

Merry Christmas to all our Members 2011

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Acknowledgement : Special thanks to Chris again for this year's Christmas Theme!

# 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

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

# **Committee Members**

PRESIDENT/PUBLIC OFFICER	VICE PRESIDENT
Max	Martin
Ph: 8524 9002 or 0427 807 066	Ph: 8524 2032 or 0409 770 498
TREASURER	SECRETARY
Quenton	Deb
Ph: 8523 2507 or 0407 604 601	Ph: 8523 2507
EDITOR	MINUTES SECRETARY
Lyn Le	Jane
Ph: 8524 9002 or 0403 332 432	Ph: 8523 0657 or 0409 091 851
<b>PUBLISHER</b> 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 Norma Ph: 8525 2434 or 0438 120 341	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**

# <u>2011</u>

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	
Committee		23			25			31			30	

# <u>2012</u>

Meeting	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
General		10	2	13	11	1	13	10	14	12	9	14
Committee		1		4	2		4	1	5	3		5
Committee		29			30					31		

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.



**Activities:** 

# **Coming Events**



## Australia Day Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2012 (proposed trip)



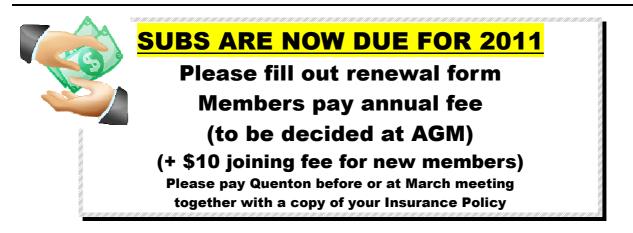
Morning tea stop at Goolwa wharf – bring your own. Lunch at Murray mouth. Bring own picnic – remember it will be fire ban season. Afternoon tea possibly at Cox Scrub if time permits.

Requirements:	Recovery gear for beach travel, chairs & sun shade if hot – always slip, slop, slap.
Meeting Place:	8.00am in Main Street of Birdwood near Bakery
Trip Leader:	Dave R – Phone 8525 2765 or 0419 992 881

Kataraptko Creek National Park	Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup> & Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> February 2012
Trip Limit:	No limit
Trip Details & Requirements:	Caravans, campers, tents, etc, self-sufficient camping Swimming, boating, kayaking, fishing, bird watching & walks. Relaxing and weekend on the river. Approx 30 mins from Loveday if members want to 4WD
Cost:	\$6.50 per vehicle per night
Meeting Place:	7.30am in Truro car park at Caltex, opposite Bakery
Trip Leader:	Dave R – Phone 8525 2765 or 0419 992 881

Clean Up Australia Day	Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2012
Activities:	To be advised
Merno Mora	Good Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> April to Easter Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> April 2012 Easter long weekend
Trip Limit:	12 Vehicles
Trip Details & Requirements:	Caravans, campers, tents etc. Please be self- sufficient as we will be bush-camping.
Cost	\$10.00 camping fee per vehicle per night. \$5.00 for showers back at the main homestead. Track Fees \$45.00 per vehicle.
Meeting Place:	Good Friday, Tarlee 6.45 am for 7.00 am departure.
Trip Leader:	Jane – Phone 8523 0657 or 0409 091 851

Peake Training Weekend	Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup> – Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> June 2012
Trip Limit:	No Limit
Trip Details & Requirements:	Sand driving. Caravans, campers, tents, be self-sufficient. Sand flag, compressor, shovel and rated recover points. <i>Bring warm clothing &amp; wood.</i>
Cost	\$20.00 per vehicle per night, \$10.00 deposit required.
Meeting Place:	Back of Shell Roadhouse at Tailem Bend on Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup> , ready to leave at 9.00 am sharp.
Trip Leader:	Dave & Karen – Phone 8524 3508 or 0411 772 226
Peake Social Weekend	Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> August 2012
Trip Limit:	No Limit
Trip Details & Requirements:	Sand driving. Caravans, campers, tents, be self-sufficient. Sand flag, compressor, shovel and rated recover points. <i>Bring warm clothing &amp; wood.</i>
Cost	\$20.00 per vehicle per night, \$10.00 deposit required.
Meeting Place:	Back of Shell Roadhouse at Tailem Bend on Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup> , ready to leave at 9.00 am sharp.
Trip Leader:	Social Trip Leader – Volunteer needed please
Argadells	Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup> September– Monday 1st October Long Weekend 2012
Trip Limit:	No Limit
Trip Details & Requirements:	Bush camping on old working station of 8,000 acres. Rocky terrain, steep inclines & declines on network of tracks. Caravans, campers, tents etc. Being self-sufficient. <i>High clearance, low range vehicles only.</i>
Cost	\$10.00 a day per person & \$45.00 track fee applies.
Meeting Place:	ТВА
Trip Leader:	Dave & Karen – Phone 8524 3508 or 0411 772 226





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 <u>www.campertrailer.com.au</u> or contact *Brian or Susan* on 08-8562 8370.

The Gawler and Districts 4WD Club would like thank the Wurth Group and their



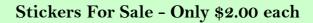
representative, Neil Burton for kindly donating a generous selection of **Wurth** products to the club for use as prizes.

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.





Magnetic Name Badges - \$10 each

See **Quenton** at the General Meeting



# **Information on Other Events**

# SA Caravan & Camping and Outdoor Adventure Show 22<sup>nd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> February 2012



4WD Matters Club Flyer

Treeks to Historic Strathalbyn

Competitions - Touring - Catering - Fun

Caravan Park/Oval Camping (some powered site Self Guided Drives and Walks (prizes for quest

Coffees, Curios, Antiques (a short walk away) - "Bonnet & Boots" Vehicle Comp (for individu mercial Outlets (4WD Tyres ; 4WD & 12V Acce Along Tours (for soft roaders and bigger 4WD ve AGM

HERING

Barbecue Lunch - AGM Dinner (Lice

- Quiz Night (Licer Draanised for FWDSA

ke Tracks to an Ideal Family Friendly 4WD Weekend (children are welcome) SAAGM 2012

at the Strathalbyn Oval and Football Clubrooms

wered sites - full a

On Friday 23rd - Sunday 25th March 2012

The SA Caravan & Camping Show will tie in with the SA Outdoor Adventure Show to bring South Australia two great shows in one.

**Opening Times:** Entry Cost:

Entry Gate/s:

Organiser Web:

10am - 6pm daily Adults \$13, Concessions \$10, Children under 15 free when accompanied by an adult. Kidman Gate, Stirling Angas Gate, Wayville Gate & **Ridley** Gate www.caravanandcampingshow.com

# Friday 23rd – Sunday 25th March 2012

Make tracks to an ideal family friendly **4WD** weekend (children are welcome)

At Strathalbyn Oval & Football Clubrooms

# **FWDSA AGM 2012**

**Competitions – Touring – Catering - Fun** 

Organised for FWDSA by High Range 4WD Club SA Inc. Direct all correspondence to FWDSA email or check website: www.4wdsa.asn.au

If you have any queries please email saafwdc@saafwdc.asn.au

28th, 29th, 30th September, 1st October 2012 at Mt. Ive Station

9<sup>th</sup> Australian 4WD Gathering 2012

where: **Mt Ive Station Gawler Ranges South Australia** 

If you have any queries please email gathering4wd9th@hotmail.com

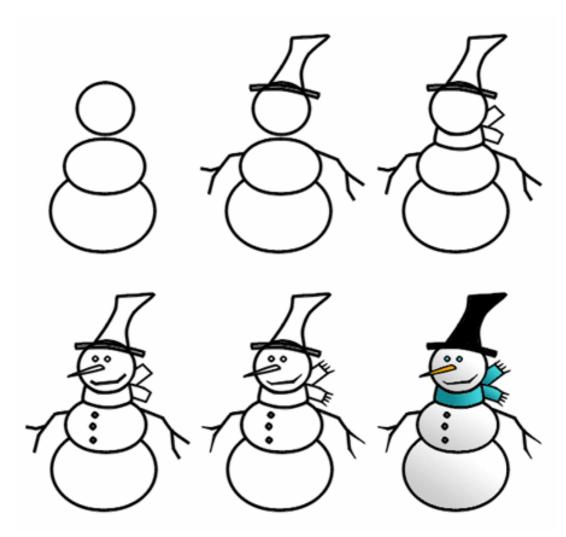


## Got any trip photos you would like to share?

Please bring them along to one of our meetings either on CD or memory stick and the publisher will prepare them for display upon our website for all to share!

#### THANKS

(Don't worry about compressing the photos. Most picture formats supported including JPG, BMP, GIF, TIFF etc.)



How to draw a Snowman!!

## **Proposed Trips**

- Burra Creek Gorge Sept 2012
- Woolworths Fundraiser Oct 2012
- Rail Trail
- "Bethany Games" 4WD themed games Sunday
- Morgan Training
- Burra Training
- Kersbrook Training

#### **Guest Speakers**





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

DecemberAGMJanuaryNo meetingFebruaryTBD

## **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 Norma) any time.

FEBRUARY 2012	MARCH 2012	APRIL 2012
Darryll & Joan G	Simon & Wendy G	John & Jane J
Karen & Dave H	Wayne & Sandra H	Stephen K
Peter & Sandra H	Alan & Barbara H	Martin & Corry K



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 TO ALL MEMBERS**

# **2011 AGM**

This Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2011

All positions except President and Secretary are up for re-election including Vice President, Treasurer, Minutes Secretary, Social Secretaries, Editor, Property Officer/Librarian/Trips Co-ordinator, Welcoming Officers etc

Please consider nominating yourself or someone else for a position within the Club. We need your continued help and valued input to keep our club active and progressive.

**REMEMBER:** Please bring a plate of Supper to share at the AGM!

# CHRISTMAS HAMPERS DONATIONS NEEDED



Each year we make up 3 XMAS hampers to raffle at our December AGM meeting and now it's time to bring something along to the meeting to pass onto Michele to put it all together.

Tickets will sell at \$2 per ticket and the raffle will be drawn at the AGM on December  $9^{th}$  2011.

Anything and everything for the big and little boys, cute and smart girls or for any member of the family is appreciated. It can be Tinsel, Christmas Cake, Tin Fruit or Food, Crackers, A Basket or a Tub to put the items in, a Bottle of Wine or even a Voucher. The list is endless so when you next go shopping, maybe pickup a spare item or two as the shops are already selling lots of XMAS items now.

tmas



For judging these photos

2011 Club Trips Photos

Winner: Keryn	Judged and prize donated by Gawler Fishing & Outdoors
Winner: Keryn	Member's Choice

Funny Sign Competition

Winner: Keryn	Judged and prize donated by La Dolce Vita Restaurant
Winner: Marie	Member's Choice

Photo numbers were down this year resulting in having to draw upon last minute offers. These are good prizes so please try and "snap" some good shots for 2012 and bring them to the competition to allow everyone a chance to have a good look and maybe have a laugh or two!



## **Club Merchandise**

Items listed below are to be ordered direct from

IM-PRESS Promotions Gawler All embroidered with club logo						
Polo Shirts – Navy with re 5XL. Ladies 8 to 18. Style	\$31.00					
Child Polo Shirts – Sizes	\$29.00					
Polar Fleece Windcheater Unisex S to 2XL. Child 6	\$48.00					
Stadium Jacket. Style HZ						
Bucket hat	\$18.00					
Caps						
Beanies	TA II					
60						
Gaw Ph :	IM-PRESS					

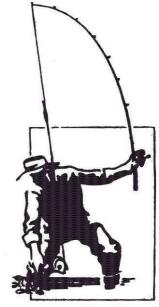
Ph : 8522 2156 Open Mon – Fri 9.00am - 5.00pm



# Proudly donating the trophy for the photo competition.

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

\*Fishing Tackle \*Fridge / freezers \*Guns & ammo \*Binoculars \*Knives \*Camping gear \*GPS systems \*Swags \*Marine \*Repairs



# **Gawler Fishing & Outdoors**

48 Murray St Gawler SA 5118 Phone 08 8522 6200 <u>fishnout@bigpond.net.au</u>



#### Want to advertise in our Newsletter?



Contact our editor <u>editor@gawler4wd.com.au</u> for details [Fees apply and payment is to be made prior to printing]

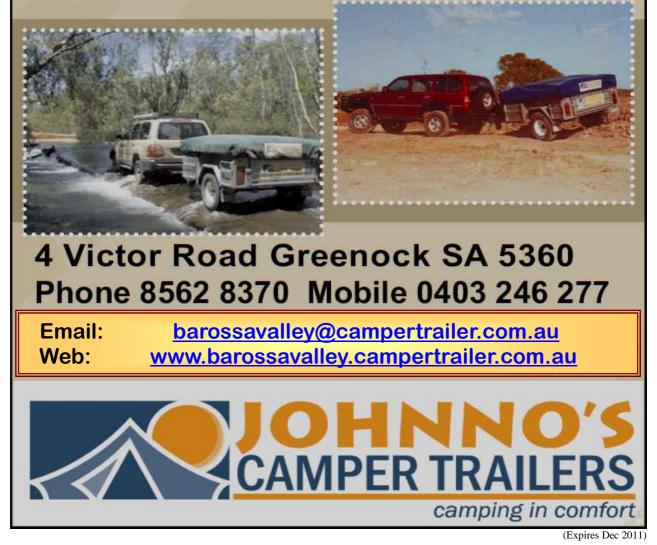


# It's easy with JOHNNO'S CAMPER TRAILERS

Camper trailers available to hire or buy Short and long-term rentals available \_\_\_\_\_ Ideal solution for extra guests

Distributors for CGEAR Matting and OZTENT Products

Accessories and equipment also available to hire or buy Proudly 100% Australian made and owned, and linked into Australia's largest network.



# **Trip Reports**

#### Planning that Big Trip

Where does it start & where does it stop? I'm not talking about how far you are going but how far you go when it comes to planning that big trip. "What do I need? How much can I carry?" goes through your mind and then there is "What have I forgotten?" The answer isn't always simple but here are some fundamentals that you may want to consider when you plan to spend time in remote regions of Australia.

#### <u>Checklist</u>

First and foremost make yourself a checklist on all the items of necessity that are not a permanent fixture in your vehicle, caravan, camper trailer etc; The checklist should cover clothing, toiletries, food, cookware, vehicle requirements, camping equipment, recovery equipment, first aid and survival items, permits, accommodation, flights & boat trips etc. Checklists are very useful. You can print one off and use it on every trip and can always be updated to suit you. Make an itinerary and a contingency plan.

#### Time and Distance

Let's start with the basics: time and distance. Research the routes you want to travel and the locations you want to visit. If you are a RAA member make use of their discounted maps, books etc. You can also obtain all kinds of maps, even specialty maps of your destination from and to areas you wish to travel from local stores and National Parks & tourism offices. We also have access to PC software or internet sites. Always plan a few extra days into your itinerary. You may find a great spot where you want to stay longer than initially planned, and some tracks may take longer than expected. Also any mechanical breakdown or mishap may take longer than you anticipate. For example; travelling around Central Australia a few years ago Karen and I had just booked out of Ayres Rock after restocking with supplies. When we walked back to our vehicle we noticed that the camper trailer was leaning to one side, one of the springs had expired. The springs had to be made elsewhere and flown in, that took two days!! So if you pre plan a couple of extra days into your trip it can take away any unwanted stress. Remember you are on holiday. Believe it or not even with great planning some places aren't what they are advertised to be and then there are other places that you would have bypassed that are worth the extra days stay.

#### <u>Fuel</u>

Fuel costs in remote regions can vary and these days you may only get ULP or diesel. You will only get LPG on the main highway routes, so even a choice of vehicle can become a consideration when planning a trip. Carrying extra fuel cans is an option and so is multiple or larger fuel tanks. Not only for carrying large amounts of fuel for longer distances but it can give you a choice of where to purchase from. I have seen people stranded for days in one spot in remote WA because their vehicle had LPG only and they didn't have enough to continue on their journey. The Roadhouse had run out and was waiting on their supply. Remember fuel consumption is higher when you are 4WDriving, towing or travelling into a headwind.

#### **Basic Vehicle Requirements**

There are a lot of 4wd accessories on the market these days and the list of needs and wants can vary as much as people's tastes and bank balances. Some people have to have every gadget that is known to man while others get by with very little or what they can afford. Cheaper isn't always better, as the saying goes "You get what you pay for." And some things should go without saying, like making sure your vehicle is in A1 mechanical condition beforehand. So presuming that has been done let's look at the essentials.

#### <u>Fridges</u>

There are several good brands on the market and they vary with price, generally around \$1,000 not including slides or covers. Get one that you can get parts & service for when travelling not just your local dealer.

#### <u>Dual Batteries</u>

You will need dual batteries to run your fridge and other accessories so this means you will also need a battery management system. There are lots of different types of management systems on the market to choose from. Choose wisely; make sure it is suitable for your specific requirements. Solenoids are cheap and effective but can wear out at the most inappropriate time. There are several smart battery systems around these days that are reasonably priced and are good quality. It might pay to get professional advice.

#### Air Compressors

You will need one of these accessories for inflating your tyres in areas of terrain that require you to do so, such as sand and mud. Once again look for quality with high kilopascals per hour inflate ratio. If travelling in sand dune or heavy vegetation areas then a sand flag is also a necessity.

#### **Communications**

A UHF radio is essential for vehicle to vehicle communications and most homesteads in rural farming areas have them, even travelling alone with scan mode on, you will pick up some communications. For long distance and/or emergences HF radios, (Sat) Satellite phones are available. A good UFH radio can be purchased for around \$400, look for the new 80 channel upgrade. HF radios are around \$4,000 installed. We have two Australian made brands on the market, Codan & Barrett. Sat phones are also an option but you have running costs for their usage. Government grants and discounts to some subscribers may apply. It's something to consider depending on how serious you are about safety travelling in remote areas on your own. You can always put them up for resale after your trip to recover some cost. Second hand HF radios are rare but sort after items. Hiring these items can be expensive.

#### Spare Parts

This is where you can get out of control with what you take as back up spare parts. The best thing you can do is remember how old your vehicle is and how well you maintain it. The older it is the more spares you may want to carry, the absolute minimum being fan belts, radiator hoses and cap, concentrated coolant, plugs, points and condensers, wheel bearing, fuses and other electrical components, and then you will need tools suitable for your use when working on your vehicle. Remember to take any special tools that are particular to your vehicle. Most importantly invest in a workshop manual and remember to take it with you.

#### Safety & Recovery Equipment

Let's start with some of the safety items you may want to carry, keeping it down to a minimum. A fire extinguisher and blanket could mean the difference between life and death. If you don't have first aid training, do a course or at the very least invest in a St.Johns First Aid book or a survival manual. An E-pirb will give you some peace of mind for around \$400 these days, hoping you may never need to use one but it could be a small price to pay in a real emergency. A HF radio will do a better job. You could carry all the recovery equipment possible and never have to use it but it is more likely that when you are carrying nothing is when you will need it. Keeping it basic and simple, having rated recovery points on the front and rear of your vehicle should be the minimum. Next a sturdy shovel, a snatch or towing strap and the knowledge to use them. How far can you go? Shackles, hand or electric winches, chains, extension straps, high lift jacks, exhaust jacks, tyre changing devices, anchors and the list goes on. It's all available for a price and you have to store it somewhere in or on your vehicle along with everything else. So it is a matter of personal choice and of course money. Your 4wding experience will be the difference.

#### Navigation systems

For the best use of navigation systems it may require much research. There are a lot of GPS systems available including software availability for your PCs. Do not rely on these alone as hard copy maps and a compass can never be beaten as far as I am concerned. Take them for backup.

#### <u>Leisure Items</u>

If you are one of those people that like your toys such as digital cameras & video cameras then you may want to look at buying a 12Vlt/240Vlt invertor. You can plug it into your vehicle's

cigarette lighter for charging those lithium batteries when you are in the middle of nowhere. It will also help you run that PC for downloading the GPS track you just took but remember to make sure you buy the one with the right watt input/output for your needs.

These basic requirements haven't included things such as food and water, clothing, cooking & camping items as well as vehicle modifications as these are subjects that need to be covered in their own right. This is just a short guide to enjoying the great outdoors while 4WDriving. One last tip before going on that big trip, it is better to replace your tyres with new ones than to try and squeeze that last couple of hundred kilometres out of them. Some tyres can be hard to get when you are in remote places. You may only get second hand tyres or pay through the nose for new ones. Always try to carry two spares. There is a difference between bad luck and bad planning. Bad planning is preventable.

Happy Travels

[Dave H]

#### Social Secretary's Report - 30th November 2011

Opening Balance	\$256.95
Income:	
Raffle @ Meeting:	\$118.95
Meat & Bread Sales and Raffle @ Xmas Show:	\$113.00
Supper:	\$33.90
Expenses:	
Groceries for XMAS Show:	\$38.10
Meat for XMAS Show:	\$250.00
Closing Balance:	\$234.70

What a year we have had here in the Social Secretary Department for 2011 with Barbara, Julie and Norma all playing a role in the position alongside myself (Michele).

I would like to take the opportunity to thank all that have helped in some way this past 12 months and especially YOU, the members, who have done a brilliant job yet again of keeping us in Raffle Prizes and donating to the wonderful XMAS Hampers that are to be drawn at the AGM. Without your continued support it would be a tuff job to be able to supply something different for our 3 prizes each month.

We had our XMAS Show at Port Hughes this year on Nov 26th/27th and a great turnout we had young and old. It was great to see some new faces amongst us as well as us oldies. Hope you had a great weekend.

A HUGE thank you to "Santa" who made the kids night especially for our newest member Ally (her First Christmas) and to Keryn, Sandra and Wayne for their Entertainment and Games!. Thank you to Norma and Bronte for taking the meat over, Max and Lyn for transporting the BBQ and a big table and mostly thank you to all for making a salad and for helping cook and supervise the cooking of the BBQ. Big thanks to Peta for the crazy hair and balloon animals. I'm not sure who enjoyed the crazy hair the most, the kids or the adults and don't fear there is photographic evidence.

There goes another 12 months and here's to a fantastic 2012 for our club and its members!!

#### [Michele]



Gawler & Districts 4WD Club Inc.



#### Some Committee Members opinions of the "Wonky Donkey" Show

Brilliant! Rear end of donkey was a hoot.

Very good "Leprackan".

Fabulous, thankyou.

Too short, everyone was in stitches.

Great, really enjoyed it! Repeat next year please!!

Very well done, thoroughly enjoyed it. Grandkids still laughing about it. Excellent job, thank you.



The chook needs a bigger comb.

Excellent job. Very funny. Very talented friends.

EEAWSOME entertainment!!

That was a gigantic chicken, Cooper. Great, Lachie. (Was that you Nanny, Donkey?)

Kept checking out the legs to see if they were in the correct beat to the music. Waited for more but that was the end!!



### **Last General Meeting**

# November 2011

See the attached Minutes (members only)

