

ADELAIDE BUSHWALKERS

Tandanya



POSTAL ADDRESS: PO BOX 434, NORTH ADELAIDE 5006

— Summer 2014 Volume 44 Number 4 —

ABW Club information

The club meets at the North Adelaide Community Centre, 176 Tynte Street, North Adelaide on the first and third Wednesdays each month (February to November).

Annual subscription fees

Category	Normal	Student
Prospective Membership	\$60	\$30
Full Membership	\$60	\$30
Associate Membership	\$10	\$ 5

Family membership is no longer available for new members.

Contact Details

Email: info@adelaidebushwalkers.org Web: www.adelaidebushwalkers.org

Post: PO Box 434, North Adelaide, SA 5006

Banking Details

Bank: Bank SA BSB: 105 900 Account: 950 866 540

Account name: Adelaide Bushwalkers Inc.

Membership queries

Contact the Membership Secretary, Kate on 0410 660 562 or via email through info@adelaidebushwalkers.org.

For privacy reasons, the names and contact details of other office bearers are no longer published in the magazine. Please use the contact details above.

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“The future will belong to the nature-smart - those individuals, families, businesses, and political leaders who develop a deeper understanding of the transformative power of the natural world and who balance the virtual with the real. The more high-tech we become, the more nature we need.”
Author unknown.

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Close off date for next issue: Wednesday 18 February 2014

Life Members

By John Bartlett

For the benefit of club members, here is a list of Life Members:

Ian Hancox	Roger Kempson
Harry Greet	Frank Hall
Peter Beer	Ed Burgess
Tony Lothian	June Boscence
Arthur Ward	John Bartlett
Merilyn Browne	Trevor May
David Evans	Harry Hakkennes



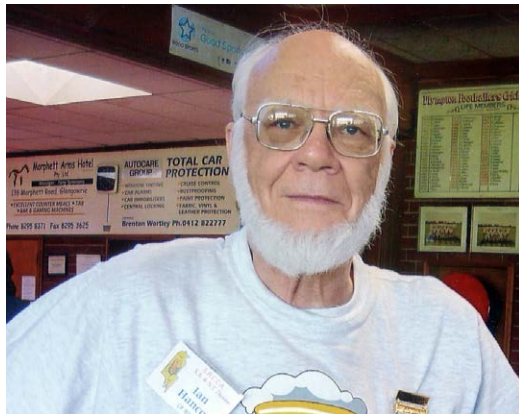
Roger Kempson

The founder of ABW, Bill Lindsay and another foundation member Margaret Arnott - Rogers were also Life Members.

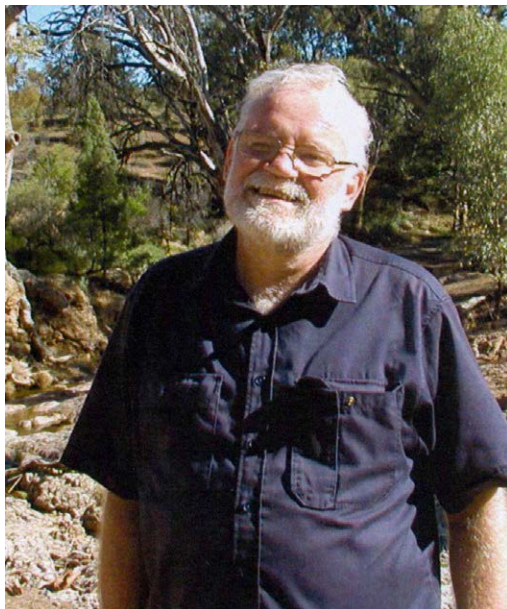
Bill died in 1969 and Margaret died in 2002.

Another Life Member, Ron Pitt died on 24 September, 2012 (see TANDANYA Summer 2012).

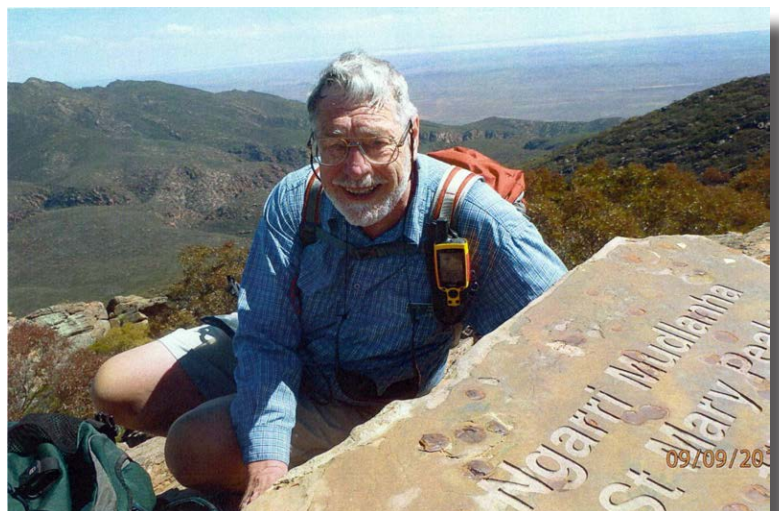
Ian Hancox



Frank Hall



Ed Burgess



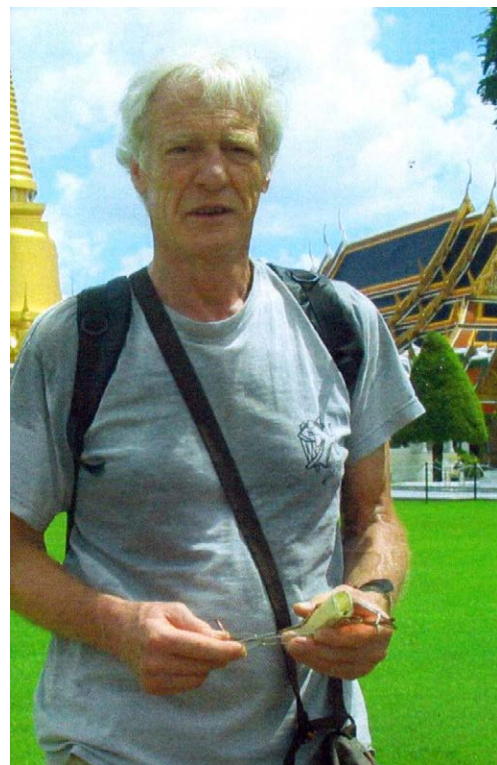
David Evans



In the photo are at back - Peter Beer, Arthur Ward, Tony Lothian, June Boscence.

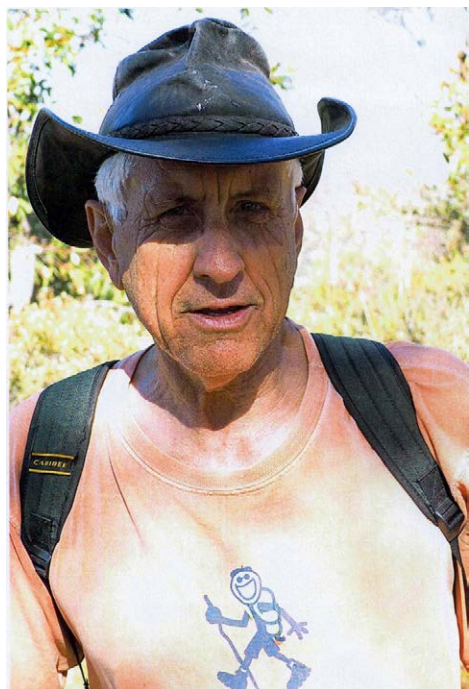
At front - Marilyn Browne, John Bartlett.

The photo was taken at a luncheon for older members at Janet Callenand Denis Harper's home.



Harry Hakkennes

Life Members



Trevor May



Harry Greet



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Library Notice

By David Evans, ABW Librarian

Any financial member of ABW, full or prospective is entitled to use the library.

The borrowing period for books, magazines, Cd's and DVD's is nominally 1 month.

Items borrowed on the first meeting of the month are due to be returned by the first meeting of the following month. Likewise items borrowed on the second meeting of the month are due to be returned by the second meeting of the following month.

The exception to this is the ABW netbook computer which comes loaded with Tasmanian topographic maps. This can only be borrowed by endorsed leaders of the club and must be returned by the following meeting. A form will need to be filled in and signed.

Willis's Walkabouts

Kakadu Plan of Management Have Your Say

The new **Kakadu Draft Plan of Management** is scheduled to be released on 1 December. Comments will be accepted only until the end of January.

This plan will affect what bushwalkers can and can't do for the next ten years. If you would like to walk in Kakadu, or if you simply care about bushwalking in the park, please have your say. Not making a comment tells the authorities either that you are happy with everything in the plan or that you don't care.

The plan will **probably** go online on the Kakadu Publications page: <http://www.environment.gov.au/topics/national-parks/kakadu-national-park/publications>

Please email me if you would like me to send you details when the plan is actually released.



Wednesday Walks

By John Bartlett

In an article of mine in TANDANYA, Summer 2012, I gave details of how the Wednesday Walks are organised and run.

All walks and trips are included in the Club's ACTIVITY PROGRAM on the Club website.

Recent 2 - 3 day trips have included Barossa Valley, Milang, Troubridge island and Deep Creek CP.

In line with the new Club policy, and as from January 2015, all walks must be led by an ENDORSED LEADER.

There are approximately 40 club members on the list of Wednesday Walkers, of whom three are endorsed Multi-day Walk Leaders, and 27 are endorsed Day Walk Leaders.

Any club member - full or prospective, is very welcome to join in on the Wednesday walks - an excellent way to meet other club members, enjoy a social event, make new friends, enjoy a good morning tea and see more of the interesting places around Adelaide.

There is a high level of support for these activities and no events have been cancelled over the past 2 years.

The walks have an average attendance of about 15.

I am taking over from David Evans as Wednesday Walks Co-ordinator, and the program for the first half of 2015 is under way, but at this stage, and on behalf of all the WWs, I would like to pay credit to the work David has done in the last two and a half years as our co-ordinator.



In particular, he has introduced the 2-3 day trips into programs, and is always thinking of ways to improve the program and to establish the necessary link between the WWs and the club as a whole.



The Wednesday Walkers at a lunch at John Bartlett's home following a walk on his 80th birthday.

Those in the picture are:

Standing: Ian Boscence, Brent Martin, Phil Coles, Denis Harper, Harry Greet, Wendy Foreman, Sally Patterson, Ian (Toni's friend), Sheila Dickinson, Bill Gehling, Liz Woodham, Alan McLean, Cynthia Kirkham, Jan Harrison, Ann Ward, Janet Callen and grandchild, Ian Dickinson, Merilyn Browne, Melanie Jackson, Roger Kempson, Arthur Ward, Frank Hall, Chris Lloyd, John Butler, Rosemary Butler, David Evans, Michael Weaver, Lorraine Billett, Graham Foreman.

Sitting: Rita Clayton, Bonnie Marriott, Toni Beattie, John Bartlett and Snowy, Margaret Young, Pauline Curnow, Judith Cahill, Barbara Phillips.

Hidden at right: Alan Brokenshire, Helen Evans. Left early - Mal Kirkham. Also present - Paul Bartlett (behind the camera and Stuart Anderson).



Twelve days walking in the Pindari Glacier area

By Lee Marling

Four club members, Jude Cahill, Alex Donald, Lee Marling and Nino Fioretti spent twelve days walking in the Pindari Glacier area. This was the club's second trip to the area. It lies roughly 50km south of the border with China and 50km west of the border with Nepal in the province of Kumaon, Uttaranchal state. The region is near to the source of the Ganges at Gangotri and features many ancient temples, huge forests, farming villages and small towns along the river valleys.

From Bageshwar we drove through the Saryu River valley for 90 minutes to the village of Song where the trek begins. A further 3km 90 minute uphill walk took us to Loharkhet where we stayed for the night. Our afternoon walk was cut short by dozens leeches and heavy rain.

The next day we began the nine km climb to the Dakhuri Pass at 2900m, an altitude gain of 1.2km in just over five hours. We had lunch at the hamlet of Dakhuri and stayed the night in the forest rest home, the views obscured by clouds. A clear morning brought us wonderful views of peaks over 6000m, Maiktoli, Nanda Khat and Nanda Kot. We spent the next four days walking through the Pindari Valley with lovely farms, oak and rhododendron forest, waterfalls, monkeys and the fast flowing river never far away.



Camping two km from the glacier at 3600m

After a couple of days in Delhi we caught the train to Kathgodam, the last station on the railway line. We then took a jeep for the six hour drive to Bageshwar through the Himalayan foothills. A lovely winding drive with steep ascents and descents through forests, terraced farmlands, colourful temple complexes and villages. It is always nice to stop for chai and snacks of fresh pakoras and samosas.

We camped next to Baba Ji's small temple again where we enjoyed chai and a halwa breakfast before climbing up to Zero Point to view the glacier. We spent a morning climbing up to 4000m to get the views of the glacier and the mountains and spent the afternoons in our tents due to rain and hail.

Our last nights were spent camped at the Jai Chilta Temple at 3100m near the Dakhuri pass with great views of the main Himalayan range. Each evening we witnessed storms dumping fresh snow on the lower hills near the glacier where we had been without realising that this was the storm that had killed nearly forty trekkers on the Annapurna Circuit just two hundred km away.

It was great to complete another trek with the ABW (this time without injury or mishap!) in this wonderful region of India.



Nino on the trail. A typical rough paved pony trail that criss cross the Himalaya



Jai Chiltai temple 3100m where we camped for the last two nights. From here we saw the storms come in that killed nearly 40 trekkers in Nepal



Willis's Walkabouts

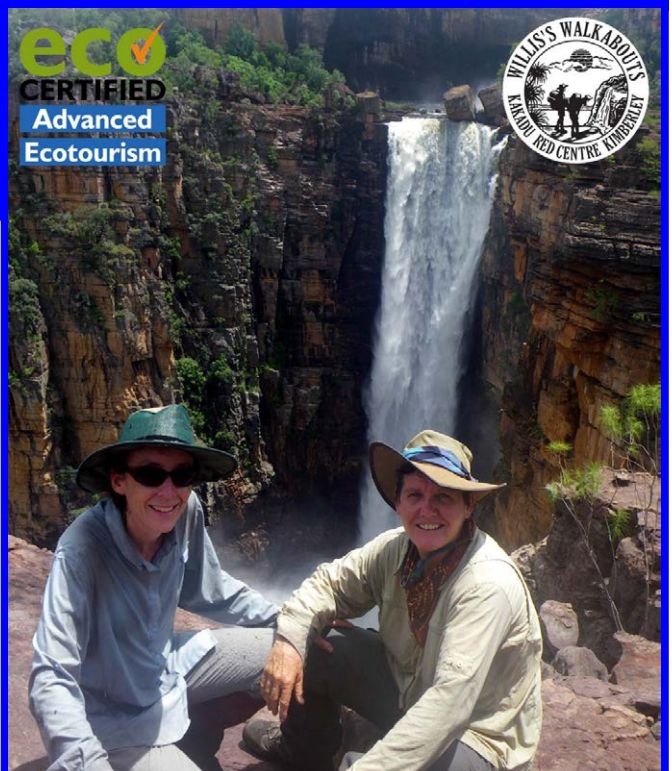
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Close up of Nanda Kot 6861m



Jude and Alex high above the Saryu River at Loharkhet.



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On the light side...

The Lone Ranger and Tonto went camping in the desert. After they got their tent all set up, both men fell sound asleep.

Some hours later, Tonto wakes the Lone Ranger and says, "Kemo Sabe, look towards sky, what you see?"

The Lone Ranger replies, "I see millions of stars."

"What that tell you?" asked Tonto.

The Lone Ranger ponders for a minute then says, "Astronomically speaking, it tells me there are millions of galaxies and potentially billions of planets.

Astrologically, it tells me that Saturn is in Leo.

Time wise, it appears to be approximately a quarter past three in the morning.

Theologically, the Lord is all-powerful and we are small and insignificant.

Meteorologically, it seems we will have a beautiful day tomorrow.

What's it tell you, Tonto?"

"That somebody stole the tent".

Beware Memories and Old Maps

by Trevor May

I lead a walk in the Grampians for the 2014 annual bus trip which was a really good walk with a great group but which turned out to be significantly harder than I had expected. I had been on the same walk led by John Bartlett 6 years before. At that time it was a moderate to easy walk and because Lindy and I were not particularly fit for this year's Grampians trip I offered to lead the walk again thinking that it would



The team on Mt Rosea

not be particularly challenging. My main concern was that we'd be getting into camp at 2 or 3pm in the afternoon and everyone would be bored. This turned out not to be a problem.

I thought it would be worthwhile relating some of what happened as a caution to relying too heavily on memories and old maps, especially in some national parks where conditions and tracks can change significantly. It's worth doing your homework before the trip, even if you've been there before.

Our group took our bus from Borough Huts to the Rosea Camp Ground car park to start the walk on Saturday morning. First problem – the direction of one way road from the car park had been reversed so we lost a little time backtracking to our drop off point.

We headed off along the track to Mt Rosea to drop packs except that what I remembered as the Mt Rosea Track wasn't and after 15 minutes I was wondering why we were heading gently down hill instead of up and Bruce Hood begged the same question. OK, we are on the wrong track, not a problem, back to the car

park and bingo, tucked over the other side of the car park was the Mt Rosea track. I'd forgotten that there was more than one track from the car park. Memory !

The signage for that track to Mt Rosea said that it was 4.5kms each way. My old map showed it to be approximately 2km each way which it was 6 years ago but the track had clearly been rerouted.

So, instead of having lunch on Mt Rosea we lunched half way along the track doubting if we had time to go all the way because it looked quite rough and slow. In the end we had a go and it turned out that the remaining track was well made and relatively easy despite the terrain so we enjoyed the spectacular views from the top.

After picking up our packs we followed the 4WD track to China Wall, visited the overhang and made camp near Tower Hill by 4.30 in the afternoon. A good day and no spare time to kill.

Next morning we left our packs and headed along a creek into the scrub to the spectacular Calectasia Falls. The scrub was a bit thicker than last time so it was slow going but we made it OK. Along the way we found a sparsely marked route from the falls to nearby Tower Hill which we decided to follow instead of returning the same way to our packs. This worked well, got us to Tower Hill which we'd planned to climb and saved us having to scrub bash back to our packs.

On with our packs and on the road again towards the turn off towards Middleton Gap only to be confronted with a 'Road closed to 4WD vehicles and walkers' sign! Apparently an endangered bettong or similar was being reintroduced to the wild and they didn't want them disturbed in any way. 'What now brave and fearless leader' was the silent question? Easy, we've got less than 22 hours to get back to the bus so we can't go back and if we walk really quietly and stop singing, there being only 5 of us, we shouldn't disturb the animals. I decided we had to press on and we did.

Down into the valley we descended looking for the 4WD track turn off toward Middleton Gap. At one stage we passed a small cleared area on the left but as we started to veer in the wrong direction there was still no intersection. As I was beginning to look about and wonder Bruce again begged the important question. Out with the GPS! Yes we'd passed the intersection which turned out to be the cleared area about 500m back. It was the now disused track completely blocked and hidden by two fallen trees and a lot of new growth. Silly old me expecting a gate and clear track junction.

This track, that we'd happily trundled along 6 years before was now blocked by fallen trees and completely overgrown in places with weedy, prickly undergrowth which was uninhibited by the presence of older, mature shrubs and trees above as it normally would

have been. In places the track was hard to find and almost harder to navigate than the surrounding bush. Down into the valley and up the other side we went, slowly. Eventually, as expected, what was left of the track ended and we navigated through the scrub towards Middleton Gap with the intention of camping near water. The scrub was thicker and harder going than previously due to plenty of local rain it seems and there were lots of fallen trees. Nothing we couldn't handle, just prickly and slow.

We eventually made a rough but OK bush camp on the side of the valley near water at around 5pm after a bit of searching and clearing fallen trees. What? no time left to kill again? However we had a comfortable and pleasant evening.

Next morning, with around 4kms to go I was anticipating a demanding but short walk back to the bus in plenty of time to get changed and brew some coffee. The undergrowth was quite thick but we picked our way through it OK, albeit slowly, to Middleton Gap. All was looking good for the down hill run along the track to Borough Huts.

I decided to save some climbing to the high point at the gap by contouring around to the very sparsely marked route down to the 4WD track. So we did and right into high grass and undergrowth in which were concealed large fallen trees some of which you couldn't climb over! Bad decision Trev. So I abandoned that idea and led my party, still in surprisingly good humour, clawing our way up to where we should have been and onto the route down.

Ah, that's wasted a bit of time but we're still OK and look, here's that track, but look again, it's as badly overgrown as the one we'd left on the other side! At least it's all down hill. In fact the track was so badly overgrown that we lost it briefly a couple of times. There were even some tape markers to help follow what, 6 years ago, was a clear 4WD track. So with track scrub bashing and fallen trees I was starting to see us being late back for the bus, forget brewing a coffee!

We made it back to the bus with 20mins to get changed, somewhat scratched, torn, bloodied and dirty but all was well. Fortunately for me I had a strong and very good humoured team (Bruce - Co navigator, Tracey, Ellen and Lindy) which made the whole walk enjoyable and a great team effort, despite the unexpected difficulties, for which I was very grateful.

Other than doing one's homework and not relying on old maps and memory it pays not to make assumptions, to plan conservatively and be prepared for the unexpected. Can I remember that?

A subsequent look at on-line maps for the national park did not say anything about the state of these tracks so perhaps we would have gone there regardless of any homework. The national parks tend to cater mainly for day walkers and walkers using a few managed and specified tracks and camp sites. If you are doing something a bit different, as we often do, you have to be prepared and plan accordingly with some margin for the unexpected.



Where's that track junction gone?