

# Tourism chief backs development call Parks support



**LONG WALK:** Andrew Cadigan is walking around Australia to raise funds for cancer. Photo: ALISON WYND

## Mateship inspires Andrew's epic trek

CARL DICKENS

IF you think your commute is tough, spare a thought for Andrew Cadigan as he walks all the way around Australia.

The 29-year-old is pushing a modified pram full of supplies more than 15,000km around the country to raise awareness and cash for cancer research.

He set off from his home near Sydney on December 27, arrived in Melbourne 35 days later after a gruelling trek down the Princes Highway, and arrived in Geelong yesterday.

He'll stay here for a couple of nights, buying supplies and resting before resuming his epic expedition.

Mr Cadigan decided to do the mammoth march after reading a

book about a man who walked around the world and then, after mate Chris "Simmo" Simpson died aged 24 after complications from the blood disease myelodysplasia, resolved to dedicate his quest to the cause.

Throwing in his management job, Mr Cadigan sold his house, car and furniture and set off.

He plans to raise \$50,000 for the Cancer Council and has already raised more than \$5000.

"It's going pretty well, I'm trying to stick to the coast wherever I can and I've got my fishing rod with me," he said.

Mr Cadigan hopes to complete the round trip to Sydney by next March or April.

LINK [www.ozonfoot.com](http://www.ozonfoot.com)

CARL DICKENS with AAP

OPENING up Geelong and the Surf Coast's national parks for private hotels, restaurants and tourist facilities could be a win for both tourism and the environment, our region's tourism chief says.

The State Government's efficiency watchdog said popular Victorian tourist spots including the Great Ocean Road were missing out on tourism opportunities because of restricted private development.

The Victorian Competition and Efficiency Commission recommended Parks Victoria be overhauled to become what it dubbed a "sophisticated landlord", which would be responsible for finding opportunities for developers, helping with applications to develop private tourist facilities and regulating licensed tour operators.

Geelong Otway Tourism head Roger Grant last night welcomed the recommendation, saying the state should follow Tasmania's lead.

"We're really keen for these concepts to be looked at," he said.

"The fact is, at the moment, Victoria, from a tourism perspective, is missing out on a massive opportunity."

Mr Grant said the move need not jeopardise the parks.

"If you look at place like Tasmania, which has the likes of wilderness lodges, many other operators would benefit from this, such as walking tour guide operators," he said.

"It's not about compromising the environmental integrity of the parks, because if it's done properly, these facilities can be made according to best environmental practices."

Victorian National Parks Association chief Matt Ruchel disagreed, warning the move would set a "dangerous" precedent.

"(Parks) are popular and much-loved, but now private companies want a piece of the action in a public asset designed to protect nature for the future," he said.

"People visit national parks for an experience they can't get elsewhere - they want the opportunity to experience the natural world."

## GOT AN IDEA FOR A MORE RESILIENT AUSTRALIA?

THE AUSTRALIAN COMMUNITY, BUSINESSES, INDIVIDUALS AND ACADEMIA ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE INSURANCE COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA'S \$50,000 2011 RESILIENCE AWARD FOR DURABLE HOUSING

The Insurance Council of Australia represents the general insurance industry in Australia and helps policyholders recover from the damage and loss caused from natural disasters and other events.

The general insurance industry has a strong interest in measures that improve the resilience of property to extreme weather and together with its members the Insurance Council seeks to encourage the adoption of building techniques and materials that reduce the level of brittleness that may be experienced by a building over its planned life-cycle. Buildings constructed with durability to extreme weather in mind, present a lower risk to property owners. While the building code of Australia addresses safety of life and sustainability, the durability of a property is not considered essential within the BCA and as a result there is a risk of Australia's building stock becoming increasingly brittle to extreme weather hazards.

In conjunction with the Institute of Architects, Australia's leading body of design experts, the ICA is calling upon the community to develop and submit resilient housing design concepts. Both the design and material selection should incorporate inherent protection for the building envelope and its contents, from flood, hail, extreme rainfall, fire and windstorm.

Submissions should focus on why the proposal is unique, how it will build resilience, how much it will cost and most importantly, how it will benefit the individual, business or community and how it can be accomplished.

Submissions should address this assessment criteria and, meet one or more of the six key ingredients of resilience defined in the Insurance Council's Resilience Policy. Entry details and further information are available at [www.insurancecouncil.com.au](http://www.insurancecouncil.com.au). A panel of risk experts appointed by the Insurance Council will assess each entry with the winner awarded a cash prize of \$50,000.

INSURANCE COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA

ENTRIES MUST BE SUBMITTED NO LATER THAN 15 APRIL, 2011

**NEW STOCK ARRIVES**

Autumn Weight Stretch Denim JEANS

\$29

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Normally \$59 to \$79

The last delivery sold out in days. A new shipment has just arrived of these super comfortable stretch denim jeans and pants. 4 styles which include a classic 5 pocket jean \$49, an elastic waist pant \$39, a 7/8 length jean at \$29, a jean style with split hem \$39. All pre-washed and pre-shrunk. Fantastic value at these prices. 12-18 includes size 13. Belts shown not included.

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Product Safety Recall



**OKANO 42" FULL HD LCD TV (MODEL LTV4200F)**

Sold at JB Hi-Fi and Clive Anthony's stores between 11 January 2011 and 18 February 2011.

**Defect:** the neck of the TV stand may detach from the TV chassis.

**Hazard:** if the TV stand fails, the screen could fall forward causing injury to persons in the vicinity.

**What to do:** Consumers should immediately remove the Product from any location where failure of the stand may result in the Product falling and causing injury.

Customers should then contact the manufacturer on 1300 765 663 between 8am and 8pm (AEST) to arrange for an in-home replacement of the stand. Alternatively customers can return the unit to any JB Hi-Fi or Clive Anthony's store for a full refund.

See [www.recalls.gov.au](http://www.recalls.gov.au) for Australian product recall information