

SALTBUSH MEMORIES FROM 1993

Ø President Alan Holland, vice president John Brockhurst (Scrubo) secretary Elizabeth Purling, treasurer Tony & Debbie Drobnjak, publicity Annette Brockhurst, Ken Thompson (junior coach), Chris Thomson, Adrian Watson (equipment), OASA rep Murray Young.

Ø **The Tanks-** Anne Thomson & Annette Brockhurst.



IN THE BUSH...Youngsters Gregory Holland, Mark Brockhurst and Luke Brockhurst all competed in the last orienteering meeting at Two Tanks on Sunday April 4. This Sunday's event will be held at Hidden Valley in the Moonable Ranges on the way to Cowell.

Ø **Hidden Valley-** John Brockhurst & Tony Drobnjak.

Historic event

The area being used for the Saltbush Orienteers' event this Sunday (May 2) has historic significance.

Many years ago an attempt was made to establish a mission in the foothills on the eastern edge of the Moonable Ranges — about halfway between Whyalla and Cowell.

The dry conditions proved too much and the site was abandoned. A pile of stones from the fire place, rusted tank and dry well are the only reminders of this early pioneering effort.

The country east of the Moonable range consists of undulating hills and complex nests of gullies and water-courses. The tree cover, mainly mallee on the hills and Myall on the flats, is moderate to thick.

The thick trees camouflage the entrance to the valleys and it is this feature which led to the naming of the area as Hidden Valley.

The eastern edge of the low hill plateau drop down 50 metres onto the coastal plain and a string of string of steep gullies and waterfalls is the result. This is spectacular if seen after rain.

Four courses have been set out for prospective orienteers this Sunday, ranging from a short and easy 2km route to the demanding 7.5km course for the fitter experienced orienteers.

The other two courses have been set to an intermediate standard about 3.5 and 5.5kms long.

The Hidden Valley map used for this event is colored to give distinct contour and watercourse markings and an indication of the vegetation boundaries.

Visitors are most welcome to try orienteering but dogs are not allowed because of the sheep on the station country.

A barbecue plate will be provided and compasses and maps are provided for a nominal fee. Experienced orienteers will be available to show newcomers map reading and orienteering skills.

The start area can be found by following the signs from the Whyalla - Cowell road at the Moonable Station turn-off.

Event times are between 11am and 3pm and further information is available from Annette Brockhurst on 45 2375.

Ø **Payne's Weir-** Geoff Mills & Graeme Tonkin - 42.

- Ø **Cockatoo Creek**- Alan Holland & Trevor Pickert.
- Ø **Corunna Gap EPC & Badge event**- Annette & Ken Thompson – 128 entries for Badge event. **Middle Camp** Geoff Mills
- Ø **Red Rock Hills**- Alan Holland.
- Ø **Moonabie North**– Adrian & Val Watson.
- Ø **Ash Range**- John Brockhurst.
- Ø **Cheeseboard Hill**– Night – Chris Thomson.
- Ø Working Bee's at the **O-Shed**.
- Ø Orienteering display by Annette Brockhurst in **Civic Library**.
- Ø "Map storage" saga gathering steam.
- Ø Scott Watson in **Australian Schools Champs in Sydney**.
- Ø **Junior consistency badge** awarded to Sarah Brockhurst, Matthew Sloan & Nicholas Thomson.
- Ø Hand washing & drinking water facilities under scrutiny.