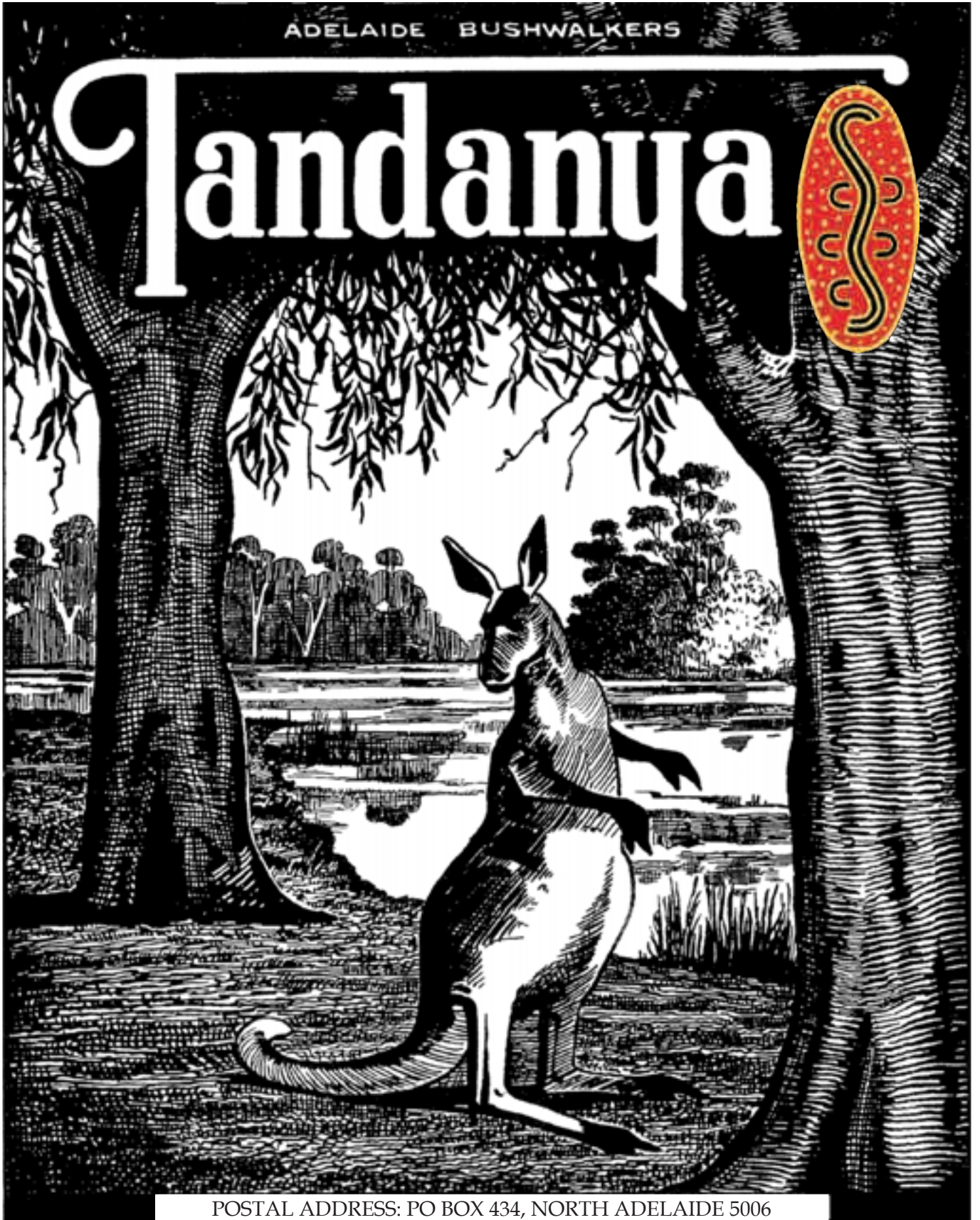


ADELAIDE BUSHWALKERS

# Tandanya



POSTAL ADDRESS: PO BOX 434, NORTH ADELAIDE 5006

Volume 43 Number 3 Spring 2013



Adelaide Bushwalkers Inc.

# Tandanya

Spring 2013 Volume 43 Number 3



## ABW Subscriptions Membership rates

Prospective	\$50 per annum
Full	\$50 per annum
Associate	\$10 per annum
Family	\$75 per annum
Student	Half fees

### eBanking Details

Bank: BankSA  
 BSB: 115-900  
 Account: 950868540  
 Name: Adelaide Bushwalkers Inc



[info@adelaidebushwalkers.org](mailto:info@adelaidebushwalkers.org)



<http://www.adelaidebushwalkers.org>

## ABW GEAR HIRE

ABW offers gear hire to all Club members at very affordable prices.

The hire charges listed below cover the period between consecutive ABW meetings ie. Equipment must be picked up at the last meeting before the activity and returned at the first meeting following the activity or members will be charged an additional fee.

### Backpacks - \$10

Macpac  
 Summit  
 Aiking (x2)  
 One Planet

### Eureka Moonshadow



### Bivvy Bags - \$10

### Tents - \$10

Macpac Microlite 1 person (1.5kg)  
 Eureka Gossamer 1 person (1.2kg)  
 Eureka Moonshadow 2 person (2.5kg)  
 Eureka Caddis  
 Eureka Rising Sun  
 Adventure Design Flashback  
 Snowgum Walkabout  
 Snowgum Frontier  
 MSR Hubba Hubba 2 person (1.9kg)  
 Wild Country (+4kg)

### Macpac Microlite



### Sleeping Bags - \$10 (including sleeping bag liner)

### Sleeping Mats - \$5

### Stoves - \$5

Trangia 6 piece  
 MSR canister mount stove  
 (hirers must provide their own gas cylinder)

### Safety/Navigation Gear

Compass x 3 - \$5  
 PLB - \$20

### MSR Hubba Hubba



### Other

Gaitors, full length - \$5  
 Walking Poles, adjustable - \$5  
 Food Dehydrator, x trays - \$20

Close off date for next issue: **Monday 18th November 2013**

Please supply all photographs and images @300ppi

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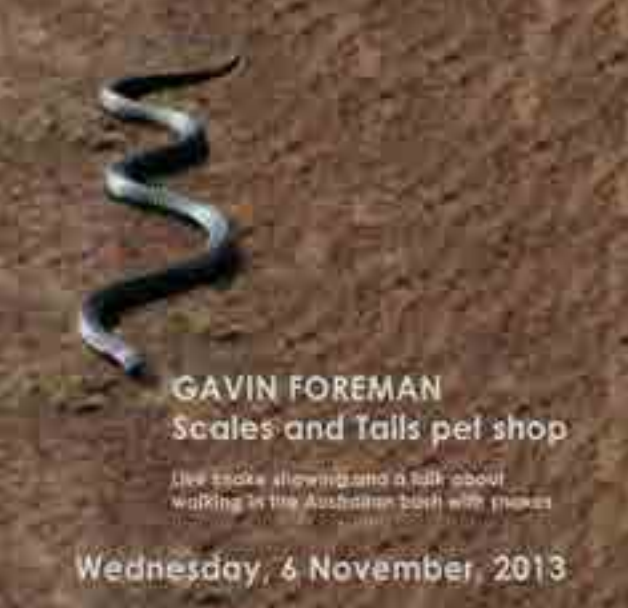
*\*Excludes GPS, watches, EPIRB's, Scouting products  
and sale items*

**Wednesday, 2 October 2013**  
**Physiotherapist**  
**NICK LAGOS**



**core**

TALK TOPIC: PREVENTION AND CURE PRACTICES



**GAVIN FOREMAN**  
**Scales and Tails pet shop**

Live snake showing and a talk about walking in the Australian bush with snakes

**Wednesday, 6 November, 2013**

**Whats on  
at the club**

**?**

**Duncan Chessell**

**Wednesday, 4 December 2013**

Meet the new ABW Patron at the Christmas Social Night and Annual Photo Competition





The final stage of the Heysen Trail is due to be walked by this group on weekend of 21-22 September. Check out the ABW Noticeboard or contact the club for further information.

# Tasmania 2013 - The Wild West Revisited

by Frank Hall

This year's trip had to be scheduled about two weeks earlier than usual due to a 70th birthday celebration for Tony and a family wedding in Canberra for Jo and I.

There were ten of us in the party, the Evans had other commitments while Alan's knee replacement had resulted in curtailing serious walking activities. Jude was also going further afield to New Zealand. We welcomed Helen to our group.

After disembarking from the ferry and stocking up with food and fuel, we drove to the Raspberry Farm for a delicious breakfast.

The walk proper started in the Meander Forest Reserve near Deloraine with a three hour return walk to Chasm Falls. Access to most of the walks in the reserve is closed off as the road bridge over the Meander River, washed away in the 2011 floods, has not been replaced. The only accessible walks which are available are to Chasm Falls, Smoke Falls and Mother Cummins Peak.

We then proceeded to our camp for the next two nights at Mole Creek Caravan Park.

Next morning we set out to drive to Lake Mackenzie (23km) an HEC lake on the Central Plateau. We were NOT impeded by snow as in 2008 and 2011 and set out around the lake's southern shore to walk to Lake Explorer and Lake Nameless. The lake's level was well down as Tasmania is suffering a lack of rain also.

We found the spot where the Fisher River entered the lake and picked up the overgrown walking track which eventually followed Explorer Creek to the lake. With temperatures reaching the low 30s and no shade, we lunched on a rocky slope above the lake, being unable to get close due to the muddy shoreline to replenish water supplies.

A decision was made to turn back here as conditions were becoming unpleasantly warm (10km return 5 hours no climbing).

Next day we left Mole Creek and headed west via Gowrie Park and Moina to the Belvoir Lookout on the cradle Mountain Link Road. The Penguin - Cradle Trail crosses the road here and a short climb to the lookout allowed us to enjoy superb 360 degrees views of Cradle Mountain, Barn Bluff, Lake Lea, the Vale of Belvoir and St Valentines Peak.

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Our next camp was at the Rosebery Caravan Park, before which we detoured to Waratah to visit the Tarkine Interpretive Centre. We were allocated a shaded, grassy area as our tent sites and enjoyed three pleasant nights here.

Next morning we set out to climb Mt Read which overlooks Rosebery and is part of the West Coast Range.

Mt Read is an enigmatic mountain. It has been mined for over 140 years and mining is still carried out today. As it is a mining lease the only access to the summit is via Mt Read Road which is used by many companies to service the large number of structures on the summit.

It is a flat-topped mountain composed of pumice-bearing volcanic rocks which have eroded in an even manner, in contrast to nearby Mt Murchison. It is also a botanical treasure trove, of Tasmania's 320 listed endemic plant species 90 are found in the Mt Read area. On the summit area 90% of Tasmania's endemic alpine plant species can be found.

The summit is 8km from the car park, the first 5.5km is through pleasant forest, the last 2.5km is above the tree line.

Views from the summit are excellent with Mt Murchison to the north east, peaks of the Cradle Mountain - Lake St Clair N. Pt to the east. Mt Dundas to the south, Mt Agnew, Mt Zeehan and Mt Heemski to the south west and Ocean Beach to the west.

With the day warming up to its forecast 34 degrees, the descent proved more difficult with loose gravel making walking very slippery. (16km return 6 hours 880m climb).

We revisited Mt Read the next morning but this time in comfort with Hay's tours to view the Lake Johnston Huon Pine reserve below the summit at 890 metres above sea level. This is unusual as these trees are usually found at sea level or by rivers. The pines are up to 10,000 years old and are seen from a viewing platform above the lake. A nearby stand of deciduous beech (*Nothofagus Gunnii*) covers an area of 2.5 hectares.

Leaving Rosebery next morning we travelled north along the Murchison Highway turning off to Waratah and our last fuel stop for 200km. Waratah is a mining town famous for the discovery in 1888 of the Mt Bischoff tin mine by James 'Philosopher' Smith, once the world's largest tin mine. The mine only operates intermittently now when tin prices are high and as the operation is now drive in-drive out the town receives no economic benefits.

Heading towards Corinna we turned off after 10km to the Philosopher Falls walking track on the headwaters of the Arthur River. The 1.5 hour return walk follows a gentle path through eucalypt and myrtle rainforest to the Arthur River and then follows a historic water race until it reaches a steep descent down timber stairs to a viewing platform beside the falls.

Our next destination was Corinna 54km away on the Pieman River where we were to spend the next four nights.

Corinna is a restored historic settlement on the northern bank of the Pieman River, formerly an old



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Come along to a club meeting  
1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month @ 8.00pm  
North Adelaide Community Centre  
176 Tynte Street, North Adelaide

gold mining town it has recently been transformed into a nature based wilderness experience. The everyday "necessities" (?) of life are absent, no TV, internet or mobile phone coverage, in other words perfect bliss!

Our plans for our stay here included two trips offered by the resort and a climb of nearby Mount Donaldson.

The cruise from Corinna to Pieman Heads on the legendary Arcadia II is rightly described as the best river cruise in Tasmania. We arranged with the resort for a special early morning departure with a return that afternoon on the normal cruise.

This meant a 6am departure enabling us to enjoy a spectacular panorama of a misty morning lifting as the sun rose.

Arriving at Pieman Heads we were able to enjoy 4 ½ hours of coastal walking to the south, reaching Conical Rocks Point with stunning views of granite boulders before returning at 12.30pm to catch the return boat. (12km return, no climbing).

We dined in the resort's restaurant that evening before retiring to our comfortable tent platforms by the river.

Next day we rove 10km along the Western Explorer

Although dammed upstream, the river is very deep at Corinna and a few kilometres downstream at Hell's Gates was the proposed site of the Reece Dam. Fortunately no satisfactory site could be found otherwise Corinna would have been inundated.

On our last full day we took a trip on the 'tin dish', a river punt which took us to Hell's Gates and Lovers Falls and up the Savage River to the wreck of the SS Croydon, the furthest inland shipwreck in Australia. The two hour trip was well worthwhile although the falls were a mere trickle due to the lack of recent rainfall.

Corinna has had no substantial rain since August and had only four days supply of drinking water. Their average annual rainfall is 1 ½ metres.

Other walks in the area include the Savage River mouth (5 hours return), Whyte River walk (2 hours loop walk) and the Huon Pine walk (20 minutes return).

The resort also offers kayak hire with guided and self-guided trips and multi-day guided walks into the Tarkine rainforest within Tarkine Trails and Tasmanian Expeditions.

Next morning we left Corinna on the Western Explorer road heading northward to our next destination Arthur River. This controversial road was completed in 1995 to link Smithton in the north to Corinna and Zeehan. The road follows the coast to Couta Rocks, heads easterly for 12km then south crossing the Lindsay and Donaldson Rivers to Corinna. It then crosses the Pieman by means of the Fatman barge (\$20 per vehicle) and finally reaches Zeehan.

About 12km from Corinna is a walking track to the Longback (518m). This track climbs gently to the summit giving extensive views of the Tarkine (30 minutes return). Before the road was built the walk from the Savage river to the Longback and return took 3 to 4 days.

We reached the west coast at Couta Rocks 2 ½ hours after leaving Corinna but gale force, easterly winds with raised dust made conditions very unpleasant so we continued on to Arthur River and lunched in a shelter at the aptly named 'Edge of the World' where the Arthur River meets the ocean.

We found comfortable tent sites at the National Parks campground just north of the river and spent the afternoon resting and exploring the area.

I had booked the group to go on the cruise up the river on the MV George Robinson next morning but received advice late afternoon that due to the easterly gales the cruise had been cancelled.



road to the Savage River and the start of the walking track to Mt Donaldson (457m).

The track rises at a gentle grade through forest before reaching buttongrass slopes with views of the Pieman River, the Donaldson River valley and the deep interior of the Tarkine. We lunched on the summit before returning to the cars. (10km return, 4 ½ hours, 440m climb).

For keen photographers, early morning on the banks of the Pieman is paradise. With no breeze, sunrise and perfect reflections of the rainforest.



A decision was made to explore the beaches north and south of the river instead and hope the wind moderated sufficiently the following day, which proved to be the case.

We headed to the river mouth and followed the beach to the north, picking up a rough 4WD track to a large rock outcrop called Church Point for morning tea. Arthur, Ann and Helen decided to continue on to Bluff Hill Point to view the lighthouse (15km return 6 hours). The rest of us returned to Arthur River for lunch (8km return 3 hours) and after lunch headed south to inspect some large sand dunes (3km return 1 hour).

The cruise boat left at 10am next day and travelled 14km up the Arthur River to its junction with the Frankland River.

This boat has been operating this cruise for nearly 30 years and stops are made en route to observe sea eagles, wedge-tailed eagles and kingfishers.

Prior to lunch we were taken on a one hour walk in the rainforest led by Greg, a very knowledgeable guide, before enjoying a barbecue lunch and observing pademelons and a spotted quoll nearby.

We left Arthur River next morning in deteriorating weather conditions and the first rain of the trip. We visited the coast at West Point and Green Point to view the west coast in its wilder mood.

I had earlier abandoned plans to climb St Valentines Peak (1106m) on the last day due to the time constraints and was pleased that the weather helped justify my decision.



Mt Cameron West and Green Point West Coast

Instead, some of us visited Dismal Swamp, a blackwood sink hole forest developed by Forestry Tasmania before continuing on to Stomley for lunch.

The rain continued until we reached Devonport preventing any further activities before boarding the ferry.

An excellent trip with a very compatible group, thank you all for your companionship.

This has been my 25th walking trip to Tasmania starting in 1985. I have covered much of the scenic areas of the state with 2 backpacking trips per year up until 1997 and 13 car-based camping trips since 1998.



Mt Donaldson Summit

## The wet season is SPECTACULAR!!

**Don't believe** what you see on TV weather reports. Weather symbols designed for temperate climates don't work for the tropics.

January, our wettest month, is far from the hottest. Most of the rain comes in short, sharp bursts. Adelaide gets many more 35° days than Darwin.

**Don't believe it?** The met bureau links on our wet season information page will let you judge for yourself. [www.bushwalkingholidays.com.au/wet.shtml](http://www.bushwalkingholidays.com.au/wet.shtml)

Our **What to Expect** page tells you even more. [www.bushwalkingholidays.com.au/wet2.shtml](http://www.bushwalkingholidays.com.au/wet2.shtml)

Once you know the truth, come and see Australia's north at its most spectacular. Find out why many local people think this is the best time to go bushwalking. **Easy, hard and everything in between**, we offer trips to suit every bushwalker.

## Willis's Walkabouts

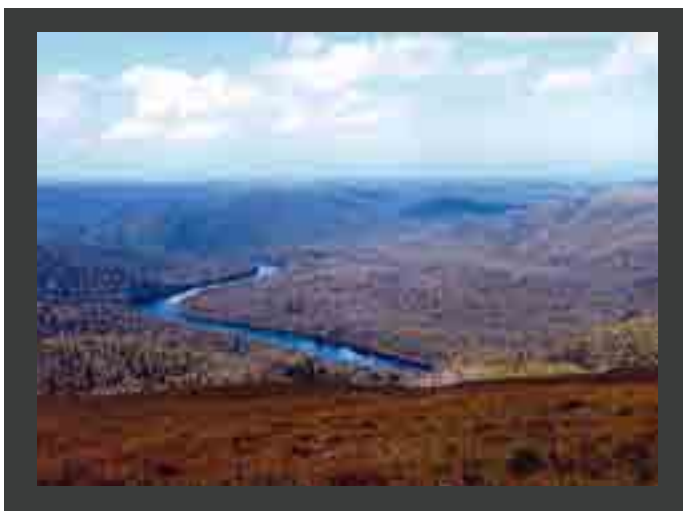
There are few areas I haven't visited, taking into consideration limits due to my ageing body and distances from base camps.

Perhaps it is time to call a halt, certainly I have nothing planned for 2014 and after that – who knows!

Frank Hall

Footnote

It is of some concern that the Federal Government has approved an open cut mine in an area of the Tarkine, south of Arthur River. Although not directly impinging on the rainforest, the ore will be transported by road using the bridge within the South Arthur Forests en route to Port Latta on the north coast.



Pieman River from Mt Donaldson



Conical Rocks Point



Baroota Knob... the only way down was sliding on your bottom!

## Willis's Walkabouts

### Wet Season for Beginners

The wet season in the Top End and Kimberley is **spectacular and enjoyable** and there are **no crowds**.

For bushwalkers who might be a bit nervous about committing themselves to a major wet season expedition, we've designed two introductory trips which allow participants plenty of time to acclimatise as we work our way from day walks up to longer overnights. Both are divided into sections, any of which can be done on its own.

**Green Kimberley: 13 January - 1 February 2014**


**Kakadu Light: 4-16 February 2014**

For general information, see our **What to Expect** page. [www.bushwalkingholidays.com.au/wet2.shtml](http://www.bushwalkingholidays.com.au/wet2.shtml). For information about a particular trip send us an email or click the links on the availability page on our website: [www.bushwalkingholidays.com.au/avail.shtml](http://www.bushwalkingholidays.com.au/avail.shtml)



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## ABW ROLLING ACTIVITY PROGRAM

(last updated 20 August 2013)

WHEN	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
Every Wednesday	Day Walk	Various locations
Every Thursday evening	Night Walk	Cleland Conservation Park
24-25 August	Pack Walk	Mount Brown
24 August – 1 September	Extended Pack Walk	Southern Flinders Rangers
28 August	Day Walk	Black Hill
31 August – 1 September	Pack Walk	Telowie Gorge
7-8 September	Weekend Day Walks	Burra area
11 September	Day Walk	Waite Reserve
14-15 September	Rogaine with SARA	North of Burra
20 September – 12 October	Extended Overseas Walk	Milam Glacier, Indian Himalaya
21-22 September	Pack Walk	Hungry Ranges, NE of Orroroo
21-22 September	FINAL STAGE - Heysen Trail (Stage 20)	Mt Bryan East to Mungcowie Hill
25 September	Day Walk	Scott Creek
4-7 October	Warren Bonython Memorial Walk	Heysen Trail, northern sections
19 October – 9 November	Extended Trip – Day Walks	National Parks, East Gippsland, Victoria
2-3 November	Short Pack Walk Sunset Dinner Pizza Lunch	Cudlee Creek Forest Mount Misery Anderson Hill Winery
9-10 November	Cycling	Fleurieu Peninsula – Lakes, Vines and Beaches
7-8 December	Kayaker's Christmas Party	Blanchetown
17 December	Moonlight Kayak	Westlakes
15-27 June 2014	Pack Walk	Far North Queensland Hinchinbrook Island and adjacent mainland interior

SA ROGAINING ASSOCIATION PRESENTS  
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See Kate or the SARA website

<http://sa.rogaine.asn.au/>

for more details.

**GOD'S COUNTRY: BEYOND HELL'S GATES**

25km northeast of Hallett - 3 hours drive from Adelaide CBD, via Burra.  
 Online entries open Sunday 18 August.  
 Late fees apply from Thursday 31 October.

Maps available from:	9.00 am
Rogaine Start:	12 noon
6hr finishes:	6.00 pm
12hr finishes:	midnight

Entry Fee:	\$50.00
Adult:	\$35.00
Concessionary:	Free
Child 9 or under:	Free



Entry includes, bush camping (ie. BYO everything) at the hash house site Friday and Saturday nights and a FREE meal Saturday night and Sunday morning breakfast.  
 Further enquiries, call Jenny Casanova 0427 605 167 or email [jenny.casanova@health.sa.gov.au](mailto:jenny.casanova@health.sa.gov.au)

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**FAMILY FUN**  
**MINIGAINIE**  
**3HR**

**SATURDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2013**  
**ADELAIDE METRO AREA**

Online entries open Monday 16 September  
 Close Thursday 31 October

There is nothing serious about this event. Our annual end-of-year minigaine is the highlight of our calendar. Beginner and family friendly, everyone is encouraged to go out and 'just have fun'.

An afternoon of adventure in your own city, with best dressed awards and piping hot pizza to finish the day!

Maps available from:	2.00 pm
Rogaine Start:	3.00 pm
Rogaine Finishes:	6.00 pm
Entry Fee:	\$15.00
Child 9 or under:	Free



For more details log-on to [www.sa.rogaine.asn.au](http://www.sa.rogaine.asn.au)

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