

FREE

# TR↑ILWALKER

## BACK ON THE TRAIL

Walking Season  
Underway



2020 IN REVIEW

THE SAGA OF GREENING HISKEY'S HUT

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF WARREN BONYTHON

A NEW CHAPTER FOR TRAILWALKER





## SAY HELLO TO YOUR NEW FAVOURITE MERINO



**MADE IN AUSTRALIA**  
ETHICALLY, IN MELBOURNE.



**100% MERINO WOOL**  
NO BLENDS. AUSSIE SUPERFINE MERINO.



**DESIGNED BY HIKERS,**  
FOR HIKERS.

**WANT 10% OFF YOUR FIRST ORDER?**  
USE COUPON 'TRAILWALKER' AT CHECKOUT.

**OTTIE.COM.AU**



**PUBLISHED BY THE  
FRIENDS OF THE HEYSEN  
TRAIL AND OTHER  
WALKING TRAILS**

**W** [heysentrail.asn.au](http://heysentrail.asn.au)  
**f** [facebook.com/HeysenTrail](https://facebook.com/HeysenTrail)  
**t** [twitter.com/HeysenTrail](https://twitter.com/HeysenTrail)  
**y** [youtube.com/HeysenTrail](https://youtube.com/HeysenTrail)  
**p** [pinterest.com/HeysenTrail](https://pinterest.com/HeysenTrail)  
**@** [@heysentrailfriends](https://instagram.com/heysentrailfriends)

**CITY OFFICE**

Suite 203, Epworth Building  
33 Pirie St, Adelaide SA 5000

Open Mon – Fri  
10:30am – 2:30pm

**T** (08) 8212 6299  
**E** [heysentrail@heysentrail.asn.au](mailto:heysentrail@heysentrail.asn.au)

**MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION**

**SINGLE** \$25/year

**FAMILY** \$40/year

**SCHOOLS/ORGANISATIONS**  
\$60/year

Membership is valid for  
12 months from the date  
of payment.



Cover: Walkers on the Heysen Trail near The Dutchman Stern Conservation Park, captured by Hazel Cochrane Photography.

Trailwalker welcomes photo submissions suitable for the magazine cover. Please email your high-resolution images to [trailwalker@heysentrail.asn.au](mailto:trailwalker@heysentrail.asn.au)

# About the Friends

**COUNCIL MEMBERS 2020**

**PRESIDENT**  
Melanie Sjoberg

**VICE PRESIDENT**  
Greg Boundy

**SECRETARY**  
Julian Monfries

**TREASURER**  
Basia Samcewicz

Robert Alcock  
Dom Henschke  
John Wilson  
Margaret Fletcher  
John Babister  
Paul Bond  
Judy McAdam  
Ross McDougall

**SUB-COMMITTEE  
CHAIRS**

**TRAIL DEVELOPMENT**  
Paul Bond

**WALKING**  
Adam Matthews

**OFFICE**  
Dom Henschke

**MARKETING &  
MEMBERSHIP**  
Helen Morgante

**HONORARY  
MEMBERSHIP**  
Julian Monfries

**RECONCILIATION  
COMMITTEE**  
Anne Kirk

**WARREN BONYTHON  
HEYSEN TRAIL  
FOUNDATION**

**CHAIR**  
Neville Haar

**SECRETARY**  
Neil Nosworthy

**MID NORTH**

**WALK COORDINATOR**  
Liz Pridham  
Kathy Alty

**FACEBOOK PUBLICITY**  
Paul McCormack

[burra.heysentrail@gmail.com](mailto:burra.heysentrail@gmail.com)

**COUNCIL MEETINGS**  
Council meets on the third  
Wednesday of each month.

**PATRON**

His Excellency the  
Honourable Hieu Van Le AC

**HONORARY MEMBERS**

Sadie Leupold  
Thelma Anderson OAM  
Kath Palyga  
Richard Schmitz  
Arthur Smith  
Colin Edwards OAM  
Hugh Greenhill  
Barry Finn  
Dean Killmier  
John Wilson  
David Beaton  
Jack Marcellis  
Julian Monfries  
Frances Gasson  
Simon Cameron  
David Rattray OAM  
Hermann Schmidt  
Robert Alcock  
Liz O'Shea  
John Potter  
Kevin Liddiard  
Arrienne Wynen  
Peter Wynen  
Bob Randall

**HONORARY MEMBERS  
(DECEASED)**

Terry Lavender OAM  
Jim Crinion  
Neville Southgate  
Doug Leane  
Fred Brooks  
Jamie Shephard  
Terry Gasson  
Glen Dow

**TRAILWALKER**

**EDITOR**  
Josh West  
Tammy Main

**EDITORIAL  
SUB-COMMITTEE**

Robert Alcock  
Philip Bell  
Colin Edwards OAM  
Judy McAdam  
Julie Stapleton

**WEBSITE EDITOR**

Jeremy Carter

**MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY**

Judy McAdam

**OFFICE MANAGER**

Dom Henschke

**BOOKKEEPERS**

John Wilson  
Margaret Fletcher

**END-TO-END WALK  
COORDINATORS**

**E2E10** Judy McAdam  
**E2E11** John Babister  
**E2E12** Adam Matthews  
**E2E13** Vicki Barrett  
**E2E14** Mark Fletcher  
**E2E15** Mark Curtis  
**E2E-2** Julian Monfries

**TRAIL DEVELOPMENT  
SECTION LEADERS**

**S1** Albert Schmidke  
**S2A** Richard Bourne  
**S2B** John Newland  
**S3&4** Hermann Schmidt  
(Wandergruppe  
Bushwalkers)  
**S5** John Babister  
**S6** Robert Ruediger, Ken  
Smith  
**S7** Carl Greenstreet  
**S8** Ian Harding  
(WEA Ramblers)  
**S9** Jerry & Michelle Foster  
**S10** Wayne Turner,  
Peter Deacon  
**S11&12** Dom Henschke  
**S13** Hugh Greenhill  
**S14-18** Daniel Jardine  
Coordinator  
**S17B** Simon Cameron

**OFFICE VOLUNTEERS**

**MONDAYS**  
Graham Loveday  
Neil Nosworthy  
Elizabeth Rogers  
Neil Page

**TUESDAYS**  
Valerie Boundy  
Judy McAdam  
Chris Porter  
David Rattray OAM  
Barbara Sedgley

**WEDNESDAYS**  
Elayne Sanders  
Vicki Cahalan  
Gilbert Downs  
Jack Marcellis  
Rosemary Hayward

**THURSDAYS**  
Erica Gordon  
Julian Monfries  
Judy Szekeres  
David Andrewartha  
Trish Bowie

**FRIDAYS**  
Cathy Bowditch  
Erika Guess  
Julia McLachlan  
Peter Clark

We acknowledge and respect the traditional custodians whose ancestral lands we traverse along the Heysen Trail. We acknowledge the deep feelings of attachment and relationship of Aboriginal peoples to Country and pay respects to the cultural authority of Aboriginal peoples within the Country we walk.



16

Ngadjuri mother and child by Robert Hannaford (Riverton)

**05**  
**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**MELANIE SJOBERG**

"Opening Up" Opportunity and Challenge.

**06**  
**FRIENDS NEWS**

Keep up-to-date with what's happening on the Trail.

**07**  
**TRAILTHINKER QUIZ**

**09**  
**FRIENDS SEASON WALK PROGRAMME 2021**

**10**  
**END-TO-END SEASON WALK PROGRAMME 2021**

**12**  
**NPWSSA'S PARK OF THE MONTH**

Northern Eyre Peninsula

**14**  
**ASK A HIKER**

What is your favourite adventure/hiking book?

**15**  
**VOLUNTEER PROFILE**

**DOM HENSCHKE**

Dom shares his involvement as a Friends volunteer.

**16**  
**NJADJERI ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

**SIMON CAMERON**

The Friends Reconciliation Committee acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of our land.

**18**  
**HEYSEN TRAIL IN REVIEW 2020**

**MELANIE SJOBERG**

A review of the activities and contributions from the volunteers of the FoHT in 2020.

**20**  
**A NEW CHAPTER FOR TRAILWALKER**

**JOSH WEST**

Josh reflects on his time as TrailWalker editor.

**22**  
**THE SAGA OF GREENING HISKEY'S HUT**

**NEIL NOSWORTHY**

The trials and tribulations of a conservationist at heart and the local inhabitants.

**24**  
**CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE**

**ROSIE BURN**

Rosie walks the Heysen Trail her way, but takes advantage of the support the Heysen Friends offer.

**26**  
**IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF WARREN BONYTHON**

**DAMIAN FITZPATRICK**

Damian finds inspiration from childhood memories as he prepares to follow in the footsteps of Warren Bonython (part 1).

**30**  
**FAVOURITE SHORT WALK**

**SALLY HENERY**

Blinman Pools Walk, Flinders Ranges

Articles, reports and other submissions by members and interested parties are welcome and should be emailed to the Trailwalker Editor at [trailwalker@heysentrail.asn.au](mailto:trailwalker@heysentrail.asn.au)

**Deadline for the next issue (December 2021):**

**29 OCTOBER 2021**

The Trailwalker magazine is available by subscription or online at [heysentrail.asn.au/trailwalker](http://heysentrail.asn.au/trailwalker) and is published and distributed tri-annually:

- April
- August
- December

The Trailwalker magazine has a typical distribution of 1500, and an estimated readership of approximately twice that number.

Contributors are urged to contact the Editor to discuss their article prior to submission. The submission deadline is approx. 5 weeks prior to the month of publication.

Views expressed in contributed articles are those of the authors, and not necessarily those of the Friends of the Heysen Trail.

**ADVERTISING RATES (EX. GST)**

- 1/8 PAGE** \$60 per issue
- 1/4 PAGE** \$90 per issue
- 1/3 PAGE** \$105 per issue
- 1/2 PAGE** \$150 per issue
- FULL PAGE** \$220 per issue
- FLYER** (supplied for insertion) \$265 per issue

A commitment for 12 months advertising (three issues) would attract 10% saving.

Advertising specifications and article submission guidelines are available upon request. Contact the Trailwalker Editor . [trailwalker@heysentrail.asn.au](mailto:trailwalker@heysentrail.asn.au)

# “Opening Up” Opportunity and Challenge

MELANIE SJOBERG



**W**OW it's time!! Welcome to walk season 2021; it has generated a really big response and a busier time than many volunteers in the Friends office can remember. Map sales, email and phone inquiries seem constant: budding walkers are dropping in for a chat about the trail, transport, town accommodation and general hints from our experienced volunteers.

It also appears that the Heysen may not be so “remote” for through-hikers this year with many announcements from walkers starting north and south over the next few months. Quite different to Richard Savage's comments in his book Walkers Follow Fence that he rarely saw another hiker during his 3 Heysen hikes.

The Friends latest End-to-End (E2E) 15 booked out in record time. We are running 7 E2E in total so our volunteer Walk Leaders are taking on more than ever before. This reflects the huge gap left from “Covid-19 Cancellations” and so many more people discovering the wonder of the Heysen Trail and other fabulous places in our backyard.

Our patient office volunteers have spent many hours phoning and emailing disappointed members who missed out on registration. While it seems systematic to start at Cape Jervis or Parachilna Gorge, there is of course no rule to start the Trail at any particular point, so we encourage

members to join any of the E2E walks and fill in gaps as opportunities arise. Our E2E walks now cover the whole Heysen every year so the scope for members to complete the trail by mix and match is unlimited; maybe start with an E2E in the mid-north or try north to south with “minus 2” or a week away late in the year around the Adelaide Hills sections of the Heysen. Some of our Walk Leaders also plan specific day ‘Trailwalkers’ to help members to catch up.

The Walk program is important to our Trail Maintenance work too. E2E walkers identify issues that crop up along the trail – missing marker posts, broken stiles, overgrown tracks - which means our volunteer section leaders can better use their time for targeted repairs and improvements. This provides a mutual benefit because without the maintenance and development we would have no trail to walk.

Becoming a member helps the Friends and the Trail by supporting all aspects of our work: while we are all volunteers, revenue is essential for administration of the office, our website and promotional material, along with contributing to new infrastructure on the Trail. Partnering with Department for Environment and Water (DEW) even when the walk season has slowed our Council and Committee members keep the organisation ticking over, growing and planning for improvements.

We're in discussion with senior DEW staff about improving our general communication and trying to attain a common understanding about medium-term aims for the Heysen Trail. The Wild South Coast Way and newer Southern Flinders 6 Gorges State Government investments are good opportunities to showcase the Heysen, along with possibilities from opening up of reservoirs.

We've reinstated regular meetings to work more closely with DEW, Forestry SA and SA Water to ensure projects and changes that impact on the Heysen are identified early. The Friends has made a fantastic contribution to trail development over many years so we aim to continue with this priority area of our volunteer activity.

## COUNCIL 2021

### **The March AGM elected a new Council to continue to guide the Friends work over the year.**

Melanie Sjoberg (President), Greg Boundy (Vice President) and Julian Monfries (Secretary) were re-elected, along with continuing council members Dom Henschke, John Babister, John Wilson, Margaret Fletcher, Paul Bond, and Robert Alcock. Particular welcome to new council members Judy McAdam and Ross MacDougall. Council thanks to retiring Treasurer Stephen Salib Brown and Council member Colin Edwards.

## Has your membership lapsed?

**Thank you for being a friend, but please take a moment to reflect.**

Did you know that many of our members don't walk our trails but their financial contribution (*only \$25 a year for singles and \$40 for couples*) goes a long way to help our volunteer organisation?

### Your contribution allows us to:

- **HELP OTHERS WALK THE ENTIRE TRAIL** as many of you have done, with leaders and buses
- **OPEN AN OFFICE 5 DAYS A WEEK** with volunteers to answer questions and sell maps and other material
- **MAINTAIN AND REDEVELOP THE 1200KM TRAIL** with markers, stiles and toilets.

**Rest assured, your \$25 is very well spent.** We hope your time with us was enjoyable; we would love you to stay.

## Friends COVID Safe 2021

SA Health COVID Safety requires the Friends of the Heysen Trail to:

- › keep a register of members at events;
- › comply with any attendance caps in place;
- › ensure trained COVID Marshalls are a part of walks and activities.

This means members/guests must register online in advance for ALL FoHT walks, activities and events. Our office volunteers will be able to assist if you have any difficulties. You also need to use QR Code check-in or sign-in when visiting and attending meetings in the office. Let's keep everyone safe through 2021.



**Getting on the trail in 2021**

Photo: Mark Scicluna

# The Friends 2021 walking season is underway

## Its not too late to jump on board the Heysen Trail End-to-Ends guided adventures.

Every year adventurous walkers commence a six-year journey, which includes approximately 63 individual walk days, and covers the length of the Heysen Trail. E2E walks are underway now and there are plenty of opportunities to register and join in. See the E2E Walk Programme on page 10 for more details.

2021 has seen the E2E 15 commence their Trail journey from Cape Jervis on the Fleurieu Peninsula and will finish at Parachilna Gorge in the Flinders Ranges in 2027. Join leaders Mark, Audrey, Maria, Andrea, Leanne, Philip and Mike; we look forward to seeing you.

There is a slight deviation from past E2E's; Year 1, 2 and part 3 you will now be walking on **SATURDAYS**. So, you won't have to rush home after a long day's walk to prepare for the working week (that is for those of us not lucky enough to have retired).

The first two years include about seven walks per season (May to October) at which point we'll have reached the Cudlee Creek area.

Year 3 transitions from walking on Saturdays into weekends away. This change begins at Kapunda on the last two trips of the walking season. These weekend trips continue throughout years 4 and 5 until we arrive in Quorn.

Due to the distances required to complete each section during the final year, two week-long excursions will see us to the finish line. Don't worry, you'll be fit by then.

If you're not sure of the fitness level required why not start out on one of the Trailstarter walks and take it from there. See the Friends Season Walk Programme on page 9 for more details.

**Check out [heysentrail.asn.au/walks](https://heysentrail.asn.au/walks) for E2E walk dates and to register. Book early, numbers are limited.**

If you have any questions, send our friendly volunteer office staff an email on [heysentrail@heysentrail.asn.au](mailto:heysentrail@heysentrail.asn.au)

# Heysen Trail Route News

## Ch-ch-changes (Turn and face the strain) -David Bowie.

## It's said you never walk the same trail twice and that is certainly bearing fruit this year.

In 2021 changes on the Heysen Trail are under foot (literally) with a few re-routes pending or underway and that is sometimes a bit of a strain on our volunteer resources. It's also why our volunteers are so incredibly important.

### CUDLEE CREEK

After the 2020 bushfire the trail was closed through the Forestry area due to cleaning up and safety risks. Good news! Friends volunteers have now reinstated the Heysen markers and the trail is open for this walk season.

The hike-in site at Grandpa's is now open for overnight hikers.

### BUNDALEER FOREST

Following the Bundaleer bushfire in 2013, the SA Government reviewed its tenure of the affected forestry plantations and some of the former Forestry land traversed by the Heysen Trail has been transferred to private management. The Department for Environment and Water has advised the Friends that a new route through the forest has been marked and follows the Bundaleer Heysen Greenway, which is a legislated route.

As a result, walkers will find the Heysen Trail has changed considerably in this area. The new Greenway route incorporates a winding trail through former Forestry SA land extending the distance by some 11km on that section.

Many former Forestry tracks are now on private land so walkers need to take care to stay on the marked trail or public roads. The Heysen Trail from Curnows Hut to Lehman Road now covers 30km.

For those wanting to break up the section, camping is available near the picnic grounds, with access to toilets and water, courtesy of a local volunteer so please use the honesty box on site.

The newly marked winding Greenway route has generated many complaints to the Friends of Heysen Trail office, website and facebook. Discussion with local landholders indicated support for the old Heysen route. Consequently FOHT has approached DEW about the option of reinstating the old route and reviewing the new route for suitability.

### WILD SOUTH COAST ON THE HEYSEN TRAIL

Implementation of the WSC project from SA Government investment in the Heysen between Cape Jervis and Victor Harbor has been in planning phase for more than 2 years. Construction has now commenced on new hike-in sites at Eagle Waterhole and Balquidder that will deliver new shelters, toilets, tent pads and better amenity.

[parks.sa.gov.au/park-management/wild-south-coast-way](https://parks.sa.gov.au/park-management/wild-south-coast-way)

While tradespeople are on site, there will be a bit of disruption for through-hikers: water and a place to pitch the tent will still be available nearby. DEW is also consulting the community about amendments to the Deep Creek and Newland Head Parks Management Plans to allow for construction of new hike-in sites in each park, so hikers don't need to use the existing vehicle camping sites.

### SOUTHERN FLINDERS PRECINCT

SA Government has announced new investment in walking and MTB trails in the Wirrabara Forest, Mt Remarkable region and linking Spaniards Gully and Beetaloo Reservoir. Friends of the Heysen volunteers are participating in early planning for a medium-term concept to open up a new "6 Gorges Hike" on the western slope of Wirrabara and Telowie Gorge that may deliver improved alignment of the Heysen >



## Trailthinker Quiz

1. What is the South Australian marine state emblem?
2. The Adelaide Fringe was founded in which year?
3. Which NP along the Heysen Trail hosts the Fat Tyre Festival?
4. Which Australian walking trail stretches between Cape Naturaliste and Cape Leeuwin?
5. The United States' long-distance CDT stands for what?
6. The Ediacaran period (600 to 542 million years ago) is named after hills in which mountain range?
7. How long is the South Australian border? 16582km, 3185km or 7635km
8. What is the ironic name of the peak surveyed by a fraudulent engineer in the Southern Flinders in the 1850s?
9. What is the tool featured on the SA Coat of Arms?
10. What is the name of Adelaide's Japanese sister city?

ANSWERS PAGE 16 >

# Heysen Trail Route News cont.

Trail. Members and supporters are encouraged to check out the Parks information website.

[engagementhub.parks.sa.gov.au/southern-flinders-precinct](http://engagementhub.parks.sa.gov.au/southern-flinders-precinct)

## THE BLUFF - MT REMARKABLE

Mt Remarkable Council has commenced construction of a viewing platform and vehicle car park along TV Track/Go Kart Track ridgeline above Wirrabara Forest area that directly impacts the Heysen Trail. Walkers are able to continue along the trail during construction. In the near future we anticipate a realignment to take the trail into bush alongside Go Kart Track.

## CRYSTAL BROOK/BOWMAN PARK

The Heysen Trail between Bowman Park and Hughes Gap is closed. Realignment of the Heysen Trail from Bowman Park has been implemented by FOHT volunteers and is on the FOHT website. Pt Pirie Council has been supportive and is seeking approval from the Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) to reduce the vehicle speed limit on Bowman Park Road for walker safety.

## FUTURE HEYSEN IMPACT?

A number of renewable energy projects are in the development stage and, subject to approvals, may affect the future route of the Heysen Trail either during construction or in the longer term. Friends volunteers will keep you in the loop as these progress.

**HEYSEN HIGHLIGHTS**  
COMPANION GUIDE TO THE  
**HEYSEN TRAIL**  
SIMON CAMERON

**\$39.95**  
PLUS POSTAGE

**The perfect Heysen Trail Companion Guide**

**Heysen Highlights**  
Order on the Friends' website  
[heysentrail.asn.au/shop](http://heysentrail.asn.au/shop)

## Goyder Renewable Energy Project near Burra

[goyderenergy.com.au/](http://goyderenergy.com.au/)

## Georgetown/Carmody Hill Renewable Energy Project

[georgetownhillsre.com.au/](http://georgetownhillsre.com.au/)

## Crystal Brook

[crystalbrookenergypark.com.au/](http://crystalbrookenergypark.com.au/)

## ON A LIGHTER NOTE .....

### WHITE PARK REROUTE FUN

Following conversations with the new owner of Forestry SA land, north of Wirrabara, the Three Amigos, Adam Matthews, Mike Joyce and Robin Sharland, headed off to meet the landowner, Robin Pole, to plot a trail re-route for his new acquisition.

That done, a marshalling of volunteers to mark the re-route and install a number of stiles was required and the Three Amigos stepped forward to complete the task with Julian Monfries.

Thus, on Thursday 8th and 9th of April the work was undertaken, with 4 km of marking, four new stiles and the refurbishment of another, completing the job.

Hard ground necessitated the invention of new digging techniques, leading to the Matthews Method of encouraging a crowbar to extract more soil, using a star-dropper hammer, to pound the crowbar deeper than previously achievable.

The refurbished stile, on White Park Road, as the Trail exits the forest is now the Sharland Stile, as he was the first to test its construction.

The reroute now affords vast views to the gulf, a more friendly walk, with less undulating hills.

.....

**Check out [heysentrail.asn.au/heysen-trail/re-routes/](http://heysentrail.asn.au/heysen-trail/re-routes/) for updates on trail re-routes. You can subscribe on the page for updates sent directly to your inbox. #organised**



## Accommodation for the Heysen & Mawson Trails, Mid-North SA

9 km from Bundaleer Reservoir

17 km from Spalding

- Comfortable Homestead lodgings, continental breakfast included
- Evening meals and trail transfers available (pre booking required)



8 Gulgare-Spalding Rd,  
Gulgare SA

**Harry & Sandy Osborn**

0417 813 095

[info@ossies.com.au](mailto:info@ossies.com.au)

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



# Friends Season Walk Programme 2021

|     | 1ST WEEKEND   | 2ND WEEKEND  | 3RD WEEKEND   | 4TH WEEKEND  | 5TH WEEKEND  |
|-----|---|--|---|--|--|
| JUL | <b>SAT 3 JUL</b><br>Willunga Basin Trail<br>Daniel Jardine            | <b>WED 7 JUL</b><br>O'Halloran Hill RP<br>Peter Deacon                       | <b>SUN 18 JUL</b><br>Hardys Scrub<br>Noeleen Smith            | <b>SAT 24 - SUN 25 JUL</b><br>Walk the Yorke<br>Peter Clark                        | N/A  |
|     | <b>SAT 3 JUL</b><br>Belair NP Loop<br>Paul Gill                       |  |   | <b>THU 8 JUL</b><br>Onkaparinga<br>Judith Ellis                                    |  |
|     | <b>SUN 4 JUL</b><br>Bridgewater/<br>Crafers Return<br>Bill Van Riet   | <b>SAT 10 - SUN 11 JUL</b><br>Lavender Trail<br>Greg Boundy                  |   |  |  |
|     | <b>SUN 4 JUL</b><br>Mt Crawford<br>Peter Deacon                       |  |   |  |  |
| AUG | <b>SAT 31 JUL</b><br>Mylor/Aldgate Loop<br>Paul Gill                  | <b>SAT 7 AUG</b><br>Beaumont/Cleland<br>Mike Joyce                           | <b>SAT 14 - SUN 15 AUG</b><br>Lavender Trail<br>Greg Boundy   | <b>SUN 22 AUG</b><br>South Para<br>Peter Deacon                                    | <b>SAT 28 AUG</b><br>Cobbler Hill to<br>Tapanappa<br>Mark Fletcher         |
|     |   | <b>SUN 8 AUG</b><br>Waitpinga<br>Judith Ellis                                | <b>SAT 14 - SUN 15 AUG</b><br>Walk the Yorke<br>Peter Clark   |  | <b>SAT 31 JUL</b><br>Glen Osmond Loop<br>Paul Gill                         |
|     | <b>SUN 1 AUG</b><br>Mack Creek<br>Dom Henschke                        | <b>SUN 8 AUG</b><br>CANCELLED:<br>Hahndorf<br>Settlers Walk<br>Bill Van Riet | <b>SAT 14 AUG</b><br>Cape Jervis to Cobblers<br>Mark Fletcher | <b>SUN 22 AUG</b><br>TBD<br>Michael Middleton                                      | <b>MON 30 AUG -<br/>THU 2 SEP</b><br>Fleurieu to Mt Lofty<br>John Babister |
|     |   | <b>SUN 8 AUG</b><br>CANCELLED:<br>Hahndorf<br>Settlers Walk<br>Bill Van Riet | <b>SUN 15 AUG</b><br>Mt Crawford<br>Peter Deacon              |  |  |
| SEP | <b>SUN 5 SEP</b><br>Horsnell Gully<br>Mike Joyce                      | <b>SAT 11 - SUN 12 SEP</b><br>Walk the Yorke<br>Peter Clark                  | <b>SUN 19 SEP</b><br>Gandys Gully<br>Simon Cameron            | <b>SUN 26 SEP</b><br>Lobethal<br>Bushland Park<br>Mary Cartland &<br>Dean Mortimer | N/A  |
|     | <b>SUN 5 SEP</b><br>South Para<br>Grand Walk<br>Rosemary Hayward      | <b>SUN 12 SEP</b><br>Anstey Hill East<br>Kevin Liddiard                      |   |  |  |
|     |   | <b>SUN 12 SEP</b><br>Brownhill<br>Robin Sharland                             |   |  |  |
| OCT | <b>SUN 3 OCT</b><br>CANCELLED:<br>Stirling/ Mt Lofty<br>Bill Van Riet | <b>SUN 10 OCT</b><br>Mt Hayfield<br>Robin Sharland                           | <b>SAT 16 - SUN 17 OCT</b><br>Walk the Yorke<br>Peter Clark   | <b>FRI 23 OCT</b><br>Stirling to Lofty Loop<br>Paul Gill                           | <b>SUN 31 OCT</b><br>Magical Morialta<br>John Babister                     |
|     | <b>SUN 3 OCT</b><br>Mt Barker<br>Graham Bald                          | <b>SUN 10 OCT</b><br>Highbury Aqueduct<br>Kevin Liddiard                     |   | <b>SAT 23 OCT</b><br>Orchid Walk<br>Phil Bell                                      |  |
|     |   |  |   | <b>SUN 24 OCT</b><br>Sturt Gorge<br>Noeleen Smith                                  |  |

● TRAILWALKER WALKS   
 ● TRAILSTARTER WALKS   
 ● SPECIAL EVENTS   
 ● LAVENDER TRAIL   
 ● WALK THE YORKE

Version released 28 May 2021

[heysentrail.asn.au/walks](https://heysentrail.asn.au/walks)

Check the online Walk Programme for the latest updates and to register [heysentrail.asn.au/walks](https://heysentrail.asn.au/walks)

## Walking with the Friends

Check the online walk calendar for the latest updates to the programme. For details about each walk, the hot weather policy, what to wear and what to bring, and details of walk grades, visit [heysentrail.asn.au/walks](https://heysentrail.asn.au/walks)

# End-to-End Season Programme 2021

|     | 1ST WEEKEND   | 2ND WEEKEND  | 3RD WEEKEND  | 4TH WEEKEND   | 5TH WEEKEND  |
|-----|---|--|--|---|--|
| JUL | E2E 14<br><b>SUN 4 JUL</b><br>Dashwood Gully Rd - Mylor                         | E2E 10<br><b>THU TO SAT, 8-17 JUL (WEEK AWAY)</b><br>Leigh Creek Rd - Parachilna Gorge Trailhead | > E2E 10   | E2E -2<br><b>SAT TO SUN, 24 JUL - 1 AUG (WEEK AWAY)</b><br>Eyre Depot - Melrose               | N/A  |
|     |   | E2E 15<br><b>SAT 10 JUL</b><br>Tapanappa - Balquhider  | E2E 12<br><b>SAT &amp; SUN, 17-18 JUL</b><br>Dares Hill Rd - Hallett - EE George Rd Quarry | E2E 15<br><b>SAT 24 JUL</b><br>Balquhider - Waitpinga   |  |
|     |   | E2E 13<br><b>SUN 11 JUL</b><br>Pewsey Vale - Tanunda   |  | E2E 11<br><b>SAT &amp; SUN, 24-25 JUL</b><br>Alligator Gorge Road - Horrocks Pass - Broadview |  |
| AUG | > E2E -2  |  |  | E2E 12<br><b>SAT &amp; SUN, 21-22 AUG</b><br>EE George Quarry - Spalding Rd - Chlorinator     | E2E 11<br><b>SAT &amp; SUN, 28-29 AUG</b><br>Broadview - Quorn |
|     | E2E 14<br><b>SUN 1 AUG</b><br>Mylor - Cleland                                   | E2E 13<br><b>SUN 8 AUG</b><br>Tanunda - Kapunda  | SUNDAY<br><b>15 AUGUST</b>   |   | E2E 15<br><b>SAT 28 AUG</b><br>Waitpinga - Tugwell Rd          |
| SEP | E2E 14<br><b>SUN 5 SEP</b><br>Cleland - Montacute Heights                       | E2E 13<br><b>SAT &amp; SUN, 11-12 SEP</b><br>Kapunda - Hamilton - Peters Hill                    | E2E 12<br><b>SAT &amp; SUN, 18-19 SEP</b><br>Chlorinator - Raeville                        | E2E 11<br><b>SAT &amp; SUN, 25-26 SEP</b><br>Quorn - Eyre Depot                               | N/A  |
|     |   |  | E2E 14<br><b>SUN 19 SEP</b><br>Montacute Hts - Cudlee Creek                                | E2E 15<br><b>SAT 25 SEP</b><br>Tugwell Rd - Inman Valley                                      |  |
| OCT | E2E 13<br><b>SAT TO MON, 2-4 OCT (LONG WEEKEND)</b><br>Peters Hill - Burra Road | E2E 15<br><b>SAT 9 OCT</b><br>Inman Valley - Myponga   | E2E 12<br><b>SAT &amp; SUN, 16-17 OCT</b><br>Raeville - Locks Ruin - Bowman Park           | SUNDAY<br><b>24 OCTOBER</b>   | N/A  |
|     |   | E2E 14<br><b>SUN 10 OCT</b><br>Cudlee Creek - The Nuggett Rd                                     |  |   |  |

Version released 28 May 2021

[heysentrail.asn.au/walks](https://heysentrail.asn.au/walks)

Southern Flinders Ranges

## Wirrabara Forest Accommodation

Self-contained cottages for up to 8 people.

Welcoming Heysen Trail and Mawson Trail Adventurers.



M 0428 827 774  
E [info@taralee.com.au](mailto:info@taralee.com.au)  
[www.taralee.com.au](http://www.taralee.com.au)



## Walking with the Friends

Check the online walk calendar for the latest updates to the programme. For details about each walk, the hot weather policy, what to wear and what to bring, and details of walk grades, visit [heysentrail.asn.au/walks](https://heysentrail.asn.au/walks)

## Walks Registration

Register for a walk either online at [heysentrail.asn.au/walks](https://heysentrail.asn.au/walks) or by phoning the office on 8212 6299. Walk registration closing dates and times are listed on each walk event page, access via the website walk calendar.

## Walk Cancellations

If you need to withdraw from a booked walk, please notify the leader or the office as soon as possible. The easiest way is to login to your account and withdraw from the walk.

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 a weather event is deemed to present a high risk.

TrailStarter, TrailWalker and TrailRambler walks will be cancelled if the forecast temperature for Adelaide is equal or higher than 32°C. Be aware that walks are automatically cancelled when the forecast weather on the day of the walk is for severe storms with damaging winds as per the 7pm ABC News on the day prior to the walk. Refer to [abc.net.au/news/weather](https://abc.net.au/news/weather) or [bom.gov.au/sa](https://bom.gov.au/sa). Your Walk Leader will send an email to all walkers to advise of the cancellation. We suggest you check your emails before leaving to join the walk.

## Bushfire policy

If a Total Fire Ban is declared by the CFS in the Fire Ban District where the walk event is being held, the walk event will be cancelled. In such a case walk fees will be refunded.

## Keeping track of the End-to-End Groups

E2E 10

Leigh Creek Road

E2E -2

Eyre Depot

E2E 11

Alligator Gorge

E2E 12

Dares Hill Road

E2E 13

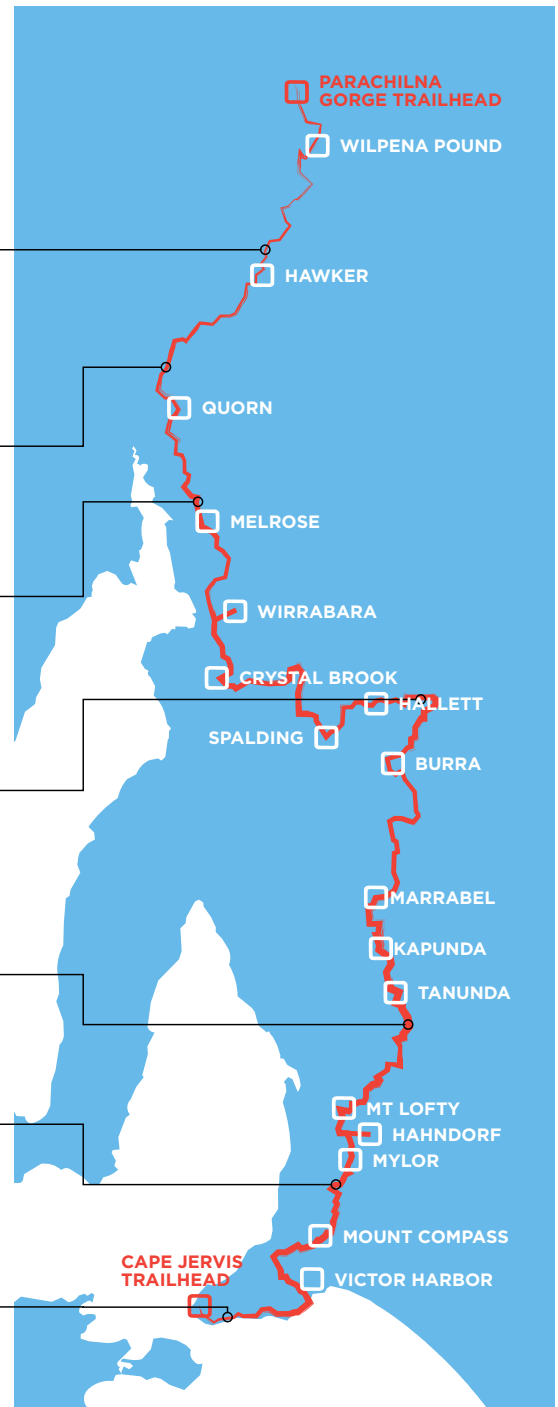
Pewsey Vale

E2E 14

Dashwood Gully Road

E2E 15

Tapanappa



**CIGWELD**  
AN ESAB BRAND

**WELDING, CUTTING  
AND SAFETY EQUIPMENT**

TO FIND OUT ABOUT OUR FULL PRODUCT RANGE VISIT [WWW.CIGWELD.COM.AU](http://WWW.CIGWELD.COM.AU)



1300 654 674



# Celebrate NPWSSA's Park of the Month with Friends

**Join the Friends as we celebrate our amazing parks with the National Parks and Wildlife Service South Australia's Park of the Month.**

For the months of April, May, June and August in 2021, walks from the Friends Walks Programme coincide with NPWSSA's Park of the Month Programme. Come for a stroll and help us celebrate these wonderful parklands.

Register for a walk either online at [heysentrail.asn.au/walks](https://heysentrail.asn.au/walks) or by phoning the office on 8212 6299.

Park of the Month is a great way to gain a deeper understanding of our special natural places and to find new ways to enjoy them. Each month NPWSSA provide a variety of events for everyone to enjoy.

## JULY ▼

**Northern Eyre Peninsula (Gawler Ranges, Nullarbor & Cuttlefish Coast Sanctuary Zone)**

## AUGUST ▼

**Barossa Parks (Para Wirra, Warren, Hale, Kaiserstuhl, Sandy Creek & Sth Para Reservoir)**

**SUN 1 AUG Mack Creek** Dom Henschke

**SUN 8 AUG Tanunda - Kapunda** E2E 13

**SUN 15 AUG Warren Twr Loop** Rosemary Hayward

**SUN 22 AUG South Para** Peter Deacon

## SEPTEMBER ▼

**Glenthorne Precinct (Glenthorne NP, O'Halloran Hill, Hallett Cove, Marino)**

## OCTOBER ▼

**Ikara-Flinders Ranges NP**

## NOVEMBER ▼

**Limestone Coast (Naracoorte Caves, Tantanoola Caves, Piccaninnie Ponds)**

## DECEMBER ▼

**Eastern Kangaroo Island Parks (Lashmar, Baudin, Cape Willoughby)**



**Gary Pearce** Solicitor

## Take the Plunge

Specialising in wills and estates including:

- estate planning
- powers of attorney
- advance care directives
- estate litigation
- land transactions

61 Carrington Street Adelaide  
South Australia 5000  
**T** 08 8237 0572 **F** 08 8237 0508  
**E** [g@garypearce.com.au](mailto:g@garypearce.com.au)



*EFE 9 Mt Remarkable  
Bev Skeer*

## Welcome New Members

**The President and the Council would like to extend a warm welcome to the following 178 members who have joined the Friends since the last edition of Trailwalker.**

|                     |                        |                     |                    |                  |
|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Adam Greaves        | Catherine Walsh        | Jane Maidment       | Lucy Buckle        | Peter Strous     |
| Adele Caon          | Cathy Buttignol        | Jane McLaren        | Lutfun Neesa       | Philip Colebatch |
| Alberto Costa       | Cathy Ludbrook         | Jasmine Stone       | Madeleine Said     | Philip Hewitt    |
| Alex Stedman        | Cecilia Freeman        | Jayne Dance         | Mandy Forrest      | Rachel Childs    |
| Alicia Strous       | Cecilia Hammar Ellis   | Jennifer Holmes     | Marc Le Mire       | Raelene Baron    |
| Alison Wuttke       | Chris Heysen           | Jo Evans            | Margaret Cameron   | Rebecca Waters   |
| Alonso Cortez       | Christie Curtis        | John Bushell        | Margaret Laurie    | Reinhard Struve  |
| Amber Wilson        | Christine Walsh        | John Cadd           | Marilyn Waters     | Richard Trapp    |
| Andrea Duff         | Claire Moffatt         | John Forrest        | Mario Labroschiano | Robyn Lambert    |
| Andrew Mellor       | Claire Morrison        | John McFarlane      | Mark Burdett       | Runar Bjaaland   |
| Angela Hemmes       | Colin Burnett          | John Shanahan       | Mark Thring        | Samantha Taylor  |
| Anna Noble          | Dagmar Jaeger          | John Skinner        | Martin Keogh       | Samuel Riley     |
| Anne Frodsham       | Damian Miley           | John Stark          | Mary Adams         | Scott Lavis      |
| Annette Fleming     | Debra Chapman          | John Wilson         | Melanie Greaves    | Scott White      |
| Annie Nicholson     | Dianne Bergen          | Jonathan Vallario   | Melanie Reid       | Sharon Colsey    |
| Anthony Harratt     | Ellie Bickerton        | Joni Cottrell       | Michael Donald     | Siobhan Sheridan |
| Asha Thattengat     | Ewan Maddock           | Julie Munt          | Michael Harvey     | Sonya Jensen     |
| Audrey Lim          | Fiona Marshall         | Juliet Aamodt       | Michael Hemmes     | Stephen Chambers |
| Barbara Hinkelmann  | Geneth Costa           | June Walsh          | Michael Reger      | Stephen Duff     |
| Barrie Paynter      | Geoffrey David Higgins | Karen Prior         | Michelle Jones     | Stephen Edwards  |
| Bence Mayer         | Geraldine Roddy        | Kate Molloy         | Mingo Rix          | Steven Packer    |
| Bernadette Inglis   | Grant Dempsey          | Kathy Carles        | Moira Coffey       | Sue Becker       |
| Bevan Bates         | Graziella Antonuccio   | Kay Sutton          | Moira Donald       | Susan Telfer     |
| Bill Ross           | Greg Button            | Kim Harratt         | Monica Kloppers    | Suzanne Kovacs   |
| Brendan Kenny       | Heather Bailey         | Kristy Thomas       | Naomi Struve       | Tarsha Basheer   |
| Brenton Clarke      | Heather Neilson        | Kym Milne           | Nick Richardson    | Teresa Stark     |
| Brian Acland        | Heidi MacAuley         | Lana Aba            | Nico Baron         | Teresa Strous    |
| Brian Peat          | Helen Benzie           | Leanne Hymus        | Nicola McGunnigle  | Terry Crabb      |
| Brigitta Bakro-Nagy | Helen J Smith          | Leonie Welsh        | Nigel Smalls       | Terry Hernan     |
| Bronwyn Cadd        | Helen Werner           | Lewis Horwood       | Paul Denmead       | Tilly Abbott     |
| Bruce Gregor        | Ian Louend             | Linda Johnson       | Paul Jones         | Tina Peters      |
| Carl Hamilton       | Ian Roddy              | Linda Miley         | Paul McMahon       | Toni Salvemini   |
| Carole Sweatman     | Ingrid Castle          | Lindy Saler         | Paul Rix           | Vicki Paynter    |
| Carolyn Della-Zoppa | Jan Aamodt             | Liz Lahiffe         | Paula Matters      | Vince Rose       |
| Catherine Quin      | Jan Ashton-Ross        | Liza Dale           | Peter Buckle       |                  |
| Catherine Thring    | Jane Davis             | Louise Labroschiano | Peter Kimber       |                  |

# What is your favourite adventure/hiking book?



## ASK A HIKER



If I draw a long bow I'd suggest Patrick White's *Voss* is a certainty: a novel based on real life explorer and naturalist Ludwig Leichart. It's a richly colourful story about inevitable travails as the main character attempts to cross remote parts of Australia in the 1840s. Chris Bray's "The 1000 Hour Day" about walking across Victoria Island in the Canadian Arctic is a dramatic and other-worldly real-life adventure. I dislike cold so am unlikely to ever hike through snow and ice or confront polar bears. I developed a serious respect for his commitment after meeting him on a camera course and hearing about the amount of time and effort he invested creating the photographs - which are simply stunning. My tiny Lumix camera pales to insignificance but I don't have to juggle heavy equipment.

MELANIE SJOBERG

President



*Sailing Alone Around the World* by Joshua Slocum. From 1895-98, Joshua was the first to sail single handed around the world in his sloop Spray. This is a wonderful story of adventure and a fascinating insight into late 19th century society. Well written and humorous, it's a good read.

ROBERT ALCOCK

Honorary Member



*A Walk in the Woods*, Bill Bryson. This novel describes his struggle to walk the Appalachian Trail with his bumbling friend Stephen Katz. Bryson's ability to find the intricate detail, meaningful significance and side-splitting humour in any situation enriches this ill-fated account.

JOSH WEST

Trail Ambassador



I have so many but it has to be *Walking the River Nile* by Levison Woods. I really enjoy reading about his adventures. Walking the River Nile is more than just a story about a man walking thousands of miles along a river. It's a book that tells a story about a struggling continent, a book that digs deeper, going below the surface in search of understanding; it is a soul-searching, historical tale that will make you reflect on your own surroundings and life.

CAROL HOMEWOOD

Walk Leader



*Into Thin Air*, John Krakauer. All that's wrong with Everest 'adventure' industry.

SIMON CAMERON

Heysen Highlights Author



*Into thin Air*, Jon Krakauer. A personal account of the Mt Everest disaster in 1996 in which 8 climbers were killed in a blizzard including celebrated Everest guide New Zealander Rob Hall, who was leading the party. Krakauer was a member of. It was a book I couldn't put down and demonstrates how pushing the boundaries in a hostile environment can have disastrous consequences.

JUDY MCADAM

Walk Leader

## Trailthinker Quiz Answers

1. Leafy Sea Dragon
2. 1960
3. Mount Remarkable National Park
4. Cape to Cape Track, Margaret River
5. Continental Divide Track
6. Flinders Ranges
7. 3185km
8. Rawnsleys Bluff
9. Miner's Pick
10. Himeji

# Volunteer Profile: Dom Henschke



## HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN INVOLVED WITH THE FRIENDS?

Marlene & I started walking the trail in 2002 and became members/supporters in 2005. We walked the trail independently for several years and had a very gradual introduction into walking with the Friends.

It took until 2013 until we summoned up the confidence to join several E2E walks to start filling in the missing sections.

## WHY DID YOU INITIALLY GET INVOLVED WITH VOLUNTEERING AT THE FRIENDS?

After I retired from work, the Friends attracted me as a way of combining my interest in bush walking and keeping myself occupied.

My curiosity was sparked with my first visit to the Office in Pitt Street. The Volunteers were helpful and seemed to know a lot about walking the trail.

I even learned from the Trailwalker magazine that there were logical (End to End) start and finish points to walks. It made planning walks so much easier.

## WHAT ARE SOME ACTIVITIES IN WHICH YOU'VE VOLUNTEERED WITH THE FRIENDS?

I've been fortunate to have had great mentors who invited me to help on a wide range of things.

My first step was to join the team of Office volunteers. David Rattray took me under his wing and things developed from there. I gradually got involved with the Office Committee.

Through the Office I met devoted people like Julian Monfries and Colin Edwards who invited and encouraged me to join in Trail Maintenance activities.

I've been amazed to see the amount of information on the Friends website and have worked closely with Jeremy Carter as he was updating the Membership and Walk Registration system.

In recent years I've particularly enjoyed leading short walks as I'm happy to get new walkers out on the trail – especially when it leads to the E2E program. And of course, participating in E2E 11 has been a highlight.

My message is simply to encourage anyone with an interest in any of these things – just let someone know. Speak to a walk leader, send an email to the Office or talk to a volunteer when you see them working on the trail.

You will be welcomed and appreciated as there is always a need for fresh ideas and enthusiastic faces.

## WHAT'S YOUR FONDEST MEMORY ON THE HEYSEN?

One of my first walks with an E2E – the E2E6 walk to Pewsey Vale in 2013. Lyn

Wood was the leader and it included the memorable view from Tower Hill and surrounding vineyards.

We were scheduled to finish the walk at 2.30pm. I was somewhat disappointed to note that we arrived at 2.32pm, which reflected somewhat on her organisational ability.

I *think* Lyn knew I was joking, but she certainly hasn't let me forget it.

## WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE HEYSEN TRAIL TOWN/REGION?

Around the Barossa and, especially, the Tothills. As a Maintenance Section Leader, I've had many trips to Tanunda, Greenock, Kapunda, Allendale North, Marrabel, & Riverton, and places further north.

There are many supportive landholders along the trail, and I especially appreciated the assistance provided to me and other walkers by James Huppatz (Marschalls Hut) & Andrew Fatchen (Huppatz Hut).

# KENNARDS HIRE MAKES YOUR JOB EASY!

Kennards Hire is a family owned company that has grown into one of Australia's leading hire companies. We have been in the hire industry for over 60 years.

We have a wide range of equipment which is reliable and regularly serviced. Drop into one of our hire centres today and let the guys help you choose the right equipment for your next job.



**135 135**  
www.kennards.com.au





# Ngadjuri Acknowledgement

SIMON CAMERON

*Ngadjuri mother and child by  
Robert Hannaford*

## Indigenous custodians

The Heysen Trail passes through Country of seven traditional owners: the Ngarrindjeri, the Kurna, the Peramangk, the Ngadjuri, the Nukunu, the Banggarla and the Adnyamathanha.

*Excerpt taken from 'Heysen Highlights. Companion Guide to the Heysen Trail' by Simon Cameron.*

## Simon Cameron from the Friends Reconciliation Committee acknowledges the traditional custodians on our land.

Northwards the Heysen enters the traditional country of the Ngadjuri at Pewsey Vale traversing lush valleys, the forested Tothill Range, Burra Gorge, the Murray flood plain, back to the beginning of the Flinders Ranges. Nearly one third of The Trail is on Ngadjuri country, stepping off at Crystal Brook. Twenty days on foot. Plenty of time to appreciate the beautiful and fertile Mid North and reflect on the people who walked it for thousands of years. Walking the Heysen evokes many emotions and in the Mid North it is striking how little remains of the Ngadjuri in their own country. Sadly, little remains in oral and written record. Only one secondary source is readily available,

*'Ngadjuri: Aboriginal People of the Mid North Region of South Australia', published 2005. In its 150 pages it is striking how dependent it is on colonial newspapers, settler diaries and the fieldwork of a few academics to tell the history of the last Ngadjuri generations. It reads like a forensic reconstruction of lost culture.*

By 1900 there were no traditional owners on country and by 1950 no fully initiated members left alive. They had been scattered and cast adrift, retreating to ration stations and reserves. The Ngadjuri representative I have met was raised at Pt Pierce, Yorke Peninsula, and primarily identifies as a Narangga man.

In the 1940s field anthropologists, Paul Mountford and Ronald Berndt, recorded Ngadjuri vocabulary and place names from initiated man, Barney Waria. Barney appears to have realised the fading links to tradition, spending time meeting with anyone who would listen, such a tenuous

thread to the past emphasises the disaster of colonisation.

## PASTORALISTS ARRIVE

The Mid North attracted pastoralists from the 1840s, but the destruction of traditional culture had already started. Small-pox scarring was noted in the first settler reports, presumably spread along the Murray Darling basin. In naïve populations the disease could be expected to kill 50% of the population.

In 1840 sheep flocks reached the Broughton River. The Ngadjuri were quick to realise the danger, probably forewarned by the experiences of the Kurna. In February 1840 the first reported murder of a Ngadjuri man occurred at John Horrock's station. On the 26th September reporters estimated that two hundred aboriginals 'attacked' a survey camp north of Gawler.

The Hawker brothers took up Bungaree station in 1841, experiencing full scale resistance until the end of the >



decade. Sheep stealing and shepherd injuries were reported in newspapers but few native deaths. Magistrates held enquiries but routinely found no witnesses. Rumours unsettled the public, and the Ngadjuri melted away. Travellers recorded that only women and children were to be seen.

“

**By the first decade of the 20th Century, on country, all that remained were their placenames**

”

In 1848 the protector of Aborigines estimated 200 Ngadjuri were coming in for rations at Bungaree or Melrose. Twenty years later there were 60-70. Most of the Ngadjuri had retreated to Bimbowie, the far northeast of traditional country. In 1871, 214 individuals were recorded there. By the first decade of the 20th Century, on country, all that remained were their placenames.

Owie meant waterhole and was quickly accepted by the colonisers, hence Terowie, Caltowie, Booborowie. Bundaleer means among the hills. Yacka – sister (to the Broughton); Appila – hunting ground.

Walking the Trail you will have a unique insight into the landscape. Its water sources and fertile places are apparent on foot. It takes little to imagine how it was used by its traditional owners. The reed banks of Apoinga lagoon are long lost to grazing herds but it was a central resource to the Ngadjuri and to large mobs. Every lush valley was a hunting ground. Every creek a path through country. The ochre beds of Willochra were a trading resource. The stories maybe lost, but we can acknowledge them with just a little effort.

A special tribute has been made by artist, Robert Hannaford, at Riverton. He tells stories mainly in paint, but at Riverton he has sculpted a beautiful tribute to Ngadjuri mother and child. This life size bronze sculpture is alive with emotion and feeling. I think of it as the spirit of country.



**Trailwalker Photo Competition**



**Volunteer, Julie Stapleton shares the TrailWalker magazine at the Walking SA Season Opening at Belair NP.**

**We invite our readers to submit photos of themselves or others reading TrailWalker in interesting or unusual locations.**

Please send your high-resolution photos to The Editor at [trailwalker@heysentrail.asn.au](mailto:trailwalker@heysentrail.asn.au)

Large group? Hire a bus

**GENESIS**  
Transport & Removals

**Explore the Mawson & Heysen Trails through the Flinders Ranges, or discover the Fleurieu Peninsula**

Regular bus services connecting Adelaide and Copley, and the towns in-between. Passenger/freight timetables available online.

**08 8552 4000**

[genesis@genestransport.com.au](mailto:genesis@genestransport.com.au)  
[www.genestransport.com.au](http://www.genestransport.com.au)

Large group? Hire a bus

**ON THE MOVE? RING US FOR A REMOVAL QUOTE**

# Friends of the Heysen 2020 in review

MELANIE SJOBERG

2020 threw up a Covid-19 challenge to everyone. Fortunately the Friends of Heysen Trail managed to adapt with the support of our volunteers and members. There was obvious disappointment, but general acceptance, that it was necessary to place our walks and trail maintenance work on hold.

Council and Trail Development Committee members used the 'down time' to reflect on our overall priorities and commenced discussion with DEW (Dept for Environment and Water) senior officers about finding more effective ways to work collaboratively.

Despite the Covid-19 'pause' the Friends still had a successful year with key achievements summarised below.

## TRAIL DEVELOPMENT KEY OUTCOMES

Our Section Leaders were able to get out on the trail later in the year to work on more urgent safety issues such as missing or damaged markers. In addition to our project, teams found time to complete some of the planned work.

## WALKING THE HEYSEN AND OTHER TRAILS

The FOHT Walk Program was necessarily limited due to COVID-19 restrictions, however we managed to

deliver day walks later in the year:

### In 2020, our volunteer walk leaders coordinated:

- 22 TrailStarters;
- 24 TrailWalkers;
- 3 Ramblers;
- Extended South Coast Week
- Registered Walkers completing the Trail: **45 in 2020 without our E2E.**

The Friends of the Heysen Trail funded and installed people counters on the trail. Numbers indicate that people are keen to keep walking the trail.

| Location                        | Install Date | Ave/Mth |
|---------------------------------|--------------|---------|
| Newland Head - South Coast      | Mar 2019     | 250     |
| Horsnell Gully - Adelaide Hills | Jun 2019     | 350     |
| Wilcolo - Flinders              | Nov 2019     | 62      |

## MARKETING & MEMBERSHIP

Friends welcomed 196 new members to the organisation in 2020, bringing the total number of members to 1209. We anticipated a fall during Covid-19 given we were unable to actively walk or organise events so it was pleasing to remain reasonably stable and a testament to the love of our community for the Trail. With the 2021 walking season running, our membership has now grown to over 1400. >

## TRAIL DEVELOPMENT KEY OUTCOMES

|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| <b>EYRE DEPOT</b>            | Installed new tank & toilet                   |
| <b>DUTCHMANS STERN</b>       | Repaired tank stand                           |
| <b>BLACK JACK</b>            | Replaced the toilet & installed new tank      |
| <b>MT BRYAN EAST</b>         | Window repairs, painting and vermin-proofing  |
| <b>BEETALOO</b>              | Removed damaged tank for repairs              |
| <b>HISKEYS</b>               | Limed kitchen walls – extensive tree planting |
| <b>NEWLAND HILL</b>          | Installed platform                            |
| <b>WORK ON ROUTES</b>        |   |
| <b>DEPOT CREEK WATERFALL</b> | Safety improved                               |
| <b>WILLOCHRA CREEK</b>       | Reinstated erosion measures                   |
| <b>WILPENA POUND</b>         | Realignment to access shop                    |
| <b>WARREN GORGE</b>          | New spur                                      |
| <b>BUNDALEER FOREST</b>      | Greenway marking – work-in-progress via DEW   |



**TRAILWALKER**

The free magazine was published 4 times during the year, 2 print and online, and 2 online only (due to covid), providing an essential, high-quality promotional product carrying articles about walking and maintenance along the Heysen Trail. Beyond our membership, we distributed to Regional Visitor Centres, Landholders and Service Providers, building relationships and awareness about walking the Heysen. Our trail graphic design wiz, Josh West, also updated our promotional flyers ready to hit the 2021 promotion period.

**DIGITAL**

- **WEBSITE:** The Friends website is the most comprehensive online source of information for walking the Trail: conditions on the Trail, distances, campsites, re-routes, regional accommodation and transport and relevant notices about the fire danger season and park closures. DEW links direct to our site.
- **FACEBOOK:** Our page promoting the Heysen Trail has over 6500 regular followers. It is used to promote our events and wider activities such as Walking SA Hiking Expo, DEW Park of the Month, charity fundraisers and the health benefits of walking.
- **INSTAGRAM:** During 2020, the Heysen Instagram page was launched and, to date, we have 986 followers.

**OTHER PROMOTIONS**

The purchase of a new, highly identifiable Friends marquee was put to good use at the opening of

the walking season. We continue to produce an annual calendar of photos showcasing the Heysen, with photo contributions from our members. Installation of a large information sign at the new Kings Beach lookout platform was achieved in collaboration with the Victor Harbor Rotary club. Work continues on maintaining and updating information posters and brochures in the towns and along the Heysen Trail.



**OFFICE VOLUNTEER TIME**

The Friends Office is usually open 10.30-14.30, 5 days per week with 2 volunteers per day.

Office Volunteers engage in a raft of behind-the-scenes administration that keeps the Friends, our walks and promotional efforts ticking over. Importantly they provide advice and information about walking the Heysen Trail; coordinate on-line shop orders; manage Trailwalker postage; help publish website news items, such as park closures for fire management, pest control, and the fire danger season.

Stay up to date with the Friends News at [heysentrail.asn.au/news/](http://heysentrail.asn.au/news/)

**HERITAGE STATUS GRANTED FOR MYLOR PARKLANDS.**

Walking the Heysen Trail through Mylor, you pass by the Mylor Parklands and we are excited to hear that a fellow volunteer organisation, the Mylor Parklands Bushcare (caring for the Parklands since 1994) have had some good news with the Herald News (3rd June, 2021) reporting on an agreement between the State Government and the Adelaide Hills Council to grant Heritage Status to the Parklands. This formalises 'activities that damage, injure or endanger native vegetation or fauna at the site - particularly vegetation clearance, development and grazing', must not be undertaken.

That's good news for the protection of the Southern Brown bandicoot, and the Bassian thrush and Osborn's eyebright local flora. This agreement puts the success of environmental and conservation grant applications a step closer.

**Well done to the Mylor Parklands Bushcare team.**

Check out the Friends of the Heysen walking calendar on the website for Trailstarters in the area

[heysentrail.asn.au/walks/calendar/](http://heysentrail.asn.au/walks/calendar/)



**Accommodation Nunn Road, Myponga along the Heysen Trail**

2 self contained cabins with queen bed and single sofa ~ Reverse cycle air-conditioning  
Complimentary beer and wine upon arrival ~ Provisions for a cooked breakfast  
BBQ & outdoor setting ~ Mention this ad and get 10% discount



**New to Heysen's Rest 4 brand new single rooms on the Heysen's Trail  
Rooms include Ensuite, TV, fridge, king single bed, reverse cycle air conditioning and tea and coffee provided**

Contact Jayne & Greg  
08 8558 6397 or 0417 889 128

Email: [info@heysensrest.com.au](mailto:info@heysensrest.com.au)  
[www.heysensrest.com.au](http://www.heysensrest.com.au)

**JOSH WEST**

# A new chapter for Trailwalker

**Josh West describes his journey to becoming Trailwalker Editor and where the publication is heading next.**

It was my twelfth day hiking the Camino Francés through Spain, and I had just spluttered my way partially up a slippery, jagged hill before retiring to my haunches after suffering a coughing fit. Looking up at the stormy heavens, I wondered if it was all worth it. The morning's overcast conditions had cultivated an icy drizzle and an unyielding fog — weather that echoed my sickly state. Overnight, my intestines had bubbled and fizzed from the previous day's suspected dodgy batch of pinchos, while recently a throbbing headache had

joined the chorus of deteriorating body parts. In that moment, doubled over in queasy discomfort, I seriously questioned my life's choices.

Thankfully, once I reached the summit, my sinuses had cleared, and I had sweated out most of my fluey symptoms. Soon, my phone reception kicked back into gear, and amongst the flurry of backlogged notifications, I spotted a message from the president of the Friends of the Heysen Trail. My interest immediately piqued. Reading on the note stated, "the Friends would like to invite you to become an official Ambassador for us and the Trail." I couldn't quite believe my puffy eyes; such a prestigious honour, one I would proudly accept. My life's choices, including all the sweat, blood, tears and mucus I'd exuded since beginning my Heysen Trail adventure nine months earlier, were now justified. >



Trailwalker magazine has evolved over the years. From top to bottom; first edition published in July 1986, centenary edition published in February 2000, autumn edition published in 2010.

BLINMAN, SA

FLINDERS & BEYOND

CAMEL TREKS

**Join us in 2022 on a trek that completes the Heysen Trail's remote section 'Beyond Heysen'.**

Explore hidden treasures of the Flinders Ranges with camels carrying your supplies. Trek through gum-lined creek beds, towering gorges, rare geological formations and sparkling dry lakes. See native flora and fauna in its natural habitat and enjoy a night sky laser show with astronomer Ryan.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
T: (08) 8648 3713  
E: [info@flindersandbeyondcamels.com.au](mailto:info@flindersandbeyondcamels.com.au)

DEPARTING 2022 - CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION

In 2018, I began my Heysen through-hike with one goal in mind: to raise \$10,000 for the Black Dog Institute while highlighting the need for positive mental health. I set about achieving this aim by providing regular exposure for the cause through publishing daily diaries on social media, and updating the Trekking West blog and YouTube channel; the outcome was incredible. Not only did I surpass my fundraising target, but this life-changing adventure revealed priceless life lessons, re-wired my core values and propelled me into the world of long-distance hiking. Then, while doubled over in pain on top of a Spanish hill, the pièce de résistance, the experience had elevated me into an honorary Heysen Trail Ambassador.

Flicking down through my Facebook feed, I soon noticed a post on the Friends page advertising for a new Editor for the Trailwalker magazine. I strongly believe in giving back to the experiences that shape your life's journey. As a photographer, writer and designer, this would be my opportunity to contribute. So, when I arrived back in Australia in mid-2019, after hiking my way through the northern hemisphere, I proudly took over the Editor's position from the tireless Greg Martin.

“

**Beginning as a three-page newsletter in 1986, the publication has grown into a vibrant 32-page magazine**

”

Trailwalker has continuously evolved since the first edition was released 35 years ago in July. Beginning as a three-page newsletter in 1986, the publication has grown into a vibrant 32-page magazine, which aims to inform, promote, educate and inspire its readers. On average, 1,500 units are printed each edition and distributed to subscribers (over 1,400 individual Friends members), landholders, and a number of Adelaide outdoor retail outlets. In recent years, copies have also been supplied to regional tourist information offices, libraries, caravan parks and other outlets along the Trail.

**Best of the Heysen Trail on Instagram**

**Check out these mystifying sunrise shots taken at Whistling Trig Tank near Spalding by the incredibly talented @juliajpatten**

I'm proud to say I have had some small involvement in this legacy. Now, nearly two years on from my first edition, I'm delighted to say South Australia's foremost outdoor magazine has a new custodian to leave their mark. Over coming editions, Tammy Main will take the reins as Editor, bringing fresh energy, enthusiasm and expertise to the role.

I encourage all Friends members looking to become involved in the organisation to join the Trailwalker sub-committee.

Whether as a keen writer, a budding photographer, or a skilled typesetter, contributing to the publication is a fantastic way to give back to the Trail that supports thousands of walkers every year. Being involved in the magazine has been a highlight of my time based in Adelaide.

**Interested in joining the Trailwalker sub-committee?** Contact Tammy at [trailwalker@heysentrail.asn.au](mailto:trailwalker@heysentrail.asn.au) to express your interest.



*Hiskey's Hut post planting*

# The Saga of Greening Hiskey's Hut

NEIL NOSWORTHY

*Photos: Neil Nosworthy*

**Neil Nosworthy recounts the trials and tribulations of the conservationist at heart and the local inhabitants.**

The greening of Hiskey's Hut has the makings of an Icelandic saga with heroes and villains.

Hiskey's Hut, on the Heysen Trail a few kilometres west of Georgetown, was a small cottage built by Arthur Hiskey in 1907 in conjunction with an adjacent slaughterhouse. The property is still owned by Garry Hiskey who has been a good friend to the Heysen Trail.

The cottage was abandoned and fell into ruins until 1993 when it was re-built as part of an Adelaide Central Mission program to provide opportunities for homeless men to gain skills in building construction. The program, which started with the

reconstruction of Mayo Hut in 1989, resulted in five huts being built along the Heysen Trail.

Work on greening around Hiskey's Hut started in 2012 as the first project of the resurrected Friends Greening Committee. Over two weekends, 8 volunteers from the Friends planted 350 trees mostly adjacent to the hut but also a small avenue outside the gate on Slaughterhouse Lane. As we were finishing the second planting, a horde of sheep came over the hill towards

our trees. Korflute tree guards would be no match for the marauding mob.

We were able to procure some old wire netting guards. These were erected using wooden stakes but they were not strong enough to deter the villainous mob. After that, the trees were left to battle the marauders with an annual respite when the sheep were removed over summer.

In 2016, following reports of further degradation by the sheep, the Warren >



*Wayne Turner*

## The Saga of Greening Hiskey's Hut



*Bare Hiskey's Hut*

Bonython Heysen Trail Foundation provided funds to erect 33 guards using star pickets and wire netting to provide protection for the most robust of the surviving trees. The sheep tested the new guards which were more durable but we still had to replace the plastic cable ties with wire ties to repel the invaders.

Eventually in 2019, the hero of Hiskey's arrived in the form of Wayne Turner who had been looking after some trees propagated for an aborted project at Gray's Hut near Mt Remarkable. This began an ongoing labour of love to progress the greening of Hiskey's Hut.

In 2019, Wayne planted 66 trees which thrived with frequent watering. Then in 2020, he planted a further 25 trees utilising materials for tree guards

scrounged from Sturt Gorge and O'Halloran Hill Recreation Parks. All but four of these trees have survived.

With Wayne's regular watering schedule, the trees have grown above the wire netting exposing the foliage to the marauding sheep. To overcome this problem, Wayne has increased the height of the guards by attaching korflutes around the star pickets. As well, Wayne has been able to resurrect 12 "Spartacus" trees (as he calls them) from the original 2012 plantings which had survived despite the depredations of the sheep.

As a result, there are now over 100 trees making a discernible difference to the landscape around Hiskey's Hut thanks mainly to Wayne.

*Guards/pickets supplied for protection*



WARREN  
BONYTHON  
HEYSEN TRAIL  
FOUNDATION

### THE WARREN BONYTHON HEYSEN TRAIL FOUNDATION

was established as the fundraising arm of the Friends of the Heysen Trail in order to assist with the development of the Heysen Trail and other walking trails in South Australia.

The Foundation is a registered charity with tax deductible donations being directed towards improving the environment along the Trail.



**MAKE YOUR  
TAX-DEDUCTIBLE  
DONATION ONLINE**

[wbheysentrailfoundation.org.au](http://wbheysentrailfoundation.org.au)

In addition, lifetime membership of the Foundation can also be obtained by payment of \$25 through the website.



Willochra Creek crossing with its multi-hued geological formation

# Choose your own adventure

ROSIE BURN

Photos: Rosie Burn

## Long distance walking enthusiast, Rosie Burn talks about her discovery of the Heysen Trail and a solution for completing the northern sections with limited time.

Tackling the Coast to Coast walk across England kindled Rosie and Catherine's enthusiasm for long distance walking and in 2020 Rosie planned to return to the UK to walk the Cleveland Way in the north east. Then COVID-19 arrived.

Not being able to travel opened our eyes to some of the wonderful trails through the Adelaide Hills. As COVID-19 buddies, we tramped through the Montacute Conservation Park, the Sturt Gorge and the Waite Conservation Reserve and loved the Pioneer Women's Trail – to name just a few of our discoveries. The old pubs

sprinkled through the hills were a little reminiscent of the fabulous English pubs we'd enjoyed along the Coast to Coast.

We started noticing Heysen Trail signs on some of these walks and began to wonder: since we wouldn't be doing any overseas, or even interstate walking for that matter, why not try some of the Heysen Trail? Tackling the entire 1100 plus kilometres seemed overly daunting even though we'd done the 300 kilometre Coast to Coast, but there were many lovely sections close to home.

After our first multi-day foray south of Tanunda we were hooked. A little more than 12 months on we had covered almost half of the trail, much of it between Kuitpo Forest and Crystal Brook.

### END TO END MINUS 2

As we were approaching the more northerly sections the logistics were becoming a challenge. Time is in short

supply for both of us as Catherine is the Chair of Nugutu College and the Adelaide Youth Orchestras, while Rosie is busy as a Charles Allen Seymour Hawker Scholarship Trustee and welcomed her first grandchild to the family just before Christmas. We decided that the Heysen Friends offered the answer to our logistical concerns and recently joined the End to End Minus Two group for the sections between Mount Little Station and Dutchman's Stern.

It was a terrific experience!

During the six and a half walking days we witnessed some of the most beautiful sections of the trail so far: seemingly endless views of the folded mountain range formed by the collision of continental plates and resembling the spines of massive dinosaurs (*in Rosie's eyes at least*); the Willochra Creek crossing with its multi-hued geological formation; stunning views from the high points, Jarvis Hill, Mount Arden (made >



more atmospheric by the high winds and low temperatures) and the Dutchman's Stern which is said to be named because the peak resembles the rear end of an old wooden Dutch trading ship. The vistas were beautiful from the Stern but we shared Terry Lavender's view. Terry wrote "with the best will in the world I cannot make it look even vaguely nautical".

“

**seemingly endless views of the folded mountain range formed by the collision of continental plates and resembling the spines of massive dinosaurs (in Rosie's eyes at least)**

”

Simon reminded us of the Indigenous Australians, the Adnyamathanha people who represent several distinct groups and who to this day regard the Flinders ranges as their spiritual place. The area was, and is still sparsely populated, but colonial history abounds. We passed the grave of Irishman, Hugh Proby, who drowned while crossing the flooded Willochra Creek. Proby's grave is marked by a granite headstone shipped to Australia by his sister to mark his passing. We saw ruined remains of the homes of many settler families who farmed the area, as well as remnant culverts from the Great Northern Railway. We also stopped at Eyre Depot, where



*Walking buddies, Rosie Burn and Catherine Baldwin join the ETE -2 week long walk.*



explorers' supplies were replenished in days gone by and which now bears a plaque listing all of the recorded expeditions.

We were joined by great people, all united in their love of the outdoors and particularly the Heysen Trail. Hats off to our fabulous walk leaders, Simon, Julian, Dean and Greg and to walk organiser Julian, all of whom shared not only their amazing knowledge and love of the trail, but who were also generous with their practical skills. Simon's excellent on-track spectacles repair with super glue and colour coordinated gaffer tape is still holding strong (though new glasses have been ordered) and his amazing knowledge of all things history, anthropology, geology,

meteorology etc warrants special mention. We suspect Gavin's skill in driving the huge bus along wet, slippery dirt roads has been well documented in previous issues of Trailwalker but it is definitely worth another mention.

The hard work that goes on behind the scenes by intrepid Heysen Friends volunteers became very apparent as our walk leaders updated signs, chopped back vegetation, installed new seats and checked camp sites along the way. We will never again complain when we can't see the next Heysen sign!

Big thanks to everyone, we had a wonderful week.

## Advice for Bushwalkers to consider Biosecurity

### WALKING SA SUMMARY

*A major issue for the protection of native vegetation and primary production is the transport of seeds of weedy plants on clothing including footwear, and even coats or backpacks. Walkers are advised to check their trousers, shoes and socks after walking through a weedy area, then take a moment to get all weed seeds out of their clothes. Staying on established walking trails can make it easier to avoid picking up this plant debris. Walkers should also consider the potential for their vehicles to carry weeds on roadsides and car parks adjoining the walking trail.*

This information is particularly relevant where the Heysen trail traverses private land.

**Original written advice from Biosecurity SA – Invasive Species Unit, Primary Industries & Regions SA (PIRSA) is available at: [walkingsa.org.au/news/advice-bushwalkers-consider-biosecurity/](http://walkingsa.org.au/news/advice-bushwalkers-consider-biosecurity/)**

DAMIAN FITZPATRICK

# In the Footsteps of Warren Bonython

***Damian Fitzpatrick finds inspiration from childhood memories, 'unlocked' during the pandemic, as he prepares to follow in the footsteps of Warren Bonython and beyond (part 1).***

**O**n the 16th of March 2020, I watched the last cruise ship to enter South Australian waters pull anchor and sail away from Penneshaw, Kangaroo Island. Still reeling from the impact of the devastating bushfires that tore the island in two in January, this felt like another twisting of the knife for the island community, and people like me who worked on and love the place like home.

The unfolding pandemic soon swept tourism entirely from our shores and, with it, my tour guiding job, along with my guiding roles in Adelaide's wine regions and closed down my new food van venture. Confronted by my overnight loss of income, the walls came down around me and stripped bare all the activities I loved; sailing, playing squash, daily yoga classes. COVID-19 meant the cessation of all the pleasures in life I took for granted.

Faced with the reality of a world I suddenly couldn't recognise, full of doubt and uncertainty, and punctuated by the phrase 'self-isolation' filling the airwaves, I thought to return to Kangaroo Island. There was an opportunity to volunteer with Blaze Aid and rebuild the island's fire-ravaged infrastructure, only to find their activities curtailed in the same sweeping reforms.

It was then that my attention turned to a loosely held ambition from my childhood. In the 1980s, my cousin Steve boarded at our home near Flinders University, where he studied. During this time, he set off with a of mates to hike a newly opened section of the progressively emerging Heysen Trail. He returned waxing lyrical about the spectacle of the Flinders Ranges landscape and pondered the vastness >

Photo: Josh West

of the trail yet to be completed. He described the hike as an exceptional and wonderful opportunity if you could afford the time and manage the logistics.

I was inspired and buried the notion into the depths of my imagination, where it would stay for three decades. I studied outdoor education at Marion High School in the '80s and revelled in hikes with classmates through Wilpena Pound and other parts of the Flinders. The Heysen was always in the back of my mind to do 'one day', but I always found the opportunities to travel to other parts of Australia, then around the world, all too enticing. The Heysen Trail was too familiar and close to home to appeal to a young man hell-bent living on the edge of exotic cultural discovery.

“

**Where better to breathe clean air, exercise, connect with nature and cast a blind eye from the doom and gloom...**

”

But in March last year, amidst the swallowing up of everything comfortable, close to home, safe and familiar, I found myself in a unique position; time aplenty and nowhere farther afield to cast my imagination than my front doorstep. I started to salivate at the idea of self-isolating in the South Australian bush. Where better to breathe clean air, exercise, connect with nature and cast a blind eye to the doom and gloom unfolding through the media.



*David Speirs MP, SA Minister for Environment and Water and Damian Fitzpatrick*

I began to look more into the journey of Warren Bonython – and the few hardy 'Friends of The Heysen' members who had ventured beyond the Parachilna Gorge trailhead, following his footsteps to Mt Hopeless on Murnpeowie Station at the edge of the Strzelecki Desert. These stories only fuelled my hunger for further adventure. Particularly the delightful realisation that Owieandana Homestead on Yankaninna Station was en route. Yankaninna is the spiritual home of Operation Flinders Foundation.

I worked and volunteered with the Foundation for about six years. I was introduced to the organisation by a series of serendipitous coincidences or perhaps universal forces worthy of an article in their own right. I first saw an Operation Flinders vehicle pass by on the road whilst returning to Adelaide from Perth with a tour

from Nullarbor Traveller, where I'd guided camping tours for eight years. Wondering curiously who they were in that moment, little did I know a light was about to shine brightly at me from their direction. I took a rare break and sat in front of my TV three mornings later. I rarely watch 'the idiot box', but the ABC was on in our family home, and my hometown celebrity chef Poh Ling Yeow was on Australian Story. I discovered that she was participating in, of all things, an Operation Flinders exercise. That mysterious four-wheel drive that passed me days earlier gained sudden clarity. With a fresh understanding of the organisation, I planned one day, when I had fewer commitments, I would give them a call.

Well, an Operation Flinders four-wheel drive is not a common thing. There were only one or two vehicles in the whole city of Adelaide at the time. So the regularity with which I saw these vehicles pass me in the following months was cause for interest, surprise, a quiet chuckle and an understanding look to the heavens that 'they' had something in mind for me. My regular interest, and polite ignorance, of the calling was abruptly pulled out from under me when my friend Hassie, owner of Nullarbor Traveller rang me having received a charter request to drive a team of young people to none other than Yankaninna for an Operation Flinders Exercise. I had goosebumps! ➤



*Adam Chambers*

**OPERATION FLINDERS**

The program involves 100km of wilderness hiking on the edge of the Gammon Ranges National Park in the Northern Flinders Region of South Australia. Over seven days, the young people have their boundaries and coping mechanisms, respectfully, physically and mentally tested. The experience draws the best and worst out of a of teenagers, loosely termed 'youth at risk'. A combination of risk tasking experiences such as abseiling over the side of a spectacular river gorge, team building, Adnyamathanha cultural awareness and imagination exploring activities come together to give these young adults pause for thought and life adjustment, an appreciation of things taken for granted and a foundation for positive change in attitude and behaviour.

Operation Flinders exercises can create a complete turning point. Sometimes it's a life-course altering, all-encompassing, cathartic

counselling of life, grief, abuse, and trauma, stripping bare all its guises in support of an extraordinary team of volunteer leaders and mentors equipped with the skills, awareness, poise and understanding to develop trust, facilitate the unloading of burden and help the young person gain help and grounded certainty of change and preventative, protective action.

“  
**Sometimes it's a life altering, all encompassing, cathartic counselling of life, grief, abuse and trauma...**  
 ”

Well-chosen words of wisdom, hope and encouragement too, will flow forth with care and consideration in spades. It is a truly exceptional program with tremendous meaning and purpose. It is an organisation that I am honoured to have been courted by before being

thrust headfirst into.

And so, here I was, mid-lockdown, with a healthy dose of information and an even richer measure of enthusiasm when I contacted Operation Flinders to offer up my hike as a fundraising exercise in support of the Foundation.

My goal soon became clear. I would hike from Cape Jervis – the entire 1,200km length of The Heysen Trail to Parachilna Gorge Trailhead – through several remote stations to Yankaninna and over the Gammon ranges toward Arkaroola. I would then climb up onto the Mawson Plateau and travel north to Mt Hopeless. This journey would eventually come to cover some 1,800km over nearly four months.

**GOAL SET, PLANNING BEGINS**

While planning, resolving logistics issues and biding time waiting for the State Government to declare National Parks open, I learned that >

*Building friendships, confidence & camaraderie among women as we explore the world together...*



**SMALL GROUP WALKS AND MORE EXCLUSIVELY FOR WOMEN SINCE 2008**

- Flinders Ranges Walking Holiday - SA
- Women's Outback Camel Trek - SA
- Arkaroola & Kati-Thanda/Lake Eyre - SA
  - Southern Heysen Trail - SA
- Bondi to Manly Walk End to End - NSW
- Sapphire Coast - Hike, Kayak & Explore - NSW
  - Great Ocean Walk - VIC
  - Grampians Peaks Trail - VIC
    - 3 Peaks Hike - VIC
- Arnhem Land, Kakadu & Litchfield - NT
  - Bibbulmun Track Sections - WA
  - Cape To Cape End To End - WA
- Other great walks, activities & adventures...

www.adventurouswomen.com.au  
 Phone: 1300 388 419



there is more than one way to tackle the Heysen Trail. It can be done in just 15-20 days of gruelling running. In fact, my friend, itinerary planner and fellow Operation Flinders volunteer and confidante Adam Chambers ran some 60km a day for three weeks to complete the trip from Cape Jervis to Yankaninna two years prior. I describe his journey as crazy. He describes it as crazier still.

“

**I went in with a 'stop to smell the roses' mentality and a spirit determined to soak up every moment**

”

But I was approaching my hike from a vastly different angle with minimal time constraints, if any. I went in backed by a powerful 'stop to smell the roses' mentality and a spirit determined to soak up every

moment. The world, I felt, was going nowhere fast, so I wouldn't either. I'd photograph every scene, listen to the song of every bird, sit and watch every stream and savour every moment like a child discovering a new world. I knelt to smell and admire a thousand native flowers, search for native fruits, and lap up sweet floral nectars.

I whiled away time as the world's communities, which I was oblivious to, were stripped of many basic human rights and civil liberties; the right to dance, the right for social interaction, to share time with friends and family, to visit and grieve for dying loved ones, practising religious, ceremonial or social gatherings. To me, the freedom of humanity.

I felt hiking into the unknown on the Heysen Trail was about regaining freedom. I embraced it with passion.

The journey itself would prove to be filled with wonder and delight, at times intense physical pain

and exertion, psychological peaks and troughs, energy swings, daily challenges, weather extremes, some utterly stunning, and others ... I hope never to experience again in my lifetime.

.....  
**Look out for next issue of the TrailWalker to read as Damian's epic story unfolds...**

**For more Operation Flinders information online**  
[operationflinders.org.au/](http://operationflinders.org.au/)



## Terra Gore-Tex Boot Unisex

**The great all-round waterproof boot ready for any adventure**

The Scarpa Terra is the #1 all-rounder. Light enough for a day hike, sturdy enough for a three-dayer, stylish enough to pair with your favourite jeans once you head back into town.

Scarpa's tried-and-true, all-leather classic redesigned for travel, trekking and trail performance. The comfy, easy-wearing Terra GTX features modern styling and an updated midsole construction for improved support and stability.



228 Rundle St. Adelaide  
 T: (08) 8232 3155 | F: (08) 8232 3156  
 TOLL FREE: 1800 039 343

*Gear For Going Places!*

*Paddy Pallin*

Cliff faces that were covered in Wheel Cactus in the 1990s and 2000s are back to their pristine bareness thanks to the work of volunteers and contractors of the Blinman Parachilna Pest Plant Control Program over the last 12 years, using poison and cochineal beetles to completely remove cactus plants from this area. The creek bed itself was choked with toxic Oleander plants and has been cleared by a dedicated of volunteers from the Adelaide.

Submit your favourite short walks to the Editor



SALLY HENERY

# Favourite Short Walk

Blinman Pools Walk, Flinders Ranges.

Photo: Sally Henry

“  
It is an amazing place, so much fresh water in such an arid landscape.....and no crocodiles!  
”

One kilometre upstream from the First Pool one reaches the Second Pool and the end of the Blinman Pools Walk. The Second Pool, currently full of water is half the size of the First Pool, and the cliff face, or natural step down of the creek level, is half the height of the First Pool's rock face, but it is still a beautiful and peaceful place to rest awhile before traversing the 6 km trek back to Angorichina Village.

Alpana Station offers bush walkers a pick-up and drop-off service that halves the length of the Blinman Pools Walk while still giving you access to the full length of this epic walk. Be collected from your car parked at Angorichina Village car park and have more than an hour's off-road adventure in their accredited luxury 4WD vehicle to drive as close as possible to the Second Pool, then be guided on foot to the Second Pool and pointed in the right direction to walk yourself back to your car at your own pace. Total walk distance 6.3km. Walk time approximately 3 hours. **Bookings essential.**

A popular walk in the 1970/80s, the Blinman Pools Walk is once again back at its best after January 2021 floods cleared out and filled the pools. This is my favourite walk because it is simply stunning and happens to be in my back yard.

Starting at the information shelter at the Angorichina Tourist Village in the Parachilna Gorge and accessing Alpana Station's pastoral lease, follow the track down to the Blinman Creek, turn left and walk upstream. While signage that was at the halfway point and endpoint has been washed away in the January flood, you can't get lost following the major creek upstream.

The First Pool comes after 5km of creek bed hiking and dodging clear pools, many teeming with tadpoles. The walking is not easy as you are traversing a rocky creek bed, much of the time spent watching your feet, stopping to soak up the towering cliffs

and stunning gums. At the First Pool you are met with a vast expanse of clear water backed by a tall rock face of cliffs. If you are lucky the waterfall may be trickling fresh spring water into the pool. It is an amazing place, so much fresh water in such an arid landscape...and no crocodiles! Most people stop here for a snack or a swim, if the day is warm, before heading back. All up it's about a 10 km or 8-hour hike.

To reach the Second Pool and complete the Blinman Pools Walk in full one must back-track 50m and scale the rugged rocky hill on the right/west side of the creek bed to get around the obstacle of the rock face and waterhole. There is no obvious way or track to follow, and fitness and good mobility is required, but it is certainly manageable. Once back in the creek bed above the First Pool you are once again trekking along the rocky creek bed and past more water pockets.

.....  
Do you have a favourite short walk you'd like to share? Please send your article to The Editor at [trailwalker@heysentrail.asn.au](mailto:trailwalker@heysentrail.asn.au)



We are a South Australian walking company. Who specialise in small group wellness walks and treks.

Offering 'mixed group' and 'women only' walking adventures, events, information nights and experiences.

- Tour operator registered to provide Fire Recovery Experiences on the Kangaroo Island Wilderness Trail (KIWT)
- 'Walk the Yorke' guided and self-guided walking tours
- Walking getaways to the Flinders Ranges, Yorke Peninsula, Fleurieu Peninsula, Clare Valley, South-East, Riverland, Grampians....and more!
- Private group and customised walking trips
- Fast-track completing sections of the Heysen Trail with us!
- Self-guided walking packages available within SA and beyond
- Wellness walks on Wednesdays and Weekends
- Twilight hikes through the Adelaide Hills.

[www.bigheartadventures.com.au](http://www.bigheartadventures.com.au) | [hello@bigheartadventures.com.au](mailto:hello@bigheartadventures.com.au) | 08 7006 5620



## Wise Women Walking™

Find Yourself | Be Yourself | Challenge Yourself

10% discount off any 'Weekender' - for Friends of the Heysen Trail members



# TRAVELLING TO BLINMAN?

## ALPANA STATION

EST. 1878

## TRANSPORT SERVICE AND ACCOMMODATION

David and Sally Henery of Alpina Station Blinman offer a friendly, flexible and accredited **transport service to the best end of the Heysen Trail**: Wilpena, Blinman, Parachilna Gorge Trailhead, for individual walkers or groups. Transfers to the Mawson Trail and beyond also available.

*Alpina Station offers:*

- Quality self-contained guesthouses: **Alpina shearers quarters** (up to 14 guests) & **Nungawurtina Hut** bush retreat (up to 6 guests)
- **Powered sites** with ensuite bathroom facilities for caravans/campers
- Scenic **bush camping** areas



**JUST 5KM FROM BLINMAN  
IN THE FLINDERS RANGES**

**BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL**  
Contact David and Sally Henery  
PO Box 11, Blinman SA 5730

T: 08 8648 4626  
E: [alpanastation42@gmail.com](mailto:alpanastation42@gmail.com)  
[WWW.ALPANASTATION.COM](http://WWW.ALPANASTATION.COM)





HIKE  
more  
WORRY  
less

FULL PAGE AD



Scout  
Outdoor  
Centre

FRIENDS OF THE HEYSEN TRAIL

— Receive 10% off\* —

08 8223 5544 - 192 Rundle Street Adelaide

Visit our website [www.soc.com.au](http://www.soc.com.au)

\*In Store Only Excludes GPS, PLB's, Scouting Products & Sale Items