

4WD Club Newsletter

October 2018



Founded in 2002



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



Upalina Station, October 2018

INDEX

| | |
|---|----|
| Committee Members | 3 |
| Schedule of Meetings | 3 |
| Notes from Your Committee | 4 |
| Guest Speakers | 8 |
| Raffle Roster | 8 |
| Birthday Wishes..... | 10 |
| For Sale | 10 |
| For Sale – Tyre Pressure Monitoring System..... | 10 |
| DTU Training Events | 11 |
| Sponsor Acknowledgements | 12 |
| Members Notice Board | 13 |
| Gawler and Districts 4WD Web Site..... | 13 |
| Educational..... | 14 |
| Emergency Towing – What are the Rules?..... | 14 |
| Trip Report..... | 16 |
| Servicetown- a hidden Railway Station | 16 |
| Upalinna Station Flinders Ranges October Long Weekend 2018..... | 18 |

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, weekend, long weekend and extended trips. We are a member of the Four Wheel Drive South Australia that 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)
0409 091 851 (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 Peter Cusick : 0421 330 104 |
| TREASURER Wayne Heintze : 8523 0407 / 0432 339 213 | SECRETARY Jane Jansen : 8523 0657 / 0409 091 851 |
| EDITOR Sandra Harper : 8523 0889 | PUBLISHER Peter Harper : 0410 526 317 |
| MINUTES SECRETARY Deb Earl (<i>temporary for 2018</i>): (General) (Committee - on rotation) | SOCIAL SECRETARIES Joann Wuttke : 0402 353 064 Julie Sieben : 0407 820 480 |
| TRIPS/PROPERTY LIBRARIAN CO-ORDINATOR John Jansen : 0418 840 435 | TRAINING CO-ORDINATOR DTU DELEGATE Peter Harper : 0410 526 317 |
| COMMITTEE MEMBER Bob Tonkin : 0421 603 767 | ASSOCIATION DELEGATE Quenton Earl : 8523 2507 / 0407 604 601 |
| WELCOMING OFFICERS | Norma Rivett |

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

| | 2018 | | | | | | 2019 | | | | | |
|------------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| <i>Meeting</i> | <i>Jul</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> |
| General | 13 | 10 | 14 | 12 | 9 | 14 | | 8 | 1 | 12 | 10 | 14 |
| Committee | 4 | 1 | 5 | 3 | | 5 | 30 | 20 | | 3 | 1 | 5 |
| | | | | 31 | | | | | | | | |

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

Dates for 2018/2019

Labour Day 1 October:

2019: Australia Day 28 Jan; Adelaide Cup 11 March; Easter 19-22 April; Anzac Day 25 April; Queens Birthday 10 June

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

September 2018
See the attached Minutes (members only)

NOTES FROM YOUR COMMITTEE

Presidents Report:

The Committee has discussed a few trips and outings for 2019. These dates are listed in this month's Newsletter for you to note in your diaries or on your calendar. We will be looking for new Trip Leaders, so it will be a good year to become a Trip Leader after our "Trip Leader" forum at our February 2019 meeting. Please consider any 4WD treks you would like to go on and perhaps lead.

Our November meeting will be a social meeting at Barossa Bowland, 89 Menge Road, Tanunda. Arrival time is stated for 6.45pm so we get a 7.00pm start when we will enjoy Pizza and a quick meeting. This will be followed by your choice of one or two games of ten pin bowling. More details are in this newsletter and a trip sheet will be at the October meeting as I will need numbers to confirm with Deb at Barossa Bowland. So put the date in your diary - it will be a fun night out.

Have you booked and paid your deposit for the Waikerie Christmas show? Time is running out! All details in this Newsletter.

Remember the Photo Competition is on again this year, so start clicking and sort through your photos to enter. It would be a good idea to bring in your entries to this October meeting as the deadline is the November meeting at Barossa Bowland.

[Quenton]

Editors Report:

Welcome to the October edition of the Newsletter.

We are fast coming to the end of another year which means Christmas celebrations are just around the corner. You know about the Christmas show at Waikerie so please consider what you might like to contribute to the Christmas raffle. This is usually very successful and will be drawn at the December meeting. A list of possible donations will be available from this month's meeting so please put your name against an item you might wish to donate. This list is by no means extensive so if nothing appeals to you, then you are free to add something onto the list you might like to contribute instead. Thank you.

Quenton and Deb recently completed a trip to Canberra and Gosford and on their travels came across an amazing railway station at Serviceton. The trip report Quenton sent in makes for interesting reading and I hope you enjoy it.

We had a most enjoyable trip to Upalina Station in the Flinders Rangers and I hope you enjoy reading the trip reports in this newsletter.

Our speaker this month is Judy Abbott and she will be talking about a healthy gut so please make her feel welcome.

That's it from me for another month, till next time.

[Sandra]



Coming Events

| Ngaut Ngaut | | October Day Out, Sunday, 21st October, 2018 | |
|----------------------|--|--|--|
| Trip Details: | Ngaut Ngaut is one of Australia's very special places near Swan Reach on the Murray River. A culturally and historically significant conservation park. Guided tour with traditional owners to get a glimpse of the rich culture of the Nganguraku people. | | |
| Where: | Ngaut Ngaut Conservation Park | | |
| Cost: | Ngaut Ngaut - \$25.00 Adult \$10.00 Child under 15 Minimum of 10 people Swan Reach Car Museum - \$2.00 per person | | |
| Meet: | Nuriootpa Train Park | | |
| When: | 8.30am | | |
| Trip Leader: | Quenton Earl 0407 604 601 | | |
| More Info | Take morning tea for a quick morning tea at Swan Reach. Meet Guide at Nildottie at 11.00am. Pack a picnic lunch for lunch by the Swan Reach riverfront. View the Mid Murray Classic Car Gallery at Swan Reach at 2.00pm. Sturdy shoes, hat, sunscreen, camera, picnic rug, chairs, table | | |

| 9 November | | November General Meeting | |
|----------------------|---|---------------------------------|--|
| Trip Details: | November General Meeting at Barossa Bowland for Pizza and Ten Pin bowling | | |
| Where: | Barossa Bowland. 89 Menge Rd, Tanunda | | |
| Cost: | \$12.00 for one game \$19.00 for two games Wood Oven Pizza 12 inch range from \$18.50 to \$23.50 | | |
| Meet: | Barossa Bowland | | |
| When: | 6.45pm for 7.00pm | | |
| Trip Leader: | Quenton Earl 0407 604 601 | | |
| More Info | Social night of Pizza and Bowling. Short meeting at 7.00pm. Pizza followed by Bowling at 7.45pm. Please advise on trip sheet if you want to play one or two games. | | |

26th January 2019 Australia Day Picnic at Bethany

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Trip Details: | Celebrate Australia Day with a picnic at Bethany, Barossa Valley |
| Where: | Bethany Reserve, 324 Bethany Rd, Bethany |
| Cost: | TBA |
| Meet: | Bethany Reserve |
| When: | 11.00am |
| Trip Leaders: | Quenton, 0407 604 601 and Jane, 0409 091 851 |
| More Info | BYO Picnic lunch to share. BYO drinks. Picnic and Party games, Bocce, Prize for "Best dressed in Aussie Theme", bring chairs, table, hat, sunscreen. Note: As we are not hiring the kitchen/shelter, it may pay to bring a portable shade if you have one. |

10th March 2019 A day in the Adelaide Hills

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Trip Details: | Visit "The Cedars" Hans Heysen's house and studio, Melba Chocolate factory, Woodside Cheese, Beerenberg Farm |
| Where: | Adelaide Hills |
| Cost: | TBA |
| Meet: | Gawler Visitor Information Centre |
| When: | TBA |
| Trip Leader: | Required |
| Trip Coordinator: | Quenton Earl, 0407 604 601 |
| More Info | A day trip touring the Adelaide Hills. BYO Picnic lunch and drinks. An ideal trip for a new Trip Leader with help from Quenton. |


Easter 2019 Horseshoe Top End

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Trip Details: | Spend Easter 2019 at one of the iconic properties in the southern Flinders Ranges |
| Where: | Horseshoe Top End, Mookra |
| Cost: | \$15 per head per night, \$7.50 for under 17s 4WD Track \$50 per vehicle |
| Meet: | TBA |
| When: | Thursday 18 April to Tuesday 23 April 2019 |
| Trip Leader: | Peter Harper, 04 1052 6317 |
| More Info | We'll add some detail in the next couple of month, but you can visit www.horseshoetopend.com.au for info on the property |

| 18th – 19th May 2019 | | Celebration of Four Wheel Driving | |
|---|--|--|--|
| Trip Details: | Celebrating Four Wheel Driving at the National Motor Museum, Birdwood. | | |
| Where: | National Motor Museum, Shannon St, Birdwood | | |
| Cost: | TBA | | |
| Meet: | TBA | | |
| When: | TBA | | |
| Trip Leaders: | Trev Manning, tlskmanning@bigpond.com | | |
| Gawler 4WD Club Trip Leader | Quenton Earl, 0407 604 601 | | |
| More Info | <p>A week-end celebrating 4WDiving. Special guests include Valmai Hankel, Doug Sprigg and John Rooth "Roothie".</p> <p>Camping available with display 4WD vehicle (packed and loaded for a "Simpson crossing") with off road campers or off road small van.</p> <p>Please wear club logos, uniforms and/or name badges.</p> <p>More details closer to date</p> | | |

| 9th June 2019 | | Bungaree Station | |
|---------------------------------|--|-------------------------|--|
| Trip Details: | Visit Bungaree Station. (Min 20 people) | | |
| Where: | Bungaree Station in the Clare Valley - 431 Bungaree Rd, Clare SA 5464 | | |
| Cost: | TBA | | |
| Meet: | "Map the Miner" in Kapunda | | |
| When: | TBA | | |
| Trip Leaders: | Quenton Earl 0407 604 601 | | |
| More Info | <p>Visit the Ross Vogt Collection in Kapunda, the old Police Station and Court House, Auburn and a guided tour of Bungaree Station including Afternoon tea. Bring morning tea to share and a picnic lunch for yourself. Wear sturdy shoes.</p> | | |

GUEST SPEAKERS

| | | |
|---|--|---|
|  | <p><i>These guest speakers have kindly agreed to talk with us at the following general meetings:</i></p> | |
| | <p>12 October 2018</p> | <p>Judy Abbott talking about a “healthy gut supporting a healthier you for uninterrupted 4wdriving”</p> |
| | <p>9 November 2018</p> | <p>Social Night at Barossa Bowland (see November General Meeting in Coming Events)</p> |
| | <p>8 February 2019</p> | <p>Trip Leader Training</p> |
| | <p>1 March 2019</p> | <p>Ethan White - presenter of "Off the couch with Ethan" Travel TV show on channel 44</p> |

GAWLER & DISTRICTS 4WD CLUB



Stickers For Sale – Only \$2.00 each
 New design stickers complete with Web address - \$3.50 each
 Magnetic Name Badges - \$10 each

See Quenton at the General Meeting

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. **To make it fair and equitable to everyone participating in the raffle, please use the \$15 as a guide.**

Donations can be given to the Social Committee (Joann Wuttke or Julie Sieben) any time.

| <i>October</i> | <i>November</i> | <i>December</i> |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Darryl Grace | Peter and Sandra Harper | John and Jane Jansen |
| Andrew and Tracey Granger | Wayne and Sandra Heintze | Martin and Cory Kisbee |

PLEASE DON'T FORGET DONATIONS FOR THE CHRISTMAS RAFFLE.



2018 CHRISTMAS PARTY

Saturday 24th November 2018

**Waikerie Holiday Park
44 Peake Terrace
Waikerie**

Bookings: 8541 2651

www.waikerieholidaypark.com.au



New Facilities, a lush Village Green, outdoor BBQs and a camp kitchen

**Cost: \$34 powered site
Extra person \$12 per adult, \$8 per child**

**Sites should be been booked in the name of
Gawler 4WD Club so please mention this when booking.
You can also book extra nights – Friday 23rd and/or Sunday 25th.**

Other accommodation details available on the website

**Meat and dessert will be supplied by the Club
Please bring a salad to share
BYO chairs, tables, drinks, etc.**

*****As in the past, if you are bringing children, please remember to supply
a gift for each child to the value of \$15
which will be handed to them by Santa***.**

**To add to the festivities, can each person please bring along a fun
“Secret Santa” gift to the value of \$10 suitable for either male or female.
If you do not wish to participate in the fun that is fine also.**

HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL THERE and HAVE A GREAT TIME!



BIRTHDAY WISHES

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

◆◆September◆◆

Darryl Grace
Sandra Heintze
Cory Kisbee
Norma Rivett
Chris Sieben



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) Must supply contact details (either a phone or email)
- (d) 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)

FOR SALE – TYRE PRESSURE MONITORING SYSTEM

Safe-T-Tyre Model ST-2000 with 8 sensors - brand new - never been used

Tyre pressures when on the open road, especially when towing, are critical. The ST-2000 constantly monitors tyre pressure and temperature and will provide an alarm if pressure / temperature rise or fall. These 8 sensors are ideal for that tandem caravan.

Each sensor is fitted with new batteries (and there is a set of spare batteries in the box). The sensors "lock" onto the valve stem.

The display is mounted using the provided suction mount.



\$400 ONO, Contact Peter, 0410 526 317

Want to advertise in our Newsletter?



| 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]

DTU TRAINING EVENTS

The DTU Training Calendar has been confirmed and repeated below.

| Dates: | Event Name | Venue | Description |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|-------|--|
| Sun 28 Oct | Trip Planning (DTU) | SCC* | Course Fee: \$10, Access Cost: NIL |
| Sat 03 Nov - Sun 04 Nov | DTU Professional Development | Peake | Open to Club Training: Training Fee: \$45, Property Access Cost \$40 |
| Sun 18 Nov | GPS and Ozi Explorer | SCC* | Please note that a FULL version of Ozi Explorer running on a PC is required |
| Sat 1 Dec | Hema HN6/HN7 | SCC* | If you use a Hema HN6/HN7 then this course will help you get more out of your device |
| Sat 2 Feb 2019 | Hema HX-1/HEMA Explorer | SCC* | If you use a Hema HX-1/HEMA Explorer then this session would be for you |

*SCC. Now that FWDSA has vacated the Cavan headquarters, all FWDSA meetings and similar activity will be held at the Sporting Car Club, 51 King William Rd, Unley

If you want to get on any of these courses, please let me know.

[Pete 04 1052 6317]



**Don't forget to
CHECK OUT OUR SPONSORS and ADVERTS**
 Maybe you have something at home you would like to sell.
Contact us for details

SPONSOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



GAWLER

FOR ALL YOUR 4WD AND SUV TYRES
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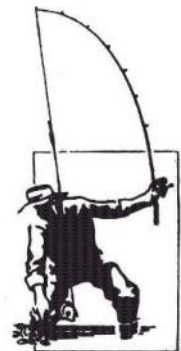
Gawler Fishing & Outdoors

48 Murray St Gawler SA 5118
Phone 08 8522 6200

fishnout@bigpond.net.au

Club Discount with **club card
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- *Guns & ammo*
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- *Knives*
- *Camping gear*
- *GPS systems*
- *Swags*
- *Marine*
- *Repairs*



- General Automotive maintenance
- Logbook Servicing
- Suspension & Brakes
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- Starter motors
- Alternators
- C.V Joints & Shafts
- Radiators
- Batteries
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gawlermechanical@gmail.com



and much more.

MEMBERS NOTICE BOARD

One Month to go!!



PHOTO COMPETITION

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

The PHOTO COMPETITION RULES:

- (a) No specific categories apply
- (b) Each member may enter up to four (4) photos
- (c) Photos should be copy (not originals) - Size 15cm x 10cm (6"x4")
- (d) Photos should 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 by close of November General meeting
- (g) 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

It's on again....

The committee has once again, decided to continue with the Trip Report competition this year to reward those who submit a Trip Report throughout the year!

It does not 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!!!

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 FAC

EBOOK link as well. www.facebook.com/GawlerandDistricts4WDClub

EDUCATIONAL

EMERGENCY TOWING – WHAT ARE THE RULES?

Last week, when enjoying some driving around the northern Flinders Ranges, we met a group with one vehicle under tow. Of course, in 'remote' areas many things can happen. In this case, we suspect the unfortunate vehicle had punctured the sump as we found lots of engine oil on the track. Round the campfire that night, the discussion turned to the rules for towing disabled vehicles. We all had an opinion as to rules but none knew for certain. In the following, I will try to provide some educated interpretation on the real rules.

DISCLAIMER: (we all need one these days). The following is a layman's interpretation of the relevant legislation and regulations. If in doubt you should consult with a relevant authority.

As with all of the legislation and regulations governing everything we do associated with driving on public roads we are faced with a myriad of differing legislation and regulations. The logical starting point would be the Australian Road Rules (see https://infrastructure.gov.au/roads/legislation/road_rules.aspx) but very quickly we are directed to the various State authorities. For the purposes of this article, we'll concentrate on the South Australian interpretation.

Actually, by only using one State's set of information the answer to the topic of this article becomes reasonably straight forward. I'll now try to answer the campfire questions (the references are listed under the questions):

Q1: Can I use a tow rope or must I use a rigid connection between vehicles?

A1: Short answer, tow rope is OK

However, (from Ref 1):

If using a towline of any sort, your vehicle must not be more than 4 metres from the vehicle being towed (motorcycles 2.5 metres). If the towline is longer than 2 metres, it must have a white or brightly-coloured piece of cloth attached in the middle to act as a warning signal to other road users.

Q2: Can I carry passengers in the towed vehicle?

A2: Don't know the answer - the legislation and regulations seem to be silent on this matter. Of course, for a non-rigid tow, the towed vehicle must have a driver who can steer and provide effective braking. Personally, I believe that all passengers should be moved to other vehicles (airbags, seat belt pre-tensioners and a myriad of other safety device may not work properly if the engine is not running).

This brings me to a couple of other points (which may not have been covered in the campfire discussion):

Q3: What about lights?

A3: While lights during daylight are always a good idea (I never turn mine off!), at night lighting is critical. If the disabled vehicle can use their own lights, including turn signals, great. However, if you must tow at night and towed vehicle lights are not an option, then you should be using a light board controlled by the towing vehicle. (I carry lots of spares, but this is certainly not one of them - guess we better camp until the sun comes up.)

Q4: What about towing capacity?

A4: This is probably not a real issue. However, you should consider the potential significant loads that will be experienced when towing over typical 4WD roads. Sure, my cute little SUV might easily pull that thumping great big Toyota / Nissan along a nice flat road, but once hills and other obstacles come into play, the potential to damage smaller vehicles increases. Guess this is one of those times when you need to look for a better solutions;
buy good recovery insurance and send the little guy off to call "1800 Get Me Home".

References:

Ref 1: <http://mylicence.sa.gov.au/road-rules/the-drivers-handbook/towing>

Other References:

- <https://www.legislation.sa.gov.au/LZ/C/R/Australian%20Road%20Rules.aspx>
- <https://www.australia.gov.au/information-and-services/transport-and-regional/roads-and-road-transport/road-rules>
- <http://mylicence.sa.gov.au/road-rules>



It's going to be a long day for this group - we suspect the towed vehicle has no engine oil

TRIP REPORT

SERVICETOWN- A HIDDEN RAILWAY STATION

You may have never been to Serviceton, although you may well have passed it many times. Serviceton is in Victoria just near the South Australian/Victoria border just south of Bordertown and a few kilometres off the main highway. Its claim to fame is its elegant and substantial brick Railway Station built in 1889. On a recent trip to Canberra we were returning via Bordertown and saw the sign "Historic Railway Station" off the main highway just over the border. We turned around and drove the few kilometres to the small town of Serviceton. The large imposing Railway Station greeted us and we were totally amazed.

Serviceton was established after the Victorian and South Australian governments decided to build a junction station midway between their capitals when the broad gauge was completed in 1886.

The [Premier of South Australia, John Downer](#), wrote to his Victorian equivalent, [James Service](#), suggesting that the new border railway town and station be named Downer after him. Service wrote back and said that as it was in Victoria, it would be named Serviceton after himself. The township was to house and cater for railway employees to enable them to work within their own states. The new township was well equipped with businesses in the early years including general store, bakery, butcher, blacksmith, boarding houses, stables, temperance hotel, coffee palace and wine bar. The tender to build the station was accepted in 1887 at the cost of 8,449 Pounds, 9 Shillings. The cost of this classified three level building was to be equally shared by Victoria and South Australia. It is constructed of Horsham made bricks on the then "disputed territory" and completed in 1889. Following the surveying of the border it was discovered that there was a discrepancy of up to approximately two kilometres and the dispute was finally settled in Victoria's favour. Thus the station now sits in Victoria.

The imposing brick station has 15 main rooms (at Platform level) including a large Refreshment Room and three levels - basement, platform level and attic. Prior to Federation in 1901, this was also the Customs Office and a fee had to be paid for all goods brought from South Australia to Victoria. This would have been quite an ordeal for settlers moving eastward with all their belongings



to pay this charge. As Serviceton was the border post, train crews and engines were changed between the [South Australian Railways](#) and [Victorian Railways](#). Passengers had to go to the "South Australian" ticket office to buy tickets coming to South Australia, or if they were going to Victoria and changing trains had to go to the "Victorian" ticket office next door!

Trains were changed here right up to the 1980's and the Refreshments Room was closed in 1981 and the complete station closed in 1986.



The Refreshment Room has very high walls and windows (which were painted out in the war years) and is 52 feet (15.85m) long. This room was used by all passenger trains up to the 1950's to allow passengers refreshments at all hours, day or night. The Overland used to stop at Serviceton. Buffet cars were gradually introduced on trains which lessened the need for such Refreshment Rooms. The basement area is as large as the upper platform area and was used mainly for storage. It also contains a dungeon or prison area. This was mainly used in the war years

for prisoners of war en route to or from the upper south east district of South Australia.

The large station yard was quite extensive, as all locomotives were changed here so that they only operated in their own states. There were four sets of tracks as well as service lines to the locomotive sheds and workshops (for both states), coal stages and a manually operated turntable. There was also a goods shed and signal box which had clocks for both states time.

On 7 September 1951, the westbound [Overland](#) service collided with its eastbound equivalent at the station with four [A2 class locomotives](#) destroyed and one fatality.

Since the station was closed by V/Line it is now operated by a committee of management from the local community and is open some week-ends and by appointment. (Contact 03 5393 1228 or 03 5393 1448)

[Quenton]

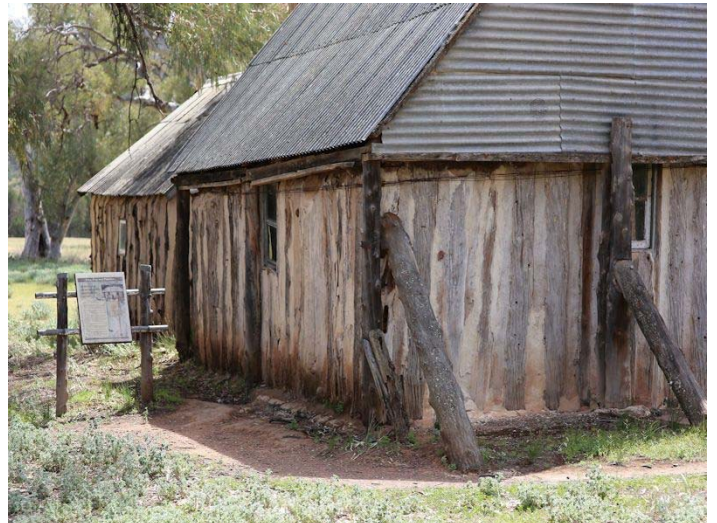
UPALINNA STATION FLINDERS RANGES OCTOBER LONG WEEKEND 2018

Thursday 27 September

We packed up the last minute things into the car stopped off and visited Matthew, Jesinta and Pippa before heading off. Traffic was pretty good. We stopped at Clare for some morning tea. Refuelled at Hawker before stopping in at Upalina station, which is 9 kms from Wilpena. We paid our fees staying 5 nights at 15 dollars a night per vehicle. We had to go back out onto highway and head toward Blinman and turn off into camping area 100 metres up the road. We were given sites 3 and 4. We picked a relatively flat spot and started to set up. We were just putting up an awning when a red Nissan turned up and parked in site 4. We weren't expecting anyone else today so was working out how to let them know they were in wrong site. Thankfully Bronte and Norma got out of their vehicle. They unloaded a large load of wood before setting up. A lovely dinner and campfire before having a early night.

Friday 28 September

It was very cold this morning. We decided to go for a drive to Wilpena . We had some morning tea before having a look at the art exhibition. The art exhibition was held in the old shearing shed and entry was a gold coin donation, there was some great art work but all the ones that we liked were already sold. Then we had a walk around old Wilpena station. Went onto Stokes Hill lookout; it was rather overcast and very windy. Back to camp for lunch and sat around the campfire. Peter, Sandra and Martin arrived about 4 pm. Max, Lyn, Brenton, Keryn and Wil arrived after dark. Martin also arrived with plenty of wood. Another cold and windy night spent around the campfire.



Saturday 29 September

Up early as couldn't sleep; Bronte was already up and had the fire going. He had been up since 2 o'clock. Had breakfast and got ready for our drive, packed a thermos and some afternoon tea. At 10 o'clock we all headed towards Blinman. First stop was Wall of China and then Stokes Hill lookout. It was a lot clearer sky today but still very windy and cold which gave us a much better view of the ranges. Lunch at the Blinman Hotel before having a look at the Blinman art exhibition. From there we drove out to Artimore ruins on the public access route. A great drive taking in some



beautiful scenery. We had a great view of Patawarta Hill from the ruins. After looking around the ruins we headed back to camp. Some of the tracks on the way back had some overhanging branches which Norma kindly held back to let the vehicles through. Back to camp for happy hour and tea before enjoying the campfire. Saw a shooting star and did some satellite searching before going to bed.

Sunday 30th September

Another crisp morning, it was 4 degrees at 6 o'clock. It was a beautiful morning apart from the cold. We all headed into Wilpena, everyone else went and had a look at the art exhibition and Lisa went and bought a few more tickets in their raffle for a lovely painting. Then into the office/souvenir shop to get our passes for the drive through the park. There were plenty of people around. We went into Sacred Canyon. After morning tea we went for a walk up the canyon where there were plenty of aboriginal carvings to look at. From there it was on to Bunyeroo Gorge where we stopped for lunch. There seemed to be a little more traffic on the road than yesterday. I don't think you ever get over how beautiful the Flinders Ranges are and it would have to be one of my favourites spots in our beautiful country. We made our way on to Brachina Gorge and there were plenty of kangaroos around and even spotted a couple of yellow footed rock wallabies.



Back to camp and had roast beef and vegies for tea before enjoying the company of everyone around the campfire. Later that evening we heard a loud noise that we thought might have been thunder but got really loud and continued. It was followed by the ground trembling. Poor Norma was in the long drop at the time. When she got out walked around to check no one was rattling on it. When we got home checked there had been a earthquake at Wilpena that registered 2.8 on the Richter scale. A little excitement for the evening.

Monday 1st of October

It wasn't as cold overnight but a little cloudy this morning. Martin was up and packing up and was gone about 7 am. Peter went into Wilpena to put some fuel in as we were going for a drive. Max and Lyn were also packing up. After breakfast we headed off with Peter and Sandra while everyone stayed back at camp for a day of relaxation. Stopped off at the Blinman bakery for some treats mainly for the Quondong pies then stopped in Glasses Gorge for some morning tea before making our way to Nuccaleena Mine. On our way into the mine 3 vehicles were coming out, one was being towed. Further on we found an oil trail followed by a puddle of oil - we assumed they were on their way in and had to turn around. Then another group of 4 were coming out. We had a look around the mine site before finding a lunch spot in a creek on our way out. Back to camp via Moolooloo, Patawarta and Artimore ruins. Stopped at Wilpena on the way back to camp where Peter and Sandra purchased a painting



from the art exhibition. We had another great day. We enjoyed some apple and pear crumble and ice cream around the campfire before going to bed.

Tuesday 2nd of October

A little drizzle overnight but still very warm. Got up early and went for a drive to Hucks Hill lookout for sunrise but it was too cloudy to get the red glow from the ranges. Back to camp for breakfast. Brenton,

Keryn and Wil were packing up and getting ready to go. Everyone else had gone by 9 am but we decided to stay and go around lunchtime. We were packed up and were gone by 11am. Went into Hawker for lunch and ran into Bronte and Norma. A bearing had gone in their trailer and Peter had helped him fix it. Wasn't anything around for lunch so we went on to Cradock and had a counter meal of beef schnitzels then homeward bound. Got home around 4.30pm and unpacked.

We would like to thank everyone who was there for their company and friendship and also Peter and Sandra for a terrific weekend.

[Lisa]

Friday 28 September 2018

We left home to meet up with Martin at Tarlee at 8.30 am. Bronte, Norma, Lisa & Stephen had travelled up the day before and Max, Lyn, Brent, Keryn and Wil would follow later on in the day.

After a bit of a discussion, we decided to follow Martin along some of the backroads (pretty route) to Hawker. It was less likely to be busy and we'd see some different countryside. We followed the bitumen as far as Clare and turned off towards Spalding making a comfort stop along the way. Once outside Spalding the bitumen turned into dirt and off we went.

We traversed dirt roads which sometimes turned into tracks as we crossed various properties, over hills and back onto the flat. Along the way we were accompanied by kangaroos and wallabies running alongside the track - some jumping or getting caught up in fences as they tried to escape the vehicles. We also saw the odd emu as well as hawks.

Martin needed a coffee so he led us to an abandoned farm near Weira Creek where we stopped and walked around.



The house, which still had most of its roof on apart from one piece of iron, was constructed of stone. On closer inspection, the floor boards looked rotten in places so we didn't attempt to enter the building and part of the roof lining had fallen down. It was also the final resting place of a desiccated kangaroo. There were the remains of an old cart and what looked like a vehicle as well as masses of barbed wire lying around. There was also the ruin of an out building close by as well as the remains of a shed of some description.

After following Martin down more tracks our tummies were starting to rumble so once we came across the bitumen stayed on it and followed it into Hawker where we had lunch in one of the picnic areas.

Sated, we headed off to Upalina and checked in with Mija at the homestead. From there, it was back onto the main road which we followed for about 100m to a gate on the right hand side of the road. Once inside we found our campsites and discovered Bronte & Norma and Lisa & Stephen sitting around the campfire. Martin pulled up in his ute and offloaded a heap of wood then we set up camp.

[Sandra]

Saturday 29 September

In our brand new Mazda BT 50 Ute towing our camp trailer we arrived with welcoming smiles, cup of tea and camp fire ready for a great weekend.

After an interesting night of unusual bird calls next to Wil's bed and the trailer falling off the jockey wheel we set off for the day. It was windy and freezing cold on Stokes lookout with just a touch of green from recent rain amidst an otherwise very dry but stunning landscape of rock formations, native pines and great vistas. After getting wonderful views of "The Great Wall of China" we travelled to Blinman pub for lunch and topped it off with Quandong Pie from the bakery. As we walked about town we saw an impressive Kibble Bucket sculpture made from recycled copper.



The afternoon became an adventure of river gum lined creek beds, rugged ridges of rocks and craggy bluffs. Lots of kangaroos and a few sleepy lizards, emus, kites and eagles. While tyre pressures were reduced, Wil and Nanny walked the track, heading towards Narrina.

We checked out the Artimore ruins then followed a track towards Patawarta Hill.

This challenging 4WD track definitely christened our new vehicle.....! It was rough, knarly, rugged, some tight squeezes, with gutters and holes. A few new squeaks and scratches.

We made our way back to Blinman then south spotting hundreds of roos feeding on the road side, to our camp for happy hour and a relaxing evening to end a fantastic day in the Flinders.

Thank you Peter and Sandra.

[Keryn]

Sunday 30 September

Departed camp at 9.15 am and arrived at the Wilpena Woolshed for the Art Exhibition. What a surprise, this exhibition was totally different to yesterday's in Blinman. People are so talented! We spoke with some of the artists who were very interesting to listen to in their chosen medium.

Next we went to get our Parks passes and then onto Sacred Canyon for morning tea. After a quick cuppa and a snack, it was off down the 200m track for a look at the Aboriginal Art. The walk was good and there was some quite big rocks to climb over.

Then off to Bunyeroo Gorge with a quick stop over at Bunyeroo Gorge lookout where Keryn and Wil did a quick jog to the top of the hill after which we found some shady trees for a lunch stop.

Tummies full, it was onto Brachina Gorge for lots of wanderings and photos. That is a really beautiful gorge! Our country has some really gorgeous scenery, rocks, etc.

Peter wanted to be back at camp by 4.00 pm for "happy hour" and we made it back just 2 minutes late!!!

While sitting around the campfire we heard a rumble - sounded like a few trucks on the move!! Then the ground started to shake! Well, what do you know, there was an earth tremor which reached 2.8 on the Richter Scale. A little bit of excitement to round off the day.

It was another really great day enjoyed by all.

Thanks heaps Peter and Sandra.

[Norma]

Monday 1 October

Pete drove to Wilpena to pick up petrol for today's wanderings.

We left the campsite at 9.30 am with Lisa and Stephen having said "goodbye" to Martin earlier in the morning who'd left before 7 am and also said "farewells" to Lyn and Max who were returning home and were in the throes of packing up when we left. Norma, Bronte, Keryn, Brent & Wil decided to enjoy a relaxing day back at camp today to read or stroll around the property.

We headed up towards Blinman and purchased some delicious goodies from the bakery as well as a nice crusty loaf of bread. As we were quite early, we literally had the pick of the display cabinet and between us purchased a bit of a feast - Quandong pies, strawberry cheesecake, wattle seed scones, quiches, the biggest chocolate muffin I've ever seen and a Quandong cake - yummy!!!

With this feast in tow, we headed out on the Parachilna road north of Blinman towards Nuccaleena Mine. It wasn't long before we stopped for a morning tea break to enjoy some of the "feast." Once mobile again, we followed the single vehicle track and came upon three vehicles coming in the opposite direction. After letting Stephen know there were oncoming vehicles, Pete pulled over and we realised that the middle of the three was under tow. Further along the track it was evident that the towed vehicle had somehow lost its oil as there was a trail followed by a puddle! Not good news and it must have been a slow haul back

to Blinman. Shortly afterwards we came upon 4 more vehicles heading towards Blinman so pulled over to let them pass.

At Nuccaleena Mine everyone wandered around taking photos and looking at the remains of buildings and the mine. By this time it was getting quite warm and there was nowhere near the mine shady enough to stop for lunch so we carried on until we came across some trees in a creek bed where we stopped and enjoyed lunch.

Back on the tracks once more where we re-traced some of the tracks from Saturday, past the Artimore Ruins again following the PAR route back to the bitumen.

We were all heading towards Wipena again, Pete and I to visit the Woolshed where we purchased a painting we'd admired from Saturday and which hadn't been sold, and Lisa & Stephen headed to the souvenir shop. This was the final day of the exhibition, which is held annually and finishes on the Monday of the October long weekend, so we were able to take the painting with us, well packed up, instead of waiting for it to be sent home COD.

Back at camp and more relaxing with a later than usual "happy hour." Norma had been busy and had made some mango beer damper which was delicious served with a generous helping of butter.

After evening meals had been consumed, we enjoyed more camaraderie around the campfire. It was a very warm night so we didn't feel the need to "rug up" as we had on previous night's which was very pleasant indeed but it didn't stop us burning a heap of wood on the campfire!!!!

Monday 2 October

Hmm, woke up during the night to rain falling on the tent. Wasn't a good sound to hear as we were packing up in the morning to head home and didn't want a wet tent! As luck would have it, come the morning after a very warm night, the tent was dry. There was still a bit of rain around - odd spots - but nothing to really worry about.

After breakfast, we started the process of packing up. Keryn, Brent and Wil were first off leaving the campsite around the 8 am mark - they were very well organised!

We left the campsite at the same time as Bronte and Norma just leaving Lisa and Stephen behind as they planned to leave a bit later.

As we followed Bronte & Norma, Pete mentioned that the left hand wheel of the trailer didn't look right. About 4 kms out of Hawker, Bronte pulled off the road onto the dirt and mentioned that they'd heard a noise and didn't know what it was. On further investigation, the left hand wheel bearing had collapsed and totally disintegrated meaning that they weren't going anywhere in a hurry. The temperature was around 31C with a strong, warm wind blowing.

Fortunately with Hawker being a short distance away, Norma and Pete headed to a mechanic's shop there and were able to get just the things they needed to facilitate a repair. Norma said the mechanic was very helpful and put together a kit of everything they needed to get the trailer back on the road. Back to the trailer and after some pulling and pushing, the wheel was repaired and Bronte and Norma were back on the road again.

It was disappointing to note that of all the vehicle combinations that passed us, and there were many, not one person stopped to find out if Bronte needed assistance.

We followed them into Hawker which is where we parted company after checking that they'd be okay.

We went onto Orroroo for lunch and as we were driving in, there were pink ribbons everywhere. This little town is to be commended for getting behind the Breast Cancer Awareness week - they did it with gusto! Well done Orroroo!!!!

We arrived home around 4 pm and started the unpacking process. We received a very welcome call from Norma shortly thereafter to say that they'd arrived home safely without further incident. Great news.

It was a terrific weekend with great company. Thank you to everyone who came along - we thoroughly enjoyed your company and look forward to the next time.

[Sandra]

