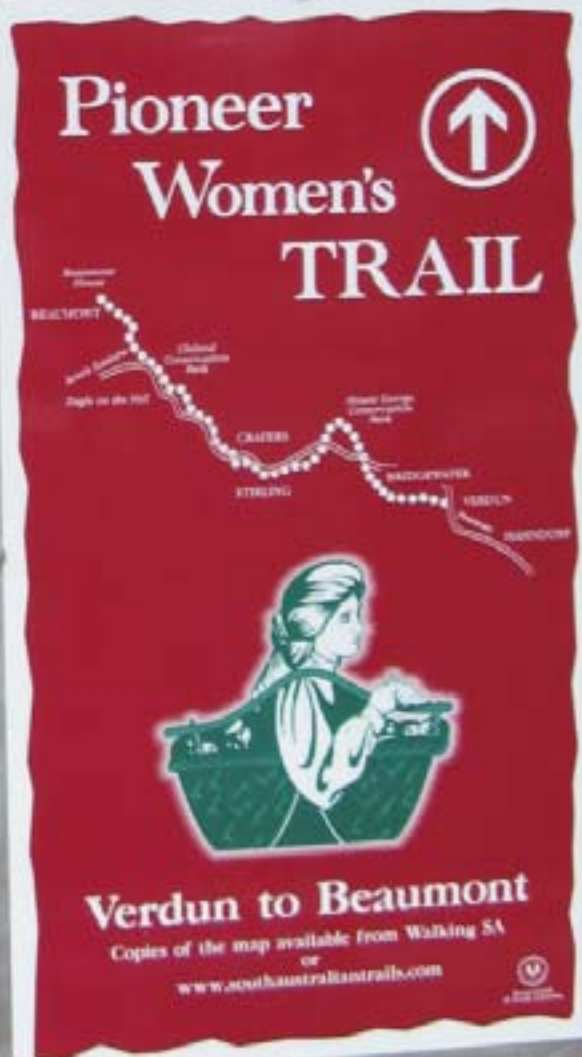




The Trailwalker

Magazine of the Friends of the Heysen Trail

Issue 104 Winter 2007



**Opening of the
2007 Walk Season**
Official Opening of the
Pioneer Women's Trail

**A Patron's
Walking Life**
C Warren Bonython AO

The Inca Trail
A trek to South
America's ancient city

History

The Pioneer Women's Trail honours the early European settlers who settled Adelaide with their produce at a time when most products had to be imported into

Trail Etiquette & Safety Tips

Be prepared
• carry sufficient drinking water
• wear sturdy shoes, hat and sunscreen
• weather conditions can change



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Editorial

Three things – no four – have converged here together to make this edition of The Trailwalker magazine happen. I don't think I have appreciated this point before. Firstly, numerous people have written superb articles. They are interesting, thoughtful and at times, funny. Actually, read that as 'secondly', because firstly, people have had interesting, thoughtful and at times, funny, experiences. Then, secondly, they wrote about them. Thirdly, I gathered their writings and presented them in a concise and ordered manner. Fourthly – and perhaps most importantly of all – there's you, here, right now, reading these articles. Sharing in their exploration of the world. So kudos to all the people who have contributed to this edition – remember that includes you, the reader – and to John Wilson's magnificent effort over the last eight years in helping establish The Trailwalker as what it is today.

This time of year, I am informed, sees a bumper Trailwalker edition. It's a time of excitement and anticipation as the Walk Season begins. A couple of articles have been held over to the next edition, and I know you will look forward to reading those. However, don't let that stop you from contributing your own articles, be it about your experiences on the Heysen Trail or another trail elsewhere in Australia – or the world. Please, if you are considering writing an article, don't hesitate to contact myself with any questions, or even to shore up your article. Details of deadlines, guidelines and contact information are noted below.

We welcome your feedback about this edition and the articles contained herein. As of the next Trailwalker edition, we will include Letters to the Editor. A misnomer really, as they are actually letters to the article authors, the members of the Friends and to the broader readership.

I hope you enjoy reading this edition of The Trailwalker, and enjoy exploring the trails near you.

Jeremy Carter
Editor

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Autumn (March), Winter (June), Spring (September) & Summer (December)

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

Submission Deadline is the first Friday of the month prior to the month of publication.

Guidelines and requirements for article submissions and advertising are available upon request or by visiting www.heysentrail.asn.au/trailwalker

Patron

C. Warren Bonython AO

Council Members 2006/2007

Simon Cameron	President
Julian Monfries	Vice President
Peter Wynen	Secretary
John Wilson	Treasurer
Robert Alcock	
Jim Alvey	
Ray Blight	
Gavin Campbell	
Jerry Foster	
Bob Randall	
Claire Randall	
Cliff Walsh	

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

Council Meeting Dates

Wed 20th June, 2007
 Wed 18th July, 2007
 Wed 15th August, 2007

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
 Dean Killmier
 John Wilson
 David Beaton
 Jack Marcelis
 Julian Monfries
 * (deceased)

Trailwalker Editor

Jeremy Carter

Membership Secretary

David Beaton

Office Coordinator

Jack Marcelis

Maintenance Coordinator

Gavin Campbell

Bookkeepers

Melody Qing Lin,
 Bozu Zhang,
 Wen Gu

Shop/Office Hours & Volunteers

Monday	10.30 – 2.30
Mike Parsons, Beverley Blanch, Robyn Quinn	
Tuesday	10.30 – 2.30
David Rattray, Dawn Bon, Chris Porter	
Wednesday	10.30 – 2.30
Jack Marcelis, Wendy Fox	
Thursday	10.30 – 2.30
Frances Gasson, Chris Casper	
Friday	10.30 – 4.30
Sandy Melbourne, Colin Edwards, Jamie Shephard	
Saturday & Sunday	Closed

Relief Staff

Jim Alvey, David Beaton, Jack Marcelis

Membership Information

Joining Fee	\$10
Single	\$20 per year
Family	\$30 per year
Organisations	\$50 per year

Membership is valid from the date of payment until the end of the corresponding month in the following year

Advertising Rates

¼ page	\$40 per issue
½ page	\$80 per issue
Full Page	\$120 per issue
Flyer (supplied for insertion)	\$120 per issue

A commitment for 12 months advertising, ie 4 issues, would attract 10% saving

President's Report

Simon Cameron

As the new President my first decree was for Julian Monfries to continue writing these reports. Julian declined, emphatically, and hence I discovered the true powers of the presidency. Still, it was worth a try and since Julian has done the job for six successful years I cannot begrudge his refusal.

I have only known one president of the Friends and repeatedly saw how much effort and time he was prepared to devote to the organisation, like a perpetual furnace who kept so many things bubbling along.

So many things are bubbling and stirring I have no difficulty in choosing "fever" as the theme of this years activity. Membership is still growing, the trail is being continually developed while management plans for the future are being finalised within DEH.

Vision

If you wonder what the Friends of the Heysen Trail are all about our vision statement is a good place to start: "to present a world class long distance walking trail".

Trail Promotion

There are a number of marketing and membership initiatives brewing including signage at Cape Jervis (*refer to page 9*), a community proposal to promote the trail in the town of Melrose, and newspaper articles in the rural press.

In addition the membership and marketing committee have developed a new website. This was prompted by the retirement of our long serving webmaster Arthur Smith who has maintained a very bright and informative site for years. With Arthur stepping down, a simpler program was sought to make the website less labour intensive. The designer, Jeremy Carter has done a magnificent job and is still tinkering.

Jeremy has also designed the new trail log books which allow walkers to record their "End-to-End" progress. These high quality books will keep a detailed story of every walker's achievement as well as simplifying the process of determining which sections need to be done. As such they fit very well with our vision of presenting the Heysen trail (*refer to page 14*).

Maintenance and development

This is never ending job, with volunteers continually looking after sections of the trail. New trail markers, designed by DEH to meet Australian standards will be gradually rolled out. They preserve the well known logo but are a little larger and easier to see.

A maintenance team has just returned from Grays hut just north of Mt Remarkable where the new hut was made bird proof and provided with equipment hooks and shelves. Projects like this, to improve the amenities along the trail are the major function of the Friends.

Fund Raising

The Friends fund all of these non-maintenance and promotional projects. Funds are generated from sale items like maps and clothes, membership fees and our walking program. Sixty walks have been planned for 2007 mostly in South Australia, but with one interstate venture to the Great Ocean Walk. In 2008 the walk planners are trying to include 2 overseas walks. This is a fund raising venture where local Adventure Travel companies organize a walk tour and the Friends provide a group booking. The Travel Company donates a "spotters fee" back to the organisation for each booking. This fundraiser is used by the Bibbulman trail corporation in WA and the walk committee are trying to develop the same principle.

Green Message

The Heysen trail needs trees on many of its sections. A colourful, verdant corridor with warbling birds is a vision I could live with. To help achieve it we are seeking members to form a Greening Committee. So if you are feeling Green, we are looking for a committee convenor to formulate a colourful strategy. Let the office know if you would like to be part of it. ●

Official Opening of the Pioneer Women's Trail



The Pioneer Women's Trail was officially opened at the Walk Season Opening at Beaumont House on Sunday, 15 April. The Trail has been marked by Walking SA, in conjunction with the Office for Recreation and Sport, from Beaumont to Verdun. The Trail traces the route the early European women settlers took from Hahndorf to the city to sell their produce, when they set off at midnight and rested at Beaumont at 4am. Various walking groups led walks on sections near Beaumont House, a Friends of the Heysen Trail Trail Walker group walking from Eagle on the Hill down to Beaumont House via Chambers Gully, then returning on the Pioneer Women's Trail.

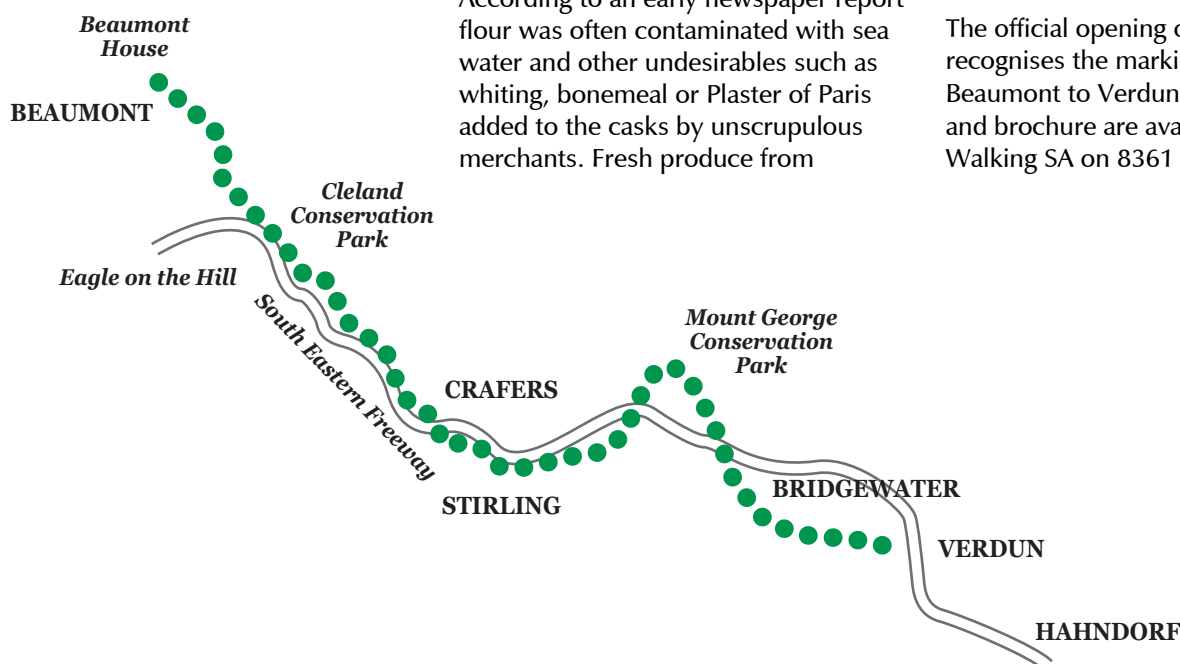
The Trail commemorates the first efforts to supply Adelaide with fresh farm produce from the Mt Barker region which later became the "breadbasket" of the colony. In 1839 Hahndorf had been the first village established east of Mt Lofty. It's impoverished settlers immediately cleared ground and planted seed and like their countrymen at Klemzig, were quick to take advantage of the lack of fresh food in Adelaide. Because Colonel Light's rural surveys had stalled, most immigrants had been stuck in the city speculating on town acres and patronising the many pubs. The little food grown locally had to be supplemented through importation. According to an early newspaper report flour was often contaminated with sea water and other undesirables such as whiting, bonemeal or Plaster of Paris added to the casks by unscrupulous merchants. Fresh produce from

Hahndorf's rich soil in those very early days of the colony must have been a special treat.

The women and older girls feature in early accounts of transportation of Hahndorf's produce to market, probably because the men were away working for landholders clearing the bush and fencing. The women tended the animals and the gardens, made the butter and cheese and other items they carried on their backs for sale in Adelaide to pay off their ship and land debts. Some of them are recorded as carrying 35 kilograms of farm produce. Their load on their homeward journey included sewing thread, needles, sugar, tea, tobacco and two bricks each for building the new church in Hahndorf. As more villages were developed at Grunthal (now Verdun), Mt Barker, Lobethal, Echunga and Balhannah more people joined Hahndorf's women on the produce trail to Adelaide. Works on the Great Eastern Road had improved conditions for wheeled traffic by 1854.

In 1980 a small group of members of the Hahndorf Branch of the National Trust followed, as closely as they could, the route to Beaumont, following a map produced in 1841 by surveyor F R Nixon. The first public walk took place on 20 April, 1980, as part of the National Trust's Silver Jubilee celebrations.

The official opening of the Trail recognises the marking of the Trail from Beaumont to Verdun. A detailed map and brochure are available by contacting Walking SA on 8361 2491. ●



Office Report

By Jack Marcelis
Office Coordinator

We say goodbye and many thanks to Jan Mortimer who is taking an extended break from her usual Thursday stint. Jan was also our 'wholesale' bookkeeper. This duty will now be carried out by Wendy Fox.

We welcome, as a trainee, Robyn Quinn, a new regular to the office team. If you see a yellow clad cyclist streaking through Adelaide it may be Robyn who in addition to being a walker is also a keen cyclist.

We are still looking for a volunteer who is computer savvy, hopefully understands web & databases – someone whom we can phone to

fix a problem. Currently some of that is done by employed people who naturally find it difficult to just pop in during working hours.

Our New Website

Have you tried it? Was it easy to use? Did it answer your questions? Did we answer your online walk bookings timely and correctly? We welcome your feedback, comments and suggestions, good and bad, because only then can we improve our service to you.

Thank you all for heeding our request to slow down your usual speech when leaving messages on our answering machine.

Walking Committee

By Arrienne Wynen
Walking Committee Chairperson

Well another walking season has begun and the walking committee has developed a program that hopefully includes the walks that you want to do. The Coorong weekend was a great success led by our very able musical President. Later in the year we will have a weekend at Spear Creek. It is a great area for walking and if you want to go, book early, as places are limited. If you had planned to book for the Great Ocean Walk you are too late as all places are taken and there is a waiting list (even members of the walking committee missed out). We hope to have another week there early next year.

The End-to-End walks are also up and running. It was great to see so many of the End-to-End 3 people turn up to start the second year, the weather

in Adelaide was dubious but at Mt Compass the sun shone.

It is a good time to remind everybody that the leaders often make plans based on the number of walkers booked on, especially the End-to-Ends as they have buses etc. If you can't make the walk please ring the office and leave a message. All leaders access the messages before the walk and it means walks are not delayed for people that are not coming. Often the weather is iffy in Adelaide but where the walk is can be quite different.

If there is an area that you think we should organise a walk in let someone on the committee or in the office know and we will try to incorporate it in our program.

Brief News

Your Letters

Send your 'letters to the editor' to trailwalker@heysentrail.asn.au, or drop them off at the office. Letters should be short and limited to 150 words.

Next Edition

Members Jan & Chris O'Connor share their account of their 98km eight day hike along the Great Ocean Walk in Victoria.

Web Maintenance

Maintenance of the website is now undertaken by Paul Davill. You can contact him by leaving a message in the "Website Issues/Feedback" forum, or by emailing him at website@heysentrail.asn.au

Trail Re-Routes

There have been a number of re-routes in recent months – near Deep Creek, Norton Summit and Mt Remarkable. View them on the website (www.heysentrail.asn.au).

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 the Trailwalker, and urge them to become involved in the voluntary, walking and social aspects of the Association.

Jenny Agnew	Russell O'Brien
Russell Barker	John Potter
Richard Bastian	Josie Probin
Nicholas Bluhm	Don Rusby
Bruce Brown	Alison Russell
Mary Cartland	Kristen Sanders
Leanne Hemer	Sharon Seigert
Jane Horton	Virginia Sharley
Arthur Jones	Jennifer Slocombe
John Larwood	Alex Stedman
Brian Lock	Craig Touzean
Roma Muzzatti	Michael Turner
Simon Neldner	Emma Wilkins
Christine O'Brien	

The Walking Federation of South Australia, Inc.

Walking SA

By Thelma Anderson
Walking Access Committee

Official Opening of the 2007 Walking Season

Another successful event, hosted jointly by Walking SA and Women in the Bush to officially set in motion various walking programmes conducted by member clubs, was held at the National Trust property, Beaumont House, on Sunday, 15 April, 2007. The occasion was well attended by many walkers who had the opportunity to take part in an interesting programme of walks organised to launch the Pioneer Women's Heritage Trail between Hahndorf and Beaumont House. Walking SA was contracted by the Office for Recreation and Sport to mark the Trail from Silver Road, Bridgewater to Beaumont with the section to Hahndorf to be marked following negotiations between Mount Barker and Adelaide Hills Councils and the Hahndorf National Trust to enable a safe crossing of Onkaparinga River in order to complete the Trail.

Wendy Greiner, Mayor of Burnside Council, performed the opening ceremony that was attended by Ann Ferguson, Mayor of Mount Barker Council and Christine Harris, representing Adelaide Hills Council. Anni Luur Fox and Lyndall Davidge, representing Hahndorf National Trust were also present. Clearance of mature hawthorn trees on the steep slopes below Mount Osmond had been carried out by Rob Marshall of the Friends of Parks Walking Trails Support Group, assisted by Ivan Weiner, to provide a sustainable and negotiable trail. Walking SA is also indebted to Andrew Crompton of Burnside Council for his advice and support. A number of clubs took the opportunity to mount a display of photographs and information about their respective clubs while the Friends of Onkaparinga Park supplied hot tea, coffee and cake, and a sausage sizzle to sustain the walkers and visitors. A tour of heritage Beaumont House was also available.

Proposed Closure and Sale of a Section of the Heysen Trail

Mount Barker Council continues to pursue efforts to close Long Gully Road, identified as Heysen Trail access through Glen Bold Cattle Station, south of Mylor and north of Jupiter Creek. At the request of a previous owner, the Trail was re-routed to the eastern boundary of Glen Bold prior to management of the Heysen Trail being transferred to DEH from the Office for Recreation and Sport. With no legislative protection for the Heysen Trail and more than 50% of it following road reserves that are vulnerable to being absorbed into adjoining private property, the future of the Trail is destined to be at risk of extinction. This statement is factual, not alarmist! The legislation relating to undeveloped road reserves was drafted within the Roads (Opening and Closing) Act in 1931 long before Warren Bonython put forward the concept of a long distance walking trail to connect the Ranges. This outdated legislation is still current to this day with no protection or security for these valuable public access routes that are vital to the walking system and for adaptation as wildlife and native vegetation corridors. Fortunately, the Native Vegetation Branch of DEH is named in the regulations of the Roads (Opening and Closing) Act for consultation by the local government authority before proceeding with the closure. Walkers will be aware of various indigenous swampland plants occurring in this region that may have protection within Federal Government legislation. By some miracle, or by sheer dint of hard work and dedicated application to the task, we have the Heysen Trail stretching from Parachilna in the northern Flinders Ranges to Cape Jervis on the tip of Fleurieu Peninsula and we all have a responsibility to ensure we retain it in total. We cannot rely on succeeding generations of public servants to ensure it is protected, but we can implore our respective Local

Members of Parliament to bring about legislative changes to an outdated Act of Parliament in an effort to provide some degree of security for a South Australian icon.

Proposed Road Closure and Sale at Inman Valley

Yet another public road reserve situated in close proximity to the Myponga Conservation Park and the Heysen Trail, providing ideal distant coastal views, will possibly be sold to an adjoining landowner. Once again, this is public land, land designated for use by the public, but likely to be sold for the exclusive use of a single landowner. There is an outstanding opportunity for a scenic walking trail to link to the Conservation Park and the Heysen Trail and every effort will be made to retain the road reserve in public ownership.

Adelaide Hills Council

Negotiations are taking place with Adelaide Hills Council to provide walking access along undeveloped road reserves to link alternative areas of the Botanic Garden to the Heysen Trail and other scenic options of interest to walkers.

Lavender Federation Trail

Included in the latest issue of "Footsteps", Newsletter of S.A.R.T.I., are details of plans to apply for funding to construct a loop trail around the Rocky Gully Wetlands on the northern outskirts of Murray Bridge near the commencement of the Trail. The proposal will make an alternative route available to walkers along the Trail in addition to creating a loop trail for casual walkers. An appeal is also made for Trail Maintenance volunteers whose assistance is always greatly appreciated. ●

A descriptive sign at the Cape Jervis Trailhead

Trailhead Sign

By Robert Alcock

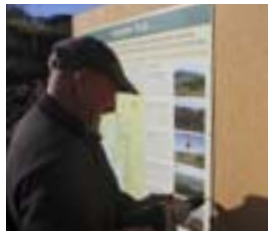
Finally, on the 8th May I witnessed an informative Heysen Trail sign being bolted onto the wall extending from the Sealink terminal at Cape Jervis.

The Friends negotiated with Sealink, and have funded the sign which was produced by the Department for Environment and Heritage (DEH). We thank our members, the DEH officials and Sealink who have worked together to provide the long overdue sign, now on display for visitors and walkers.

More good news – it is understood that the official Trailhead sign will be in place in the not too distant future, finally providing walkers with a defined trailhead.



The Sealink Terminal at Cape Jervis, the Southern Trailhead of the Heysen Trail



Local builder, Don Kelley, fixes the sign onto the wall

Postcard

Friends' weekend away

Hi all, just a quick postcard from our March weekend away at Gemini Downs on the Coorong near Meningie. The Coorong National Park was nearby, and the sea was just a short walk away across the sand dunes. A good weekend of hiking - good times!



Burra Branch

Arthur Simpson
Burra Branch President

The recent AGM was well attended where a positive atmosphere was present throughout. Reports of last season's walks and maintenance were delivered. Positions were filled willingly then the walks programme was drawn up. These include a weekend camp over in shearer's quarters on an eastern sheep station and a full moon walk.

As we have an enthusiastic group more walks are planned this year. Maintenance takes place regularly and proves to be just as enjoyable as the walks.

A shared meal and good chat took place at the conclusion of the meeting.

I am reading *The Last Post* by Terry Lavender, it gives a good history of the formation of the Heysen Trail, interestingly written.

Best wishes from our Branch to all for this walking season.

Elected Officers

This year elected officers are:

- Arthur Simpson, Branch President
- Margaret Fry, Branch Secretary
- Hugh Greenhill, Maintenance and representative on the Goyder Tourism Working Party

Maintenance Section 13

By Hugh Greenhill

The latest work been carried out is along the Spalding Channel east of Spalding, improving access for both the Heysen Trail and the Mawson Trail users.

Caroona Creek Conservation Park has now grown to 8000 hectares with the purchase of the Paradise property.

Trail Maintenance Sections

The Heysen Trail is graciously maintained by volunteers. If you discover a problem on the Heysen Trail, please contact the Friends of the Heysen Trail office, or the Maintenance Co-ordinator or relevant Maintenance Section Leader listed. We welcome feedback on the condition of the Heysen Trail, constructive suggestions on improvements that could be made, and general comments or enquiries about the Trail.

Maintenance Co-ordinators	Gavin Campbell	8296 8613 (H)
	Arthur Smith	8261 6746 (H)
Maintenance Committee Chairman	John Wilson	8356 9264 (H)

Section	Map	Section Leader	Contact
1. Cape Jervis to Tapanappa	Southern Guidebook, Maps 1.1–1.3	David Beaton	8381 7601 (H)
2A. Tapanappa to Waitpinga Campground	Southern Guidebook, Maps 1.3–1.5	Ralph Ollerenshaw	8379 0998 (H)
2B. Waitpinga Campground to Back Valley Rd	Southern Guidebook, Maps 1.5–2.2	Geoffrey & Pamela Gardner	0417 818 053
3. Back Valley Road to Moon Hill	Southern Guidebook, Maps 3 2.2–2.3	David Evans	8558 2854 (H)
4. Moon Hill to Hindmarsh Tiers Road	Southern Guidebook, Maps 2.3–2.5	Hermann Schmidt (Wandergruppe Bushwalkers, German Association)	8344 4072 (H)
5. Hindmarsh Tiers Road to Blackfellows Creek Road	Southern Guidebook, Maps 2.5–2.7	Adrienne Fortanier Eleanor Martin (Women in the Bush)	8556 5051 (H) 8341 6024 (H)
6. Blackfellows Creek Road to Glen Bold	Southern Guidebook, Maps 2.7–3.2	Richard Webb	8381 5308 (H)
7. Glen Bold to Piccadilly	Southern Guidebook, Maps 3.2–3.4	Thelma Anderson Trevor Lee	8278 4420 (H) 8398 0516 (H)
8. Piccadilly to Norton Summit	Southern Guidebook, Maps 3.4–3.4	Liz O'Shea (WEA Ramblers)	8352 1636 (H)
9. Norton Summit to Cudlee Creek	Southern Guidebook, Maps 3.5–3.7	Graham O'Reilly	8397 1217 (H)
10. Cudlee Creek to Bethany	Southern Guidebook, Maps 3.7–4.4	Doug Leane	8443 3388 (H)
11. Bethany to Peters Hill	Southern Guidebook, Maps 4.4–5.3	Joyce Heinjus	8525 2054 (H)
12. Peters Hill to Logans Gap	Southern Guidebook, Maps 5.3–5.9	Norrie Hamilton	8332 1982 (H)
13. Logans Gap to Spalding	Southern Guidebook, Maps 5.9–6.12	Hugh Greenhill (Burra Branch)	8843 8115 (H)
14. Spalding to Georgetown	Northern Guidebook, Maps 1.1–1.6	Kevin Liddiard	8289 4236 (H)
15. Georgetown to Mt Remarkable	Northern Guidebook, Maps 1.6–2.11	Mary Cameron	8165 1025 (H)
16. Mt Remarkable to Horrocks Pass Rd	Northern Guidebook, Maps 2.11–3.4	(vacant)	
17A. Horrocks Pass Rd to Dutchmans Stern	Northern Guidebook, Maps 3.4–4.1	Ian Hartley	8641 1435 (H)
17B. Dutchmans Stern to Wilpena	Northern Guidebook, Maps 4.2–5.7	Gavin & Marie Campbell	8296 8613 (H)
18. Wilpena to Parachilna	Northern Guidebook, Maps 5.8–6.8	John Henery (Alpana Station)	8648 4864 (H)

AGM: A Year in Review

By David Beaton

From the most interesting illustrated talk by Duncan Chessell to the shared supper, the 2007 AGM of the Friends was a great success.



Centacare, proud sponsors of Duncan Chessell's 360km sea-to-summit journey to Antarctica's highest peak –Mt Vinson



Snowmen in the Antarctic. Why not?



A tent with a view

The 20th Annual General Meeting was held on Friday, 16th March 2007, at Enterprise House on Greenhill Road, Unley.

The capacity audience of 100 enjoyed hearing at first hand of Duncan's recent Antarctic expedition – hauling weighty sleds 340 km from the coast to the base of Mt Vinson, then climbing Antarctica's highest peak – and seeing amazing photographs of the conditions they met, brought home to us what an remarkable, gruelling experience it had been.

And now, he is off to climb Mt Everest. Again.

We were truly fortunate to have had him as the guest speaker.

The business part of the meeting followed. The announcement of the new Council for 2007, with a new President, Simon Cameron, who had a recorded message for us as he was walking in NZ and so unable to attend the AGM. Others new to Council are Peter Wynen as Secretary, and Council Members Jim Alvey and Jerry Foster.

Outgoing President Julian Monfries praised the work of the previous council and thanked all the workers who helped to make the year so successful. Not only members of Council and committee members but also the maintenance workers, walk leaders and office staff.

Amongst the highlights of the year was the very successful hosting (with Walking SA) of the opening of the 2006 walking season.

Some future projects to be undertaken by the Friends were then outlined.

In announcing the birth of an updated Friends' website, particular mention was made of Arthur Smith whose great efforts saw the development from scratch of a high class website which drew much positive comment.

Treasurer, John Wilson, reported on the Friends' very healthy financial position, largely due to an increase in membership and numbers of walkers, particularly in End-to-End walks.

Maintenance Coordinator, Gavin Campbell, reported on work undertaken in 2006 and outlined some plans for the coming year.

Three new Honorary Members were named this year, with presentations being made to David Beaton, Jack Marcelis and Julian Monfries for their great work for the Friends in a wide range of areas over a number of years.

The buzz of conversation at the shared supper following the meeting was a good sign that people were taking the opportunity to catch up with others, possibly with some we hadn't seen since the last AGM.

See you at the 2008 AGM. ●

Honorary Members Elected

Each year at the AGM, we have the opportunity to recognise those members have contributed outstanding energy and effort to our organisation. This year, 3 members have been recognised as Honorary Members.



David Beaton

David has contributed greatly to the activities of the Friends. After joining he quickly became a Walk Leader and a Council Member, a role he continues in to this time.

He has led many walks over the years and the instigator of the very successful millennium walks now known as the End-to-End walks.

He has not only walked the Heysen Trail south to north but also north to south (a devil for punishment).

He is a Maintenance Section Leader and without these people walks wouldn't take place.

He is also the Membership Officer which is a time consuming job, not the least because of the increasing membership of the Friends as a result of the very successful End-to-End walks.

Nominated by Chris Porter



Jack Marcelis

Jack has been an active member of the Friends for well over 10 years working in the office in a very professional and business like way. More recently he has taken on more responsibility in the smooth running of the office/shop, purchasing consumables, maps, books and training office volunteers and setting up computer programs as office coordinator.

On the telephone and at the counter his enthusiasm and knowledge of the Heysen Trail makes him an invaluable member of the team.

Nominated by Bob Randall



Julian Monfries

In many clubs and associations there are some who are just members, some who sit on committees, and others who are the life force of the group. Julian is certainly in the latter group.

During the more than 10 years that he has been a member, he has been involved with most committees. Walk Leader, Council Member, Trail maintenance etc, the list goes on, and of course President for the last 6 years.

If he had done none of the aforementioned he has earned an honorary membership just for the hours of work put in to establish the End-to-End walks.

Nominated by Terry Gasson

President's Annual Report

By Julian Monfries

Former President, current Vice President

Friends, it is my pleasure to present my final report for your consideration and approval.



Opening of the Walking Season, April 2006

The opening of the 2006 walking season was undertaken by the Friends in conjunction with Walking SA, DEH through Healthy Parks, Healthy People and *Life, Be in It.*, at the Pines Oval, Belair National Park on 2nd April 2006. In preparation, we held a display in the Adelaide Arcade, advertised widely in the outdoor shops and had some radio air-time. It was without doubt a very successful event with many first time walkers attending the Come 'n' Try walks and most of the bushwalking clubs attending the official events.

Many old Friends attended as our guests, with many familiar faces, using the opportunity to catch up, relive old times and be a part of the event.

The Friends used the opening as an opportunity to launch their new walk book *Push the Bush*, by George Driscoll, our MC for the day. The book has been well received, with sales over the ensuing months overtaking the break even point.

At last word, the Strategic Plan was being finalised and the Management Plan is with the Director for review, with release soon for public consultation.

Flood damage from the heavy rains in late 2005 has been assessed with tenders being finalised for replacement of bridges in the Adelaide Hills. A reroute around the damaged bridge at Engelbrook Reserve has been proposed. The damage to the Trail around Hawker following the more recent flooding has yet to be assessed; however it is suspected that markers in the Wonoka and Mernmerna Creek may have been lost.

One spin off from the Walking Season opening and our marketing of the

End-to-End walks has been a very gratifying increase in membership. The initial End-to-End 3 walk attracted 127 walkers, with the later walks settling to around 90+.

Consequently, we have been able to tap into fresh expertise, coopting new members onto our committees, leading to a resurgence of enthusiasm, with new ideas and new directions.

This has led to the development of our new website, rebuilt from the ground up, to reflect new technologies and to enable our members to take a more active interest in the Friends and the Trail through our site. It contains various online forums/chat group, links to our shop, with the possibility of online walk booking and payment for memberships etc.

In addition, with our new-found expertise we have developed a Logbook to provide an easy way for walkers to log their progress along the Trail. It comes in two parts and is structured to complement the Southern and Northern Guides. They are for the walker currently on the Trail, for the walker planning to walk the Trail and even the walker who has completed the Trail. We plan to have these ready for the new walking year (*refer page 14*).

Once again we have had a very profitable year, with good returns from our walks, especially the End-to-End groups. John Wilson, our treasurer will elaborate more in his report.

We have negotiated with SeaLink to install signage at Cape Jervis to indicate that the Southern Trailhead begins at this point. They have generously donated wall space for this, outside their terminal, and display space



inside for leaflets brochures and other information. The signage has been developed in conjunction with DEH and will provide a template for signage along the Trail, as roadside trailheads are developed (*refer page 9*).

Maintenance continues, albeit at a quieter pace, whilst we await the Management Plan to give us more direction. The department has undertaken a realignment of the Trail approaching Tapanappa from the west, avoiding a steep eroded section. A group from the Friends surveyed the waterfall near Eyre Depot and marked an alternative walk around, for the faint hearted. Section leaders remain busy undertaking routine maintenance with the End-to-End groups providing a running update on Trail conditions.

Gavin Campbell, Maintenance Coordinator, will give more details in his report.

Your Council have been looking at the future direction of the Friends and are planning a number of initiatives including negotiating with towns that straddle the Heysen Trail to adopt the Trail, with Melrose to be our initial objective; the development of loop walks that take in parts of the Heysen Trail with brochures detailing the walks; the development of mini-trailheads where the Trail crosses significant roads/highways and the ongoing active retention and recruitment of members.

Throughout my presidency I have had the privilege to work with a very dedicated team of volunteers, who have variously been part of the executive, council, committees, maintenance, office and walk leaders. To them my unreserved thanks.

And to my darling wife, Sue, whose support was essential to make it all work. ●

Maintenance Report

By Gavin Campbell
Maintenance Coordinator

This is my first formal report as Maintenance Coordinator since Dean Killmier resigned from the position to go and live in W.A. during 2006 and I took over the position.

Firstly I would like to thank, on behalf of all Heysen Trail users, the Section Leaders for the job they do and continue to do in the maintenance of the Trail. I won't individualise my thanks for they all carry out a magnificent job and their names are in every issue of the Trail Walker (*refer page 10*).

The Heysen Trail would be a dilapidated mess without these volunteers and their, not only tireless work, but their loving work, for they all do more than merely maintain the existing Trail, they also let me and DEH know of improvements they think should be implemented.

I would also like to thank DEH for their management of the Trail especially Chris and Bronte for again, without their and the Department's involvement the Trail would not exist. They put a lot of time and money into maintenance of the Trail and other amenities such as huts, water tanks etc.

I see my role of Coordinator as being a trouble shooter for the Section Leaders and so far they seem to have handled all problems without too much interference from me. I also now have a group of helpers who have volunteered to help me with any problems where I will need extra help. Again they haven't been called on, but no doubt the occasion will arise where they can be used.

This summer there have been a few catastrophes that could have impinged on the Trail, like bushfire and floods but in all cases the Trail seems to have been immune except for the Section around Hawker which was subject to severe flooding in January. This is my maintenance section and my wife and I are going there tomorrow to fix any problems. This is a task we perform every year before the walk season but after the heat of summer has diminished.

Again I would like to thank all Section Leaders.



Heysen Trail Logbooks

The logbooks provide an easy way to log your progress, make notes, keep a diary or keep a record of photos.

They are structured to complement the Southern and Northern Guides (the map books). You will note similarities enabling easy reference between the logbook and the guide books.

The aim is for you to refer to the guide book for navigation and information, and record the journey in the logbook, as you complete various Trail sections.

\$14.90 ea

Financial Report

By John Wilson
Treasurer

During Year 2006 The Friends recorded a surplus of \$28,250. This contains an unrealised profit of about \$11,000 as noted below, but even without that, at \$17,250 it is still a very pleasing result.

As mentioned before, the committees set up by your Council have been monitoring and managing our income more carefully. It is expected that in this and subsequent years they will also develop more proposals for expenditure.

There are a number of reasons for this good result, but the main factor was a sudden surge in our membership, possibly as a result of our hosting of the opening of the 2006 walking season. Income from membership subscriptions increased by almost 30% to \$10,148, and to \$13,248 from walking, a further increase from the high level achieved in 2005. The three weekend events (at Innes CP, the Grampians and Kangaroo Island) were all successful.

Sales income from Heysen Trail maps, particularly for the Southern and Northern Guidebooks, more than doubled and remained steady from other maps and books, but the whole sales picture was swamped by our publication of Push the Bush, the book 15 day walks in the Mt Lofty Ranges.

We spent about \$13,500 in printing 2,000 copies of the book. With profits from sales of \$7,500 and sponsorship of \$9,100 we are already some \$3,000 ahead in cash terms. But we still have over 1500 copies, valued at \$11,000, which shows as an unrealised profit and as an asset in our balance sheet. If we can sell most of these, there is the potential for further large profits.

Administrative expenditure for 2006 rose by about \$1,100 compared with the previous year. This is consistent with our increase in membership, which led to increased costs for Public Liability Insurance, production of Trailwalker, and general office expenses.

The Friends spent \$960 of our funds on trail maintenance, while a further \$3,597 was spent on basic materials and expenses and was reimbursed by the Department for Environment and Heritage. Maintenance activity was restricted through most of the year due to limited funding available from DEH, and delays caused by finalising their Management Plan.

2006 Accounts

The Auditors Report and 2006 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 2006 Accounts.

Income	
Membership Subscriptions	\$10,148
Income from Sale of Goods	\$17,738
Interest	\$3,140
Day and End-to-End Walks	\$9,446
Weekend Walks	\$3,802
Sundry Income	\$2,134
Total Income	\$46,408
Administrative expenditure	
Administrative Surplus	\$17,198
Less	
Depreciation	\$0
Trail Maintenance	\$960
Net Surplus	\$28,250
Current Assets	
Bank Account	\$6,689
CPS, Term Deposit	\$75,062
Minor Accounts/Floats	\$139
Stock on Hand	\$12,438
Trade debtors	\$1,545
Plant and Equipment	\$0
Total Assets	\$95,873
Current Liabilities	\$5360
Nett	\$90,513

2007 Walk Programme

		April	May	June	July	August	September			
1st Week of month	Trail Starter	Fri Mar 30 – Sat Mar 31 – Sun April 1 Coorong Weekend Simon Cameron	Sun May 6 Trail Starter Black Hill Arianne Wynen	Sun June 3 Trail Starter Sturt Gorge Lyn Wood	Sun July 1 Trail Starter Anstey Hill Conservation Park Robert Alcock	Sun Aug 5 Trail Starter Sea to Summit – The other ½	Father's Day Sun S Trail W Deep Ray E			
	Trail Walker		Sun May 6 Trail Walker Brownhill Creek to Mt Lofty Richard Milosh	Sun June 3 Trail Walker Mt Misery Richard Milosh	Sun July 1 Trail Walker Boat Harbour David Beaton	Sun Aug 5 Trail Walker Waitpinga Cliff Ray Blight				
2nd Week of month	Trail Starter	Easter	Sun May 13 Trail Starter Sleeps Hill Liz Barry	June Long Weekend Sat June 9 – Sun 10 – Mon 11 End-to-End 2 Bowman Pk to Beetaloo to Ipinitchie to White Pk Rd	Sun July 8 Trail Starter Mt Torrens Michelle Edwards and Sue Scott	Sun Aug 12 Trail Starter Wistow Sandy Melbourne	Sun S Trail S Cobblers Bob R			
	Trail Walker		Mother's Day Sat May 12 – Sun 13 End-to-End 2 Raeville to Locks Ruin to Bowman Pk		Sat July 7 – Sun July 8 End-to-End 2 White Pk Rd to Dougboy Reserve to Melrose	Sat Aug 11 – Sun Aug 12 End-to-End 2 Melrose to Alligator Gorge to Horrocks Pass	Sat Sept 8 – End-to-End 2 Horrocks Mt Brown Woolsh			
3rd Week of month	Trail Starter	Sun April 15 Opening of the Walk Season Beaumont House Try-out walk Simon Cameron	Sun May 20 Trail Starter Rocky Creek, Kuitpo David Beaton	Sun June 17 Trail Starter Christmas Hill, Kuitpo Liz Barry	Sun July 15 Trail Starter Para Wirra Bob Randall	Sun Aug 19 Trail Starter Morialta Jamie Shephard	Sun S Trail S TB Colin E			
	Trail Walker		Sun May 20 Trail Walker Aldgate to Mt Lofty Gavin Campbell	Sun June 17 Trail Walker Lavender Federation Trail – Murray Bridge George Adams	Sun July 15 Trail Walker Scotts Creek Lyn Wood	Sun Aug 19 Trail Walker Lavender Federation Trail – Monarto George Adams	Sun S Trail W Chamber Ralene			
4th Week of month	Trail Starter	Sun April 22 Trail Starter Come'n'Try Walk Belair National Park David Beaton	Sun May 27 Trail Starter Piccadilly Steve Wilkinson	Sun June 24 Trail Starter Brownhill Creek Rhonda Dempster	Sun July 22 Trail Starter Cox Creek Chris Caspar	Sun Aug 26 Trail Starter TBA Colin Edwards	Sun S Trail S Little Mt Chris C			
	Trail Walker	Sun April 22 Trail Walker Onkaparinga Consevation Park Richard Milosh	Sun May 27 End-to-End 3 Mt Compass to Kyeema	Sun June 24 End-to-End 3 Kyeema to Dashwood Gully	Sun July 22 End-to-End 3 Dashwood Gully to Mylor	Sun Aug 26 End-to-End 3 Mylor to Cleland	Sun S End-to-End 3 Cleland Montacut			
5th Week of month	Trail Starter	Sun April 29 Trail Starter Mt Crawford George Adams	Key to Walk Programme <table border="1" style="margin: 10px auto;"> <tr><td>Trail Starter walk</td></tr> <tr><td>Trail Walker walk</td></tr> <tr><td>End-to-End walk</td></tr> <tr><td>Other walk event</td></tr> </table> An explanation of walk grades and details for each walk event are published on the website		Trail Starter walk	Trail Walker walk	End-to-End walk	Other walk event	Sun July 29 Trail Starter Sea to Summit – The 1st ½	October Long Weekend Sat 2 Sun S Mon Spea
	Trail Starter walk									
Trail Walker walk										
End-to-End walk										
Other walk event										
Trail Walker	Sun April 29 End-to-End 3 Myponga to Mt Compass	Sun July 29 Trail Walker Sea to Summit – The Total Experience								

Walk Grades

There are five different grades of walk on the Friends of the Heysen Trail walk programme. Four of these operate during the walk season, generally from April to November when it is not Fire Ban Season:

- Trail Starter
- Trail Walker
- Trail Rambler
- End-to-End


When it is not walk season, generally during the summer Fire Ban Season, a fifth walk grade, Summer Twilight Walks, operate.

Details of each walk grade are provided on the website.

Registering for Walks

You must register for a walk, either online or over the phone.

Register online (by Wed prior please) at www.heysentrail.asn.au, or by phone the office on 8212 6299 (during the hours listed on page 3).

September	October	November
	Sun Oct 7 Trail Starter Waitpinga Steve Wilkinson	Sun Nov 4 Trail Starter Linear Park Jamie Shephard
Sept 2 Walker Creek Twilight	Sun Oct 7 Trail Walker Aldate to Mt Lofty Spring Flowers Gavin Campbell	Sun Nov 4 Trail Walker Victor Harbor Gavin Campbell
Sept 9 Trail Starter Paris Creek Randall		Sun Nov 11 Trail Starter Paris Creek Jennifer Dow
Sun Sept 9 End-to-End 2 Pass to Creek to Flat	Sat Oct 13 - Sun Oct 14 End-to-End 2 Woolshed Flat to Dutchmans Stern to Eyre depot	Sun Nov 11 Trail Walker Mt Lofty Circuit Steve Wilkinson
Sept 16 Trail Starter Parsons Beach Edwards	Sun Oct 21 Trail Starter Parsons Beach David Beaton	Sat Nov 10 - Sun Nov 18 (1 week) Great Ocean Walk Julian Monfries
Sept 16 Trail Walker Parsons Gully Shaw	Sun Oct 21 Trail Walker Lavender Federation Trail - Preamimma George Adams	
Sept 23 Trail Starter Mt Pleasant Caspar	Sun Oct 28 Trail Starter Mt Pleasant Jennifer Dow	
Sept 23 End-to-End 3 Montacute Heights to Cudlee Creek	Sun Oct 28 End-to-End 3 Montacute Heights to Cudlee Creek	Sun Nov 25 End-to-End 3 Cudlee Creek to Mt Crawford Forest
Sept 29 - Sept 30 - Oct 1 Paris Creek	 <p>The Friends of the Heysen Trail 10 Pitt Street Adelaide 5000 Phone 08 8212 6299 www.heysentrail.asn.au</p>	
This version released 16 May 2007		

Appropriate Clothing

All walks are subject to you wearing appropriate clothing. Prime considerations are warmth and weather protection. Your safety and the safety of the walking group can be jeopardised by you wearing inappropriate clothing. In an emergency situation it can take hours to evacuate a sick or injured walker. Leaders may not accept people for a walk who have not come appropriately dressed or prepared.

What to Wear

- Good walking shoes, or boots, with grip soles. Thongs, sandals, elastic-sided boots and smooth-soled sneakers are not appropriate
- Thick socks
- Wet weather gear – a three quarter length waterproof rain jacket is ideal (showerproof spray jackets and quilted parkas are not waterproof and create a danger of hypothermia)
- A warm jumper or jacket of wool/polyester fleece. Cotton shirts and windcheaters have minimum insulation when wet and retain water
- Shorts, loose comfortable wool or synthetic pants (jeans are not suitable as they are cold when wet and dry slowly)
- Shade hat and sunscreen in warmer weather. Warm hat/beanie in cooler weather

The above list is for Twilight Walks, Trail Starter and Trail Rambler walks. For Trail Walker and End-to-End walks, in addition to the above list, please also consider bringing:

- Thermal underwear
- Waterproof over-trousers

What to Bring

- Basic First Aid and Emergency Kit containing:
 - UV sunblock, throat lozenges, lip salve and paracetamol
 - Insect repellent
- 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

The above list is for Twilight Walks, Trail Starter and Trail Rambler walks. For Trail Walker and End-to-End walks, in addition to the above list, please also bring:

- Whistle
- Wide elastic bandage and triangular bandage with safety pins

Walk Cancellations

Walks are cancelled if the broadcasted forecast is for temperatures over 32°C. For simplicity, this can be determined the night prior to the walk on the 7pm ABC evening news weather forecast, based upon the Bureau of Meteorology's routine 4pm forecast. Even if the forecast is later revised, the walk remains cancelled. End-to-End walks will be rescheduled to the following month. This doesn't apply to Summer Twilight Walks.

If unforeseen circumstances arise and you are no longer able to participate in the walk, please notify the office as soon as possible, preferably by 4pm Friday, or leave a message on the answering machine after this time.

Further Information

Further information about each walk, walk grades and Frequently Asked Questions are available on the website (www.heysentrail.asn.au/walks)

A Patron's Walking Life

By Jo Chesher

We sometimes contemplate doing something out of the ordinary to celebrate a landmark birthday. For C Warren Bonython AO, to celebrate his 75th, it was to head off to Africa and climb Mount Kilimanjaro. He got within 1700 feet of the summit of this 18,500 feet giant before altitude sickness set in.

Warren was born in Adelaide and his name is synonymous with bushwalking in South Australia. He has however walked extensively in a number of different parts of the world. He began bushwalking while living in Melbourne during the 1940s, heading out into the Dandenong Ranges, and then north into the Cathedral Ranges, with his wife Bunty at his side. Perhaps it was the experience of climbing a challenging ridge on a stormy day, gale-force winds buffeting them with horizontal rain, that decided Bunty against continuing to walk in her husband's boot prints, or maybe it was their first-born baby waiting at home with her sister. Whatever the reason, Bunty was happy to support Warren in his adventurous life by providing moral support, looking after their three children, and 'keeping the home fires burning' while he tramped through far-afield landscapes, including walking the length of the McDonnell Ranges, the Larapinta Trail and Lake Eyre in the Northern Territory; Northern India to the border of Kashmir; and the Sierra Club's annual high trek in Nevada. He climbed the mountains of Maui and walked through the craters. He first visited New Zealand in 1935 and of course, has done the Everest Trek. Then there was his Simpson Desert walk, 2500 kms, which he shared in his book *Walking the Simpson Desert*.

Much closer to home Warren took part in the inaugural Hahndorf Pioneer Women's Trail Walk in 1980 when, with a huge marrow strapped to his back in honour of the pioneers, he joined 150 others on the walk from Hahndorf to Beaumont.

But Warren hasn't always relied on his walking boots as his preferred mode of travel. In his younger days he moved at a faster pace, owning the first MG sports car in South Australia and setting the speed record on Sellicks Beach. This was a stark contrast to his first major bushwalking venture. Warren had read an article on the Gammon Ranges which stated that no white man had ever penetrated the centre of these ranges. This was the catalyst for him getting a group of people together to make his first attempt. The trip however didn't go as planned, with one of the party, Bob Crocker, falling and breaking his leg. In 1947 another attempt was made, with the group crossing the ranges from South to North. The following year Warren crossed from East to West.

Warren's first trip to the Flinders was in October 1945, taking the train from Melbourne and heading out from Brachina, just north of Mount Hayward. His passion for the Flinders was sparked by a painting of Mount Patawarta by Sir Hans Heysen. In his book *Walking the Flinders Ranges* Warren writes:

Land of the Oratunga! –the ring of that romantic title and the vision of the magical mountain had drawn me to the Flinders in the first place, and later had helped in inducing me to embark on the walk. I had read of Mount Patawarta while studying Howchin's "Geology of South Australia", so I already knew it to be rocky eminence and a commanding



C Warren Bonython AO

viewpoint, and then I had seen the reproduction of Heysen's painting which had imprinted a separate image in my mind, but it was not until the 1945 Aroona Valley trip that I first actually saw it, instantly equating the two images and recognizing my dream mountain.

Warren had known Sir Hans for 30 years, and he and Bunty had dined with him at The Cedars, his residence just out of Hahndorf, which is a glorious place still 'home' to the artist's descendants, and now open to the public.

When Warren finally climbed his dream mountain in 1968 Sir Hans was in his early 90s and in hospital. Warren writes:

On 3 July Charles McCubbin and I had climbed Mount Patawarta, coming down by the south face, and as I had looked back up at

the Land of the Oratunga scene my mind suddenly switched to Heysen.

He wondered later whether this was mental telepathy as Sir Hans had passed away the previous day. Warren wrote of his friend:

His creative life had ended, but there are appropriate memorials to him in the many paintings in public galleries, boardrooms and private homes, and in the several books about him, and to me there seems none more fitting than that rendering of Patawerta the image of which I permanently carry in my mind's eye.

But Warren was to be the instigator of an even more well-known memorial to this great Australian painter – the naming of the Heysen Trail in his honour. In the following year he suggested at a National Trust symposium that there was scope for a long distance walking trail in the manner of the 3,200 km Appalachian Trail in America and the 400 km Pennine Way in England. He had initially considered such a trail through the Mount Lofty Ranges, but having completed his Flinders trek the year before, covering the full length of the Ranges in a number of stages, he put forward a combination of both.

It was fortunate that the Hon. Murray Hill, MLC, had attended the symposium and he approached Government with the idea. This resulted in the formation in early 1970 of the Long Distance Trail Committee, of which Warren was a member, becoming Chairman for the last seven years of its existence. It was in discussion of an appropriate name for the trail that 'Heysen' was decided upon because of the artist's perfecting of the gum tree in the Mount Lofty Ranges and who had then 'brought the glories of the Flinders Ranges to the world's notice'. Warren wrote that although he wasn't a formal bushwalker, 'Heysen could be a most energetic walker in pursuit of his work.'

Much to Warren's disappointment the Long Distance Trail Committee was disbanded in 1978, and he took time out and headed off overseas to trek in the Himalayas. He had however laid

the ground work – paved the way for others, especially Terry Lavender, to continue to develop the Trail. Since that time Warren has officiated at the commissioning of various sections and continues his close association through the Friends, being the association's long term and revered Patron.

Warren was to be the instigator of an even more well-known memorial to this great Australian painter – the naming of the Heysen Trail in his honour

Warren's career highlights are many. He achieved his BSc. from the University of Adelaide, later going on to work in the chemical industry with ICI Australia 1940–66, including 20 years as manager of the salt fields at Dry Creek. Other notable positions and recognition include: Colombo Plan Adviser on salt to the Ceylon government 1964; Director, Dampier Salt Ltd 1968–79; John Lewis Gold Medal (for Exploration), Royal Geographical Society of Australasia (SA Branch) 1984; Australian Geographic Adventurer of the Year 1990; President, Royal Geographical Society of Australasia SA Branch 1959–61; SA Chairman, Water Research Foundation of Australia 1961–76; President, Conservation Council of SA 1971–75; President of the National Trust of SA 1971–76; and President, Council of the National Parks Foundation of SA 1985–89.

In 1966, at the age of 50, Warren retired from industry, following his passions for conservation and bushwalking. His first long walk in the Flinders Ranges was in 1967–68 and his book *Walking the Flinders Ranges* is a marvelous must-read. As well as bringing back memories for those of us who are fortunate enough to have walked the Trail, it extends the experience by sharing what it was like to do it 30 years ago, without the high-tech backpacks and boots that we are blessed with today – not to mention the super-duper light-weight

retractable walking poles that some of us wouldn't be without! In contrast to this, Warren walked with a lily stem for 20 years. Well – a yacca stick, which is from the family Liliaceae, making it literally a dried lily stem:

It is an amazing stick, and I have grown sentimentally attached to it, for it has lasted right through the Flinders walk, and subsequently through another from Kathmandu to the foot of Mount Everest.

While my much more recent experience of walking the Trail included bus rides back to a cosy cabin or hotel room at the end of the day, Warren found other ways to keep the elements at bay. He writes of a night in the northern Flinders:

A cold breeze was blowing down the valley as we went to bed at midnight, and since I had set down my sleeping bag in the exposed creek bed I lay with my head poked into a box turned on its side.

On another occasion he writes of spending a night in the Aroona Hut, which was badly run down and with only one room roughly re-roofed after a gale had previously torn off the roof:

The rain came in successively heavier showers of longer duration, but in the lulls, we ran out and collected firewood from trees in the creek. We would clearly be there for the night so we brought in masses of leaves for underbedding on the hard floor. Then in the rubbish dump I found the wire mattress of an old iron bedstead and, after propping it on stones, bending back the more dangerous of the protruding broken wire ends and padding it with wet gum leaves, I had myself set up royally.

Warren reminds us that the Flinders is an unpredictable place and writes of the contrast of the raging day-time heat (while carrying over 60-pounds in his pack) with the rapid changes of weather, when thunder storms can suddenly appear out of nowhere:

At noon we stopped for lunch in the gorge where Bunyeroo Creek has cut through the ABC Range, ➤

sitting amongst the long roots, and under the shelter of a large gum at the foot of the north wall. Haze and unidentifiable cloud now obscured the whole sky, and it was 96 degrees F. We drank most of our water and turned for home. ... Although the dust continued to thicken the air cooled a little, and increasing thunder over the main range to the west soon became one continuous loud roll ... A great menacing "red darkness" closed in until it was like dusk, or as in a total eclipse of the sun. At such times the birds and animals are said to react with cries of fear, and I imagined that the sounds of the galahs and other birds heard above the wind and thunder were, in fact, frenzied cries of fear. It was indeed awe-inspiring.

Warren's descriptions of the many moods of the Flinders, and their soul-deep effect on walkers, brings back so many wonderful memories:

I had stopped to rest in the creek in the shade of a grand old gum-tree and as I lay back

on the flat pebbles I suddenly perceived above me the arresting picture of the dappled grey and white bark of the tree-fork caught in the afternoon sun and contrasting with the azure sky. Temporary physical exhaustion often seems to enhance mental perception, and the simple sight struck certain chords in me, transforming the brief glimpse into a moment of truth, when suddenly I was at one with the universe. Unimportant events like this often print a bright picture that keeps coming back again and again during one's life.

C Warren Bonython has set out on adventures that most of us have only dreamed of. He is truly an inspiration for us to get out there and experience the wonders of the wilderness. These days, now in his early 90s, he spends his time closer to home, enjoying a more gentle pace at Romalo House in Magill with Bunty and Minnie, their beautiful Keeshond (Dutch Barge Dog), surrounded by memories of a rich and varied life. Minnie's aqua-coloured collar and lead lie on a low cabinet in the entrance hall, next to a bust of Warren by well-known sculptor

John Dowie, a pebble from Mambray Creek, and a framed photograph and poignant poem in memory of Everest mountaineer George Leigh Mallory (1886–1924), who lost his life on the mountain. Included at the beginning of the poem, 'Finding Mallory' by Judith Dye, is a quote from Mallory: "To refuse the adventure is to run the risk of drying up like a pea in its shell."

In an article published in the Trailwalker in August 1999 as one of a series that featured Honorary Members of the Friends of the Heysen Trail, Jamie Shephard wrote of Warren: "As our Patron for some years we salute his foresight and adventurous spirit, as his actions have given thousands of people much pleasure and enjoyment." I couldn't agree more. ●

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Gear For Going Places!

The Lavender Federation Trail

By George Adams

The 105 kilometre trail travels from Murray Bridge to Tungkillo, passing old railyards, river wetlands, rugged gorges and vast tracts of farming land, along the eastern flanks of the Mt Lofty Ranges. Three walks along the Trail are planned as part of this season's Walk Programme.



George Adams

In 2006 I walked the trail in seven easy stages of approximately 15 km per day. The grading is moderate, some sections traversing rocky uneven ground with the eastern flank of Mt Beevor quite steep. There are about 80 excellent metal stiles providing easy access over fences.

The trail is administered and maintained by South Australian Recreations Trails Inc (SARTI), a volunteer organization similar to the FoHT. It is also supported by local businesses, Councils and State Government authorities. The Trail, originally called the "Federation Trail" to celebrate the centenary of the Federation of Australia, was renamed the "Lavender Federation Trail" in honour of Terry Lavender, the driving force behind the creation of Heysen and Federation Trails and the first Chairman of SARTI.

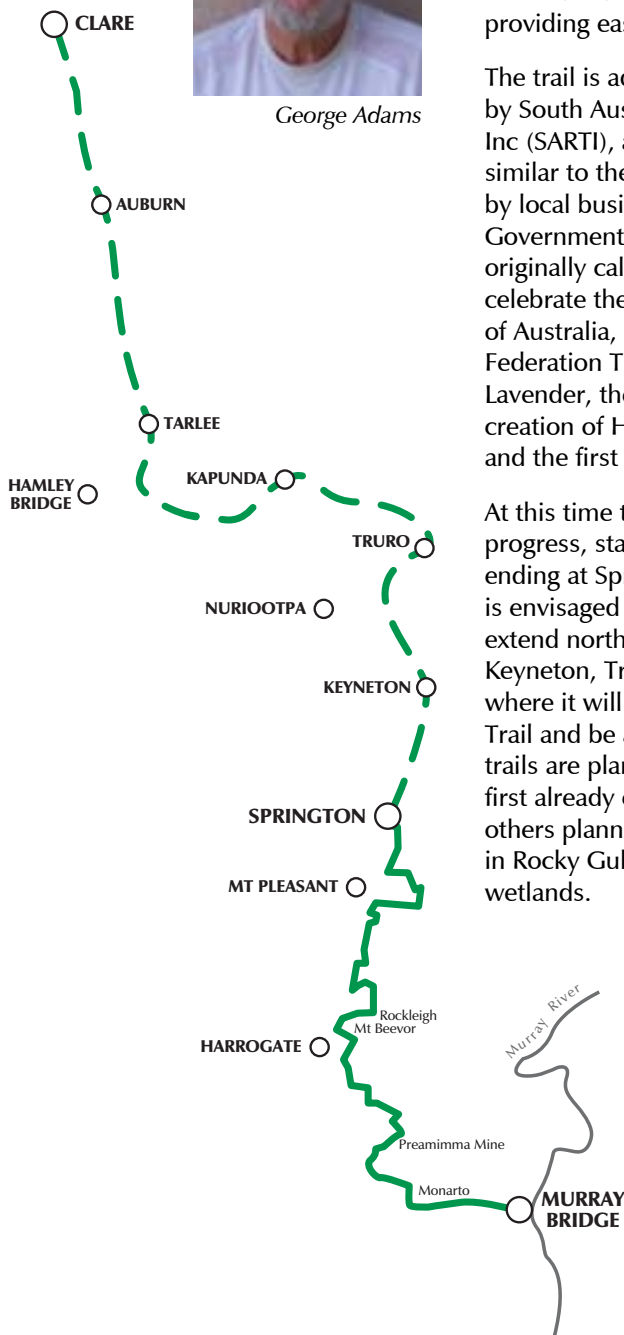
At this time the Trail is a work in progress, starting at Murray Bridge and ending at Springton in the Barossa. It is envisaged that in future years it will extend north by way of Eden Valley, Keyneton, Truro, Kapunda, and Auburn where it will join up with the Reisling Trail and be about 350 km long. Loop trails are planned along the route, the first already opened near Tungkillo and others planned in the next 12 months in Rocky Gully and the Rocky Gully wetlands.

Some historical facts:- the Trail heads up river from Sturt Reserve at Murray Bridge, passing the location of sunken steamers and barges. The rail track near the river's edge was laid to the wharf in 1886 with the freight reaching a peak in 1910. This area was once called the Port of Mobilong and became the third largest port on the Murray.

"Maybe I should stop here before I tell you too much and spoil your own discovery"

Trek past the grain silos and the wetlands with its prolific bird life, and into picturesque Rocky Gully, at the eastern edge of the Monarto area, Don Dunstan's dream of creating a satellite city of Monarto. The plan was eventually scrapped, however much land was retained by the State Government and today the trail wanders through several green zones and past Monarto Zoo where many exotic animals can be seen from the trail and continuing past abandoned homes, a copper and arsenic mine, and magnificent views in all directions.

Maybe I should stop here before I tell you too much and spoil your own discovery. Check out this season's Walk Programme on page 16. We are starting with 3 walks, Murray Bridge to Monarto, Monarto to Preaminna Mines, and Preaminna Mines to Rockleigh. Additional information on the "Lavender Federation Trail" can be found on the website www.lavenderfederationtrail.org.au and free email newsletter available by emailing your name and email address to asta@lm.net.au requesting you be placed on the distribution list. ●



A Gentleman Calls...

By George Driscoll

Manager Scout Outdoor Centre 1984–2001,

Founder of Pathfinders,

Former Member of the Friends Council and Chairman of the Walking Committee

A true business person always rings for an appointment before calling on the Manager of a company with whom they wish to do business, usually with a hint of something really beneficial to that business.

So it was sometime in 1990 when George Driscoll, the Manager of the Scout Outdoor Centre received a visit from a well presented gentleman, Neville Southgate, President of the Friends of the Heysen Trail.

Neville's proposal was that the Scout Shop should sponsor a bush-walking program with the Friends providing the Leaders. There was to be no financial commitment from the shop other than handling bookings and promotion. The idea was to get a new group of people walking on the Heysen and other trails to discover the enjoyment group walking can bring.

George felt that this was the basis of a good idea. However, always wanting to be in full control he felt that the leaders should be paid staff members of the shop rather than relying on volunteers from another organization. George realized that there might be a great deal of good will generated for the Scout Shop through its friendly staff members. When new walkers needed gear they would know where to get it through the personal contact made on the walks. Thus the Pathfinders program began.

George remembers the first walk led by Scott on the coast near Inman Valley. It was a long enough walk and some of the party including George appeared to be wilting a bit. Scott, ever the good leader suggested, "We can take a short cut here or take the longer way back, what do you think?" George favoured the short cut but up piped Kay, then on an early date with Ian, "Lets take the long way!"

The Pathfinders first weekend away in 1991 was at Riverton. Eager participants travelled by bus on Friday night. Accommodation was booked at the two small Hotels. Well known Friends walkers Terry and Francis, Colin and Marlene, Terry and Val, Ian and Kay, George and Elfi met therefore the first time as Pathfinders and are still good friends. They all regard that weekend at Riverton as something special in their lives. One thing we all remember is that our Leader Barbara, that effervescent little bundle of energy, could eat so much!

Darren, who arranged a wonderful array of walks, led the first Pathfinder trip to Tassie. Daryl, our host at Lemonthyme Lodge stopped the bus on the road to the Lodge to chat for some 5 minutes to another driver. "This is a bunch of South Australians I've got here in the bus." This introduction to "Tassie Time" set the mood for a great walking holiday. It was the first walking trip for Liz who now leads many walks for the Friends.

Jill rang George first thing Monday morning with "At least I don't lose people!"

Other prominent Friends who started out with the Pathfinders are David and Ralph, Maintenance Section Leaders. Dr Terry established the protocol for first aid requirements for Heysen walk leaders and walkers. Then there is the "Walking Mafia", Darce, Lorraine,



George Driscoll

Marguerite, Chris and Norma. They enjoyed many Pathfinder Canoe trips led by Tim, who gave them their name as they always ganged up against him! Now they help in the Friends office.

Imagine spending the night out on a tractor, with no idea where you are! That incident convinced Barbara and Spence that walking with a group and a responsible leader would be a good idea, so they joined Pathfinders. Spence went on to become one of the first fully accredited day walk leaders for the Friends. Another much respected Pathfinder/Friend was the late Geoff Hunken whose best beer ever was the one that George presented to him at Wilpena Pound at the end of a challenging walk/climb led by Tim to a remote peak. Then there is Sue, a keen sports person who arrived at one of George's walks and after checking the route said, "I'd rather play golf" and disappeared! Nevertheless, she became an ardent walker and produced stunning photographs on numerous walks.

The first overnight walking trip for the Friends was to Burra. Our Burra resident member Mike put together a great walk and had locals with walkie-talkies on hand to ensure safety. As it happened one walker had a medical problem and we greatly appreciated this support. On totting up the accounts Sadie and George discovered that they had made a tidy profit for the Friends while they were only trying to break even. Hence the idea of staging enjoyable events for members while providing income for the work of the organization was born.

Jill, leading her first walk for the Friends, took a minor wrong turn, and was corrected by George. Jill took revenge some months later after George had his Friends group "involuntarily separated." Jill rang George first thing Monday morning with "At least I don't lose people!"

All the Pathfinders mentioned wanted to put something back into walking as well as enjoy the company of new like-minded people. Hence they joined the Friends of the Heysen Trail. While this sounds like a mass exodus from the Pathfinders most kept up joint membership and value their time spent with the Pathfinders.



Relaxing with a hard-earned coffee

The aim of this story is to acknowledge the contribution members of the Pathfinders have made to the Friends and the fun they generated by doing so. It is recognized that many of the names would not mean much to newer members. However, the biggest message is to encourage our "End-to-Enders" who are making great new friendships to widen their circle and to help with the running of the organization.

As the gentleman who called on George over fifteen years ago promised, "It will be a life enhancing experience!"

Pathfinders still exist as part of a much wider professional program beyond what was done in the 90's. The young bushwalking leaders of those days are now high achievers in Commerce, Industry, Science, Law, Education and Outdoor Pursuits. ●

This article was written for The Trailwalker by George during his illness and was completed in March 2007.

Obituary

George Driscoll

Died 8th May 2007

Longtime member of the Friends of the Heysen Trail, an original chairman of the Walking Committee and Council Member, George will be long remembered by many of our members.

An "ideas" man, George has been a dedicated walker and backpacker and inspired many by his enthusiasm for the bush. His publications on South Australian walks, and more recently Sydney walks, have been a great help to those wanting to get out and walk.

Through the Scout Outdoor Centre, the Pathfinders, the Friends, the Duke of Edinburgh Award and the Scout Association George has been a very visible force in helping both young and old get out and enjoy the bush.

Vale

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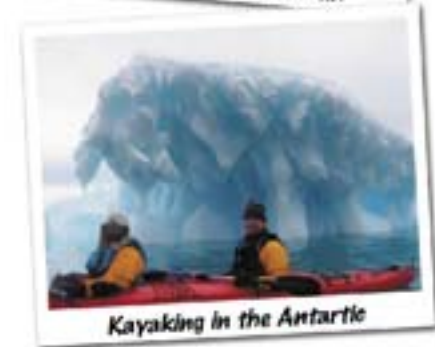
"a little bit of Australia all to yourself"

A trek to South America's ancient city

The Inca Trail to Machu Picchu

By Arrienne & Peter Wynen

Fit a stroll down the Inca Trail between rafting down Tasmania's Franklin River and kayaking in Antarctica and the Iguazu Falls. Why not?



For many years we have nursed a dream of going to the Antarctic and 'kayaking around an iceberg'. Last year we decided to bite the bullet and do it. Upon booking our trip it became apparent that we had to go to South America to catch our boat – so we looked at other things that we might do while we were there in the limited time we had. Becoming walkers had given us the thought of one day walking the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu – so we added that to our list. The season for the Antarctic is November to February and our trip was booked for 6th to 18th January so we found another trip that included the Inca Trail for late January. In addition, earlier a moment of impulse had us also booking into a 10 day rafting trip down the Franklin River in Tasmania from which we would be returning to Adelaide on January 2nd. As a result of all this we would be spending lots of time in planes, boats, rafts and kayaks but not doing much actual walking in preparation. There also was the

altitude to think about. Having had no experience of this we thought we could get away with a few pills at the right time. So off we set in blissful ignorance.

The trip to the Antarctic was a great experience and if anyone shows the slightest interest we have about 400 photos of icebergs, penguins, seals and us in kayaks to share. Of course Peru is as close to Ushuaia, at the bottom of South America, as Cairns is to Perth, and I suspect Cairns is easier to get to. We got in to Lima to join the rest of our tour group at midnight and left at 0800 next morning to fly to Puno, where we got our first taste of being at altitude. Puno is at 3830m and after carrying my bag (11kgs) up one flight of stairs I was short of breath and had palpitations. Not to be sidetracked by this we went off to explore. Our tour gave us 4 days to acclimatise to the altitude and during that time we explored Puno and Lake Titicaca, the largest lake in the world above 2000m and various Islands on this lake before

going to Cuzco to start the Inca Trail. Cuzco is a delightful old Inca town but the only level ground is the town square. We found this to be a great place for that great Aussie tradition of having a beer while watching the world go by.

“Having had no experience with altitude we thought we could get away with a few pills at the right time. So off we set in blissful ignorance.”

I was continuing to struggle with the altitude. I had all the symptoms in the pamphlet – headache, short of breath, insomnia and apathy – and was starting to doubt that I would be able to do the trail. Peter was doing much better and



Arrienne & Peter, pictured as the first two on the left, with their trekking group at Machu Picchu



The ancient Inca ruins of Machu Picchu



Arrienne having a well earned break amongst the Inca ruins

you any idea of what to expect. The scenery is spectacular. You do not have to climb very high to be dwarfed by the mountains around you and to be awed by the ability of the Peruvians to live and be part of this very changeable and challenging environment.

“...to see Machu Picchu, as a whole, was worth every step and drop of sweat... to see and marvel at what the Incas had created here”

foolishly offered to carry my gear as well as his own. We finally began our course of altitude pills and drank cocoa tea at every opportunity. Off we went.

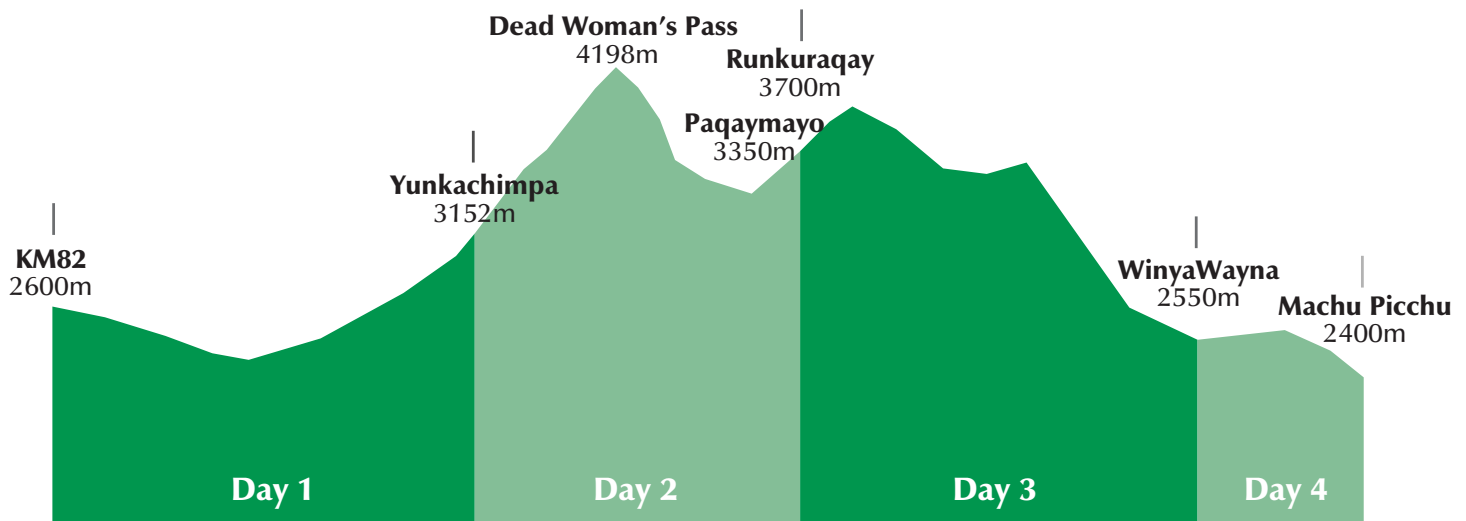
We left early in the morning by bus for KM 82. The trip description says that the trail is physically challenging but worthwhile. This actually does not give

On the first day we walked for around 5 hours to Yunkachimpa at approx 3400mts. Up until 4200m you often see local families on their way up and down to trade or barter; often they have donkeys or horses and many times I wondered how much it would cost for just a “little” ride. We were only carrying our day packs, or at least Peter was, with porters carrying our

tents, food etc and setting up lunch stops or camp before we got there.

The second day was going to be our hardest. We needed to climb to Dead Woman’s Pass at 4198mts, down approx 900m to Paqaymayo and then back up to 3400m to spend the night. By this time Peter was starting to regret his offer to carry everything and although he was still carrying more I was able to increase my load. My holiday was over. There were 14 people in our group and invariably there were people who needed to be first up the hill and would sprint off. We were unlikely to return and had decided to see everything and enjoy the experience. Also it was quite steep and with the altitude it was often a case of walk a bit then rest and start again.

The third day had a short climb, (400mts) followed by 2000 steps down. This sounds easy but the steps can be very steep and irregular and as we had had some rain had become quite slippery. The view was limited as now we had some rain and were walking above the cloud ➤





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Bookings Essential

continued from page 25

level. It was still magnificent and we were constantly amazed at the range of flora and wildlife around us. The final night was spent at WinyaWayna (forever young). The Inca ruins here are described as a grandiose terraced hillside site. As we looked down the hill at the terraces on this very steep hill I experienced vertigo for the first time. We could only wonder at the skill and need for these people to live in an environment such as this.



Arrienne with one of the local Peruvian porters

On the 4th day we got up at 0400 to walk to the Sun Gate and then on to Machu Picchu. Of course we had rain again so there was no view. After about 3 hours we were finally there. Although it took a while for the clouds to lift and to see Machu Picchu as a whole it was worth every step and drop of sweat to see and marvel at what the Incas had created here. I do not think that anything prepares you for the scale of these ruins (many of the buildings are still intact bar the roofs) or for the grandeur of the setting. We spent several hours walking around and through the site before taking the train back to Cuzco. A couple of days tearing around museums in Lima followed by a couple of days marvelling at the Iguazu Falls rounded off a wonderful experience.

The Inca Trail had certainly lived up to its description as physically challenging but rewarding. It would not be so demanding without the altitude but certainly there are no regrets for what was a quick and not well thought out decision to go for it. I am sure though that we will still make impulsive decisions in the future to try and do all that we can while we can. Of course, if anyone wants to see hundreds of photos of the Franklin River, Peru and Inca ruins or the Iguazu falls, not to mention Antarctica, I'm sure we can find time. ●

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Details available from either:

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- or by contacting Peregrine Travel Centre on 8223 5905 (ask for the Friends of the Heysen Trail Kokoda Adventure)



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A three part series about a journey to Finland

I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas

By Nic & Ben Wait

I thought it snowed in winter in the northern hemisphere at Christmas...

20th Dec 2006

Our first BRRRRRR Update

Hi all, well what can we say but this is FABULOUS!! Bloody cold but fabulous. The song Winter Wonderland will forever have different meaning to us from now on.

Now in Rovaniemi (Finland), exploring the town today and off to see the jolly old man tomorrow to try and convince him Ben really has been a good boy this year.

Journey went well... only a couple of hiccups like seeing our luggage at Stockholm airport so thinking yeah it made it... but then not getting it at Helsinki... still we were back at the airport the next morning to fly to Ivalo so it really just meant we didn't have to lug it around that night. Thank god we had our thermals, beanies, gloves and scarves in our hand luggage.

Unfortunately we did not have our duty free alcohol purchased in Melbourne airport because they didn't seal the bag, so we couldn't take it through customs in Stockholm. They suggested checking it through luggage... yeah right, we could see it making it through there without smashing... NOT. My suggestion was to find someone to buy it... so we sold it to one of the customer service people at the Finnair counter... legal? Who knows, but although we didn't have our grog we at least had the money back and she got a bargain by their standards... she had no idea what she was buying so we hope she likes Southern Comfort and Amarula... now we pine for it. Still there have been very yummy new drinks found... Reindeer Piss, Kick of Reindeer, Tear of Reindeer, oh and that night of too many Gold Strikes... it was like a thick syrupy cinnamon schnapps with bits of gold floating in it... Ben now figures his shit is worth it's weight in gold.

Probably the funniest thing so far was yesterday... I had brought plastic pants with me to wear over my other pants... keep the wind out and stop them getting wet from the snow. Wore them for the first time yesterday and they froze (don't know what was wrong with them it was only -25C), cracked and ended up with the arse hanging out of them... they are now in the bin!

Awesome scenery although not as cold and snowy as it would normally be this time of year. For instance Rovaniemi would normally have at least 0.5 metre in snow and there is really only ground covered. This also unfortunately meant that the snow igloos, snow restaurant, ice gallery were not built yet. Must say that the log cabin with open fire was more appealing after a day trip in temperatures below -20C than a snow igloo anyway. Saw northern lights the night we were in the glass igloo so that timing was fab. Have snow mobilised (Ben tried to lose me off the back accelerating over bumps but lucky I stayed on), ice fished (Ben 1, Nic 0), husky sledged (god their farts stink and they aren't fed PAL... and that reminds me of the other really funny thing... watching a dog squat for a crap and keep running at the same time... luckily he kept his angle cause he had the runs and I was in the sledge!).

There is so much more like the light effects with no sun rise, the diamond-like glisten of the snow in the light, walking here with the first snow we have seen fall. The photos will be reminders of the experience and will draw us back again one day we are sure.

Anyway hope you are all well and sweltering as we freeze.

Could someone from my side please pass this on to mum and dad, Samsinski and Joylene please pass onto work buddies and give the girls a BIG hug.

Bye for a few more days... and to those we are getting closer to staying with we look forward to seeing you soon.



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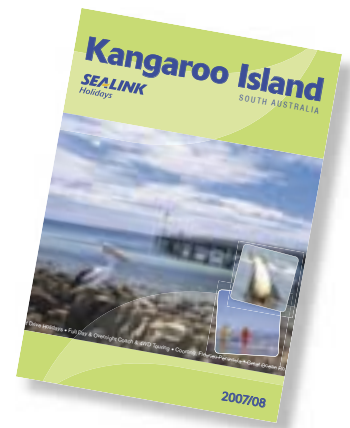
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