

Gawler & Districts

www.gawler4wd.com.au

4WD Club Newsletter

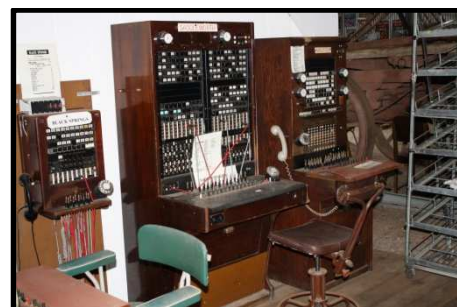
July 2014



Founded in 2002



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



Mystery Drive - May 2014

INDEX

Committee Members	3
Schedule of Meetings.....	3
Notes from Your Committee	4
Coming Events.....	5
Training.....	7
Birthday Wishes	8
Raffle Roster	8
Guest Speakers.....	8
Social Corner	8
Information on Other Events	9
Proposed Trips & Outings	9
Club Survey Results	9
Those Good Old Days	10
For Sale.....	11
MORE Good Old Days	11
Sponsor Acknowledgements.....	12
Members Notice Board	14
DTU Training.....	15
Ideas and Information	15
Trip Reports.....	16
Bendleby Ranges - June Long week-end 2014	16

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: info@gawler4wd.com.au
WEB: www.gawler4wd.com.au**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

PRESIDENT/PUBLIC OFFICER Peter Harper : 8523 0889 / 0410 526 317	VICE PRESIDENT Wayne Heintze : 8523 0407 / 0432 339 213
TREASURER Norma Rivett : 0438 120 342	SECRETARY Deb Earl : 8523 2507
EDITOR Sandra Harper : 8523 0889	PUBLISHER Chris Sieben : 8280 7414 / 0438 223 724
MINUTES SECRETARY Lyn Lillecrapp : 0418 826 156 (<i>General</i>) Norma Rivett : 0438 120 342 (<i>Committee</i>)	SOCIAL SECRETARIES Lyn Leske : 8524 9002 / 0403 332 432 Mandy Greatwich : 8284 0002
TRIPS/PROPERTY LIBRARIAN CO-ORDINATOR Quenton Earl : 8523 2507 / 0407 604 601	TRAINING CO-ORDINATOR DTU DELEGATE Peter Harper : 0410 526 317
COMMITTEE (GENERAL) Jane Jansen : 8523 0657 / 0409 091 851	ASSOCIATION DELEGATE John Mewett : 8522 5664 / 0408 824 654
WELCOMING OFFICERS	Dave Riddle / Paul Mitchell

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS**2014**

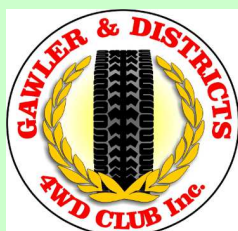
<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Jan</i>	<i>Feb</i>	<i>Mar</i>	<i>Apr</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>Jun</i>	<i>Jul</i>	<i>Aug</i>	<i>Sep</i>	<i>Oct</i>	<i>Nov</i>	<i>Dec</i>
General		14	14	11	9	13	11	8	12	10	14	12
Committee		5	5	2		4	2		3	1	5	3
				30			30					

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***June 2014***

See 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

NOTES FROM YOUR COMMITTEE

President's Report:

Welcome to our July Newsletter. In lieu of a speaker for this month's meeting, Mandy & Peter Greatwich's son has stepped into the breach and offered to speak to us about archery and I hope you will all extend a warm welcome to him.

I hope you will take the time to read the notes re training and the training of an assessor for the Club. More discussion will take place during the October meeting, so perhaps you could give this matter some thought between now and then.

[Pete]

Editor's Report:

Hello everyone and welcome to the July edition of the Newsletter. Thankfully our shortest day has come and gone as well as one month of winter, so now it's time to start planning those trips for the warmer months. We are still a bit light on the trip calendar so if you have any ideas for a day, weekend or longer trip, please let your Committee know. In fact any suggestions (*be nice now*) would be welcome.

We are also seeking a speaker for the October meeting so if you feel you can help with a nomination, that would be most welcome. Thank you to the members who have put forward suggestions for the other months.

Attached to the Newsletter is a checklist of personal items for use while camping and also a list of travel procedures. We have added these separately so that you can print them if you would like to. Some of our newer members might find them helpful.

We now have details for the visit to the Stockport Observatory and these are included in the magazine. Thanks to Norma for following up in Jane's absence.

I am sure you will all join with me in wishing Jane a full recovery and we look forward to seeing her when she returns.

[Sandra]



The Club will be running its annual BBQ outside of Woolworths in Gawler on Saturday 23rd August. **I am looking for any assistance** - in helping with the organisation and in the provision of helpers to operate during the day (usually 2-3 hrs) depending on the numbers. ☺

If you can help can you please enter your details onto the BBQ sheet (with the other trip sheets) and enter what times you may be available. As we get closer I will contact you and we can "get this show on the road!!"

Thank you to those who have already volunteered.

[Chris - BBQ Organiser!]



COMING EVENTS

Saturday 2 August 2014 Stockport Observatory

Limit:	No limit
Details:	Charge is \$15.00 per head for adults and \$5.00 per child under 15. Tea, coffee, biscuits and soft drinks available on the night for a small charge and also a sausage sizzle. No need to book the venue as it can accommodate up to 200 people per night. For more information go to the website: www.stockportobservatory.com.au .
Where:	Stockport Observatory, 41 Smith Street, Stockport.
Co-ordinator:	Norma Rivett: 0438 120 342

Saturday 9th & Sunday 10th August 2014 Sand and Rock Training

Limit:	10
Details:	Sand and rock training and socialising
Requirements:	Sand flag, recovery gear, BYO food, water and wood
Costs:	TBD
Meet:	Tailem Bend Shell Roadhouse at 9.00 am
Leaders:	Peter Harper: 0410 526 317

Saturday 23 August 2014 Woolies BBQ

Details:	Volunteers required for approx 2-3 hour shifts on a roster basis Start: 8.00 am to commence serving at 8.30 am Finish: around 4 pm
Where:	Fenced off area in Woolies car park
Co-ordinator:	Chris Sieben, ph: 0438 223 724

Friday Funnies

From WestPrint Friday Five 20.6.2014



Crazy Things You Probably Didn't Know About Australia

1. Australia is as **wide** as the distance between London to Moscow.
2. The biggest property in Australia is bigger than **Belgium**.
3. More than 85% of Australians live within 50km of the **coast**.
4. In 1880, Melbourne was the richest city in the **world**.
5. **Gina Rinehart**, Australia's richest woman, earns \$1 million every half hour, or \$598 every second.
6. In 1892, a group of 200 Australians unhappy with the government tried to start an offshoot colony in Paraguay to be called '**New Australia**'.
7. The first photos from the 1969 moon landing were beamed to the rest of the world from Honeysuckle Tracking Station, near **Canberra**.
8. Australia was the **second** country in the world to allow women to vote (New Zealand was first).
9. Each week, 70 tourists overstay their **visas**.
10. In 1856, **stonemasons** took action to ensure a standard of 8-hour working days, which then became recognised worldwide.
11. Former Prime Minister Bob Hawke set a **world record** for sculling 2.5 pints of beer in 11 seconds. Hawke later suggested that this was the reason for his great political success.
12. The world's **oldest fossil**, which is about 3.4 billion years old, was found in Australia.
13. Australia is very sparsely **populated**: The UK has 248.25 persons per square kilometre, while Australia has only 2.66 persons per square kilometre.
14. Australia's first **police force** was made up of the best-behaved convicts.

TRAINING

One of the roles of your club is to facilitate 4WD training of members. This is done in-conjunction with the Four Wheel Drive SA Driver Training Unit (DTU). As many will know, until recently the DTU was a Registered Training Organisation (RTO). A little lesser known fact was that the DTU was one of the largest RTOs, in terms of number of registered trainers and assessors. The DTU RTO scope included the training of assessors to the recognised Workplace Training and Assessment TAE40110.

As an RTO, the DTU was subject to regular audit. Last year, responsibility for RTO management moved from the State Government to the Federal Government resulting in a change of rules and additional audit requirements. The DTU estimated that the cost of meeting the new audit requirements would exceed \$10,000 and the decision was made for the DTU to forgo its RTO status.

To continue to provide a recognised level of training to the member clubs, the DTU has entered into an agreement with an existing RTO, 4WD Training Queensland. Unfortunately, the scope of registration of 4WD Training Qld does not cover the training and certification of **assessors**.

With the recent departure of Dave and Karen Hall, it has left our club without a certified **assessor**. As your club's Training Officer, I have every intent of gaining the required TAE qualification in the near future; but this is being done privately and at commercial training rates. This leads to a recent discussion by your committee:

Should we have our own club assessor? The committee would like the Club's ideas as to how we might go about it. The committee would like to know how many members are really interested in continuing their training. **Do we really need an assessor?** We are looking at options at the moment. Please think about these questions and present your ideas along with any potential answers. The club has recently been given a \$400 donation to consider its use into getting our own **assessor**. It costs around \$1500 to qualify a **trainer** to be an **assessor**.

We will bring this to the floor for discussion at the October general meeting. If you want or need more information please contact myself (Peter) or one of the committee.

[Peter Harper, Training Officer]

BIRTHDAY WISHES

Gawler and Districts 4WD Club wishes to extend a Happy Birthday greeting to the following members and family:

◆◆◆ JULY ◆◆◆
Roger Brennand
Peter Greatwich
Barbara Hoffman
Lyn Lillecrapp
Charlotte Mitchell
Sarah Rowe



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 Leske or Mandy Greatwich) any time.

JUNE 2014	JULY 2014	AUGUST
Sandra & Peter Harper	John & Jane Jansen	Max & Lyn Leske
Wayne & Sandra Heintze	Stephen Kelly	Lyn Lillecrapp
Alan & Barbara Hoffman	Martin Kisbee	John & Karyn Mewett

GUEST SPEAKERS



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

- July:** Show and tell on Archery (Mandy & Peter's son)
- August:** Graham Brookman – Food Forest
- September:** Talk on insurance by Lisa Brock of OAMPS (previously TCIS Insurance Brokers)
- October:** TBA
- November:** Bernie Stack talking about his rally & race driving.

SOCIAL CORNER

Suggestions for club social outings include:

- *Progressive Dinner*
- *Teddy Bears Picnic*
- *Film Night*
- *Hopes Gully 4WD Park, Terowie*
- *Port Adelaide Graving Yard & Maritime Museum*



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 & OUTINGS

- **TBA** *Possible Border Track trip depending on access. Quenton to advise*
- **TBA** *Puppy Springs/Dorado Downs contact person Bill Small 8577 2228 (2 properties) – Leader required*
- **Other Suggestions:** *Australia Day weekend – Coorong*

CLUB SURVEY RESULTS

Below are the results of the club survey which may inspire you to a possible trip or event. 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.

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

WE NEED YOUR INPUT FOR SUGGESTIONS – IF WE DONT GET ANY THEN NO-ONE WILL PLAN ANY!

SA CARAVAN, CAMPING & OFF ROAD SALE

Adelaide Showgrounds

31 July to 3 August 2014

If you are in the market for more “stuff” then please make a note in your diaries.

FWDSA is hosting a stand again and is looking for volunteers to

help promote the Clubs. If you are willing to assist, please contact John Cullen on email: johncullen@cullenre.com.au



Christmas Party 2014



When: 29 & 30 November 2014

Venue: To be advised

Please keep this date free!

Lyn & Mandy
Social Committee

The Social Committee is currently looking at venues for the end of year Christmas function and more details will be advised in due course, however, the date is the weekend of 29/30 November 2014.

THOSE GOOD OLD DAYS ...

DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN:

- Porterhouse steak was 5/4d (50c) per pound and rump was 5/2d per pound?
- Mince and gravy beef cost 2/8d (25c) per pound?
- Ernsmiths sold big radiograms for 45 guineas?
- You could buy a 4-piece bedroom suite for £48 and a high chair for £5/19/6d?
- Coffee percolators were 10/-(\$1) each?
- Coltons in Currie Street, Adelaide, sold lawnmowers?
- Men used Vaseline hair tonic and hair cream products?
- A house in Parkside with 9 rooms, 2 bathrooms, excellent kitchen, large block, double garage cost £5,650 and included in the sale were blinds, near new carpets, light shades and it was sold by E C R Shepherd & Sons Ltd of King William Street, Adelaide?
- A record crowd of 58,924 attended the Adelaide Oval to watch the Port and Norwood grand final?
- Opies Bakery sold bread?
- John Martins, a favourite department store sponsored "The Beatles" 1964 visit to Adelaide?
- Miller Anderson on Hindley Street was South Australia's oldest department store.
- The Sunday Mail cost 8d?

(All the above taken from The Sunday Mail dated September 1957)

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 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.gumtree.com.au/s-ad/1038577443 or

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

**MORE GOOD OLD DAYS ...****AND CLOSER TO HOME, do you remember when:**

- Coles, Cowan Street, opened? (8 July 1980)
- There was a Tom the Cheap supermarket at Tod Street, Gawler?
- A leg of lamb cost \$2.99 per kg, Tim Tams were 69c per packet and Cottées jam 79c jar?
- Holden's Commodore L and SL were advertised as "the car of the eighties" by Peter Page Holden?"
- Gaetjens Pty Ltd and Woodham Biggs Real Estate had offices in Gawler
- Work started on the Gawler By-Pass?
- GMH offered a car service for \$39, with full safety check, through Steinhage Holden?
- \$3.00 Counter lunches available at The Old Spot?)
- Holden sold new Barina's for \$10,990 and a new Toyota Camry Auto cost \$15,990?
- You could hire a Red Cross Baby Capsule from the Hutchinson Hospital?
- There was a John Waltons in Gawler?
- 5-piece kitchen setting cost \$329?
- The Commonwealth Gold Medallist Lisa Martin visited Gawler?

(All the above taken from The Bunyip during years 1980, 1986 & 1988 supplied by Sue Brennand)

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)

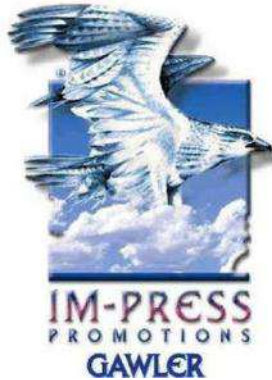
www.impress.net.au

Phone 8522 2156

Fax: 8523 2117

Open Mon – Fri
9.00am - 5.00pm

POLO SHIRTS
WINDCHEATERS
CAPS and BEANIES



Gawler Fishing & Outdoors

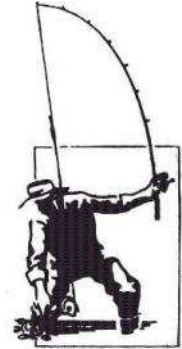
48 Murray St Gawler SA 5118

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



La Dolce Vita
'A taste of Italy'

Josey Morris
1 Julian Terrace, Gawler S.A.
Ph: 08 85221009

Be our friend on FACEBOOK
ladolcevitas@gmail.com

Fun, Food & Friendship



The **Gawler and Districts 4WD Club** would like to 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.

Gawler 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

Total Window Tinting

FOR ALL YOUR CAR, HOME AND OFFICE

WINDOW TINTING

WE HAVE A LARGE RANGE OF FILMS TO SUIT EVERY NEED



CALL RICK ON 0402 826 816

FOR A FREE QUOTE

Mar 2015



For all your vehicle maintenance

Call Amy & Brett

Ph 8522 4655

Log book servicing • Brakes • Transmission
Servicing • Radiators • Suspension
Starter Motors • Alternators • Brakes
CV Joints • Engine Building • Head Repairs

May 2015



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?

WANTED!

- Sponsored Adverts
- Event Advertisers
- Classified Adverts
- "For Sale" items



Advertising Rates (12 months)	
Quarter Page	\$50
Half Page	\$100
Full Page	\$200
One off Advert : \$10	

Contact our editor editor@gawler4wd.com.au 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 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 (14 Nov)
- (g) Late entries will not be accepted
- (h) All judging is carried out by our sponsors (and their decisions are final!):



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:

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



18/19 October Trip Leader Course

An internal course covering aspects of Trip Planning and Leadership. Conducted at Cavan

Cost TBA

15/16 November GPS / Ozi Explorer Course

An internal course covering aspects of GPS technology and the practical use of Ozi Explorer. Conducted at Cavan

Cost is TBA

IDEAS AND INFORMATION

Grampians National Park Update - Vic

Northern Grampians Fire Recovery June 2014

Considerable progress is being made towards the reopening of fire affected areas of the Grampians National Park. The Mt Zero Rd (North) will re-open on Saturday morning for the weekend, providing visitor access along the north eastern boundary of the park.

The rehabilitation of dozer-lines created during the suppression (fire-fight) phase is now complete, along with the treatment of trees that presented a clear and immediate risk to park users and staff along park roads. Trail crews are completing tree risk and soil stabilisation works along walking tracks affected by the fire. Major trail works are commencing in the Hollow Mountain and Stapylton Amphitheatre to improve climbing access.

[Westprint Five 20.6.2014]



Got any 4WD related 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!

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

TRIP REPORTS



Bendleby Ranges - June Long week-end 2014

We all met at Tarlee at 8.00am for the drive to Bendleby Ranges. Along for the weekend were Trip Leaders Max & Lyn, Quenton, Stephen, Peter & Mandy, John & Astrid, Martin & Martin & tail-end Charlie Dave, Michele & Jessica. We drove to Burra where we stopped for a comfort stop and then headed for Terowie. The sun was just starting to show itself after a foggy start. Just out of Terowie we turned off the highway (yes Q, we weren't headed for Yunta!) to head for Orroroo to stop for our morning tea stop.

We stopped at the shelter at the Big Gum Tree and hot coffees were the order of the day and we tried to stay out of the bitterly cold wind. I thought the forecast was "mainly sunny" this week-end?? From Orroroo was an easy drive along the well maintained gravel road for a stop at Johnburgh. We had a walk around the old Hotel ruins and drove past the old Post Office which has been renovated over the years and is now a "weekender".

Arrived at Bendleby Ranges and we spoke to Jane and organised a 9.30am Sunday departure for Hungry Ranges. There were so many 4WD groups staying, it was necessary to depart at half hourly intervals. We all set up camp at the reserved Base camp which had a large shelter, large fire ring and close to the excellent camp kitchen, flush toilets and hot showers. Lyn tried out a long drop by their camp, but after getting her own back, decided that a walk up to the new amenities was a better idea! After lunch we set off around 2.30pm to the tracks around the Bendleby Ranges side of the property. Here we travelled the tracks including the Kokoda Trail, Link Track and travelled back to camp along the North South Ridge track. The scenery was beautiful and the ranges were all green after recent rains; the sheep looked like they have plenty of feed.

Wood had been provided, so a camp fire was soon started and meals were cooked, some on the camp fire and some back at individual camps. Much talk about the "gate fairies" and it seemed Stephen was voted best gate fairy - his stash of yummy lollies were the favourites! It has also been the first trip that I have been on where fruit was left by the gate fairies; perhaps the doctors are trying to tell us something! Martin brought out his guitar and a pleasant night was spent around the campfire. A few reds, beers, spirits and good company was enjoyed.

Sunday and the sun was shining and an easy 9.30 am start to tour the Hungry Ranges side of the property. After a stop off at the Office to talk with Jane and Warren and we wrote our details on the whiteboard, we left to explore with Max as the leader. We drove through a very pretty Quartz Gorge, Ridge Top and through Aeroplane Gorge and onto Billy Goat Ridge track. A lot of discussion how a caravan was towed into a remote camp site with many theories being put forward.

There were a lot of groups travelling along the Billy Goat track and one particular section proved troublesome. Max was trying out his new Ranger vehicle and found the rear diff locks to work extremely well. I had trouble on this section, some would say that's quite an understatement.

Sunday night was a colder night, and extra layers were needed to be worn to bed.

Monday we packed up camp after all the canvas dried and we headed off - destination the new bakery at Jamestown! How disappointed were we when we arrived at Jamestown and it was closed for the day! So off across the road to the take-away shop and hamburgers and steak sandwiches were devoured. Next stop was the Driver Reviver at Clare for a cuppa and stretch the legs before we all soon headed off our separate ways home.

Thank You to Max and Lyn for leading the trip and a special thank you to all for your help and support.

[Quenton]

There's always something new coming on the market, and the following two products might be of interest:

New Product by Redarc

Redarc Electronic launched its new electronic brake controller system, Tow Pro, at the Brisbane Caravan and Camping show. It is used to assist safe towing of caravans, trailers, horse trailers and boats.

How it works:

The controller supplies power from vehicle to a trailer's electric brakes when the motorist applies the brakes. The Tow Pro measures the braking force applied by the towing vehicle and applies the electronic trailer brakes to a proportional degree. This is done through a power circuit using the trailer plug and socket.

User controlled mode effectively allows the driver complete control of the brake level for up to 10 settings and is suitable for off-road terrain.

Perhaps this is something to check out at the Adelaide Caravan and Camping Show next month. More information and pricing available on website: www.redarc.com.au

12 volt Travel Buddy Oven

*If you fancy a hot snack on the way to anywhere and be the envy of your travelling companions, how about adding a **12 volt Travel Buddy Oven** to your car kit?*

It is a portable, lightweight 12 volt oven which can cook, bake and warm foods while you travel. Simply load the oven with pies, pasties, sausage rolls, etc and plug into your car's cigarette lighter socket, set the timer and while you are driving, or parked, your meal is being heated or cooked.

For more information, check it out on www.12-24.voltovens.com.au.

Must admit the second option appeals to me!!!! Perhaps it will be worth a visit to the Caravan and Camping Show after all – [Editor]



Driving laws you may not know you're breaking!

We Aussies **are** brilliant drivers with an unassailable knowledge of the road rules. Well, that's what we tell ourselves and anyone else who asks. But do you really know the road rules as well as you think? Having trawled through the drudgery of the NSW road legislation we bring you these 10 road rules you had no idea you were breaking.

[NOTE – WE PROBABLY HAVE THEM IN SA AS WELL!!]

Having an animal or person on your lap while driving - Driving with your pet Pug on your lap — or another kind of special friend — is now considered not having "proper control of a vehicle". The loophole here is that this does not apply if you are travelling less than 500m for the purpose of farming. Funnily enough, the rules do not specify if this loophole is only applicable to animals, though you'd need to be fairly creative to justify using your girlfriend for farming. Otherwise the fine is \$324 and three demerit points, or \$405 and four demerit points if committed in a school zone.

Turning left after a slip lane - The implementation of slips lanes has improved traffic flows, which is why you now receive two demerit points and a \$189 fine if you ignore one and wait until after passing it to turn.

Beeping the horn - Sounding your horn wantonly is an offence. The only time it is permissible is when warning other motorists or animals of a moving vehicle, or if it is part of an anti-theft or alcohol interlock device fitted to the vehicle.

Continuously driving on the white edge line - 100m is the total distance you can drive on the outside edge line of a road before it becomes a two demerit point and \$189 offence. This includes when driving straight along a road, turning at an intersection, entering or leaving the road and stopping at the side of the road.

Splashing mud on bus passengers - According to the NSW rulebook you must slow down or stop completely so as not to splash mud on anyone in, on, entering, exiting or waiting for a bus. Otherwise you may incur a maximum penalty of 20 penalty units (\$2,200).

Mobile phone use - Not using a mobile phone while driving doesn't just mean not speaking on it — it also applies to holding a phone to or near your ear, writing, sending or reading text messages, switching the phone on or off, or operating any other function of the phone.

Having your music up too loud - Anything deemed to cause unnecessary noise or smoke can be considered an offence. So no burnouts and keep the One Direction at a reasonable level.

Riding an unlit horse at night - Even though the motor vehicle has been around for over 100 years, many people insist that literal horsepower is still the best way to go. And for those that do, the regulations are almost as strict as those on motorists. So for all you Amish out there, make sure you have the correct combination of red and white lights fitted in the correct places.

Road Rage - Shaking your fists at and abusing fellow motorists can become a costly mistake if you're caught. Aggressive driving such as tailgating or sudden braking is also considered road rage. The maximum penalty for a first time road rage offence is \$3,300 and 18 months in jail, while a second offence increases this to \$5,500 and two years imprisonment. In both cases there is also the possibility of permanent license disqualification.

Riding a tricycle on the road - A 2008 amendment to the road rules defines anyone in a "wheeled recreational device or wheeled toy" to be a pedestrian rather than a motorist or rider. Therefore scooters, skateboards, rollerblades, tricycles and pedal cars cannot be ridden on any road which has a dividing line or a speed limit greater than 50km/h.

[From <http://www.4wdnews.com.au>]