

# THE TRAILWALKER

ISSUE No. 20

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

DECEMBER 1989

Registered by Australia Post  
Publication No. SBH 1454

"Trailwalker"  
Friends of the Heyesen Trail,  
304 Henley Beach Road  
Underdale SA 5032

POSTAGE  
PAID  
BLACKWOOD  
S. AUST  
5051

*Season's  
Greetings*



*Merry  
Christmas*

# EVERYONE'S WELCOME!



## MEMBERSHIP ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A warm welcome is extended by the President and members of the Friends' Council to the following new members who have joined our ranks since October.

Dianne Thiele (family)  
Leah Riston  
Graham Roberts  
Peter Neufing (family)  
Duncan McDougall  
Eva Nowosad  
John and Helen Luxton (family)  
Vivienne Cocks  
Stephanie Whyte  
Kerri Allen  
Judith Avery  
Elizabeth Tann  
I.D. Remnant  
Carolyn Juett (family)  
Robert DeLaine (family)

Jack Benlow  
Barbara Mills  
John Phillips  
G.W. & W. Page (family)  
Marjory Murray  
Graham Baker  
Jenny Prider  
P. Wilson  
Ruth March  
Joseph Teusner  
Sandra D. George  
Alex Baird  
Allan Lawson  
Ian Miller  
Patti Turney

All members are automatically placed on the mailing list to receive the "Trailwalker" on alternate months in addition to notices relating to the Friends' activities as they occur.

## "THE TRAILWALKER"

IS PUBLISHED BY "THE FRIENDS OF THE HEYSEN TRAIL  
AND OTHER WALKING TRAILS INC."

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT  
THROUGH THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN RECREATION INSTITUTE



EDITOR : DOUG PAICE

# The Trail Walker

## DEVELOPMENTAL NEWS

As the year draws to an end it is fitting to look back on some of our achievements in 1989.

Volunteers have contributed in excess of 2,500 hours' work on the walking trails in South Australia. This has been due to the efforts of 50 members ably assisted by more than 25 helpers from schools, scout groups and the like.

This does not include the many hours spent travelling to and from the work site, sometimes over 200 kms away. Organisation of a large workforce such as this is no mean feat and reflects also on the co-operation of participating members. With our growing membership during the year and more members willing to assist in working on the trails, involving them has become harder. It is hoped that those members who have not assisted will bear with us. As the organisation becomes more streamlined and changes take place, their chance will come next year.

The main thrust of our work has been on completing the Heysen Trail north of Peters Hill, with 130 kms being marked during the winter months. The difficulties that S.A.R.I. has encountered in negotiating with landowners have not been completely overcome. However, it is hoped that the Trail will be completed to Crystal Brook by the end of the financial year. Considerable effort has been put in on maintenance of the Heysen Trail south of Peters Hill and a start has been made in re-marking the network trails. Changes in the route of the Heysen Trail, for many reasons, have not yet been recorded on the maps but I have endeavoured to mention all changes in this column. As the trails are now closed it is not appropriate to itemise these. However, a full list of changes to all maps will appear in the "Trailwalker" prior to the opening of the 1990 walking season.

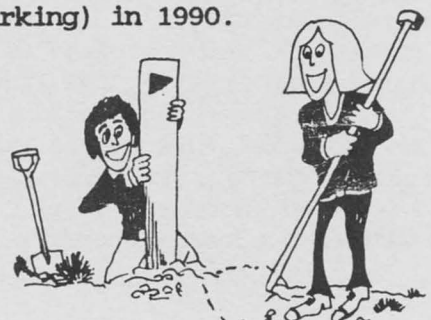
Difficulties have been experienced in maintaining material supplies from the workshop at South Terrace due to the excessive workload for Andrew and Martin. To overcome these problems Council, at its last meeting, accepted in principle an offer from S.A.R.I. to lease the South Terrace workshop and employ a person to operate it. Funding from S.A.R.I. will cover the costs of operating the workshop. While finer details are still being worked out it is anticipated that the Friends will be employing a person from the beginning of 1990. This person will be required to operate the workshop, maintain supplies of materials, manufacture signs, keep check of tools, etc. An advertisement will be placed in the press in the near future. Anyone interested should watch for this advertisement. Further information (e.g. dates of ad.) can be obtained by contacting me (Tel. 382-2194, evenings only).

I would like to express my gratitude to Terry, Martin and Andrew for their co-operation and understanding of the limitations that working with volunteers presents. Without these three people and their expertise our role would be non-existent.

In closing I would like to thank the members of the Maintenance Committee (Thelma Anderson, Fred Brooks, Peter Buttery and Frank Hall) and all those who have assisted in the many ways during 1989.

A Merry Christmas and good walking (and trail marking) in 1990.

Colin Malcolm,  
Maintenance Co-ordinator







# The Trail Walker

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

re Sale of Road Reserves - from Issue No. 19 of "The Trailwalker"  
published October 1989

I read with interest the above article in your newsletter, and would like to give an assurance to the Friends that their concerns are being addressed. In that regard I offer the following comments:-

The planning processes of Local Government extend to the rationalisation of the road network within its area, and includes the closure and disposal of unused or disused roads or portions of roads and the closing of minor pieces of roads rendered superfluous by road deviations and realignments and other urban activities. The formal processing of the closures is effected by a Council under the Roads (Opening and Closing) Act, and is subject to final approval by the Minister of Lands following an Order of the Council. Every proposal has to withstand any representations made against it by any person or authority. Each representation is considered on its merits.

The criteria used by this Department to determine whether or not to confirm an Order of a Council, keeping in mind that a Council may itself uphold an objection and not make an Order, are in terms of the following:

- (1) the planning principles, prescriptions and criteria applicable to the area,
- (2) whether the road subject to closure is reasonably required as a road for public use or access,
- (3) alternative uses of the road subject to closure that would benefit the public or a section of the public, and
- (4) any other matter that is considered relevant.

In conjunction with these, the Surveyor-General will seek such expert advice on any aspect of the Order as is considered necessary to enable an informed recommendation to be made to the Minister as to whether the Order should be confirmed or refused.

These criteria are to be included in a new Act presently under consideration to replace the current Roads (Opening and Closing) Act. Criteria (3) recognises the concerns of the Friends and other similar interest groups.

One body to whom the Surveyor-general would refer is the Committee Reviewing the Recreational Use of Road Reserves. Your representative on this Committee is Rhonda Mora. Their terms of reference include the documenting and mapping of undeveloped road reserves which have recreation and/or conservation potential, and liaison with Local Government and other authorities to achieve future preservation and/or protection.

The Committee's approach to the situation is one which is recommended to your organisation since it meets the problem at the initiating stage. Wholesale objections to every road closing proposed at the advertising stage is not recommended, simply because not all closures involve recreation/conservation issues.

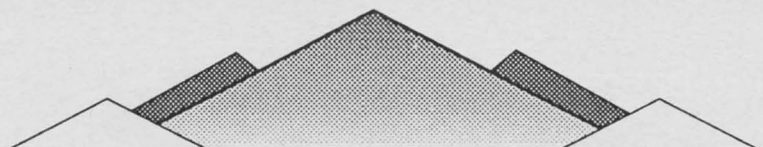
Yours faithfully,

(Signed) T. Pomeroy,

Supervising Drafting Officer, Services Branch, Department of Lands

The Friends' process of monitoring the proposed closure and sale of road reserves ensures that a comprehensive investigation (including personal inspection where it is deemed necessary) of each proposal is made to avoid "wholesale objection" to every road closing proposed. Ed.





## The Trail Walker

### RAMBLERS ATTACK THE FORBIDDEN ROUTES

The following item is re-printed from an overseas publication "The Guardian", dated September 18, 1989.

Dubbin-booted through the plashy fen, the plumping nettles, the barbed wire, the ploughed and the bull-infested field, passed the angry ramblers. All over the country walkers were revolting. In the Wyre Forest by Mr. Kincaid's silage pit they were downright livid.

The directions for the day of action read: "Bring sensible shoes, waterproofs, and a packed lunch." It was the Ramblers' Association and the Open Spaces Society's "forbidden Britain" day.

On Barlands Common in West Glamorgan the ramblers were picking their way across a collapsed footbridge. In Suffolk their chairman, Chris Hall, was leading a march along invisible paths, vanished from the county's "definitive maps".

Along Cotton Famine Road, near Manchester, the marchers were flouting "private" signs and blocked stiles. According to their survey on any nice Sunday walk along a public right of way, you now have a 71 per cent chance of meeting an obstruction. In Hereford and Worcester, Edgar Powell flourished his wirecutters and cried: "The way is open!" The first barbed wired-up stile had fallen. The way for his 120 green-anoraked followers led through miles of the heavy damson-jammy clay over the rolling hill, by several rotting stiles which the two black Labradors from Stourpot didn't like at all, through a stream which they loved, and head-on into a concrete wall, all under police protection from a constable in green wellies.

Discussions, usually of the most heated kind, have been ongoing ever since Gerard Kincaid bought Hawkley Farm, at Pensax, about five years ago. The council says he inherited part of the problem, a barn sitting on the right of way. The walkers say he has since added several more, including the silage pit and another barn. Hereford and Worcester county council has offered to change the route of the right of way.

"A scandal", the Ramblers' Association says. "Commonsense", said a council spokesman with a deep sigh, "the gentleman in question isn't about to knock down his barn." The gentleman in question is attracting a considerable local mythology. There are tales of strong words and stout sticks. Three of his neighbours were on the walk yesterday. Henk Buzink, a road haulier, and Alistair Keron, a motorway designer - "We are not good environment-friendly countrymen," conceded Mr. Buzink sadly - have found Mr. Kincaid affable enough down at the Rock Cross Inn.

Les Harris, aged 73, and bouncing along like a schoolboy, who walks 12 miles on the days he doesn't cycle 30, had rather different encounters. "I was just walking along by the path and he came tearing over like a mad bull the way he do, and the third time it happened, I said that's the last time. I shan't come this way no more." The cameras may have been disappointed, but Mr. Harris was entirely relieved that the new redbrick house appeared deserted yesterday, curtains drawn across the windows, tractor parked across the door. The angry ramblers went away up the lane, leaving a letter neatly sealed in a plastic bag hanging on the gatepost.

With enormous courtesy it addressed the angry farmer in these terms: "Try behaving a little more like a human being called Kincaid and a little less like a gorilla called King Kong."

## The Trail Walker

Dear Thelma,

Firstly apologies for not writing sooner. I'll fill you in on two recent school activities which may be of interest to you and your members.

Firstly, the opening of Mayo's Hut. The school first heard of this function through the Hawker Catering Committee which had been asked to provide lunch for the opening. However, as they were already committed to another function, the school decided to take on the task. It could not have come at a better time.

A year 11 student at Hawker, Vicky Duffield was in danger of having to forego her exchange visit to Germany because of financial difficulty. With no local service organisation to provide support the Mayo's Hut opening suddenly offered the ideal fund raising opportunity.

Vicky bent herself to the task with great enthusiasm. She did most of the organisation herself, ably assisted by her family and fellow students. The result was a generous barbecue of meats and salads for 150 people which, judging by the crowd's reaction, was well appreciated.

It was a great day in lovely surroundings and thanks should go to the Department of Recreation and Sport for funding the occasion. Thanks must also go to the many Friends of the Heysen Trail, who by their presence on the day have unwittingly ensured Vicky's exchange to Germany.

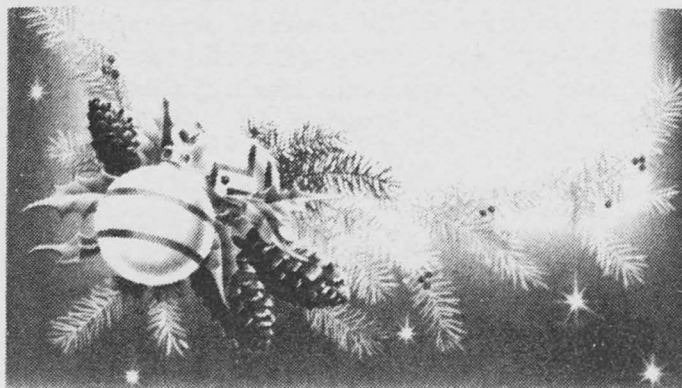
It may also interest you to know about the trail marking Hawker Area School students have been involved in, in conjunction with the National Parks and Wildlife Service. Through the initiative of Geoff Kapusta, a Ranger at Oraparinna, a group of six Year 11 and 12 students helped construct a defined car parking area five kilometres south of the Oraparinna National Park office. From here a trail was marked using star-droppers to the top of Mt. Sutherland. The hill itself is fairly unremarkable but the views it offers are breathtaking. A panoramic view takes in the whole north-eastern side of the Pound, a clear view of Lake Torrens, the entire length of the Aroona Valley, Mount Chambers in the distance as well as fine views of the Bunkers and Chase Ranges.

It is hoped that this walk will eventually join the Heysen Trail as an interesting diversion. We certainly had a great time working on it and look forward to being involved in more volunteer projects with the National Parks.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) Richard Mintern, Hawker Area School

(Thank you Richard. I'm sure that Vicky will acquit herself as a fine ambassador for Hawker during her well-deserved exchange visit. The trail to the summit of Mt. Sutherland with the views you describe will add a new dimension to our future visits to the Flinders. Perhaps the trail-marking expertise of the students can be channelled in the direction of the unmarked section of Heysen Trail between Quorn and Hawker? T.A.)





## The Trail Walker

Dear Madam,

We are writing a thank you letter on behalf of the Year 3-7 class of the Ashbourne Primary School. We have recently walked from Mt. Compass to Chookarloo, in the Kuitpo Forest via the Heyesen Trail. The class would like to thank you for marking the trail and putting in stiles along the fences.

One of the problems we encountered was a lack of sign posts in the Kuitpo vicinity. Due to this vandalism, or error, we got lost. Apart from that mishap we had a great time.

As the Heyesen Trail is close to the Mt. Compass Dairy Vale factory the first thing we did was have a look through it which is a privilege because they do not usually let people go through the factory. The rest of the day was spent walking to get to our campsite which was on the base of the Finnis River.

That night Leigh Newton gave us some entertainment with singing, stories and magic tricks.

The next day we walked on to Mt. Magnificent. After climbing it we walked to Kyeema Conservation Park. We set up our tents and at about half past five Dave Clark came and sang bush songs.

The next day we set off for Chookarloo. When we got close to Chookarloo we got lost, saw nine kangaroos and eventually found our way there.

We ended up walking forty-five to fifty kilometres which we all thought was worthwhile.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) Alastair Johnston  
Brett Wilson

) for the Year 3-7 class  
) Ashbourne Primary School

(Thank you Alastair and Brett for the message about the marking in the Kuitpo area. We do have a problem with vandalism there but we can now check it and replace any missing markers. I hope you will have the opportunity to walk and enjoy other sections of the Heyesen Trail. A.O.)





# The Trail Walker

## WALKING PROGRAMME

Two walks have been held since the last edition of the "Trailwalker" - one at Cudlee Creek on Sunday, 22 October, 1989. Due to the topography of this area, only one option was available to walkers. As Norm Taylor was still out of action due to suffering a fractured ankle several weeks ago, Anne and Colin Malcolm hosted this very popular walk on a perfect Spring day through the rugged terrain of the Cudlee Creek section of Mt. Crawford forest. (Norm kindly provided back-up transport for anyone who may have required it.) Incidentally, for the benefit of many enquirers, Norm is now well on the road to recovery and the walking trails too!)

Some of the interest in this walk was prompted by the fact that it was held on the final day of Seniors Week, so drew attendance from a wider section of the community. The walk was well-researched by the leaders and covered a recently marked detour through a delightful section of the forest, returning by an alternative route to the forest boundary, then along Holland Creek Road to Cudlee Creek township. From all reports it was an extremely pleasant day and on behalf of all those fortunate to take part, thanks are extended to Anne and Colin.

The final walk for the 1989 season was held at Pewsey Vale by special request from a number of people who enjoyed this particular route last year. Hosted by Bill Gordon, Fred Brooks and members of the Common Venturers Bushwalking Club, walkers assembled at the Bethany Reserve. Some of the vehicles were left there and the remainder transported all the walkers to the start at Pewsey Vale. The Heysen Trail in this area was surveyed and marked by Friends soon after the inception of the organisation in 1986, so apart from its outstanding scenic appeal, it is of particular significance to us. After passing through sections of pine forest and native vegetation interspersed with rocky outcrops, the Trail enters the Kaiser Stuhl Conservation Park where wildflowers and orchids were in full glorious bloom - bearded orchid, glossodia major, spider, onion orchid, scaevola (fan flower), hibbertia, native primrose, to name just a few.

The descent to Bethany, with sweeping panoramic vistas of the Barossa Valley and distant ranges, provided a fitting climax to the Friends 1989 walking programme. Once again, a special thank you to the hosts for a well-planned walk.



Thanks are again extended to members and walking clubs who assisted with the Friends' programme throughout the year. The popularity of this activity is abundantly clear, fully justifying its continuation in 1990. Thank you to all walkers who completed and returned the questionnaire enclosed with the last edition of the "Trailwalker". The information will be collated and assessed by the Walking Committee and members will be advised of future developments in regard to the 1990 programme in the New Year.



# The Trail Walker

## GENERAL JOTTINGS

LEISURE DAY IN THE PARK - Administrative Officer, Thelma Anderson, and Rhonda Mora, both Council members, set up and attended a promotional display on behalf of both the Friends and the South Australian Recreation Institute on Sunday, 22 October, 1989 at Bonython Park as part of Life. Be in it. Leisure Day in the Park annual activity. A large number of visitors showed enthusiastic interest in the display of Heysen Trail maps and photographs and collected a free issue of numerous leaflets on Jubilee Walks and the Friends' organisation.

NETWORK TRAILS - In the absence of Neville Southgate, Thelma Anderson has acted as Co-ordinator for the re-marking of a series of Network Trails for the Recreation Trails Division. Several enthusiastic groups of volunteers have been busily engaged in re-painting faded marker posts, removing yellow triangles from trees and placing new yellow triangles and yellow network trail logos on fence posts to denote the route of various former National Fitness Council trails which have been incorporated in these trails. One of the interesting aspects of this work is the discovery that there is walking beyond the Heysen Trail. Some of the areas through which the trails pass contain pockets of outstanding native vegetation - orchids and wildflowers in abundance - as well as magnificent panoramic views. The trails also provide a link with sections of the Heysen Trail. Special thanks are due to Joyce Heinjus and her team of Duke of Edinburgh Award students; Peter, Maureen, Lisa and Paula Buckland; Fred Brooks and his helpers; and Phil. Hamilton. Work is still proceeding but an interesting package is expected to be available for the 1990 Walking Season.

NEVILLE SOUTHGATE - One of the Friends' Vice-Presidents, Neville Southgate, has been absent since September on an exciting mission to Kashmir. Neville is due to return early this month so we shall look forward to hearing of his adventures in the next issue. Welcome home, Neville!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT - Thank you to the respondents of the request for material for the "Trailwalker". However, there is still a need for more items of interest for our readers so we shall look forward to a few more Friends being inspired during the holiday period to record their experiences for the next or subsequent issues.

RAFFLE - A "Bed and Breakfast" raffle, to be drawn at the Friends' Annual General Meeting on Friday, 23 February, 1990 (7.30 p.m. at the Girl Guides Association Upstairs Hall) has some interesting prizes to be won. The hosts of two Bed and Breakfast overnights have kindly donated B. & B. for two people for one night (Monday to Friday), both situated in interesting walking areas, and valued at \$70-\$85 each.

"Miners' Cottage", Cockatoo Valley, close to Para Wirra Conservation Park and situated on a network trail.

"Brookfield", Tooperang, close to both the Heysen Trail and Cox Scrub Conservation Park.

A third prize, one of the volumes of "Adelaide and Country Walks" by James D. Crinion, has been donated by the author.

Tickets are 50 cents each.

SPELLING CORRECTION - An apology is made for the incorrect spelling of the word "sought" in the item "River Marne Walk" on the centre page of the October issue.

9



# The Trail Walker

## SOCIAL MEETING

A well-attended Social Meeting was held on Friday, 27 October, 1989 at the Girl Guide Association Hall at South Terrace. The Guest Speaker, Dr. David Corbett, addressed a gathering of more than 100 people on the subject "A walk through time: Geology and Natural History along the Heysen Trail". The talk was illustrated with slides demonstrating the fascination of rock formations which many of us have observed but few have understood or fully appreciated. We walked with Dr. Corbett from Parachilna in the Flinders Ranges through to Cape Jervis on the tip of Fleurieu Peninsula as he explained various interesting facets of Natural History and Geology along the Heysen Trail.

The Friends' Vice-President, Warren Bonython chaired the meeting. After welcoming members he gave a brief outline of the maintenance activities, referring to the release of Map No. 10 covering the section of Heysen Trail between Peters Hill and Stony Gap (closed between 15 November and 30 April). Reference was also made to the Walking Programme and the Annual General Meeting which will be held at the Girl Guides Association Hall, 278 South Terrace, Adelaide at 7.30 p.m. on Friday, 23 February, 1990.

The Chairman then introduced Terry Lavender, State Manager of the Recreation Trails Division. Terry referred to several items of interest to walkers including plans for closing the remaining gap in the Heysen Trail between Hawker and Quorn and the opening of the Trail between Stony Gap and Crystal Brook.

Following the presentation to Dr. Corbett of a small gift in acknowledgement of his interesting address, he was invited to draw the raffle during supper. Prizewinners were Mrs. R. Szabo - orange ticket No. 11 (\$25 voucher from the Scout Outdoor Centre); Bev. Trueman - orange ticket No. 1 (a pair of KT Walkers bushwalking boots from H.B. Crofton of City Rubber Stores); and Pat Bruun - yellow ticket No. 20 (Volume 3 of Adelaide and Country Walks by James D. Crinion). Congratulations to the prizewinners and thank you to the three donors of the prizes.

Special thanks are also extended to Anne and Colin Malcolm, Gail and Hugh Rees, Betty Martin, Doug. Paice for their valuable assistance in setting up displays, selling raffle tickets and serving supper and to Betty Wise (selling shirts, maps and badges).





## The Trail Walker

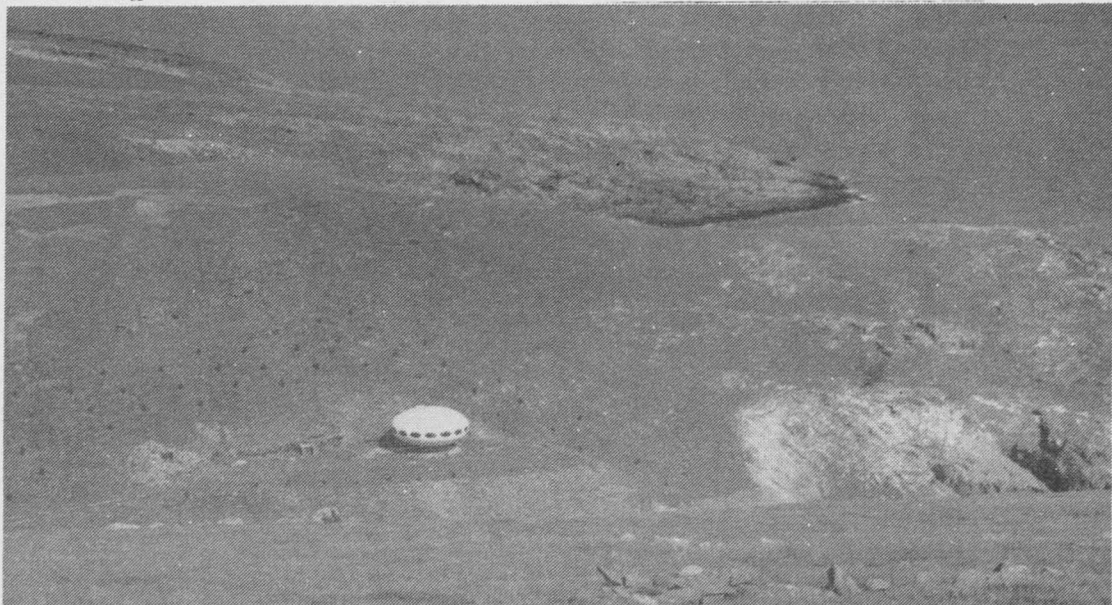
### THE FINAL SECTION - By Jean Cook

For us, a sub-group of the Retired Teachers' Walking Group, two of whom are over 70 years old (there is no column for them on the monitoring records!), the Heysen Trail from Newland Hill, near Victor Harbour to Cape Jervis was the Final Section to complete the whole of the marked Heysen Trail.

The September scenery of this tract of the Fleurieu Peninsula was magnificent. The cliff-top walking revealed wide-ranged spectacular seascapes up and down a coast that is indented with small coves and inlets, and commanded views over the Southern Ocean and the Pages Islands and across the Backstairs Passage to Cape Willoughby and St. Albans lighthouses on Kangaroo Island. Vast stretches of sheer cliffs hundreds of feet high fall away to rocky shores against which the fringe of the sea crashes and explodes into clouds of white waters that collapse to form lacy patterns over the rocks they have just thrashed. The beautifully unpolluted depths reflect jewel shades of blue and green - emerald, sapphire, amethyst, turquoise - which deepen to violet and purple towards the horizon. When the trail descended to the beach we walked along stretches of golden sand with the heavy surf and thundering breakers beside us. Some shores are edged with banks of stones, smooth from aeons of battering, which rumble as the powerful undertow drags back over them.

When the trail looped inland we were dazzled by the spring wildflowers and bushes with blooms of white, red and an infinite variety of yellows. Many creeks were adorned with Aaron lilies and recent rains had supplied an abundant flow over cascades and waterfalls. Gloves were donned through patches of dense bush to lessen the impact of thorns and prickles. Before it became too claustrophobic we emerged into more open park-like country, rolling uplands and lush farmland. We were intrigued by a stylish section of the route, walking east towards Callawonga Creek, where we climbed an uncalculated number of stiles in and out of the same paddock. There is doubtless some perfectly simple scientific or religious explanation for this.

Other highlights of our Final Section were the sighting of two whales from Tunkalilla cliffs; dolphins, osprey, sea eagles, golden whistlers, blue wrens; mobs of enormous kangaroos; and even a "flying saucer" above Blowhole Beach. We took seven days (not consecutive) for this Final Section and three years to complete the entirety of the marked Heysen Trail; BUT - good news for daypackers - without overnight camping. It has meant walking some parts lineally and in others parking cars at either end of the section which sometimes necessitated many hours of driving.



Pictured is the "Flying Saucer" near Blowhole Beach



## The Trail Walker

There were several reasons why the Final Section was left till last. It was only recently fully marked; the new round droppers are a big improvement on the sharp triangular ones but, dear friends, the red identifying stickers are already peeling off! Access is difficult even with a four-wheel drive which we did not have and quite a few extra kilometres had to be walked to park cars safely. Beware Cobbler Hill! The trail does not lead to the carpark as shown on the map but there is easy access east of the carpark 400 metres along the "Walking Trail". The hills above Tunkalilla Beach are further from the sea than they look. Allow plenty of time to link with the trail - we did not allow sufficient and finished in the dark. Weather conditions are tricky and for many months of the year the trail is closed. Its reputation as "extremely rugged", "uncompromisingly hard", "long unrelenting climbs", "steep and broken underfoot", "dense thicket", "loose rocks", "rapid unpredictable weather changes" is quite accurate, but what an exciting, dramatic and grand climax it was!

We are immensely grateful to all involved in the planning, development and maintenance of the many kilometres of the Heysen Trail. We feel that it is not too extravagant to claim that this Final Section is one of the finest coastal walks in the world.

The fascinating and descriptive account of the "Whale Watch" section of South Australia's Heysen Trail and the final summarising sentence is indeed high recommendation from one of our members who has travelled, and walked, extensively throughout the world.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

FRIDAY, 23 FEBRUARY, 1990, AT 7.30 P.M.

at

GIRL GUIDES ASSOCIATION UPSTAIRS HALL, 278 SOUTH TERRACE, ADELAIDE

An indication of willingness to assist on various committees (e.g. Trails Committee) will be sought from members following the election of officers to the Council. A Guest Speaker has been invited to address the meeting on a topic of special interest to all members of the organisation. Following confirmation, details of the topic and the speaker will be announced at a later date. At supper-time the guest speaker will be invited to draw the names of the prizewinners of the current raffle which is being conducted. See "General Jottings" elsewhere in this issue for details of the prizes.

An entertaining evening for all is guaranteed.

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED. EVERYONE WELCOME!

The President and members of Council take this opportunity to thank all Friends for the valuable support given to the organisation throughout 1989 and look forward to your continued involvement in 1990. Compliments of the season are extended to all our readers.

12 PEACE  
\* On Earth

Festival  
of Lights

Rejoice

Happy Holidays



# The Trail Walker

## THE MARATHON

On telling Thelma Anderson of the adventures of five members of the West Hackham Walking Group, Thelma feels others may be interested.

Eric Fazackerley, who is also a member of the South Australian Road Runners Club, suggested (I feel with tongue in cheek) that some of us may like to enter in the Festival City Marathon. Four of us said we would, I feel to Eric's amazement, as a full Marathon is 42.2 km. The agreement was that we'd do it on the Sunday before the main event and act as marshalls on the official day, August 13th.

I was particularly anxious to do the full Marathon as the event was to raise funds for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. As I have nursed children with this complaint, I am very familiar with the problems of these people.

We left home in the dark on our big day. We had a few hiccups getting to the starting point at the City Bridge over the Torrens.

After the taking of photos, we were on our way at 7.00 a.m. In our group there were Eric Fazackerley in charge, his wife May, Moira Gilbert, Joan Kavenagh and myself - Eric to run it, we others to walk it. The baby of our group is 55 years and two seniors nearly 65 years.

The first 20 km was a breeze. We had our first break at 10.00 a.m. for morning tea. We then went on to meet Eric at War Memorial Drive, which was the 24 km mark. By this time, Eric had run the full Marathon.

We had lunch and I did some first aid - Moira and I had developed blisters on our feet. We are bushwalkers, but found the pavements hard on our feet. Fortunately, I always carry plenty of first aid bits and pieces.

By the time we had done another 10 km we were feeling a bit tired. so popped into the Hackney Hotel for a brandy and soda or a lemon squash, whatever our taste buds fancied.

Oh boy, those last 8 or 9 km! Moira and I hit a speed and kept to it, which really necessitated putting one foot in front of the other. May and Joan ran the last few yards. Moira and I staggered them. Eric, by this time, had run the full Marathon and walked more than half-way with us. Don't some people show off!

By the time we had made it to the finish line it had taken us 10 hours. On the day of the official Marathon the winner did it in 2 hours, 23 minutes.

But at least we fared better than the first person who ran the Marathon in 490 B.C. History tells he ran from Marathon to Athens in Greece with the news that the Athenians had beaten the Persians in battle. He completed his run, gave his message and dropped dead from exhaustion. With that in mind, we considered ourselves lucky.

Even though it took us 10 hours, we were very proud of ourselves and had also raised over \$500 for people less fortunate than ourselves!

Laurel Green



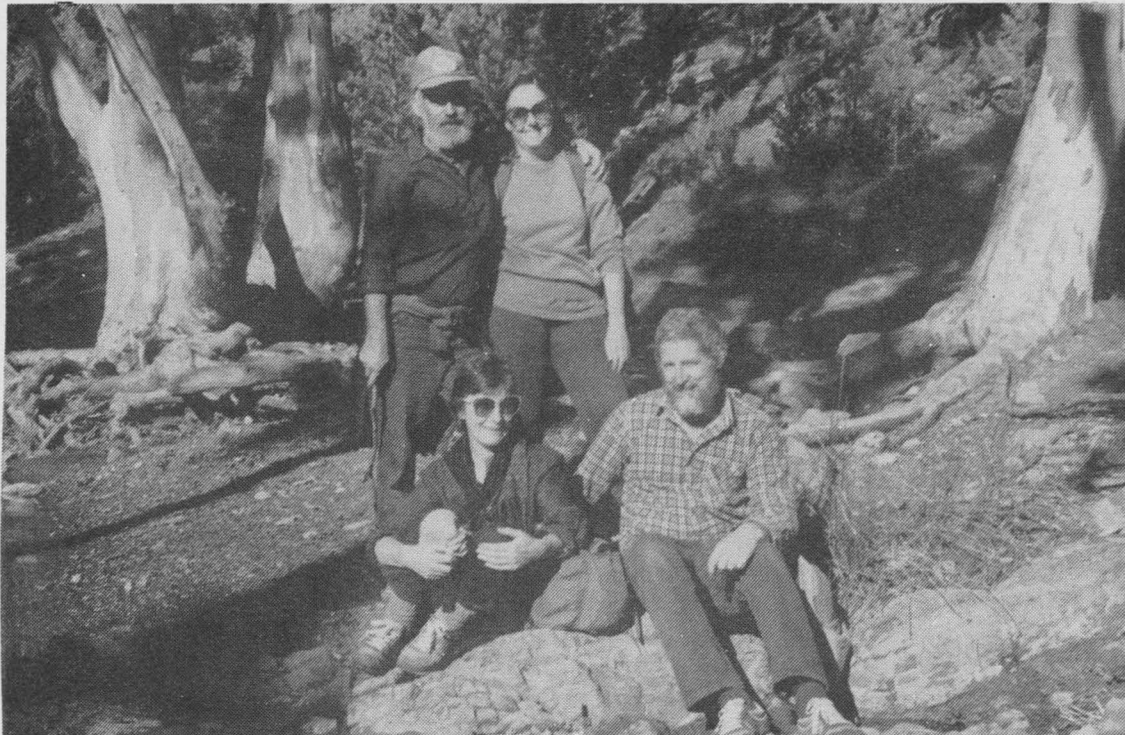


# The Trail Walker

## DAY WALKS ON THE HEYSEN TRAIL.....CRYSTAL BROOK TO PARACHILNA GORGE

AS WALKED BY BOB & SUE VERRALL.....JIM & JACKIE PEARCE

Using Heyesen Trail Maps, 6B, 6A, 7, 5 & 4



As we live near Adelaide we went away for three day trips each time. Taking advantage of our rostered days off, we stayed in caravan parks which were close to our planned walks. The trips to our destination were made on Friday nights after work. we normally walked on Saturdays and Sundays; Mondays were usually taken up with a leisurely drive home, with a bit of sightseeing and perhaps a short walk somewhere along the way.

Two conventional, two-wheel drive cars were used on all walks, leaving one at each end to avoid walking back over the same ground. The HEYSEN TRAIL maps describe the Trail under the section "Trail Notes" from north to south. We did not walk in this direction for many of the walks for convenience sake and sometimes for ease of walking.

On our first trip we stayed at Crystal Brook Caravan Park, a small lawned park with clean amenities and powered sites. Two fairly easy walks were made on this trip, using Map 6B. Our map only had the Trail marked from Hughes Gap to the north, so the "Crystal Brook Trails Map" (which we picked up locally), was used for the rest of the Trail into the town. This guide contained some quite interesting information, particularly around the Bowman Park area. On day one we walked from Hughes Gap to Crystal Brook Railway Station, the start of the Trail at this point of time. This was a walk of approximately 12km. On day two we walked from the southern boundary of the Beetaloo Reservoir. This point was at a locked gate at the end of a dirt road approximately 2km due west of the reservoir wall. From here we followed dirt roads back to Hughes Gap. Good views were to be seen over the Gulf at times. A distance of approximately 15km was covered.



## The Trail Walker

On our next trip we stayed at Laura Caravan Park, a small park in the middle of the town with a few powered sites and average facilities, although a new amenities block was being built while we were there. There is a nice camping ground in the Wirrabara Forest which has a toilet block, without power or showers. Camping is allowed in tents only. No caravans or camper trailers are allowed. This spot is the closest and most convenient for this section of the Trail. There is also a small caravan park at the Wirrabara oval but it did not look too inviting. Two walks on map 6B were made on this trip. Day one was from the southern boundary of the Beetaloo Reservoir to Wirrabara Forest Office, a reasonably demanding walk along the ridge top and over the Bluff with beautiful views - a distance of approximately 17km. A nice walk around the old nursery can be made at the end of this section. Day two was started near the old nursery and continued to the cross roads of two tracks approximately 1km south of the northern end of map 6B. This was also a reasonably demanding walk with a few ups and downs and scenic views, covering a distance of approximately 18km. The track to the north end of this walk could become slippery in very wet weather.

Melrose Caravan Park was the base for our next trip. This is a popular park at the foot of Mt. Remarkable. It has excellent clean amenities and powered sites. A very small part of map 6B and map 6A was used for these walks which were very easy. On day one we walked from the cross roads 1 km south of the northern end of map 6B to the cross roads on Rosslyn Road, approximately 2km from Murraytown. Unsealed roads were followed for most of the way and once away from the forest the walk was fairly flat. A distance of approximately 17km was covered. Day two was a walk from the cross roads on Rosslyn Road to the railway crossing adjacent to the golf course at the base of Mt. Remarkable. The whole walk followed unsealed roads through fairly flat grazing country for a distance of approximately 18km.

The next trip, using Map 7, took us to Beautiful Valley Caravan Park at Wilmington. This is one of our favourite parks, with clean modern amenities, powered sites and even possums that come down out of the trees to see you at night. This section could also be covered by staying at Melrose. On day one our walk started from the railway line at the base of Mt. Remarkable, up the side of the mountain - a very hard climb - then a fairly demanding walk along the ridge top to Spring Creek Mine. This was a distance of approximately 14 km.

On day two we walked from Spring Creek Mine back to the caravan park. The walk had a couple of reasonably steep spots to the Alligator Gorge Road but from there on it was an easy downhill walk back to camp. The total distance walked for the day was approximately 15km. On the Monday before going home we decided to walk from Horrocks Memorial to the Wilmington Cemetery and back to the park - a fairly easy, mainly downhill walk of approximately 11km.

On the next trip we stayed at Wilmington again. The distance travelled to and from the start of our walks would have been about the same from Quorn but Wilmington was preferred. Map 7 was used for these next two walks to Woolshed Flat. Day one was from Horrocks Memorial to the end of the track which passes the Gunyah homestead and is about 3km from the homestead. When driving in, it is advisable to go only about 1km past the Gunyah homestead as there are a couple of spots which can be quite slippery if wet. The Gunyah Road, which is the Scenic Road from Wilmington to Quorn and the access road to the track past the homestead, is very slippery and can be quite hazardous after heavy rains. There are several creek crossings and these can be impassable at times, particularly the Beautiful Valley Creek. The section walked here was approximately 13km with extensive views and a few up and down hill climbs. On day two we walked from the end of the track for three kilometres past the Gunyah Homestead to Woolshed Flat. This was a fairly hard climb to the top of Mt. Brown, but mainly downhill from there, following creeks for the last few kilometres. The view from Mt. Brown was quite stunning and the wildflowers were varied and beautiful. This was a walk of approximately 19km. The Trail stops at Woolshed Flat at this point of time and re-commences again on the Hawker to Leigh Creek Road about 5km north of Hawker.



## The Trail Walker



Our next trip took us to Hawker. Here we stayed in the Hawker Caravan Park, which had clean amenities and powered sites. Map 5 was used this time. On day one we walked from the end of the track 5km. due north of Arkaba Station homestead (this track runs off the Moralana Scenic Drive), to the northern end of the Wonoka homestead road, five kilometres from the Leigh Creek to Hawker Road. This was a beautiful leisurely walk mainly along wide stony creek beds, passing Mayo Hut near the end of the day, a distance of approximately 19km. On day two we walked from the track 5km north of Arkaba Station homestead to Black Gap, a distance of approximately 19km, with great scenery and colours as we walked between the Elder and Red Ranges. Both walks commenced from the track off Moralana Drive to enable us to find the Trail easily. In wet conditions access to these walks along Moralana Drive would be impossible due to large fast-flowing creeks and a very slippery, boggy road. On day three an early 5km walk completed the lower section of the Trail along the road to Wonoka homestead.

Rawnsley Park, about 20km south of Wilpena, was our campsite for the next trip. This is a fine park with a new amenity block which was spotlessly clean. Wilpena Camping Ground could also have been used for these two walks. On day one we walked from Wilpena Camping Ground to Black Gap. This was a fairly easy walk of approximately 11km, with magnificent views, particularly from Bridle Gap. Map 5 was used for this walk. On day two we walked from the point where the Trail meets the fire access track, about 2.5km nearly due south of the Bunyerroo Valley Lookout to Wilpena Camping Ground. This was a reasonably easy walk of approximately 17km with some excellent views. Map 4 was used for this walk.

On the next trip we stayed at Wilpena Camping Ground. The toilets and showers were quite clean but very crowded at times. There are no powered sites here. Map 4 was used for these walks. On day one we walked from the junction of the Trail and the fire access track south of Bunyerroo Valley Lookout to the junction of the Trail and the Brachina Gorge Road, a pleasant walk of approximately 13km. The junction of the trail and the fire access track was used as a starting point for this walk and the previous one as it may have been difficult to find the car from the other direction. On day two we walked from the junction of the Trail and the Brachina Gorge Road to Aroona Ruin - a nice easy walk of approximately 14km. There were plenty of wildflowers to be seen and lots of young native pines which were regenerating quite well.





## The Trail Walker

On our last trip we stayed at Angorichina Tourist Village. Amenities there were old but clean. There were sites with power which is limited to certain hours. Map 4 was used for this last walk. On day one we walked from Aroona Ruin, along the valley to the Parachilna to Blinman Road and then about 3km along the road back to camp, a lovely walk of about 21kms all up. This is the end of the marked trail at this stage. Day two was spent walking around the waterfalls at the back of the camping ground.

Access to all the walks above Wilpena may have to be from the Wilpena to Blinman Road in very wet conditions due to the large volume of water which can flow in the gorges. All roads in this area, when wet, can be very slippery and are prone to flooding and erosion.

\*\*\*\*\*

### MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

\*\*\*\*\*

ALL memberships, except those commencing after 1 October, 1989, are now due for renewal. For the convenience of members, a renewal application form is included at the foot of this page. As advised in the last issue, at the last Annual General Meeting of the Friends in August, 1988, the Constitution was varied to change the financial year from July to June to January to December with all memberships being extended to 31st December, 1989.

---

The Treasurer,  
Friends of the Heysen Trail and Other Walking Trails, Inc.,  
State Association House,  
1 Sturt Street,  
ADELAIDE, S.A. 5000

### MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Please renew my membership with the Friends of the Heysen Trail and Other Walking Trails, Inc. for the period 1 January to 31 December, 1990.

I enclose cash/cheque, etc. for the sum of \$.....(\$10 individual, \$15 family, \$25 school organisation, \$50 other organisation).

Date ..... Membership No. .... Signature .....  
(if known)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

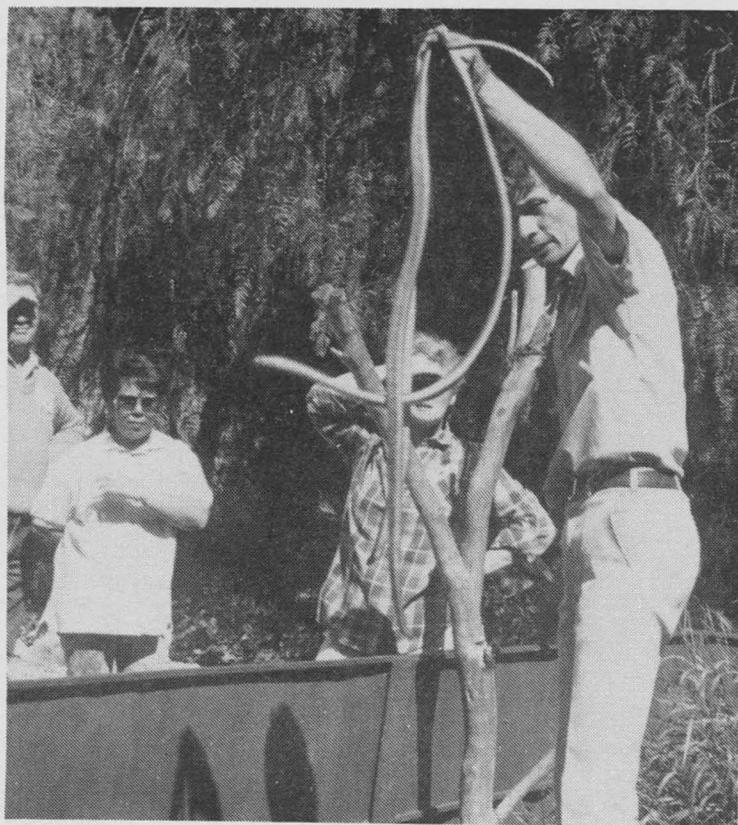
## The Trail Walker

### BOWMAN PARK

The following account of walking the Heysen Trail between Bowman Park and Hughes Gap was described by Ted Mertens of the Bowman Park Wildlife Park near Crystal Brook. The item was featured on Ian McNamara's "Australia All Over" programme on the occasion of the official opening of the Walkers' Hut at Bowman Park at the commencement of the 1989 walking season on 1st April and to mark the completion of 1,000 kilometres of marked Heysen Trail. The interview is published by kind permission of Ted Mertens who is a confirmed champion of the Heysen Trail.

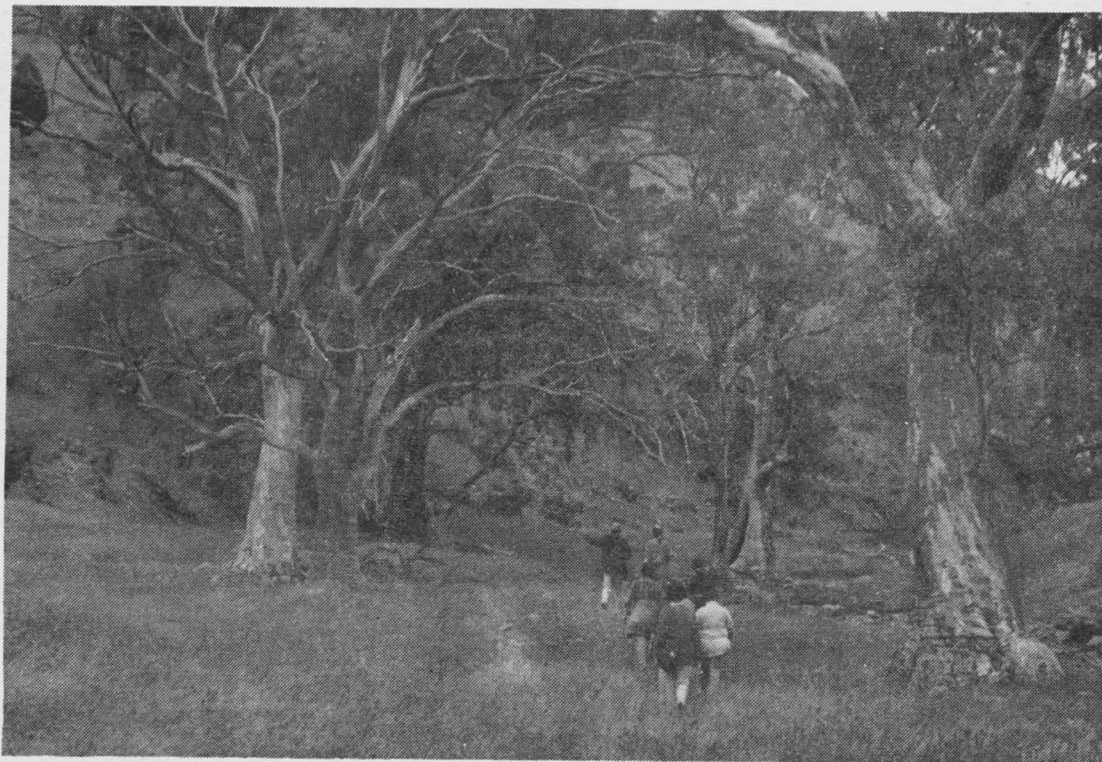
The beauty of the Heysen Trail is that it is so b..... long. You could walk for a lifetime, and it will take you a while to walk back. Its planned route is 1600 kilometres. Now that's one hell of a walk in anyone's language and to have a marked trail going through some of the most beautiful areas of South Australia - for people, that's great! So with 1,600 kilometres of marked trail going from Cape Jervis in the south right through to Mt. Babbage in the north and if you can make it you have a lot of walking to cover. It passes through places like the Flinders Range, which itself is famous all over the world, and it goes through the Mount Lofty area and the wine districts and historical areas. It follows the best of South Australia and if you are into walking, I think it is the best walking trail in Australia.

Not everyone wants to drive but there are advantages for those who want to drive. For instance, they can decide to walk from Bowman Park to Hughes Gap and if there are a couple of families involved, one family leaves a car at Bowman Park and starts walking and the other family leaves a car at Hughes Gap. They meet for lunch in the middle of the section, swap keys and walk on. They are not walking back anywhere. They are just picking up the cars and meet somewhere else. So you can drive and walk.





## The Trail Walker



The place I know best is at my back doorstep. You arrive at Bowman Park and start walking towards Hughes Gap. You climb over the first stile and suddenly you are confronted by five springs bubbling out of a bunch of reeds and just the sound of the trickling water and the chorus of frogs is enough to make you think "Aha! I'm there in the bush." And just to underline all that there are kookaburras screaming their b..... heads off in one corner and there are galahs screeching up there and crows and magpies and all of a sudden, especially if you are a Cityite you feel "I am in the bush". You go on a little bit further, and what's that? You hear something but you are not quite sure what it is. It's like a lumbering rustle - and there's this huge tree goanna trying frantically to get out of your way by climbing up, with his razor-sharp claws, up this majestic gum tree. And the whole creek is lined with these huge gum trees, so much so that it hurts your neck to see the top of it and you think to yourself "Well, that's b..... amazing. I never thought I'd see something like that". And luckily, you wore your bush shoes and your thick socks because there, just sunning itself on the path and leisurely getting out of your way is a big brown snake. You go on a little bit further, very tentatively walking now because you think they are going to be all over the place, and in fact they're not. And if you really walk quietly around the bend you are confronted by a big rock face with all little caves that are produced by rain and wind and erosion. Out of these caves are jumping euros and they are just scattering all over the place because they've been disturbed. They have been sleeping in their caves - and this goes on all the time. You have about five or six kilometres of animals that confront you every step of the way.

And the vegetation - although it is not pristine it is certainly a reflection of what it was in the old days with Callitris (native pines) running up and down the hillsides and blackboys running up and down the hillsides. And once the flowers start going - after this rain we'll probably have two seasons of wildflowers up here this year - it's a beautiful sight and the smells and the sounds make you feel "Yes, I am in the bush! I have been there. I feel relaxed." And that's what recreation is all about. Recreation should be re-named re-creation because if you have been sitting in your office - been trying to catch legionnaires disease out of air-conditioners for most of the year and you decide to come for a walk in the bush, there is no better way to do it than on the Heyesen Trail.

# The Trail Walker

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

ON

FRIDAY, 23 FEBRUARY, 1989

WILL BE HELD AT GIRL GUIDES ASSOCIATION UPSTAIRS HALL, 278 SOUTH TERRACE,  
ADELAIDE

AT 7.30 P.M.

The main purpose of the meeting is the election of officers for the ensuing period of twelve months, commencing 1 January, 1990.

In accordance with the Constitution, the following members are due to retire:-

President -	Barbara Mattsson	
Vice-President -	Warren Bonython	
Treasurer -	Betty Wise	
Members -	Thelma Anderson	Colin Malcolm
	Fred Brooks	Rhonda Mora
	Peter Buttery	Dick Sampson

The following members are due to retire on 31 December, 1990:-

Vice-President - Neville Southgate  
Members:- Judith Avery (St. Agnes Bushwalking Club)  
Tom Brauer (Adelaide Bushwalking Club)  
Jim Crinion  
David Glover  
Maureen Morris  
Doug Paice  
John Summers  
Norm Taylor

Nominations are invited for election to the following positions which will be declared vacant at the Annual General Meeting:-

President (1)	Secretary (1)
Vice-President (1)	Treasurer (1)
Members (6)	

Council meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month at State Association House, 1 Sturt Street, Adelaide, at 6.00 p.m. to approximately 8.00 p.m.

If you wish to assist in determining the course of the Friends' association, will you please indicate below your willingness to nominate, or be nominated, for one of the Council vacancies and return the nomination slip to the Secretary, Friends of the Heysen Trail and Other Walking Trails, Inc., 304 Henley Beach Road, Underdale, 5032, as soon as possible. PLEASE PRINT name of nominee.

### COUNCIL NOMINATION

Name of Nominee:- \_\_\_\_\_

Position:- \_\_\_\_\_  
(President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Member)

20 Date ..... (Signature of Nominator).....