

Andrew downs tools for epic walk

Andrew Cadigan, a 29-year-old New South Wales carpenter, downed his tools before Christmas and last Wednesday arrived in Orbost on foot.

It was the death of his good friend Chris Simpson last year that initially inspired him to initially walk from Sydney to Perth and raise money for Cancer Council Australia.

While in Orbost Andrew banked \$400, taking the fundraising bank account to \$3000.

Chris had a leukaemia-related disease and died from complications arising from chemotherapy.

Andrew has travelled extensively overseas and now travels on foot, pushing a baby jogger carrying his belongings.

He hoped to be in Lakes Entrance by last Friday morning, and was planning to take the weekend off. This week he was to spend four days walking to Traralgon.

Having left the Sydney airport on December 27 without having done any training, Andrew said he could now consistently walk 50 kilometres a day if he wanted to.

He raises approximately \$100 daily, mainly through people pulling over on the side of roads and donating.

"People normally just stop me and see what I am up to," he said.

Andrew has since decided that he may continue to walk to Darwin via Perth, from where he will fly to a wedding in Fiji in November.

His journey to Perth will take in Melbourne, Tasmania, Adelaide and the Nullarbor.

He travels with a 20-watt solar panel mounted on top of the jogger, which in turn charges a mobile phone and iPod to keep him entertained.

There are always some mishaps, and last Monday Andrew managed to karate-chop his headphone cord in half while swatting a march fly.

"It's been a boring couple of days without music!"

Andrew walks for an average of 10 hours each day and is making a film about his journey.

He is waiting for his North Avoca house to sell to fund the trip and said Orbost was "the first kind of half decent town I have bumped into this week!"



Andrew Cadigan, raising money for Cancer Council Australia, passed through Orbost last Wednesday and met local boys Anthony Leatham, Liam Giove and Damian Kriek. S9-1

Supplied courtesy of the *Snowy River Mail*