

# THE TRAILWALKER

ISSUE No. 63

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

FEBRUARY 1997

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# The Trail Walker

## FRIENDS OF THE HEYSEN TRAIL

PATRON : WARREN BONYTHON A.O.

### COUNCIL MEMBERS

Arthur Smith	President
Richard Schmitz	Vice President
Liz O'Shea	Vice President
	Public Officer
Ingrid Lingstadt	Treasurer
Gil Baker	
Ian Jays	
Rosemary Hutter	
John Wilson	
Mick Thomas	

### HONORARY MEMBERS

Terry Lavender  
Jim Crinion  
Neville Southgate  
Doug Leane  
Fred Brooks

### SUB COMMITTEES

#### TRAIL MAINTENANCE

Listed in this issue

#### TRAILWALKER

Richard Schmitz      Editor

#### WALKING

Sadie Leupold      Convener  
Colin Edwards  
Marlene Edwards  
Ric Trutwin  
Mick Thomas  
Jon Selby  
Jill McPherson

FRIENDS OF THE HEYSEN TRAIL  
AND OTHER WALKING TRAILS INC  
10 PITT STREET ADELAIDE, 5000  
PHONE : (08) 8212 6299  
FAX : (08) 8211 8041

### OFFICE HOURS

Monday	10:00 - 2:30	John Coles
Tuesday	10:00 - 2:30	Lyn Condon
Wednesday	10:00 - 2:30	Barry Finn
Thursday	10:00 - 3:00	Richard Schmitz / Arthur Smith
Friday	10:00 - 2:30	Ric Trutwin / Brad Howell / Kath Palyga

Typist and Editor this issue: Richard Schmitz

# The Trail Walker

## PRESIDENTS REPORT

Further to my report in the December 1996 issue of Trailwalker, it would seem that concerns and heartache by the council members and myself about whether or not to split the Friends' into Trail Maintenance and Walking groups or separate clubs was completely un-necessary.

The latest communication between the Office of Recreation Sport and Racing and the Walking Federation, indicates that ORS&R will be calling for expressions of interest from various organisations to maintain sections of the Heysen Trail under contract. The Walking Federation has advised its members that it is no longer giving any consideration to being involved in walking trail maintenance.

Considering the above, it would seem that the likely future direction of the Friends' could be that of a walking club, possibly with involvement in trail maintenance on a contract basis. Bearing in mind the origins of the Friends', I believe we should look seriously at the expression of interest proposals, if and when they are called.

On a brighter note. The Council has agreed to fund the repair and improvement of the bridge over Cox's Creek in Engelbrecht Reserve near Bridgewater. The work will be carried out by Rorhlach Construction at a cost of \$5200.00. This money will come from funds accrued from past Trail Maintenance grants. Neville Southgate proposed some alternative routes for the Trail, but after inspection of the various options with Neville and myself, the ORS&R decided for various reasons, to stay with the current route.

On an even brighter note. The Council now has the audited financial statements for 1996, showing a surplus for the year. This is a considerable improvement on 1995. Full details will be presented to the AGM on March 21, 1997, at Enterprise House. A special thanks must go to our Treasurer Ingrid Lingstadt and bookkeeper Kath Palyga. The good work of office volunteers and walk leaders also helped with a trouble free audit.

After almost 3 years as President, I have decided not to nominate for the position. In some ways the three years have been a bit of a roller coaster ride. At the end of Ian Jays time as Project Officer, I felt that we were rapidly getting the runs on the board with Trail Maintenance, and with a little more time and help from other groups that were waiting in the wings, we could have developed the ability to maintain the whole of the Heysen Trail. However, that is not how the Government saw things, and it is disappointing that after a further 15 months there is still no alternative scheme in place.

A number of positions on Council and Executive will become vacant at the forthcoming AGM and we need some new members, especially to lighten the load on Vice President Richard Schmitz, who is currently also acting as Secretary, as well as being Membership Officer, Trailwalker Editor and Office Volunteer.

Finally, thanks to all members for their support and cooperation over the years.

**ARTHUR SMITH**  
**PRESIDENT**

# The Trail Walker

## WALKING REPORT

Welcome all walkers for another great year of exploring our wonderful Trail and other areas of the bush. You can be assured regardless of the political turmoil about funding our Committee have committed themselves to putting into action another interesting series of walks in all our categories for 1997. With the holiday break and official Trail closure still in force I trust members are continuing to walk on beaches and the linear park etc. as this will ensure a head start for the coming year's walks.

The opening of the season will be held on Sunday April 6th at Para Wirra Conservation Park, and we will again be conducting some short walks on this day. More information will be available by contacting the Office.

Mick Thomas has come up with a series of Backpacking Trailblazers for this year. Details are in the Walking Programme of the Trailwalker. The Introductory Weekend is to be held in the Kuitpo Forest area and interested persons can contact Mick by leaving a message at the Heysen Office. Give backpacking a try this year, you may be surprised at your capabilities and a whole new experience is there to be offered.

Weekend Trailblazers have now also been finalised. Michael Fretwell is our leader for the first weekend at Rawnsley Bluff from the 17th to 19th May. The Flinders Ranges are a very popular venue and Mike has had a lot of experience leading groups in this area.

The second weekend away will be on Yorke Peninsula from 8th to 10th August and John Crouch is to be our leader for this one. We will be staying at Stenhouse Bay and John who is a Yorke Peninsula local is researching some interesting walks in the Innes Conservation Park area.

Two Saturday Trailstarter walks are also being offered this year in May and June. Details are in the Walking Programme of the Trailwalker.

A Trailrambler birdwalk will be conducted later in the year. More details will be available in the May Trailwalker.

Have you purchased your Golden Boots card yet? Just a reminder to do so as soon as possible. This will eliminate walk leaders having to handle money and it is also a great saving for walkers.

Looking forward to seeing you all and hopefully some new faces soon.

**SADIE LEUPOLD**

### Opening Of The 1997 Walking Season

The official opening of the 1997 walking season will be held at Para Wirra Conservation Park, with short walks conducted by the Friend's and other walking groups. Contact the Office for details.

**SUNDAY APRIL 6, 1997, Para Wirra Conservation Park**

# The Trail Walker

## SUMMER WALKING PROGRAMME

### FEBRUARY:

SUNDAY 23rd

Beach Walk Evening  
Largs Bay to North Haven

Bring your own picnic tea or purchase fish and chips at the Largs Bay Kiosk.

LEADER

Sadie Leupold

### COSTS:

Walk	Members	\$3.00 OR Free with a Golden Boots Card
	Non- Members	\$4.00 Per Person

### MARCH:

SUNDAY 23rd

Mitcham  
Ric Trutwin

LEADER

### COSTS:

Walk	Members	\$3.00 OR Free with a Golden Boots Card
	Non- Members	\$4.00 Per Person

## SATURDAY WALKS

### MAY

SATURDAY 3rd  
Trailstarter

Cromer Conservation Park  
Jenny Prider

LEADER

### JUNE

SATURDAY 7th  
Trailstarter

Vixen Gully  
Jenny Prider

LEADER

## TRAILBLAZER BACKPACKING WEEKENDS

### APRIL

19th - 20th  
Introductory

Kuitpo Forest  
Mick Thomas

LEADER

### JULY

19th - 20th  
Experienced

Deep Creek  
Mick Thomas

LEADER

### OCTOBER

4th - 6th  
Experienced

Canyons and Climbs  
LEADER

Mambray Creek  
Mark Darter

# The Trail Walker

## 1997 WALKING PROGRAMME

### TRAILSTARTER WALKS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>LEADER</u>
April 13	Ansteys Hill	Christina Tassell
May 3	Cromer Conservation Park	Jenny Prider
May 11	Gandy's Gully	Marlene Edwards
June 7	Vixen Gully	Jenny Prider
June 8	Sturt Gorge	Lyn Condon
July 13	Arbury Park	Bozina Vicary
August 10	Belair Conservation Park	Bradley Howell
September 14	Clarendon	Jan Hilditch
October 12	Cox's Scrub	Liz Barry
November 9	Morialta Conservation Park	Jon Selby

### TRAILWALKER WALKS

April 27	North of the City	Jill McPherson
April 27	Myponga	Colin Edwards
May 25	Tapanapa Ridge (Deep Creek)	Jon Selby
May 25	Vixen Gully	Arthur Smith
June 22	North of the City	Jamie Shephard
June 22	Mac Creek	Spencer Trowse
July 27	North of the City	Mark Darter
July 27	South of the City	Stephen Boyle
August 24	South of the City	Jill McPherson
August 24	TBA	
September 28	Waterfall Gully	Ric Trutwin
September 28	Milang	Chris Bagley
October 26	North of the City	Gilbert Baker
October 26	South of the City	Ian Robertson
November 23	Mount Crawford	Colin Edwards
November 23	South of the City	Spencer Trowse

### TRAILBLAZER WEEKENDS

May 17 - 19	Rawnsley Bluff (Flinders Ranges)	Michael Fretwell
August 8 - 10	Innes Conservation Park (Yorke Peninsula)	John Crouch

### TRAILBLAZER BACKPACKING WEEKENDS

#### INTRODUCTORY

April 19 - 20	Kuitpo Forest	Mick Thomas
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#### EXPERIENCED

July 19 - 20	Deep Creek	Mick Thomas
October 4 - 6	Mambray Creek (Canyons and Climbs)	Mark Darter

# The Trail Walker

## GOLDEN BOOTS WALKING CARD

This year the Friends' have introduced a new and more economical method of paying for day walks. The "GOLDEN BOOTS" card is now available, and will cost \$20.00 per person.

This card will entitle the holder to attend all Trailstarter, Trailwalker and Summer walks, for **free**. If members do not wish to purchase a Golden Boots card, they can still attend all the day walks at the usual price of \$3.00 per member, and \$4.00 per non member.

We are encouraging the purchase of this card to cut the work load on walk leaders.

## **GOLDEN BOOTS CARD**

**COST PER PERSON \$20.00**

*AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE NOW*

By purchasing this card the card holder agrees to abide by all conditions listed below.

### CONDITIONS OF USE

- 1/. The card is only valid for financial members of the Friends'.
  - 2/. The card is only valid for the year specified on the card.
  - 3/. The card entitles the holder to attend all day walks free of charge.
  - 4/. All extended walks and special walks will still be charged for at applicable prices.
  - 5/. Each person intending to walk must have their own card.
  - 6/. Cards are not transferable.
  - 7/. Replacement cards can be purchased for \$5.00 each if lost.
  - 8/. Extra items such as bus transport and food will be charged at applicable prices.
  - 9/. Cards are not refundable
  - 10/. Children are not required to purchase a card. They can still attend day walks at \$1.00 each.
- NOTE:** If a family membership consists of 2 adults, then each of those adults must purchase their own Golden Boots Card.

**NOTE:** You will still be required to phone the office to book in on walks even if you are a Golden Boots Card holder.

When booking in on walks please let us know whether or not you are a Golden Boots Card holder, so that we can inform the walk leader.

**A GOLDEN BOOTS CARD ORDER FORM WAS AVAILABLE IN THE DECEMBER 1996 ISSUE OF TRAILWALKER.**

# The Trail Walker

## WALKING THE HEYSEN TRAIL : WILL WE DO IT AGAIN?

While holidaying at Wilpena Pound with the Donnelly's in September 1986, Sue our two boys and I did several bush walks with them. Some of these walks included parts of the Heyesen Trail. After doing the walks in the Flinders and talking to Jim and Jackie Pearce, who had started walking the trail in May 1984, we decided to start walking it also.

We commenced walking at Newland Hill on 28/9/86, which was the most southerly section of the Heyesen Trail marked at that point in time. By 5/7/87 we had completed seven walks, to Pocock Road which is near Jupiter Creek, and had caught up with Jim and Jackie.

On 12/7/87 Jim and Jackie, Sue and myself started walking together and completed the remainder of the trail from Pocock Road to Parachilna Gorge and from Cape Jervis to Newland Hill. Various other people joined us on some of the walks but most of the time it was just the four of us who walked.

The last section walked to complete the trail was from Eyre Depot to Buckaringa Gorge, near Quorn, on 7/8/93: a total of 73 walks of varying lengths from 3 to 27 kilometres. All distances were measured from maps and totalled 1062 kilometres. After allowing for bends and ups and downs encountered along the way the actual distance is thought to be more like 1200 kilometres.

When we commenced walking the trail many of the sections had not been marked and only 6 or 7 maps had been released. Eventually 15 maps were released for the whole trail. Most of our walks were from South to North, however some were in the opposite direction for various reasons, the main one being for the ease of walking.

As we walked the trail more sections were marked and new maps released. We were at times involved in marking and checking new sections of trail, some bridge building and some re routing of the existing trail.

The walks were not completed in sequence because the trail was marked as right of ways were acquired and maps were released. As an example, it was not uncommon to be walking on the South Coast one week and in the Adelaide Hills the next, or be in the Barossa Valley and the Flinders Ranges on consecutive weeks or be at Burra and the Northern Flinders within a few weeks of each other. Occasionally we walked using "mud maps" before the published ones were released, or we would be walking on sections which were not completely marked.

By the time we had completed the trail in 1993 all markings were complete and all the maps had been released.

Jim and myself were given a section of the trail to maintain around 1991/92. This section is from the Hindmarsh Tiers Road near Myponga to the Blackfellows Creek Road below Mt Magnificent.

The maintenance work had been keeping us involved and interested in the trail but I decided it would be nice to walk the trail again, this time sequentially from south to north. Bob Donnelly decided he would like to join me as he had only walked a few sections of the trail in the Flinders. Jim was hesitant, but on 27/6/93 he joined in with unabated enthusiasm at Cape Jervis.

# The Trail Walker

We completed the trail for the second time on 27/10/96, exactly 3 years and 4 months from our start date. We did it in sequence from south to north, doing only 61 walks this time around. All were day walks using the two car method. The total walking time taken was 366 hours and a total of 16357 km was driven to accomplish these walks.

As we walked through our allocated maintenance section we undertook any necessary maintenance. We travelled from Adelaide daily for all the walks until we reached Logans Gap, just south of Burra. For the remainder of the walks we stayed at several locations for 2 to 3 days at a time on various weekends. The places we stayed at included, Burra, Tooralie Homestead, Clare, Geralka Farm, Jamestown, Crystal Brook, Melrose, Wilmington, Quorn and Angorichina. We also spent 2 weeks at Quorn and Hawker while on holiday in September 1996.

Jim Pearce and Bod Verrall completed all of the 61 walks, Bob Donnelly unfortunately missed a few and I have promised to do them with him in the 1997 walking season. Several other people, including Jackie and Sue joined us for some of the walks at various times.

Bob Donnelly said he would like to do the trail again, this time from north to south, maybe 1998?

Or, perhaps the Mawson Trail!

## **BOB VERRALL**

**WOW!!**

## **A NEW BUSHWALKING BOOK**

The Scout Outdoor Centre is publishing a brand new book of bushland walks around Adelaide.

The book is '**40 Real bushwalks around Adelaide**'. It has been put together by **George Driscoll**, the Manager of the Scout Outdoor Centre and 'Friends' walk leader.

There are 200 kilometres of bush track walking from Deep Creek to Kapunda. Most are in the region closer to Adelaide, that is from Tanunda to McLaren Vale. There is only 3 kilometres of public road in the book. All but one are loop walks. Most will take 2.5 to 3.5 hours, but can be extended if you are enjoying the area and have the time.

Each walk has a full description and an easy to follow map.

**The cost is \$19.95.**

**The book can be purchased at the Friends Office with a 10% discount or from the**

**Scout Outdoor Centre at 192 Rundle Street.**

**'Friends' also receive a 10% discount there too.**

# The Trail Walker

## MAINTENANCE VOLUNTEER SECTION LEADERS

<u>HEYSEN TRAIL SECTION NUMBER</u>	<u>SECTION LEADERS NAME AND PHONE NUMBER</u>
1./ Cape Jervis to Boat Harbour Creek	Steven Harkness (H) 8384 3530
2./ Boat Harbour Creek to Back Valley Road	Ralph Ollerenshaw (H) 8379 2762
3./ Back Valley Road to Moon Hill	Thelma Anderson (H) 8278 4420
4./ Moon Hill to Hindmarsh Tiers Road	Paul Carruthers (H) 8336 1889
5./ Hindmarsh Tiers Rd to Black Fellows Creek Rd	Bob Verrall & Jim Pearce (H) 8382 8577 (H) 8276 5190 (W) 8372 5170 (W) 8372 5169
6./ Black Fellows Creek Road to Glen Bold	Stephen Boyle (H) 8391 1696
7./ Glen Bold to Piccadilly	Jamie Shephard (H) 8331 8107 (W) 8373 1422
8./ Piccadilly to Norton Summit	Liz O'Shea (WEA Ramblers) (H) 8352 1636
9./ Norton Summit to Cudlee Creek	Shirley Tavender & Arthur Smith (H) 8337 3692 (H) 8261 6746
10./ Cudlee Creek to Bethany	Doug Leane (H) 8443 3388
11./ Bethany to Peters Hill	Joyce Heinjus (H) 085 252054 (W) 085 622022
12./ Peters Hill to Logans Gap	Michael Tilley (H) 8296 4363
13./ Logans Gap to Spalding	Hugh Greenhill (Burra Branch) (H) 088 438115
14./-17./ Spalding to Wilpena	Vacant
18./ Wilpena to Parachilna	Shayne Reschke (Leigh Creek Branch) (H) 086 752885 (W) 086 754332

# The Trail Walker

## ITEMS FOR SALE IN THE FRIEND'S OFFICE

The Nature Of Cleland Book **Was \$14.95** Now \$4.95 **Members \$4.50**

S.A. Touring Map **Was \$4.00** Now \$0.50 **Members \$0.50**

12 Flinders Ranges Postcards by Bernd Stoecker **Was \$5.00** Now \$3.50 **Members \$3.50**

Mount Lofty Special Map \$5.95 **Members \$5.40**

Mount Lofty Walking Trails (Onkaparinga) \$4.20 **Members \$3.80**

Mawson Trail Cycling Maps Adelaide to Marrabel

Marrabel to Spalding

Spalding to Wilmington

**NEW** Wilmington to Hawker \$9.95 Each **Members \$9.00** Each

Flinders Ranges Walks by Royal Geographical Society 12 Different Maps

Terrapinna Tors *A 7km loop walk across open granite country of the oldest part of the Flinders.*

Bararranna *A 6.8km loop walk with evidence of the geological past and dramatic flood events of the Arkaroola Creek*

Acacia Ridge *This 5.8km linear walk is a pleasant introduction to the varied Arkaroola landscape.*

Mawson - Spriggina *An 8km loop walk with significant geological associations.*

Oppaminda - Nudlamutana *A 15km linear walk through varied vegetation and views from Mt Warren Hastings*

Weetootla *An 18.4km loop walk with options through the Gammons Ranges National Park.*

Italowie *A 15.7km linear walk along part of one of the major creek systems of the Gammon Ranges.*

Wilkawillina *An 11.4km linear walk through the visually stimulating and geological significant Gorge*

Haywards Huts *Offering a 15.4km linear walk.*

Bunyerroo - Wilcolo Creeks *A 9.7km loop walk follows a portion of the Heysen Trail through the ABC Range*

The Dutchmans Stern *A 10.5km loop walk through a diverse area with fine views to the north and west*

Mount Brown *a 15km loop walk to a location significant in the States History from where there are 360° views*

**\$1.00 Each Members \$0.90 Each**

Heysen Trail Maps Numbers 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15. (In stock as at 7/11/96)

**\$5.50 Each Members \$5.00 Each**

Barossa Valley Walking Trails

Mount Crawford

Wirra Wirra Peaks

Hale Conservation Park

Jacob Road

Mack's Creek

**\$0.50 Each Members \$0.45 Each**

ALL THE ABOVE ITEMS ARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT THE  
FRIENDS OFFICE AT LOWER LEVEL: 10 PITT STREET, ADELAIDE.

# The Trail Walker

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

### NOTICE OF MEETING

The Tenth Annual General Meeting of the Friends of the Heysen Trail and Other Walking Trails Inc will be held at 7.30pm on Friday 21 March 1997 at Enterprise House, 136 Greenhill Road, Unley. Free carparking will be available under the building; enter from Greenhill Road.

The agenda for this meeting is published elsewhere in this edition of *Trailwalker*.

Nominations are sought from **YOU**, our members, for election to the Friends' Council at the Annual General Meeting. Council currently comprises of the President, two Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, and not less than eight and not more than fourteen members.

Council meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 6.00pm until approximately 8.00pm.

In addition to Council, there is an opportunity for members to contribute to one of the various Committees: Walking, Trails, Greening and Publicity.

To nominate, please complete and detach the form below (photocopies are acceptable) and send it to:

*The Secretary, Friends of the Heysen Trail,  
10 Pitt Street, Adelaide SA 5000*

### NOMINATION FORM

I.....wish to nominate for the position of.....  
(President, Secretary, Treasurer or Council Member)

.....  
(Proposer)

.....  
(Signature of Nominee)

.....  
(Seconder)

.....  
(Name - Please Print)

**NOMINATIONS CLOSE AT 5.00PM ON FRIDAY 14 MARCH 1997,  
AT THE FRIENDS' OFFICE**

# The Trail Walker

## 10th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

FRIDAY 21 MARCH 1997 AT 7.30PM

AT ENTERPRISE HOUSE, 136 GREENHILL ROAD, UNLEY

### AGENDA

1. Apologies.
2. Acceptance of the Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on 22 March 1996.
3. President's Report.
4. Financial Report.
5. Notice of Motion
  - 5.1 Amendment to the Constitution. (See elsewhere in this edition of *Trailwalker* for details).
6. Election of Officers.
  - 6.1 President
  - 6.2 Treasurer
  - 6.3 Secretary
  - 6.4 Council Members
7. Appointment of members for the Walking, Trails, Greening and Publicity Committees.
8. Appointment of Auditor.
9. Presentation of Honorary Membership.
  - 9.1 Sadie Leupold
  - 9.2 Thelma Anderson
10. Other Business.
11. Close of Meeting.

**NB** Copies of the Constitution are available for perusal at the Office, 10 Pitt Street, Adelaide.

At the conclusion of the business end of the evening, we endeavour to have a guest speaker to talk to you. (Negotiations were still under way at the time of going to press.)

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

# The Trail Walker

## 10th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

FRIDAY, 21 MARCH 1997

### NOTICES OF MOTION

The following **Notice of Motion**, endorsed by Council, will be put to members at the Tenth Annual General Meeting. A brief explanation of the reason for putting it forward is included below:

#### 1. MANAGEMENT

"That Section 8(2) of the Constitution be amended by the deletion of the words 'two', 'eight' and 'fourteen' and replacing them with 'a', 'four' and 'ten', so that the section will read

'The Council shall consist of the President of the Association, together with a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and not less than four, nor more than ten other members, all of whom shall be elected at an Annual General meeting of the Association.' "

**Comment:** This amendment is proposed due to the lack of positive responses to fill vacancies on the Council.

#### 2. HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

"That in accordance with Section 5(5) of the Constitution, Sadie Leupold and Thelma Anderson be elected an Honorary Members of the Association."

**Comment:** Sadie Leupold's and Thelma Anderson's long and significant contribution to the Friends' will be outlined at the meeting.

**For Members' information** the Constitution states that:

"13(7) Notice of any motion proposed to be moved at a General Meeting by any member not being a member of the Council shall be signed by the proposer and seconder and shall be delivered to the Secretary at least seven days before the meeting. No motion moved by any member other than a member of Council shall be entertained by the meeting unless notice thereof has been given as aforesaid."

"7(2) Any member whose annual subscription is outstanding for more than two months after the due date shall cease to be a member of the Association, unless the Council in any individual case or group of cases agrees to postpone the date of payment."

"16(1) Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, each financial member present at a meeting in person or by proxy shall be entitled to one vote."

# The Trail Walker

## HEY MISTER - WHAT'S A HEYSEN TRAIL

Good question son ; it is like a mirage, a lot depends on who you are, where you've come from and how you answer yourself. The trail is many things to many people, even its length seems to vary, my guess is 1060km.

At the physical level the trail rises from sea-level to over 1100 metres, if you include a quick detour up St. Mary Peak. Landforms are sea, sand, forest, rugged crags and many highly forgettable kilometres of mid-north rolling plain, though I'm sure many a walker has welcomed the easier going. But who am I to impose my values any way. Either way, choose your own, a gentle day stroll or a hard slog. And you know for an arid track it can be mighty wet at times. But lets not knock the rain, for without it we wouldn't have the yellow (politically correct) canola, Jane's blue or those myriads of tiny little wildflowers that cushion our clumping boots. Rain of course means water, perhaps the biggest gauntlet thrown down by the trail.

Man (politically incorrect) rises to more than the physical I hear you say. Indeed son, it is on the mystical plane that the Heyesen Trail becomes an intangible will-o-the-wisp. The Trail can be a burning passionate challenge or a thing to get around to one-day. There can be some wonderful fellowship by glowing embers or real solitude in contemplation of an emptiness full of wind, open space, grass, trees and a bird or two.

For sure though it's not really a practical way to get from one place to another. Whilst our early settlers probably didn't walk the exact same steps we now follow, they would have trudged many similar miles, though for different reasons. You see son they walked to work, to settle, and, because they had little choice. However we live in the Golden Age of Leisure - we walk because there are alternatives, because we are lucky enough to have discretionary time. So walkers it's up to us to make sure "public assets" like the Trail are kept and supported, the toddlers of today will not thank us if we let it slip from our recreational grasp. Country walking or bodies beautiful in the gym - let's not be forced into shiny machines and all around mirrors, we must keep our choices alive.

A great South Australian has, albeit posthumously, lent his name to our very own Trail. I'm sure he wouldn't mind sharing that tribute with many other people. As always they are too numerous to mention: but here goes, to the landowners who let us cross their properties, to the visionaries who inspired the concept, to the volunteers and professionals who negotiated, marked and still maintain our long and winding road.

I completed the Heyesen Trail over a five and a half year period. A lot of people helped and I would also like to thank them; for the endless sandwiches and dawn starts to make isolated drop-offs --- my long suffering spouse Helen. She got caught in the mud working her way to a rendezvous, put up with the pongee clothes on my return and even walked a fair few k's with me, some of the best ones too.

# The Trail Walker

To the post-masters and Lions club members who helped with car shuffles in far off places - I'd probable still be out there without your help. And to those who walked with me - do you want to do it again? I walked with Clubs, like-minded impromptu groups, sometimes using two cars, or one car and two bicycles, walk out and hitch-hike back, even the odd bus or two.

Son, be gentle on an old guy - the highlight ?

What will probably stick in my mind the longest will be seeking shelter in a storm on top of Stein Hill. Is that ever a paradox. Other than that, sand on the south coast, yet another Wild Dog Creek or a pub meal in Burra. No, the highlight is that mirage, that mirror on this country of ours - the uneasy truce between eucalypt and pine in Wirrabara Forest, the two standing side by side each waiting for the other to give ground, each knowing that reconciliation and co-existence is the way forward. Clothed in an eerie September mist the two adversaries seemed to be challenging their biggest threat, mankind in *their* world.

Good question son, try it some time and find out. Take with you though the Golden Rules of the Heysen Trail;

1. The density of the marker posts is in inverse proportion to the difficulty of the track.
2. The duller the section you want to do next, the fewer companions you can find to come with you.
3. The longer and hotter the day, the more bitumen you need to cover to get back to the car.

## CHARLIE ADAM

December 1996

### NO ! NOT ME - - NOT CANCER

I've heard that expression before and never dreamed that one day I'd be in the same boat. June 1994 was the first time I had an inkling that something was not quite right in the bowel department, but I hoped that it may have piles and went on with life. More and more the evidence was mounting but it soon would be Christmas and I'll go to the doctor in January. Wow, January came around quickly and I'm so busy I'll really and truly go after Easter, but things looked rather bleak and I knew something was really wrong. Soon I was offered a chance to do a month in the Simpson on a survey trip in July and so the excuses went on and on until I went to my doctor on a Tuesday, then to a specialist the next Friday who sent me straight into hospital so fast I could hardly draw breath.

My colostomy operation went well and three months later I was on a maintenance trip with Paul Carruthers in Myponga and Yulte Parks lugging posts out of his vehicle. So, if you dear reader have a nagging doubt in your mind that something maybe is wrong, then bite the bullet and go for a check up. My doctor was amazed that after I stalled for so long that he was able to remove all the cancer in one go, which meant no chemo-therapy.

After the operation I regained strength I forgot I had, the down side is that without a control valve any wind goes straight through which is damned embarrassing at times. So if I am noisy on a hike with you, I apologise in advance. If I have convinced just one reader to take early action then that will be my reward. Remember - bowel cancer is a growth industry.

## BARRY FINN

## **BURRA BRANCH REPORT**

I wish to submit our branch report for the walking season 1996. The programme we set up at the start of the season has worked very well with the walkers who participated. Two events didn't work out which were the overnights, which collided with other busy evenings around here (Burra).

We introduced 8 new walkers this season and two I know of have joined up with the Friends'. We conducted 9 walks within the mid north area. The highest attendance on a walk was 24 and the lowest was 3. The average number of walkers worked out to around 10.

Maintenance on the Trail was held over two separate days in August and September. A total of about 7km was upgraded from the Burra Cemetery to 2km south of Stein Hill. There is still a few kilometres left to join up with the maintenance done in 1995.

**HUGH GREENHILL**  
**PRESIDENT**

## **FARMERS PAY TRIBUTE TO TREES FOR LIFE VOLUNTEER GROWERS**

Farmers throughout SA have paid tribute to thousands of volunteers who raise native plant seedlings for revegetation each year through Trees For Life.

In Trees for Life's recent landholder survey, the praise for volunteer growers was plentiful. "We couldn't have done it without you," one farmer from Robertstown wrote.

"It makes the job feel shared." More help is needed to keep this work going. Trees for Life is seeking 1000 volunteers to raise native seedlings this summer for farmers, other rural landholders and revegetation projects. Seed, materials and instructions are supplied. No special expertise or experience is required.

Trees for Life members have raised and planted more than 13 million native trees and shrubs in the past 14 years - and the results are showing in increased birdlife, greater survival of newborn lambs, reduced erosion and a greener healthier landscape. For example, landholders at Macclesfield report a substantial increase in the number and variety of birds and other wildlife on the property, a former dairy. Native grass species have returned spontaneously, soil fertility has improved and erosion and runoff has declined. "This is a fantastic scheme and enables us to revegetate at a faster rate than we could otherwise manage," they say. According to a landholder at Carramulka on the Yorke Peninsula, stock moves toward the revegetated areas for shelter and shade. "The overall farm picture is changing with trees pushing up and breaking up the openness," the landholder reports. "A saline area has improved also."

**If you'd like to help create a greener, more beautiful SA, phone Trees for Life (08) 8207 8787.**

The above article was reprinted from Landcare News Number 47, October 1996.

# The Trail Walker

## WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP AN INJURED ANIMAL OR BIRD.

Fauna Rescue of SA Inc

Native fauna means all animals, birds and reptiles that are native to South Australia.

If you find sick/injured fauna, you will need advice on its care, or instructions on where to take it for further help. Here are some suggestions;

Keep the fauna wrapped in a blanket or towel and settled into a cardboard box. Put the box in a quiet, warm spot. Do not give it food or water until advised. Contact one of our members for help as soon as possible, as delay causes further stress.

If the fauna has a breathing/bleeding problem, use basic first aid principles and treat for shock.

Native fauna is not tame. If someone has found fauna which is tame, this generally indicates that it is injured or sick. This fauna could spread its disease to other animals or to humans. If it is injured and recovers, it will revert back to its natural behaviour and could easily injure or traumatise its handler, especially if a child.

Baby birds which have just left the nest are often handed in, even though the adult birds were close by. This type of rescue is usually not necessary. Simply remove the baby bird from any danger (cats, roads, humans etc.), and place it in a tree or bush in sight of the parent birds so that they can continue feeding it.

If 'fauna' is using your garden or yard as a residence for a while, ask questions about its habits and habitat. Watch it, and enjoy its company, but try not to disturb it. Remember - it may be illegal to capture or destroy the fauna without the appropriate permit.

Have you found an injured, or baby bird, animal or reptile?

Need advice, or help? Contact one of these members.

Trish Snook (H) 8264 4869 (W) 8263 0563

Dianne Dobie 8369 3669 John Ward 8326 3797 John Murphy 8386 1328

Sue Westover 8289 2920 (For financial or active memberships)

Dear Friend!

My husband and I will be in your exciting State during April and plan on walking part of the Heysen Trail. We would appreciate any maps, brochures and advice you could give please. During 1994 we extensively travelled SA (and loved it!) and particularly enjoyed the Flinders Ranges area, noting the Heysen Trail and enjoyed the tiny section across the pound to Dick Nob, giving us the urge to continue. Hopefully we can find a suitable section for us as we are average bush walkers, of the NP kind generally, but do walk easily up to 30km a day. Should there be a cost involved for the maps and brochures, please enclose an account and I will forward a cheque post haste.

Yours faithfully

B. Van Slobbe (Arana Hills, Queensland, Australia)

(The above is a typical letter received at the Friends' office.)

# The Trail Walker

## TRAILBLAZER WEEKENDS

### Rawnsley Bluff - Flinders Ranges

Bookings are now being taken for this weekend on May 17 - 19, 1997.

Ring the Friends' office mid February for further details on this weekend.

Bookings must be accompanied with a \$20.00 deposit to secure your place.

The final cost is expected to be in the vicinity of \$100.00. (This price is approximate only.)

Remember to book early as these trips are always extremely popular.

### Kuitpo Forest

Bookings are now being taken for this introductory backpacking weekend on April 19 - 20, 1997.

Ring the Friends' office mid February for further details on this weekend.

The cost is expected to be in the vicinity of \$10.00. (This price is approximate only.)

## FRIEND WANTED

Christina Ellis of Aldgate has no car, but would like to attend the Friends' day walks. If any of our 400 plus members are willing to give Christina a lift she can be contacted on 8339 6716 Ph & Fax.

## THANKYOU

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those members who returned their membership so promptly. Over 90% of all memberships received contained a self addressed, stamped envelope. For those members who have not yet returned their membership you will find a renewal form in this issue of Trailwalker.

**RICHARD SCHMITZ**  
**MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY**

## ARE YOU ATTENDING THE FRIENDS' AGM?

If you are, please ring the office before March 18, 1997, so we have an idea of the number of copies of documents we require at the meeting. We don't like to waste paper.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am a keen bushwalker and camper and have walked most of the Heysen Trail from Cape Jervis to Mylor. However my family is not keen on me walking and especially camping by myself, so I am asking does your group have organised overnight walks and what are the conditions for joining your organisation? I am 51 but reasonably fit and may be interested in some maintenance of the Heysen Trail on the Fleurieu Peninsula if I can find the time.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

J. Talbot-Smith (Normanville, South Australia)

(The above is a typical letter received at the Friends' office.)

# *The Trail Walker*

## **Tootling Along**

### **BUSH WALKING IN THE FLINDERS RANGES**

HAVE YOU EXPLORED THE WALKING TRAILS IN THE FLINDERS RANGES? HAVE YOU WALKED OFF THE BEATEN TRACK? NOW YOU HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY.

**TOOTLING ALONG** IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT FOR THE 1997 WALKING SEASON A SERIES OF TRIPS HAS BEEN PLANNED FOR SMALL GROUPS. THE TRIPS WILL BE LED BY MIKE FRETWELL WHO WILL BE KNOWN TO SOME OF YOU FOR THE INTERESTING WALKS HE ORGANISES. HE HAS LED WALKS NOW FOR FIVE YEARS FOR **TOOTLING ALONG**, FOR THE FRIENDS OF THE HEYSEN TRAIL, AND FOR THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD SCHEME. MIKE IS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE **BOGONG BOYS**.

THE WALKING PROGRAMME WILL CONSIST OF WEEKEND AND LONG WEEKEND TRIPS, AND A ONE-WEEK TRIP TO THE FLINDERS RANGES. THE COST OF ALL THE TRIPS WILL INCLUDE TRANSPORT EX ADELAIDE, MOTEL ACCOMMODATION AND ALL MEALS. TRACK NOTES WILL BE PROVIDED TOGETHER WITH A SOUVENIR MAP OF THE FLINDERS RANGES.

AS THE WALKS ARE LIMITED TO SEVEN PARTICIPANTS PER TRIP EARLY BOOKING IS ADVISABLE. TO RECEIVE YOUR COPY OF THE PROGRAMME AND A BOOKING FORM PLEASE COMPLETE THE COUPON BELOW AND RETURN TO **TOOTLING ALONG** AT THE ADDRESS SHOWN.

*I wish to receive a copy of the 1997 **Tootling Along** Bush Walking Programme.*

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

TOWN ..... STATE ..... POST CODE .....

*Please complete and send to **Tootling Along**.*

*PO Box 140, BURRA, SA 5417*

*Phone 08 8892 2129*

*Fax 08 8892 2660*