

Gawler & Districts

www.gawler4wd.com.au

4WD Club Newsletter

June 2011



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



Mt. Gipps Station 2011

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Acknowledgement : Special thanks to front page artist - Dwayne Ruf (2010)

WELCOME

to the Gawler & Districts Four Wheel Drive Club

Previously known as "The Light Four Wheel Drive Club of SA Inc." this active 4WD club was founded in 2002. Members voted at the March 2008 meeting to change the club's name and meet at Gawler to give the club a more recognizable name and a more central meeting place.

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. 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. 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 and enjoy what Four Wheel driving can really bring, please fill out your details on our Trip Sheet/s.

The Club meets every second Friday in the month at 7.30 pm at the Gawler Elderly Centre Hall in Fourteenth Street, Gawler.

The meeting dates are shown on page 3 of this newsletter.

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



Gawler & Districts 4WD Club Inc.
P.O. Box 486
Freeling SA 5372

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Ph: 8524 9002 or
0403 332 432 (Lyn) 0427 807 066 (Max)
EMAIL: info@gawler4wd.com.au
WEB: www.gawler4wd.com.au

Committee Members

PRESIDENT/PUBLIC OFFICER Max Ph: 8524 9002 or 0427 807 066	VICE PRESIDENT Martin Ph: 8524 2032 or 0409 770 498
TREASURER Quenton Ph: 8523 2507 or 0407 604 601	SECRETARY Deb Ph: 8523 2507
EDITOR Lyn Le Ph: 8524 9002 or 0403 332 432	MINUTES SECRETARY Jane Ph: 8523 0657 or 0409 091 851
PUBLISHER Chris Ph: 8280 7414 or 0438 223 724	TRIPS/PROPERTY LIBRARIAN CO-ORDINATOR Dave R Ph: 8525 2765 or 0419 992 881
SOCIAL SECRETARIES Michele Ph: 8525 2765 or 0419 813 805 Barbara Ph: 8568 2497 or 0411 413 497	TRAINING CO-ORDINATOR DTU DELEGATE Dave H Ph: 8524 3508 or 0411 772 226
WELCOMING OFFICERS Lyn Li / Keryn / Norma	ASSOCIATION DELEGATE John Ph: 8522 5664 or 0408 824 654

Schedule of Meetings

2011

Meeting	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
General		11	4	8	13	3	8	12	9	14	11	9
Committee		2	30		4	29		3		5	2	
		23			25			31			30	

NOTE: DEADLINE TIME - All newsletter articles to the Editor before Committee Meeting date

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.

President's Report

Welcome Everyone

It was pleasing to see Jo & Pete come on our Easter trip to Mt Gipps Station. This was one of those trips where you find who you are actually getting involved with. I am sure they thoroughly enjoyed themselves. It wasn't long and the application to join the club was presented.

There was a Basic Theory Training Session held at Ahrens together with the Barossa 4WD club on 28th & 29th of May. It's good to combine with another clubs to make numbers worthwhile for the trainers. The next training will be sand driving at Peake on 25th & 26th of June. The next 3 day event is Willow Springs Station - Skytreck on June long weekend - I could do with another day or so, but the boss says I have to work! For coming trips and events, please study this section of the newsletter, keep an eye out for the appropriate trip sheet and put your name down.

Camping and off-Road Sale dates for coming event is at Wayville on 28th – 31st of July.

This edition has the trip reports for Mt Gipps Station that didn't make the last newsletter and should be of some good reading. I noticed Jo & Pete have contributed to the report, thank you for the days' report. Our editor and publisher are doing a great job of the newsletter. To help with this task, could everyone who has a report get it to them as soon as possible after the event which makes the job a lot easier for our publisher to get it out on time?

Thanks

Max

Editor's Report

Hello everyone and welcome. A special thankyou to Peter for submitting "Ask Clarentyne" Beach Recovery item last and this month with a picture of what would you do? At the May General Meeting Peter presented an interesting power point presentation and created discussion on this topic and hopes to continue something similar for next month.

Please, if anyone has any suggestions or ideas of any kind they would like to have printed in the newsletter, just email or phone me. If you have already given your ideas for the newsletter in the March survey after the General Meeting, don't wait until the survey has been collated – just get pen to paper and send it to me.

Someone had suggested they would like to see some recipes in the newsletter whether they be camping recipes or your very favourite, all is welcome. The deadline date for July newsletter is 29/06/11.

A great way to get yourselves involved in our club is to volunteer your time at our sausage sizzle fundraiser at Woolworths on 30/07/11 – Just ask any of the sub-committee members what you need to do.

I hope you enjoy the coming events column, picking out something you may be able to attend in the future or you may just enjoy our monthly meetings listening to a variety of guest speakers and socialising with other club members.

Also enjoy reading the trip report on the Mt Gipps Station which I thank those who contributed with their reports. Enjoy your June Long Weekend.

Lyn



Coming Events

Willow Springs 11th - 13th June Long Weekend 2011 Station - Skytreck

Trip Limit: 8 - 10 vehicles

Type:



Full day tour of Skytrek, one of the Flinders Ranges most popular and exhilarating 4WD tracks. Camping in Willow Springs camp ground with drop toilet. Drive to showers & flush toilets (near Homestead).

Requirements: Caravans, Camper trailers, tents or swags. Recovery equipment incl. Jack plate, air compressor, shovel.

Activities: Leave Tarlee on Saturday, morning tea at Orreroo, lunch & re-fuel at Hawker. Stop at Old Wilpena Station, onto Willow Springs & set up camp. At 9.00 am on Sunday 4WDing Skytrek & Skull Rock. Drive home Monday.

Cost: Old Wilpena Station \$4.50 adult, \$3.50 conc, \$2.50 child, \$11 family. Skytrek track \$65 per vehicle. Camping \$20 for first 2 people + \$5 extra person per vehicle per night. (all prices correct as at Jan 2011)

Meeting Place: Leave 8.00 am from Tarlee on Saturday 11th June

Trip Leader: Quenton - Phone 8523 2507 or 0407 604 601

Peake 4WD Training 25th & 26th June 2011

Trip Limit: No limit

Type: Sand Driving

Requirements: Caravans, campers, tents, swags etc; sand flag, air compressor, shovel, rated recover points, recovery gear & UHF radio. Be fully self sufficient. Bring wood please

Cost: \$20 per day including \$10 non refundable deposit

Meeting Place: Rear Shell Roadhouse, Taillem Bend on 25th at 9.00 am sharp

Trip Leader: Dave & Karen H - Phone 8524 3508 or 0411 772 226 Dave

Binns Track Darwin **Saturday, 30th July – Saturday 27th August 2011 (4 weeks)**

- Type:** Everything including bull dust
- Requirements:** Camper trailers, tents, swags, recovery gear & UHF radio. Be fully self sufficient. Some bush camping, some Caravan Parks.
- Meeting Place:** Tarlee on Saturday 30th July at 6.15 am to leave 6.30 am sharp
- Trip Leaders:** Wayne & Sandra Phone 8523 0407 or 0432 339 213 (Wayne) or Bronte & Norma Phone 0438 120 342
-

Peake 4WD Social Only **13th & 14th August 2011**

- Trip Limit:** No limit + Wanderers 4WD Club will also be attending
- Type:** Sand Driving
- Requirements:** Caravans, campers, tents, swags etc; sand flag, air compressor, shovel, rated recover points, recovery gear & UHF radio. Be fully self sufficient. Bring wood please
- Cost:** \$20 per day including \$10 non refundable deposit
- Meeting Place:** Rear Shell Roadhouse, Taillem Bend on 13th at 9.00 am sharp
- Trip Leaders:** Peter Phone 8523 0889
-

Christmas Show at Pt Hughes **26th & 27th November 2011**

- Cost:** \$30 per night for site or \$50 for 2 nights which are payable as a deposit (bookings under Gawler & District 4WD club). Cost based on 2 people per site, \$7 extra per adult and \$6 per child per night Ask for Tracey from Pt Hughes Caravan Park, corner Minnie & West Terrace when making your booking. Ph. 8825 2106



- Meeting Place:** Details to follow
- Website:** www.yorkepeninsula.net.au (and see Port Hughes Caravan Park)

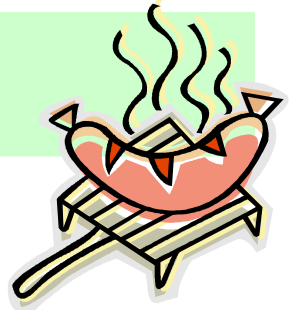


Information on Other Events

Fundraiser – Sausage Sizzle at Woolworths

Saturday, 30th July 2011

- Activities:** Fundraiser. Sub Committee – volunteers still needed
- Requirements:** Wear 4WD name badges
- Time:** 8.30 am - 4.00 pm
- Contract:** Dave R – Phone 8525 2765 or 0419 992 881 or special sub-committee



28th -31st July 2011

Caravan Camping & Off-Road Sale
Adelaide Showground



www.caravanandcampingsa.com.au/page.asp?parentid=257

Gawler Show 27th & 28th August 2011

Gawler Show

This year's show is the 155th Gawler Show. The Gawler Show is the largest country Show in SA, attracting approx 30,000 people.

It is a great family outing with many FREE displays, exhibitions and entertainment.

Gawler Showgrounds - Nixon Terrace, Gawler

Adults-\$15, Family-\$45 (2 adults & 2 children U16)

Concession-\$13, Children U16-\$8, Children U5-Free

www.gawlershow.org.au



The Gawler and Districts 4WD Club would like thank Johnno's Camper Trailers for kindly donating some CGear Matting to the club for use as prizes. Anyone interested in any camper trailers, camping gear or camping products should contact Johnno's Camper Trailers.

Check out their website www.campertrailer.com.au or contact

Brian or Susan on 08-8562 8370.



1st - 3rd October 2011

Mount Lofty Rangers Incorporated
presents

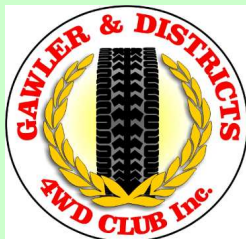
4WD Octoberfest
Peterborough, SA



Check the Mt.Lofty Rangers website for trip updates,downloadable brochures, registration forms and merchandise - www.mountloftyrangers.com.au

www.mountloftyrangers.com.au

GAWLER & DISTRICTS 4WD CLUB



Stickers For Sale - Only \$2.00 each

Magnetic Name Badges - \$10 each

See **Quenton** at the General Meeting!

The **Gawler and Districts 4WD Club** would like thank the **Wurth Group** and their representative, Neil Burton for kindly donating a generous selection of **Wurth** products to the club for use as prizes.



Anyone interested in any products from the **Wurth** product range should check out their website: www.wurth.com.au

Contact **Neil Burton Ph 0400 075 227** to order any of their products.

Proposed Trips

- Callington – Joint Training Trip
- “Bethany Games” – 4WD themed games – Sunday
- Katarapko National Park
- Morgan Club Training
- Burra Club Training
- Burra Creek Gorge



Guest Speakers



These guest speakers have kindly agreed to talk with us (at the following general meetings):

June	Rachel Yacoumis – Gawler Bike & Walking Trail
July	Graham on History Week
August	
September	

Raffle Roster

We ask if all members could kindly donate an item for a raffle prize each month to approx value of \$15.

These can be given to the Social Committee (Michele or Barbara) any time.

JUNE 2011

*John & Jane J
Stephen K
Martin K*

JULY 2011

*Max & Lyn L
Lyn Li
David & Carol M*

AUGUST 2011

*John & Karyn M
Dave & Michele R
Bronte & Norma R*



The **Gawler and Districts 4WD Club** would like thank **Banksia Adventures** for kindly donating a weekend wine adventure tour for the club to use as raffle prizes.

Anyone interested in any of the tours available from the **Banksia Adventures** should check out their website:

www.banksiaadventures.com.au

or Phone 8285 5033

or email: info@banksia-adventures.com.au.



Notice Board

GENERAL MEETINGS

The small hall will be used by another group for the coming year.
Please use the **Fourteenth Street side entrance**
to get into our area for the meetings.

Four Wheel Drive South Australia

Established by like minded clubs to represent the
interests of recreational four wheel drivers in SA

Contact: secretary@4wdsa.asn.au

Web: www.4wdsa.asn.au



New Web Site!



It seems that lots of our people really enjoyed their recent 4WD trip to Mt.Gipps Station at Broken Hill and really wanted to say a big thank you to the owners, John and Kym Cramp for their wonderful support and effort over the Easter long weekend. Highly recommend to all!! See full details in this month's trip reports!!

<http://www.mountgippsstation.com.au>

ASK “CLARENTYNE”

Beach Recovery - What would you do?

LAST MONTHS CHALLENGE!!

Picture the scene: you are driving along the beach between Beachport and Carpenters Rocks and you come across an old Range Rover buried up to the axels in nice soft sand, below the high water mark with, of course, an incoming tide. A quick survey of the situation revealed that the driver and passenger were trying to get themselves out of their predicament. But will they beat the incoming tide?



Not quite the way we found them but you get the picture!

Discussion Points raised at meeting were:

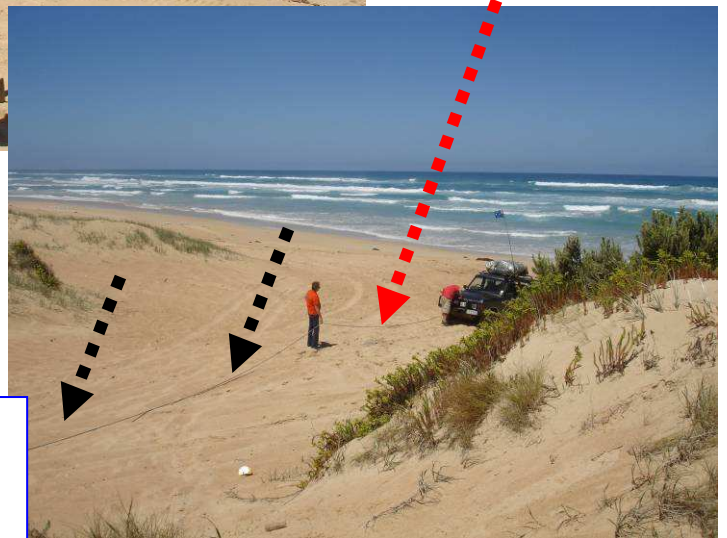
- What were the Tyre Pressures?
 - OBVIOUSLY NOT LOW ENOUGH! RELUCANT TO LOWER DESPITE BEING THE SAVIOUR IN THE END!!
- Would the hole for the spare tyre “deadman” have been big enough?
 - NO WAY, NOT WITH HOW STUCK THIS VEHICLE WAS!
- Digging?
 - TOOK AGES BEFORE THEY DECIDED TO TRY AND DIG OUT PROPERLY
- How well do Max Trax perform in really soft sand?
 - GREAT, PROVIDING YOU DON'T STAND BEHIND THE VEHICLE
 - THEY SHOT OUT SO HARD THEY WOULD HAVE CUT YOUR LEGS OFF!
- Winch Anchoring?
 - THEY MANAGED TO DRAG THE TOWING VEHICLE BACK FROM OVER THE CREST OF THE HILL
- Winch Techniques?
 - STRONG SMELLS OF BURNING COULD EASILY BE DETECTED
- Safety?
 - SAY WHAT?
- What could we have done better?
 - EVERYTHING!!
- What happened to the vehicles that stopped to help?
 - ABUSED FOR BLOCKING THE TRACK!!

“ASK CLARENTYNE” continued

Is that tide really coming in?



Check out the length of the tow line! What safety?



Maybe you should unload first?



Anyone know how to use these things?

So what does this button do?

Geez, it's this sort of thing that really does give good 4WD people a bad name!!



Just in case you really wanted to know ...

BROKEN HILL HOTEL HISTORY – Pop. 19,500 - City covers 179 km²

All Nations Hotel	est 1891	LMA Hotel	est 1891
Blacklion Hotel	est 1900-1971 (1 st called Federal Palace)	Broken Hill Hotel	est 1886
Exchange, Theatre .Royal, Argent, Theatre Royal		Excelsior Hotel	est 1885
Junction Hotel	est 1892	Malenrouge Hotel Motel	est 1888
Masonic, Marios		Mulga Hotel Tavern	est 1888
Northern Hotel	est 1890	Brewers Arms (dog and camel races behind hotel)	
Old Willyama Hotel Motel	est 1887 (destroyed by fire)	Rising Sun Hotel	est 1888
Royal Exchange Hotel	est 1889	Silver Spade Hotel	est 1888
Criterion South Australian Hotel	est 1888	Southern Broken Hill Hotel	est 1888
Baylyn Southern Cross Hotel	est 1888	The Miners Lamp	
The Old Royal Hotel	est 1889	Tydril Hotel	est 1891
Merthyr, Tydril West Darling Hotel	est 1886	Freemasons, West Darling Motor (oldest hotel still operating)	
Astra Hotel	est 1886	Commercial Barrier Club Hotel	est 1886
Caladonian Hotel	est 1898-1999	Centennial Hotel	est 1889-1990
Crown Hotel	est 1887-1991	Crystal Hotel	est 1888
Miners Arms		Daydream Hotel-Motel	est 1880-1990
Sydney Club		Duke of Cornwall Hotel	est 1886-1993
Freiberg Arms Hotel	est 1899-1924	Westend Hotel	
Gasworks Hotel	est 1891-1986 (Included PO and barber shop)	Gladstone Hotel	est 1888-1924
Grand Hotel	est 1888-1959	Hillside Hotel	est 1891-1999
Imperial Hotel	est 1185-1990 (cut into 3 sections, taken to Chloride Street)	New Market Hotel	est 1891-1994
Pig and Whistle Hotel	est 1888-2003	Silver King Hotel	est 1885-1992
Sportsmans Arms Hotel	est 1888-1998 (known as The Farm)	Tattersalls Hotel	est 1886-1891 (1924 fire damage & rebuilt)
Tramway Hotel	est 1888-1924	Union Club Hotel	est 1888-1924
Victoria Hotel	est 1890-1990	Wilcannia Club Hotel	est 1888-1971
The Palace Hotel	est 1892-2011	Marios featured in Priscilla Queen of the Desert	

[Provided by Keryn]

BROKEN HILL RAINFALL: 2009 -177 mm, 2010 - 472.6 mm, up till 21.03.11 396.4 mm!!

[Provided by Norma]



NGARKAT Working Bee (2011)

The Ngarkat Conservation Park

The Ngarkat Conservation Park comprises four contiguous reserves totalling approximately 270 000 ha. It however abuts by the Big Desert Wilderness in Victoria of 140 00 ha. This makes the area a significant remnant of the Ninety Mile Desert that once covered 1.5 million hectares. The area is classed as a semi-arid dunefield that has dense Mallee coverage over most of its area. Vegetated East-West dunes cover the area of the Border Track and it is the damage to these as well as areas of clay swales or Bog holes that attract most of the work done by volunteers. Track users often experience difficulty in crossing the dunes and clay swales. Over time, detour tracks have been created around the swales and adjacent to the track crossing the sand dunes.

Restoration of track

Most of the work done to date has been to trim overhanging trees on the track and transfer these trimmings to the finger tracks. They are then laid across the track to deter further use and also to trap sand and seed to slowly revegetate the damaged areas. It has been our policy to maintain the historic through track along the border fence as well as one other sidetrack at the more difficult sand dunes for use when travel is difficult eg. Summertime when the sand is soft.

Some experimental work has been done on stabilising the badly rutted clay swales. To date this is still causing considerable concern, as damage done during the winter time by the few people who revel in digging ever increasingly deep trenches, has caused others to push detour tracks through the adjacent scrub. Several remedies are being contemplated at this time including seasonal detours and/or repairs. It is hoped that in the interim, club members and other responsible four wheel drivers will take possible damage into account when planning winter trips in this area as DENR staff are again considering closure!

At our May meeting, Peter H explained to us about how each job is created by the Border Track Committee and then with the help of the volunteers from all the 4WD clubs, it becomes a reality. Well done to all those who volunteer their time and effort to this worthy project.

BT 64052

Border Track Tasks

Date of Working Bee: 8,9,10 April 2011

Task No	Map Distance in km	Approx.	Coordinates					
			Easting	UTM zone	Northing	Latitude	Degrees / Minutes	Longitude
1	From start of BT 1-way section: Odometer distance will be greater 15.95	Odo reading 17.6	496946	54	6064052	35 34.032		140 57.978

Description of work required

Install fence across the track, as shown in the drawing, using 1.8m timber posts and 2 rows of 10mm steel cable; Join with new polytype fence (green dotted line) to be constructed under Task 2.

Paint the posts.

Comments

Secure each cable end with a single sleeve.

Cut excess cable ends with angle grinder.

Crimp the sleeve if the special crimp tool is available; otherwise leave uncrimped;

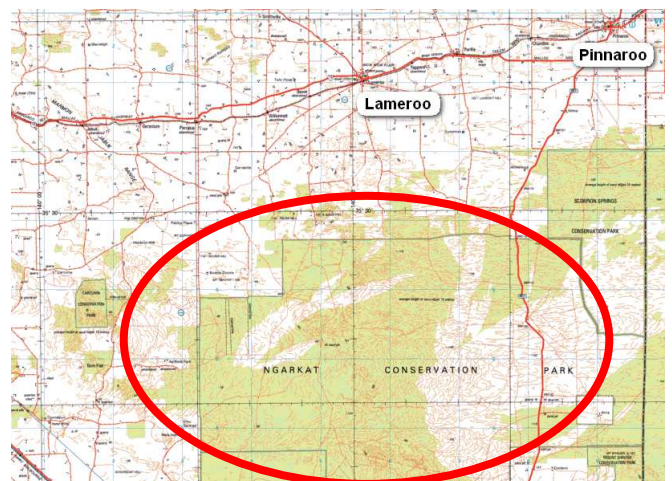
Scrape away sand around post to enable painting below ground level and then fill back

Objective: to avoid unpainted post showing as sand shifts.

Materials required

Quantity	Item
15 M	Steel cable
3	1.8M timber posts
2	Cable sleeves
	Paint

If work is completed please tick below; otherwise give details; eg: materials unavailable / lack of time



So if you would like to help next time then please put yourself down for the next working bee trip.



Martin is one of our members who regularly volunteers his time to support this cause and is always looking for others to join in. It's a great team effort and very fulfilling, never mind that everyone who attends seems to have a good time and enjoy themselves on all those 4WD tracks!

For more details:

<http://www.4wdsa.asn.au/ngarkat/ngarkat.htm>

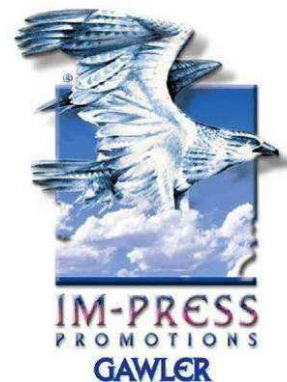
Club Merchandise

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	\$18.00
Caps	\$17.00
Beanies	\$17.00



60 Adelaide Road

Gawler SA 5118

Ph : 8522 2156

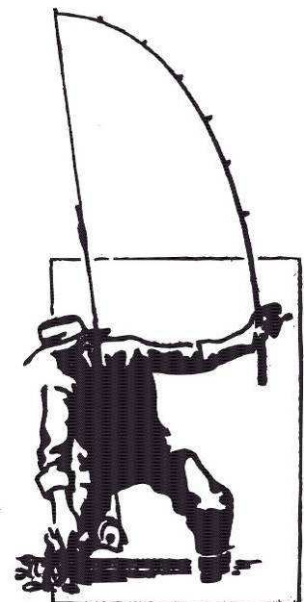
Open Mon – Fri 9.00am - 5.00pm

Proudly donating the trophy for the photo competition.

Club Discount with your club card applies to all items not on special

*Fishing Tackle
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(Expires Sep 2011)

La Dolce Vita Restaurant
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Lunch:
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Dinner:
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1 Julian Terrace,
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Ph. 8522 1009

Email lori39@tpg.com.au

Bookings advisable

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JOHNNO'S
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(Expires Dec 2011)

Trip Reports

Mt Gipps Station, Broken Hill 22nd – 26th April 2011

Friday 22nd April - Day 1 (Good Friday)

This extra long weekend began with 8 vehicles pulling away from Tarlee Car Park at 7.00 am sharp. Trip leaders John & Jane lead the way up the Barrier Highway and off we went, Burra being our first stop.

The weather was a bit drizzly, but Keithy wasn't with us for a weather report, so a few tried but not the same as our dry, old Keithy. From Burra we moved on with the addition of Norma & Bronte. After Mount Bryan, some poor people lost their sleeping bags, clothes and a big carry bag full of gear which we picked up and dropped in at Hallet Police Station. Looks like a trailer rear door sprang open losing all their goodies for a not so enjoyable weekend.



At Oodla Wirra we had our morning tea stop with hot cross buns on the menu at Lyn's outdoor palace (tail gate of ute). (After leaving Tarlee, time didn't matter anymore because we were now on holidays!) On we travelled to Broken Hill with the addition of Roy & Bronwyn. We lost Brent & Keryn for a moment as they went "coaching" (locating things with the GPS) and found a huge black and white dice near the railway line. Time for a fuel up at Broken Hill then had lunch at a park where the sun decided to shine.

After lunch we headed north bound on the Silver City Highway for approximately 32 km till we reached the Mt Gipps turnoff. We had 10 km of dirt which would be interesting if it was wet, and to our right was the entrance gate



to the homestead with other accommodation and the shower blocks. Near the showers, they had erected a rain water tank onto a large earth mover tyre.



Our camp was approximately 7 km out bush from here. After registering, our hosts lead us to our camp site. That night you wouldn't believe Peter & Sandra rocked in, with Sandra still suffering from jetlag - our gang was now complete.

[Max]

Saturday 23rd April - Day 2 (1st report) (Easter Saturday)



Set off at 9 am sharp. Plenty to see on a beautiful sunny day. First stop goat yard then onto the old dam. We got out and explored around the dam. Here we saw a Golden Orb spider. Some of us almost became instant ninjas as we nearly walked through its web. As we walked along the concrete wall Jane thought it would be a good idea to drop the only mud map she was given into the dam. A sight to see Jane on her stomach on the concrete wall with a stick retrieving the mud map. Yes, Jane did well not to fall in.





Off we set to the next stop Old Alendale Town. Upon arriving to the town, the Sturt Desert Pea was sighted. It was like finding a needle in a haystack for these flowers as the goats had eaten all the flowers from the plants. At the old town we saw old bottles, tobacco tins which were pretty ancient and ruins of the old stone buildings.

Next stop the old mines. Here there were quite a few mine shafts that had water in them some deeper than others. On the way back to the cars a



shingle back lizard was sighted or shall I say nearly trodden on.

Off we set to find the 4x4 track. However this was a little bit difficult as the mud map that was given to our trip leader was a little bit wet and not too readable. This might be the reason why Jane couldn't tell her left from right or was that right from left. We decided it would be a good time for lunch. We had lunch on a dry river bed under a big gum tree.

The surroundings were beautiful a nice spot for a picnic. Time to pack up and head off to find the 4x4 track.



There's the track, quick turn right, sorry left. The track was a little hidden with overgrown shrub that was as tall as the bonnet of the car. It was more like bush bashing but it was fun being a first timer at this. There were plenty sightings of kangaroos and goats. There was one poor kid that got separated from its parents as we went through the shrubs. (We're talking about the goat kind of kid not human) as we were driving this kid is coming closer to us. Poor thing got a little confused.

Finally after we got our left and right sorted out we found the old miners hut. Here there was an old hoist line out the back, (a little worse for wear) outside oven and an old cast iron bed that had seen better days. Although Max thought it was a good idea to test it out and see how comfy it was. He wasn't on it for long. The scenery from here was awesome. Nothing but hills and flats for miles.



Off we went to find our way back to camp. On our way back there was an old car that was rusty. Few of the men got in for a memorable picture.

Back at camp base we sat round the fire that night while Martin sang a tune or two for us with his guitar. It was a good day for all. I would like to thank everyone for making us feel welcome on our first trip. Look forward to more. Special thanks to John and Jane for being our trip leaders.

[Joann and Peter]

Saturday 23rd April - Day 2 (2nd report) (still Easter Saturday)

Another day in paradise, camping out at Mt Gipps Station. We were woken by our alarm clock the crow in the beautiful creek bed gum trees.

Off by 9am, John & Jane our esteem leaders, stopped at the sheep yards at Allendale Bore where there was a bit of fun and games and photos taken. There was a goat yard to catch the goats - they can go in but can't get out. They get paid for them, 45cents and \$1.60 live. Saw a magnificent eagle in flight with a couple of crows being brave and having a go at it. The large moon was still out in the morning with a clear blue sky.



Next on the list - the dam, what a fantastic place to have in your back yard and it was built back in 1884. Not a bad effort with the amount of rock to move by hand. They also had a mine here which produced silver, lead and zinc, Allendale mine. A bit further on we found some wonderful Sturt Desert Peas in flower that the goats had missed eating. What a wonderful contrast to the surrounding land, can't miss the brilliant red and black of the flowers. Allendale village was a treasure find that had to be left behind as we were not allowed to take anything. My little fingers did an awful lot of twitching not to take

anything. What I did do was set up a lovely photo shot of old rustic findings including the tin I couldn't take. Lots of discussion took place on the many parts of machinery, car parts and homes that were built from the local rock which were pretty basic.

Over the hill and we came to a large mining area. Big mine shafts, slag heap and stone water tank, there was exploration work going on and markers everywhere. Our esteem leaders seemed to have a bit of trouble reading the map and missed the red flags. Found a creek bed and had lunch with a rest then moseyed on to the next track. Passed the Curly Mallee or Broken Hill Wattle a type of eucalyptus tree which only grows where there is limestone in the soil.



Now the vegetation changes and we are going through tall Rock Sida plants which are that tall in places that you can't see the car in front. It was like being explorers trying to find tracks to go forward. Went up & down some hills and then through a few creek beds.

Found a couple of rusted out cars on the side of the track and 3 wanted to be hoons relived their younger days by sitting in the car. Next find was the old miner's cottage which smelt pretty badly of mice. Pretty ruff & ready but knew how to collect rain water with what ever was available. Fantastic view they chose but it must have been windy. Went back to camp for happy



hour with the wood collection taking priority for the fire and what a fantastic one it was. Everyone showed their culinary skills for tea. A bit of a quiet night around the fire, while people just winding down with the skilful guitar player Martin serenading us. Jessica and I built a nest for Easter Bunny because can't miss out on the chocolate Easter eggs!!

[Sandra]

Sunday 24th April - Day 3 (Easter Sunday)

Today was the day most of us were waiting for to find out what our leaders had planned for us.



Our Easter Bunny love (Sandra) went with us everywhere. 1st we checked out the Umerumberka Reservoir which supplies the Broken Hill township with water. Catchment for this dam has an area of 407.5km².



Went to a lookout viewing the plains and then arrived at Silverton for morning tea where Max

prepared his damper mix for the camp oven tonight so it could rise while travelling. Mind you we had to bang it down several times – overflowed the pot while rising!!



We spent several hours looking around the Ghost town which was once used for mining. While walking around the heritage buildings, old goal and souvenir shops, Max just had to check out the Mad Max car from the movie. Found a funny little critter outside one of the art galleries we looked at.



After lunch we were booked into the Flying Doctor Service in Broken Hill. First we watched a video to show us what the service does then from a viewing platform looked at the aeroplane hanger via a guided tour.



A few vehicles went to Broken Hill to check out another lookout and restaurant. Outside, several ladies decided they needed a rest on a very large chair.



Time to head back to camp for happy hour, nice big bonfire and waited anxiously for the damper to be cooked for everyone to share.

The stress of the day was now taken away from Jane as we all enjoyed playing tourists for the day. Don't know what the worry was about as she organised such a well planned day, even ordered excellent weather to match. Thanks to our great trip leaders.



Monday 25th April - Day 4 (Easter Monday)

So we were up and about early again, although not sure if anyone was up for their own Dawn Service as we certainly weren't. We left camp to meet at the homestead for 9 am as the Property Owners - John and Kym were going to be taking us to some MUD (yahh said Bronte with glee). We soon learnt this wasn't possible as it was still too wet, they naturally didn't want us in there making it more of a mess. Brent & Keryn headed into Broken Hill for some sightseeing and the rest of us anxiously waited to hear what was in store for us today.



Luckily Kym and John had a Plan B for us and John took us to the start of a creek bed which we thought looked interesting from the start. Soft sand turned to rocks and then we found a challenging creek crossing which Jo & Peter with tips from Peter H and John got through fine but tail end charlie didn't have quite so much luck and must have been day dreaming.

So out came Roy's winch after he went back around behind Wayne and with lots of spectators, pushing & pulling by Bronte and the winch they got Wayne out of the rut and all this before 11 am. PHEW!!

A Big Rock was too much of a temptation for Bronte so he had to go investigate where it might be used for winching with the entire club's paparazi following. Dave got a great pic of all the 4WDives lined up from above.

We headed off again and passed a HUGE Wedge Tailed Eagle nest that was nearly bigger than the tree it was in as we headed into more rocky terrain. With a small creek crossing ahead Martin K couldn't help but advise Wayne which side the rut was on in

case he felt the need to again get stuck. With our Fearless leaders John & Jane swapping drivers, we weaved in and out of a few creeks before John thought hanging on the side of the car to take some pictures would be good.



Nice green scenery and loads of animal foot prints in the creek beds.

Heading out of yet more creek beds we pick up the graded track to head up the hill. We rocked and rolled and bumped our way up the hill for a panoramic view. We soon found we were passing the old

cars from Saturday's track and the majority of us decided to follow an alternative track Peter H and Martin K see on their GPS so while John, Jane & Stephen headed back to camp for lunch we went on. Typically we found more goats on the track to scare off while 2 crows thought it was a good idea to annoy a wedge tailed eagle. Soon we came across an old mine which everyone tried not to fall into. Everyone explored around for quite a while.

Onwards we went again and came across a creek with water in it and after inspection by all decided it was too wet to continue to drive on so lunch was in order. We turned around and said goodbye to Roy, Bronwyn, Wayne & Bronte who headed back to camp. Those of us left headed back near the homestead for another track Kym & John had told us about that morning.





A verrrry dusty drive followed back to the main road. Took a left into the scrub track in and out of creek beds with some leg work investigations by M&M (Martin and Martin) and Peter as to where to go next as we couldn't find the gorge supposed to lead our feet to a miners hut. Luckily the UHF radio was turned over to the station channel to ask their advice proved we were in the right spot just needed to walk along the creek for a while. Dave & Max saw from up the top of the hill that we could in fact drive further to the ruins to save the legs which suited Jessica and I just fine.

After loads of Mountain Goat trekking by the boys and Jo up mountains and through chest high grass, they returned after finding NOTHING – well not what we were after anyway!!!!

Time to head back to camping (as Jessica calls it) for Happy Hour we thought sounded like a good end to the day and the children (Jessica and Sandra H (hehe) happily took a shiny rock home.

Thanks to John and Jane for a great morning drive.

Thanks to Martin and Martin for an adventurous afternoon to end our driving on Mount Gipps Station Tracks.

A night around the camp fire followed with some good food, good wine and good company to wake up the following morning to us all packing up to go home - our Extra Long Weekend was over.

Thanks again to John and Jane for a fantastic weekend especially for spoiling Jessica so much. The research you did was fabulous and thanks to Mount Gipps Station for having us including Teddy Bear who had a visit in the letter box.

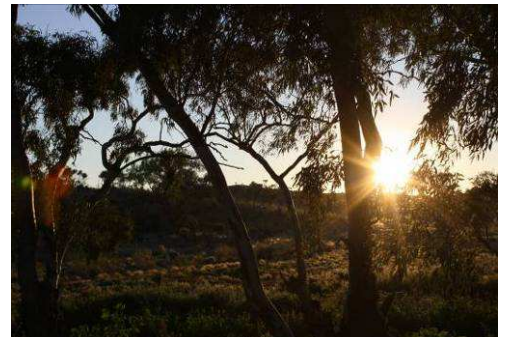


[The Riddles]

Tuesday 26th April – Day 5 (Anzac Day)

The day began early with plans to leave for home at about 8.30 am. The sunrise was very bright, followed by a cloudless sky with signs of a warm day to come. By 8 am breakfast was over, the 4WD was fully loaded, the goodbyes were being said.

I was travelling with Jane and John, first to Broken Hill to fuel up, then on our way. Most of the group went their separate ways. Roy and Bronwyn left the night before. Martin went looking for backtracks, with Stephen, Peter and Jo tagging. Peter & Sandra and Wayne & Sandra had more to do in Broken Hill. A final milkshake or two perhaps? Max and Lyn had a project to catch yabbies for a few days. Others took their time to get going.



We were making good time when large strips of black rubber went flying past, then John said he better pull up. His camper tyre was shredded. A quick change to the spare and we were on our way to Yunta. There we bought lunch and crossed the road to the park. Brent and Keryn pulled up, fuelled up and were off. We drove on without further incident, down through the sheep country of Hallett and Mt Bryan. We took the bypass around Burra to the Mid North, through Saddleworth, Riverton and Tarlee where the long Easter break began for us last Friday.

The traffic was fairly light throughout the day which made our journey very comfortable. A total of 1270 kms was recorded throughout the weekend. This was a very enjoyable trip with a good mix of 4 wheel driving, sightseeing, campfires, cooking and music. Thanks to Jane and John for the research and planning.

[Marie]

Last General Meeting

May 2010

See the attached Minutes (members only)

Guest Speaker Roundup



TCIS Insurance Brokers operates a Four Wheel Drive Insurance Facility in association with the Australian National Four Wheel Drive Council (ANFWDC), Tread Lightly and The Australian National Four Wheel Drive Radio Network offering a complete insurance package for members of affiliated clubs.

We thank Kai Heinsen from TCIS Insurance Brokers for his very informative talk about the club's insurance and the offerings of insurance to 4WD owners. He covered many topics and answered our questions on matters of insurance and what you can or should expect from an insurance company.

Benefits of TCIS policies include:

- ★ Agreed Value Wording (including all accessories)
- ★ Cover for Additional Annexes and Contents
- ★ Modifications
- ★ Full Recovery Costs
- ★ Full Off Road Cover
- ★ Emergency Repairs to \$1,000
- ★ Personal Effects of \$500
- ★ Faultless Excess Provisions
- ★ Optional Excess Free Windscreens
- ★ Optional Restricted Driver or Low Kilometre Discounts
- ★ Optional Rating One (Full No Claims Bonus) Protection

You can contact Kai on 8278 7000 or 0418 885 418

or email kai@tcis.com.au - check their website for more details www.tcis.com.au

Raffle Winners

1st	Green C007	Lindsay B
2nd	Green C016	Sue B
3rd	Purple B016	Lyn Le

