Gawler & Districts 4WD Club Newsletter



Founded in 2002





Warraweena - October 2013

Gawler and Districts 4WD Club Incorporated is an active and supporting member of



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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 Sheets.

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

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

PRESIDENT/PUBLIC OFFICER Peter H: 8523 0889 or 0410 526 317	VICE PRESIDENT Wayne H: 8523 0407 or 0432 339 213
TREASURER Norma R: 0438 120 342	SECRETARY Deb E: 8523 2507
EDITOR Sandra Ha: 8523 0889	PUBLISHER Chris 5: 8280 7414 or 0438 223 724
MINUTES SECRETARY Lyn Li : 0418 826 156 (General) Norma R : 0438 120 342 (Committee)	SOCIAL SECRETARIES Lyn Le: 8524 9002 or 0403 332 432 Mandy G: 8284 0002
TRIPS/PROPERTY LIBRARIAN CO-ORDINATOR Quenton: 8523 2507 or 0407 604 601	TRAINING CO-ORDINATOR DTU DELEGATE Peter H: 0410 526 317
COMMITTEE (GENERAL) Jane J: 8523 0657 or 0409 091 851	ASSOCIATION DELEGATE John M : 8522 5664 or 0408 824 654
WELCOMING OFFICERS	Dave R / Paul M

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

2014

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

February 2013See the attached Minutes (members only)

GAWLER & DISTRICTS 4WD CLUB



Stickers For Sale - Only \$2.00 each New Sticker with Web address - \$3.00 each Magnetic Name Badges - \$10 each

See Quenton at the General Meeting

March 2014

NOTES FROM YOUR COMMITTEE

President's Report:

Hello everyone and a warm welcome to all members and visitors alike. Included this month is the detail of our promotion to encourage members to undertake First Aid training as was proposed at our February meetings.

[Pete]

Editor's Report:

This month's Newsletter seems full of information which we hope you will find interesting. We have included the results of the Survey which Jane conducted and they make interesting reading. If you have any further ideas to add, please let us know. All we have to do now is to put some of the suggestions into practice so if you are interested in following through on any of them, please go ahead and start the ball rolling.

[Sandra]

Treasurer's Report:



SUBS ARE NOW DUE FOR 2014

Please fill out renewal form
Members pay annual fee (\$60)
(+ \$10 joining fee for new members)

Please pay the Treasurer before or at March meeting together with a copy of your Insurance Policy

LAST MONTH TO PAY WITHOUT INCURRING A LATE FEE!!!

[Norma]



COMING EVENTS

Easter 2014 Fri 18th to Mon 21st April 2014

Caernarvon Track, Flinders Ranges

Limit: 12 vehicles

Details: Camp at Angorichina Station with flush toilet and hot shower, driving the

new 'Caernarvon Track" (already being called "the best 4x4 track in the Flinders") on the Saturday, sunset viewing Yellow footed rock Wallabies,

Blinman mine tour, shared Lamb dinner Sunday night

Requirements: FULL tank at meeting point, UHF radio, experienced 4WDers, usual

recovery equip, covered shoes essential for mine tour, all food and water including Lamb themed food to share Sunday night. Caravans, Camper Trailers, Tents, Swags, good walking shoes, hat, binoculars, cameras.

Nibbles/drinks for Wallaby watching.

Costs Camping - \$20 per vehicle per night.

Caernarvon Track - \$60 per vehicle.

Blinman Mine Guided Tour - \$22.00 Adult (group rate) \$11.00 child

under 12 (Optional, but highly recommended)

Meet Tarlee Friday 7.30am

Leaders: Quenton Ph 8523 2507 or 0407 604 601

Assistant Trip Leader / Tail End Charlie: Pete and Sandra H.

Sunday 4st May 2014

Mystery Drive

Limit: No limit

Details: Mystery drive with "history" theme. "Dress ups" in afternoon.

Requirements: UHF Radio, morning tea to share, packed lunch, chairs, picnic rug, table,

camera.

Costs: Adult: \$10.00, Child: \$3.50

Meet: Gawler Visitors Information Centre at 9.00 am

Leader: Quenton E, phone: 0407 604 601

Saturday 17th & Sunday 18th May 2014

Peake Sand training

Limit: 10

Details: Sand and rock basic training

Requirements: Sand flag, recovery gear, BYO food, water and wood

Costs: TBD

Meet: Tailem Bend Shell Roadhouse at 9.00 am

Leaders: Peter Harper

Saturday 9th & Sunday 10th August 2014

Social weekend at Peake

Limit: 10

Details: Sand and rock driving and socialising

Requirements: Sand flag, recovery gear, BYO food, water and wood

Costs: TBD

Meet: Tailem Bend Shell Roadhouse at 9.00 am

Leaders: TBA



Easter is just around the corner again, in fact, the week after our April meeting, so if you are able to help out with a suitable donation it would be gratefully appreciated and the Easter Raffle will be drawn at the April meeting.

Thank you.

Lyn & Mandy

BIRTHDAY WISHES

Gawler and Districts 4WD Club wishes to extend a Happy Birthday greeting to the

following members and family:

\$\$ \$	MARCH	♦♦♦
	Nick B	
	Quenton E	
	Lyn	
	Michele R	
	Sandra	



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 (Lyn Le or Mandy) any time.

FEBRUARY 2014	MARCH 2014	APRIL 2014
Roy & Bronwyn S	Joann & Peter W	Roger & Sue B
Chris & Julie S	Lindsay & Ruth B	Marie C
Brenton & Keryn W	Nick & Kerrie B	Quenton & Deb E

GUEST SPEAKERS



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

March: "Hints on how to take better photos" to be given by our Club

member, Barbara, who has her own photography business..

April: To be advised

May: Brian Thom – Gawler Now and Then

see http://www.gawler.nowandthen.net.au

June: RAA – Education for Older Drivers

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

PROPOSED TRIPS

TBA Punyelroo in the lower Riverland

• TBA Trip to the Observatory at Stockport, Jane J to advise.

Puppy Springs – 700-800 acres with 60 – 70kms sand hills

Dorado Downs – 1500 acres with 100kms sand hills, most clubs prefer this one as it is larger

- Lots of 4WD tracks for sand driving, Approx. 30k from Tintinara on Peake side. Quicker going through Peake, then dirt road.
- No electricity but hot water, flush toilet & showers. Owner supplies wood for camp fires
- Minimum bookings of 3 vehicles or more.
- \$60 per person or family for weekend. Arrive any time on a Friday and leave on Monday if you wish. Prefer no bookings during week. No deposit required. When booked, the whole area is for our club only; no other vehicles can come in to share.
- Gets booked out quickly so if interested we need to book in as early as we can this year. These tracks have been used by Nissan & Toyota clubs before.
- Anyone wishing to make enquiries, check out the tracks and be a trip leader are most welcome. The idea is yours if you want it.

Google "Dorado Downs" or "Puppy Springs" for more info. Contact person Bill Small 8577 2228 (2 properties)

This proposed trip still needs a trip leader! If you are interested in participating or would like to be a trip leader please let Quenton know.

FIRST AID COURSE REFUNDS

At the February meeting, the Club approved the expenditure of up to \$500 towards the cost of members undertaking a Senior First Aid course. After hearing from a few members, maybe we weren't entirely clear with the rules. So, here are the rules:

- 1. The Club has allocated \$500 for re-imbursement of some of the costs for those who nominated to undertake a Senior First Aid course.
- 2. At the close of the February meeting, there were 10 names on the trip sheet. This means that there is a maximum of \$50 available to each first aid course candidate.
- 3. To claim your refund (up to a maximum of \$50), you must present proof of completion of your course no later than the February 2015 general meeting. Suitable proof would be a copy of you certificate showing completion between Feb 2014 and Feb 2015.

Of course, this proposal is only valid for the current year; future refund offers will be subject to further deliberation and approval.

If you need more information, please contact one of the Committee members.

[Peter Harper, President]

FOR SALE





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 ad)
- (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 editor@gawler4wd.com.au for inclusion in our next newsletter providing it arrives BEFORE the newsletter deadline! (See page 3)

COROMAL POP-UP CAMPER TRAILER

Silhouette 421 (with Electric Lift) with H/D stone guard and bike racks + much more ...

Ring Chris 0438 223 724 or check it out on www.qumtree.com.au/s-ad/1038577443 or

www.caravancampingsales.com.au/buy/details.aspx?R=16204097



FEB 2014

MONTHLY RECIPE

For something different to share on a trip, which is easy and also Weightwatcher friendly, try the following:

STRAWBERRY & BANANA CHOCOLATE FONDUE

Ingredients:

75g Dark Chocolate
½ tspn orange peel, finely grated
¼ cup skim milk
80g marshmallows (16 individual)
250g strawberries, hulled
2 medium bananas, peeled, coarsely chopped

Method:

Place chocolate melts, grated rind, milk and marshmallows in a small saucepan over low heat. Cook, stirring, until the marshmallows melt and the mixture is smooth.

Pour the fondue into 4 small serving bowls and top with orange rind strips if desired. Serve with strawberries and bananas for dipping.

(You can use 1 teaspoon instant coffee granules instead of the orange rind for a mocha fondue. For W/W's the points remain the same – pro points value: 5)

The above amount serves 4.

March 2014

SPONSOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

IM-PRESS Promotions Gawler

All embroidered with club logo

Gawler Park Retail Centre 485 Main Nth Road Evanston SA 5116

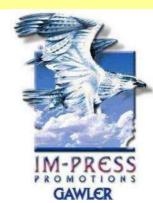
(behind Woolies service station)

www.impress.net.au

Phone 8522 2156 Fax: 8523 2117

Open Mon – Fri 9.00am - 5.00pm POLO SHIRTS WINDCHEATERS

CAPS and BEANIES



Gawler Fishing & Outdoors

48 Murray St Gawler SA 5118 Phone 08 8522 6200

fishnout@bigpond.net.au

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

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







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: www.wurth.com.au

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



The Gawler and Districts 4WD Club would like thank Johnno's Camper Trailers for their generous support and anyone interested in

camper trailers, camping gear or camping products should contact them first.

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

contact Brian or Susan on 08-8562 8370.

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Mar 2015



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CV Joints • Engine Building • Head Repairs

Apr 2014



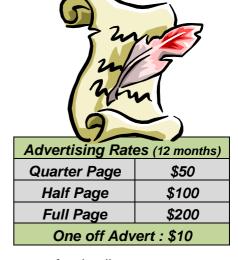
CHECK OUT OUR SPONSORS and ADVERTS

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

Contact us for details

Want to advertise in our Newsletter?





Contact our editor <u>editor@gawler4wd.com.au</u> for details

[Fees apply and payment has to be made prior to printing]



MEMBERS NOTICE BOARD



It's back again!!!

*** 2014 PHOTO COMPETITION ***

The committee has decided that the photo competition this year will again be run by John J and the same rules apply 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 $15cm \times 10cm (6"x4")$
- (d) OPEN photos must have been taken on a <u>club trip</u> 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 (14 Nov)
- (g) Late entries will not be accepted
- (h) All judging is carried out by our sponsors (and their decisions are final!):



report

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

DON'T FORGET They must be in by November General Meeting!!

GREAT PRIZES!!!

*** 2014 TRIP REPORT COMPETITION ***

Due to the overwhelming response last year (we had 25 entries,) we have decided to continue on with the Trip Report 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, serious or amusing, whether you have written one or more, 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, keep-on writing!!!

DTU TRAINING

Events the DTU are running are:

13th April Basic Practical

One days training and assessing at Callington. It will cover all available competencies, mud excluded.

Cost is \$20 plus property access

3rd – 4th May Basic Theory

Two day session covering the theory of basic 4WD driving and recovery at FWDSA rooms at Cavan.

Cost is \$20

17th - 18th May Basic Practical

Two days of training and assessing at Morgan. It will cover all available

competencies. During this weekend we will also be running an advisor course. See further details below.

Costs Training \$25 Advisor \$50

14th September OH&S, Risk and emergency response course

An internal course covering aspects of OH&S, risk management and emergency response relating to 4WD activities and training

Cost is \$20

GAWLER AND DISTRICTS 4WD CLUB SURVEY

Hi members, below are the results of the club survey, please take some time to peruse the results. If you have any contacts in any of the mentioned suggestions, or would like to lead a day trip or send in an article for the newsletter; please let a member of the committee know.

Thank you to all who participated. If there are any further suggestions we would be keen to hear them.

Guest Speakers

Gawler's History, Flora and Fauna native to our area, 4WD Modifications, Auto Electrics, ARB, National Parks, Tyres, Trip Preparation, Resource Management Board, Outback Survival, Land Owners & Tourism Operators, Vehicle Road Accident and Rescue, Members Trips and Experiences, Members Hobbies apart from 4 wheel driving, St Johns, Gawler Fishing, VKS Radio Network, Photography and the CFS.

Day Trips

Close drivable beaches, Tours through factories etc, 1st Rocks Trip, Stock Port Observatory, Mystery Trips, Local places with History, Fishing, Mt Mary, Yukamurra Sanctuary, Picnic along the River Murray, Crabbing, Winter time camp oven cook out, Carrick Hill and Salisbury Wetlands.

Newsletter Articles

Personal Trips members have done, Dual Battery Set Ups and trailer wiring, info and stories from online forums, Equipment Use, Members Vehicle Set Ups, RAA and Ambulance Cover note, Bush cooking, First Aid page, 4WD articles from other clubs and magazines and Road Rule changes

Hope we can achieve some positive results and many great times ahead for the club.

[Jane]

GAWLER AND DISTRICTS 4WD WEB SITE

Have you checked out our web site lately? www.gawler4wd.com.au

Details of when meetings are to be held, what trips and events are coming up along with useful links to lots of 4WD resources are included.

Read about the latest trip report or view our photo library. Of course, you can download one of our newsletters (back to Aug 2009) including our special 10th year anniversary versions.



Check our FACEBOOK link as well. www.facebook.com/GawlerandDistricts4WDClub



Gawler and Districts 4WD Club

Welcome to our web site

We represent a group of enthusiastic people who enjoy the pleasure of driving our 4WD vehicles in a safe and environment friendly manner whilst appreciating the wonderful scenic surroundings of this great country.





Previously known as "The Light Four Wheel Drive Club of SA", it was formed in 2002. In March 2008, our members voted to change the club's name and meet at Gawler to give the club a more recognizable name and a more central meeting place for all of our members.

Its 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 Australian (4WDSA) which incorporates the Driver Training Unit (including having our own trainers).

Like to join us or just find out more?



- · Check out our current events program and review the our trip reports
- Download our latest magazine
- Email us an information request and we will be glad to respond
- · Attend one of our meetings and enjoy an evening with us in a friendly and informative atmosphere

· Refer to the "Meetings" page to determine when and where we are meeting next

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March 2014

Number 14 17/01/2014

K. I. T.

"KEEPING IN TOUCH"

TO ALL FWDSA CLUB DELEGATES AND CLUB MEMBERS

The Annual General Meeting of FWDSA will be held at Cavan on Thursday the 20th March 2014 at 7:30 pm

There are three positions that need to be filled as the current position holders have advised the Executive and Delegates that they are <u>NOT</u> continuing on in their respective roles.

FWDSA therefore needs the following three (3) positions filled if FWDSA is to exist!

- (1) FWDSA Secretary (replacement for Ken Paget)
- (2) FWDSA Treasurer (replacement for John Newman)
- (3) FWDSA Assistant Secretary (replacement for Kai Heinsen)

Please feel free to contact either Ken, John or the President Lee Smith to discuss these positions.

If you would like to help out, please attend the AGM.

FWDSA is also looking for a cleaner for their Cardiff Court, Cavan rooms

This job would suit a retired person to clean the Cardiff Court, Cavan rooms once a month, time taken, approximately 1½ hours.

It is preferred that the rooms are cleaned Tuesday before the meetings held on the third Thursday of the month, either Delegates or Executive.

If you know of anybody that would be suitable please have them ring me on 0411 710 126 to discuss the job details. The rate is quite good considering what must be done AND IT WOULD NOT EFFECT THE PENSION.

Ken Paget, Secretary Four Wheel Drive South Australia



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.)

IDEAS AND INFORMATION

Mandatory Vehicle Flags For Simpson Desert

Please note the following amendment to the details given in the December 2013 edition of our Newsletter:

SAFETY FLAG REQUIREMENT

All vehicles must be fitted with a Safety flag as detailed below when travelling in the Simpson Desert Conservation Park, or Simpson Desert Regional Reserve.

Flag:

Minimum 300mm wide by 290mm high. Made of Fluorescent materials, Red-Orange or Lime-Yellow in colour.

Vehicles:

With Front Bullbar - Flag pole attached to the bulbar, with top of the flag a minimum 3.5 metres from the ground.

Without Front Bullbar - Flag pole attached via bracket at the front of the vehicle, with top of the flag a minimum 3.5 metres from the ground; alternatively Flag pole attached to the front of the roof rack, with top of the flag a minimum 2 metres from the roof of vehicle.

Motorbikes:

Safety flag currently exempt however headlights must be kept on at all times during travel.

With the assistance of feedback from interest groups and members of the public crossing the desert plus Outback staff, we will monitor the effectiveness of these new measures and see if we can strengthen motorbike requirements.

Regards,
Tony Magor, District Manager Outback



Thank you to the following for your support: Gawler Cinema, Café Nova and Landmark Gawler. Help Support the local farmers affected by the Eden Valley fires.

Monday April 7th Gawler Cinema

CAPTAIN AMERICA (The Winter Soldier)

Starts at 6:30pm, Pizza at 6:45pm Movie Starts 7:30pm

Cost \$35 includes movie ticket, Pizza, Wine/OJ and lucky door prize.

Organisers: Sarah Rowe 85223297 (after 6pm weeknights) Sally 0407 792 102

Part closure Of NGARKAT Conservation Park

Updated 4 March 2014



Post fire impacts have resulted in revised partial closure details for Ngarkat Conservation Park (all closures are indicated in **bold**).

Monitoring of conditions in the park post fire has resulted in the need to **immediately close until further notice**:

- Border Track (south of the Centre Track intersection)
- Shaugh Track
- Red Bluff Track
- Dogger Hut Campground

Subject to the above, the northern section of the **Border Track** remains closed, in accordance with its **annual seasonal closure**, with the one-way section expected to re-open in April 2014 with egress from the Border Track via Centre Track and Pertendi Track to Pertendi Hut, or Centre Track to Pine Hut Soak whilst the track's southern section remains closed.

The **Ngarkat Block** and **McCallum Block**, **continue to remain closed until further notice**. These blocks are bounded by the following roads and tracks, some of which are included in the continued closure:

- Piggery Track (closed)
- Bann Hill Track (open to the public)
- South Boundary Track (closed)
- Bunns Boundary Track (closed)
- Ngarkat Highway (open to the public)

Note: the section of South Boundary Track to the west of the Bann Hill Track intersection is open and allows access to Gosse Hill Track.

The remainder of the park, which has been closed as a result of bushfire and/or fire danger reopened to the public at 5pm on Friday 28 February 2014.

For further information contact the Berri Natural Resources Centre on 8580 1800 or the Murray Bridge Natural Resources Centre on 8532 9100.

INTERNAL VEHICLE PADDING AND LED LIGHT BARS

Please read the following articles (Fact Sheets: Internal Padding and LED Light Bars) if you have any queries concerning mounting LED lights and/or wanting to mount Car Cameras on your dash board.

Ken Paget, from 4WDSA also commented on:

"About the areas in the vehicle indicating where objects can be mounted without the need for padding: The implications are that the exempt areas can be used to mount GPS, mobiles and cameras provided they do not impede on the drivers vision of the road.

Was stopped by the local constabulary in Victoria and they stated that cameras are illegal in the centre of the dash in Victoria. Could not find out why until reading these articles.



Vehicles Services | FACT SHEET

Vehicle Standards - Safety and Regulation Section

Kateena Street, Regency Park 5010 PO Box 2526 Regency Park 5942 Phone 1300 882 248 Fax (08) 8348 9533 www.dtei.sa.gov.au

Internal Padding Material for Occupant Protection

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance for the choice of impact protection material to be used inside vehicles to protect passengers in the event of a collision.

Modern vehicles, which are designed to meet the requirements of the Australian Design Rules (ADRs), do not normally need additional padding. However, modifications (such as the installation of communications equipment) may mean that passengers will be exposed to hard surfaces that will increase the risk of injury.

Areas to be padded

Padding is required when equipment is installed in the area of the instrument panel within the **Head Impact Area**. The Head Impact Area is the part of the instrument panel or dashboard that can be contacted by a 165 mm diameter sphere, as shown in figures 1 and 2.

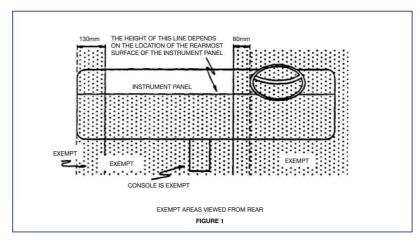
Padding should also be used wherever internal modifications have hard surfaces which are likely to be struck by the head or limbs of seated passengers in the event of a collision or roll over.

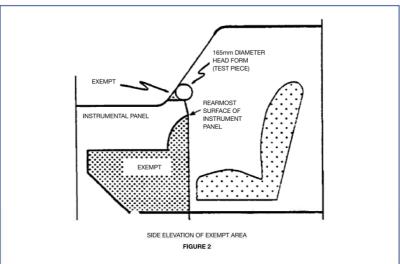
The padding must be securely fastened to the structure. Any fastenings used must be protected to ensure that they do not present a source of injury.

NOTE: Vehicles must not be modified in such a way as to interfere with the operation of the air bags (supplementary restraint systems). Later model vehicles may have side impact air bags in the body or seats, as well as frontal impact air bags in steering wheel and dashboard.

Tops of seats

In vehicles made on or after 1 January 1995 it is a requirement that the top face and back of any seat that is in front of another seating position is capable of absorbing impact energy.





This means that, if a seat is installed behind an existing seat it may be necessary to fit additional padding. If the top face and the rear face of the seat is not already padded, additional padding is to be fitted to these surfaces. The padding of the rear face of the seat is to extend at least 100 mm down the back of the seat from the top face.

Any fittings on the back of the seat outside the padded area must be of a type that is not likely to cause injury to a passenger during impact.

MR 864 05/07

Vehicles Services | FACT SHEET

Performance requirements

These foams work by slowing down the impact of the head or limbs against the interior of the car so that the crash energy is absorbed over as long as time as possible. This is particularly important in the case of the head, to reduce the peak acceleration experienced by the brain.

To do this satisfactorily the foam actually needs to be fairly firm. Motorcycle helmet liners are a good example. It is not the thin lining of open cell foam rubber that provides the protection in a helmet (it is there for comfort and fit). The protection is provided by the much thicker layer of polystyrene foam, which progressively collapses under impact.

Consequently, the acceptable padding materials are those that, when mounted on structures of at least the same stiffness as the structures on which it is to be installed, have been shown to achieve either:

- a headform deceleration of not more than 80 times the acceleration due to gravity for more than 3 milliseconds, when tested according to the requirements of clause 6.4 of ADR 3/02 Seats and Seat Anchorages; or
- a head injury criterion (HIC) of less than 1000, when tested according to the relevant clauses of ADR 68/00 Occupant Protection in Buses.

Both of these tests require impacting the padded structure with a spherical headform, diameter 165mm and mass 6.8 + 0.1 kg, moving at not less than 6.69 m/s (24 km/h).

Padding materials

The choice of padding material and method of attachment is left to the individual installer, but the materials chosen must be of a standard and thickness that will offer the same level of protection as required above.

The following materials are recommended, as they have been shown to meet the performance requirement, but are not mandatory:

- semi-rigid moulded polyurethane (approximate density 300 kg/m³), 25mm thick;
- self-skinning rigid moulded polyurethane (approximate density 300 kg/m³), 25mm thick;
- closed-cell polyethylene foam (approximate density 300 kg/m³), 25mm thick;
- closed-cell EVA foam (approximate density 300 kg/m³), 25mm thick.

Expanded polystyrene foam, as is used in crash helmets, has acceptable energy absorption properties and has densities between 50 and 65 kg/m³. It is not suitable for most automotive applications, as it is permanently deformed when impacted (which is why helmets must be discarded after a crash). Slow-rebound foams such as butyl nitrate or expanded polypropylene are suitable.

Foams used for upholstery work, and most foam pipe insulation, are not acceptable for occupant protection padding. This is because they are too soft.

Other materials are available. Flexible cellular materials are frequently specified to ASTM Standard 3575. Suffix D of this standard defines a compression deflection test which reports the pressure in kilopascals to compress by 25% a 25mm thick circular specimen of 2500mm² area. Suitable materials for padding would generally have ASTM D3575 compression deflection specifications within the range 250 to 500 kPa.

Further information

Contact the Department for Transport, Energy and Infrastructure: Vehicle Services Kateena Street, Regency Park PO Box 1 Walkerville SA 5081 Telephone: 1300 882 248 Internet: www.dtei.sa.gov.au Fax: (08) 8348 9533

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MR 864 05/07

LED Light Bars and Additional Driving Lights

Vehicle Standards Fact Sheet

MR 1517 1.14



The Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure has recently dealt with a number of issues relating to the use of LED light bars, fitted to the front bumper bar or bull bar on some vehicles, as driving lights.

The main issue faced by vehicle operators is that when a light bar is used as a driving light on a vehicle manufactured from 1991, Australian Design Rule (ADR) 13/00 requires that either two or four lights are fitted. Additionally, Rule 80 of the Road Traffic (Vehicle Standards) Rules 1999 requires additional headlights to be fitted in pairs.

These requirements were set before the introduction of light emitting diode (LED) vehicle lights and do not deal adequately with this new technology.

Consequently, after a national discussion, it has been agreed that the ADR will be amended to allow the use of single light bars

Until this takes place a Government Gazette Notice has been issued to allow the use of LED light bars in South Australia, effective from 18 December 2013.





Further information

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