



The Aussie Camino

for pilgrims everywhere



www.aussiecamino.org

WELCOME BACK EASTER GROUPS

Well in dreary old Melbourne the clouds are beginning to descend lower and lower and the nights seem to get longer and longer. Indoors, the slow cooker is being dusted off and the the BBQ has been packed away for a few months . Thankfully this town has its own winter rhythm and the sounds of the football crowds can now be heard from a distance.

It doesn't seem that long ago now that I got back from our Easter camino, and now that the stiffness and soreness has gone I am left with only the good memories of what was a terrific trip. On Easter Monday the first group met at St Patrick's Cathedral and two days later the second group followed after meeting at the Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre.

Many thanks must go to the people that helped make it happen. In my group Fr John Salvano for his use of the cathedral offices and for celebrating daily masses along the way and our trusty driver Kevin Kelly for his reliability, warmth and good humour.

Although I was not able to catch up with the second group I have shared many emails and phone calls from many happy pilgrims. Thanks to Fr John Monaghan for his guidance and leadership in my absence. John is a champion walker and veteran pilgrim who has great experience in caminos, and of course to Fr Greg Bourke for his ministry and reliability in the vehicle. (See more photos included in this newsletter.)

More good news is that the Aussie Camino has been accepted in a proposal to the Limestone Coast Councils of SA. This means they are considering the Aussie Camino as a genuine tourist drawcard to the area. This may see the camino gain some signage, shelters and other support. Fingers crossed as it goes to the next level.

Finally I am asking for any expressions of interest for up coming caminos this year and 2016. If you are thinking about it or are interested in being a driver then please let me know.

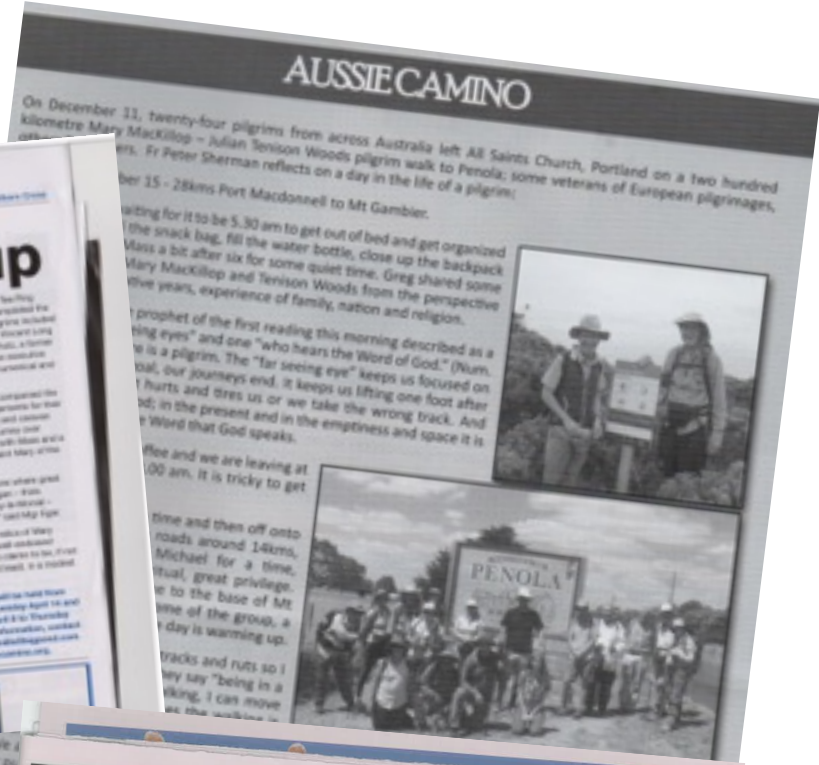
¡Buen camino!

Luke



“When I want something very much I thank God beforehand for I feel God will certainly grant what he has been thanked for..” Mary MacKillop
(1874)

IN THE MEDIA



Some of the terrific news coverage the Aussie Camino has received in Australian media outlets. Many thanks to those who sent them through.

Top left: The Southern Cross (SA Catholic paper) sent by Rob Egar.

Top right: Ballarat Diocese magazine sent by John Monaghan.

Bottom left: Australian Geographic (electronic version)

Bottom right: The Penola Pennant.

remember this from last newsletter?



Six Ways to Santiago.

In my previous newsletter I did a review of this terrific documentary. Well the filmmakers are coming to Australia and they want to hear from pilgrims who have Walked the Camino de Santiago. (see ad on next page)

About a third of the people who have done the Aussie Camino have walked in Spain so if you'd like share your experience they want to hear from you.

¡Buen camino!

The Australian tour starts in Melbourne on June 11th at the Nova Cinema, Carlton. Check out the Australian dates at:

<http://www.umbrellaent.com.au/movie/walking-the-camino/>



We're Going International!

We are excited to announce that *Walking the Camino* will be screening soon in the following countries!

Spain, Italy, the UK, & Australia!

We are looking for pilgrims in each of these places to help us with the following:

1. Volunteer to do Q+A after screenings
2. Share this info with your friends and peregrinos in those countries

Email Maggie at maggie@caminodocumentary.org if you're interested in helping!



Check us out, Australia!

We were among the top 2 films at this year's Young at Heart Film Festival in Australia!

[Be on the lookout](#) for more screenings in theaters to come starting in June!

Make sure you and your friends are signed up to our email updates list and that you [like us on Facebook](#) and [follow us on Twitter](#) for the latest updates and information about screenings!

Thank you for your continued support, peregrinos! We hope to see you in Spain/Italy/UK/Australia! :)

Buen Camino,
The Camino Documentary Team

Expression of Interest

There are 3 scheduled camino groups for later this year and 2016. If you are interested in attending then please contact me at lukej.mills@bigpond.com or at www.aussiecamino.org

The dates are

- September 2015 21st - 29th (Booked out)
- December 2015 14th - 22nd
- March 2016* 10th -20th

All groups would follow the same programme.

| | | |
|-------|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Day 1 | Meet 10: 00am | Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre 362 Albert Street East Melbourne |
| | 10:30am | Registration and pilgrims' farewell mass in Chapel |
| | 12:00pm | Depart to Portland by cars (arrive around 5pm) |
| Day 2 | | Portland - Cape Bridgewater |
| Day 3 | | Cape Bridgewater to Bridgewater Lakes |
| Day 4 | | Lake Mombeong to Nelson |
| Day 5 | | Nelson - Port MacDonnell |
| Day 6 | | Port MacDonnell - Mt Gambier |
| Day 7 | | Mt Gambier - Kalangadoo |
| Day 8 | | Kalangadoo - Penola |
| Day 9 | | Penola return to Portland (bus departing 11:30am) |

***March 2016 camino is planned to coincide with the 150th anniversary celebrations of the Sisters of St Joseph in Penola. This promises to be a most popular camino so be quick!!**

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A DRIVER??!!

If you would like to come on any of these caminos but don't think you could make it on foot, then maybe you could come and join the fun by driving the back up vehicle. No special qualifications required. Trailer provided. All costs covered plus a generous allowance for the week. Contact me at abovementioned email address. Luke

Pilgrims' Tales

¡Buen Matrimonio!

(right) Daniel Royals from Adelaide a veteran of the first group in Easter 2014 tied the matrimonial knot to girlfriend Angelique on January 24th. Pilgrims on this trip will remember Daniel for walking 12km in socks as the blisters became too much coming into Port Macdonnell. Great to see them both enjoying such a lovely day. Now that's an idea..... Aussie Camino honeymoons.....hmm may need to give it some more thought.



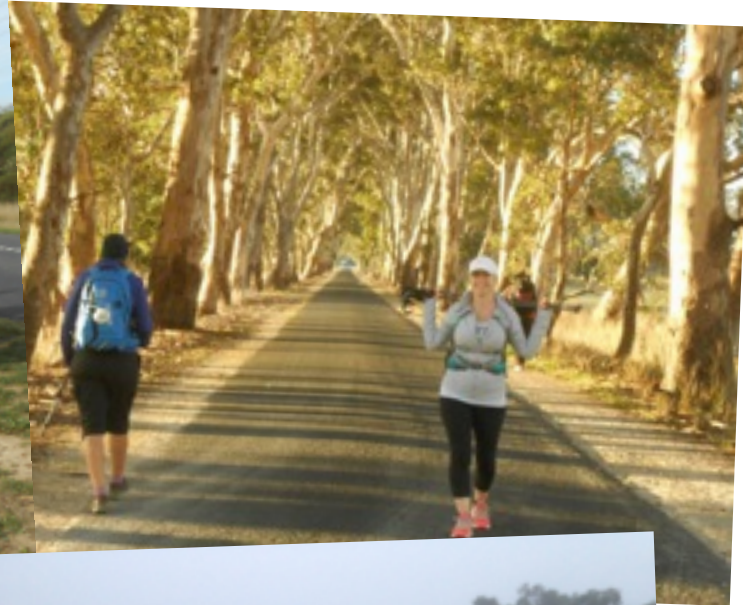
(above) Serial 'Pilgrim Tales' offender Mick Dillon again grabs the limelight with a trip to Everest Base Camp in January 2014. Mick's photo of a tribute bat to the late Phil Hughes caught the attention of editor of the 'The Herald Sun'



(above) A Big thanks to Karen Davidson, Jennifer Bosch and Daryle Cook for spruiking the Aussie Camino at the Sunshine Coast Camino Club. The club is proving to be a fertile training ground for the AC. Thanks to Jill Edwards who took the shots and is also signing up again for next year!! Go ladies!!

Photo Gallery Easter 2015

For more photos go to Aussie Camino on FaceBook.
Don't forget to click **Like!!**



Magazine Review Great Walks

Publisher: Yaffa Publishing

Review by Luke Mills



Okay it's about time we got serious about walking. Many would be pilgrims on the Aussie Camino think that pilgrimages are all about the spiritual and less about the physical. Great walks is all about the physical aspect of walking and whilst it tackles walks through much more difficult terrain than our camino it really is a fantastic magazine for walkers of all ages and abilities. The main sections are listed below but it really covers all aspects of walking and introduces walkers to local and international trails.

With a bit of luck the Aussie Camino may even feature in future editions!!
HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.

GEAR



WALKING TIPS



PHOTO COMPETITIONS

