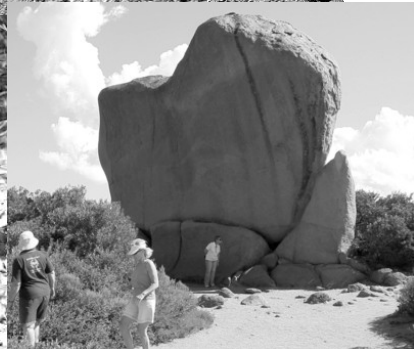
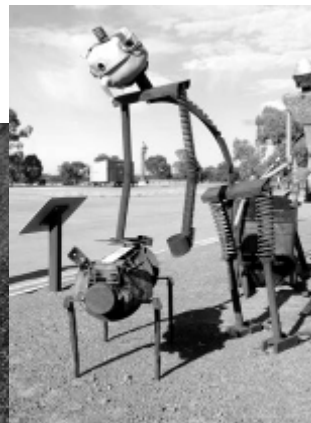


Gawler & Districts

# 4WD Club Newsletter

August 2009



Gawler and Districts  
4WD Club Inc  
is a member of the  
South Australian  
Association of Four Wheel  
Drive Clubs Inc.



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### **PHOTO EXPLANATION ON COVER** (left to right)

Wave Rock at Hyden	Sculpture at Hyden
Gnomesville	Dingos at Nullarbor
Kookaburras at Meelup	Super Pit at Boulder
Shovel Scoop at Super Pit	Gnomesville
Old Eucla Jetty	Whistling Rock Le Grand Nat Park
	Lighthouse at Cape Leeuwin
	Dog Rock at Albany

# **WELCOME!**

## **Welcome to the Gawler and Districts Four Wheel Drive Club.**

Previously known as The Light Four Wheel Drive Club of SA Inc., an active 4WD club of around 28 members since 2002. Members voted at the March 2008 meeting to change the club's name and meet at Gawler to give the club a more recognisable name and a more central meeting place with the view of attracting an increase in membership.

The club was formed in the middle of 2002 and previously met at Freeling once a month. It has become a very social club and has run many a successful day, week-end, long week-end and extended trips. We are a member of the South Australian Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs Inc. which incorporates the Driver Training Unit. The club also has Public Liability Insurance through the Association. Most meetings include a Guest Speaker and a club newsletter is published monthly.

If you are a visitor to tonight's meeting, we welcome you and your family to our club. Please ask as many questions as you want. You can join us on up to 3 club outings before becoming a member, and the club has UHF radios and 4WD recovery gear, which you may loan. Trip Leaders run each outing and will be glad to help you with tips on four wheel driving and how to get the best from your vehicle. If you would like to join us on any trips, please see Dave and fill out your details on the Trip Sheet/s.

The club meets at the Gawler Elderly Centre Hall in Fourteenth Street, Gawler.  
Meeting dates are on page 3 of this newsletter.

Our annual membership fees are currently \$60 per vehicle/family, plus \$10 joining fee.

Again, welcome to our club and the enjoyment Four Wheel Driving can bring.



## **Gawler & Districts 4WD Club Inc.**

**Box 486**

**Freeling SA 5372**

**Club meets second Friday in the month at 7.30 pm**  
(Except on a long weekend when it is one week earlier.)

**Enquiries Contact – Lyn or Max Ph: 8524 9002 or**  
**0403 332 432 (Lyn) 0427 807 066 (Max)**

**EMAIL: [gawleranddistricts4wdclub@gmail.com](mailto:gawleranddistricts4wdclub@gmail.com)**

## Committee Members

### PRESIDENT/PUBLIC OFFICER

Max  
Ph: 8524 9002 or 0427 807 066

### VICE PRESIDENT

Martin  
Ph: 8524 2032 or 0409 770 498

### SECRETARY

Norma  
Ph: 8525 2434 or 0438 120 341

### TREASURER

Wayne  
Ph: 8523 0407

### MINUTES SECRETARY

Sandra /Jane

### EDITOR

Lyn  
Ph: 8524 9002 or 0403 332 432

### COMMITTEE MEMBER

Michele Ph: 8525 2765

### TRIPS CO-ORDINATOR

Dave  
Ph: 8524 3508 or 0411 772 226

### PROPERTY OFFICER/LIBRARIAN

Roy  
Ph: 8564 0235 or 0412 679 973

### SOCIAL SECRETARY

Deb 8523 2507  
Karyn 8522 5664  
Karen 8524 3508

### TRAINING CO-ORDINATOR/DTU DEL.

Norma  
Ph: 8525 2434 or 0438 120 341

### WELCOMING OFFICERS

Quenton / Keryn / Roy

### ASSOCIATION DELEGATE

John  
Ph: 8522 5664  
or 0408 824 654

## Schedule of Meetings

<u>2009</u>	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
<b>Meeting</b>												
<b>Committee</b>		4	4			3	1	5	2		4	2
<b>General</b>		13	13	3	8	12	10	14	11	9	13	11
<b>Committee</b>			25	29					30			

Club committee meetings commence at 7:30pm on the scheduled Wednesday, on a rotating basis, held at various committee members' homes. All club members welcome. Check with your committee.

## President's Report

Welcome Everyone

August: We are now moving from winter to spring. This will lead to longer and slightly warmer days for camping and bush walking. The events for August are Peake and maybe the Adelaide Hills Sunday Drive.

Thank you to all who helped with the preparation and minding of the site at the Caravan, Camping and Off Road Show. The amount of brochures that were taken indicated that there was a fair bit of interest for our site.

There are trips coming up so please put your names on the trip sheets for any that may be of interest to you. September - training and social day, October – long week end at Argadells and Country Music Campout fund raiser for Royal Flying Doctor Service.

**Max**

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## Editor's Report

Welcome to everybody, especially any visitors at tonight's meeting.

A slightly smaller newsletter this month without trip reports, due to a quieter month on our calendar for events. Please check the travel procedure printed in this month's newsletter, and the event requirements before attending a club trip to confirm you have everything with you and understand the club's expectations. This will ensure everyone should have a great time. Our membership list has been updated with the addition of a few new members.

Thank you to Dean Spencer for his talk at July's meeting. The committee members need your ideas of guest speakers for future meetings. Tonight there will be laptops showing the WA trip and a photo album for you to view during a cuppa.

We purchased 2 boxes of copying paper on special from Cartridge World. We thank Paul for his donation of these to our club.

Don't forget the 2 photo competitions that will be announced at our Christmas party. Happy clicking those photos.

**Lyn**

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# Travel Procedure

- Please be on time at meeting points **we will not wait.**
- All road rules apply on & off road.
- All vehicles must be roadworthy & covered by insurance. (Comprehensive. Minimum third party property.)
- All drivers must have a current driver's licence.
- All vehicles must have a UHF radio. Club channel is 16. (Alt 17)
- It is recommended that all vehicles carry the following; first aid kit, fire extinguisher, snatch strap, at least one rated bow shackle, small shovel, (sand flag if going in sand hill country), appropriate jacking plate & jack.
- Ensure you have a full tank of fuel before meeting point.

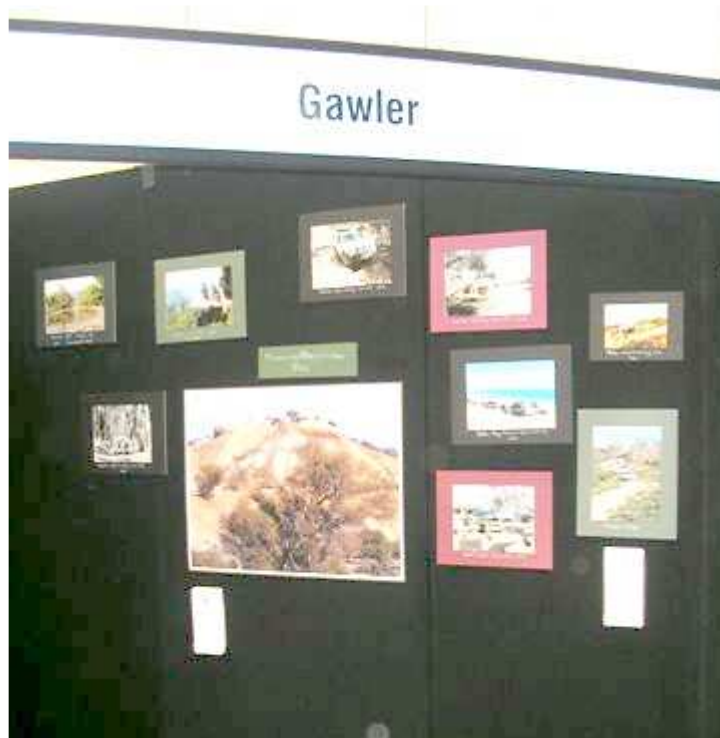
## TRAVEL PROCEDURE

- Trip leader has **complete authority** during the whole trip.
- **You are responsible for the vehicle behind you.** Wait at obscured turns & intersections. (This is called "Marking the corner for your Buddy")
- If you are not sure which way the vehicle in front of you has gone, stop, call on the radio, or *wait* until they return.
- If you wish to leave the group for any reason please inform the trip leader before you leave the convoy.
- Try to remain in allotted positions within the group, or change with the permission of the person in front or behind you. Tail-end Charlie/Assistant Trip Leader is to remain the same.
- When stopping at points of interest, or seeking outside information, **do not** block roadways or impede other traffic.
- If you are unsure how to tackle a particular section, **ask for assistance** do not try to be a **hero**. We may be a long way from professional help.
- When off road, and in doubt, use four wheel drive. H4 or in steep slow terrain L4. (also saves the track from damage)
- Leave all gates **as found**, if in doubt ask!!
- Radio chat is great; but please keep to minimum, especially if in difficult terrain. (Use a 3 second pause between responses. Always acknowledge)

## CAMP PROCEDURES

- Before lighting fires please consult with trip leader.
- When using "**Bush toilets**" ensure all is buried deeply incl. paper.
- Remember – leave only your "**foot prints**".

## Our Display at the Caravan, Camping & Off-Road Show from 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> August 2009



### **A GAWLER GIGGLE - *The Government Economic Stimulus Payment*** (received via email)

This year, some taxpayers have received an Economic Stimulus Payment. This is a very exciting new program to be explained using the Q and A format:

Q. What is an Economic Stimulus Payment?

A. It is money that the federal government will send to taxpayers.

Q. Where will the government get this money?

A. From taxpayers.

Q. So the government is giving me back my own money?

A. Only a smidgen.

Q. What is the purpose of this payment?

A. The plan is that you will use the money to purchase a high-definition TV set, thus stimulating the economy.

Q. But isn't that stimulating the economy of China?

A. Oh, be quiet.

Below is some helpful advice on how to best help the Australian economy by spending your stimulus cheque wisely:-

If you spend that money at K-Mart, all the money will go to China. If you spend it on petrol it will go to the Arabs. If you purchase a computer it will go to India. If you purchase fruit and vegetables it will go to Mexico, Honduras, and Guatemala (unless you buy organic). If you buy a car, more than likely will go to Japan. If you purchase useless crap it will go to Taiwan. And none of it will help the Australian economy. We need to keep that money here in Australia. You can keep the money in Australia by spending it at lawn sales, going to a football game, or spend it on prostitutes, strippers, beer and wine (domestic ONLY), or tattoos, since those are the only businesses still remaining in Australia!!!!





## Coming Events

**Peake**                      **Sat 15<sup>th</sup> & Sun 16<sup>th</sup> August 2009**  
**Trip Limit:**                No Limit  
**Type:**                        4WD Sand Driving and camping social weekend.  
**Trip Details:**              Meet at rear of Shell roadhouse at Tailem Bend Sat 9.00 am.  
**Requirements:**            Caravans, Campers, Tents, Swags etc. Sand flag, air compressor, shovel, recovery gear, jack plate etc. Sturdy walking shoes and all food and water. UHF Radio.  
**Cost:**                        \$20.00 per day.  
**Trip Leaders:**             Bronte & Norma  
**Phone:**                      8525 2434 or 0438 120 341

**Adelaide Hills, Sunday Drive**              **Sunday 2009** (Date to be confirmed)  
**Trip Limit:**                Open to members and visitors  
**Type:**                        Scenic drive  
**Meeting point:**            More info closer to date  
**Trip Leaders:**             Dave & Karen  
**Phone:**                      8524 3508 or 0411 772 226

**Training & Social Day**              **19<sup>th</sup> September 2009**  
**Trip Details:**                BBQ Tea. Comfort fire  
**Meeting Point:**            Bronte & Norma

**Argadells, Flinders**    **Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> , Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> , Sun 4<sup>th</sup> , Mon 5<sup>th</sup> October** (long weekend)  
**Trip Limit:**                8 vehicles maximum (members only)  
**Type:**                        Working sheep property with a network of 4WD tracks and magnificent views, so bring your cameras. Rocky terrain, steep inclines and declines. Drive up Mt.Arden, the highest point in the Southern Flinders.  
**Requirements:**            Driver experience in the above terrain types essential. High clearance, low range vehicles only with rated recovery points front and rear. Bring own recovery gear, UHF radio and vehicles must be in A1 mechanical condition. Bush camping, so bring all supplies. Tents, swags and off road campers only. No Pets, Motorbikes or Guns.  
**Cost:**                        Track fees \$45 (club discount \$40 - \$5 discount) + \$10 camping fee per person per night, children under 16 yrs free. Cockroach Valley Campsite  
**Meeting Point:**            Mallala (more info later)  
**Trip Leaders:**             Dave & Karen  
**Phone:**                      8524 3508 or 0411 772 226 or see trip leaders for more detail.





## Coming Events

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### Country Music Campout 23<sup>rd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> October 2009

**Type:** Fundraiser for the Royal Flying Doctor Service  
20 hours entertainment at Bindmurra Station, Notts Well Road,  
Blanchetown, well sign posted.  
On-site food and drink catering, toilets.  
No dogs or motorbikes please.

**Cost:** \$30 Adults, Children under 16 free (with an adult)  
Free camping from 3.30 pm Thursday – 3.00 pm Sunday  
For Saturday ONLY: \$20 (no camping)

**Trip Leaders:** Max & Lyn

**Phone:** 8524 9002 or 0427 807 066

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### Oakbank Music Extravaganza Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> November

**Where:** Music Festival at Oakbank Racecourse from 12 noon – 12.00 pm

**Cost:** To be finalised

**Fundraiser:** Proceeds to Royal Flying Doctors Service

**Enquiries:** Wendy

**Phone:** 8568 5259

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### Pt Broughton Christmas Function Saturday 28 & Sunday 29 November 2009

[www.portbroughtoncaravanpark.com.au](http://www.portbroughtoncaravanpark.com.au) Book Under Club

(see page 13 for more details)

**Trip Leader:** Deb

**Phone:** 8523 2507

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### **Proposed Trips –**

2009 - Burra Creek Gorge

Bri-Glen Park – “Top Gear” week-end

“Bethany Games” – 4WD themed games – Held on a Sunday.

January 2010 – 1 week at Coffin Bay includes Australia Day weekend

April 2010 - Grampians

June 2010 - National 4WD Gathering, Pomona, Queensland

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# CARTRIDGE WORLD

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## Club Merchandise

Items listed below are to be ordered direct from Im-Press Promotions Gawler  
– All embroidered with club logo.

Polo Shirts – Navy with red or gold piping. Men's S to 5XL. Ladies 8 to 18.  
Style codes PS17 & PS18. **\$31.00**

Child Polo Shirts – Sizes 4 to 14. Style code PS24 **\$29.00**

Polar Fleece Windcheater – Navy with red or gold. Unisex S to 2XL. Child 6 to 14. **\$48.00**

Stadium Jacket. Style HZ20 **\$92.00**

Bucket hat **\$18**

Caps **\$17**

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- \**Swags*
- \**Binoculars*
- \**Marine*
- \**Knives*
- \**Repairs*



## Gawler Fishing & Outdoors

48 Murray St Gawler SA 5118

Phone 08 8522 6200

[fishnout@bigpond.net.au](mailto:fishnout@bigpond.net.au)

*Near the end of the WA Trip Report in the June Newsletter, it was mentioned that interesting facts would be given of the Eucla Telegraph Station found on the web. A photo of the ruins was printed on page 14 and the collapsed jetty is currently on the front cover. On our journey home, 4 of us spent several hours searching for this lost town. Hope you enjoy reading this article as much as we have.*

## Eucla Telegraph Station (printed off the net)

If there is any resonant image of the difficulty of human habitation on the Nullarbor Plain it has to be the old Telegraph Station at Eucla. Now it is no more than a few old stone walls slowly disappearing under mountainous white sand dunes on the edge of the Great Australian Bight. It is hard to think of any more lonely and isolated image in the whole of Australia.

Of course, like most images, it is nothing but an illusion. The Old Telegraph Station is not actually on the Nullarbor Plain but rather on the coastal plain which lies nearly one hundred metres below the level of the Nullarbor. And the image of Eucla as a solitary ruin is given the lie by the small township on the top of the escarpment.

Located 11 km from the South Australian border, 1430 km east of Perth (it is 492 km west of Ceduna and 713 km east of Norseman) and 87 m above sea level, modern Eucla is the largest settlement on the Nullarbor Plain with a service station, hotel–motel, a caravan park, a Royal Flying Doctor base, an ambulance, a hospital, some government agencies and a Police station.

It is said that the word 'Eucla' was part of a local Aboriginal expression used to describe the first appearance of the morning star over the sand dunes by the sea. Even if it is not true the story gives the name quite a magical beauty.

Beware of camels, wombats and kangaroo signs on the Eyre Highway east of Eucla.

The first European to pass through the area was Edward John Eyre on his ill–fated 1841 expedition. He was followed by John Forrest in 1870 and in 1873 land was taken up at Moopina Station near the present town site. The land is very marginal experiencing an average rainfall of only 254 mm per annum.

Eucla came into existence in 1877 as a manual telegraphic repeater station. Its location near the state border was no accident. It is claimed that messages would arrive in one part of the old telegraph station, be carried across to a wall (which represented the state boundary), passed through a pigeon hole, and then sent on their way by the telegraphist from the other state who was on the other side of the wall.

The location of the repeater station was chosen because it was possible to build a jetty (the ruins of which can still be seen) at which supplies could be landed. It was the only place

## Eucla Telegraph Station (continued)

where boats could moor for hundreds of kilometres. The cliffs to the east are the longest stretch of uninterrupted cliff face in the world.

Eucla was proclaimed a township in 1885 (there are more buildings hidden under the sand dunes which will, in years to come, be exposed as the dunes are moved by the wind) and was at its most populous in the late 1920s. It declined after 1929 when a new telegraph line was built beside the railway line to the north.

In the 1890s the town experienced two consecutive plagues when it was overrun by rabbits and some entrepreneur decided to bring in cats to control the rabbit population. The area was then overrun by feral cats.

In 1971 the town caused a bit of a stir when it was reported that a half naked blonde girl had gone wild and was living with the kangaroos. The story engendered much media publicity but was subsequently found to be a hoax dreamed up to give the tiny settlement a bit of publicity.

The Old Telegraph Station itself is located to the south of the town (clearly signposted) and when, after driving some 5 km, you reach the end of the road and are presented with beautiful, mountainous white sand dunes (and no sign to the station) take your bearings on the one tree which appears above the sand dunes and start walking towards the sea. The tree is located no more than 50 metres from the Old Telegraph Station.

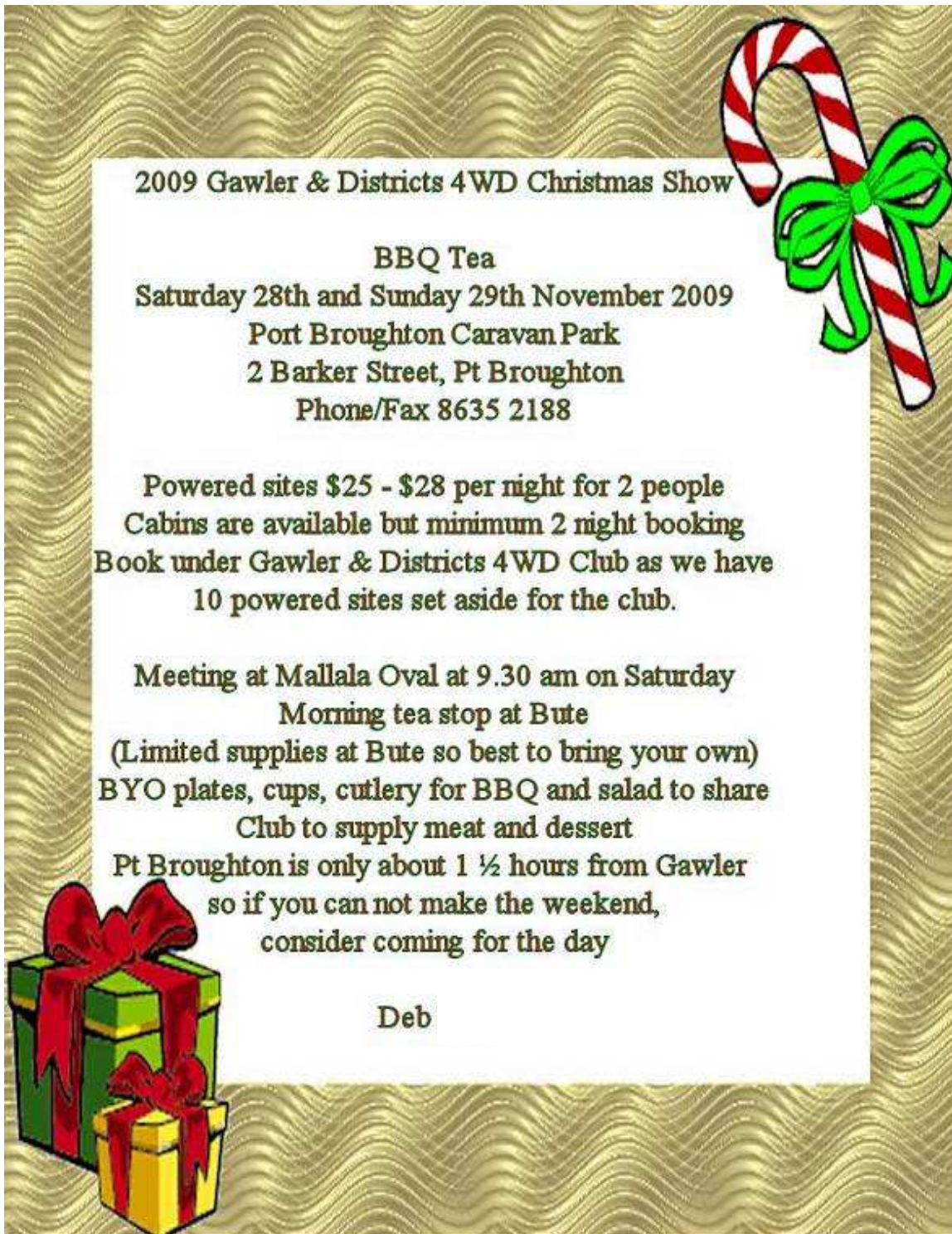
Ask at the roadhouse or police station for directions, to the Koonalda Cave with a huge 40 metre entrance into a 20 metre drop which eventually goes to a lake over 100 metres below the surface of the Nullarbor. There are ladders and walkways but the entrance to the cave is dangerous and entry should only be attempted by experienced speleologists.

Eucla is situated some 13kms west of the South Australian border and the name is said to have originated from the Mirning aboriginal word meaning bright.

Eucla was established in 1877 as a manual repeater station for the Overland Telegraph. A jetty and 1km tramline was constructed for offloading supplies to this remote area. At the time both the South and Western Australian colonial administrations operated out of Eucla's telegraph station. Before the invention of Morse Code South Australian staff employed what was known as the "Victorian Alphabet", and Western Australian telegraphers used what was known as the "Universal Code." Today Western Australian and South Australian rivalries appear to be largely confined to the football field. Come on Port Power!

Originally, Eucla's "Delisser Sandhills" were considerably smaller than today. In the 1890's a rabbit plague passed through the area eating dune vegetation which caused large sand drifts that repeatedly covered and uncovered the telegraph station. Today the telegraph station remains in ruin and the area is reportedly haunted by a **GHOST**.





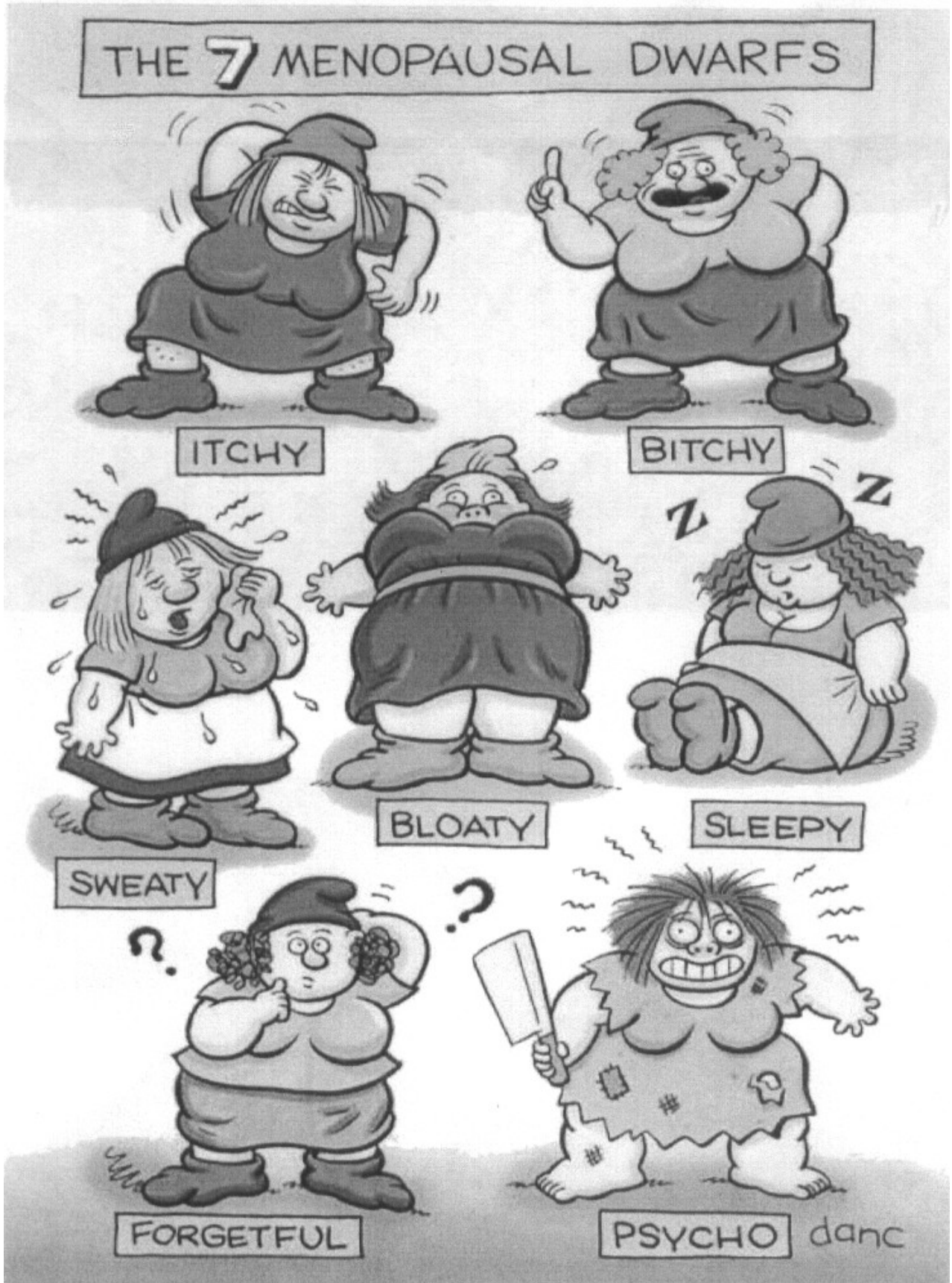
**2009 Gawler & Districts 4WD Christmas Show**

**BBQ Tea**  
**Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th November 2009**  
**Port Broughton Caravan Park**  
**2 Barker Street, Pt Broughton**  
**Phone/Fax 8635 2188**

**Powered sites \$25 - \$28 per night for 2 people**  
**Cabins are available but minimum 2 night booking**  
**Book under Gawler & Districts 4WD Club as we have**  
**10 powered sites set aside for the club.**

**Meeting at Mallala Oval at 9.30 am on Saturday**  
**Morning tea stop at Bute**  
**(Limited supplies at Bute so best to bring your own)**  
**BYO plates, cups, cutlery for BBQ and salad to share**  
**Club to supply meat and dessert**  
**Pt Broughton is only about 1 ½ hours from Gawler**  
**so if you can not make the weekend,**  
**consider coming for the day**

**Deb**



(We're not like any of these ladies, are we?????) (received via email)



## Club Raffle Roster

We ask that all members donate an item that we can use as a raffle prize each month.

The item should cost between \$10.00 - \$15.00 and to be given to Deb Earl.

### August

Jansen

Riddle

Ruchel

### September

Wilkins

Peters

Harris

### October

Sieben

Mackenzie

Cates

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