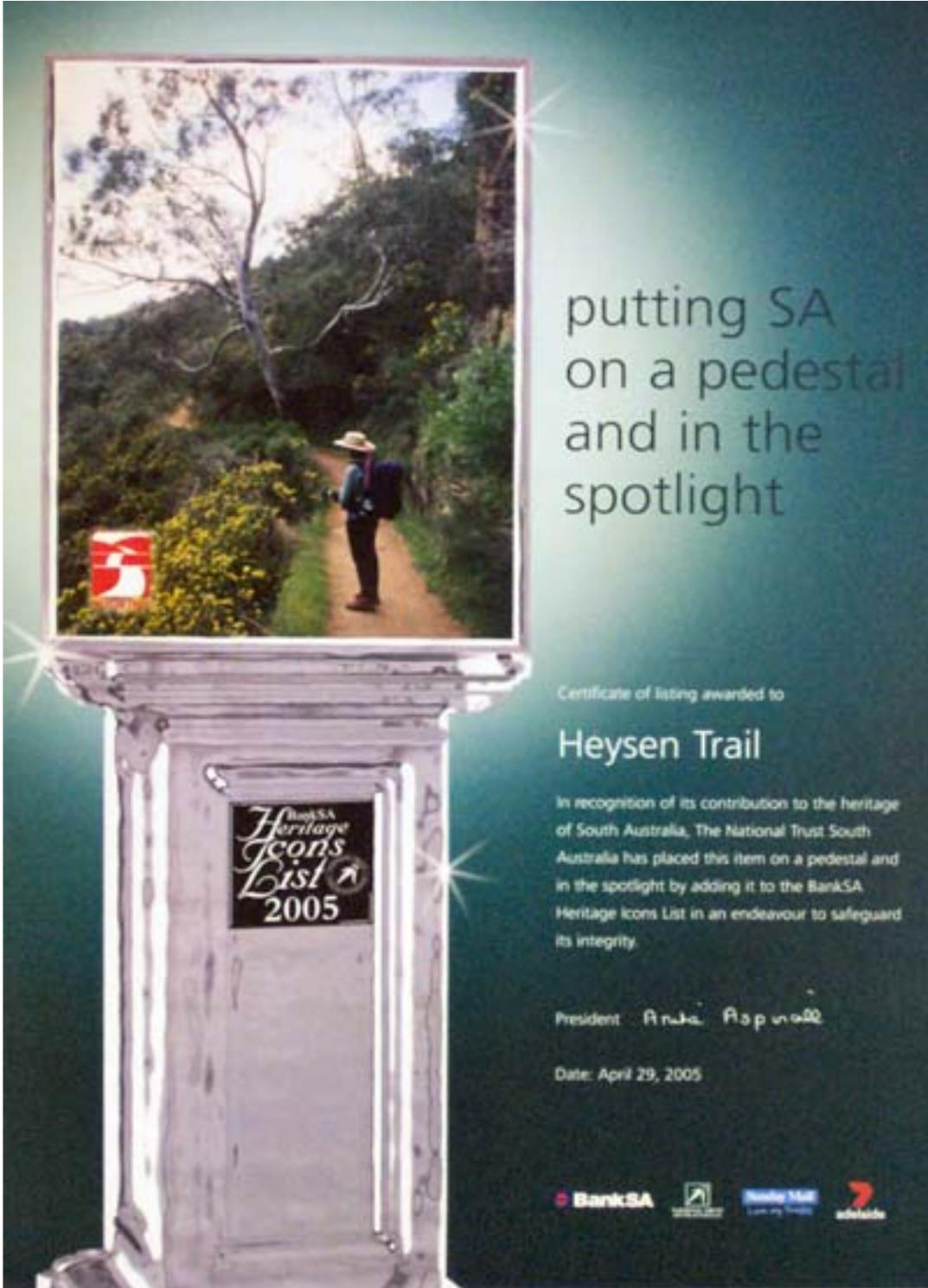


THE TRAILWALKER

ISSUE 96 PRINT POST APPROVED PP565001 / 00079 WINTER 2005



putting SA
on a pedestal
and in the
spotlight

Certificate of listing awarded to

Heysen Trail

In recognition of its contribution to the heritage of South Australia, The National Trust South Australia has placed this item on a pedestal and in the spotlight by adding it to the BankSA Heritage Icons List in an endeavour to safeguard its integrity.

President *Anita Aspino*

Date: April 29, 2005

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

THE TRAILWALKER

FRIENDS OF THE HEYSEN TRAIL AND OTHER WALKING TRAILS INC

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PHONE (08) 8212 6299 FAX (08) 8212 1930
EMAIL: heysentrail@heysentrail.asn.au
WEBSITE: www.heysentrail.asn.au

PATRON: C. WARREN BONYTHON AO

COUNCIL MEMBERS 2005

Julian Monfries	President
Simon Cameron	Vice President
David Beaton	Secretary
John Wilson	Treasurer
Robert Alcock	
Ray Blight	
Kevin Boyce	
Gavin Campbell	
Dean Killmier	
Bob Randall	
Claire Randall	
Claire Savage	
Arthur Smith	
Cliff Walsh	

COUNCIL COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

President's	Julian Monfries
Strategy & Sponsorship	Cliff Walsh
Finance & Audit	Cliff Walsh
Maintenance	John Wilson
Walking	Simon Cameron
Office	David Beaton
Marketing & Membership	Robert Alcock
Honorary Membership	Bob Randall

HONORARY MEMBERS

Terry Lavender*
Jim Crinion
Neville Southgate
Doug Leane
Fred Brooks
Sadie Leupold
Thelma Anderson
Kath Palyga
Richard Schmitz
Arthur Smith
Colin Edwards
Hugh Greenhill
Jamie Shephard
Glen Dow
Barry Finn
* (deceased)

TRAILWALKER EDITOR

John Wilson, Terri Hawke

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

David Beaton

OFFICE COORDINATOR

Frances Gasson

MAINTENANCE COORDINATOR

Dean Killmier, Arthur Smith

OFFICE HOURS & VOLUNTEERS

Monday	10.30 - 2.30	Keneatha Pick, Mike Parsons
Tuesday	10.30 - 2.30	David Beaton Dawn Bon, Julie Loftus
Wednesday	10.30 - 1.30	Jack Marcelis, Jenny Prider, Chris Porter
Thursday	10.30 - 2.30	Arthur Smith, , Frances Gasson, Jan Mortimer
Friday	10.30 - 1.30	Kath Palyga, Lorraine Ratcliffe, Jim Alvey, Dorothy Tynski
Saturday - Sunday	Closed	

MEETING DATES

Council

Wed 22 Jun, 2005
Wed 20 Jul, 2005
Wed 17 Aug, 2005

Walking Committee

Wed 3 Aug, 2005

Front Cover

National Trust SA recognition
Heyesen Trail Icon Certificate
Photo: Julian Monfries

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT to AGM 2005

18th AGM, 18th March, 2005

Enterprise House 136 Greenhill Road, Unley.

Friends, it gives me great pleasure to present my fourth report for your consideration.

As members of the Friends we are entrusted with promoting public awareness and usage of the Heysen Trail and other walking trails in South Australia. It is the primary goal of our constitution.

Major developments and activities within the Friends over the last twelve months have been aimed at that goal.

Initially though, I would like to cover some left over business from the previous year.

The Southern Guide Book has been released and on the basis of the number of sales from our office has been well received. There is however, still good demand for the old strip maps.

The release of the Northern Guide Book is within sight and it should be out later this year. It is our intention to bid for the distribution and marketing of that publication. We believe that the Friends can improve upon the current arrangement with the Southern Guide.

The book of extended day walks is almost at the proof stage, awaiting sponsorship money and a name.

The Tracks and Trails Conference was held at Hahndorf in October 2004 and was attended by various members of the Friends and David Beaton spoke on "Maintaining a Long Distance Walking Trail Using Volunteers", supported by Robert Alcock and Cliff Walsh.

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A number of committees have been set up to smooth the running of the Friends and present a more business-like approach.

- The Finance and Audit Committee to manage the overall financial control of the Friends.
- The Strategy Committee to develop, review and monitor the implementation of plans for the Friends future development.
- The Maintenance Committee to oversee maintenance, provide backup for the Maintenance Coordinator and work in collaboration with DEH on maintenance issues and planning.
- A Membership and Marketing Committee to plan promotion and marketing of the Heysen Trail and the Friends, to raise our profile and encourage new membership.
- Walking Committee to oversee and plan the walking programme, to encourage new walkers with an exciting and varied walking line-up.
- Office Committee to provide a management structure in the office/shop, training for volunteers.

As you will see in the financial report to follow, the Friends had a profitable year. We expect that as our new committees come to terms with their tasks, there will be bids for funds to support their responsibilities.

We have developed a close working relationship with the Department of Environment and Heritage and have members on their Heysen Trail Strategic Plan Steering Committee which is to plan for the “upgrading, improvement and revitalisation of the Heysen Trail” through a ten year strategic plan. This group has members from the Department, Tourism SA, the Office of Recreation and Sport, Forestry SA and the Friends.

We also have members on the department’s Management Project Team, which is looking at

the current management of the Trail and how that can be improved and fed into the Strategic Plan.

This summer saw in the introduction of Twilight Walks to provide exercise and social activities in what has traditionally been the “non-walking” season.



The first group of End to Enders, previously called the Millennium Walks, will complete the task commenced in 2000, walking into Parachilna Gorge in August this year. A catch-up group continues up the Trail and new group will start from Cape Jervis next year.

As I have said in my previous President’s Reports, our Core asset is our membership. Without you we are lost. It is important that we continue to promote the Trail and the Friends to maintain a healthy influx of new blood.

New blood to work along side the old blood, so a smooth succession can take place, as required. We must look further than just to keep *going*, we must look to keep *growing*.

I believe it is through our walking arm (!) that this growth will come. It is to walkers that we must look for potential maintainers.

In the not too distant future, an event will take place that will do more to promote the Trail than

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possibly anything since the opening of the full trail in 1993. Whilst I am not at liberty to reveal just what that is, I can assure Members it will be worth waiting for.

My thanks to the Executive and council, to the Maintenance and Office Volunteers, the Walk leaders and of course to you, our Members, for

your efforts and support over the past twelve months.

In particular thanks to our retiring Council members, Vice President, Dean Killmier, the secretary, my darling Sue and a Friends stalwart, Thelma Anderson.

Julian Monfries
President

PRESIDENT'S REPORT WINTER 2005

Friends we are now well into the walking season and our Walking Committee has devised a very full and comprehensive programme of walks for your delectation.

I should hasten to add that maintenance has had a jump on the walkers with a number of maintenance activities predating the opening of the season. I commend you read and absorb the maintenance reports.

Many of the maintenance projects will improve the trail with some key reroutes making the trail better and more enjoyable walking vis a vis the Morialta Reroute that takes the Trail away from cement block hill.

We have had two working parties into the Flinders for a week away each. These groups have worked particularly hard with early rising and a full and heavy day's work. They undertake essential work that cannot be done via day trips.

Whilst it is no holiday, all the volunteers enjoy the time away and we appear to have no trouble filling the car. Unfortunately, funding for these trips is under threat once again. It would appear that the Department has difficulty in seeing the value they get from our volunteers in these extended trips.

The dunny at Calabrinda Creek was found to have blown over in a storm. Righted and repaired within two weeks of notification. Try getting contractor to do that for the price and in the time frame.

We welcome three fresh faces to the Friend's council, Simon Cameron, as Vice President, Ray Blight and Kevin Boyce as Council Members. I am sure they will add some fresh ideas and new enthusiasm and we look forward to working with them over the next twelve months.

The AGM took place on 18th March at Enterprise House. I trust that members found it entertaining and I am sure all appreciated our guest speaker, Quentin Chester's look at how serendipitous encounters with people can change the direction of your life. Chester is currently writing the biography of our patron, C Warren Bonython AO.

I urge you to read and contemplate my report elsewhere in the TrailWalker.

The event alluded to in my report is the great news that the Heysen Trail has been listed as a BankSA Heritage Icon by the National Trust of South Australia. I was lucky enough to represent The Friends at the awarding of the certificate on Friday 29th, April. C Warren Bonython AO, Patron, and I accepted the award on behalf of walkers and the people of South Australia.

The wording of the award states "Certificate of listing to Heysen Trail In recognition of its contribution to the heritage of South Australia. The National Trust South Australia has placed this item on



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its pedestal and in the spotlight by adding it to the BankSA Heritage Icons List in an endeavour to *safeguard* (my italics) its integrity”.

See award extract on cover of this Trailwalker

I believe this will raise the profile of the Trail more than any single event since the opening of the Trail in 1993. My thanks all those who were involved in preparing the case for and nominating the Trail for this award. Well done.

In an effort to raise the profile of the Friends and the Trail we have produced new colour brochures for distribution to walking and camping shops. These will include a tear-off membership application section.

The council consider the future of the Friends lies in growth of membership. Consequently a major focus of our activities at a committee level will be with Membership and Marketing.

To maintain a healthy viable Trail we need growth in our membership. It is from walkers that our membership will grow. The trail maintainers of the future are the walkers of the present.

You can do your part by encouraging your friends to undertake healthy activities, like walking, like bushwalking, like bushwalking with the Friends. Do your bit to make the Friends an active growing organisation.

Julian Monfries
President

BRIEF REPORT ON 2005 AGM

The 18th Annual General Meeting of the Friends of the Heysen Trail was held March 18th 2005 at Enterprise House, with 44 in attendance. Julian presented his 4th Presidential Report (full text elsewhere in this issue of The Trailwalker). The Election of Officers produced a few new faces for the coming year -

- President : Julian Monfries (re nominated)
- Vice President : Simon Cameron (nominated)
- Secretary : David Beaton (nominated)
- Treasurer : John Wilson (re nominated)
- Council Members re nominated : Robert Alcock, Cliff Walsh
- Continuing Council Members : Bob Randall, Gavin Campbell, Claire Randall, Claire Savage, Arthur Smith
- New Council Members : Kevin Boyce, Ray Blight, Dean Killmier
- Retiring council members : Thelma Anderson, Sue Monfries

Julian thanked Thelma and Sue for their contribution to council, thanked those remaining, and warmly welcomed all new council members.

Barry Finn received our highest accolade, as Honorary Member. John Wilson spoke of

Barry's tireless efforts within the Friends organisation over the years - as an office volunteer, section leader, walk leader, and as a walker. Barry is now living in Victoria, but sends the message that he's missing his friends and missing South Australia. Dean Killmier accepted the award on behalf of Barry.

We were most fortunate and delighted to be entertained by Quentin Chester, our guest speaker – avid climber, skier, bushwalker, and writer. Everyone could relate, as Quentin talked about the bond between walkers, the common ground shared between total strangers. The people we meet along the way stick with us - personalities make it happen, and stay with us forever. All were held captive with tales of early days, mentored by the likes of Paddy Pallin, and our very own Warren Bonython. Quentin walks a stretch of the Heysen Trail quite regularly, accompanied by his wife (and dogs), and often reflects on the efforts of Warren and Terry Lavender, along with the efforts of the FOHT to keep the trail alive.

The evening ended with a light supper shared amongst great company.

Sue Monfries

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MAINTENANCE REPORT TO 2005 AGM

Good evening Members.

My report this year is an improvement on last year, due to an increase in funding from D.E.H.

During the last twelve months, our council has formed sub committees and is having regular meetings with D.E.H. Thus funding for the Heysen Trail has improved.

Maintenance has been ongoing in all sections of the trail by our Section Leaders and Volunteers, with 24 stiles being rebuilt into two step stiles complete with assist poles, marking being upgraded, benching and pruning carried out.

The Wandergruppe Walkers have completed their second timber bridge on the creek north of Yulti Conservation Park.

Reroutes of the Heysen Trail have been carried out in Morialta Conservation Park, on the old Glenshera Farm at Mt Compass, Mt Remarkable to Alligator Gorge Road, east of the Buckaringa Scenic Drive Road, west of Buckaringa Gorge, on Wonaka Station at Hawker following Wonaka Creek from Mayo Hut and in the Flinders Ranges National Park using some of the R.G.S. Trails east of Aroona.

In the Hale and Warren Conservation Park new contoured trails have been constructed thus eliminating the steps, with two seats being

installed, the work was carried out by Parks, Rob Marshall and Friends volunteers.

Long distance metal signs have been installed on metal 1700mm high posts along the trail. Good existing wood signs have been retained and the rotten signs removed. To date 61 signs have been installed.

At Mt Bryan East School house a male and female toilet has been constructed and in Caroon Conservation Park a toilet has been provided at each shelter.

Since my last report D.E.H. have provided storage in part of their shed at Cobblers Creek and all materials and tools have been transferred. Volunteers who require materials or tools can contact Bob Randall, Graham O'Reilly or myself for access to the shed.

This year the Heysen Trail southern section guide book was printed, with the northern section ready to go to print so good progress has been achieved.

Thank you all.

Dean Killmier
Maintenance Co-ordinator
Friends of the Heysen and other Walking Trails Inc.

MAINTENANCE REPORT FOR WINTER 2005

Section 17A

On our recent successful trip to the Flinders from 4th-8th April by Bob Randall, David Beaton, Trevor Bright and myself the following jobs were carried out:

- The remarking and upgrading of the Heysen Trail is now complete to the end of the recent re-route south of Buckaringa
- Hand rails installed on the steps down the Willochra Creek bank

- Six stiles upgraded
- A short re-route at Kanyaka Creek to access the creek bank
- Remarkered approx 18km of trail
- Removed old markers north of Buckaringa Scenic Drive and on the four wheel drive track from near Aroona over Red Hill to Trezona Camp Ground
- At Callabrinka Tank the toilet was re-erected and secured to the ground, the roof screwed

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- down and the roof purlins wired to the posts
- Two signs were installed near Mayo hut
- Contact was made with Ian Hartley from Pt Augusta and he will look after the section from Mt Brown to Dutchmans

Section 7

Arthur Smith has talked to the manager at

Woodhouse and proposed route through the area has been agreed upon and a report has been prepared for Bronte Leak.

Dean Killmier
Maintenance Co-ordinator.

OFFICE COMMITTEE REPORT

- We welcome Jeannie Pope to the Office team. Those who have called the Friends Office or visited the shop on Mondays may have seen Jeannie. It's great to have her with us and we can only benefit from her wide knowledge of walking areas around SA.
- If you are reading this and **YOU** can spare a day a week (or fortnight) to assist in the office please contact Frances, the Office Coordinator or me.

We still need some extra helpers in the Office.

Whilst there is a particular need on Fridays help is needed in the office on other days, particularly when our regular helpers are away.

- Walk bookings – Remember that bookings for walks are open for one month prior to the date of each walk. Call the Office to gain information about the walks and to place your bookings.
- Can't attend a walk? Always remember to phone the office (8212 6299) and cancel your place on the walks. Leave a message if the office is closed. Walk leaders will check the messages before the walk and so not wait around for you.
- Membership Renewal Forms are sent out with The Trailwalker. When completing your forms please include all requested information and complete both sides of the form.

Remember that the **Friends' Shop** stocks a range of maps and books, particularly relating to walking and South Australia.

When looking for gifts, check what we have. You may be presently surprised.

Just a few of the items we have **for sale:**

- ❖ 'Exploring the Barossa' *NEW*
A new book about one of the state's most interesting areas.
Take this on a weekend away.
- ❖ 'Southern Guidebook – Heysen Trail'
Updated maps and information for the Heysen Trail from Cape Jervis to Spalding.
A must for walkers.
- ❖ 'Discover the Barossa'
A companion book to the newly published 'Exploring the Barossa'. Great source of advice for fascinating drives and walks.
- ❖ 'Explore the Flinders Ranges'
Visiting the Flinders? This book is a must. Advice on tours and walks with plenty of background information.
- ❖ 'Discover Kangaroo Island'
A beautifully presented publication, full of valuable advice about our offshore gem.

Come in and have a look
Better still. Have a look and buy something !!!

David Beaton
Chair, Office Committee

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HEYSEN TRAIL VOLUNTEER MAINTENANCE SECTION LEADERS

HEYSEN TRAIL SECTION	HEYSEN MAP		SECTION LEADERS NAME AND CONTACT NUMBERS	
	Strip	Book		
1. Cape Jervis to Tapanappa	8	1.1 – 1.3	David Beaton	(H) 8298 6340
2A. Tapanappa to Waitpinga Campground	8	1.3 – 1.5	Ralph Ollerenshaw	(H) 8379 0998
2B. Waitpinga Campground to Back Valley Road	8	1.5 – 2.2	Geoffrey & Pamela Gardner	0417 818 053
3. Back Valley Road to Moon Hill	3	2.2 – 2.3	David Evans	(H) 8558 2854
4. Moon Hill to Hindmarsh Tiers Road	3	2.3 – 2.5	Hermann Schmidt (Wandergruppe Bushwalkers, German Assoc)	(H) 8344 4072
5. Hindmarsh Tiers Road to Blackfellows Creek Road	3	2.5 – 2.7	Joe O'Neill	(H) 8296 7827
6. Blackfellows Creek Road to Glen Bold	1	2.7 – 3.2	Richard Webb	(H) 8381 5308
7. Glen Bold to Piccadilly	1	3.2 – 3.4	Thelma Anderson Trevor Lee	(H) 8278 4420 (H) 8398 0516
8. Piccadilly to Norton Summit	2	3.4 – 3.4	Liz O'Shea (WEA Ramblers)	(H) 8352 1636
9. Norton Summit to Cudlee Creek	2	3.5 – 3.7	Graham O'Reilly	(H) 8397 1217
10. Cudlee Creek to Bethany	2, 9	3.7 – 4.4	Doug Leane	(H) 8443 3388
11. Bethany to Peters Hill	9	4.4 – 5.3	Joyce Heinjus	(H) 8525 2054
12. Peters Hill to Logans Gap	10	5.3 – 5.9	Norrie Hamilton	(H) 8332 1982
13. Logans Gap to Spalding	11, 12	5.9 – 6.12	Hugh Greenhill (Burra Branch)	(H) 8843 8115
14. Spalding to Georgetown	13		Kevin Liddiard	(H) 8289 4236
15. Georgetown to Mt Remarkable	13, 6		Mary Cameron Ian Pool Roger Collier (ARPA)	(H) 8165 1025 (H) 8258 3425 (H) 8264 1660
16. Mt Remarkable to Quorn	7		Vacant	
17A. Quorn to Hawker	14, 15		Vacant	
17B. Hawker to Wilpena	5		Gavin Campbell	(H) 8296 8613
18. Wilpena to Parachilna	4		John Henery (Alpana Station)	(H) 8648 4864
MAINTENANCE CO-ORDINATOR (Voluntary)			Dean Killmier	(H) 8261 3241

If you discover a problem on the Heysen Trail, please contact the Friends Office, Maintenance Co-ordinator or relevant Maintenance Section Leader.

Friends Office numbers: Ph: 8212 6299 Fax: 8212 1930 Email:maintenance@heysentrail.asn.au

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BURRA BRANCH

RE-ROUTES

The Burra Branch had their AGM on 13th March 05 at Saddleworth. Arthur Simpson was elected as President and Margaret Fry as Secretary. The walking Program was worked out for this walking season. As follow:

May 22nd. Carroona Creek Conservation Park.
Contact, Hugh Greenhill.

June 5th Hopkins Creek Conservation Park.
Contact, Hugh Greenhill.

June 24,25,26th St Mary's Peak Wilpena Pound,
Contact, Peter Van Beuichem.

July 17th Mt Bryan, Contact Ken Farmer.

August 20th Bundaleer, Contact Peter Van Beuichem.

September 10,11th Bimbowrie Station, Contact Julie Ray.

October 6th Blackjack to Newikie Creek, Contact Arthur Simpson.

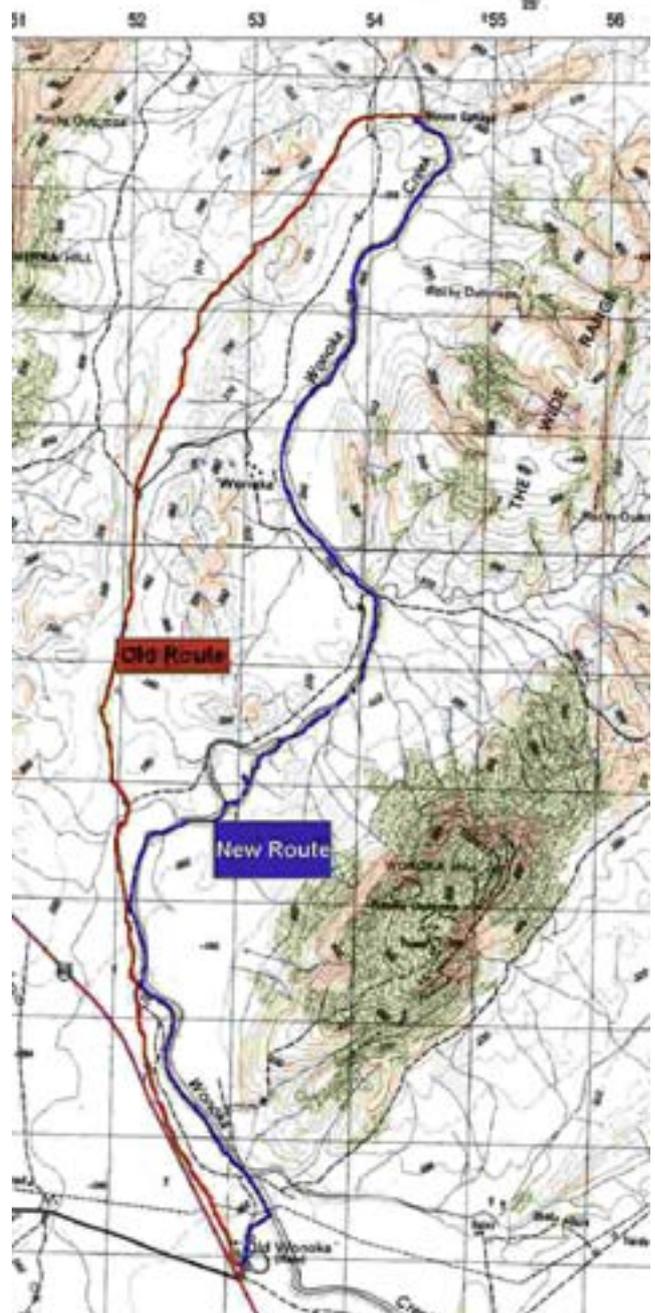
Kate and Hugh Greenhill.
Burra Branch,

RE-ROUTES IN FLINDERS RANGES

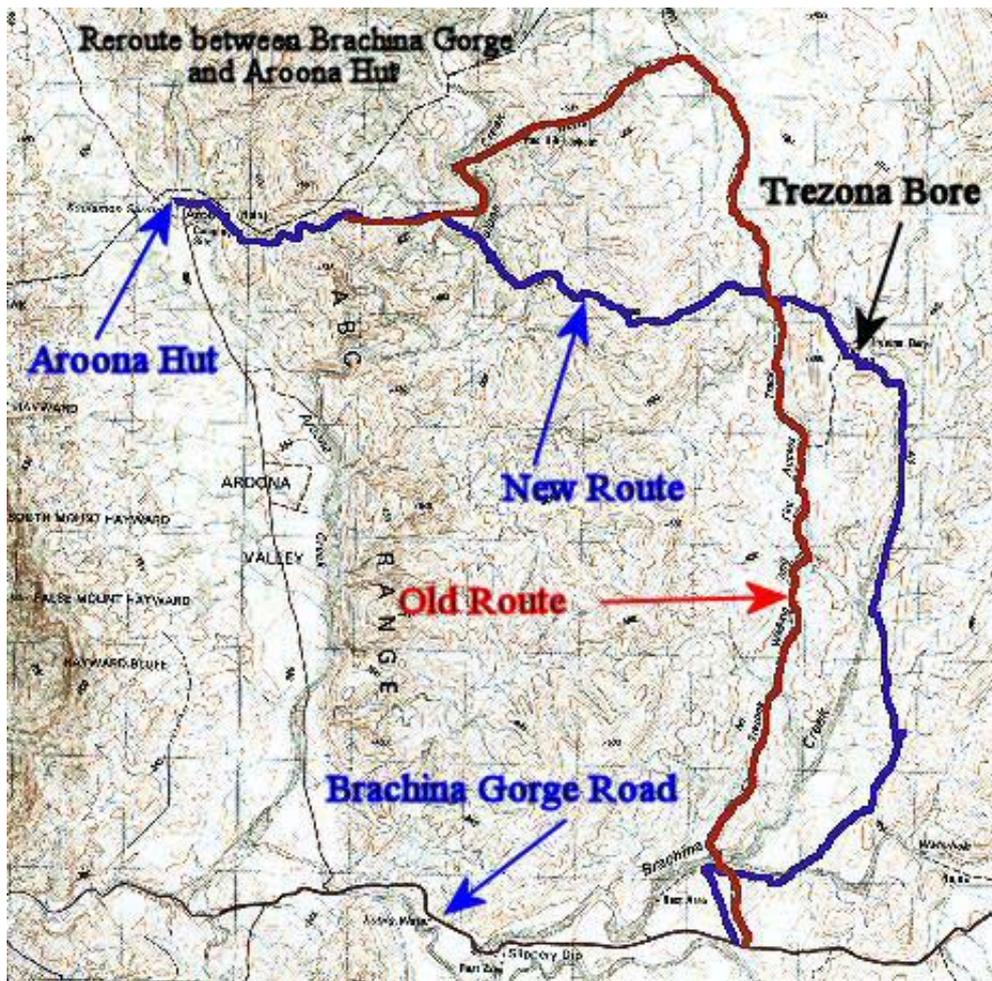
The re-routes shown on this and the following page were marked during a Maintenance working trip in February this year.

They are:

1. Along Wonaka Creek south of Mayo Hut, and to the intersection of Trail and Leigh Creek road. (This page)
2. Re align Trail to same path as RGS Hayward Huts walk, between Brachina Gorge and Aroona.
3. Between water tank north of Buckaringa Scenic Drive to fenceline app, 2K NE of tank.



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FINANCIAL REPORT TO AGM - MARCH 2005

Summary

During Year 2004 The Friends made a surplus of \$2619. This is a pleasing result, and as it includes some one off expenditures, our underlying administrative surplus is even better at \$5297.

There are a number of factors contributing to this result. As mentioned last year, your Council has set up a number of committees to develop strategies and review performance of various aspects of Friends activities. In this first year of operation, the committees have been monitoring income raised more carefully. It is expected that in this and subsequent years they will also develop more proposals for expenditure.

Income from membership subscriptions, advertising and sundry income increased by a reasonable margin, but the larger gains were from sales and walking. Almost all the sales improvement (it more than doubled) was for Heysen Trail maps, and was a combination of the new Southern Guide, together with a renewed interest in the superseded strip maps.

The walking income also rose substantially (up around 40%), with increases from both Golden Boots and day walks. The main contributor, however, was from the Enders group, particularly as their walks are now further afield and occupy a full weekend. The one weekend event (at Spear Creek) was also successful.

Overall, our income increased by about \$4700.

Administrative expenditure for 2004 rose slightly compared with the previous year in most areas. Public Liability Insurance increased by a further 18% and there is still some uncertainty regarding any further increases. Our net expenditure increased only by \$480.

As a result of this improved performance, it was decided to write off the remaining book value of our Plant and Equipment, with a one off depreciation cost of \$1921.

The Friends spent \$756 of our funds on trail maintenance, while a further \$5,470 was spent on basic materials and expenses and was reimbursed by the Department for Environment and Heritage

2004 Accounts

The Auditors Report and 2004 Accounts for the Friends were distributed at the AGM. Some spare copies are available from the Friends office. Detailed accounts, prepared monthly, are also held at the office and may be inspected by members. The following is a brief summary of the 2004 Accounts.

Income

Membership Subscriptions	\$6780
Income from Sale of Goods	\$2481
Interest	\$2127
Day and Millennium Walks	\$6806
Weekend Walks	\$1157
Sundry Income	<u>\$942</u>
Total Income	\$20,293

Administrative expenditure **\$14996**

Administrative Surplus **\$5297**

Less

Depreciation	\$1921
Trail Maintenance	<u>\$757</u>

Net Surplus **\$2619**

Current Assets

Bank Account	\$4275
CPS, Term Deposit	\$47426
Minor Accounts/Floats	\$111
Stock on Hand	\$2543
Trade debtors	\$3502
Plant and Equipment	<u>\$0</u>
Total Assets	\$57857

Current Liabilities **\$4088**
Nett **\$53769**

John Wilson,
Treasurer

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THE WALKING FEDERATION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA, INC.

Opening of the Walking Season for 2005.

Members of Walking S.A. Committee have returned from various pre-season activities to New Zealand, Western Australia and the Kosciuszko region to attend the official opening of the 2005 Walking Season at Morialta on Sunday, 3 April, 2005. (We are pleased that Mary Cameron of A.R.P.A. who is both a member of Walking S.A. Committee and a Heysen Trail Sectional Maintenance Leader survived her ordeal of plunging head first into a flooded wombat hole on the banks of the river at Thredbo. After being completely submerged she was assisted to her feet onto the track and continued with the group back to the Blue Cow Car Park.) Several clubs organised walks, including the hosts, St. Agnes Bushwalking and Natural History Club and Walking S.A., in various locations of Morialta Park and beyond, returning to Stradbroke Road to enjoy a Sausage Sizzle, cake and tea provided by the Friends of Onkaparinga Park. Interesting Club displays were also on view. David Marcroft, President of Walking S.A. welcomed those present and declared open the 2005 Walking Season.

Office Accommodation. Walking S.A. Office is now conveniently located at 12a Stuart Road, Dulwich, adjacent to the roundabout and shops, adjoining the chemist shop on the eastern side of the road. Street car parking is available nearby. General meetings will continue to be held at a meeting room of the Burnside Council Chambers.

Minimising Pedestrian/Cyclist Conflict on Shared Paths and Footpaths. Walking S.A. was represented at a Workshop for the project of the Australian Bicycle Council on Tuesday, 5 April, 2005 at Transport S.A. It was conducted by Ian Ker, Principal Planner/Economist for ARRB Transport Research Ltd based in Western Australia with Workshops being conducted throughout Australia, except Tasmania. A range of key issues associated with pedestrian-cyclist interaction of shared facilities have been identified for discussion at the Workshops. The most relevant area for application of these issues

in South Australia is the Torrens Linear Park. We will continue to receive further information as the project progresses.

Woodcutters Road, Cherry Gardens. On 7 March, 2005 a team of volunteers met to survey identification markers between Pole Road and Acklands Hill Road to establish GPS points and to record track notes with accompanying photographs to identify the location of Woodcutters Road. This information has been forwarded to the Office for Recreation and Sport for negotiation with Onkaparinga Council to secure walking access in the area. This link connects Belair National Park, Mark Oliphant Recreation Park and Scott Creek Conservation Park.

Adventure Activity Standards (AAS) for South Australia. Adventure Victoria has forwarded comprehensive documentation on this topic and an effort is being made to analyse the implications for South Australia. The President of Adventure Victoria advises that the scheme poses many problems for private outdoor recreational activity. Members of the Committee will continue to investigate the implications of the project in order to keep our membership informed.

Volunteers Day. The Office for Volunteers has designated May 16, 2005 for celebration and recognition of efforts by volunteers. Nomination forms are available from Christine Wyman, Office for Recreation and Sport, but nominations close on Friday, 29 April, 2005.

Undeveloped Road Reserves. At a recent meeting of the Recreational Trails Strategy group, convened by Office for Recreation and Sport, it was revealed that the Walking S.A. Presentation on Undeveloped Road Reserves made to the Working Party examining the Recreational Use of these valuable access routes on 11 November, 2004 is still an active document and has been referred to the Crown Solicitor as promised. The proposed amendments to existing legislation as drafted by

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Clive Brooks is being considered and assessed. We are considerably heartened by this information and look forward to further positive developments.

Mount Barker Council. Following our failed attempt to retain two valuable undeveloped road reserves in public ownership at Harrogate we received an invitation to represent Walking S.A. at an Information Session organised to discuss the District Council of Mount Barker Draft Road Reserve Vegetation Management Plan on 28 February, 2005. The meeting was addressed by Ann Prescott (Bush Management Adviser) and Anthea Shem, Office for Recreation and Sport on the subject of Road Reserves and Recreation opportunities, followed by Greg Sarre of the District Council of Mount Barker on a request for information on a Recreational Trails Action Plan. We responded with a submission, attaching a copy of our Policy Document on Walking and a copy of an article published in the Summer edition 1991/92 of "Tandanya" relating to public use of Government land.

Barossa Council. Members of our Walking Access Committee made an on-site inspection of an undeveloped road reserve near Mount Pleasant Summit. We met the adjoining landowner who wishes to purchase the road reserve and conceded that a narrow "walking only" trail would be the most appropriate outcome in this instance. The Barossa Council has been advised accordingly.

Onkaparinga Council. An on-site inspection of an undeveloped road reserve at Kangarilla was made with an officer of the Council, Anthea Shem (OR&S) and Horse S.A.

Proposed Wind Farm Development on Waitpinga Cliffline. The application for this proposed development is currently being considered by the Development Assessment Commission. As part of the process the Commission convened a hearing of representors on 7 April, 2005 at Victor Harbor. Hundreds of submissions were made to the Commission and many of these objectors attended the hearing to represent their submissions verbally. They

comprised organisations, Government agencies, aboriginal groups, interested individuals and local residents. The Local Member of Parliament, Dean Brown, supported his submission by means of a telephone hook-up and loud speaker system. The residents' group referred to the effect on a particular housing development where they had recently moved into new homes only to be informed that 65-metre pylons would be installed on their blocks or adjacent thereto to carry the cables from the wind farm site to the nearest grid. A 65-metre pylon would also be installed at each of the windmills at the cliffline site. The developer claims that it is not feasible to underground the cables as the cost would be prohibitive. We must now await the decision of the Commissioners and hope that the best interests of the environment and the scenic amenity of the Waitpinga cliffline remain sustainable.

Engelbrook Reserve. The National Trust of South Australia has expressed thanks to those volunteers who have assisted in their Bushcare programme and advise that Bushcare Sessions will be held on the **first Saturday of the month, between 1.00 p.m. and 4.00 p.m. throughout the remainder of 2005.** Volunteers meet at the end of Wattle Street, Bridgewater. Contacts for the Engelbrook programme are Russell Sinclair (8339 1921) (H) or Phil McNamara (8212 1133) (W). Engelbrook is a highlight of this section of the Heysen Trail comprising a significant area of rare native vegetation and wildlife habitat and the footbridge over Cox's Creek. We are grateful to the National Trust for their co-operation in granting access and for the enhancement of the Trail provided through Engelbrook Reserve.

Norm Taylor

It is with sadness that we advise Friends of the passing of Norm Taylor who died on 20 March 2005.

Many walkers will remember the valuable contribution made in many ways to the Friends of the Heysen Trail by Norm Taylor during the frenetic trail construction days of the late 80's and early 90's. Norm was a member of the Friends and worked assiduously as a volunteer carrying heavy loads of star droppers in specially

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constructed backpacks for installation along the Trail as it rapidly extended northwards. Norm also proved to be a tremendously valuable resource in the Trail Workshop at its initial location on South Tce. He designed, constructed and installed stiles for a range of situations and locations, working in close and friendly cooperation both at the Workshop and in the

field with Andrew Moylan and Martin Foster, volunteers and the late Terry Lavender. Norm's keen sense of humour and sharp wit will be sadly missed. The condolences of his many friends are sincerely extended to his wife Marj and family

**Thelma Anderson,
Walking Federation of S.A. Inc.**

WALKING COMMITTEE REPORT

The season has opened in glorious autumn weather. The official opening was held at Morialta and Friends of the Heysen trail were out in force walking from Mt Lofty to join the celebration.

The End to End walkers have also taken up their respective batons – the most northerly group (2000 starters) from Horrocks pass and the 2003 starters from Cudlee Creek.

The biggest change to the upcoming program is the advent of Sunday Novelty Walks on a regular basis beginning in July. These will be mostly Trailstarters with a bit of a twist. We intend to make the walking season as social as we can.

Lookout for the “Marble Hill Muffin” walk where we will finish the stroll with afternoon tea in the historic governor's residence.

In September there will be a special Father's Day breakfast and lucky draw. Later in the year we plan to take advantage of walk in Kaiser Stuhl with a Wurst and beer lunch.

Terry Gasson's Gourmet weekend to Dutchman's Stern in July is fully booked but grieve not – the long weekend at Laura is now open for bookings. Farm stay accommodation near Laura creates an opportunity to celebrate our Golden North heritage with a variety of ice cream walks. That doesn't mean that the walks

will be easy through Wirrabara and Beetaloo valley – only that we will be refuelling with ice cream. Three nights accommodation with all meals, walks and all the ice cream you could eat – members \$170, non-members \$200. Unfortunately once again the numbers are limited by the size of the farm accommodation.

Booking procedures for walks remain unchanged. For weekend walks and End to Enders booking opens one month prior. If there are buses to be booked then payment for the bus should be made over the phone or by cheque within 5 working days. The bus fees are non-refundable. Numbers are often limited for bus walks so do remember to book early.

Our weekends away offer the best of social walking but unfortunately they are generally limited in size. For weekends away booking opens with the first Trailwalker advertising. Payment required over the phone or by cheque within 5 working days to secure position. Payment will be refundable on cancellation up to one week prior to booking. If the booking is withdrawn within one week of the planned date refund will be at the discretion of organising committee.

See you on the trail

**Simon Cameron,
Chairman Walking Committee**

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WALKING PROGRAM 2005 (June to October)

Bookings are open a month prior to the date of the walk.

To book phone the Friends Office on **8212 6299**

		JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT		
1	TS	5 Mount Crawford Mike Parsons	3 Jupiter Creek David Beaton	7 Mystery Masked Walk Bring a Mask	4 Father's Day Feast Greenhill CP Chris Caspar	2 Labour Day Golden North W/E Laura		
	TW	Bakers Gully, McLaren Flat Terry Gasson	Myponga Colin Edwards	Cape Jervis Gavin Campbell	Gandys Gully Simon Cameron	Colin Edwards / Julian Monfries		
2	TS	11 - 19 Jun, Heysen end-to-end Quorn & Hawker	12 Queen's birthday weekend no other walks	10 Marble Hill Muffin Walk Ray Blight	14 Mt Hayfield nr Normanville Terry Gasson	11 Aldgate Gavin Campbell	9 Kuitpo Kevin Boyce / Ray Blight	
	TW			Hale and Warren Daphne Sands			Tweedie Gully Bob Randall	Charleston Jenny Dow
3	TS	11 - 19 Jun, Heysen end-to-end Quorn & Hawker	19, Belair Rhonda Dempster & Raelene Shaw	17 Sturt Gorge Liz Barry	13 - 21 Aug, Heysen End to End Rawnsley Bluff	21	18 Waitpinga/ Parsons Beach <i>David Beaton</i>	16 Eagle on the Hill David Beaton
	TW		Para Wirra Vixen Gully Bob Randall	Heysen Catch-up Pewsey Vale to Tanunda Kevin Boyce			17/18 Heysen Kapunda-Hamilton-Peters Hill Simon Cameron	15/16 Heysen Peters Hill- S Tothill Rgs - Web Gap Simon Cameron
4	TS	26 Moana to Port Willunga Terry Gasson	24 Morialta Cons Park Daphne Sands	28 O'Halloran Hill Liz Barry	25 River Ramble Simon Cameron	23 Wurst Walk Kaiser Stuhl CP, Barossa Terry Gasson		
	TW	Heysen Catch-up Mt Crawford to Pewsey Vale Kevin Boyce	Inman Valley Mike Parsons	Heysen Catch-up Tanunda to Kapunda Kevin Boyce	Aaron Creek at Deep Creek Terry Gasson	Wurst Walk Kaiser Stuhl Julian Monfries Colin Edwards		
5	TS		29/30/31 Weekend at Quorn Terry Gasson			30 Sea-to-Summit Challenge, Kingston to Mount Lofty		
	TW		<i>Booked out</i>			(TW) or Belair (TS) Simon Cameron		

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WALK DESCRIPTION

TrailStarter

The aim of these walks is to introduce people to bushwalking, for those who are not regular walkers and those who have not walked in a group previously or who want a shorter walk. TrailStarter walks are usually close to Adelaide, have a walk time of about 3-4 hours and will generally be not too physically demanding. Anyone undertaking these walks may have only a modest degree of physical fitness.

TrailWalker

These walks are reasonably demanding and for walkers who have walked regularly in various terrain. They have a walking time of about 5-6 hours and will require a high degree of physical fitness.

TrailRambler

These walks are for specialist events like bird watching and historical walks; and would by their nature be relatively short and informative. These walks are available to all levels of walkers.

WHAT TO BRING

TrailStarter

Basic First Aid and Emergency Kit. This should contain your personal medication such as Ventolin, etc, sunscreen, headache tablets, Band-Aids, and torch.

Lunch and snacks (include some for emergency).

Plastic bag for rubbish.

Water in a secure container; minimum one litre, and two litres if the temperature will be over 20° C.

Gear should be carried in a day pack; one with a supporting waist belt is recommended.

TrailWalker

All of the above and –

Whistle

Roller and triangular bandages

WHAT TO WEAR?

TrailStarter

Good walking boots or shoes, with good gripping soles. Thongs, sandals, elastic sided boots and smooth-soled sneakers are not appropriate.

Wet weather gear – ¾ length waterproof rain jacket.

(Showerproof spray jackets and quilted parkas are not waterproof and create a danger of hypothermia).

Warm jumper or jacket of wool or polyester fleece.

(Cotton shirts and windcheaters have minimal insulation when wet and retain water.)

Shorts or loose comfortable wool or synthetic pants.

(Jeans are not suitable as they are cold when wet and dry slowly.)

Warm hat. (shade hat in warmer weather)

Thick socks

TrailWalker

Suitable sturdy walking footwear with good gripping soles, **or as specified by Walk Leader**

Recommended optional extras: thermal top and long johns, waterproof overtrousers.

WALK CLOTHING

Your safety and the safety of the walking group can be jeopardised by not having the correct clothing.

In an emergency situation it can take hours to evacuate the sick or injured walker. Prime considerations are warmth and weather protection.

Note: Leaders may not accept people for a walk who have not come safely equipped.

DON'T LET IT BE YOU!

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GENERAL INFORMATION

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

We would like to thank all our contributors to the Autumn and Winter 2005 editions of Trailwalker. This edition has been put together by Terri Hawke, who has done a marvelous job under some difficulties, while your regular editor was away overseas. We appreciate the prompt contributions from contributors

However, Trailwalker still needs a constant supply, so if you have done something interesting related to bushwalking, either locally, interstate or overseas, **don't just think about it – write it and send it in.** Hand or typewritten articles will be accepted, but we would prefer them in computer form, on floppy disks or by email. Photographs should be either an original print or a scanned copy with good resolution.

While we endeavour to print all suitable articles received in a timely manner, space considerations may dictate that not all contributions or photos can be published in a particular edition.

Readers should be aware that views expressed in contributed articles are those of the authors, and not necessarily those of the Council or editors.

Although a closing date is listed, don't wait until it is too late, we will accept articles at any time.

CLOSING DATE

Closing date for our next issue is **5 Aug, 2005.**
Publication date will be late **Aug, 2005.**

ADVERTISING RATES

Standard advertising rates for Trailwalker are:

Full Page	\$60
Half Page	\$40
Quarter Page	\$20
Flyer for Enclosure (max 2 A4 sheets to be supplied by advertiser)	\$60
Special rates can be negotiated for repeat advertisers	

These rates are being reviewed by the Marketing and Membership Committee

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Have you renewed your membership? Please check the address label on your Trailwalker envelope for your membership expiry date.

We are providing reminders to members whose membership is about to expire or has recently expired by inserting notices and renewal forms in your Trailwalker.

Please take care when filling in your Renewal Forms, to ensure that our staff have up to date information on your contact numbers and email addresses where relevant.

NOTE that both sides of the forms should be completed.

Would Family Members please include names of both adults and children under 18 years of age on their Renewal Forms, as we are updating our records and need this information to calculate our public liability insurance premium. (Note that members are responsible for their own personal accident insurance.)

Please also notify the Office of any change of address, telephone number or email address.

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HONORARY MEMBER

Barry Finn was elected as a new Honorary Member at the AGM on March 18th. The following notes were provided by John Wilson, who proposed Barry's election.

Good evening Friends.

Most people who know Barry will be aware of his good nature, boundless enthusiasm, and willingness to be involved with whatever was needed.

Maybe it was his nature, or possibly his early time spent in the Fleet Air Arm, but Barry was also a straightforward character who called a spade a spade, and generally left people in no doubt as to where they stood with him.

During his working career, Barry was involved in running and managing both small and large businesses, culminating in the operation of a Post Office agency at Pooraka. This gave Barry a breadth of experience in dealing with people and practical business problems, which he put to good use in supporting our organization.

Barry joined the Friends in 1993, and since that time was heavily involved in all of our activities, so became well known to all our other active members.

Barry was a regular office volunteer for over eight years, and in the recent years took charge of the stock control of maps, books and similar items sold in the office – a task he performed with little fuss but some flair, as when he almost cornered the market for some of the superseded Heysen Trail strip maps which he was sure would be in great demand.

Barry was also a maintenance Section Leader for over seven years, looking after the section near his home from Glen Bold to Piccadilly. During this time he marked the Hahndorf Spur from Bridgwater, done in response to a bequest from Geoff Hunkin's family.

Barry served on the Friends Council for a number of years, and was Vice-President during the latter part of his term. He was also an active walker, and lead a number of walks for the Friends.

Some of his other contributions were in setting up and manning a Friends booth at the opening of walking seasons, and representing the Friends by speaking to Probus Clubs, Libraries and Health Care Centres.

Barry's other main interest has been with the Mylor CFS, where he has been an active volunteer for a number of years.



Barry Finn

With his wife Dawn, Barry has now moved to Victoria to be nearer their family.

It gives me great pleasure to nominate Barry Finn for Honorary Membership of the Friends of the Heysen Trail, which I believe would be a fitting tribute to his association with us

**John Wilson
March 2005**

(**Note:** As Barry could not attend the AGM, the award was accepted by Dean Killmier. Due to the excellent efforts of Arthur Smith and Terry Gasson, the certificate and medallion were presented to Barry in person by Frances and Terry at Barry's new home, within a week of the AGM.

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Golden North Weekend

October Long Weekend 30th Sept – 2nd Oct

Talyala Hills Farm Stay

Near Laura - Home of the famous Ice Cream Factory

3 Nights Shared Accommodation

All Meals provided

Walking wonderful Wirrabara and Beetaloo valley

With ice cream afternoons teas

Members \$170

Non members \$200

Numbers Limited

Phone Payment with booking or within 5 working days by cheque

HEYSEN TRAIL END TO END WALKS 2005

This year we will reach the northern end of the Heysen Trail.

End to End Walks will be held on the first weekend in May and two full weeks in June and September.

June

Saturday 11 to Sunday 19

Walking from Horrocks Pass to vicinity of Hawker.

August

Saturday 13 to Sunday 21

Walking from Hawker area to Parachilna Gorge

As in past years, walkers are responsible for their own transport and accommodation.

On walk days bus transport is provided to take walkers to the start of the walk.

For more details, contact the Friends office 8212 6299.

Should you wish to be placed on the End to End mailing list to receive information please contact the FOHT office with your contact details, preferably including your email address.

End to End Walkers from 2004 are requested to notify me asap if there have been changes to your email or postal address details.

David Beaton (I am in the Friends' office on Tuesdays)

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Subject: Heysen Trail Reroute in Warren Conservation Park

Was up at Warren Conservation Park yesterday and wanted to express by thanks for a job well done with the reroute.

It certainly has improved the walk through the park. Must have taken some work to complete.

Once again thanks

John Faulkner Bushwalking and Backpacking in Australia

Dear Ed,

Would you please ensure that the Council members and the general membership know of my gratitude and privilege in being voted into the Honorary Membership of the F.O.H.T. I never thought of being elevated as it were, to have my name linked with those who have made our association what it is today.

In accepting the award from Terry and Frances Gasson, I had to endure a kiss on the cheek from the Tailor in cherished European fashion.

I intend to join the Geelong Walking Club next season and see a bit more of this State. Meanwhile Dawn and I are flat out turning the house into a home. The garden is fabulous along with the orchard and we scoot around our three acres getting all the chores done, and then by 2000 hours we fall into the sack exhausted.

I will keep in touch with events through John Wilson and of course the Trailwalker, and I extend my fondest wishes to all those beautiful walkers who made my days so cheerful and eventful.

Cheers

Barry Finn

WALK BOOKINGS

Please phone the office between 10.30am and 2.30pm Monday to Friday for registration and information. Day walk cost for members has been held at **\$7.00** for 2005.

If the office is unattended please leave a number where you can be contacted during office hours. Our answering machine can be used to record last minute cancellations, and can be accessed by your leader prior to the walk

NON MEMBERS

The cost for non-members participating in walks is now **\$15.00** per walk, for a maximum of two walks. Walkers are then expected to join the Friends to ensure they are covered by our insurance policy

GOLDEN BOOTS CARDS

Golden Boots Cards are now available for the 2005 walking season, to all financial members of the Friends. For a cost of **\$50.00** per person, you will be entitled to attend all TrailStarter, TrailWalker and TrailRambler walks for this year.

Note that the Golden Boots Cards are not transferable, and that each walker must have his/her own card.

Note: Cardholders are still required to book in on all day walks

Marble Hill Muffin Walk

Trail starter July 10

Delivered to the start
and finish with Devonshire tea.
Contact the office for more details!

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Trip Report - Australian Alps Walking Track Walhalla to Mt Hotham / Harrietville (via Mt Feathertop) Part One

(Ed's note: As the following story is rather long we have decided to publish it in 3 pieces. Enjoy!)

Party - Dennis Cowling, Mark Darter, Gunther Schmitz, Les Skinner

Overview of walk - The AAWT joins Walhalla (Victoria) to Canberra (ACT) in Australia. At approx 660km overall, we planned to do this in thirds for logistical and work commitment reasons.

The first third of 220km from Walhalla to Mt Hotham is arguably the more difficult terrain wise.

We planned to complete the walk by finishing with an extra 30km section from Mt Hotham to Harrietville, to take in the Razorback, Mt Feathertop, and Bungalow Spur. Overall, around 250km in about 17 days, an average of about 15km per day.

Day 1 - Friday 5th

We departed Adelaide, South Australia approx 4.00pm on the Friday, with plans to get a good deal of the traveling done by 9.00pm ish, making it to a caravan park at Swan Hill, Victoria. Our party of 4 traveled in 2 vehicles, to enable a car shuttle to be set up to facilitate our return travel.

Day 2 - Saturday 6th

Departing Swan Hill around 8.30am, we proceeded to Benalla, where we had arranged for a vehicle to be left at a car dealership. The 4 of us then headed down the Mansfield / Jamieson Road for the trip through the mountains, getting a taste of some of the small track sections of the AAWT where we would walk in the days to come.

At Jamieson, we called into the local Police Station to check on road conditions and leave our trip plan with him, advising him he didn't have to take any action, we had an Adelaide contact

that would phone him if we didn't check in at a pre arranged time.

Having a 4WD for the mountains trip was great, as the roads where a little damp, and hoped that the return shuttle with the Magna wagon left at Benalla would be a little drier.

Now, our first minor mistake was underestimating the time required to get across to Walhalla, incorporating a food drop at Mt Skene Road (half way mark), and a smaller drop at Mt St Gwinear (to make the 2 day climb onto the Baw Baw Plateau a little easier on us). Allow a whole day for this drive with similar stops. We had planned to get to Walhalla and walk about 5km or so out and camp that night, in the end it was a bit of a blessing we didn't (leeches).

We did an 8 day food drop at the Mt Skene Road, off the western side of the road near a clearing that would make a great campsite (GR462561).

We used 3 plastic drums that where completely sealed with screw top lids to reduce risk of animal interference over this longer period. A little further south along the road, at a track junction (GR483498), we were a bit dismayed to find someone's used food drop, with several water drums and rubbish scattered about. We hoped that we might find this cleared up when we walked through in about 8 days time, but it was still there (and when we drove through picking up our drums Wednesday 24th). One blessing was it wasn't any further scattered, being fairly wind protected and animals didn't seem to be interested in it either.

We noticed that the (we assume) several water drums had sheep and cattle dip concentrate labels, so hope they washed them out well before use ! This fact also led us to believe that it may have been a local group dump or country groups dump.

Next we set off for the Mt St Gwinear carpark via the Thomson Dam road crossing, making a

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4km return walk in to leave a 2 day food drop at the east junction of the Mt St Gwinear alternate track (GR399121).

This was done with 3 fruit boxes placed inside garbags, which we (correctly) thought would be ok for a day and a half or so.

It was generally drizzling rain while we made this food drop.

We then drove to Walhalla via Rawson, arriving about an hour prior to dusk.

As we had to organise vehicle, ready to walk etc, we decided to stay at Walhalla for the night and depart next morning.

We had dinner at the Star Hotel (the only place we could get a meal after 8pm) and slept in sleeping bags on mats at the local picnic shelter (figuring it would do no harm being so late).

Day 3 (Day 1 walking) - Sunday 7th

We readied our gear / clothing and excess gear to remain with the vehicle, and dropped into the local Walhalla General Store (Rhonda & Norm), who had kindly agreed to allow us to leave our southern transport securely locked on their property.

Still, it was around 9.00am before we were off, taking John Seisman's 'Walking the Alpine Walking Track' book advice and heading north up the street and onto the tramway via the northern camping ground.

Conditions early were overcast, rain looked possible, but by 9.00am it was mainly sunny with a little cloud here and there.

The track from the campground goes up a pedestrian / driveway track from the north eastern corner of the grounds. Contrary to the guide book, the marked trail starts from the bandstand in the centre of town.

It was a pleasant walk along the tramline, some 50m or so above the town over this extra distance, passing Long Tunnel mine entrance, many artifacts from this era, and interpretive signs along the way.

After 2-1/2km or so, the town was left behind and we ambled along the tramway, which continues south, then west, then north to Poverty Point (around 10km from Walhalla).

Along the track west up to the Thomson River road bridge, the road and a reconstructed tramline are visible from time to time below. From Mormon Town Track northwards to the East Tyers Road (1-1/2 km back from Mt Erica carpark), we encountered quite a population of leeches, which would have made camping quite difficult.

Along the way we crossed the Thomson River over the old steel bridge (circa 1900), meeting a group of 4 Venturers who had walked south (overnight) from Mt Erica carpark, we assume camping at O'Sheas. They warned us about leeches on Firebreak Track, but after walking this section later that afternoon, decided they would have had the worst of these when they did the old steel bridge to Mormon Town Track section !

A late lunch was had at O'Sheas, where it was disappointing to find a couple of rubbish bags left in the toilet block, and some rubbish around the picnic site itself (empty meths bottle, matches in a fire place). It looked like someone tried really hard to get a fire going, without success, hopefully not the Venturers.

There was good water available at O'Sheas from the Eastern Tyers River, and again at the top of Firebreak Track just 20 metres east on the Mt Erica Road.

We carried on, camping that night at the Mt Erica carpark, arriving about 5.00pm, and found a nice flat section at the south eastern side of the gravel carpark itself.

We obtained good water from a creek crossing the road about 2 or 3 streams back from the carpark, as there was a possibility that the Scout hut (upstream of the last creek) could be a source of nasty contaminants.

Weather - Overall reasonably fine with some cloud cover.

About 23km walked today.

Day 4 (Day 2 walking) - Monday 8th

We walked from around 8.30am, passing the incredible Mushroom Rocks, Mt Erica, Talbot Peak, and onto the Baw Baw Plateau.

We had a break to bag Talbot Peak, and were amused by a White Cheeked Honeyeater that was intent on making a nest from Gunthers'

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lambs wool pack harness padding, and collecting leg hair from Mark, just above the gaiters. It was literally on us, moving confidently from packs to legs.

We continued to the rock shelter south west of Mt St Gwinear, and as it was too early for lunch, we decided to retrieve our first food cache. We bagged Mt St Gwinear and continued down to the drop, retrieving this and returning by the alternate route, contouring the northern side of the mountain.

We had lunch on our return, loaded up our next 6 days food, each of us got an extra garbag to utilize as we needed, and we crushed up the cartons and strapped them on the packs for disposal by burning at that night's camp.

Arriving about 3.00pm at the hut ruins (GR348156) about 2-1/2km south east of Mt Whitelaw, we made camp. Good water was obtained from the creek just 30 metres or so east, though the sphagnum moss made it awkward to get close to the water without sinking into it (or so Mark and Dennis said).

The old fireplace was used to burn the cartons; we felt a little awkward doing this task, normally we don't have fires anywhere we walk, based on simple ecological reasoning and beliefs, but we were simply disposing of this unneeded byproduct of our food drop in the best possible way at the time.

Overall the Baw Baw Plateau section is quite overgrown generally, with many areas of knee high to over the head scrub, making progress slower than anticipated. Legs above the gaiters became cut to the shorts line, so trousers here might be worth considering.

Weather - Overall reasonably fine with some cloud cover.

About 16km walked today.

Day 5 (Day 3 walking) - Tuesday 9th

Today we moved into the Thomson River Catchment area, and needed to take heed of camping in the specified sites for obvious reasons.

We committed to get to a camping area mentioned in JS's book, located just south east of the Easton Dam (approx GR360256).

Note 1 - This route is correct in Johns' book, the maps show a vastly different route NNE from Park Road, coming back easterly to north of Mt Easton on Divide Road.

The actual route goes along Park Road, which becomes Jordan Divide Road, about 2km to 2-1/2km past Easton Dam a 4WD track heads down to the Thomson River Crossing, then goes up the spur to Mt Easton itself, to rejoin the original route on Divide Road north of Mt Easton.

Note 2 - From the camping area on Thomson Valley Road (GR308217) the track is a little tough.

We sort of lost it a bit here regarding exact location of the actual route as compared to the map, but it does vary.

It seems to head more NNE from the road, then west to near the 1198 spot height (GR307227). Now it gets hard. There has been clear felling to the NW of the ridge, and in turn there are many big unprotected trees blown down across the track for a couple of k's; it took us a couple of hours to negotiate this 2 k's or so, until the spur dropped off somewhat to Thomson Road. It does come out at least 1/2km west on the Thomson Road, perhaps about GR313240.

Trig Track to Park Road was a nice change and quicker walking.

Saw our first snake walking down the spur from the Yarra Thomson Tunnel location.

It was a Highland Copperhead, about 2-1/2' long. It headed for some rocks at the tracks edge and we carefully moved around it. It was quite warm that afternoon, and it moved quickly, obviously at optimal operating temperature. We got to Thomson River log crossing about 4.00pm, finding it quite dilapidated and frankly a little dangerous, especially at the end of a hard day feeling a bit tired.

We were tired, Mark went across to see how it was, up around 2' deep, very fast and strong, log was there fine, the wire hand support cable however was fallen down at the last 10' north end, and the landing on the north side was collapsed and subsided into the water.

Overall, we decided to leave it until morning when we'd be fresher.

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Again, as with anywhere less than say 600 metre elevation; leeches.

So back up to the 4WD track (off Jordan Divide Road), we turned left and walked *down* the track to find a nice camp site (better than the official one on the northern side) and low and behold, looking to the river we spotted a nice big double trunk tree fallen right across the river !

It looked a heck of a lot easier than the established log crossing, so after some deliberation, decided to still camp on the south side and do the crossing in the morning over this alternative spot.

Surprisingly, not many leeches here, even though close to the river.

Very good water from the river of course.

About 21km walked today.

Day 6 (Day 4 walking) - Wednesday 10th

We started around 8.30am next day, I went across the tree crossing first. A bit ungraceful, and boots just in the water, but easy, much more so than the official crossing just 50 metres or so upstream.

We all got across fine and quickly lost the trail to the spur.

In the end we bush bashed up until we found it within 100 metres or so.

It's a short but 'sharp' 530m climb to Mt Easton from the Thomson River, over about 3-1/2km.

Overall markers were reasonably regular and easy to spot (yellow ones, rather than the light blue markers found in some places later along the route), but map and compass skills are

required, along with careful reading of JS's book.

Once on the Easton Track and then Casper Creek Track, it was an easy, but steep, walk down to Red Jacket Track, following this north west to our planned camp at Red Jacket, and old mining town.

If there ever was a camp site south of Blue Jacket, it is now completely overtaken by Blackberry bushes.

Along the way, just north of the old gold workings, we encountered our second snake, this time no mistaking a beautifully marked Tiger snake around 3-1/2' in length.

This one was also very 'operational', and after eyeing us for a while, darting off towards the river and through the low ground cover with alarming speed.

We wondered if Red Jacket was far enough away for camp . . .

Approaching Red Jacket, we saw a wild cat sitting on the track leading north from the campsite.

We must have got in around 3.00pm.

Red Jacket is indeed a delightful setting, a wooden bridge across, and a large area to camp right next to the Jordan River.

Once housing a trading store and hotel, it was dotted all along the river with shanty's, once a supply hub for other nearby mining areas in the vicinity. The cemetery referred to in the guidebook could not be found.

Great water as expected, and trout around 8" - 10" long darting about in the water.

About 12-1/2 km walked today.



Bagging Mt St Gwinear

THE TRAILWALKER

Dawn's Millennium Story

Dawn Bon is a longstanding member of the Friends of the Heysen Trail and is an inaugural member of the millennium walk, now known as the 2000 end to end walk, which started at Cape Jervis in the year 2000 walking season and is due for completion in Parachilna Gorge in August of this year.

Dawn has a burning ambition to be in the walking party when it crosses the finishing line in Parachilna Gorge on August 20th 2005 and when she does, it will bring to a conclusion an extraordinary chronicle of the Heysen Trail. This chronicle is Dawn's day by day walking record of the complete length of the Heysen Trail as it was for the 2000 – 2005, south to north, progressive walk of the full length of the trail - this is Dawn's millennium story. Before commencing the walk in 2000, Dawn made a commitment to herself to write a daily journal and to take a photographic record for the whole length of the Heysen. This she has done and has carefully logged it all in what is now a very large paper folder.

For each walking weekend, she has written a description of each day's activities and highlights and these are supported by colour photos of the actual terrain covered and some include the various walkers in each day's party. These descriptions are filed with terrain maps which show the start and finish point for each day's walk and more recently, there are vertical profiles for the trail covered. Terrain maps and vertical profiles are now a common thing with the release of the new Heysen trail walking books – but these do not provide the interest of Dawn's daily dialogue nor the interest of the actual countryside as shown in her photos.



Saturday 3rd May 2003 - Kapunda to Hamilton

Morning tea in Ross creek – a lovely spot – passed bee hives by ruin – country is gently undulating and tracks generally of gravel. Lunch below a tank on a hill – Julian hands out the lollies

It would be almost impossible for everyone to view Dawn's Millennium Story but a similar thing in a more high tech format is on the drawing board. Work is underway to produce a digital version of the 2000 End to End walk and to publish it on Compact Disc for viewing by computer and other digital devices. This work is being coordinated by Julian Monfries, Kevin Boyce and myself. We would welcome your best photos (and comments) of your End-to-End experience so please get in touch with any of us.

Ray Blight

THE TRAILWALKER

New Members

The President and the Council would like to extend a warm welcome to the following members, who have joined the Friends since the last edition of Trailwalker, and urge them to become involved in the voluntary, walking and social aspects of the Association.

Anna Aisatullin
Gillian Ashton
Peter Bartlett
Frances Bartholomeusz
Vicki Beams
Miryam Bertes
June Boscence
Derek Bowler
Robert Brady
Jeffrey Broadbent
Tony Burgan
Robyn Burgan
Anne Delon
Glenn Foley
Ian Hartley
Jennifer Jenkins
Sue Johannson
Rosene Kotz
Trine Lashchuk

Julie Larsson
Peter Larsson
Andrew Long
David Meredith
Helen Miles
Michael Nugent
Campbell Phillips
Beverley Place
Jeannie Pope
John Pratt
Jill Randell
Matthew Ritson
Neil Rivett
Cyndy Spangler
Joyce Stangio
Reginald Statham
Henry Underwood
Evelyn Underwood

A FEBRUARY TWILIGHT IN CLELAND

Friends Summer Walk Programme -- February 9

The Experience

It was a beautiful evening for this twilight work starting Eagle on the Hill and looping through the upper reaches of the Cleland Conservation Park. The night before and during the day, there had been quite heavy (and unseasonal) rain showers through the park and as a consequence the bush smelled wonderfully fresh and alive – lots of native bush perfumes - but was strangely quiet with almost no birdlife apart from one large black cockatoos. Did the birds know something that we did not know? There were a few very dark cumulus clouds floating overhead and we eyed them somewhat suspiciously.

We were delighted to have two first-time walkers in Sandy and Barry Wood of Hallett Cove, with Jeff Collins and the end-end stalwarts of Dawn Bon, Angela Charlton, Chris Caspan, Geoff Couch, Kevin Boyce and Trevor (who arrived in style in biggest, brightest, loudest Chevy Corvette you have ever seen) – a walking party of 11 in all.

20 minutes or so into the walk found us at the start of a narrow bush track heading upwards through close scrub towards the higher reaches of the park. Previously part of the Heysen trail, this track winds through close bush and eventually passes along the bank a small creek bed where it soon crosses a small stone waterfall

THE TRAILWALKER

- fed by two smaller streams at this point. The waterfall was bone dry, despite the earlier rainfall but it is a wonderful sight in winter when it is in full flight, with both streams bubbling down and creating a waterfall of about one metre height, with the overflow barreling around a stony rock pool before flowing off.

The relatively gentle summer and the effects of reasonably good summer rains were showing in the trees. The eucalypts were full of new growth and their long glossy green leaves were highlighted with accents of copper colours from the leaf shoots and looked splendid in the afternoon light.

The downhill run along Waterfall Gully track, Wilson's Bog crack and eventually the Mount lofty track was easygoing, pleasantly cool and comfortable. With the sun now quite low on the horizon, a golden glow edged into the mainly green backdrop of the bush.

And before we knew it (although we've been on the track for one and a half hours), we were at the junction of the Mount Lofty track and the Eagle on the Hill track (part of the Yurebilla trail). The Eagle on the Hill ridge lay before us and only seemed a stone's throw away, albeit at something of a sharp upward angle. Upwards we went on the recently widened track with several stops to enjoy the elevated views right down the length of the waterfall gully re-entrant, across the western suburbs and over the Barker inlet and St Vincent's gulf on the horizon.

Just 25 minutes later, we were all back at start point for the walk (now the finish point), a little of 35metres from the a cold beer in the dining room of the Eagle – a masterpiece of route planning.

How to get there:

from the City, take Glen Osmond Road to the start of the South Eastern Freeway (Old Toll Gate), head up the Freeway (National route M1) and shortly after the Mount Osmond overpass, take the Eagle On The Hill exit from the Freeway – this is the Mt Barker Road. Continue

up the Mount Barker Road until and exit at the Eagle on the Hill Hotel on the left – there is plenty of parking on the northern side of the hotel.

Walk Time: Allow 2 hours

Distance: Approximately 7 km (plus the ups and downs)

Ray Blight and Robyn Morris
Walk Leader and Tail End Charlie

WALKING IN SA FORESTS

Forestry SA Rangers have asked us to inform all walkers and clubs that they would like prior notification of all planned walks in forest areas, giving the approximate number of participants and details of the walk route. This applies to all walks throughout the year.

This is a safety issue due to logging, burning and other forest activities which may take place at any time.

Contacts:

Mt Crawford Forest
Phone: (08) 8524 6004

Or write to:
The Forest Ranger
Mt Crawford Forest
Private Bag
Williamstown SA 5351

Kuitpo Forest
Phone; (08) 8391 8800

Or write to:
The Forest Ranger
Kuitpo Forest
Private Mail Bag 2
Meadows SA 5201

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BLINMAN

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Contact details:

- Postal address: PO Box 11
Blinman SA 5730
- Phone: 08 8648 4864
- Fax: 08 8648 4661
- Email: alpanastn@bigpond.com.au
- Website: www.alpana-station.netfirms.com

• Bookings essential

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HUTS ALONG THE HEYSEN TRAIL

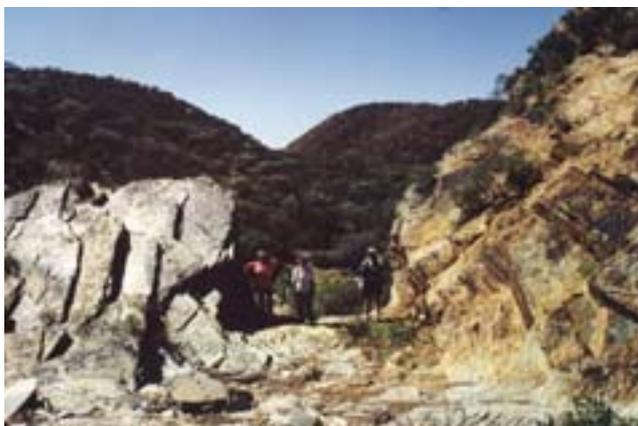


Mt Bryan East School

Map #	Location	Grid Reference	Management Authority/Landowner	Facilities
HT Bk 1 Map 6.6 (Old Map 12)	Mt Bryan East School	157 016 (315736 / 6301666) (Zone 54 WGS 84)	Heysen Trail Management Unit	Bunks, water, slow combustion stove, cooking facilities, toilet.



Caroona Creek Shelter



Tourilie Gorge