



"THE TRAILWALKER"



Following the outstanding success of the Friends' project to construct a Dutch sand ladder at Waitpinga Beach to protect the delicate sand dune vegetation, another labour-intensive project requiring your assistance has been planned.

IRISH BOG LADDER

This project involves the construction of a board-walk on the Heysen Trail through the boggy swamp area near Glen Bold. All members who have walked between the Onkaparinga River and the Police Training Reserve at Echunga will be able to identify the exact location.

The working party will be under the leadership of Terry Lavender, Martin Foster and Andrew Moylan of the Department of Recreation and Sport and all materials and equipment will be supplied.

A tentative date for the occasion has been arranged for Sunday, 22 November, 1987.

Provision of free bus transport will depend on the number of walkers responding to this request for assistance. Lunch will also be provided.

If you, or members of your Club, wish to participate in a valuable contribution towards maintaining the high standard of our world-recognised Heysen Trail, will you please complete the tear-off slip

see page 2

NEWSLETTER OF THE

FRIENDS OF THE HEYSEN TRAIL

AND OTHER SOUTH AUSTRALIAN WALKING TRAILS.

No 7 OCTOBER 1987

Editors Kerry Hall and Max Milne

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

An interested group of friends assembled at Arbury Park Outdoor School, Bridgewater on Sunday, 30th August, 1987 for the first Annual General Meeting of our organisation.

Reports were presented by the Acting Chairman, C. Warren Bonython and The Administrative Officer and Acting Treasurer, Thelma Anderson.

Warren Bonython who chaired the meeting, declared all positions on the Council vacant and called for nominations for the ensuing year. The following persons were elected:-

President:	Barbara Mattsson
Vice Presidents:	C. Warren Bonython Jim Crinion
Secretary:	Pat Adams
A/Treasurer:	Thelma Anderson
Members:	Fred Brooks Peter Buttery Kerry Hall Callum McEachern Colin Malcolm Ilona Malins Max Milne Bill Mora Rhonda Mora Dick Sampson Egon Shore Betty Wise

POST THIS!

The Administrative Officer,
Friends of the Heysen Trail and other Walking Trails Inc.,
C/- Department of Recreation and Sport,
G.P.O. Box 1865,
ADELAIDE S.A. 5001

by Friday, 13 November, 1987.

I/We wish to join the Irish Bog Ladder Working Party at
Glen Bold on Sunday, 22 November, 1987.

Transport preferred:

- (1) Bus
 - (2) Private Vehicle
- [Please cross out one]

(Signature)

NAME (Please Print)

SUBURB

CONTACT TELEPHONE NO.



Pictured here are those hard working Friends who constructed the Dutch Sandladder at Waitpinga. Purpose was to reduce the effects of sand movement and damage to the environment.

In all 180 metres of ladder were constructed where the Heysen Trail passed from the road to Waitpinga Beach across the sandhills and the River. The project was a great success.



HISTORY OF THE HEYSEN TRAIL - Part 3

Our first three years, 1970-72, was a period of confident and enthusiastic planning and data collection. Five very competent and dedicated young officers of the State Planning Authority worked for us. Their labours and achievements - chiefly unremembered now - constituted important spade-work which contributed towards the eventual blossoming of the Heysen Trail after 1978. Posterity ought to know about them and what they did.

Their names were A. Lothian, A.L. Withy, G. Perkin, R.J. Teague, H. Showell and D.D. Brodeur. They field-surveyed and mapped alternative routes - mainly in southern Fleurieu Peninsula, they interviewed landholders and they addressed meetings under the auspices of District Councils, including some in the Lower North.

The first obstacle was a general resistance to the innovative Heysen Trail idea and the open hostility of certain councils to it. The latter would raise objections such as the walkers being likely to start bushfires and to perpetrate vandalism (charges which walkers - that most responsible section of the community - vehemently denied).

Other fears expressed were over the safety of the property and stock of landholders through whose land the trail would pass. The Committee's assurance that trail-users would be required to observe a set of strict regulations as to their conduct failed to mollify the objectors.

However, not every council was opposed to the trail; the D.C. of Crystal Brook was keen for the route to be varied so as to pass through its area.

C. Warren Bonython

HELP THE FRIENDS MAKE FRIENDS

The Friends need your support, through membership, to continue their activities and to provide assistance to the Department of Recreation and Sport in completing construction of the Heysen Trail. Great strides (no pun intended) have already been made in this direction since our inception a little over a year ago, but additional membership support is urgently needed.

Every walker can become a vital link in South Australia's Heysen Trail and other walking trails by joining now! A membership application form is attached. Please complete and return it to the Treasurer, Friends of the Heysen Trail and other Walking Trails Inc., c/- State Association House, 1 Sturt Street, Adelaide S.A. 5000.

FRIENDS OF THE HEYSEN TRAIL AND OTHER WALKING TRAILS INC:

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

FORM A

Name:
Address:
Telephone No: (H).....(B).....
Occupation:
If retired, former occupation:

<u>MEMBERSHIP REQUIRED:</u>	Subscription Enclosed	
Ordinary Membership	\$ 10.00
Family Membership	\$ 15.00
Signed	Date	

For Office Use:	Membership No:
Receipt No:	Registered (date) (signed)

Please indicate if you are able to assist with any of the following:

Inspection & reporting on trails	Building bridges	
Reviewing environmental studies	Signing trails	
Writing articles for Trail Walker	Planting trees	
Research & planning new trails	Leading work parties	
Collating material on flora & fauna	Research: Legislation	
Art Work	Fund Raising	Rights of Way
Office Work (at home)	Searches	
Office Roster	Days available	Heritage

SPECIAL INTERESTS

e.g. Geology, conservation, rock climbing, etc.
.....
.....

COMMENTS

Please forward completed form with Subscription to:

The Secretary,
c/- Friends of the Heysen Trail,
Department of Recreation & Sport Administration Centre,
1 Sturt Street, Adelaide 5000

DAVENPORT ROAD - RESOLVED

Members will be interested to learn that Stirling Council, at a meeting held on Tuesday, 22nd September, 1987, deferred further action on the proposed sale of Davenport Road to the Mt. Lofty Golf Club pending an independent legal opinion on the interpretation of a section of the Local Government Act. Council discussed a letter received from a high-ranking legal identity, who had lodged an objection to the proposed sale, pointing out that Council was not in breach of the Act by leasing Davenport Road to the Golf Club on an annual basis and at the same time providing public access to the road for use as part of the Heysen Trail. Stirling Council officers had claimed that the reason for negotiating the sale was to "formalise an agreement" with the Mt. Lofty Golf Club which did not comply with the provisions of the Local Government Act.

At the meeting a member of the public gallery challenged Council for not being given the opportunity to speak to an objection in accordance with provisions of the Roads (opening and closing) act and was informed by the Chairman that such procedure was not now applicable in view of Council's decision to defer any further action. He added that it was unlikely that the matter would be raised in the future.

However, until such time as proposed changes to legislation relating to the roads (opening and closing) Act have been introduced, a close watch will be kept on notices appearing in the "Government Gazette".

Special thanks are extended to all supporters and, in particular, to individuals and groups who submitted objections to the proposed sale of Davenport Road. The Friends has clearly demonstrated its mettle and, with your support, will continue to serve the best interests of the bushwalking community!



BACKPACKING IN COMFORT

Three years ago I read in the "Advertiser" of police historian Robert Clyne's trek along the railway line to Victor Harbor to study the feasibility of establishing a walking trail. Twelve months later my friend Muff and I followed in his footsteps, staying at the same country hotels along the way. We found it so enjoyable that we planned another and recently walked to Port Elliott, staying overnight at Clarendon (motel), McLaren Vale (hotel), Kuitpo Forest (bed and breakfast), Tooperang (bed and breakfast) and Port Elliott (hotel).

Rugged bushwalkers we are not, but we have discovered a great way to trek in comfort - hot shower and a hearty meal at the end of the day, a comfortable bed, and no heavy back pack. I'm not knocking the back-packers mind you - if I'd started this healthy exercise 30 years earlier I'd be well conditioned, but for late starters I can recommend the bed and breakfast style.

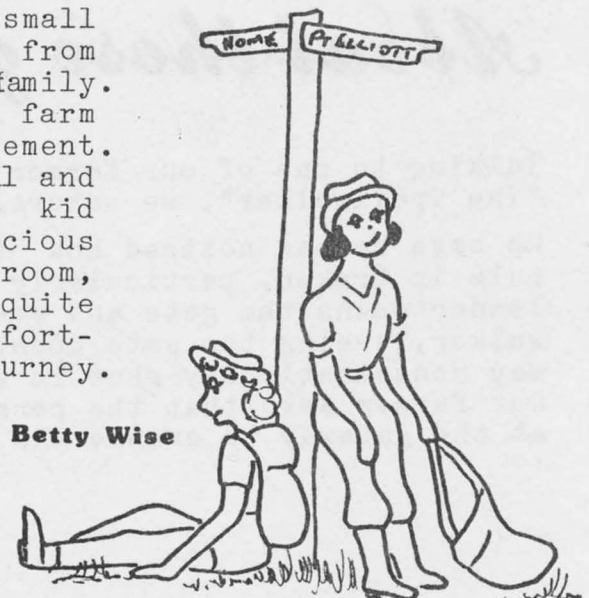
A brochure is available on S.A. Home Style Bed and Breakfast and it is fun planning a route which provides varied accommodation along the way. Our latest trek was a leisurely 20 km (average) per day and took us along country roads, through forests and conservation parks, to the seafront.

It is important when back-packing in comfort to limit your load to the very essentials. We take minimum clothing, rain capes and over pants, toothbrush and toothpaste, comb, water canteen, camera, sun hat, sun screen and our lunch. Lunch for the following day can be provided by your hosts or bought along the way, depending on the area to be walked.

Accommodation costs vary according to amenities provided. Motels can be expensive, of course, but are comfortable and convenient. The old country pubs are interesting and you usually find someone who is pleased to tell you the history. The amenities are not always in good working order but the meals are substantial and the price cheap (\$15-\$20 bed and breakfast).

Bed and Breakfast charges vary considerably but the brochure sets out tariffs and accommodation offered. The little farmhouse at Kuitpo (right opposite the forest headquarters) has been delightfully renovated and furnished. The hosts are a young couple with two charming small boys and the meals were well prepared from home grown produce and taken with the family. Tooperang, our next stop, was another farm and we arrived amid a flurry of excitement. Two new litters of pups were doing well and a prize winning goat was expected to kid that night. We were served a delicious meal in a formal lantern-lit dining room, where we ate alone. Two farms, quite different, but both providing very comfortable and interesting breaks in our journey.

At Port Elliott we were met by a friend with a car to drive us home. Our five days cost \$170, well spent in terms of comfort and enjoyment, and we are already looking at possibilities for our next trek.



The Department on the Move

The torrential winter rains have destroyed all the trail foot bridges in the Mt. Lofty's; don't take creek crossing lightly. Always remember "there is no safe way of crossing a flooded creek".

Development work on the Woolshed Flat - Mt. Remarkable section of the trail is almost complete. The map is ready for printing and the trail will definitely open in April 1988.

Peter Kellet, known to most of you, has been contracted by the Department to organize next years "Trek 88".

The second in "The Heysen Trail" series of books, this one sub-titled "Parachilna to Hawker", is to be launched on 16 November. Yes we know the walking season will all but have finished. This will give walkers something to read during the off-season.

Our second edition of "Outdoor First Aid" will be ready for next year's walking season.

The walking trail team are planning field trips to Port Lincoln, York Peninsula, South East and the Flinders Ranges, looking for more Jubilee Walks.

We are at present well into the planning of a series of huts along the Heysen Trail. The first is planned for opening in 1988 at Bowman Park at the beginning of the Flinders section of the trail.

Terry Lavender

About those gates.....

Talking to one of our farmer hosts about the Heysen Trail and "The Trailwalker", we naturally discussed the subject of gates.

He says he has noticed how the "leave them as you find them" rule is broken, particularly with large groups of walkers. The leader opens the gate and everyone follows through; the last walker, seeing the gate open, leaves it as he finds it (or he may conscientiously shut it when it should have been left open). Our farmer asks that the person who leads the group should stay at the gateway to ensure the gate is left as HE found it.

B.W.

COMMITTEE REVIEWING THE RECREATIONAL USE OF ROAD RESERVES

For the past decade, the Department of Recreation and Sport has been developing recreation trails to meet the demand for recreation opportunities placed on the Government by the community.

The most notable of these trails is the Heyesen Trail, a long distance walking trail reliant on the use of unmade road reserves.

The Department of Recreation and Sport intends to further develop the Heyesen Trail and will investigate the feasibility of developing other recreation trails, in the future, to satisfy the demand.

A committee has been established to review the recreational worth of unmade road reserves throughout the State and in consultation with Local Councils and landowners recommend to the Department of Recreation and Sport those road reserves which should be retained in public ownership.

This Committee is made up of representatives from:

The Local Government Association
United Farmers & Stockowners Association
Friends of the Heyesen Trail
Department of Lands
Department of Environment and Planning
Department of Recreation and Sport

The Committee will only consider those reserves which are suitable for inclusion in a Statewide Network of Recreation Trails.

The results of this review will be presented in map form and distributed to all Local Council authorities.

Anyone requiring further information regarding terms of reference of this committee may contact Thelma Anderson, the Administrative Officer of the Friends at the Department of Recreation and Sport, Telephone 213 0524.

COUNCIL MEETING

The next meeting of the Council will be held in the No. 1 Conference Room, State Association House, 1 Sturt Street, Adelaide on Wednesday 18th November 1987 at 6 p.m.



Members of the Friends of the Heysen Trail are urged to submit articles and or photos relating to any aspect of the Trail.

It is planned to enlarge future editions of the "The Trailwalker" and all contributions will be gratefully accepted.

It is also planned to launch a membership drive in the near future - meanwhile present members are encouraged to pass on their copy of the Trailwalker to a friend.

Copy deadline for the December issue 5pm Friday 4th Dec.

The Editors "Trailwalker"

Friends of the Heysen Trail
C/- Department of Recreation and Sport,
G.P.O. Box 1865,
ADELAIDE S.A. 5001