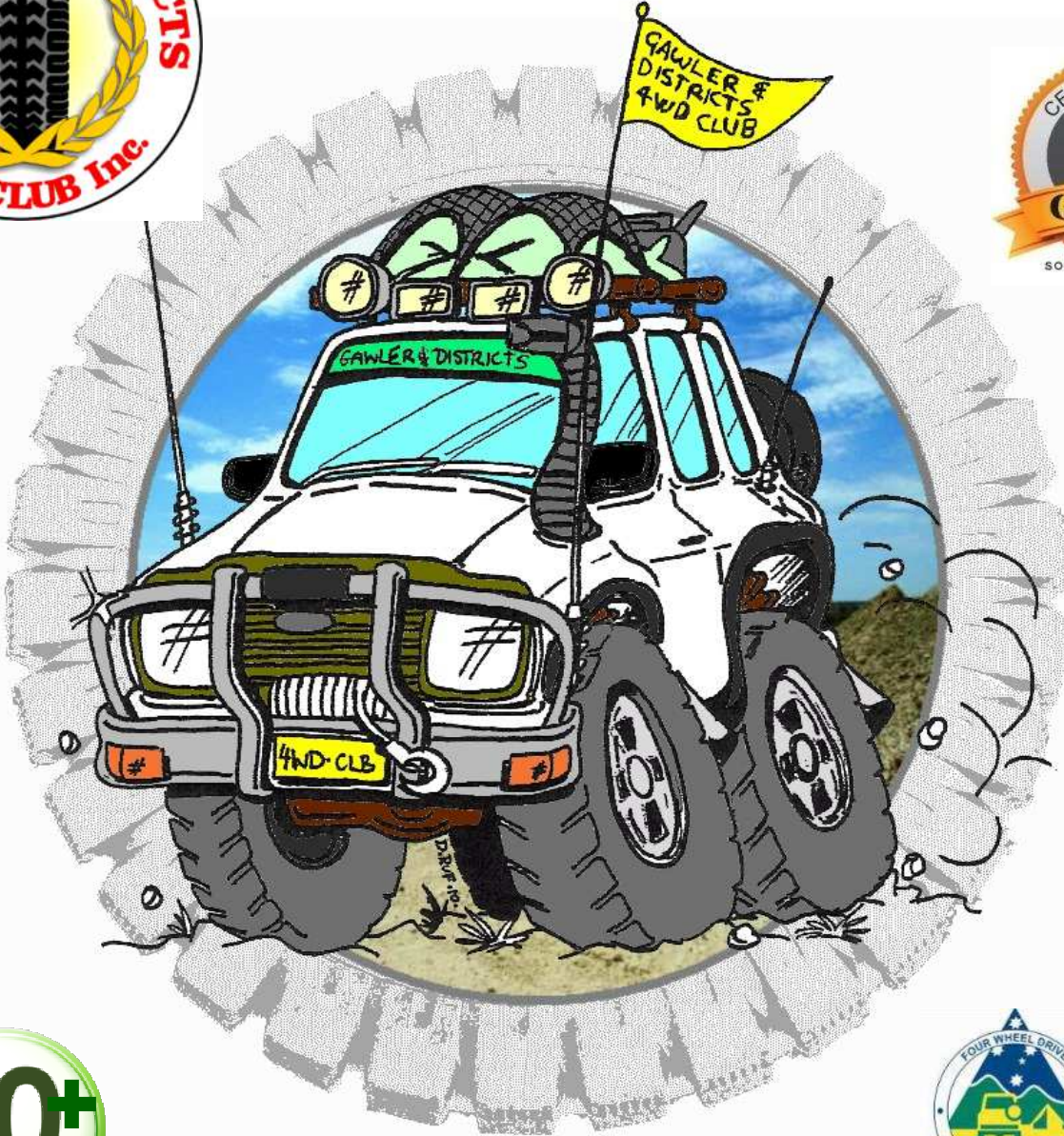


Gawler & Districts

www.gawler4wd.com.au

4WD Club Newsletter

December 2014



Founded in 2002



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



Gawler & District 4WD Club wishes everyone a

Merry Christmas 2014



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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
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 (General) Norma Rivett : 0438 120 342 (Committee)	SOCIAL SECRETARIES Lyn Leske : 8524 9002 / 0403 332 432
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					

2015

<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		13	13	10	8	12	10	14	11	9	13	11
Committee		4	4	1		3	1	5	2		4	2
				29					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**November 2014****See the attached Minutes (members only)**

NOTES FROM YOUR COMMITTEE

President's Report:

So, we come to the end of another year and this give us an opportunity to reflect on our past year. We have had an interesting range of guest speakers and with the first couple of months already booked 2015 is looking very promising on the speaker front. Although, as a club we didn't undertake any of the "iconic" trips, we did manage to fill in the long weekends with an interesting array of visits. Of course, the day trips were an ideal opportunity to enjoy some fellowship whilst learning a little more about points of interest that are only a short drive away. There are a couple of trips already well into the planning but there are always opportunities for additional day / weekend / longer trips; you just need to come up with the ideas and I am sure there will be members in the club who can assist with the trip planning if necessary.



May I take this opportunity to wish all members, friends and their families the compliments of the season. Hope to see you all at the last meeting of the year.

[Pete]

Editor's Report:

Well, here it is the last Newsletter for 2014... where did the last 12 months go??? Thank you for all the contributions made by various people to the Newsletter during the year and thank you to the outgoing committee for your support during the past 12 months. Both have been greatly appreciated. A special thanks to Chris for putting it all together so well month after month.

Don't forget the AGM will be held on Friday evening so if you feel you have something to offer to the Club, please don't be shy and put your hand up for a position. It's always good to get new input and ideas. **Please remember to bring a plate to share for supper.** Thank you.

I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas with your family and friends and if you are on the roads travelling have a great holiday and please keep safe as we'd all like to see you back refreshed and raring to go in 2015.

[Sandra]






COMING EVENTS

Australia Day	Ardrossan Caravan Park 24-26 January 2015
Trip Limit:	No limit
Where:	Ardrossan, Yorke Peninsula
Requirements:	Camper trailers and caravans.
Cost:	Camping fees Powered site: \$30 per night for 2 adults Ensuite powered sites: \$38-40 per night (minimum 2 nights) Unpowered Site: grassed area \$24-\$25 per night Extra adult: \$10 pp per night; Extra child (3-16 yrs) \$5 pp per night 6 powered sites provisionally booked, More information: www.ardrossancaravanpark.com.au Phone: 8837 3262, email: office@ardrossancaravanpark.com.au Check in: 2.00pm, check out 10.00 am Deposit: one nights fee required for all bookings
Meet:	More details to follow
Trip Leader:	Peter Harper 0410 526 317
High Country	14-29 March 2015 Victorian High Country
Trip Limit:	8 vehicles
Where:	Victorian High Country
Requirements:	High clearance high/low range 4WD, heavy duty all terrain tyres, off road campers or tent.
Cost:	Camping fees, etc
Meet:	9.00 am at Gawler Visitors Information centre (or meet group at Swan Reach)
Trip Leader:	Martin Kisbee, phone 0407 473 201



Easter 2015	3-6 April 2015 Mt Ive Station, Gawler Ranges	
Trip Details:	Mt Ive Station 4WD tracks (see www.mtive.com.au for more details) No limit on the number of vehicles.	
Where:	Gawler Ranges	
Cost:	16 Powered sites \$28 for 2 people/night, \$10 extra per person, kids under 15 yrs \$5, under 5 yrs free. Unpowered sites \$20/night (other details as above) OR Bush Camps at \$9 per person per night. Drive to showers & toilets at campsite. 4WD tracks once off fee of \$50 per vehicle whatever track is used. Book of tracks available when signing in. Fuel usually \$1.91, few supplies available. BYO food unless pre-book 1 week prior.	
Deposit:	No deposit required.	
Trip Leader:	Max Leske, phone 0427 807 066	



AUSTRALIA DAY 2015

Dates: Weekend 24/25/26 January 2015

See details under "Coming Events"

SOCIAL CORNER

Suggestions for club social outings include:

- *Film Night*
- *Port Adelaide Graving Yard & Maritime Museum*
- *Put Put Golf, Tanunda*
- *Winery Tour*
- *History Week 2015, Walking tour West Terrace cemetery*

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



IDEAS AND INFORMATION

News from Desert Parks South Australia

Thanks to Westprint Friday Five 28.11.2014

Simpson Desert and the **K1 Warburton, Walkers Crossing, Halligan Bay Point** and **Pedirka** Public Access Routes will be closed between 1 December 2014 and 15 March 2015.

Tallaringa Conservation Park. Due to Department of Defence requirements in 2014, the Anne Beadell Highway and thus Tallaringa will be closed from 17-30 November 2014, 2-5 March 2015, and 18 May to 28 June 2015. In addition to a DEWNR entry/camping permit or a Desert Parks Pass, a tourist access permit is also required to access this area from the Department of Defence.

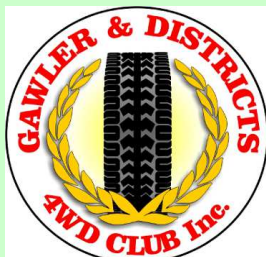
Details can be found at <http://www.defence.gov.au/woomera/permit-tourist.htm>

Who knows the story?

The picture below was taken on the Strzelecki Track in 2013. Does anyone know what happened and if the wreck has been moved? And if so, how?



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



Background

It has been recognised for some time by the Lake Eyre Basin Ministerial Forum Community Advisory Committee (LEB CAC) that the Simpson Desert is one of the Basin's "hotspots." Recent years have seen an ever increasing interest and use by tourists, mining and petroleum, conservation and Aboriginal stakeholders. To our knowledge there has not been a gathering of the relevant management groups for many years to discuss and evaluate current issues and user practices.

At the Lake Eyre Basin Biennial Conference, in September 2013, a small group of interested parties convened for a meeting to discuss current management problems associated with the Simpson Desert in Central Australia. After discussing the on-ground issues and institutional failures associated with management of the Simpson Desert the group recommended that a more in depth workshop be organised in the near future.

An in depth workshop was held at Mount Dare, SA on the edge of the Simpson Desert 1-3 April 2014. Despite the remote location, the workshop was well-attended by jurisdictional representatives and other relevant stakeholders. A 2 day workshop was held first followed by a 1 full day field trip.

The following people attended the workshop:

Attendee	Position and Organisation represented
Dean Ah Chee	Ranger, SA National Parks and Wildlife SA
Bob Backway	Commodore Lake Eyre Sailing Club Vic/SA
Jimmy Cocking	Director, Arid Lands Environment Centre NT
Dave Cox	Publican, Mt Dare Hotel SA
John Deckert	Director, Westprint Maps Vic
Marg Friedel	Honorary Fellow CSIRO, Alice Springs NT
Alan Hancox	Vice President, Friends of Simpson Desert SA
Lorraine Hancox	Friends of Simpson Desert SA
Frank Lowman	Ranger, SA National Parks and Wildlife SA
Tony Magor	District Manager, SA National Parks and Wildlife SA
Chris Mitchell	Ranger, Diamantina National Park – QLD
Steve Morton	CSIRO Fellow, Alice Springs and Chair LEB Scientific Advisory Panel, NT
Don Ransom	4WD SA, SA
Joc Schmiechen	LEB Community Advisory Committee (Tourism rep) SA
Brenda Shields	Southern Arrernte TO NT
Wendy Stuart	Central Land Council NT
Matt Turner	Environmental Scientist, Wilderness Society SA LEB CAC (Conservation rep) SA
Chris Wenham	President, Friends of the Simpson Desert SA

Threats

The workshop spent some time identifying and discussing many threats to biodiversity of the Simpson Desert.

A summary of these threats are described below:

Invasive Species (plants and animals)

Animals	Plants
Camel (<i>Camelus dromedaries</i>)	Buffel grass (<i>Cenchrus ciliaris</i>)
Cattle (<i>Bos taurus</i>)*	Athel pine (<i>Tamarix aphylla</i>)
Rabbits (<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>)	Cooba (<i>Acacia salicina</i>)
Foxes (<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>)	
Cats (<i>Felis catus</i>)	

*cattle incursions in some areas due to fencing issues

Visitor use related impacts:

- Firewood collection
- Track proliferation resulting from inappropriate vehicle use
- Rubbish (including human waste)
- Inappropriate tyre pressure impacting dune crossings
- Increasing pressure on previously infrequently used tracks (eg Madigan Line)
- Threat to sensitive Aboriginal cultural sites

Mining and Petroleum Exploration

The Simpson Desert has already had a long history of exploration for mineral and petroleum resources. Most of the major tracks currently in the desert are a result of exploration in the 1960s.

However, there is currently a noticeable increase in exploration activities. Mostly for petroleum related resources such as gas, coal, and oil.

Inappropriate Fire Regime

Fire swept across vast areas of the Simpson Desert at the end of 2011. Large areas of habitat were burnt and the impact on wildlife was devastating- at least in the short- medium term.

Other Management Issues

All of the above threats are management issues. However, there were a couple of further management related issues that the group identified and discussed:

- Tyre Pressures seen as one of the major issues of pressure on sensitive dune areas
- Towing trailers
- Multiple vehicle tours (especially motorbikes)
- Interpretative/ Management signage

Key areas requiring further attention

The Simpson Desert is iconic, incredibly remote and of outstanding environmental significance. However, the task of managing increasing visitor impacts, invasive species and mining exploration is complex, and hindered by its large size, distance from capital cities and multiple land tenures. More **collaborative work** needs to be undertaken between the jurisdictions and **more resources** are required if the area is to be managed for future generations.

The group identified oil/gas and mining exploration as having potentially negative environmental impacts on natural and cultural heritage values, and suggested a watching brief is kept on exploration activity in the region

Neighbouring properties to state-owned parks play an important role in the overall management of the Simpson Desert. Support should be provided to conservation initiatives on these neighbouring properties to encourage the sharing of knowledge, resources and scientific understanding in the management of threatened species and key environmental threats (weeds, fire, invasive species and visitor impacts) across the Simpson Desert.

An integrated audit of all the tracks in the Simpson Desert needs to be undertaken urgently. Track proliferation can happen quickly and results in unacceptable environmental impacts and degrades the wilderness experience of those that follow. All tracks end up crossing from one jurisdiction to another and some tracks such as the Madigan Line have multiple land owners. It is hoped that an integrated track audit will provide a range of tracks with a range of difficulties and wilderness experiences. The group acknowledged the importance of keeping large areas free from regular visitation.

More research is required to determine the role and impact of fire in the Simpson Desert, particularly in the context of climate change.

Aboriginal people remain well-connected to the Simpson Desert with large numbers living immediately adjacent the desert in places such as Alice Springs, Oodnadatta, Birdsville, Bedouri, Jervois and Harts Range. Co Management of Witjira National Park is underway and likely to extend to include the Simpson Desert Regional Reserve/Conservation Park. Aboriginal people are employed as Rangers and there are several existing "homeland" developments in Witjira National Park. More could be done to assist Aboriginal People in being on country and playing an active management role. There are many heritage sites in the Simpson and immediately adjacent that requires protection from impacts such as unrestricted visitation and mining developments. Big potential for more interpretive signage.

More can be done to educate visitors- both to increase their nature experience and to prevent unwanted impacts. General agreement that more signage that informs visitors could be developed. Visitors need to be encouraged to experience what the desert has to offer, but managed so that they do not degrade the natural, cultural and wilderness values. Access management and interpretive signage is seen as the key.

It is clear that most visitors to the desert do not have a firm understanding of the importance of choosing the correct tyre pressure. Many visitors get into trouble because of not decreasing tyre pressure when on sand. This also impacts significantly on the quality of the tracks. More needs to be done to educate visitors of the importance of tyre pressures in the Simpson Desert.

CONCLUSION

The workshop highlighted the need and value of more regular collaborative meetings between the key managers and stakeholders on a regular basis to progress mutual interests and help standardise some of the problems which cross jurisdictional boundaries.

The workshop agreed that a **Simpson Desert Working Group should be formed** and that the relevant senior managers from the 3 jurisdictions (SA Parks and Wildlife, Queensland Parks and Wildlife and Central Land Council) are given responsibility and departmental support to convene regular meetings of the working group.

It may also be desirable to use this group to seek further engagement and integration with the SAM process being fostered by the Lake Eyre Basin Ministerial Forum.

Simpson Desert Working Group

To support effective cross-jurisdictional collaboration for the on-going management and protection of the cultural and environmental values of the Simpson Desert region for the benefit of all residents, visitors and user groups.

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.

NOVEMBER 2014	DECEMBER 2014	FEBRUARY 2015
John & Annmaree Tichborne	Roger & Sue Brennand	John & Astrid Gardner
Joann & Peter Wuttke	Marie Carter	Darryll & Joan Grace
Nick & Kerrie Bottroff	Quenton & Deb Earl	Peter & Sandra Harper

GUEST SPEAKERS



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

December: AGM – please think about nominations as most positions will be declared vacant.

February: Food Forest

March: Photographer

April: Bernie Stack

2015 If you have any suggestions for speakers, please advise one of the Committee members.

BIRTHDAY WISHES

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

◆◆◆ December ◆◆◆
Joan Grace
John Mewett
Dave Riddle
Peter Cusick



CLUB TRAINING

Should we have our own Club assessor?

Due to the fact that we are almost at the end of 2014, it has been decided by the outgoing Committee that this matter be deferred until 2015 and will be handled by the newly appointed Committee over the coming months.

[Peter Harper, Training Officer]



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*
- **TBA** *Ladies Day weekend for guys and gals with ladies driving easy tracks on one of the days. This will help build 4WD confidence for those ladies who feel they need it.*
- **TBA** *Day trip to Fleurieu Peninsula organised through Yankalilla Lions Club, September/October time 2015. Fundraiser for the Lions Club with lunch provided.*

SA Caravan & Camping and Outdoor Adventure Show

February 2015 (19th – 23rd – To be confirmed)



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

Opening Times: 10am - 6pm daily

Entry Cost: TBD

Entry Gate/s: Kidman Gate, Stirling Angas Gate, Wayville Gate & Ridley Gate

Organiser Web: <http://www.caravanandcampingsa.com.au/>



SUBS ARE DUE SOON FOR 2015

Please fill out renewal form

Members pay annual fee

(to be decided at AGM)

(+ \$10 joining fee for new members)

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

NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS

2014 AGM

is this month's meeting: **Friday 12th December 2014**

All positions *except Vice-President and Treasurer*
are up for re-election including:-

**President, Secretary, Minute Secretary, Social Secretaries,
Editor+Publisher, Property Officer/Librarian/Trips Co-ordinator,
and Welcoming Officers etc**

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

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



CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

Will be drawn at the
DECEMBER General Meeting
on **Friday 12th Dec 2014.**

DONATIONS STILL NEEDED!

Thank you for all the contributions which have been received to date for the Christmas Raffle. We have been generously supplied with bottles of wine and are now looking for some Christmassy food items like Christmas puddings and cakes, mince pies, chocolates, bon bons, Christmas lollies, biscuits, etc etc.

If you haven't already done so and feel you would like to donate something, please consider these items as they would be gratefully received by the Social Committee and you can still donate on Friday evening. Thank you.

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)

FWDSA NOTIFICATION

CODE OF ETHICS

- Keep to the laws and regulations on recreation vehicles. They change from state to state.
- Others have a right to peace and solitude - avoid noisy driving or riding near settlements and general recreation areas.
- Keep to approved vehicle corridors and tracks. On beaches and unvegetated sand areas, drive only where permitted.
- Alpine areas, swamps and vegetated dunes are easily damaged. Avoid them.
- Respect our wildlife. Stop and look, but never disturb or chase animals. It can affect their survival.
- Keep the environment clean. Carry your own - and maybe other peoples' - rubbish home.



Care and consideration is required if tracks like this will remain available for future 4WDers

- Keep all fire restrictions. Extinguish your fire before leaving. Don't let your exhaust emit sparks.
- Keep to restrictions on use of public land. Respect national parks and other conservation areas.
- Get permission before driving on private land. Leave livestock alone and gates as found.
- Keep your vehicle mechanically sound and quiet with an efficient muffler.
- Take adequate water, food, fuel and spares on trips. In remote areas travel with another vehicle.
- Join an appropriate and responsible recreation club if you use your vehicle mainly for recreation.
- Help in bushfire emergencies and search and rescue, if you are properly equipped and able.

This code is valuable only if you observe it.

If you want to find out more information about public access to pastoral lands, track and access information, outback communications, public access routes please check under www.4wdsa.asn.au and select the "travelling" folder for more information.

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)

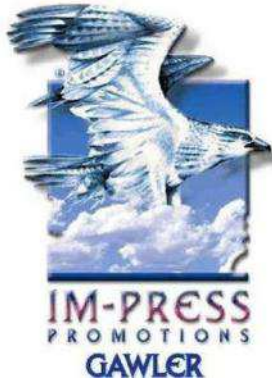
www.impress.net.au

Phone 8522 2156

Fax: 8523 2117

Open Mon – Fri
9.00am - 5.00pm

POLO SHIRTS
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48 Murray St Gawler SA 5118

Phone 08 8522 6200

fishnout@bigpond.net.au

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applies to all non-special items

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



*This space is available for your
sponsored advertisement.*

*Please contact our editor if
you would like to use this
sponsored spot and have your
advert inserted here!*



The Gawler and Districts 4WD Club would like to 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

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



***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.)

Total Window Tinting

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WINDOW TINTING

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Mar 2015



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Ph 8522 4655

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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



PHOTO COMPETITION - WINNERS WILL BE SELECTED ON FRIDAY EVENING AT THE AGM MEETING!!

A BIG THANK YOU TO:-
*Gawler Fishing & Outdoors &
G4WD Members*
For judging these photos



2014 Club Trips Photos

- Winner:** TBA - To be judged at the DEC General Meeting by Gawler Fishing & Outdoors
Prize donated by Gawler Fishing & Outdoors
- Winner:** TBA - To be judged at the DEC General Meeting by "Member's Choice"
Prize donated by Gawler and Districts 4WD Club

Photo numbers were down this year resulting in having to draw upon last minute offers. These are good prizes so please try and "snap" some good shots for 2015 and bring them to the competition to allow everyone a chance to have a good look and maybe have a laugh or two!

TRIP REPORT COMPETITION



We had approx 12 entries for the competition, so well done everyone, but unfortunately only one person could win and the winner will be drawn on Friday evening at the general meeting.
This lucky person will be rewarded with a \$25 voucher to be spent at the Gawler Fishing & Outdoors shop.

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.



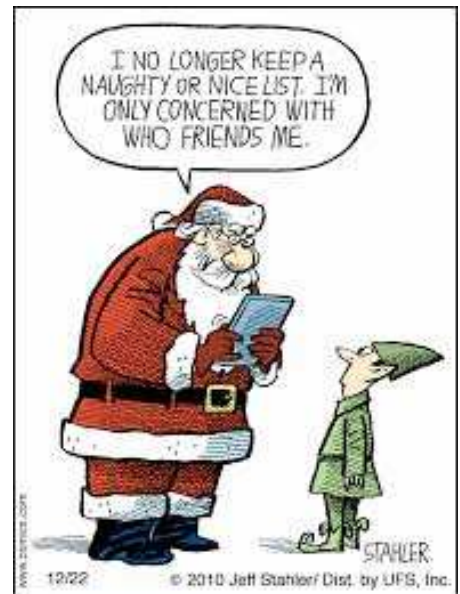
Check our FACEBOOK link as well. www.facebook.com/GawlerandDistricts4WDClub

FRIDAY FUNNIES

(thanks to Westprint 5, dated 28.11.2014)

Funny Headlines - Proofreading is a dying art

Man Kills Self before Shooting Wife and Daughter
Something Went Wrong in Jet Crash, Expert Says
Police Begin Campaign to Run Down Jaywalkers
Panda Mating Fails; Veterinarian Takes Over
Miners Refuse to Work after Death
Juvenile Court to Try Shooting Defendant
War Dims Hope for Peace
If Strike Isn't Settled Quickly, It May Last Awhile
Cold Wave Linked to Temperatures
London Couple Slain; Police Suspect Homicide
Red Tape Holds Up New Bridges
Man Struck By Lightning: Faces Battery Charge
New Study of Obesity Looks for Larger Test Group
Astronaut Takes Blame for Gas in Spacecraft
Kids Make Nutritious Snacks
Local High School Dropouts Cut in Half
Hospitals are sued by 7 Foot Doctors
Typhoon Rips through Cemetery; Hundreds Dead



DTU TRAINING

The following is the DTU calendar for December and the first three months of 2015. If you are interested in any training, please let Pete know.

When	Type	Title	Venue	Notes
DECEMBER 2014				
Thu 11th	DTU Unit Meeting	DTU general meeting & break up BBQ 7:30pm	Cavan HQ	
Sat 13th	School Holidays	School holidays start - No More meetings until 2015	SA	
JANUARY 2015				
Thu 15th 07:30AM	Executive Meeting	4WDSA Executive meeting	Cavan HQ	
FEBRUARY 2015				
Thu 19th 07:00AM	Delegates Meeting	Delegates Meeting (first for 2015)	Cavan HQ	
MARCH 2015				
Sun 15th 10:00AM	DTU Training	DTU Run club training - Tyre Repair	Cavan HQ	15th - Tyre repair Cavan 9:00am One day on Sunday 15th - Cost is \$25. Send details to dtutraining@4wdsa.asn.au if you want to participate. Need name, club, contact number and email address
Thu 19th	Delegates Meeting	4WDSA AGM	Cavan HQ	Annual Reports, Elections. All delegates should attend.
Sat 28th	Club Event	NGARKAT WORKING BEE 2015	NGARKAT	4WDSA Ngarkat information page
Sun 29th	Club Event	NGARKAT WORKING BEE	NGARKAT	



We purchased our BBQ meat from the local butchers in Loxton which we were able to collect on the Saturday of our Loxton Christmas Show.

Not only were they very pleasant to deal with, they also gave us the chicken and sausages at discounted prices! So we would like to extend a very big "thank you" to the butchers at Hygenic Meats, LOXTON.

TRIP REPORTS

Teddy Bear's Picnic

Sunday 16th November, 2014

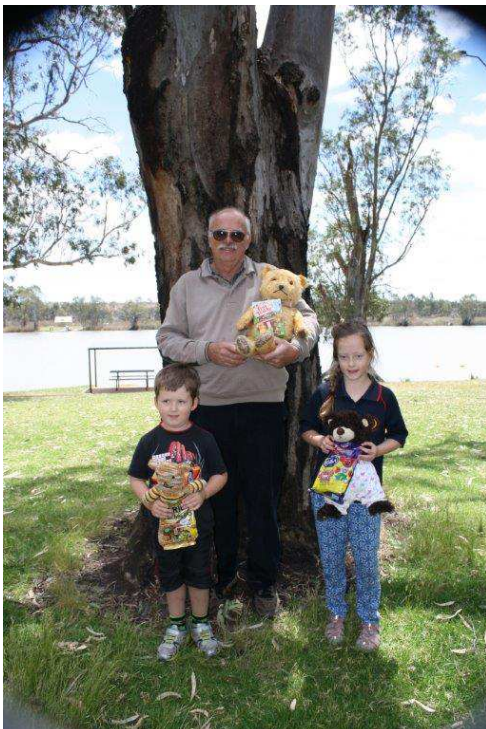
It's 9 am and a good crowd had gathered at the Visitor's Centre. The weather was good, cooling down after the previous few days of heat.

There was Quenton & Deb, Peter & Sandra, Wayne & Sandra, Brent, Keryn & Wil, Dave, Michele & Jessica, Roy & Bronwyn, Max & Lyn, John & Jane. The teddies were keen to get started on their big day out and for some it was their first adventure outdoors for many a year. They came in all shapes, ages and sizes. A couple of interlopers were found amongst the teddies, a feathery Emu with Lyn and Banjo the Border collie with John. Poor Banjo had nearly been choked tied up in the Ute, but he eventually broke free to join in the fun. Group photos were taken and then we were on our way.



We passed through Lyndoch and turned off towards the Barossa. There was certainly evidence through the back roads of the fire that had been through the district earlier in the year. The farmers had been busy with harvesting and there were numerous bails of hay to be carted in.

Seppeltsfield Winery was our stop for a leisurely morning tea. Keryn, Wil and Teddy had been busy making tea cups and bumble bees to share with us all. They were delicious, along with all the other goodies. Peter gave us a history lesson of the 2000 plus date palms. These were mostly planted during the Great Depression, out of gratitude by the Seppeltsfield employees who had been kept employed by the Seppelts Family at considerable cost.



Time to set off through some interesting back roads, some I don't think I had travelled on before. We passed stone walls that are scattered through out the Barossa. It never ceases to amaze me, the sheer hard work and feat of engineering it must have taken to construct them.

We headed into the Swan Reach Ferry (or Punt) depending on what you are used to calling it. All the teddies and their friends were super excited for our ride across the river. We stopped for lunch at the nice park in the town of Swan Reach. The Corellas were very friendly.

They decided that several vehicles were too clean, including Quenton's and Roy's. Calling cards were left on them. My salad container lid and chair were also inviting. Thanks to Michele

who had the trusty baby wipes and cleaned everything for me.

After lunch, the Teddy Bear judging commenced. There seemed to be fierce competition but eventually the winners were decided.

Roy	Oldest Teddy
Jessica	Best dressed Teddy
Wil	Best home made Teddy

Prizes were awarded, winners congratulated and photos taken.

The fun had to end and we were off once again, our trip leaders had now changed to Roy & Bronwyn. We went back over the river and soon found ourselves on some dusty dirt roads. We felt sorry for tail end Charlie who had to eat everyone's dust. We stopped at a pretty little camp site that was familiar to Roy & Bronwyn, nice winter spot but too many slithery things for me in the summer. Passed the Punyelroo Caravan Park, they sure have a few rules on their sign. We set off once more arriving in Cambrai. Ice creams were on the menu and the general store did a brisk trade.

Quenton and Deb left us at this stage and headed off to the Airport. Everyone went their own way home in various little groups. We went with Peter and Sandra. Thanks Peter for our very scenic drive.

Thanks to Quenton and Deb for a great day out. We travelled over two hundred km's. Not sure of the exact reading as I forgot what John told me when we arrived home. A fantastic time was had by all. The teddies and friends look forward to another outing. Thanks to Roy & Bronwyn for leading us around their neighbourhood and to everyone for your company and friendship.

[Jane]



Loxton Caravan Park Christmas Party

29-30th November 2014

What a great, relaxing weekend it turned out to be for those who made their way to Loxton for the Club Christmas party. The weather really turned it on too as we had two very warm days with the Sunday temperature forecast at 42C, however, I think most of us had left by then even though the pack-up, early as it was, was still in very warm conditions.



Dave, Michele and Jessica were first off the block and arrived on Friday evening after work. The remainder of us made our way to Loxton on Saturday arriving at different intervals throughout the day with the Mewetts availing themselves of an air conditioned cabin rather than camping with the rest of us - not such a bad choice given how warm the weekend was and some of us may have been secretly envious as we tried to keep cool in the shade of the campers or the many large trees around the caravan park.

The Loxton caravan park is very spacious with generously sized powered sites and large shady trees to provide welcoming shade. The ablution block was clean and the camp kitchen provided cooking and cleaning facilities with a TV, table tennis table and ceiling fan together with inside tables and chairs thrown in for extra measure. It provided a welcoming cool site for campers to sit as well as providing somewhere to have a drink while watching tv. Although overall it was small, it was widely used throughout the day and well into the evening providing respite from the heat for some campers. The river was a short distance away and was used for kayaking and fishing and proved very popular with campers of all ages. Certainly a good choice by Max and Lyn.

After setting up camp on Saturday and enjoying a bit of personal R&R we all gathered at the back of Keryn and Brent's camper for some evening camaraderie and a drink or two, eventually dispersing and heading to our beds.

Saturday dawned sunny, bright and warm. Pete and Sandra had to go into Loxton to pick up the supplies for the barbecue from the local shops. It seems that most of the group had a similar idea too as there was some intermingling during the morning.

The rest of the day was spent trying to keep cool in the hot conditions and a few snoozes were had to pass the day as well as some reading. Eventually, around 4-ish we all congregated under the shade of a large tree and chatted about this and that before deciding to set up the barbecue under a couple of trees near Norma & Bronte's camper rather than set up the gazebos we had brought with us. All hands on deck as everything, including salads and the blowing up of balloons, was readied for the laid back barbecue.

The Mewetts and their grandchildren arrived from their air conditioned cabin looking cool and refreshed with John resplendent in a very colourful Hawaiian shirt, tie and red braces together with a Santa hat. Dave started cooking the sausages and chicken provided by the local butcher. Hmm, they certainly smelled good then we all tucked into our meal.





Between dinner and dessert, Santa made a surprising appearance in a 4 wheel drive Patrol driven by his helper, Sandra. He had to leave his sleigh behind due to the lack of snow and it was far too hot for the reindeer as they were used to the cold conditions up in the North Pole. With a big ho, ho, ho, Santa handed out gifts and lollies to Jessica, Wil, Tahlia and Bradley before enticing some of the ladies present onto his knee!! They were rewarded with a kiss and a small bag of lollies.

Club mascot, Clarentyne, was a bit jealous and got in on the act too sitting on Santa's shoulder waiting for his photo to be taken! Some birds will do anything for a bit of free publicity!!!

We farewelled Santa and his driver and Santa generously handed out lollies to other campers' children as he made his way off into

the distance. We were happy to see Santa as we know just how busy he is at this time of year.

After this excitement, out came dessert - fruit salad and ice cream which was enjoyed by all. After clearing up, most of the club members headed into Loxton to see the fireworks display at 9 pm followed by a trip around the town to see the Loxton lights. It was well worth the late night!!



We were told by friends of Roy and Bronwyn's that the forecast temperature for Sunday was 42C. I think that spurred most people on to get their campers packed up early before partaking of a community breakfast at the camp kitchen where the remainder of the chicken, sausages and bread were consumed together with pancakes and fruit salad.

After saying our "goodbyes," one by one, we headed off. Another most enjoyable weekend Christmas party over for another year!! To everyone who participated -thanks for the fun and the laughter and for making the weekend so enjoyable. Merry Christmas.

[Sandra & Pete]

Merry Christmas

from everyone at the

Gawler and Districts 4WD Club



COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED FOR 2015

(for Gawler & Districts 4WD Club Incorporated)

President/Public Officer: *(Elected)*

Elected in Even Years – eg. 2012, 2014

Vice-President: *(Elected)*

Elected in Odd Years – eg. 2013, 2015

Secretary: *(Elected)*

Elected in Even Years – eg. 2012, 2014

Treasurer: *(Elected)*

Elected in Odd Years – eg. 2013, 2015

Minutes Secretary: *(Elected)*

Social Secretary/s: *(Elected)*

Editor and Publisher: *(Elected)*

Committee Member/s: *(Elected)*

Welcoming Officer/s: *(Volunteers Appointed)*

Trips Co-ordinator: *(Elected)*

SAAFWDC Delegate: *(Elected)*

Training & DTU Co-ordinator: *(Elected)*

Librarian/Property Officer: *(Elected)*

Property Officer: *(Volunteers Appointed)*

Trip Leader/s: *(As required for each trip)*

Those highlighted are up for election this year!



**We need people for our committee!!
Please consider joining the committee
and helping us to continue to run this
successful club for benefits to its
members.**