

Gawler & Districts

www.gawler4wd.com.au

4WD Club Newsletter

July 2023



Founded in 2002



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



Ystalyfera Historical Farmstead Tour – See Inside for Details

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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, 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 \$60 per vehicle/family, plus \$10 joining fee.



Gawler & Districts 4WD Club Inc.

Enquiries Contacts: President or Secretary
0407 604 601 (Quenton - President)
0412 474 323 (Cindy – 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 Cindy Mulyk : 0412 474 323
EDITOR Sandra Harper : 8523 0889	PUBLISHER Peter Harper : 0410 526 317
MINUTES SECRETARY Cindy Mulyk	SOCIAL SECRETARIES Joann Wuttke : 0402 353 064 Julie Sieben : 0407 820 480
TRIPS/PROPERTY LIBRARIAN CO-ORDINATOR Robert Tonkin : 0421 603 767	TRAINING CO-ORDINATOR Peter Harper : 0410 526 317
COMMITTEE MEMBER Bob Mulyk	ASSOCIATION DELEGATE Peter Harper : 0410 526 317
WELCOMING OFFICERS	Sandra Heintze

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

	2023										
<i>Meeting</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	10	3	14	12	2	14	11	8	13	10	8
Committee	1		5	3		5	2		4	1	
	22			24			30			29	

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

Dates for 2023

Monday 2 October Labour Day::Monday 25 December Christmas Day: Tuesday 26 December Proclamation Day: Sunday 31 December New Year's Eve

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.

NOTES FROM YOUR COMMITTEE

Presidents Report:

Sandra and Wayne will be talking about their trip with Roy and Bronwyn to the Southern part of Western Australia this meeting. They saw many spectacular sights and will be showing a collection of photos as well - sure to be very interesting.

Our Christmas in July day trip is Sunday 23rd July, 2023. This trip is nearly full, so if you haven't got your name down on the Trip Sheet, ring or email me ASAP and I will see if we can book you in.

We are in the final stages of organising a "Ladies Trailer/Caravan Reversing Training Day". This training will be subsidised by the Club, and we will have exclusive use of the property so if you can attend it will be well worthwhile. Training will be by a female for females. Of course, you are most welcome to come along for the social side of the week-end and not take part in training. Who doesn't enjoy a camp fire and camp oven cooking! I might even cook up some scones in the camp kitchen!

Don't forget the Photo competition is on again this year. Keep taking photos at each club event you go to, and submit entries at the November General meeting at The Clubhouse, Tanunda. Get clicking!!

[Quenton]

Editors Report:

Hello everyone and welcome to the July edition of the Newsletter.

As you can see the trip report for the Five Rivers Poker Run trip is in a somewhat different format to usual thanks to Julie's fun and novel way of presenting it.

We have also listed a couple of different trips under "Coming Events" - an extension to the Jamestown trip for those who wish to participate in the Nilpena Ediacara National Park guided tour event which will run from 18-21 September following on from the Jamestown trip 16-18 September. If you only want to participate in one section only then that's fine, the choice is yours. All details in the Newsletter plus additional information presented by Quenton under "General Information" which you may find interesting to read. (Thank you Q!)

Our second trip is for the ladies - "Ladies Caravan/Trailer Reverse Training" to be held on 21/22 October 2023. This should be a great learning event as I have absolutely no idea how to reverse anything on the back of the vehicle!!! And by the way, it's ladies only at the training which is also done by a female. Details under "Coming Events."

I've also included an article taken from the "Toyota Landcruiser Club's Newsletter" entitled "Not all thieves are stupid." It makes very interesting reading and may make you aware of situations that you may not have thought about in the past. Maybe something to put into practice in the future. Enjoy.

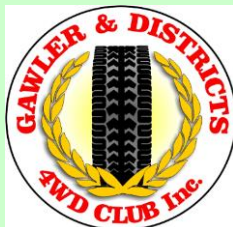
And that's it from me for another month.

[Sandra]



COMING EVENTS

Sunday 23rd July 2023	Christmas in July
Trip Details:	Christmas in July Lunch at Sevenhill Hotel
Where:	Sevenhill
Cost:	\$25/ per head for 2 hour Farmstead tour, tea/coffee and scones with jam & cream. Your cost at Sevenhill Hotel lunch and drinks.
Meet:	9.00am SHARP - Tarlee (in town by toilets)
When:	Sunday 23rd July, 2023
Trip Leader:	Quenton Earl 0407 604 601
More Info	<p>9.00am - Leave Tarlee</p> <p>10.00am - Historic Farmstead Tour of Ystalyfera settled in circa 1842. 2 hour tour. View the Jaeschke family collection of vintage tractors and memorabilia at the Heritage Centre. Walk the History Trail and see restored buildings. Includes morning tea of tea/coffee & scones with jam & cream.</p> <p>12.30pm - Sevenhill Hotel Lunch. Awarded Best Country Dining in SA 2022. Celebrating 160 years in 2023.</p> <p>https://www.sevenhillhotel.com.au/menu/</p> <p>2.30pm - Visit the renovated historic Martindale Farm 1878 Woolshed</p>



Stickers For Sale – Only \$2.00 each
New design stickers complete with Web address – \$3.50 each

See Quenton at the General Meeting

**16-18 September
2023**

Jamestown

Trip Details:	Visiting Jamestown and surrounds
Where:	Jamestown, South Australia
Cost:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Park Caravan Park - Powered site \$30/night (2pp) Cabin \$120/night (2pp).• Penn Glass \$10/head (including afternoon tea)• Your cost at Commercial Hotel Saturday night.• Your cost at Jamestown Bakery• Jamestown Museum \$5.00 Adults, Students \$1.00
Meet:	Tarlee - Saturday 9.00am (in town by the toilets)
When:	Saturday 16th, Sunday 17th September and optional Monday 18th September, 2023
Trip Leader:	Quenton Earl 0407 604 601
More Info	Saturday - Visiting Penn Glass collection, Dinner at Commercial Hotel, Sunday - visiting Caltowie, Appila Springs, Tarcowie, Yatina Gorge, Yatina, including inspecting inside of the historic Yatina Hotel, Yongala, Loudon Brae School. Optional on Monday - Jamestown Bakery morning tea, Jamestown Museum. https://www.theparkjamestown.com



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Contact us for details

**18-21 September
2023****Nilpena Ediacara National Park**

Trip Details:	An extension of the Jamestown weekend visiting “A Brush with Art” and the newly opened Nilpena Ediacara National Park.
Where:	Flinders Ranges
Cost:	Camping Three Creeks Station \$20 per vehicle per night (3 nights) Wood \$20 per bag. Shepherds Hut – 3 bedrooms - \$62.50 per person per night (3 nights) Cradock Hotel – Dinner – your cost food and drinks “A Brush with Art” – gold coin donation. Wednesday 20 September – Ediacara Experience Tour - \$80 per person.
Meet:	Jamestown
When:	Monday 18 September 2023
Trip Leader:	Quenton Earl 0407 604 601
More Info	Staying at Three Creeks Station, Cradock. Camping – no power, shower or toilet OR share Shepherds Hut – 3 bedrooms, kitchen, bathroom, lounge room. Visiting “A Brush with Art” art exhibitions at Old Wilpena Woolshed and Blinman Memorial Hall. Dinner one night at the Cradock Hotel. Nilpena Ediacara Guided Tour Wednesday 9.45 am at Nilpena station. Please book your own Nilpena tickets ASAP on link below: www.flindersrangesthrecreeksstation.com www.parks.sa.gov.au/parks/nilpena-ediacara-national-park/booking/143913 <i>PS: Please see Quenton’s information re Ediacara in the body of the Newsletter, General Information (page 18)</i>

21/22 October 2023	Ladies Caravan/Trailer Reversing Training
Trip Details:	Caravan/trailer reverse parking training, camp oven Saturday night cooking, Sunday lunch at Allendale Hotel.
Where:	Rylands Farmstay, 330 Rylands Road, Tarlee SA 5411 (it is 8 kms east of Tarlee)
Cost:	Camping \$70 per powered site & \$50 per unpowered site (this covers from 9 am Saturday and Sunday) Training: No charge. Exclusive use of the property for weekend \$100 (paid by the Club.) The Wheatsheaf Pub at your cost.
Meet:	Tarlee – Saturday 21 October 2023 at 8.30 am
When:	Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 October 2023
Trip Leader:	Quenton and Deb Earl 0407 604 601
More Info	Reverse training of trailer/caravan in your own vehicle and camper trailer/caravan. Training by a female (Helen) for females starting at 9.00 am Saturday (men will not be present at training.) Camp oven cooking for tea Saturday night. Tariff includes use of facilities in the Shearing Shed including bathroom and camp kitchen, and bonfire wood. There will be a small additional charge for wood used for the combustion stove inside the shed. Sunday lunch at The Wheatsheaf Pub, Allendale North. www.rylandsfarmstay.com.au

Friday 10th November	November General Meeting - Ten Pin Bowling & Dinner
Trip Details:	To replace November General Meeting with a social night of Ten Pin Bowling followed by a dinner
Where:	Tanunda Bowland - 89 Menge Road, Tanunda The Clubhouse - 45 MacDonnell St, Tanunda (Just behind main street)
Cost:	Game of Ten Pin Bowling - \$15.00 per person Dinner and Drinks - Your expense Main Course \$20 - \$45, Desserts \$14
Meet:	Barossa Bowland - 89 Menge Rd, Tanunda - Ready for 5.00pm Start
When:	Friday night 10th November, 2023 (To replace normal General Meeting)
Trip Leader:	Quenton Earl 0407 604 601
More Info	One game of Ten Pin Bowling starting at 5.00pm at Barossa Bowland. Dinner booked for 6.30pm at The Clubhouse, Tanunda. http://www.theclubhousebarossa.com.au

**24 – 26 November
2023****Christmas Party****Trip Details:** We know where and when, so add to your diaries**Where:** Port Hughes**Cost:** TBA**Meet:** TBA**When:** 24 – 26 November 2023**Trip Leader:** Social Committee**More Info** 10% discount to Club members for Powered sites and Cabins. Just mention "Gawler 4WD Club" when booking. Our preferred sites are Poolside sites.<https://www.big4.com.au/caravan-parks/sa/yorke-peninsula/port-hughes-tourist-park>

Phone 8825 2106

GUEST SPEAKERS

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

July	Wayne and Sandra's WA Trip
August	Sandra Heintze – Club's first trips, photos & videos
September	Kath Leen – historic photos of Churches of SA
October	Andrew – On site Weighbridge

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

BIRTHDAY WISHES

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

◆◆ July ◆◆

Pauline



FOR SALE

FREE MEMBER'S "FOR SALE" ADVERTISING



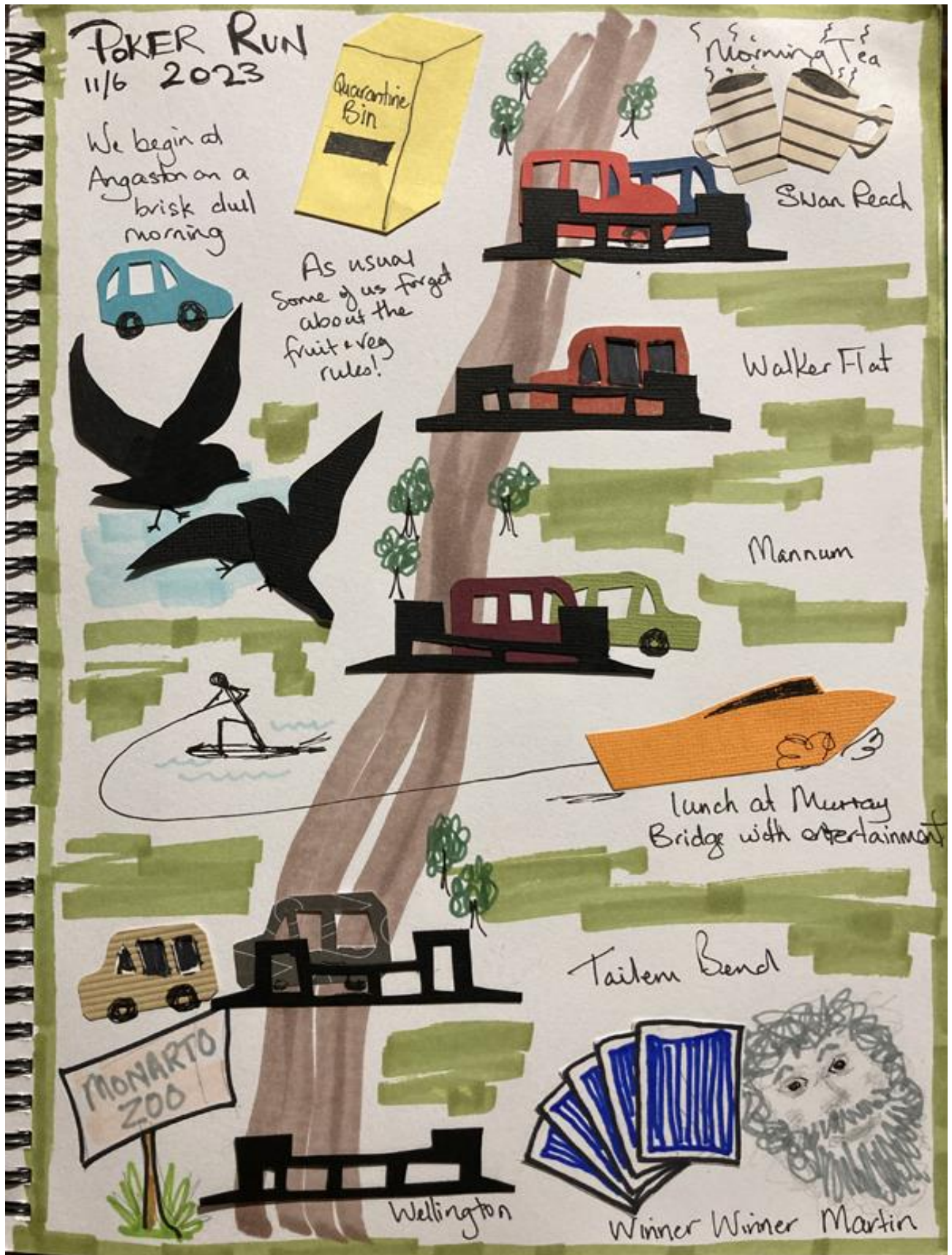
Members can submit requests for a "FOR SALE" ad, free of charge, but there are some guidelines:

- Maximum of 6 lines per ad (similar to a typical local newspaper ad)
- Adverts can only appear for a maximum of 3 consecutive months
- 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)

TRIP REPORTS

Five Ferries Poker Run



[Julie]

TOWNS OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

In this series of "Towns of South Australia" I will explain a brief history of the town and how it got its name. This month we look at:

Wallaroo

Originally inhabited by the Narangga Aborigines whose lands spread across the entire Yorke Peninsula. The first European to settle in the area was Robert Miller who in 1851 took up 104 square miles of land for sheep grazing. Walter Watson Hughes took over the property in 1857 and named it Walla Waroo. It is said the name came from the Aboriginal word "wadla waru" which some sources say means "wallaby urine". Walla Waroo was too long to be stencilled on wool bales, so was shortened to Wallaroo. Hughes exported wool using small ships. Two of his shepherds discovered copper. James Boor found copper in 1859 near Wallaroo (Wallaroo Mine, Kadina) and Patrick Ryan found it at Moonta in 1861. Copper was to make Hughes immensely wealthy.

By 1861 the town had been officially named Wallaroo and formally proclaimed in 1862. The port became known as Wallaroo Bay. A jetty was constructed in 1861. From 1861 to 1923 Wallaroo was the largest and most important port on Spencer Gulf.

The first copper smelter was lit in late 1861 and refined copper was shipped from the port in 1862. Copper production saw the town boom and by 1865 the population had grown to around 3,000. By 1909 it was 4,000 and reached 5,000 in the early 1920's. (2021 Census the population was 4,241) There were many chimneys dotted around town with the 12 smelters. One large chimney remains today built from 300,000 bricks with the large letters "WWH 1861" written in coloured bricks (Walter Watson Hughes, later Sir). The last copper smelter closed in 1923.

A horse drawn tramway from Kadina to Wallaroo was established in 1862 and a similar tramway from Moonta in 1866 brought the copper to town for smelting. The current stone and brick Railway Station was built in 1914 to replace outdated station buildings in other parts of the yards. The railways would bring tourists to the town and a two storey guest house Sonbern Private Hotel was built in 1914 opposite the railway station. This boasted continuous hot water and cool breeze and ocean views from the balcony. It still operates as a guest house Sonbern Lodge Motel (pictured).



A Police Station and residence was built at a cost of £1,075 in 1862 (still standing) and a new Police Station built in 1940 alongside. The Court House was built in 1865. Many sailors, miners and others were put on trial here for various offences, such as murder and assault. The Corucopia Hotel was built in 1862 and was used for many public meetings until the Institute was erected in 1873. The first school was opened in 1861 and the large Wallaroo Public School was built in 1877 at a cost of £4,455 including Headmaster's residence. The St. Mary's Anglican Church was opened in 1864 with beautiful stained glass windows. The original Post Office was built in 1865 (now the Heritage and Nautical Museum.)



A new Post Office was built in Irwine Street in 1910 (pictured) and recently a third new Post Office has been built in the centre of town.

Towards the end of the 19th century the towns people decided that a Town Hall was needed. In January 1901 construction started and was opened in 1902. However, on 26th December, 1917 following a successful picture show, a disastrous fire destroyed almost everything except the outer walls. The building was quickly restored in 1918 with the addition of a clock tower to house the town clock donated by Councillor Richard Tonkin and personally supervised

by Architect Quinton Brace of Adelaide. The beautiful building (pictured) is noted for its ornate ceiling and stage proscenium. "Wallaroo Talkies" were advertising the latest Hollywood movies for Dress Circle Adults at 1/11 + 7d tax at the Town Hall.

An excellent brochure "Wallaroo Historical Walking Trail" is available from the Wallaroo Museum and Kadina Visitor Information Centre.



[Quenton]

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 **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.

July	August	September
Bob and Cindy	Chris and Julie	Philip
Roy and Bronwyn	Tas	Robert and Pauline

20 YEAR ANNIVERSARY MUGS

Please support your club and purchase one of our 20 year Anniversary Mugs.

\$15 each, available at each meeting until stocks run out.



WHERE AM I



Answer on Page 20

Want to advertise in our Newsletter?

WANTED!

- Sponsored Adverts
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- "For Sale" items



Advertising Rates (12 months)	
Quarter Page	\$50
Half Page	\$100
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Contact our editor editor@gawler4wd.com.au for details

[Fees apply and payment has to be made prior to printing]

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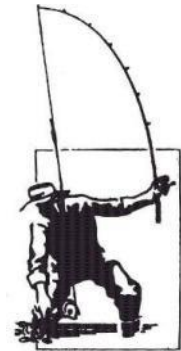
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MEMBERS NOTICE BOARD



*****PHOTO COMPETITIONS*****

This year we have a photo competition running which, at the moment, is the regular Open Competition sponsored by Gawler Fishing and Outdoors

The PHOTO COMPETITION RULES:

- (a) Each member may enter up to four (4) photos
- (b) Photos should be a copy (not originals) - Size 15cm x 10cm (6"x4")
- (c) Photos must have been taken on a club trip during the last 12 months (Nov 18 - Nov 19)
- (d) All photos must be labelled on the back with your name, where, and when, the photo was taken
- (e) Entries to be handed to Quenton by close of November General meeting
- (f) Late entries will not be accepted

ENTRIES TO BE HANDED TO QUINTON BY CLOSE OF NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING

LATE ENTRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

The winning photo of the Open Competition will be selected by Gawler Fishing and Outdoors

So remember to take photos during the year and get them in to Quenton in plenty of time.



*****TRIP REPORT COMPETITION*****

It's on again...as long as we receive trip reports so please remember to take pencil and paper when out on a trip!

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

Prize

so please keep-on writing!!!

GENERAL INFORMATION

Memories of Mallala in the 60's and 70's

Meeting Allan Moffat

A good friend of my older brother, Graham Pontt got a part-time job at the local Shell garage pumping fuel on Mallala race days for some extra pocket money. My brother and I joined him on race days hoping to meet one of the race drivers. At the end of the day Allan Moffatt drove in to fill up his drive car which was a brand new red Ford GTHO Falcon towing his red Falcon GTHO race car with sponsor livery, on a trailer. As it had the 36 gallon (164 litre) fuel tank, it took ages to fill. Us kids asked Mr Moffatt 100 questions and I washed the bugs off his windscreen. He went in to pay and the owner Ruth Bain brought us out 3 small bottles of Coke. We later found out Allan Moffat bought the Cokes for us boys. We met our hero as all 3 of us were Ford mad! He was a great bloke to boot. (Even for a Yank!).

[Quenton]

Nilpena Ediacara National Park - Club visit - Wednesday 20th September, 2023 9.45am

South Australia's newest national park is a game-changer for the Flinders. Learn why it'll be so special to visit. If you haven't heard of Nilpena Ediacara National Park and have been dreaming of South Australia's Flinders Ranges, our newest national park is the reason to start planning a visit there in 2023. Members of the public will be able to visit 'Nilpena', as it is commonly referred to via guided tours. This national park is unlike any other in South Australia, possibly even the world, and will profile the state's outback region in a whole new light.

Here's why it needs to be added to your bucket list for your 2023 adventures:

1. It has international historical significance

On the western fringes of the Flinders Ranges, about 500 km north of Adelaide, roughly 60,000 hectares of land has been set aside to become a national park. And it's also to celebrate a discovery that has already been attracting international attention. In fact, Nilpena is at the centre of a nomination currently being prepared to submit a bid for World Heritage listing for the Flinders Ranges in 2024.

Ediacaran fossil site - Nilpena Station, South Australia

National parks are protected areas for their significance relating to wildlife, natural features, landscapes and especially for our Aboriginal and cultural heritage. Nilpena Ediacara National Park has all of this and more. Something that makes the park extra special is the resounding fact that Nilpena Ediacara National Park has been identified as the place where evidence of the emergence of Earth's earliest complex animal life has been discovered. We're talking pre-dinosaurs or even pre-land plants. The likes of NASA have been backing the research at Nilpena for some time now, through the University of California, Riverside, to understand how animal life evolves on a planet.

2. It's an active research site

A 3-year research project is currently underway at Nilpena that will validate computer algorithms that examine fossil evidence and match what has been discovered in Nilpena's ancient seafloor. *One of several fossil beds that have been unearthed in the hills of Nilpena Ediacara National Park.* Nilpena is an active research site and being able to observe and understand what is happening is all part of the national park's new fossil experience. During a visit to the park, it's very likely that you'll be witnessing ground-breaking research happening that will be of benefit to the world as we know it.

3. It's home to the crème de la crème of fossil beds

In the late 1960s, American folk singer Arlo Guthrie wrote a song titled 'Alice's Restaurant' about being able to get anything you could ever want there to eat. Fast forward to 2016, his song title was aptly used by leading palaeontologist Dr Mary Droser and her team from the University of California, Riverside to describe a significant fossil bed unearthed in the hills of the former Nilpena Pastoral Station - now the national park. Mary describes this fossil bed from a palaeontologist's point of view to have everything you could ever want in a specimen. *In Nilpena's unassuming hills, Dr Mary Droser and her research team work where visitors will be guided to see the fossil fields.* Now known as 'Alice's Restaurant Bed' the fossil bed is the focal point of the new fossil experience and will showcase first-hand and etched-in-time evidence of multicellular animal life that lived on earth 560 million to 542 million years ago. More than 40 species have been recorded at Nilpena, with others first discovered in the nearby Ediacaran Hills, which is also in the national park, back in the 1940s by local geologist Reg Sprigg. His discovery was so significant that a fossil was named in his honour (*Spriggina*) and has become the South Australian fossil emblem. The Ediacaran geological period of time was named after the location of this discovery. *Unearthed in 2016, Alice's Restaurant Bed is Nilpena's most significant fossil specimen and will be the focal point of a new experience at the national park.*

4. It has several unique - and famously named - specimens

When the national park opens in 2023, you'll not only be able to see *Spriggina* specimens, but other unique ones as well. There's the *Attenborities janeae*, named after Sir David Attenborough, who has been to Nilpena and documented about first life at Nilpena a few years ago, and *Obamus coronatus*, named after President Barack Obama for his commitment to science research.

5. It has film-worthy landscapes

Nilpena Ediacara National Park is a new destination in the Flinders Ranges and one that is very much untouched. The leaseholders of the former pastoral station took careful consideration to protect the surrounding landscape that now forms the national park. Evidence of the Adnyamathanha people, the Traditional Owners of the land, exists in the form of ash and charcoal middens around Nilpena's permanent springs. In what seems dry and rugged outback, seeing water flowing is quite captivating. The park's unique landscape is probably why film-makers continue to use Nilpena as a film set - but we'll discuss the landscape in more detail shortly. *The permanent springs that flow through the national park were where ash and charcoal middens of the Adnyamathanha people are still evident.*

This is a site of huge international significance and to ensure its protected, you'll only be able to visit by booking a guided tour. There will be no overnight facilities or areas to freely undertake recreation. From the gateway, a 14 km journey as part of the guided tour will lead

you to the new visitor precinct. Rolling hills frame the distant landscape and at dusk, you'll be able to capture panoramic photos of the ranges in all their purple hue glory.

The repurposed Blacksmith's Shop at the national park's visitor precinct. It's here visitors will see evidence of earliest life on earth supported by an audio-visual experience. The centre has been created by a specialist project team: including everyone from stonemasons to audio-visual technicians to furniture craftsman and finally palaeontologists. Together they have created a one-of-kind fossil experience centred around Alice's Restaurant Bed, which required the careful installation of its 200 or so pieces. Curated lighting provides the best possible viewing conditions to see an array of fossils and a specially designed plinth supports the specimen. Different thicknesses of the excavated fossil pieces were levelled before being grouted back into one solid artefact. It is an all-accessible, visitor experience allowing everyone of all mobility types to view fossils up-close. The adjacent shearer's quarters currently provides accommodation for researchers that work on site. Plans for the former woolshed, opposite the Blacksmith's Shop, presents a unique opportunity for an event and function space in the future.

NOT ALL THIEVES ARE STUPID

Note how seemingly "innocent" entries can be turned against us! NOT ALL THIEVES ARE STUPID

1. LONG - TERM PARKING

Some people left their car in the long-term parking at the airport while away, and someone broke into the car. Using the information on the car's registration in the glove compartment, they drove the car to the people's home and robbed it. So, I guess if we are going to leave the car in long-term parking, we should NOT leave the registration / insurance cards in it, nor your remote garage door opener. This gives us something to think about with all our new electronic technology.

2. GPS:

Someone had their car broken into while they were at a football game. Their car was parked on the grass which was adjacent to the football stadium and specially allotted to football fans. Things stolen from the car included a garage door remote control, some money and a GPS which had been prominently mounted on the dashboard. When the victims got home, they found that their house had been ransacked and just about everything worth anything had been stolen. The thieves had used the GPS to guide them to the house. They then used the garage remote control to open the garage door and gain entry to the house. The thieves knew the owners were at the football game, they knew what time the game was scheduled to finish and so they knew how much time they had to clean out the house. It would appear that they had brought a truck to empty the house of its contents. Something to consider if you have a GPS - don't put your home address in it. Put a nearby address (like a store or service station) so you can still find your way home if you need to, but no one else would know where you live if your GPS were stolen.

3. MOBILE PHONES:

I never thought of this! This lady has now changed her habit of how she lists her names on her mobile phone after her handbag was stolen. Her handbag, which contained her mobile phone, credit card, wallet, etc., was stolen. Twenty minutes later when she called her hubby, from a pay phone telling him what had happened, hubby says, "I received your text asking about our Pin number and I've replied a little while ago." When they rushed down to the bank, the bank staff told them all the money was already withdrawn. The thief had actually used the stolen mobile phone to text "hubby" in the contact list and got hold of the pin number. Within 20 minutes he had withdrawn all the money from their bank account.

4. PURSE IN THE GROCERY CART SCAM:

A lady went grocery-shopping at a local supermarket and left her handbag sitting in the children's seat of the cart while she reached something off a shelf.....Wait till you read the WHOLE story! ...Her purse was stolen, and she reported it to the store personnel. After returning home, she received a phone call from the supermarket Security to say that they had her purse and that although there was no money in it, it did still hold her personal papers. She immediately went to pick up her wallet, only to be told by Security that they had not called her. By the time she returned home again, her house had been broken into and burglarized. The thieves knew that by calling and saying they were Security, they could lure her out of her house long enough for them to burglarize it.

5. Moral lesson:

5.1. Do not disclose the relationship between you and the people in your contact list. Avoid using names like Home, Honey, Hubby, Sweetheart, Dad, Mom, etc.

5.2. And very importantly, when sensitive info is being asked through texts, CONFIRM by calling back.

5.3. Also, when you're being texted by friends or family to meet them somewhere, be sure to call back to confirm that the message came from them. If you don't reach them, be very careful about going places to meet "family and friends" who text you.

PLEASE PASS THIS ON Even if this does not pertain to you, please let your family and friends know so they don't get caught in a scam.

ANSWER TO "WHERE AM I"

Pichi Richi Pass 1949

Pichi Richi Pass occurs on the railway line and road from Port Augusta to Quorn. The name Pichi Richi is believed to have come from the region where Pituri is grown, this is a mixture of leaves chewed as a stimulant by Australian Aboriginals and traded with outlying tribes. However in the Northern Territory the aboriginal meaning of Pichi Richi means "A break in the ranges".

There was also a town called Pichi Richi with a hall, hotel and its own brewery. Now all that is left is ruins.

The road through the pass could become almost impassable after rain with a 1930's newspaper report (Advertiser December 18, 1930) stating that the pot holes were 1 foot deep and the creek crossings washed out. The signs "Pichi Richi Pass" were often defaced by removing the first letters. The Council gave up on replacing the signs and they no longer exist. (pictured).

The Pichi Richi Railway Preservation Society is a not-for-profit incorporated association formed in 1973 to preserve the railway through Pichi Richi Pass. This is the most scenic part of the **PORT AUGUSTA AND GOVERNMENT GUMS (FARINA) RAILWAY** (the original Ghan railway begun in 1878) featuring deep rock cuttings, superb stone wall embankments, and spectacular iron bridges. This July, the Pichi Richi Preservation Society, Quorn celebrates 50 years. The current



Google image (pictured) shows very little has changed, (except the road is now sealed) even the telegraph pole is still there.

[Quenton]

FRIDAY FUNNIES

Meridian Mirth

What would the newsletter be without a dose of humour?

A whole host of camping jokes – something to enjoy as you plan your next outdoor trip!

I went to buy a camouflage tent the other day.

I couldn't find any.

An adventurer was paddling on a river in winter.

Feeling cold, he lit a fire in his boat, only to discover that you can't have your kayak and heat it too...

Why does Humpty Dumpty like camping in autumn?

Because Humpty Dumpty had a great fall.

Why don't mummies go on camping trips?

Because they're afraid to relax and unwind.

What's a tree's favourite drink?

Root beer.

What do you call a bunch of crows out for camping?

Murder within tent.

Why do trees have so many friends?

They branch out.

Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day.

But teach a man to fish and you get rid of him for the whole weekend.

Where do campers keep their money?

In a river bank.

What is camping?

The only vacation where you work harder preparing meals and caring for your living space than you do in your house.

Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson go on a camping trip together. After eating their dinner around the campfire they retire to the tent to go to sleep. A few hours later Sherlock wakes up.

“Watson, are you awake?” He asks.

“Yes sir. What is it?” Answers Watson.

“Look up and tell me what you see.” Asks Holmes.

“I see billions of stars,” says Watson.

“And what does that tell you Watson,” asks Holmes.

“Well,” says Dr Watson, “Astronomically, it tells me that there are millions of galaxies and potentially billions of planets. Astrologically, I observe that Saturn is in Leo. Chronologically, I deduce that the time is approximately a quarter past three. Theologically, I can see that God is all powerful and that we are small and insignificant. Meteorologically, I suspect that we will have a beautiful day tomorrow.” “Why? – What does it tell you, Holmes?”

Holmes is quiet for a moment then says: “It tells me that someone has stolen our tent.”

What does it mean when you find a horseshoe at camp?

Some poor horse is going around barefoot.

Do you have a favourite camping joke? Feel free to share it with us at rochelle@meridianmaps.com.au.