



Friends of Parks Inc

Walking Trails Support Group

NEWSLETTER Summer 2007

Our motto: *Reliable and sustainable access to natural areas* *Volume 5, Issue 2*

Annual Report 2007

- thank you members and associates who were able to participate in this years range of activities. Moral support is valued as well. There are at least as many unrecorded administrative hours that go into the web, maps, interpretive leaflets etc. as are spent in the happy out of doors
- while for convenience we present our annual report in a summer newsletter, we will still be pleased to see you at our AGM

Organisation

- as you may be aware we are very small group with diverse activities so we meet formally and socially but once a year in early December
- contact is maintained by way of a summer and a winter newsletter, (current issue on our webpage) and of course verbally or by email flowing from your involvement in projects
- we are obliged to obtain an annual membership fee from any participant in our activity to conform with Department for Environment and Heritage (DEH) requirements
- all grant funds are expended on equipment or materials built into projects
- participation is voluntary and unsupported except for the provision gratis of accommodation by DEH

Extension

- our web page is www.walkingtrailssupportgroup.org.au/ and a lot of effort has gone into presenting notes, maps and photos
- copies of *Walking Trail Handbook* were provided to all attendees at the Friends of Parks Forum in Port Lincoln and mailed to all Local Government CEO's .
- we were pleased to address meetings of the Friends of Onkaparinga National Park and the Friends of the Simpson Desert regarding the principles of managing walking trails.

Grants - make our world go round!

- We were successful this year with a Federal grant for an industrial mower, of course it turned up after the advent of the fire season so we will plan to use it next year!
- Responding to a local request we applied for grant to improve the marking of the track to Malloga Falls, we understand that this may now be held over until the current trail reviews are completed. The review has significant implications for how and where we might apply our future efforts
- That grant applications to State and Federal agencies are more welcome from incorporated bodies prompted our consideration of moving in that direction. After consideration and discussion with the DEH Volunteer Support Unit we have opted to maintain the *status quo*, at least for the time being. That walking needs an effective organisation independent of government is becoming more apparent as the years pass.



If it ever rains again a mower is most useful for defining tracks especially on degraded sites where Salvation Jane can be a real problem

Activities in 2007

- **Vulkathunha-Gammon Ranges**
Oppaminda Nudlamutana, checked out a better and more interesting option for the section between Mt Warren Hastings to Nudlamutana Hut
Weetootla, asset check
Italowie, asset check and remarked Checkpoint 6 to Italowie Gap trailhead
 New robust donation bollards installed at Italowie Gap, Grindell Hut, Weetootla Camp, Balcanoona and Munyallina
- **Flinders Ranges National Park**
Wilkawillina, asset check
Hayward Huts, asset check and with district support we were able to complete the installation of checkpoint maps. Serviced interception drains between Checkpoints H1 and H2
Bunyeroo Wilcolo, asset check, cleared track obstacles between Checkpoints B7 and B8
- **Southern Flinders**
Dutchman Stern, asset check, developed track between Checkpoint 4 and 2, serviced interception drains and cleared stone 2.6 – 3.0
Mount Brown, asset check, cleared fallen trees and replaced temporary markers between Checkpoints 2 and 3, applied distance decals to Waukarie Creek
- **Barossa**
 When not otherwise occupied we have endeavoured to put in a day a week especially on those walks in Parks, servicing interception drains and clearing fallen timber.
- **Burnside Walking Trails**
 We have supported an initiative by City of Burnside to develop a link track to from lower Hayward Drive up to the Mount Osmond Fire Track. When complete it will facilitate access to another interesting six kilometre circuit.



An obvious and visible trailhead is a great help when you are looking for where to start a walk

Dates for 2008

Track monitoring and maintenance

Southern Flinders

Mt Brown and Dutchman Stern
28 March to 7 April

Central Flinders

Flinders Ranges National Park
9 to 19 May

Northern Flinders

Gammon Ranges National Park
20 to 30 June

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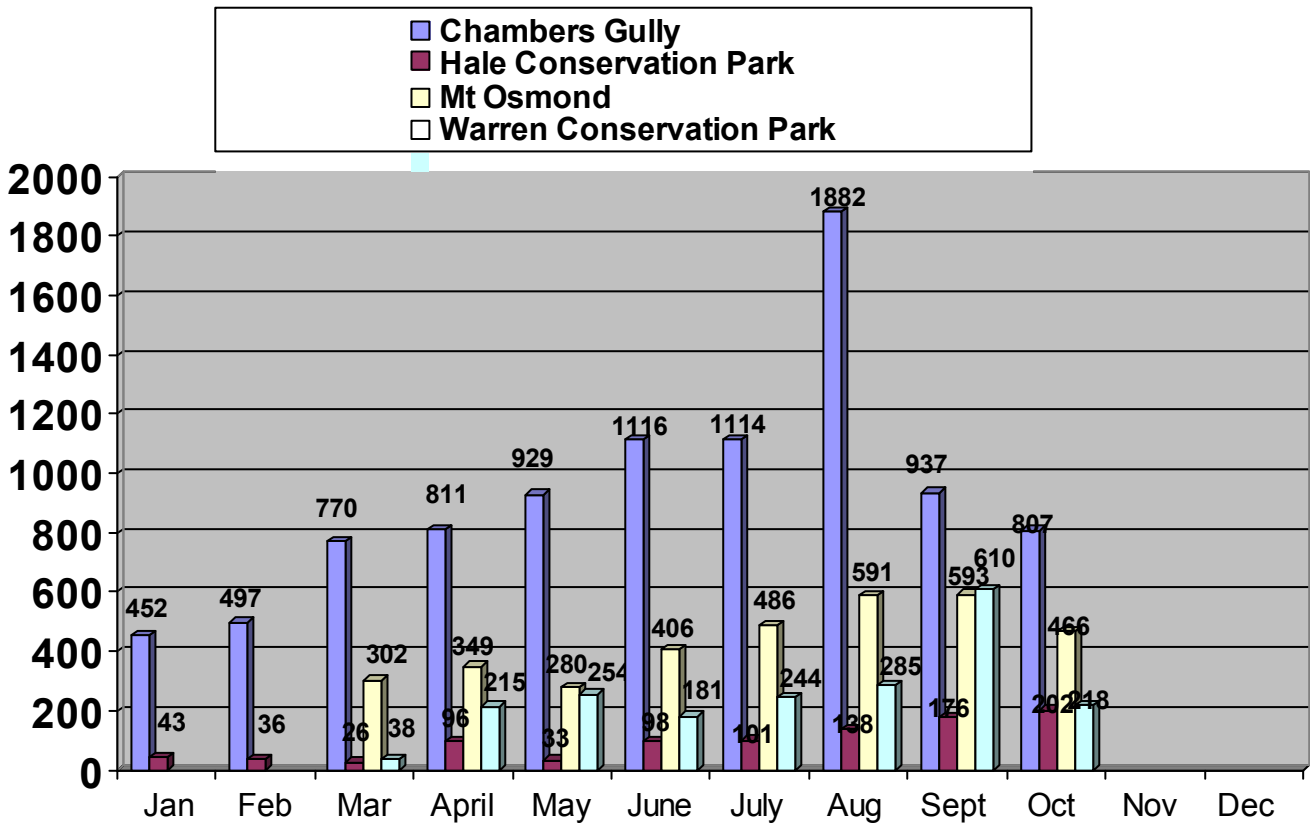
Website: www.walkingtrailssupportgroup.org.au

Monitoring track use

Working with Walking SA we monitor track use every month at four locations. At one level one could say ‘guesstimates’ are as good but it is nice to have something tangible.

The figures following are provided for interest coupled with the average maximum temperature for Adelaide

Traker Data between January to October 2007



Average Maximum Temperatures	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
	28.5	28.5	26.0	22.1	18.6	15.8	14.9	16.1	18.4	21.3	24.4	26.8