

section was Dog Pool to Long Point and "the friendly animals" at Donnelly River Village were a highlight. Mike's personal interest is small marsupials and he was impressed by a dunnart family living at Mount Chance Shelter and bandicoots at Ginger Creek. The Fealy's also sighted dibblers, more bandicoots, and woylies courtesy of the Department of Conservation and Land Management with a visit to the Gilbert Potaroo Captive Breeding Programme at Two Peoples Bay. Both Mike and Terry were impressed with the shelters and water supplies along the Track. Best equipment for the Fealys was a Candle Lantern, Thermarest mattress, gas stove and camp pillow. Mike also suggests "bringing good food so you can look forward to meals". Terry writes, "not to bring your dog". Unfortunately the Fealys shared the Giants Shelter with a couple who had brought a dog onto the Track that proceeded to "bite my husband and spent all night chasing endangered wild animals (woylies and possums)". Terry filed a complaint with the CALM Ranger at Walpole.

"One of the most wonderful walks I've ever done. - Up there with the best of them in Australia" says **Darryl West** (53). Darryl lives on the road in his motorhome (called "The Wallaby") and walked the Track using the road access points. Darryl's wife was with him until Walpole where she fell and badly injured her back. Darryl continued on by himself and continued to sign the Track Registers as "The 2 Wallabies". Beginning November 2000 and finishing March 2002 Darryl walked 15 - 18ks out from a vehicle access point each day returning to his motorhome to sleep each night. He would then drive to the next access point and walk back to the point he finished off previously and return again. With the walks in from the access points and all the return journeys, Darryl totalled a whopping 1962k's (measured using his "trusty pedometer"). To quote Darryl he "walked from Albany to Kalamunda simultaneously". Well done Darryl - the mind boggles just thinking about it!

Michael Paterson (41) of Bicton walked the Track in sections from October 1998 to April 2002. Donnelly River to Albany was Michael's favourite section although he enjoyed the whole track and in comparison to other walks writes; " it is a very safe and

well organised track. Michael recommends weighing your pack before you go.

"Will be recommending the Track to all my friends and any one wanting to lose weight"

"Will be recommending the Track to all my friends and any one wanting to lose weight" says **Hazel Watt** (38) of Stirlingshire, Scotland. Hazel walked Kalamunda to Albany from November to December 2001. Hazel was also very impressed by the "friendliness and enthusiasm of the Track walkers" and in comparison to other walks she writes the Track is "one of the Best maintained, clean, easy to follow tracks". Hazel has walked numerous New Zealand walks, the Luca Trail, and the Westfly Way (Scotland). Hazel saw kangaroos, tiger snakes, mountain dragons, emus, lots of bird life and rabbits but no possums. Woolbales to Albany was her favourite section and many vibrantly coloured wildflowers were a highlight. Best equipment was a fly net and worst a sleeping bag that was not warm enough. Hazel suggests packing antihistamines if allergic to plants and a walking stick for sand dunes.

Markus Rienzner (25) of Italy walked the Track from Kalamunda to Albany from 6 January to 31 January 2002. The Walk was not just a way to get to Albany for Markus but a personal challenge and "a way to say thank you to my mother and father." A highlight for Markus was having his birthday on the Track and his first views of the ocean. Markus saw 28 snakes, many birds, kangaroos and wallabies and "millions" of flies. Some sections of the Track reminded Markus of the Alps and in comparison to the Camino de Santiago (700km's) which he walked August 2001, the track is "very different.

" Best equipment was a 6 litre water bag and worst were running shoes.

A hammock, gas stove, and masseur sandals were **Paul Adams** (30) best equipment. "Just do it" says Paul who walked from Blackwood to Albany and Blackwood to Kalamunda 22nd January to 19 February 2001. Karri forests, coastal sections and Dwellingup to Kalamunda were Paul's favourite sections. Highlights included friendly wildlife (wallabies and bandicoots), the Gloucester tree at Pemberton and

"almost being kissed by a Tiger Snake"!

Steve Sertis (32) completed an End to End, this time in one go, from Kalamunda to Albany from 27 December to 21 February 2001. "Stop putting it off, get advice, get the right equipment and get out there" are Steve's recommendations. Steve dehydrated his own food and received food drops by friends. Mt Wells and Denmark to Albany were Steve's favourite sections while getting to the coast from Woolbales and seeing the ocean for the first time were highlights. Steve also enjoyed meeting lots of people on and off the Track and comments that he "can't handle city life" and wants more. This could be arranged Steve! Once again wildlife was in abundance for Steve including "Tawny Frog Mouths, owls, eagles, birds, birds and more birds, snakes, lizards, goannas, humans, quendas, wallabies, dunnarts and dolphins." Steve's best equipment was his feet and he hopes to go South to North next time.

Compiled by Peta Pollock (volunteer)

My Ode to the Hut

Dear little hut hiding
amongst the bushes
pop up before me and
answer all my wishes.

I have been trudging now
since the dawn of time.

I do believe I have come
to the end of my line.

I need to sit, to eat and
relax,

to take off my shoes,
my hat and my pack.

To reflect on the journey
that is to done

and to ponder what
is yet to come.

Let me sleep now
undisturbed that so

I may continue my journey
again tomorrow.

Leah (Beraking campsite)