Gawler & Districts 4WD Club Newsletter

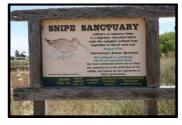
**April 2013** 



Gawler and Districts 4WD Club Incorporated is an active and supporting member of Four Wheel Drive South Australia









Milang January 2013

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# WELCOME

#### to the Gawler & Districts 4WD 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 Four Wheel Drive South Australia which incorporates the Driver Training Unit. Most meetings include a Guest Speaker and a monthly club newsletter.

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 4WD 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:** 

President & Secretary 0410 526 317 (Peter - President) 08 8523 2507 (Deb – Secretary)

**EMAIL:** <u>info@gawler4wd.com.au</u> **WEB:** <u>www.gawler4wd.com.au</u>

#### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

PRESIDENT/PUBLIC OFFICER	VICE PRESIDENT
Peter: 8523 0889 or 0410 526 317	Wayne: 8523 0407 or 0432 339 213
TREASURER	SECRETARY
Quenton: 8523 2507 or 0407 604 601	Deb : 8523 2507
EDITOR	MINUTES SECRETARY
Sandra : 8523 0889	Lyn Li : 0418 826 156
	Lyn Le: 8524 9002 or 0403 332 432
PUBLISHER	TRIPS/PROPERTY
Chris: 8280 7414 or 0438 223 724	LIBRARIAN CO-ORDINATOR
	Dave R: 8525 2765 or 0419 992 881
SOCIAL SECRETARIES	TRAINING CO-ORDINATOR
Jane: 8523 0657 or 0409 091 851	DTU DELEGATE
Sandra : 8523 0889	Dave H : 0411 772 226
WELCOMING OFFICERS	ASSOCIATION DELEGATE
Kerry / Norma	John: 8522 5664 or 0408 824 654

#### **SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS**

# **2013**

Meeting	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
General		8	1	12	10	14	12	9	13	11	8	13
Committee	30	20		3	1	5	3		4	2		4
Committee							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.

# **Last General Meeting**

# **March 2012**

See the attached Minutes (members only)

# **GAWLER & DISTRICTS 4WD CLUB**

Stickers For Sale – Only \$2.00 each

Magnetic Name Badges - \$10 each

See Quenton at the General Meeting

#### **NOTES FROM YOUR COMMITTEE**

#### **President's report:**

Welcome all to our April Newsletter. We have reports from two recent activities; Clean-Up Australia Day - did you see the team photo in *The Bunyip*? The second report is from our Easter trip proudly run by John and Jane J. They did a wonderful job with the organisation and certainly found a great spot for a relaxing weekend. A couple of us now have new navigators (the electronic variety) adorning our dashboards. There is a wide variety on the market and we are considering running a combined GPS and  $OziExplorer^{TM}$  information evening. If you might be interested, please let one of the committee know and we'll see what can be organised.

The trips diary is starting to fill so make sure you get your name down on the trip sheets as soon as possible. Of course, we are always looking for new ideas and would be happy to hear suggestions.

Don't forget that one of the roles of the club, in conjunction with the 4WDSA Driver Training Unit, is to provide certified training for club members. Dave and Karen H put in a fair bit of effort arranging the training sessions / weekends so please consider signing up for the forthcoming training days.

Pete

#### **Editor's report:**

Another Easter has come and gone and with it another trip away. As can be seen from the trip reports a wonderful time was had by all and sincere thanks must go to Jane and John for organising and leading the trip.

May means "Mother's Day" and we are looking for suitable donations for Mum. If you are able to assist, please see Jane or Sandra. Tickets will be on sale from the April meeting.

A decision has been made for the Christmas Show this year and an advance notice appears in the magazine with more details to follow re bookings and costs when they are to hand. Please mark this date, 30 November, in your diaries.

Dave R has now firmed up dates for his Warraweena trip in October - please see "Coming Events" for details. Dave will need a show of hands by the May meeting so please give this trip some thought and put your names down if you are interested in going.

Thanks everyone.

Sandra

#### Treasurer's report:

Nothing to report this month.



# COMING EVENTS

Mid North Day Trip	Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> May 2013
Trip Details & Requirements:	Enjoy a day Tag-a-long tour of the Mid North, discovering some fascinating history, buildings, villages, sights and tastes. Visiting Basket Bridge, John Horrocks Cottage, Sevenhill Cellars, Martindale Hall, Mintaro.
Requirements	Bring - Morning Tea to share, Picnic lunch for yourself, (bakery available at Sevenhill to purchase lunch if required). Chairs, Picnic rug, Table, UHF Radio, Camera.
Cost:	Adult \$12 per head. (\$10 if 10 or more) Child 5-15yrs \$5 (covers all entry fees)
Meeting Place	Tarlee 9.00am (central parking bay by toilets)
Trip Leader:	Quenton 0407 604 601

Peake Training Weekend	Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup> & Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> May 2013
Trip Limit:	Members only (training weekend only)
Trip Details & Requirement:	Sand driving, caravans, campers, tents. Need to be self sufficient. Sand flag, compressor, shovel and rated recovery points, UHF radio. Bring warm clothing and wood.
Cost:	\$20.00 per vehicle per day, \$10.00 deposit required (refundable up to 1 meeting beforehand.)
Meeting Place:	Back of Shell Roadhouse at Tailem Bend on Saturday 18th, ready to leave at 9.00 am sharp.
Trip Leader:	Dave & Karen – Phone: 8524 3508 or 0411 772 226

Kookaburra Creek Melrose	June Long Weekend – Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> to Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> June 2013
Trip Limit:	10-12 vehicles
Trip Details & Requirements:	Bush camping, no power, warm clothes. Firewood available for small donation. Bridle track free. Walking tracks & children's pushbike riding tracks on property. 3 minute walk to shared toilets and showers plus a disabled toilet & shower.
Cost:	Reduced to \$8.00 per adult per night. Children up to 18 years free.  Optional track \$25.00 plus small amount of monies if weather inclement. (\$100 deposit required to secure site)
Trip Leader:	Max 0427 807 066

Fundraising BBQ	Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> July 2013
Where:	Woolworths, Gawler (Please keep this date free as we will need volunteers to help with the BBQ.)

Road Safety Centre Police Barracks	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> July 2013
Where:	At the SA Police 'Road Safety Centre' situated at the Thebarton Barracks, Port Road, Thebarton.
Activities:	Facilities are available to cook a BBQ from 6.30 pm or maybe we have a pizza run for tea! (TBD)
	*** JULY General Meeting to be held at this venue ***
	Talks on 4WD modifications, safe towing practices, vehicle loads and oversized tyres plus lift kits.
	EVERYONE WELCOME!!

Peake Social Weekend	Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup> & Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> August 2013
Trip Limit:	No limit – Maybe shared with Barossa and Wanderers Clubs
Trip Details & Requirement:	Sand driving, caravans, campers, tents. Need to be self sufficient. Sand flag, compressor, shovel and rated recovery points, UHF radio. Bring warm clothing and wood.
Cost:	\$20.00 per vehicle per day, \$10.00 deposit required (refundable up to 1 meeting beforehand.)
Meeting Place:	Back of Shell Roadhouse at Tailem Bend on Saturday 10th, ready to leave at 9.00 am sharp.
Trip Leader:	ТВА

Warraweena Conservation Park	Sunday 6 October to Monday 14 October 2013
Trip Limit:	No limit.
Trip Details & Requirements:	Bush Camping in a secluded & scenic campsite, long drop toilet, a campfire ring and a big camping table. There is also a laundry, shower block and toilet block for public use situated next to the shearers' quarters. <b>540 kms north of Adelaide in the heart of the northern Flinders Ranges encompassing 355 sq kms of the highest and most diverse land in the area. It is an area of historical, cultural &amp; natural significance</b> . Access to Warraweena is via Beltana Roadhouse where fuel is available Monday to Friday 8.00 am to 5.00 pm and Saturday/Sunday 9.00 am to 5.00 pm. The homestead, which is 2WD accessible, is approx 50 minutes away from Parachilna & Leigh Creek. 4WD is essential on most

station tracks. Caravans, campers, tents all okay.

Further details to come but we need a good indication of attendees by May meeting please and also if there is a likelihood of caravans going as this will determine where the campsite is likely to be.

Cost:

TBA

Meeting Place:

TBA

Trip Leaders:

Dave & Michele

Mobiles: 0419 992 881 (Dave) 0419 813 805 (Michele) or phone 8525 2765

Morgan Training Weekend	Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 October 2013
Trip Limit:	Members only (training weekend only)
Trip Details & Requirements:	Rocky terrain, inclines, declines, recovery. Staying at the Morgan Caravan Park, contact no: 8540 2207. Rated recovery points, recovery equipment, eg: snatch straps, high lift jack, shovel, etc.
Cost:	\$22.00 per night (unpowered site) and \$28.00 per night (powered site)
Meeting Place:	The Industrial Park, Willaston, northern outskirts of Gawler. Ready to leave at 8.00 am sharp.
Trip Leader:	Dave & Karen – Phone 8524 3508 or 0411 772 226

Christmas Show	Saturday 30 November 2013
Trip Details:	Please see separate advance notice in magazine – more details to follow.

#### **PROPOSED TRIPS:**

• Mystery trail: Details TBA at a later date. Trip Leader: Keryn

• Warraweena: Please see amended details under Coming Events

• July 2014: Proposed trip to Cape York. Trip Leader: Darryll G

Punyelroo in the lower Riverland

#### INFORMATION ON OTHER EVENTS

#### **Bri Glen**

If anyone is interested in camping at **Bri Glen** please contact Brian Sambell direct to make arrangements. If you would like to organise a group trip to **Bri-Glen**, discuss with Brian first and then we can promote the trip within the club.

#### Contact Brian directly on 8522 2871



# Got any 4WD related photos you would like to share with other Club members?

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!

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

#### **GUEST SPEAKERS**



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

April Trevor Gent & son Christopher to talk about 4WD

mechanical repairs.

May Short talk by Max on the CFS

June Anita Turton supporting the SA Bird of Prey

Rehabilitation Centre will give a talk on how to tell which bird of prey is which and what to do if an

injured bird is found.

**September** Speaker Steve Johnson re VKS and Sat Phones, etc

**November** Proposed visit to Johnno's new store in Nuriootpa (to

be confirmed)

#### 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 (Sandra or Jane) any time. Thank you.

We are also looking for donations for the Mother's Day Raffle to be drawn at the May Meeting. Tickets will be on sale from the April meeting at \$2.00 each....Thank you again.

MARCH 2013	APRIL 2013	MAY 2013
George M	John & Robyn R	Brenton & Keryn W
Dave & Michele R	Roy & Bronwyn S	Joann & Peter W
Bronte & Norma R	Chris & Julie S	Lindsay & Ruth B

#### SPONSOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

# IM-PRESS Promotions Gawler

All embroidered with club logo

#### 60 Adelaide Rd Gawler SA 5118

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### **Gawler Fishing & Outdoors**

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Club Discount with club card applies to all non-special items

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\*Fridge / Freezers
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\*Binoculars

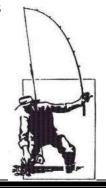
\*Knives

\*Camping gear
\*GPS systems

\*Swags

\*Marine

\*Repairs



# La Dolce Vita Restaurant 'a taste of Italy'

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1 Julian Terrace, Gawler SA 5118

Ph. 85221009

Email lori39@tpg.com.au Bookings advisable



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

Anyone interested in any products from the **Wurth** product range should check out their website: <a href="www.wurth.com.au">www.wurth.com.au</a>

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



RAILERS like thank Johnno's Camper Trailers for kindly donating an Evakool ice box to the

club to use as a raffle prize. Anyone interested in 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.

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Apr 2014



### **CHECK OUT OUR SPONSORS and ADVERTS**

Maybe you have something at home you would like to sell.

**Contact us for details** 

## Want to advertise in our Newsletter?



Advertising Rates (12 months)

Quarter Page \$50

Half Page \$100

Full Page \$200

One off Advert: \$10

Contact our editor <a href="mailto:editor@gawler4wd.com.au">editor@gawler4wd.com.au</a> for details <a href="mailto:fees apply and payment has to be made prior to printing">fees apply and payment has to be made prior to printing</a>]

#### **FOR SALE**



#### FREE MEMBER'S "FOR SALE" ADVERTISING

Members can submit requests for a "FOR SALE" ad, free of charge, but there are some guidelines:

- (a) Maximum of 6 lines per ad (similar to a typical local newspaper advert)
- (b) Adverts can only appear for a maximum of 3 consecutive months
- (c) No pictures, text only (you can run a pictures ad for \$10 a month)
- (d) Must supply contact details (either a phone or email)
- (e) Editor reserves rights to reject and/or tailor any submitted adverts.

Please send full details to our editor <a href="mailto:editor@gawler4wd.com.au">editor@gawler4wd.com.au</a> for inclusion in our next newsletter providing it arrives BEFORE the newsletter deadline! (See page 3)

**Electric Shredder** DSE shredder in good working order, forward & reverse, maximum 5 sheets & even credit cards! Make a reasonable offer, monies benefit the club. Try it for yourself at our April General meeting.

Please speak to Lyn or Max L for more details.

**NEWS RELEASE:** 18 March 2013

### **Wood collection prohibited in Witjira National Park**

Visitors to the Witjira National Park, located 887 kilometres north-west of Port Augusta, are no longer permitted to have wood fires within the park.

This is the final step in a staged process after the December 2011 decision by the Witjira Co-management Board to ban wood collection and wood fires in order to protect the Park's precious and fragile arid biodiversity.

To help visitors adjust to the ban, wood fires were still allowed at the designated camping areas of Dalhousie Springs, 3 O'clock Creek and Purni Bore but, from April 2013, the collection of wood and the use of wood fires at these camping areas are no longer permitted.

'The wood campfire is an iconic experience,' said Tony Magor, District Ranger (Desert Parks) Natural Resources SA Arid Lands. 'However, years of firewood collection by visitors – including some irresponsible collection and use – prompted the Board's decision to prohibit collection.'

'Recruitment of wood bearing shrubs and trees can take a long time, which can leave areas near visitor sites denuded of wood,' Mr Magor said. 'Trees may look dead during drought but can be dormant and still green and that wood provides shade, shelter and homes for a variety of birds, mammals, reptiles and invertebrates.

'Rotting wood also provides organic matter and nutrients for another generation of trees and shrubs,' Mr Magor added. Unfortunately, some visitors choose to break off or cut down trees and shrubs, some of which may have cultural significance.

The decision by the Witjira Co-management Board followed stakeholder consultation in 2011 and brings Witjira National Park in line with Lake Eyre National Park, Wabma Kadarbu Conservation Park and Coongie Lakes National Park where wood fires are also not permitted.

Use of wood fires at Mt Dare, a leased section of Witjira National Park, is still permitted.

Wood may also be carried through Witjira National Park to be used in the adjacent Simpson Desert Regional Reserve and Conservation Park but must not be used in Witjira.

#### **MEDIA CONTACT:**

Meg Barker, Media Advisor, Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources Phone 8648 5389, Mobile 0438 804 612, Email meg.barker@sa.gov.au

#### THE UNDERSTOREY PROJECT IS ON AGAIN IN 2013

After receiving a huge positive response in 2012 from Gawler and surrounding communities the Urban Biodiversity Unit (UBU) ), in conjunction with the Gawler Regional Natural Resource Centre (GRNRC) and Gawler Environment and Heritage Association (GEHA) are holding the Understorey Project for the second time.

The plant pick-up day is to be held on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2013.

We are now taking orders for a mixed box of species OR a box of specific species chosen by you from our species list.

For more information on how to order and to see the species list visit the link below: http://www.communitywebs.org/nrcgawler/main.php?pid=18

Cheers.

Emily Griffiths | Coordinator

#### **Gawler Regional Natural Resource Centre**

ph: (08) 8523 7715 m: 0421 835 299 email: emily.griffiths@sa.gov.au web: www.nrcgawler.org.au

Note: The Gawler Regional Natural Resource Centre email is hosted by the DEWNR network.



Please consider the environment before printing this email.

(PS: You may remember that this group came out and gave a talk to us late last year.)

Re-printed from Westprint Friday Five dated 15.3.2013

# **Bush Fatality – please use caution in the bush!**

From NSW Police website.

Two men missing near Broken Hill were located yesterday, but sadly one man was deceased. The two men left Broken Hill in their Holden Jackaroo 4WD about 9am on Wednesday 13 March. When they failed to return family members alerted emergency services. Searches focussed on a number of areas including the Corona Road and the locality known as 'Euriowrie' approximately 70 kilometres north of Broken Hill on the Silver City Highway. Volunteers from the SES, chartered aircraft, a Police fixed wing aircraft, Police from Barrier Local Area Command and local land holders all assisted in the search throughout the day. A land holder assisting in the search for the missing persons located the Holden in remote country near 'Euriowrie'.

The 4WD was some distance from the Silver City Highway, and was located in a valley. Both missing men were located with the vehicle, which appeared bogged, but unfortunately one of the men was deceased. The other man was treated by Ambulance Paramedics and conveyed to Broken Hill Base Hospital in a stable condition. Police have thanked everyone involved in the search for their assistance.

April 2013 12

#### **CHRISTMAS SHOW 2013**

# Christmas Show 2013

#### **ADVANCE NOTICE**

WHERE: WALLAROO NORTH BEACH TOURIST PARK

WHEN: SATURDAY 30 NOVEMBER 2013

Beach frontage, safe swimming, excellent fishing & sailing.

FACILITIES INCLUDE: Undercover electric barbecues area, playground, recreation room, camp kitchen, disabled facilities and kiosk which provides ice, gas refills, milk, bread, papers, tourist information and general groceries.

For more information please see:
www.wallaroonorthbeachtouristpark.com.au
More information re bookings, costs, etc, to follow.
10 sites provisionally booked.



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May 2013

April 2013





#### PHOTO COMPETITION

The committee has decided that the photo competition this year will be run by John J and some rules have been proposed to make it fair for all...

#### The PHOTO COMPETITION RULES:

- (a) Two categories OPEN and FUNNY;
  - (b) Each member may enter up to four (4) photos per category
- (c) Photos should be copy (not originals) Size 15cm x 10cm (6"x4")
- (d) OPEN photos must have been taken on a club trip during the last 12 months
- (e) All photos must be labelled on the back with your name and where the photo was taken
- (f) Entries to be handed to John or Jane by close of November General meeting (8th Nov)
- (g) Late entries will not be accepted
- (h) All judging is carried out by our sponsors (and their decisions are final!):
  - a. OPEN Gawler Fishing and Outdoors
  - b. FUNNY La Dolce Vita

So get clicking and get them photos in... really GREAT PRIZES!!

### TRIP REPORT COMPETITION

As well as the above, we will be running a special competition this year to reward those who submit a Trip Report throughout the year!

It doesn't matter whether the report is long or short, whether you have written one or more reports, your name will go in the "hat" for each report that is written and a winner will be drawn out of the hat at the end of the year at the Christmas Show BBQ. So the more reports you write the better your chances of winning!

There will be another great prize, so please, get writing!!!



#### **CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY - SUNDAY 3/3/13**

17 members, including some with their grandchildren, met at 9.00am in the Gawler Elderly Centre car park ready to search for rubbish in the Henry Chenoweth Park. From the photo supplied by Deb: Quenton, Lyn, Max, Martin, Jordon, Norma, John, Jane, Darryl, Helen, Paul, Brandan, Sue, Alex, Roger & Blake.

We were greeted with lovely sun shine to get out and about, keen to try out some exercises learned from the Zumba training at February general meeting.

We all registered for the day's activities and equipped ourselves with gloves, tongs, rubbish bags, hats, water and even crutches (had to put that in Sue, sorry!). I believe the grass was greener last year but still no water flowed in the creek.





It was a bad start for us because we had to clean up our own mess first upon arriving. You see, we were asked to bring extra hot water for everyone to have a cuppa but it sprung a leak in the boot of the car.

My husband must have thought we were going to the Grand Prix, being on that day, taking the corners too fast OR maybe I didn't put it correctly in the boot.

It only took an hour to clean up around the park and to find some unusual items including a fishing rod, computer, exhaust pipe, PVC pipe, windscreen, clothing including undies!, sunglasses,

golf stick, bow & arrows, bird's nest and a few other items I had better not mention.



Cake & a cuppa was enjoyed by everyone. What a great effort from the above team to help clean up some of our parks and roadways so many people can enjoy a nice clean area. Thank you.

[Lyn]

# THE WORLD'S GREATEST SHAVE

At Barossa & Light Children's Market on 17 March 2013 Bronte R & Sandra Mackie shaved for a cure to support the Leukaemia Foundation - \$1,237.70 was raised on the day from crazy coloured hair, donations and raffles. Pictures can be viewed at:

www.facebook.com/TrudiesPhotography

Fundraising donations can still be made via facebook: <a href="http://my.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/sandramackie"><u>www.facebook.com/Sandras.Great.Shave.2013</u></a> or you can donate direct to <a href="http://my.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/sandramackie"><u>http://my.leukaemiafoundation.org.au/sandramackie</u></a>.

So far they have raised \$9,709.29 which is 49% of their target of \$20,000 with fundraising ongoing until September.

WHAT A WONDERFUL EFFORT BY BOTH BRONTE AND SANDRA!!!

#### TRIP REPORTS

#### **EASTER 2013 TRIP REPORT**

#### Horseshoe Top End, Southern Flinders Ranges, 29 March to 1 April 2013

#### **Good Friday**

The day started early as we had to be at the Tarlee car park for 7.15 am where we were meeting John & Jane and the rest of the group. Hmm, got to Coles and remembered that we hadn't switched the burglar alarm on at home so we did a u-turn and headed back. Alarm switched on we left home for a second time. As we were running a bit late, Tarlee seemed quite a way off and the journey wasn't helped by some slow coaches on the road with rubber feet – one minute we're doing 100km/hour and the next 75 km/hour – very frustrating when trying to catch up on lost time!!! However, I think we made it at 7.17 am and thankfully weren't the last rig in the group to arrive. We stood around chatting in the cool morning air for a while waiting for the last few stragglers to arrive and eventually we finally set off at 7.45 am with Jane and John leading the trip and Wayne & Sandra as "tail end Charlies"..... until Roy and Bronwyn caught up to us.

We had a reasonable trip north and drove through Clare and out onto the R M Williams Way heading for Jamestown where we were going to have morning tea. We continued on this route to Orroroo and met up with the last members of the group, Darryll and Joan.

After a hiccup or two playing "follow the leader," we ended up on the right road again and continued north towards Carrieton. As it was approaching lunchtime, the leaders asked if we'd like to stop in there for lunch as we were still about an hour away from our destination. The general opinion was to carry on to the campsite, set up our tents, campers and caravans, and then have lunch, which is exactly what we did!!

The campsite was very sheltered in a little hollow. We all chose where we were going to camp and set up our "little homes" for the weekend. Once done, we had lunch.

The weather was lovely, warm but not too hot. Jane told us that she hadn't planned any activities for the afternoon and thought we'd just like to relax and socialise, read, sleep, whatever took our fancy, which is what we all did. She also told us about the eco toilet and that there were hot eco showers about a km away at another campsite. It all seemed very civilised!! The owners of the property came along later and delivered 200 litres of rainwater for our use. That was a first for many of us and greatly appreciated.

This surely can't go without a mention!! The eco toilet would have to be one of the best "long drops" any of us had seen in a long time – it was well constructed with a wooden floor and lined sides and roof with a whirly-gig on top to help dispense any odours that wanted to hang around – if they dared!!!!. There was also a bucket of wood shavings with a cup to dispense them down the toilet – this would aid in the ecoworking/friendliness of the toilet. (Even after a 4 day weekend, the toilet smelled as fresh as the day we arrived!!!)

We enjoyed "happy hour" later in the afternoon with nibbles and drinks and lit a small fire tosit around when the sun went down. There was much camaraderie and hilarity during the evening and as, we looked at the stars and gazed into the fire, I think we all realised that the die was cast, and we had the makings of a wonderful weekend ahead.

Thank you Jane & John for putting together another unforgettable weekend – I think we all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and had many, many laughs along the way.





#### **Easter Saturday**

Woke up to another day in a beautiful land of vibrant colours of greens, gold, purple, blues and browns. Magpies sing in the massive gum trees. Weather overcast but not really cold.

Couldn't believe that I slept until 8am though Wayne's watch was broken. We had organized the night before to leave at 9am for a drive around the property, no time to waste now!!!!!!!!

Off on our way with the great trip leaders of Jane & John with Roy & Bronwyn as tail-end Charlie. Through the gates at the homestead & off on our adventure for the day.

One of the gates at the beginning of the drive had a sharp turn to access it & not a lot of space to get through but with the experts (the males of the group) giving direction & advice, no one had a problem.

There was quite a bit of dust when driving and the land is a bit rocky in places. Going through low shrubs & smaller trees, then large gum tree & native pines. The vibrant brown colour of the earth while driving was stunning. Plenty of gates to shut or lock so the gate fairy was very generous to tail-end Charlie.

There were panoramic views while having morning tea. The wild life on the property was visible while driving - kangaroos, emu, galahs & a beautiful large eagle.

Heard on the chit chat of the radio that Lyn woke with sore muscle and had forgotten the massage oil. Max, being the good husband that he is, got out the cooking oil & gave Lyn a massage. Very ingenious of the Leskes!!! During the course of the day we came up with a list of uses for cooking oil other than cooking. One of the tips was to put the oil on tent pole to stop mice climbing up them, does this mean that Lyn is now not going to be able to pole dance for Max while camping?????????

Poor Lyn was the brunt of jokes for the rest of the trip about the cooking oil but, being the good sport she is, took it in her stride. Jessica & Brandon looked for coloured stone with some very lovely ones found & Brandon found some pretty impressive bugs in a hole. The lookout provided some of the most beautiful panoramic views – this is where the owner's daughter is getting married in a few weeks time. It will make for some stunning photos.

Jane had a map that was a bit of a challenge to her but with Peter's back up we got around the track alright. We did inform her that we had no problems with getting lost& that we would follow her within reason..... just not off a cliff!!!!

By the time we found a place to have lunch amongst the trees in the gully, it had started to rain, not heavy but constant. ,Sandra & Peter were alright they stuck their umbrella up in a tree & stood under it, no problems eating lunch in the rain for them.

While going through the low saltbush area of the property there were thousands of flying bugs, we were informed that they were flying termites, which Dave told us tasted like nutmeg & dog urine! We were all then wondering how Dave knew this great enlighten piece of information. There was some talk of licking wheels but we won't go there, you will just have to ask Dave. (sorry Dave.)



By the time we got back to camp we had driven 38.4 km around the tracks of the property, the rain was steady & soaking which was really good for the property owners but not so good for some of the campers who had to dry out bedding. Lazy afternoon for some as they had a sleep while others just sat around talking under the shelter.

Happy hour was not to be missed even though it was raining, so under the shelter we all crammed. Joan informed Darryl that he was going to get wet – we all looked then she continued with "while you go & get me a drink". That one was good &we all had a belly laugh. Was not a late night for most as it was cold when sitting around, others braved the cold & sat out around campers & talked. This was good as you got to know people a lot better especially the antics they got up to.



John & Jane, thank you for the great trip you organized & to everyone else, Wayne & I had a fantastic trip with you.

[Sandra He]

#### **Easter Sunday**

The morning started with lots of Easter Bunny Visits and no gas going to our camper (oh the joys of camping). Thanks to the Harpers for the use of their stove to make brekkie as we couldn't just have Chocolate could we???

After a delayed start we headed out at 10am with the sun out and with recaps from Sat nights "Happy Hour" and talks about the uses for cooking oil as the Leske's had lots of different ideas to share.



Hammond was our Destination for a look around the Historic Town and morning tea.. Sandra He went off exploring, of course, with 2 young ones in tow, Brandon and Jessica, who loved finding a fossil rock specimen and were excited to tell us all about it.

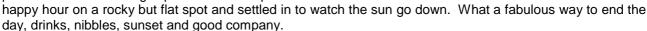
Back on the road we headed to Wilmington for refuelling only until someone mentioned the home made yummy food on offer in town so our bellies got refuelled too!! Back on board we headed to Alligator Gorge which was supposed to be our lunch stop but think some might not need their packed lunch after the size of the pies which came from Wilmington. We had hot chips -yum - they went down a treat and what a luxury when camping.

Entry to visit Mount Remarkable National Park was duly paid and we wound and dipped our way into the park to the picnic area for lunch

After a full belly some adventurous people ventured down the steps and rocks for a browse around Alligator Gorge while some of us smarter (injured or not wanting to injure with steep steps) people stayed up top so others didn't have to carry us back up the hill ..... lol. Recovery mode was on for some more laughs.

Full of entertainment, Bunny Sandra He, forgot she had her tail on when sitting on the toilet and let out an almighty squeal as she wondered what the white fluffy thing was ... haha, oh to be a fly on that wall, hey!!

We headed up to the top of the hill to find the perfect sunset viewing spot and set up







On the way back to camp we travelled in the dark, which looked fabulous from afar, for the rest to have dinner over the fire that Helen, Paul, Brandon and Jordan had thankfully kept watch on and it was perfect for toasting marshmallows on too.

Thanks for a FABULOUS Easter Sunday John & Jane

[Michele]

#### **Easter Monday**

It's Monday morning and time to start packing up after a great weekend. A few campers needed to dry out after the soaking they received on Saturday, therefore, we only left our campsite just before midday. Darryll and Joan left just ahead of us and Dave & Michele and Paul & Helen were leaving shortly after us. A short distance down the road, a caravan (belonging to another group) had broken down – it had probably become unhitched- with another vehicle and caravan helping them out and that held us up for a short time.

Once mobile again, we made our way slowly towards Orroroo where we stopped for lunch at the only cafe which appeared to be open – they were doing a roaring trade as the town was full of vehicles, campers and caravans!! After that, we all made our own way home.

Thanks again to Jane and John for a well organised and very enjoyable Easter weekend.





Old disused pub in Hammond

#### **MOTHER'S DAY RECIPE - BLUEBERRY PANCAKES**

Something to spoil mum with on her "special day"

#### Ingredients:

200g self raising flour

1 tsp baking powder

1 egg

300ml milk

Knob butter

150g pack blueberries

Sunflower oil or a little butter for cooking

Golden or maple syrup

#### Method:

- 1. Mix together the flour, baking powder and a pinch of salt in a large bowl. Beat the egg with the milk, make a well in the centre of the dry ingredients and whisk in the milk to make a thick smooth batter. Beat in the melted butter and gently stir in half the blueberries.
- 2. Heat a teaspoon of the oil or a small knob of butter in a large non-stick frying pan. Drop a large tablespoonful of the batter per pancake into the pan to make pancakes about 7.5 cm across. Make three or four pancakes at a time. Cook for about 3 minutes over a medium heat until small bubbles appear on the surface of each pancake, then turn and cook another 2-3 minutes until golden. Cover with kitchen paper to keep warm while you use up the rest of the batter. Serve with golden or maple syrup and the rest of the blueberries.