

# Gawler & Districts

www.gawler4wd.com.au

# 4WD Club Newsletter

## August 2014



Founded in 2002



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



Kookaburra Creek - June 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 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](mailto:info@gawler4wd.com.au)**  
**WEB: [www.gawler4wd.com.au](http://www.gawler4wd.com.au)**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

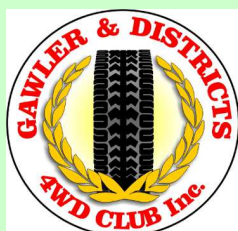
|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>PRESIDENT/PUBLIC OFFICER</b><br>Peter Harper : 8523 0889 / 0410 526 317   | <b>VICE PRESIDENT</b><br>Wayne Heintze : 8523 0407 / 0432 339 213                                |
| <b>TREASURER</b><br>Norma Rivett : 0438 120 342  | <b>SECRETARY</b><br>Deb Earl : 8523 2507   |
| <b>EDITOR</b><br>Sandra Harper : 8523 0889   | <b>PUBLISHER</b><br>Chris Sieben : 8280 7414 / 0438 223 724                                      |
| <b>MINUTES SECRETARY</b><br>Lyn Lillecrapp : 0418 826 156 ( <i>General</i> )<br>Norma Rivett : 0438 120 342 ( <i>Committee</i> ) | <b>SOCIAL SECRETARIES</b><br>Lyn Leske : 8524 9002 / 0403 332 432<br>Mandy Greatwich : 8284 0002 |
| <b>TRIPS/PROPERTY<br/>LIBRARIAN CO-ORDINATOR</b><br>Quenton Earl : 8523 2507 / 0407 604 601                                      | <b>TRAINING CO-ORDINATOR<br/>DTU DELEGATE</b><br>Peter Harper : 0410 526 317                     |
| <b>COMMITTEE (GENERAL)</b><br>Jane Jansen : 8523 0657 / 0409 091 851   | <b>ASSOCIATION DELEGATE</b><br>John Mewett : 8522 5664 / 0408 824 654                            |
| <b>WELCOMING OFFICERS</b>  | 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> |
|------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| <b>General</b>   |            | 14         | 14         | 11         | 9          | 13         | 11         | 8          | 12         | 10         | 14         | 12         |
| <b>Committee</b> |            | 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*****July 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:

We'll hear about it later in the Newsletter, but was great to see 16 vehicles attend the social night at the Stockport Observatory. Many thanks to Jane and John for organising and to John and Astrid for the feast afterwards.

One of the benefits of belonging to a 4WDSA affiliated club is access to accredited training. As mentioned last week, we will be discussing the club having access to their own assessor at the October meeting. I encourage you all to think about the pro's and con's of the formal training program. If you have questions you would like answering, don't save them up, but ask now - I'm sure it will help everyone's thought processes.

This weekend is a trip to Peake for one of our allocated weekends. Sure this is going to be a training day, but there is ALWAYS room for a social trip on the side. So, why not pack some warm woollies, grab a load of firewood and come along to Peake. Just give me a call if you want to come along but "forgot" to put your name of the trip sheet.

Finally, I would like to welcome our speaker for the August meeting, Graham Brookman from Food Forest. I am sure we will all find Graham's presentation interesting.

[Pete]

### Editor's Report:

Welcome to the August newsletter. First of all, I would like to thank Mandy & Peter's son, Andrew, for a most enjoyable and informative talk on archery at the last meeting.

We recently learned that one of our sponsors, La Dolce Vita, is to be no more. The business has been sold and we believe there is also to be a name change so we do not know whether the new owner will sponsor us into the future or not. We will advise once we know.

I know it's hard to be enthusiastic about social outings and trips during the Winter, and particularly during this cold spell, but planning is necessary if any are to go ahead and Spring is only a few weeks away. So far we have had no response to suggestions for future social outings/trips so we have decided to place a couple of "trip sheets" on the trip table to gauge interest as to whether it is worth pursuing these suggestions or not some, of which, came out of the club's survey results!! Perhaps if you would like to take part in a progressive dinner or would like a trip to the Coorong for the Australia Day weekend, you would note your interest on one of these sheets. Once we have some idea we can either pursue or reject the suggestions and move on. Many thanks.

[Sandra]



The Club will be running its annual BBQ outside of Woolworths in Gawler on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 9<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> August 2014 Peake Sand and Rock Training

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

### Saturday 23 August 2014 Woolies BBQ

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| <b>Details:</b>      | Volunteers required for approx 2-3 hour shifts on a roster basis<br>Start: 8.00 am to commence serving at 8.30 am<br>Finish: around 4 pm <a href="#">Please see more details under the "notes from your committee" page.</a> |
| <b>Where:</b>        | Fenced off area in Woolies car park  |
| <b>Co-ordinator:</b> | Chris Sieben, 0438 223 724   |

### Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> August 2014 10.00AM Wanderers 4WD Club Nuts & Bolts Day

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| <b>Location</b> | At Geoff And Jeanne's 283 Heaslip Rd, Angle Vale. (500 M North Of Angle Vale Rd On West Side)  |
| <b>Details:</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Static display of 4WD set ups (Wanderers and Gawler club)</li> <li>• 2 x 12 volt battery welding repairs</li> <li>• Damaged radiator, sump, fuel tank and water tank repairs</li> <li>• Gas bottle safety seal</li> <li>• Fill gear box, transfer case and diffs with oil in quick time</li> <li>• Display of Ford "T"s</li> <li>• Display of early Ford V8s 1932 to 1952</li> <li>• Damper cooking demonstration (and tasting)</li> <li>• BBQ cooking available (bring your own meat and chairs, table and other drinks)</li> <li>• Coffee and tea provided</li> <li>• Other camping and 4WD equipment</li> <li>• UHF and HF radio information session</li> <li>• And more displays</li> </ul> <p>NB: Do not ask Geoff for fig jam for your damper as refusal will delight him (PS ask me, Jeanne) phone 8284 7095 for any queries</p> |

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| <b>Quorn</b>              | <b>October Long Weekend<br/>Sat 4th, Sun 5th, Mon 6th October, 2014</b>   |
| <b>Limit:</b>             | 12 vehicles   |
| <b>Details:</b>           | Staying at the Quorn Caravan Park, Driving Arden Hills 4WD track on the Sunday, optional 1/2 day Pichi Richi Explorer train ride on the Monday 10.30am.   |
| <b>Requirements:</b>      | Caravans, Camper Trailers, Tents. UHF radio, experienced 4WDers, usual recovery equip including air compressor, jack plate, shovel, camera, binoculars, all food and water.<br><b>Note- Daylight Saving starts Sun AM.</b>  |
| <b>Costs:</b>             | Caravan Park - Unpowered Single \$19, 2 Persons \$25. Powered Single \$26, 2 Persons \$32. Extra Adult \$10, Extra Child \$6.<br><b>Please note: 3 nights minimum - Book your own site - 8648 6206</b><br>Arden Hills 4WD track \$45 per vehicle.<br>Pichi Richi Explorer - Adult \$47, Conc \$44, School Child \$16, under 4 - free.<br><b>Please note: Book your own seats - 1800 440 101</b> |
| <b>Meet:</b>              | Friday at Caravan Park, or Tarlee Saturday 8.00am   |
| <b>Leaders:</b>           | <b>TRIP LEADER REQUIRED.</b><br>Assistant Trip Leader – Nick  |
| <b>Trip Co-ordinator:</b> | Quenton Earl 0407 604 601   |

## Christmas Party 2014



**When: 29 & 30 November 2014**

**Venue: To be advised**

**Please keep this date free!**

Lyn (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.**

## TRAINING

### Please give the following your consideration before the October meeting

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:

| ◆◆◆ August ◆◆◆   |
|------------------|
| Kaleb Bottroff   |
| Susan Brennand   |
| Marie Carter     |
| Jane Jansen      |
| Michael Mitchell |
| Jessica Riddle   |
| Keryn Wilkins    |



## RAFFLE ROSTER

*We ask if all members could kindly donate an item for a raffle prize each month to approx value of \$15. Please check below to see if your name is on the roster.*

*These can be given to the Social Committee (Lyn Leske) any time.*

| <i>JULY 2014</i>   | <i>AUGUST 2014</i>  | <i>SEPTEMBER 2014</i> |
|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| John & Jane Jansen | Max & Lyn Leske     | Ian & Claire Mitchell |
| Stephen Kelly      | Lyn Lillecrapp      | Dave & Michele Riddle |
| Martin Kisbee      | John & Karyn Mewett | Bronte & Norma Rivett |

## GUEST SPEAKERS



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

- August:** Graham Brookman – Food Forest
- September:** Talk on insurance by Lisa Brock of OAMPS (previously TCIS Insurance Brokers)
- October:** Discussion about club needs for "ASSESSORS"/"TRAINERS"  
Matthew from Redarc to speak about electric brakes, dual battery systems solar panels, etc.
- November:** Bernie Stack talking about his rally & race driving.

## SOCIAL CORNER

*Suggestions for club social outings include:*

- *Progressive Dinner (If you are interested please fill out the "expressions of interest sheet" on the trips table. Proposed date 27 September 2014)*
- *Teddy Bears Picnic*
- *Film Night*
- *Port Adelaide Graving Yard & Maritime Museum*

**Please pass on any social suggestions or comments to one of our Social Committee!**





## 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 (We are looking for expressions of interest for this weekend before planning can commence, please fill out your details on the trip sheet.)*

## 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

Flora and Fauna native to our area, 4WD Modifications, Auto Electrics, ARB, National Parks, Tyres, 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, Fishing, Photography etc.

### Day Trips

Close driveable beaches, Tours through factories etc, 1<sup>st</sup> Rocks Trip, 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!**

## Gawler and Districts 4WD Web Site

Have you checked out our web site lately?

[www.gawler4wd.com.au](http://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 10<sup>th</sup> year anniversary versions.



Check our FACEBOOK link as well. [www.facebook.com/GawlerandDistricts4WDClub](http://www.facebook.com/GawlerandDistricts4WDClub)

## OUTBACK HISTORY

### KANYAKA STATION

*Most of us would be familiar with the Kanyaka ruins but do you know some of its history?*

Kanyaka Station was a cattle and sheep station in the Flinders Ranges approximately 40 kms north/north east of Quorn, SA and situated along the Hawker-Stirling North Road.

The area was inhabited by Aborigines for thousands of years before European settlement. The name of the station is taken from the Aboriginal word thought to mean "Place of Stone."

Kanyaka Station was established as a cattle station in February 1852 by Hugh Proby who stocked it with 1200 head of cattle. He was born on 9 April 1826 at Stamford in Lincolnshire, England, the third son of Admiral Granville Leveson Proby (the third Earl of Carysfort of Ireland) & Isabella Howard. He emigrated on the ship "Wellington" which arrived on 30 May 1852 at Port Adelaide, SA.

The Flinders Ranges is very dry country so it is both tragic and ironic that on 30 August 1852, Proby drowned when he was swept from his horse crossing the swollen Willochra Creek while trying to herd a mob of cattle during a thunderstorm. He was aged 24. He was buried the following day. Six years later in 1858 his grave was marked with an engraved slab shipped from Britain by his brothers and sisters; it was said to weigh one and a half tons and posed a significant challenge to transport it to the grave site.

Under subsequent owners, the station grew in size until it was one of the largest in the district with 70 families living and working there. Because of the difficulties of transport, the station had to be very self sufficient and Kanyaka Station grew to include a large homestead, cottages for workers, workshops, huts and sheds, mostly built from local stone due to the limited supplies of workable local timber. The station switched from cattle to sheep, but had cows, pigs and vegetable gardens to supply food for the residents. There was also a cemetery. Hugh Proby was not buried in the Kanyaka cemetery as it had not yet been established at the time of his death. The lonely grave of Hugh Proby is located on the side of a dirt road north of Quorn under the shade of a tree two miles away from where he died.



Severe droughts, from 1864 to 1867, resulted in massive losses of sheep - 20,000 - and eventually the station was abandoned. Due to its stone construction, many of the buildings survive today as ruins and are a popular tourist attraction.



## 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](mailto: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](http://www.gumtree.com.au/s-ad/1038577443) or  
[www.caravancampingsales.com.au/buy/details.aspx?R=16204097](http://www.caravancampingsales.com.au/buy/details.aspx?R=16204097)



### GIVAWAY

Nissan Patrol 2 x "Dickie" Seats to suit GU3 Patrol. Grey Velour. As new cond.

[Phone Quenton 0407 604 601](tel:0407604601)

**La Dolce Vita**  
*'A taste of Italy'*

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

Be our friend on FACEBOOK  
[ladolcevitasa@gmail.com](mailto:ladolcevitasa@gmail.com)

*Fun, Food & Friendship*



The **Gawler and Districts 4WD Club** would like thank the **Wurth Group** and their representatives 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](http://www.wurth.com.au)

Contact WURTH directly to order any of their products.

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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](mailto: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

### BAROSSA GOURMET WEEKEND

For those who enjoy a bit of food and wine, this is just a reminder that this popular gourmet event will be on again during the weekend of 16 & 17 August.

### 4WD WEEKEND IN WHYALLA – OCTOBER 2014

Whyalla and Districts 4WD Club will be running this annual event again on 4/5/6 October 2014..The event is open to all financial members of 4WDSA. If you are interested in attending, you will need to register for this weekend and a registration form and flyer is available on the 4WDSA website [www.4wdsa.asn.au](http://www.4wdsa.asn.au).

### 2015 NGARKAT WORKING BEE

The Next Ngarkat Working Bee has been set for the weekend of 28 & 29 March 2015.



**Got any 4WD related photos you would like to share?  
THIS INCLUDES TRIP PHOTOS!**

*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.)**

## WHAT IS A CAMPGROUND HOST?

**The Campground Host** program is ideal for people who love camping.

**Campground Hosts** are volunteers who enjoy the natural environment and are interested in promoting its conservation.

They volunteer their time to support rangers in the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources with a variety of tasks

associated with park and visitor management in many of South Australia's favourite national parks and reserves.

**Campground Hosts** often share a love of the outdoors, a sense of adventure and enjoy meeting and talking with people from all walks of life.

What do they do?

- Welcome campers and be the "public relations" face of DEWNR
- Assist visitors to select a camp site
- Share information about campsite rules, facilities and attractions
- Provide first aid assistance or undertake emergency duties under the guidance of DEWNR staff where required
- Provide visitors with general information about local flora, fauna and natural/cultural attractions using available interpretive brochures or fact sheets.
- Regularly check on facilities and ensure the campground is kept tidy
- Keep an eye out for things that need the attention of the ranger. This usually involves a patrol of the camping areas each day.
- Liaise with the rangers regarding site conditions, facilities and any visitor issues.
- Report to the park ranger, generally by radio once per day, or at any time in the event of an incident.



So if you want a break from the hum drum of life or are thinking of retiring and wondering what you are going to do with all your spare time, perhaps this is for you.

You can register your interest in becoming a **Campground Host** via [www.environment.sa.gov.au](http://www.environment.sa.gov.au) or at any regional DEWNR office.

**Apply to become a Campground Host**

The Volunteer Support Unit in DEWNR Adelaide coordinates the Campground Host Program and provides training and support. Regional DEWNR staff provide an induction, support and supervision for campground hosts on site.

Campground hosts are stationed in national park campsites throughout the year. However their help is most often in demand during peak periods such as school holidays and long weekends.

Campground hosts generally have good levels of health and fitness.

If you are interested in becoming a campground host or would like further information please call the Volunteer Support Unit in DEWNR on (08) 8124 4841. You can also register your interest by completing a simple registration of interest form online at [www.environment.sa.gov.au](http://www.environment.sa.gov.au)

Alternatively, prospective campground hosts can apply at any regional DEWNR office and staff will then forward the request to the Volunteer Support Unit who will contact you directly.

**Parks participating in the Campground Host Program**





**Campground Hosts**  
Volunteering in South Australia's National Parks

Make a difference

**For more information**

Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources Volunteer Support Unit  
 Telephone: (08) 8124 4841  
 Fax: (08) 8124 4850  
 Website: [www.environment.sa.gov.au](http://www.environment.sa.gov.au)  
 Email: [DEWNRCampgroundHosts@sa.gov.au](mailto:DEWNRCampgroundHosts@sa.gov.au)  
 Post: GPO Box 1047, Adelaide SA 5001

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 Printed on recycled paper | June 2012 | PS 91566

[www.environment.sa.gov.au](http://www.environment.sa.gov.au)

## TRIP REPORTS

### STOCKPORT OBSERVATORY ON SATURDAY NIGHT 2 AUGUST 2014 LED BY JOHN & JANE

With the promise of a very cold, clear and starry night, 14 vehicles gathered adjacent to the Gawler Industrial area on the Roseworthy Road at 7 pm for a 7.15 pm start. A few brave souls left their warm vehicles to mingle whilst waiting for everyone to arrive.

Led by Jane and John we all set off at 7.15 pm and headed for Stockport which took approx. 25 minutes or so. On arriving at the Observatory it was clearly evident that it was going to be a very busy night and it was a case of "everyman for himself" as we attempted to find somewhere to park given the number of vehicles already there.

We assembled at the entrance to the Observatory where we met up with Lyn and Max Leske and also John Gardner and proceeded inside. We were given tickets and told that we would be called up by number to look through the big telescope which no longer operated due to a malfunction of the dome and which is in the process of being replaced by a new structure. However, the smaller dome was still operating and we could look through that one. It was very dark and hard to see in the gloom but we all managed to get around without tripping anyone else up.

A cheeky few of us, realising that the smaller dome seemed empty of people (and getting ahead of the numbering system) clambered up the stairs to look through the telescope as instructed by the operator. He stressed that we were not to touch the telescope and only use eyes to gaze at the stars. We all took turns and then were encouraged to ask any questions of him rather than go away forever wondering! We learned that the Observatory is privately owned and that the replacement structure for the large dome was going to cost in the region of \$100,000 of which \$50,000 was obtained as a grant from the SA government leaving the outstanding \$50,000 to be raised from fund raising efforts. Normally, the cost of entry to the Observatory is \$15 per adult but as this was science week, we were allowed in free of charge. I couldn't help wondering just how much could have been raised that night if everyone had paid to go in??

From the smaller dome we wandered through the Observatory where individuals had set up privately owned telescopes with each one focused on a different part of the sky. One was focused on Saturn and it was amazing to see the planet's rings quite clearly. Another focused on the quarter moon and the brightness was quite startling when looking through the telescope but, once your eyes got used to it, craters were clearly evident on the surface of the moon some of which, we were told, were 100 km across!!! Apparently to focus on a full moon is almost blinding as it is so bright.





When we look at the southern night sky with the naked eye we can see literally millions of stars, however, this pales into insignificance when sighted through a telescope where a virtual "starburst" (a galactic cluster) of millions of stars is clearly visible in one small part of the sky. It just proves that what is evident to the naked eye is nothing compared to what is actually out there in the night sky.

There were welcome cups of tea and coffee available to help ward off the cold as well as the odd snag or two! Many people were happy to partake of these in order to keep out of any cool breeze. Chris even offered to cook the snags if he could stand next to the BBQ.

After we had all had our fill of the night sky, we headed towards John and Astrid Gardner's home for supper. The warmth inside the house was very pleasurable after the cold night and John and Astrid made us all very welcome with a veritable feast of Moroccan spiced lamb rolls, a selection of little cakes and biscuits - all very delicious with a warming cuppa. Lots of happy chat and camaraderie ensued before we all took our leave and left Astrid and John in peace. Thank you both for your kind hospitality.

Pete and I thoroughly enjoyed our time at the Observatory and would like to thank John and Jane for arranging the trip for us. It was great and there's someone here who just might put a telescope on their Christmas wish list!!!!

Oh, for those interested, the next open at the Observatory is Saturday 29 November 2014. Unfortunately, this clashes with our Christmas party.

**[Sandra & Pete]**

