to-End 10 Mewett Road to Mt Crawford	Sat June 10 – Sun June 18 End-to-End 7 Eyre Depot to Mayo Gorge Sat June 10 – Mon June 12 Long weekend End-to-End 8 Wirrabara to Block 9 Rd to Murraytown to Melrose	Sat June 17 – Sun June 18 End-to-End 9 Worlds End - Burra - Wandallah Sun June 18 End-to-End 12 Cobbler Hill to Tapanappa	Sun June 25 End-to-End 11 Kyeema to Dashwood Gully	
July	Sun July 2 End-to-End 10 Mt Crawford to Pewsey Vale	Sat July 8 – Sun July 9 End-to-End 8 Melrose to Alligator Gorge Rd to Horrocks Pass	Sun July 16 End-to-End 12 Tapanappa to Balquhider	Sat July 22 – Sun July 23 End-to-End 9 Dares Hill Summit Rd - Hallett - EE George Quarry Sun July 23 End-to-End 11 Dashwood Gully to Mylor	Sun July 30 End-to-End 12 Balquhider to Waitpinga
August	Sun Aug 6 End-to-End 10 Pewsey Vale to Tanunda	Sat Aug 12 – Sun Aug 20 End-to-End 7 Mayo Gorge to Parachilna Sat Aug 12 – Sun Aug 13 End-to-End 8 Horrocks Pass to Broadview to Wooshed Flat	Sat Aug 19 – Sun Aug 20 End-to-End 9 EE George - Spalding - Chlorinator Sun Aug 20 End-to-End 12 Waitpinga to Tugwell Rd	Sun August 27 End-to-End 11 Mylor to Cleland	
September	Sun Sept 3 End-to-End 10 Tanunda to Kapunda	Sat Sept 9 – Sun Sept 10 End-to-End 8 Dutchmans Stern to Eyre Depot to Buckaringa	Sat Sept 16 – Sun Sept 17 End-to-End 9 Chlorinator to Curnows Hut to Raeville Sun Sept 17 End-to-End 12 Tugwell Rd to Inman Valley	Sun Sept 24 End-to-End 11 Cleland to Montacute Heights	
October	Sat Sept 30 – Mon Oct 2 Long weekend End-to-End 10 Kapunda to Hamilton to Peters Hill to Gerkie Gap	Sat Oct 7 – Sun Oct 8 End-to-End 8 Wooshed Flat to Quorn to Dutchmans Stern	Sat Oct 14 – Sun Oct 15 End-to-End 9 Raeville to Locks Ruin to Bowman Park Sun Oct 15 End-to-End 12 Inman Valley to Myponga	Sun Oct 22 End-to-End 11 Montacute Heights to Cudlee Creek	Sun Oct 29
November	Sat Nov 4 – Sun Nov 5 End-to-End 10 Gerkie Gap to Webb Gap to Burra Road Sun Nov 5 End-to-End 11 Cudlee Creek to Mewett Road	Sun Nov 12	Sun Nov 19	Sun Nov 26	

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

2017 Walk Season Programme

This version released 6 February 2017
heysentrail.asn.au

	1st Weekend	2nd Weekend	3rd Weekend	4th Weekend	5th Weekend
April		Sun April 9 TrailStarter Carrick Hill Richard Milosh	April 14-17 EASTER no walks	Sun April 23 TrailStarter no walk	Sun April 30 TrailStarter Mount George Estaban Garrido
		Sun April 9 TrailWalker Boot Camp Alan Davis		Sun April 23 TrailWalker no walk	Sun April 30 TrailWalker Kersbrook Peter Solomon
May	Sun May 7 TrailStarter Kuitpo Michael Middleton	Sun May 14 TrailStarter Ambers Gully Kevin Liddiard	Sunday May 21 Special Event Warren Bonython Foundation Walk on the Heysen	Sun May 28 TrailStarter Willunga Noelene Smith	
	Sat May 6 TrailWalker Lavender Federation Trail Stephen Salib-Brown	Sun May 14 TrailWalker Cape Jervis Sue Dickson/Debbie S		Sun May 28 TrailWalker Shepherds Hill Simon Cameron	
June	Sun June 4 TrailStarter Mount George Chris Porter	Sun June 4 TrailWalker Uraidla/ Mt Lofty Judith Ellis	Sun June 11 TrailStarter Crafrers Graham Bald	Sun June 18 TrailStarter Belair Michael Middleton	Sun June 25 TrailStarter Stirling Richard Milosh
	Sat June 3 TrailWalker Lavender Federation Trail Stephen Salib-Brown	Sun June 11 TrailWalker Warren Richard Milosh	Sun June 18 TrailWalker Waitpinga Caroline Prescott	Sun June 25 TrailWalker Morialta Adam Matthews	
July	Sun July 2 TrailStarter Chambers Gully Michael Middleton	Sun July 9 TrailStarter Mylor/Aldgate Circuit Rosemary Hayward	Sun July 16 TrailStarter Marys Gully Arrienne Wynen	Fri14-Sun16 Extended Walk Worumba Simon Cameron	Sun July 23 TrailStarter Burnside Dean Mortimer
	Sat July 1 TrailWalker Lavender Federation Trail Stephen Salib-Brown	Sun July 9 TrailWalker Anstey Hill John Babister	Sun July 16 TrailWalker TBA TBA		Sun July 30 TrailStarter Cobblers Creek Kevin Liddiard
August	Sun August 6 TrailStarter Onkaparinga Robyn Quinn	Sun August 13 TrailStarter Anstey Hill Kevin Liddiard	Sun August 20 TrailStarter Willunga to Old Nourlunga Richard Milosh	Sun August 27 TrailStarter Mount Barker Graham Bald	
	Sun August 6 TrailWalker Gandys Gully Rollercoaster Neil Rivett	Sun August 13 TrailWalker Mount Hayfield Peter Clark	Sun August 20 TrailWalker Morialta Estaban Garrido	Sun August 27 TrailWalker Beaumont/Cleland Mike Joyce	
September	Sun Sept 3 TrailStarter Sturt Gorge Noeleen Smith	Sun Sept 10 TrailStarter Newland Head Robyn Quinn	Sun Sept 17 TrailStarter Morialta Lyn Wood	Sun Sept 24 Rambler - Tothill Range John Smyth (Bushland Conservation)	
	Sun Sept 3 TrailWalker Scott Creek Adam Matthews	Sun Sept 10 TrailWalker TBA TBA	Sun Sept 17 TrailWalker Myponga Simon Cameron	Sun Sept 24 TrailStarter - Street Art CBD - Vicki Cox	
				Sun Sept 24 TrailWalker - Black Hill - James Wenzel	
October	Sun Oct 1 TrailStarter Trott Park OTR Noeleen Smith	Sun Oct 8 TrailStarter Wittunga Gardens Helen Morgante	Sun Oct 15 TrailStarter Para Wirra Arrienne Wynen	Sun Oct 22 TrailStarter Aldinga Scrub Lyn Wood	Sun Oct 29 TrailStarter TBA TBA
	Sun Oct 1 TrailWalker Mount Pleasant John Babister	Sun Oct 8 TrailWalker TBA	Sun Oct 15 TrailWalker TBA	Sun Oct 22 TrailWalker TBA	Sun Oct 29 TrailWalker Mystery John Babister
			Wed Oct 11 - Fri Oct 27 GREAT NORTH WALK Peter Solomon		

Walk Grades

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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

10 Peaks Challenge

Words: Judy McAdam Photos: Bernie Victory

In April 2016 I received this Challenge in an email.

“Set yourself a target:

Climb the 10 highest Mountains in Australia over a week or set yourself the target of doing it on one day.

You may wish to climb more than 10 – up to 16 are possible.

And support Centacare’s Bilby Bus at the same time.”

Already familiar with the work of the Bilby Bus, having raised funds, trained and walked the Kokoda Track in 2015 for the cause, I accepted by return email and wondered about the enormity of the challenge I had undertaken.

The Bilby Bus is a mobile playgroup offering support to at-risk families and their preschool children.

My personal targets were to be \$700 for the Bilby Bus and to do 10 peaks in a day.

On Sunday January 8, with my Everyday Hero account showing over \$700, I arrived in Thredbo with my husband Rob, who was to be one of the amazing support team to connect with 30 like-minded trekkers and 6 partners ensuring the food was bought and cooked and the drinks fridge kept well stocked.

Bernie Victory is responsible for the organisation of the week and his wife Pauline had the support team and menus all under control.

The plans for the week were to reconnoitre the 16 mountains in groups on Monday and Tuesday looking for the best routes in and out, to rest on Wednesday and to attempt the challenge on Thursday.

On Monday we divided into three groups to scout the best means of approach for a set of mountains.

Group 1 Mt Twynam, Little Twynam, Mt Devious, Curruthers Peak and Mt Lee starting from Charlottes Pass.

This was my group and we were tasked to find a route from the Main Range track to Little Twynam to avoid having to backtrack.

Group 2 was responsible for Mt Northcote, Mt Clark, Muellers Peak, Alice Rawson, Mt Townsend, Abbott Peak and Byatts Camp.

Group 3 had Mt Kosciuszko, UPER (Unnamed Peak on Etheridge Ridge), Rams Head North and Rams Head.

The morning went well for most teams but around lunchtime sunshine gave way to fog, thunder, lightning and high winds driving stinging hail which meant that the groups raced towards the chairlift back to Thredbo Village or the cars at Charlottes Pass.



Crossing the Snowy River

Tuesday saw much better weather. We went out in two groups having determined on Monday that there was really no viable alternative route to Little Twynam.

I chose to do the Kosciuszko, UPER, Rams Head North and Rams Head group of peaks with the thought that if I totally ran out of steam on Thursday I would have done them and would at least have 11 peaks for the week.

Thursday was Challenge Day.

At around 4.30am 29 slightly crazy trekkers set off from Schuss Lodge to be driven to Charlottes Pass. Tensions were high and not helped when my car had an encounter with a kangaroo and I spent the rest of the trip imagining a caved in door. Fortunately it was just a glancing blow with his tail and no damage was done.

7 high achievers had their sights set on 16 peaks, 9 others on 10+ peaks, while the remainder had various peaks to bag to meet their weekly targets and would leave the group as they met their personal goals.

The sun was just rising as the two groups headed down towards the Snowy River. The forecast for the day was sunny and 23.

The peaks are summited in geographical order using the Main Range Track to link the mountain clusters. Once the track was left there was seldom a trail and



Top of Australia

map reading and cross country walking on a variety of terrains was necessary.

The first group were Mt Twynam 3rd highest, Little Twynam 13th (for the 16 peaks), Mt Dubious, 11th (16 Peaks, optional extra for 10 peaks), Carruthers peak, 9th and Mt Lee equal 15th.

Next we moved on to the middle group of peaks - Mt Northcote, 12th, (16 Peaks, optional extra for 10 peaks), Mt Clark 15th and Muellers Peak 13th for the 16 peakers. Alice Rawson Peak, 7th, Mt Townsend, 2nd, Abbots Peak, 9th and Byatts Camp, 8th are also in this area and require off-trail navigation and some rock scrambling, particularly on Mt. Townsend.

As an interesting aside Mt Townsend, an impressive rocky peak was originally named Kosciuszko until it was realized the peak we now know as Kosciuszko was 19 metres higher and the names were swapped.

The day had turned out to be much warmer than anticipated - around 28 - and with no wind. Patches of residual snow were used to cool down by rubbing on the backs of the neck and to fill caps to slowly melt and trickle down the back.

Water, as well as energy levels, were in short supply for a number of trekkers, plus we had little appetite to eat the foods we had brought with us. Personally I was grateful for energy gels, sickly sweet they may be but they do pack an energy punch. By now pain killers and blister kits were also in high demand.

Australia's 16 Highest Peaks		
Height ranking	Mountain	Height (m)
1	Mount Kosciuszko	2228
2	Mount Townsend	2209
3	Mount Twynam	2195
4	Rams Head	2190
5	Unnamed peak on Etheridge Ridge (UPER or Baldwin's Peak)	2180
6	Rams Head North	2177
7	Alice Rawson Peak (Edwards Peak)	2160
8	Unnamed peak SW of Abbott Peak (Byatts Camp)	2159
9	Carruthers Peak	2145
9	Abbott Peak	2145
11	Unnamed peak NW of Mt Twynam (Mt Dubious or Watsons Crags)	2136
12	Mt Northcote	2131
13	Little Twynam	2,120
13	Muellers Peak	2,120
15	Mount Lee	2,100
15	Mount Clark	2,100

To reach the next peak there was a half hour uphill grind with unpopular steps, to reach the trail to the top of Kosciuszko. That conquered we had 3 peaks to go. Imagine our delight when we found a supporter had stashed some soft drinks at Rawsons Pass for us.

Recharged we tackled UPER, our name for the unnamed 5th highest peak, and headed off along the steel walkway of the Kosciuszko Walk towards the final peaks. The 6th highest, Rams Head North was first and as we headed towards Rams Head we met the faster 16 peak group looking happy that they had finished but a little sheepish as they had climbed the wrong peak and when they got to the top and realised it wasn't high enough had to come down and go up the right one.

Rams Head, the 4th highest and our final peak was bagged in triumph. Now all we had to do was get off the mountain and back down to Thredbo Village.

Not quite as easy as it sounds. Darkness was closing in as we reached Eagle Chairlift which had been closed for a couple of hours. There was still 5km to descend to the village via trails and ski slopes.

Eventually one of the supporters appeared out of the dark. 16 hours and 37 minutes after we left Charlottes Pass we were back in Thredbo Village.

Back in the lodge congratulations were shared and food and drinks were enjoyed as we reflected on an amazing day where team work, mutual support and grim determination triumphed.

Of the walkers there were three Friends of the Heysen Trail members, Kath Butler, Matthew Howie and myself.

To sum up over \$15,000 was raised towards keeping the wheels of the Bilby Bus turning, over 450 peaks were summited over the week by 30 walkers aged between 22 and 66.

Personally I exceeded my goal bagging 12 peaks in one day, 13 for the week and 5 of the peaks I climbed twice. Thank you to members of the Friends who supported my fundraising. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.



Final Peak



Tramping the Leatham...and beyond

Leatham Conservation Area is in the northern area of South Island New Zealand

Story by Alan Davis, photos John Hillard and Alan Davis

The rain had finally eased only to be replaced by gusting, gale force winds that threatened to destroy our little lightweight tents at any moment. This precarious bivvy, about 130 metres below the summit of the Raglan Range had been hastily thrown up late the previous afternoon when, thwarted by deteriorating weather and reduced visibility, our attempted crossing over the mountains into Hellfire Creek had to be aborted. But a few metres below on a little ledge was a far less exposed spot and having quickly repositioned our camp, we waited hopefully for an improvement in the weather that would allow us to continue on with the trip the following morning.



John Hillard.....
One tough cookie!

John Hillard by a large margin has hiked, trekked, tramped and bushwalked more than anyone I've ever met. But the one small corner of the planet I probably know better than him is New Zealand so having agreed earlier in the year to team up for a walk over there this summer, it was left to me to come up with a route. John's only proviso was if

we were to be out for longer than a week, could a food drop be organised? My immediate thought was "let's do a trip through the Leatham Conservation Area". The only access into this region from the west is via a swing bridge over the Wairau River so spare provisions could be left at the start of the walk to be retrieved on our way back out. Problem solved.

Few trampers in New Zealand know of the Leatham and the usual guide books virtually never mention the

place. The little info available generally describes it as a rarely visited area of beautiful valleys linked by passes that cross and recross the Raglan Range. There is a sprinkling of huts all dating back to the 1950's and some tracks but venturing in here definitely requires good route finding skills. The reward is access to a brilliant area of back country that you'll be forced to share with few others.

With Nelson Lakes Shuttles providing transport out to Six Mile Creek on the Rainbow Rd (a high valley four wheel drive track that links St Arnaud with Hanmer Springs), we shouldered our packs for the 90 minute walk down to the swing bridge over the Wairau and having left our food drop in buckets carefully hidden in the forest, crossed into the Leatham. From here it's



Crossing the Wairau into the Leatham

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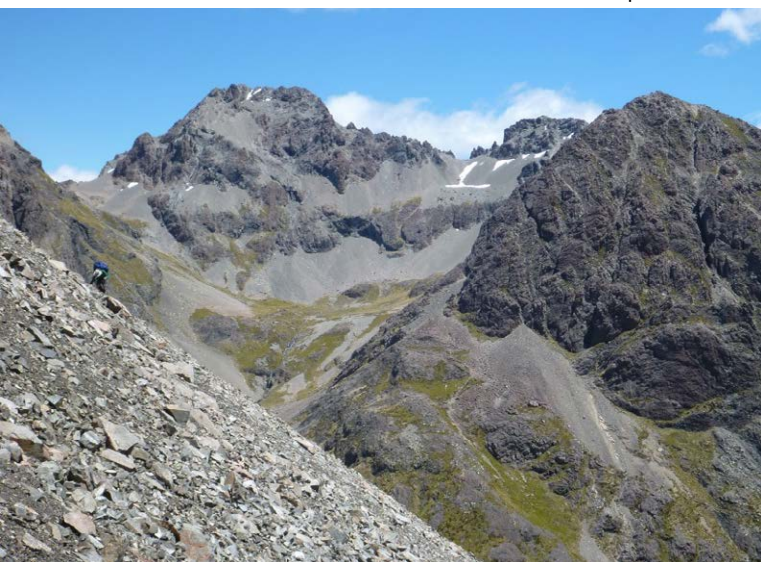
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EXPLORANGES

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a 3 to 4 hour walk into Lees Creek Hut on a relatively good track that follows close to the river. Some lovely country through here ends at broad river flats with the little 4 bunk hut set back against the forest. We set up camp as the hut was occupied but the sandflies soon drove us inside our tents for an early night.

It's fair to say the trip really began in earnest next morning. Leaving the flats, we entered the forest following old deer trails initially well above the river. After a period of boulder hopping up the creek bed we crossed to the true left picking a way through the generally open beech forest, climbing steadily all the time. After about 3 hours with a real sense of relief the treeline is reached and the spectacular head of Lees Creek breaks into view. The unmarked pass over



Climbing above Lees Creek up to the Raglan Range

the Raglan Range is a low point between Pts 1965 and 1938 which is clearly recognisable on the map but the approach is up a massive scree/rock rubble slope, which is steep and nasty. About 2.30pm we were finally on the pass which, bathed in warm sunlight, seemed the perfect spot for a well earned late lunch. About an hour below the range on the Branch River side is a beautiful tarn ledge. I'd stopped here late one afternoon on a solo trip through the Leatham some years ago and once again it seemed the perfect place to camp for the night.

From the ledge, near vertical bluffs block direct access to Branch Stream so it's necessary to follow below the range up valley for a while to access a huge scree that descends all the way to the river. Initially having climbed a little too high, some back tracking was necessary but by 10am we'd made our way down to the Branch. Again old deer trails speed progress through the forest and after a final climb well above the river

to avoid a gorge, we arrived at the tiny two bunk Top Branch Bivvy just in time for an early lunch. To say Top Bivvy is rarely visited is probably an understatement. The hut book dates back to 1985 and one recent scribe had noted the first entries were made before he was born. The book also records that one 'Alan Davis from Happy Valley in South Oz' stopped here for the night on 1/1/ 2011.

There is, according to DOC a marked route from Top Bivvy down Branch Stream but I'm doubtful it ever sees any maintenance. It certainly is far from a walk in the park and you need to take care especially after crossing slips or side streams to find where it re enters the forest. But any track is better than none and we were glad for it. Around 4pm after fording the river for a final time just above the confluence between Branch and Misery Streams, we came to the little six bunk hut set back in the forest just above the river flats, sharing our evening with a pair of middle aged Kiwi sisters who were using the hut as a base to explore some of the side valleys. They'd followed the river in from the north describing the section of track between Siberia Hut and Lost Stream as literally "dangerous".

The marked track up Misery Stream is anything but, generally offering good travel never far from the river. It really is a beautiful valley and thus completely misnamed. I can only deduce perhaps one of the early explorers up here made the mistake of bringing his "wife"? along and she made his life a misery for doing so. The balmy weather had continued into our fourth day and stopping at Top Misery Hut for morning tea, we had a good break, rightly suspecting things would get much tougher here on in. After the hut, all tracks end. Re entering the forest, we used old deer trails as much



Top Misery Hut



as possible to avoid areas of treefall. John's suggestion to cross the river to the true right proved to be a good one, the forest being quite open and providing quick access to the treeline. Thereafter the climbing began in earnest and it took until mid afternoon to reach the upper slopes of the Raglan Range. Here confusion over where the pass across the mountains actually was, along with the deteriorating weather had forced our retreat. Hastily dropping back down, at the first sound of running water, little more than a trickle through the tussocks, we had pitched camp, getting the tents up just in time as the rain began to fall. Here more than 24 hours later we awaited our fate at the hands of the Weather Gods.



Our bivvy below the Raglan Range

After two nights stuck on the side of the mountain, we finally awoke to a cool morning, clear skies and the promise of a much better day. It's probably fair to say this northern crossing of the Raglan Range was the one big navigational quandary of the trip. When I had hiked through here some years ago, albeit in the opposite direction, the

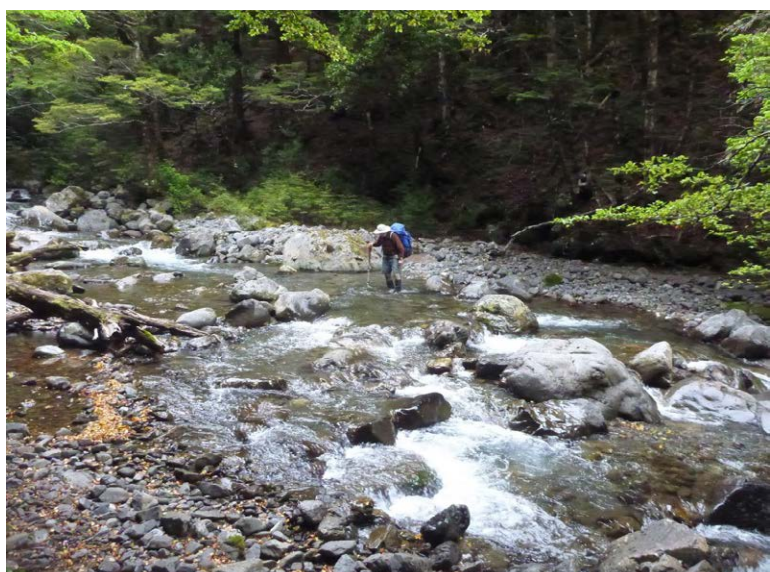
information at hand was to look for the most northern col on the range and I had found it without difficulty. (This had been before the days of using a GPS to accurately note your coordinates.) Not so trying to find it this time from the eastern side of the range. There seemed any number of possibilities where the col might be and we'd been forced to explore them all. However after a while I heard John call out "here it is".....Yes and no. Yes, it was a clear, straight forward low point on the range leading over into Hellfire Creek, but no, definitely not the spot where I'd crossed. But after dropping down the far side, about 50 metres to the south I could see my little col. It was probably the only nook and cranny we hadn't explored on the other side of the range. Either way we were across the Raglan and our joy was palpable.

Well if Misery Stream is most certainly misnamed, not so Hellfire Creek. This is a tough trip and a long day. The source of the Hellfire is a beautiful tarn and we'd really hoped to camp the night here but alas, it wasn't to be. The stream plunges almost vertically after leaving the tarn so it's necessary to traverse high up the western flank of the range to avoid these bluffs. Picking a way down through the steep tussock slopes leads back to the river and eventually into the forest. Good and bad news now. The good, there is a track, the bad it is difficult to follow and easy to lose. DOC no longer maintain it and the markers date back to the deer culler days. But you have to persevere because the



The source tarn of Hellfire Creek

alternative, bushbashing your way down stream is the stuff of nightmares. The heavily forested valley narrows as it descends and the creek cascades through a series of gorges. The most important thing is to find where the route crosses and recrosses the river. Miss these and you're up to your neck in it. The final five crossings of the Hellfire are the most difficult but because the river level was down, they proved straight forward. However almost in sight of the end we came to one final obstacle, a vast area of treefall that climbed high up into the forest. There was nothing for it but to bash and crash our way through which probably cost us more than an hour, plus plenty of skin. But finally out the far side it wasn't long until we were fording the Hellfire one last time, above where it flows into the Wairau River. On the opposite bank we immediately pitched camp, getting



One of many crossings of Hellfire Creek

our tents up just as the rain which had held off all day decided to make a reappearance.

The drizzle continued all night, only easing early morning which gave us enough time to pack and follow the Wairau upstream for an hour. After recrossing the swing bridge out of the Leatham and having retrieved our food buckets, we set off down the Rainbow Road for the 6 km's into Connors Creek Hut. Arriving here at 10.30am, it wasn't long before the weather crapped out again but to be honest, come rain or shine, we'd already decided on having a well earned rest day. Even though it was mid summer, the hut was freezing so we soon had the open fireplace working overtime (there is an unlimited supply of firewood in the forest). We'd always left our intentions after finishing in the Leatham open but with the time lost on the trip so far it seemed there was little hope of reaching the Lewis Pass Highway to the south or St Arnaud to the north. John had to be back in Nelson by Jan 7 so my suggestion was we could hike up Paske Creek, cross over into the Clarence Valley then follow it down to Lake Tennyson. From the lake it's only a km or two out to the Rainbow Road and with

the usual summer traffic, there would little difficulty hitching a ride.

By next morning the sunshine had returned and after following the road south for several more km's, we turned west into the Rainbow Valley. The river flats here are broad and the walking easy. After a few hours the valley contracts and a track winds it's way well above the Rainbow before dropping down to large grassy flats where Paske Creek flows into the main river. The latest edition of the map shows a route up the Paske, (there's no marked track) that keeps you out of the forest and around 3.30pm having made excellent progress, we arrived at the hut. Just in time too because the rain soon returned and with the temperature plummeting it eventually began to snow. After a couple of hours, mid summer had turned into mid winter with the surrounding mountains now wearing a blanket of white. If you're ever going to be stuck in a snow storm, the Paske would be the place to choose. This hut is a little gem (I'd stayed here several times before) located as it is well up towards the head of this beautiful valley, it sees few visitors so you wont be sharing the place with anyone and there's always a plentiful supply of firewood. But comfortable as we were the matter of crossing over to the Clarence and getting down to Lake Tennyson in time still remained.



The little gem, Paske Hut

Waking in the morning to warm sunshine was always going to help things along. I've crossed Paske Saddle before and know it doesn't present any challenges from a technical point of view but the approach and especially the descent on the Clarence side is down extremely steep tussock and snow grass slopes. When wet it is treacherous so we decided to delay our start until 10am which overall was a wise decision. Leaving the hut, you follow up valley until a little tongue of low scrub pushes it's way down through the forest to the river. This is the place to begin the climb, an hour brings the head of the valley into view and another hour and you're on the pass. Just in time for lunch. But dropping down to the Clarence is another matter, I think a fair description would be "it's a bitch". The descent took more than 90 minutes and that was probably a world record. "Don't slip" is the word because it WILL involve pain. It was with a huge sense of relief when finally, we stood on the Clarence riverbank.

This is yet another beautiful valley and you wont find much easier walking in New Zealand. At the head of the

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Late lunch on Paske Saddle

Clarence it's possible to cross a pass over into the East Sabine which gives access to some stunning country and more great tramping. But alas (sigh!!) we had to turn southwards following the river as it meanders its way down to Lake Tennyson. Late afternoon we found a lovely spot on an embankment just above the river and set up camp. Of course it wasn't long before bus loads of sandflies were arriving but the wind picked up fortunately which kept these little "blighters" at bay.



Campsite on the Clarence

This was to be our ninth and last night together. Heading off next morning, in an hour or so we'd made our way south to Lake Tennyson, bushbashing around the true right before finding a good track through the forest. I'd made the decision to continue on to Lewis Pass alone so not far from the lakehead, we shook hands warmly for a final time both

agreeing it had been a pleasure, sharing what at times had been a tough trip. I'm sure there'll be other walks together in the future.

Heading cross country from the lake, I eventually met up with the old vehicle track that winds over the Maling Pass into the Waiau Valley. After fording the river, I found the marked track which after about 18kms meets up with the St James Walkway. However mid afternoon I decided to take a little side trail up the Ada Valley that leads to Christopher Hut. Considering the Walkway is one of New Zealand's more popular tramps, it was surprising to find only one other person here. When you realise that at this time of the year on the "Great Walks" they "rack'em and stack'em" 40 and 50 to a hut each night, it makes you wonder.

I've never tramped this section of the Walkway between Christopher and Ada Pass Huts before and it really is quite lovely with the spectacular Spencer Range always



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in full view. After stopping at Ada Pass for an early lunch, an hour and a half later I arrived at Cannibal Gorge Hut. Despite the temptation to push onto Lewis Pass, I decided to have an early day. My final night on the trip was a quiet one with this big, roomy hut all to myself. I kept my fingers crossed that the weather would hold and despite waking to gloomy skies, the rain stayed away. With an early start, just after 10.30am I walked out onto the Lewis Pass Highway.



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KI Wilderness Trail

by Judy McAdam



A new walking trail, just hours from home, was too great a temptation not to invite a few walking buddies to go and explore what it had to offer.

We would walk it as independent walkers carrying everything on our backs.

Early on Saturday morning in late November I met my three companions, Helen Morgante (Heysen buddy) and mother and daughter, Anne Frodsham and Ali Roush (Kokoda buddies), at Cape Jervis ready to catch the 9.00am ferry to Penneshaw. Once disembarked we headed straight towards Flinders Chase with a brief photo stop at the beautiful Pennington Bay.

As we had two cars, with the ranger's permission, we left one car at Kelly Caves and piled into the other for the remainder of the journey to the Flinders Chase Visitor Centre. There is however an option to arrange a pickup at Kelly Caves at the end of your hike for \$25 per person at the time you book if you do not have this opportunity available.

Once at the Visitor Centre we were shown a short video on the walk and possible risks and each given a map, guide book and trail pass. Then with the car parked in the long-term carpark (cost included in your booking fee) we hauled our packs on our backs, staggered a bit at the unfamiliar weight and set off on our adventure.

Day 1 Rocky River to Snake Lagoon

The first stage of the trail begins as part of the Platypus Waterhole Walk and is well sign posted with interpretive signs. Unfortunately no platypus was to be found and we continued along a pock-marked trail towards our first camp. We were of the impression that the holes in the trail were made by echidnas but when we saw one of the large goannas we frequently encountered in action we began to have our doubts.

The Cascades were a beautiful spot to linger on the rocks before heading off to our first campsite at Cup Gum Campsite. We were amazed at the high standard of the facilities and were beginning to gain some insight into where some of the 5 million dollars that went into trail development was spent.

Campsites are divided into two sections - guided groups and independent walkers. At this campsite there was a selection of pads and platforms in each section. There are common cooking and toilet facilities.



An example of one of the campsite facilities



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Where do trail designers get the idea that walkers like walking on the beach?

Cooking shelters have a stainless steel bench and a sink for food preparation, plus four tables and benches each designed to seat 6, two undercover and two in the open. There were a number of large tanks to collect water from the shelters for hikers' use. I imagine that it would be quite congested if there was a full complement of guided groups and independent walkers at a campsite but we were alone so we could spread ourselves out. Oh, and there were resident ravens at many of the campsites ready to relieve you of your food at any opportunity. Unfortunately for the birds they did not score from us.

Day 2 Snake Lagoon to Cape du Couedic

We were up, breakfasted, broke camp and on the trail just before 8.30 on day two. Following the Rocky River towards its mouth, and then onto the cliff tops with nothing but ocean before us. After about a kilometre we

descended to the beach to walk for what seemed to be an eternity on sand that seemed to suck at the soles of our boots with every step. Between collecting debris, plastic rings, bottle tops, bottles, even a number of toothbrushes, we constantly asked ourselves "where do trail designers get the idea that walkers like walking on the beach?"

Back on the clifftops there was plenty to see abundant plants, birds and bugs, our resident naturalist Anne was very happy.

At one point we saw four walkers coming towards us. Imagine our surprise when it turned out to be Peter and Arrienne Wynen, Andrew Macdonald and Esteban Garido - they were catching the ferry back that afternoon but had been staying at Hanson Bay Cabins and doing day walks on the trail.

Looking at the rugged coastline below we could easily appreciate how ships had come to grief prior to the Cape de Couedic Lighthouse being constructed.

Tonight's camp is the Hakea Campsite and while it is quite close to the Cape de Couedic Road it was very private. Cars on the road would not know the campsite was there. At this site there were only pads in the independent walkers section and a couple of platforms were to be found in the group section. As with last night's camp there is bush between each of the pads providing privacy - a bush bedroom.

Day 3 Cape du Couedic to Sanderson Bay

Although we had got to camp early enough the day before to visit The Lighthouse and Admirals Arch we decided we would make an early morning trip, so at 6.00am we headed off straight down the road. There



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had been heavy dew overnight but the morning, whilst fresh, was beautiful. A couple of young kangaroos silhouetted on a rise ahead put on a boxing display for our benefit.

Quite a bit of time was spent watching the seals and marvelling at nature. Back in camp we spread our tent fly's out in the sun to dry and set about breakfast; we weren't in a hurry at all this morning - in fact it was about 10.30 before we left for the day. Remarkable Rocks was a great setting for our lunch with well-dressed tourists giving the slightly grubby (and possibly a little smelly) hikers a wide berth.

All afternoon we were treated to fantastic views in front of us and behind as we looked back at Remarkable Rocks. The guide notes suggest that you go to your camp, drop your pack and then walk back to Sanderson Bay. Once we got to camp we couldn't be bothered walking back, maybe lazy, but I would suggest you drop your packs at the turnoff and visit the bay on the way to the campsite. After all no walker likes to backtrack over recently walked ground.

Now the nightly routine was down pat. Find your preferred campsite (we had plenty to choose from so we spread out), erect your tent, get set up for the night, wander down to the cooking shelter (where various stretching poses seemed to be a popular way to loosen up after the day's walking) and then a quick wash in the excellent ablution block.

I haven't described these facilities before. There are two unisex pit toilets, one in a space large enough to be labelled as disabled. This space provided room for a good wash; it was so new that even the plugs were still there! There was an outdoor wash area near the other toilet.

Tea consumed and the, err, dish washed it was time for a wee nip of Scotland's finest before wandering off to bed - often well before 9pm.

Day 4 Sanderson Bay to Grassdale

Heading off at 8.30 it wasn't long before Ali, in the lead, skidded to a halt. There on the side of the trail was a Kangaroo Island Tiger snake that was every centimetre of the 1.1m they are meant to grow to, and some. It was cool and it wasn't going to move in a hurry no matter



Spectacular clifftop views greeted us for most of the day

how much we stamped our feet. Eventually it slithered off and the four of us hastily passed by the spot.

Another pesky local were the flies. They covered our packs and if you didn't leave a space between yourself and the person in front when a branch brushed their pack you walked into a dense black cloud until they resettled on your pack.

Today the trail passed behind the Southern Ocean Lodge. We did ponder that they were missing an opportunity - if there was a bell where the trail passed one of their tracks, hikers could ring it and a golf buggy well stocked with cold drinks could nip down. Thirsty hikers would probably pay a good price for a frosty.

Another additional bit of fun was the river crossing by boat. Once across the river we headed down to beautiful Hanson Bay where we spent an hour poking around on the beach or lolling on rocks before heading off to our last camp. Here the camp is on both sides of the river, sleeping on one and the toilets and cooking shelter on the other linked by a bridge. There is also a campfire pit at this camp - the only one on the trail.

Once the nightly routines were performed we wandered off in search of the Edwards family cottage. The family had been pioneers in the early settlement of the western end of the island. The guide book you are given when you start your walk has a wealth of information about the area, history, plants and animals and provides relevance to what you are experiencing. There is also a link to an app for your phone provided after registration which affords this type of information but I found it so large I could no longer receive emails on my phone so had to uninstall it.

One simple but nice feature of the trail was a white-board in the cooking shelter. Here walkers could make comments, post raven alerts and even draw little pictures. It was fun to read the comments of those ahead of us, particularly on the last night to see what they were craving to eat after dehydrated food for four days.

Day 5 Grassdale to Kelly Hill Caves

There was an element of sadness in packing up today just 7.5km and the adventure would be over. This however was not a section to be rushed. We walked beside the Wilderness and Grassland Lagoons - both listed as wetlands of National Significance - so time was taken to watch and listen. Eventually we managed to drag Anne away and we arrive back at Kelly Hill Caves.

Back at Flinders Chase we reported in, had a beer and some lunch before heading off to the accommodation we had arranged for the night. If you wish, having walked the trail, you are able to use the camping ground facilities for a shower at no cost. This would be particularly handy if you were catching the ferry home that night.

That evening we reflected on our walk. We all agreed that even though the distances walked each day were less than we would walk on a Saturday morning in a couple of hours, the pleasure had been in the journey, of stopping, looking at the plants and critters and listening to the wind, the birds and the sea.

Trail Maintenance



Over the course of a weekend, some of the Trail Maintenance Team repaired a section above the Waitpinga Sand Ladder. This involved replacing the old retaining wall that had begun to collapse. The photos show before and after images and the crew testing the strength of the new retaining wall. A fine effort!



Work will soon begin on the repair of the Sand Ladder itself, which has deteriorated to an unsafe degree.

The Sand Ladder was originally installed by the Friends about 25 years ago.



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End to End Maintenance Program

The FOHT Council has approved the implementation of a new maintenance program which aims to improve the general standard of maintenance of the Heysen Trail. The plan is to carry out a program of trail maintenance covering the whole trail in five years. The work will focus on basic trail maintenance such as replacing signage and marker posts, checking and stabilising stiles, and clearing hazards from the trail. The work will be carried out in cooperation with the maintenance section leaders for each part of the trail.

2017 program

In 2017, we plan to complete seven week-end camps as follows:

May 2017	13 th	Cape Jervis to Cobblers Hill
	14 th	Cobblers Hill to Tapanappa
June	17 th	Tapanappa to Balquhider
	18 th	Balquhider to Waitpinga
July	8 th	Back Valley Road to James Track
	9 th	James Track to Hindmarsh Tiers Road
August	5 th	Waitpinga to Back Valley Road
	6 th	Hindmarsh Tiers Road to Blackfellows Creek Road
September	2 nd	Blackfellows Creek Road to Kuitpo
	3 rd	Kuitpo to Razorback Road
October	7 th	Razorback Road to Mylor
	8 th	Mylor to Greenhill Road
November	4 th	Greenhill Road to Montacute Heights
	5 th	Montacute Heights to Cudlee Creek



Trail Maintenance team remarking the trail through Wirrabara Forest, June 2015 Photo: Dom Henschke

Away from Adelaide, a camp will be based in a nearby town. Accommodation, where necessary, and dinner on Saturday nights will be supplied by FOHT.

These camps are listed on the Walks Programme as End to End Maintenance. Participants will be able to register for the camp in the same manner as an End to End Walk but there will not be a walk fee.

Camps will be limited to small groups of about 10 people. Only basic handyman skills are required although a good level of physical fitness will be necessary.

If you want any further information, please contact the office (82126299 or heysentrail@heysentrail.asn.au) or Neil Nosworthy (0447922617 or neil@noztours.com.au).



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Trail Maintenance

The Friends of the Heysen Trail is a volunteer organisation dedicated to the promotion and maintenance of the Heysen Trail. The organisation depends on walkers for information and comments on the condition of and safety concerns along the trail.

Email reports on trail conditions to heysentrail@heysentrail.asn.au or telephone the Friends office on Ph 8212 6299. Please include details of the location (including Map number and grid reference), the nature of the problem (ie bottom step of the stile is loose) and if possible send any photos you have. The Office will forward the information to the Trail Development Coordinator for action.

We appreciate any comments, good or bad.

Trail Development Coordinator Colin Edwards ph 0427 690 085

Trail Infrastructure Peter Simons

Section	Map and GR	Section Leader
1. Cape Jervis to Tapanappa	Southern Guidebook, Maps 1.1-1.3 Cape to GR 518 530	Albert Schmidke
2A. Tapanappa to Waitpinga Campground	Southern Guidebook, Maps 1.3-1.5 GR 518 530 to 735 544	Roger Dunn
2B. Waitpinga Campground to Back Valley Rd	Southern Guidebook, Maps 1.5-2.2 GR 735 544 to 761 649	John Quinn
3. Back Valley Road to Moon Hill	Southern Guidebook, Maps 2.2-2.3 GR 761 649 to 682 726	Wandergruppe Bushwalkers, Hermann Schmidt
4. Moon Hill to Hindmarsh Tiers Road	Southern Guidebook, Maps 2.3-2.5 GR 682 726 to 737 803	Wandergruppe Bushwalkers, Hermann Schmidt
5. Hindmarsh Tiers Road to Blackfellows Creek Road	Southern Guidebook, Maps 2.5-2.7 GR 737 803 to 889 908	John Babister
6. Blackfellows Creek Road to Glen Bold	Southern Guidebook, Maps 2.7-3.2 GR 889 908 to 962 161	Richard Webb
7. Glen Bold to Piccadilly	Southern Guidebook, Maps 3.2-3.4 GR 962 161 to 924 264	Graham Loveday
8. Piccadilly to Norton Summit	Southern Guidebook, Maps 3.4-3.4 GR 924 264 to 922 332	WEA Ramblers, Liz O'Shea
9. Norton Summit to Cudlee Creek	Southern Guidebook, Maps 3.5-3.7 GR 922 332 to 013 424	Jerry & Michelle Foster
10. Cudlee Creek to Bethany	Southern Guidebook, Maps 3.7-4.4 GR 013 424 to 148 759	John Potter
11. Bethany to Hamilton	Southern Guidebook, Maps 4.4-5.2 GR 148 759 to 045 102	Michael Wienel
12. Hamilton to Huppatz Hut	Southern Guidebook, Maps 5.2-5.9 GR 045 102 to 086 509	Dom Henschke
13. Huppatz Hut to Spalding	Southern Guidebook, Maps 5.9-6.12 GR 086 509 to 785 903	Mid North Branch, Hugh Greenhill
14. Spalding to Georgetown	Northern Guidebook, Maps 1.1-1.6 GR 785 903 to 574 058	Kevin Liddiard
15. Georgetown to Mt Remarkable	Northern Guidebook, Maps 1.6-2.11 GR 574 058 to 345 667	A.R.P.A., Don McDonald, Ron Capel
16. Mt Remarkable to Horrocks Pass Rd	Northern Guidebook, Maps 2.11-3.4 GR 345 667 to 250 828	Julie Starkey, Gary Wright
17A. Horrocks Pass Rd to Dutchmans Stern	Northern Guidebook, Maps 3.4-4.2 GR 250 828 to 807 227	Michael Kerin, Neil Finlay
17B. Dutchmans Stern to Wilpena Pound	Northern Guidebook, Maps 4.2-5.8 GR 807 227 to 723 094	Simon Cameron
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



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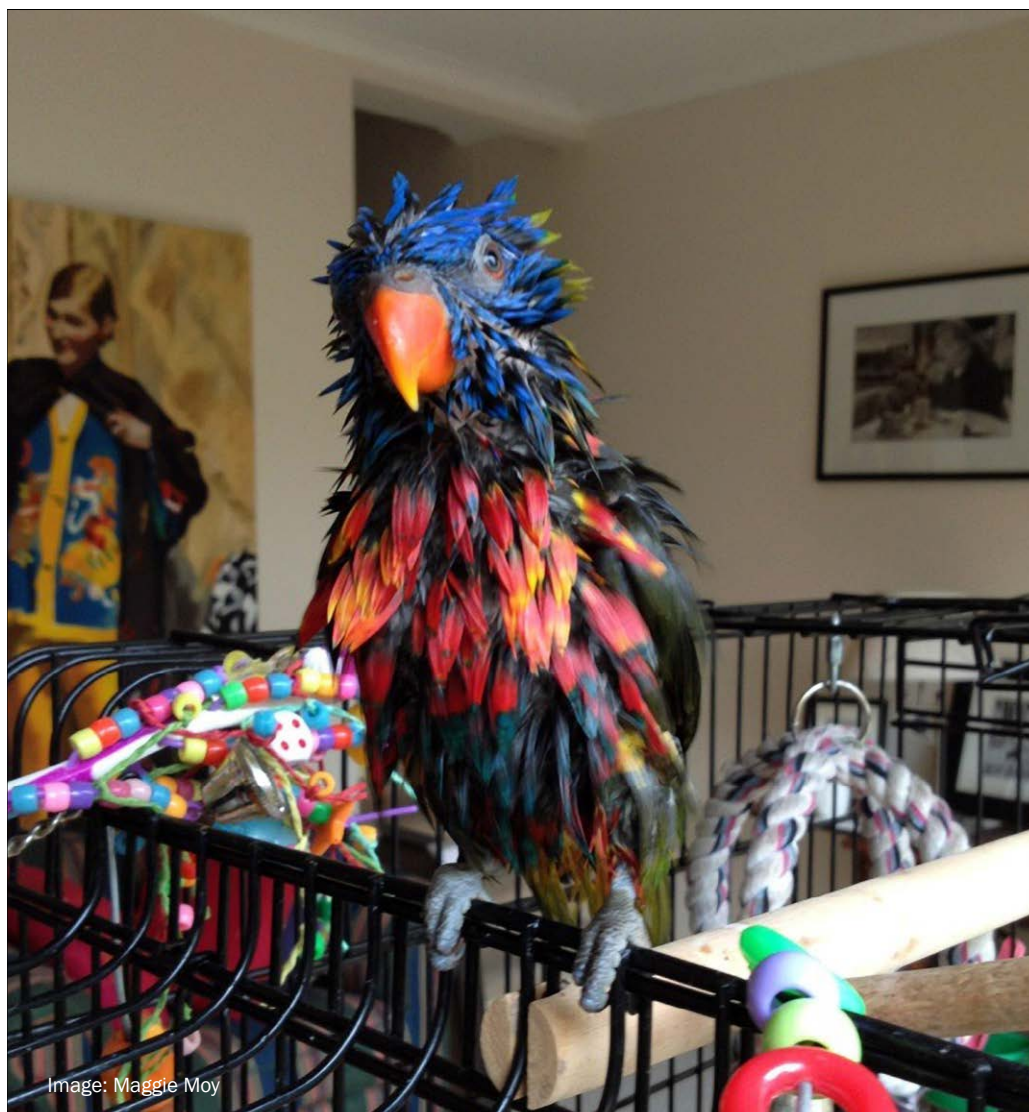


Image: Maggie Moy



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