

Gawler & Districts

www.gawler4wd.com.au

4WD Club Newsletter

August 2016



Founded in 2002



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



Sir Hubert Wilkins Cottage

INDEX

Committee Members	3
Schedule of Meetings	3
Notes from Your Committee	4
Coming Events	5
Proposed Trips & Outings	9
Information on Other Events.....	9
Gawler and Districts 4WD Web Site	9
Guest Speakers	9
Guest Speaker, July 2016, Identity Theft.....	10
Raffle Roster	13
Birthday Wishes	13
Members Notice Board	14
For Sale	14
Social Corner.....	15
Driver Training UNIT	15
General Information	16
Teaser	17
Sponsor Acknowledgements	18
(Almost) The Last Page	19

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 \$50 per vehicle/family, plus \$10 joining fee.



**Gawler & Districts 4WD Club
Inc.
P.O. Box 486
Freeling SA 5372**

**Enquiries Contacts: President or Secretary
0407 604 601 (Quenton - President)
08 8523 0657 (Jane – Secretary)
EMAIL: info@gawler4wd.com.au
WEB: www.gawler4wd.com.au**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

PRESIDENT/PUBLIC OFFICER Quenton Earl : 8523 2507 / 0407 604 601	VICE PRESIDENT Wayne Heintze : 8523 0407 / 0432 339 213
TREASURER Norma Rivett : 0438 120 342	SECRETARY Jane Jansen : 8523 0657 / 0409 091 851
EDITOR Sandra Harper : 8523 0889	PUBLISHER Peter Harper : 0410 526 317
MINUTES SECRETARY Deb Earl : 8523 2507 (General) (Committee - on rotation)	SOCIAL SECRETARIES Lyn Leske : 8524 9002 / 0403 332 432 Joann Wuttke : 0402 353 064
TRIPS/PROPERTY LIBRARIAN CO-ORDINATOR John Jansen : 8523 0657/ 0418 840 435	TRAINING CO-ORDINATOR DTU DELEGATE Peter Harper : 0410 526 317
COMMITTEE MEMBER Bronte Rivett : 0438 120 341	ASSOCIATION DELEGATE Peter Harper : 0410 526 317
WELCOMING OFFICERS	Darryl Grace, Dave Riddle

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

	2016					2017						
<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Aug</i>	<i>Sep</i>	<i>Oct</i>	<i>Nov</i>	<i>Dec</i>	<i>Jan</i>	<i>Feb</i>	<i>Mar</i>	<i>Apr</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>Jun</i>	<i>Jul</i>
General	12	9	14	11	9		10	3	7	12	2	14
Committee	3		5	2			1	28		3		5
	31			30			22			31		

NOTE: DEADLINE TIME - All newsletter articles to the Editor before Committee Meeting date

PLEASE NOTE

The November meeting will be held at Gawler Fishing and Outdoors, Murray St, Gawler commencing at 6:30pm. Pizza and soft drinks will be supplied

Adelaide Cup: 13 Mar 2017: Easter 14-17 April 2017:

Queen's Birthday 12 June 2017: Labour Day 2 October 2017

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 2016

See the attached Minutes (members only)

NOTES FROM YOUR COMMITTEE

Presidents Report:

Welcome to the August Newsletter.

I can't believe its August already! Soon we will be thinking of trips for 2017. We already have a trip for the March long week-end, but will be looking for trips for other week-ends especially Easter and June. If you have a suggestion, let John or any Committee member know. You may have been thinking of leading a trip yourself? You will get plenty of help from the Committee if you would like to be a Trip Leader. It is your club, it will only become stronger and more enjoyable if you become involved.

If you haven't already booked for the Christmas show, please consider booking soon for Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th November, 2016. Jane at the Caravan Park said it is a busy week-end as it is the opening of the Loxton Lights. Some members have said they will be going up on Friday 25th. When you book, mention "Gawler 4WD Club" as they are trying to keep us in one area.

We do not have a Guest Speaker tonight, so there will be plenty of time for socializing. A couple of members have just returned from some interesting trips in Australia and overseas, so will be a good chance to catch up with their stories.

[Quenton]

Editor's Report:

Welcome to the August Newsletter. I must say a special "thank you" to Deb who held the fort admirably whilst I was away up north enjoying the sunshine and warmth. We thoroughly enjoyed the trip, trials and tribulations but now it's back to reality. I keep telling myself that Spring is only just around the corner.....please!!

Don't forget that Fathers' Day is due in September and we are looking for raffle donations especially for Dad. If your name is on the list, perhaps it's an opportune time to buy something suitable for Fathers' Day and donations can be handed to Lyn and Joann at any time. The raffle will be drawn at the September meeting.

For those people who were interested in mud training at Ashbourne this has had to be cancelled due to recent heavy rains. The property has been closed to all vehicles for approximately 2 months due to site inaccessibility.

Don't forget to book your site at Berri for the Christmas show and Max has also put up a new trip for March 2017 details of which are in the newsletter.

That's it from me.

[Sandra]



COMING EVENTS

Ngarkat Working Bee	13 / 14 August 2016 Four Wheel Drive SA Border Track Committee
Trip Details:	Working bee to rebuild Cox's Mill Campground (just a few km past Pine Hut Soak campsite)
Where:	Ngarkat Conservation Park
Cost:	Nil
Meet:	TBA
When:	Saturday 13 and Sunday 14 August 2016
Trip Leader:	Peter Harper
More Info	See FWDSA KIT No 44 (http://www.4wdsa.asn.au/files/fwdmatters/KIT_44_Ngarkat_August_2016_Cox_Mill_Campground_Working_Bee.doc) Camp at the Ngarkat CP Pine Hut Soak campsite (S35° 25' 20" E140° 52' 46")
	WHAT TO BRING:
	Camping: Camper trailers and caravans can be accommodated. The site has one very good long drop toilet but you need to bring everything else (water, food, shelter). You may like to bring wood for a campfire as the working bee date is well outside fire danger season.
	Equipment:
	Tools Post hole digging tools, pruners, loppers, bow saw, handsaw, shovel, rake, hand tools, battery powered electric drill with a range of drill sizes and spade bits, battery powered angle grinder with thin metal cut-off blades.
	Personal Working gloves and footwear, drinking water, sun protection (hat, long sleeves, long pants, sun screen). Bring high visibility vests or clothing and possibly share them with your fellow workers.

Putt Putt Golf **Sunday 11 September 2016**
Barossa Valley

Trip Details:	Playing a round of Putt Putt Golf, picnic lunch, cheese tasting at The Barossa Valley Cheese Co, Angaston and wine tasting or coffee at the beautiful setting of Pindarie Winery.
Where:	Barossa Valley
Bring:	Picnic Lunch Chairs/Table
Cost:	Putt Putt Golf – Adults \$14.00: Child under 15 \$12.00 Pindarie Winery \$5.00
Meet:	Gawler Visitors Information Centre at 9.30 am
When:	Sunday 11 September 2016
Trip Leader:	Quenton Earl, 0407 604 601

NT and Kimberley **October 2016**

Trip Details:	Darwin, Gibb River Road and back down Tanami track
Where:	NT and Kimberley – Details TBA
Cost:	TBA
Meet:	Tarlee
When:	2nd to 30th Oct. 2016
Trip Leader:	Wayne & Sandra Heintze, Bronte & Norma Rivett
More Info	TBA

Octoberfest **30 Sep – 2 Oct 2016**
Whyalla

Trip Details:	After the success of the 2015 Octoberfest, we have decided to make this year's Octoberfest a club trip
Where:	Whyalla
Cost:	Early bird special fee \$90.00
Meet:	TBA
When:	30 Sep 2016 to 2 Oct 2016
Trip Leader:	Peter Harper
More Info	Silent Auction with great donated prizes Access to private properties Trips from easy to hard Camp oven cook-off Night Nav Further info visit: www.whyalla4wd.org.au

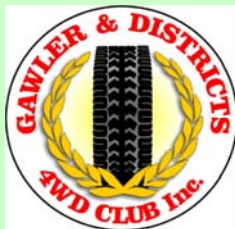
Warooka **March 2017 – Adelaide Cup Long Weekend**
Yorke Peninsula

Trip Details:	Free stay at Warooka for the cost of purchasing a meal <i>**More info near the end of 2016 but please mark this in your diaries**</i> No power but flush toilets and showers. Up to 15 vehicles – caravans, campers and swags all welcome.
Where:	Yorke Peninsula (approx 2.5 hours drive)
Cost:	Purchase a meal
Meet:	***TBA***
When:	March 2017
Trip Leader:	Max Leske
More Info	TBA

If you are considering leading a trip, the following link from the 4WDSA internet site may be of interest. However, if you have other trip suggestions, then please let us know. Don't forget all the suggestions put forward during a brainstorming session of members last year and which have been listed in previous newsletters. Although daunting, it is fun and you will get a lot of satisfaction out of leading a trip and learn a lot along the way and there's usually an "old hand" willing to assist.

<http://www.4wdsa.asn.au/?page=article&of=49>

GAWLER & DISTRICTS 4WD CLUB



Stickers For Sale – Only \$2.00 each
New design stickers complete with Web address – \$3.00 each
Magnetic Name Badges – \$10 each

See Quenton at the General Meeting

GAWLER & DISTRICTS 4WD CHRISTMAS SHOW



*26/27
NOVEMBER
2016*

BERRI RIVERSIDE CARAVAN PARK

SITE COSTS \$35 POWERED SITE

\$30 UNPOWERED

10% DISCOUNT FOR TOP TOURIST MEMBERS

IT IS A BUSY TIME FOR THE RIVERLAND SO PLEASE BOOK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
WHEN BOOKING SAY YOU ARE FROM CLUB SO OUR SITES WILL BE TOGETHER

**PLEASE BRING CHAIR, PLATES, BOWL, CUTLERY AND
A SALAD TO SHARE. CLUB WILL SUPPLY MEAT AND
DESSERT**



Berri Riverside Caravan Park

87 Riverview Drive

Berri

Ph: (08) 8582 3723

<http://www.berricaravanpark.com.au>

PROPOSED TRIPS & OUTINGS

- **TBA** *Puppy Springs/Dorado Downs*
Contact person Bill Small 8577 2228 (2 properties)
*** Leader required ***
- **2016** *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.*
- **2016** *Proposed trip to follow in the footsteps of Charles Sturt.*

INFORMATION ON OTHER EVENTS



GAWLER MARKETS - Hayles Rd, Evanston South * **Every WEDNESDAY** *

- Good 4WD second hand items are often available
- Farmers Market
- Fruit and Vegetables

SUNDAY MARKETS - *Every SUNDAY* - Gawler Railway Station carpark.

SATURDAY FARMERS MARKET - Every Saturday morning between 8 am and 12 noon at the carpark attached to the Information Centre on Lyndoch Road, Gawler

GAWLER AND DISTRICTS 4WD WEB SITE

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

Details of when meetings are to be held, what trips and events are coming up along with useful links to lots of 4WD resources are included. Read about the latest trip report or view our photo library. Of course, you can download one of our newsletters (back to Aug 2009) including our special 10th year anniversary versions.



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

GUEST SPEAKERS

	<p><i>These guest speakers have kindly agreed to talk with us at the following general meetings:</i></p>	
	August	Social evening
	September	Ron Kandelaars – "Postcards" - South Australia
	October	4WDSA
	November	Gawler Fishing and Outdoors premises at 6:30pm
	February	Valmai Hankel – of 891 ABC Radio fame

GUEST SPEAKER, JULY 2016, IDENTITY THEFT

It seems that July's general meeting speaker, Martin Kennedy of SAPOL, was a hit with club members on the subject of scamming and for those at the meeting, and those who weren't, please find listed below:

The Golden Rules—top 10 tips to protect yourself

Follow the 10 Golden Rules to protect yourself from scams.

1. Watch out for scams—scammers target you anytime, anywhere, anyhow.
2. Don't respond—ignore suspicious emails, letters, house visits, phones calls or SMS messages—press 'delete', throw them out, shut the door or just hang up.
3. Don't agree to an offer straight away—do your research and seek independent advice if it involves significant money, time or commitment, and get the offer in writing.
4. Ask yourself who you're really dealing with—scammers pose as people or organisations that you know and trust.
5. Don't let scammers push your buttons—scammers will play on your emotions to get what they want, including adopting a personal touch.
6. Keep your computer secure—always update your firewall, anti-virus and anti-spyware software, and only buy from a verified source.
7. Only pay online using a secure payment service—look for a URL starting with 'https' and a closed padlock symbol.
8. Never send money to someone you don't know and trust—it's rare to recover money from a scammer.
9. Protect your identity—your personal details are private and invaluable; keep them that way and away from scammers.
10. If you've spotted a scam, spread the word!—tell your family and friends, and report it to SCAMwatch—www.scamwatch.gov.au.

If you think you have spotted a scam or have been scammed, there are many government agencies in Australia that you can contact for advice or to make a report. The best agency to contact depends on where you live and what type of scam is involved.

Scams from interstate or overseas

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC)

The ACCC is Australia's national consumer protection agency and can give you information and advice on what to do if you have spotted a scam or been scammed.

The ACCC runs SCAMwatch, the Australian Government's website for information on scams. Use the SCAMwatch report a scam form to lodge a report online.

- SCAMwatch Infocentre: 1300 795 995
- SCAMwatch website: www.scamwatch.gov.au

- SCAMwatch Twitter: @scamwatch_gov or http://twitter.com/SCAMwatch_gov.

econsumer.gov

An initiative of the International Consumer Protection and Enforcement Network, econsumer.gov receives complaints about online and related transactions with foreign companies and helps cross-border enforcers spot fraud trends.

- www.econsumer.gov

Local scams

Your local consumer protection agency is best placed to consider scams that appear to come from within your own state or territory.

Consumer and Business Services in South Australia

- 13 1882
- www.ocba.sa.gov.au

Financial and investment scams

The Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC)

ASIC is Australia's corporate, markets and financial services regulator and can give you information and advice on what to do if you have spotted a scam or been scammed in relation to financial products and services.

ASIC runs MoneySmart, the Australian Government's website to help you make better financial decisions. Use the MoneySmart report a scam form to lodge a report online.

- 1300 300 630
- MoneySmart website: www.moneysmart.gov.au

Banking and credit card scams

Your bank or financial institution

If you think you have received a scam about your account, let your bank or financial institution know. If your account details have been compromised, alert them immediately.

In some cases your bank may be able to reverse an unauthorised credit card charge for a transaction that was not fulfilled.

Spam email and SMS

The Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA)

The ACMA is Australia's regulator for broadcasting, the internet, radio and telecommunications, and can give you information and advice on what to do you if you have received spam scam via email or SMS.

- 1300 850 115
- www.acma.gov.au
- Spam email—forward on to: report@submit.spam.acma.gov.au

- Spam SMS—forward on to: 0429 999 888

Fraud, theft and other crimes

Your local police

Many scams may breach the fraud provisions of various crime acts such as identity fraud or theft. If you think you have been defrauded, you should contact your local police station. If you have been threatened, assaulted or had your property stolen, contact the police immediately.

Victims' Certificate

If your identity has been compromised, you may be able to apply for a Victims' Certificate to assist you in overcoming problems in your personal and business affairs caused by that crime—contact the Australian Government Attorney-General's Department for more information.

- <http://www.ag.gov.au/victimscertificates>

More information

The Australian Government has some great resources on how stay secure and safe online.

- Stay Smart Online Service—www.staysmartonline.gov.au
- CyberSmart website—www.cybersmart.gov.au
- **PROTECTING YOURSELF ONLINE** publication—available at www.ag.gov.au/cybersecurity

SCAMwatch

Don't let scams sneak under your radar!

Stay one step ahead of the scammers—visit the SCAMwatch website to get the low-down on scams that target Australian consumers and small businesses. Find out more about how scams work, how to protect yourself and what to do if you've been scammed.

Register with the SCAMwatch subscription service to receive free email alerts on new scams doing the rounds.

www.scamwatch.gov.au

Follow SCAMwatch on Twitter at [@scamwatch_gov](https://twitter.com/scamwatch_gov) or http://twitter.com/SCAMwatch_gov.

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. Without these regular contributions the raffle would be unable to go ahead each month. Please don't leave it to that elusive "someone else"

*******Donations for Father's Day Raffle are also welcome*******

These can be given to the Social Committee (Lyn Leske, or Joann Wuttke) any time.

<i>August 2016</i>	<i>September 2016</i>	<i>October 2016</i>
Sue and Roger Brennand	Darryl and Joan Grace	John and Jane Jansen
Quenton and Deb Earl	Peter and Sandra Harper	Martin and Corry Kisbee
John and Astrid Gardner	Wayne and Sandra Heintze	Max and Lyn Leske



***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.)

BIRTHDAY WISHES

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

◆◆ August ◆◆
Jane Jansen
Peter O'Sullivan
Jessica Riddle
Keryn Wilkins



MEMBERS NOTICE BOARD



PHOTO COMPETITION

Yes, it's on again. You know the rules but just in case, here they are:

The PHOTO COMPETITION RULES:

- No specific categories apply
- Each member may enter up to four (4) photos
- Photos should be copy (not originals) - Size 15cm x 10cm (6"x4")
- Photos should have been taken on a club trip during the last 12 months
- All photos must be labelled on the back with your name and where the photo was taken
- Entries to be handed to John by close of November General meeting
- Late entries will not be accepted

Entries to be handed to John by close of
NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING

Late entries will not be accepted.
So get your photos in !!!
DOUBLE CHANCE OF a PRIZE!!



TRIP REPORT COMPETITION

The committee has, once again, 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 funny, whether you have written one or more, your name will go in the "hat" for each report that is written.

Winner will be drawn out of the collection of names at the end of the year either at the Christmas Show BBQ or at the AGM.

**So the more reports you write
the better your chances of winning!**

There will be another
Amazing Prize
so please keep-on writing!!!

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:

- Maximum of 6 lines per ad (similar to a typical local newspaper ad)
- Adverts can only appear for a maximum of 3 consecutive months
- No pictures, text only (you can run a pictures ad for \$10 a month)
- Must supply contact details (either a phone or email)
- 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)

Time to clear out the shed and get rid of those unwanted items...

**MORE FOR SALE ITEM WANTED
PLEASE FORWARD DETAILS TO EDITOR OR PUBLISHER**

SOCIAL CORNER

Suggestions for club social outings include:

- **Film Night**
- **Guided walk of Belair National Park**
- **Port Adelaide Grave Yard & Maritime Museum**
- **Walking tour West Terrace cemetery**

[Please pass on any social suggestions or comments to our Social Committee!](#)

DRIVER TRAINING UNIT

Basic Driving and Recovery theory training course

This course is made up of:

- Theory training weekend on 13-14 August
- Followed by a practical driving weekend at Ashbourne on 20-21 August

Practical Driving – mud and water at Ashbourne (near Strathalbyn) on 20-21 August

You may also nominate for this practical driving event at Ashbourne without doing the theory weekend.

Trip planning and leading at Cavan on Sunday 16 October

Practical Driving – sand at Peake on 5-6 November

Oziexplorer/GPS – Cavan 12 or 13 November

Note this is a one day course with choice of either date; the day will be selected to suit the majority of attendees.

Course costs

The course costs are very good value for what you receive. For the practical driving events you receive one on one training and assessment in your vehicle by a DTU Training person.

The DTU reimburses their Training Officers for their fuel costs so this is part of the cost you pay and the other is the property access fee paid to the landowner as most of our training venues are private property.

To do the Basic Driving and Recovery course and the practical training events you will need to purchase a set of training manuals which consists of a comprehensive reference manual and a training checklist.

Training manuals	\$60
Basic Driving Theory weekend at Cavan	\$20
Practical training weekend at Ashbourne	\$90
Practical training weekend at Morgan	\$50
Practical training weekend at Peake	\$90
Trip Planning and Leading at Cavan	\$20
Oziexplorer / GPS training at Cavan	To be advised

GENERAL INFORMATION

A lot of club members have probably visited Farina from time to time and the following is a record of the fascinating restoration work done to date by dedicated volunteers (thanks to Westprint Friday Five for the article):

Farina – South Australia

The Farina restoration program continues. The thing I like most about the work being done at Farina is that it is being done by a group of volunteers. They have no vested interest, no backing from a multi-million-dollar corporation. It is a group of people who saw that something could be done and did it. It is also a diverse group of helpers with people coming from all over Australia. Well done to everyone involved.

This year, 163 people representing 104 families nominated for volunteering activity at Farina, a 25% increase on 2015 numbers. Workers arrived to find new accommodation arrangements. The campground has been extended 1000 metres east towards the Marree Road on the Farina Creek, a very natural, pleasant setting.

Week 1 was dedicated to laying the groundwork for an effective campsite, getting the Bakery “cooking”, the merchandise section “selling”, and bringing the new 18 metre x 12 metre Operations Centre shed up to a working model. During last year’s programme the shed was built to lock up stage.

Adverse weather forecasts and some road closures created uncertainty for travellers. This impacted on tourist traffic numbers and campground arrivals. However, the bakery, café and Information Centre staff achieved a significant sales performance to the delight of both customers and volunteers.

Weather caused cancellation of the ‘International Cricket Match’ but the Farina and RAAF 10 Squadron recognition service of Flt Lt Bell and other Australian servicemen, was still able to take place at the War memorial. A simultaneous service takes place at Ploudaniel in France, honouring the Australian French connection forged during World War 2. RAAF 10 Squadron, Wing Commander Annalisa DeVries conducted the ceremony with other serving members participating.

Eight diverse and separate work teams, each with a well prepared agenda, set about their respective tasks in an amazing separate, but integrated, manner. There was great display of leadership, skill, sense of purpose and good humour across the whole programme. Assistants in their roles were equally as important as the skilled leaders, across all eight teams.

An important 11th hour addition to the basic building last year was the installation of two rainwater tanks off the shed, enabling us to have independent pure water available to supply the bakery and for volunteer usage (45,000 litres).

A larger stonemason programme is being implemented this year, partly from necessity and the rest as planned. One of ‘icon’ buildings, the Post Office, has deteriorated dramatically recently and required intense rectification from our professional stonemasons, Peter and Ron, to secure it for the future. Other buildings receiving attention were the Fettlers Cottage, both ‘new’ and ‘old’ Police Stations and the Railway Guard cottage.

The standard of workmanship and quality of outcomes in every aspect of activity at Farina reflects great credit on all participants. It is certainly attaining status as an historic inland Australian township.

Wisdom, The Albatross

When we were up in FNQ we stayed at Chilli Beach which was a spectacular tropical beach complete with palm trees, golden sand etc, and I was staggered at the amount of rubbish washed up onto the beach by the ocean.

*The following, which has absolutely nothing to do directly with four wheel driving, is very interesting and once more was supplied by Westprint Friday Five. It reiterated to me the dangers faced by **all** wildlife thanks to mans’ indiscriminate dumping of garbage.*

For two living legends, 2016 is a celebratory year: the 60th anniversary of Wisdom, the Laysan Albatross getting her first leg band by Chandler “Chan” Robbins, who turned 98 on July 17.

Wisdom is the oldest banded bird in the wild. On February 1 she hatched what is estimated to be her 40th chick on her historic home ground at the Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge, located in the farthest reaches of the north-western Hawaiian Islands. Wisdom is demonstrating that the Laysan Albatross has an exceptionally long reproductive life.

Wisdom’s spectacular survival record includes having flown the estimated equivalent of six round-trips to the moon (an albatross spends 90 percent of its lifetime in flight); having survived two tsunamis; and, having avoided fishing longlines with baited hooks.

How has Wisdom so successfully read the weather, chosen a mate, and managed feeding her chicks while travelling thousands of miles foraging?

Robbins, who has made 10 trips to Midway over the past six decades, thinks the elder albatross has learned how to avoid the dangers facing seabirds and has a lot to teach us humans, too.

“I like to think that in all her years Wisdom has learned to avoid most of the hazards that threaten seabirds. When I first banded her she was nesting on the station hospital lawn where she was protected from tsunamis, but the site had overhead wires and was close to truck traffic. When I recaptured her many years later she was nesting a quarter-mile away, still protected from tsunamis, but with no overhead wires or traffic. They break their wings if they connect with wires, and they show no fear of traffic”.

What can Wisdom teach us about how to help albatrosses?

“We need to work harder to persuade commercial fishermen not to use equipment that is likely to attract and kill seabirds, **and above all teach people to never throw bottle caps, toothbrushes, and other floating objects into the ocean**”.

TEASER

Military Punishments

- We made a private sweep all the sunshine off the sidewalks. It took the poor guy all day.
- Our squad leader was yelling at a soldier when he abruptly stopped and said, “I’m done yelling at you. It doesn’t work.” He stormed off and returned carrying a small potted tree. “You will carry this tree with you wherever you go. If anyone asks you why you’re carrying this tree, you will say, ‘It’s to replace the oxygen I stole from everyone else.’”
- A recruit thought he was special because he was an Eagle Scout. The drill instructor picked up on this and took him into the woods and made him build a nest. Then he had him squat over it in order to keep his eggs warm.

When a soldier came to the clinic where I work for an MRI, he was put into the machine by an attractive, young technician. Sometime later, when the examination was over, he was helped out of the machine by a far older woman. The soldier remarked, “How long was I in there for?”

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

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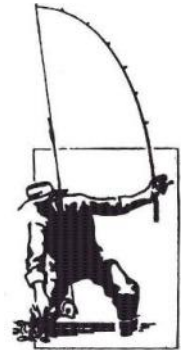
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When out in the bush enjoying some quiet time, has someone come along and set up camp right next to you even though there's loads of space elsewhere on the camp site? It's happened to us and I thought this was an hilarious way to deal with the problem.... perhaps you will too.

Life at Longy c1950s

Remember Ross, the bloke who brought you the stories of life in an Ag College in the 1950s? He has sent me a new collection of stories. So grab a hot drink, sit back and enjoy life in a different time. For the next few weeks we are talking snakes. (again, you guessed it, thanks to Westprint Friday Five)

Snakes can be very funny people, and people can be pretty funny about snakes.

I have known an otherwise tough, common-sense bloke to back out of a proposed fishing trip when he learnt that the campers were to doss on the ground. The rest of the party felt that tents, and camp stretchers, were not worth the effort for an overnight stay. When this became established our man dropped out, solely, we learnt later, because he was convinced that a snake would crawl into his sleeping bag. We told him that this would have to be a snake of very small ambition indeed, but he was not convinced.

Then, there was the group of shooters who had set up camp in the Barmah Forest. Tomorrow was Duck Opening, the Social Event of the Year. They had the little clearing to themselves. The tents were up and a small cooking fire smelt of gum leaves and barbecued meat. The preliminary exploration had been attended to and good duck-water was close at hand. It was time to relax. Conversation was desultory. Last opening,

the one before, an incident ten or fifteen years earlier. Some blokes were dozing, mindful of the pre-dawn start next day.

Then two beaten-up Valiants arrived in a cloud of dust. A surprising number of large East European gentlemen alighted. In seconds the little clearing had been transformed. This, it seemed, was the very place they had been looking for all afternoon. A couple of empty bottles sailed into the rushes. Somebody produced a shotgun and managed to rout a tribe of galahs that had been enjoying a siesta in a nearby Red Gum. With a somewhat cavalier attitude, it was indicated that they would set up camp within yards of the old hands. Some anxious comments were quietly exchanged, the consensus indicating that the newcomers were, perhaps, not the most desirable of neighbours in the present circumstances.

It occurred to our resident snake-fancier that the visitors may be interested in a couple of friends he'd picked up since lunch. He, and his brother Jack, wandered across to show them. The curious men crowded around to see what was in the ventilated box. "Bird? Parrot? Cocky?" The big man laughed. Another thought he had the answer, "rabbid? rabbid?"

One bloke pushed in and clumsily attempted to help the fancier lift the lid. Three inches up and a head shot out, a foot of body attached, and a forked tongue working overtime. Men collided in the scramble back to the cars. With much noise, and undignified haste, all made it to sanctuary. The driver of the nearest Valiant wound his window down, slightly. "You mad! You show me snake?"

They were Swamp Tigers, the pale green, slightly banded variety, both five foot plus. They were quite resentful of their recent handling, and in a bad humour. When the snake catcher got one clear of the box, he let it take almost its' full length on the ground. Only a few inches of tail were not entirely at the snake's command, held firmly by the amateur snake-man. The Tiger put on an excellent performance, strike followed strike, with much rapid move and countermove.

It was spectacular. The audience was suitably impressed.

There was a lot of shouted conversation in the cars, and from car to car.

The driver said, "those snake, they no good?"

"Yeah. No good."

"Him bite. You bloody die?"

"No. Not for a while."

"How long?"

"Oh, about five minutes."

"Sh*t!" The driver translated for the benefit of his comrades.

"Hey madman, if snake no good, why you camp here?"

Somebody was doing a bit of thinking, it happens sometimes, even around snakes.

"We always come here. We're from the Melbourne Zoo. We got over a hundred last year. All the shooting stirs them up, you know? What about giving us a hand?"

There was further excited conversation and we were offered some unintelligible advice. It seemed that there would be no volunteers to help the "Zoologists" acquire more specimens. The Valiants were swung about and sped off down the narrow track. Another empty of Sweet Sherry hit the bushes. The dust settled and they were gone.