

Gawler & Districts

www.gawler4wd.com.au

4WD Club Newsletter

October 2023



Founded in 2002



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



Car Lovers Paradise - See Inside for Trip Reports

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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)

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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 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:

Our Guest Speaker this month is Andrew from On-site Weighbridge. He will be weighing Peter's Landcruiser in the car-park before the meeting and then explaining about weights and legalities for our 4WDs and caravans. Sure to be an interesting talk!

What a great week-end the Club enjoyed at Karoonda. Lloyd's car and motorbike collection was AMAZING! Thanks Wayne for organising. We have been careful not to mention his name or location on social media, so please stick to that directive please as it is indeed a private collection. His new Vintage shed will soon be finished and we didn't see his tractor and machinery collection - so a repeat visit will be on the agenda in the future - stay tuned!

Kath, our booked Guest Speaker for September has agreed to talk to us about her interesting hobby of photographing historic churches in February or March next year - so look forward to that.

Make sure you put your names down for the "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. The "People's Choice" category will return this year too! Get clicking!!

[Quenton]

Editors Report:

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

As you can see, this is a very full edition with trip reports for Karoonda and Nilpena as well as the usual content. I have also included an article on Caravan & Towing Safety which is pertinent given the proposed Ladies Day at the end of the month.

As you can see under "Coming Events" we have a few trips pencilled in for next year. If there are trips you'd like to see included for the year whether it be for a day, weekend or longer, just mention it to a committee member and we'll see what can be arranged. We are always looking for ideas. It is your Club so suggestions are always welcome.

That's it for me for another month. Have a great month and I'll catch you in November.

[Sandra]



COMING EVENTS

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:	Friday night dinner - Your cost food and drinks Saturday 9.00am - Train ride - \$12 Adult. School age \$5. Under school age - Free NOTE - This needs to be PAID BY NOVEMBER MEETING - see below. Saturday 10.00am - Your cost at Cafe
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. https://www.big4.com.au/caravan-parks/sa/yorke-peninsula/port-hughes-tourist-park Phone 8825 2106 Friday 6.30pm - Coopers Alehouse, Wallaroo - Dinner. Saturday 9.00am SHARP 50 minute Train ride and guided commentary of Moonta Mines Tourist Railway, Moonta Railway Station. Saturday 10.00am Coffee Barn & Gelateria, Moonta. Coffee, Pancakes, Gelato etc. Saturday night BBQ at Camp Kitchen - meat & dessert supplied by Club - Please bring salad to share. NOTE - Please pay Tourist Train ride by November meeting - Cash to Wayne or EFT please. If doing Bank Transfer (PREFERRED) - use Reference - Train/ Your Name Gawler & Districts 4WD Club Inc. BSB 105 - 109 ACC 018 030 740


Friday 5th April, 2024	Clare Historic Main Street Walk
Trip Details:	A walk along the historic main street of Clare, learning about the buildings, visiting the original Institute building and learning about Dr. Bain, a important individual in Clare's history.
Where:	Main Street, Clare. South Australia
Cost:	Your cost for coffee and cake - Olive Bus, Clare Visit Dr Bain's house - \$5/head donation Your cost at Lunch - The Bentleys Hotel, Clare
Meet:	Meet Tarlee 9.00am in parking bay (by toilets)
When:	Friday 5 April 2024, 9am
Trip Leader:	Quenton Earl Ph 0407 604 601
More Info	10.00am coffee and cake at The Olive Bus, Clare. 11.00am walk of the Clare main street and learn the history of the many stunning historic buildings and one of Clare's characters, Dr JWD Bain and visit the original Institute building. Lunch at The Bentleys Hotel, Clare.

Sunday 19th May 2024	Mystery History Day Trip
Trip Details:	Touring the backroads of the Barossa
Where:	Barossa Valley
Cost:	Morning Tea - Your cost at Café Winery - Tasting - 4 wines \$10/ head (redeemable on purchase 3+ bottles) Lunch - Your cost food and drink.
Meet:	Gawler Visitor Information Centre – TBA
When:	Sunday 19th May, 2024
Trip Leader:	Quenton Earl 0407 604 601
More Info	Travelling the backroads of the Barossa Valley learning re history and inspections on the way. Cafe morning tea, Winery visit, Pub style dining for Lunch - opportunity to purchase a coffee in the afternoon

21-29 June 2024	FARINA – please save the date
Trip Details:	Farina, SA Outback
Where:	The Farina Bakery
Cost:	TBA
Meet:	TBA
When:	21-29 June 2024 (weather dependent) We have tried to avoid school holidays both interstate and SA's
Trip Leader:	Peter Harper 0410 526 317
More Info	To follow – please think about and save the date May be extended, all depends on weather

19-22 July	Christmas in July – Wilmington – Stoney Creek Caravan Park
Trip Details:	A couple of nights away in southern Flinders Range to celebrate Christmas in July
Where:	Stoney Creek Caravan Park, 23 Burnett Road, Wilmington
Current Cost:	Powered sites: \$38 per night for 2. Child: extra \$5 per night Unpowered sites: \$14 per person per night. Child: extra \$5 per night Ensuite cabins: \$90 per night, Bunk cabins: \$60 per night www.stoneycreekbushcamp.com
Meet:	Stoney Creek Caravan Park, Wilmington, after lunch on Friday
When:	Friday 19 July 2024 – Monday 22 July 2024 (Of course, you can come early / late or leave early / late)
Trip Leader:	Peter and Sandra { <i>extra information in the newsletter</i> } 04105260317 Pete
More Info	Friday night we will have pizzas, your cost, in the camp kitchen cooked by our wonderful hosts Kellie and Wayne. Might be preceded by a 'sun-downer' overlooking the gulf. Saturday, "Christmas evening" we will have a communal roast dinner cooked in the camp fire. Kris Kringle? Yep! Chance to re-gift or start a new trend. For those hanging around, a Bridle Track trip would work well for Sunday including lunch in Port Germain

GUEST SPEAKERS

	<p><i>These guest speakers have kindly agreed to talk with us at the following general meetings:</i></p>	
	<p>October</p>	<p>Andrew – On site Weighbridge</p>

BIRTHDAY WISHES

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

<p>◆◆October◆◆</p>
<p>Sandra</p>
<p>Chris</p>



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)

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

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.

October	November	December
Brenton and Keryn	Stephen and Lisa	Pete and Sandra
Joann and Peter	Quenton and Deb	Wayne and Sandra

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.



TRIP REPORTS

Karoonda Trip Reports

October long weekend 29th Sept – 2nd Oct 2023

First trip report

Trip began with Keryn & Brenton, Sandra & Wayne leaving Friday afternoon for Karoonda. Roy & Bronwyn surprising us and arriving not long after us at the caravan park instead of coming up Saturday. This was a nice & relaxing time catching up with one another and watching the full moon rise over the silo. Quenton to meet us on Saturday.

Saturday morning decided to walk up the street to see what we could find, not much open. The little craft shop was open with lots of interesting bits and pieces to look at and buy. Think we managed to bump up their weekly profits with what we bought. They even had morning or afternoon tea which we all decided to have and send a photo to Quenton so he could drool over it 😊

Saturday night was dinner at The Bend Motorsport complex. Disappointing Quenton didn't make it as he had to come up later due to an infection in his eye. I think I might have been a rev head in another life, it was fantastic, and we all wanted to stop and find out who was going to win the Roll racing. The pricing of meal is quite reasonable, meal ranging from \$22 to \$42, with steak being top price. Tea & coffee around \$4-\$5, which surprised us. Meal was good and plenty of it. We could stand on the balcony to watch the racing, such a good view and if you wanted you could go down amongst the cars. Roll racing is 2 streetcars, (seems that they can use any make of car) that have been done up to race, they start rolling and get to about 50km then get a green light and take off, first one over the finishing line wins. It is like drag racing with a rolling start. Boy some of them were really loud and went like the clappers, I was just wishing someone would ask me if I would like a ride!!!!!!



There was one black very first-class looking car and just as well I don't have a problem asking questions of strangers as I found out it was an Ultima GTR made in England. The driver didn't seem to have trouble getting out of it, but the passenger sure did they had to crawl out!!! It was a real sport car looking thing with the doors going up to open. It started at 6:30pm

and they had practice runs until 8pm; at 8:30pm they started racing with 2 cars at a time with the loser going out until 2 cars were left to drag it out. The last 2 cars were a White Ford Falcon station wagon with a coat hanger for an aerial 😊 and a blue Subaru WRX, the Subaru won by a hair's breadth even though in the race before he had done something to the motor and was blowing white smoke. No prize money or trophy and it cost them \$40 insurance and \$80 to race. Great night out.

Sunday morning we caught up with Quenton and we were all ready to go by 10am to see the private car collection that Wayne had organised. Met up with Martin, Bronte and Norma and then headed all around the back roads seeing the countryside as we went. It is starting to get very dry in places. Boy oh boy what a collection, over 300 cars, motor bikes and a whole lot of other stuff in between. Massive sheds house the cars and are very well sealed. I have never seen so many cars, the boys were in 7th heaven and even us girls thought it was alright.



Found cars that our parents had, or first cars and, in Quenton's case, the first bike he wanted but his father said he had to get the next one up Honda 100, but he wanted the Honda 70, think it was a bit small for him now and you just couldn't wipe the smile from his face. I think he took photos of every car and bike. Pretty sure all the boys were drooling. Brenton found a Minx car the same as his

sister and brother-in-law drove around in with 4 adults and 4 kids touring the state in. He said that they all just sat on each other's laps. An old Triumph grey car that looked like what the German's drove around in during the war was another. He even had a Wandin Valley ambulance from the movie set.

I got to sit in a Chev 1955 and the seats were like sitting on a cloud, they were so soft and the leather so smooth. It cost \$120,000 to do up and to buy it the price was \$80,000, so you would have to really like doing up old cars for that amount of money. An EH Holden Bathurst car clocked at 129 mph at Bathurst was in original condition, also a HT Monaro that was driven at Bathurst. There were many different makes and models Hillman, Lamborghini, Holden, Ford, Triumph, Chev and Honda bikes. Keryn, Bronwyn and I got to drive with the owner in an old Essex (I think) and on the front sitting on the radiator cap was something like a Kewpie doll. We also got to see the old blacksmith shed and living quarters. We



didn't get to see everything the owner had so, hopefully, we can go back another time.

Had lunch at the Alawoona Park, then carried on seeing the Galga and Copeville silo artworks. The silos are owned by a local farmer who has had them painted. The Galga theme is to the men and women who went to war from that area and the Copeville one is farming and wildlife. We passed through some very small towns that must have been thriving in the late 1800's - 1950's. It's farming area all around, but certainly not receiving the same rainfall as around Gawler, but they do have a lot of nice fat sheep in the area.

Headed back to the caravan park and we all met over at the camp kitchen for tea and drinks and by the time we left it was freezing outside. After I got into bed, I remembered that we were going to go and watch the light display on the silo, but I was far too warm to move out of bed for that, so it will have to be done another time.

Packing up on Monday morning it was decided that we would go to Bow Hill for morning tea, but it was so nice sitting in the sun we ended up having lunch as well. Very busy café!

It was a great weekend, thank you all, so glad to have Keryn & Brenton with us again and Brenton's health getting better day by day.

Only one bad thing about the weekend THE BLOODY FLIES!!!!



[Sandra Heintze]

Second trip report

We were escorted to the property with Lloyd and his dog in an old vintage car. The first shed was interesting with a Ford Prefect, the same model as my Pop cut down to a tray-top to tow the boats out at Pt Parham, so that was a good memory jogger. A HUGE Ford F650 dual cab pick-up, which was Lloyd's "daily driver" until recently as the local gravel roads were damaging it.



Then we stepped into the first real shed display. WOW!!! Every car had a story and seemed to be either rare or very unique. The first car we saw was a V12 Toyota limousine. Valiant Chargers in mint condition, not one, but three! A 1957 Chev Power Pack that was shiny black with red interior, the only left-hand drive car in the collection, with beautiful big fins and only 5,260 miles on the clock, will be sent to the US when it's time to sell as it will fetch in excess of \$800,000 over there. A 1953 2 owner Chev with only 52,000 miles has

been meticulously restored and now in better than showroom condition. Sandra, Keryn and I sat in it and it was the MOST comfy seats I have ever sat in. Lloyd said a resto of this calibre would cost in excess of \$150,000 and he paid \$80,000 for the car fully restored. A Holden EH Bathurst S4, the first model developed by Holden to race at Bathurst and this vehicle clocked at 129 mph at Bathurst could be the dearest car in the shed; it is that rare! A Ford Fairlane Sportsman limited edition with only 38,242km caught my eye and for not being a big Ford fan, he has an impressive collection of modern Falcon muscle cars etc. Two

door modern Monaros were also on display and by now Wayne and Lloyd hurried us up as there were four more sheds to go!

Next shed was the " Holden Shed". Each vehicle was again rare or unique or had extremely low mileage like the Holden 48-215 "FX", original immaculate condition with only 25,000 miles on the clock, sitting in the US for 35 years. A Holden HT 350 Bathurst was sold by the original owner for \$37,000, bought by Lloyd for \$150,000 in 2010 and recently the original owner offered Lloyd \$400,000 - Lloyd still has it! Holdens with an X2 motor are rare and here we see three! Toranos, Statesmans, Broughams, Utes, even a One Tonner (who collects them??), a very interesting shed.



Lloyd heard that years ago in the US, old Landcruisers were beginning to bring big money, so he started collecting them. The next shed was mainly 4WDs. A Medium Red Pearl 80 series Landcruiser GXL in showroom condition, one of the first 1959 FJ28 Landcruisers to be imported into Australia and 3 and 4 speed Landcruiser utes as well as a couple of modern 79 series utes were here as well. A Subaru Brumby 4WD ute with the rare factory "targa top" roof was also here on display with a couple of old 3 cylinder Suzukis. I also spotted a Honda 1973 red SL70 motorbike like the one I picked out new, but dad suggested I get the larger SL100 that I could only just touch the ground on tippy toes - proved a good choice! Also a blue SL70 that was Lloyd's first motorbike - rescued from the scrapheap for 20 years and fully restored to showroom condition. He also has his first car, an Austin A40 that he bought when he was 10.



The next shed had a combination of motorbikes and 1980's Japanese cars. He also is just finishing a new shed that will feature his Vintage motorcar collection and as we were running out of time, we decided to miss his last shed of tractors and machinery. We will need to re-visit when he has his Vintage display up and running. I was in my element as most of us were. It was by far the best collection I have ever seen in Australia. Over 300 cars plus motorbikes. We tried to calculate the \$\$\$ worth - mind boggling!

Thank you Wayne for organising.

[Quenton]

Nilpena Ediacara National Park

We left The Park at Jamestown and enjoyed morning tea at the Jamestown Bakery with Chris and Julie, Keith and Di, Deb and myself and we met Tas here too. Next we visited the Jamestown Museum in the historic Railway Station. Here we saw the Iron Lung made by the Both brothers and available for £100, compared to the expensive £2,000 metal iron lung imported from America to combat the Polio epidemic in Australia in 1937. We also saw the Yatina Public school roll of honour and a lot of history on Dr Cockburn, the young progressive Mayor of Jamestown, and later MP and original photos of the Caltowie Flour Mill etc. all housed in the Railway Station, set up as if the railways left yesterday!

We said our good-byes, and Tas, Deb and I travelled onto the Flinders Ranges. We stopped for lunch at the new cafe and produce store "Two farmers Daughters" in Orroroo and enjoyed yummy chicken wraps and milk shakes. We arrived at our accommodation on Three Creeks Station, the newly renovated and built Shepherds Hut. Originally a two roomed stone hut, it has been added onto to feature a large luxury three-bedroom holiday house, fully air conditioned with a wood burning stove in the original stone chimney. It was very comfortable indeed!

On the Tuesday we headed to The Flinders Food Co at Hawker for coffee before visiting the Old Wilpena Woolshed "A Brush with Art" display. Here we found a great range of quality paintings, many well priced around \$700. We travelled onto Blinman to again look at the art display in the Town Hall. Of course, we could not leave Blinman without buying a Quandong Pie! On the way home, we found the old North Arkaba School which I have been meaning to find on a visit to the Flinders as it is not signposted or marked on maps.

Early start the next day for the drive to Nilpena Ediacara National Park, past Parachilna. Here in the carpark we were met by Ross Fargher who spoke to us before taking a bus load of German tourists out to the Fossil fields. This trip at \$195/ head is arranged through the Prairie Hotel. Our tour guide was long term Pekina resident and renowned country singer John O'Dea (related to Tim O'Dea, owner of Yatina Hotel) to take us and 7 others by bus to the Woolshed and Interpretive Centre for the \$80/head tour arranged through the National Parks. (Personally, I would like to do the \$195 tour, but I believe it is best to do the \$80 tour first.) Part of Nilpena Station is still owned by Ross and Jane Fargher and they still live in the homestead. John was an excellent guide and first we visited the historic 1870's Woolshed.



This stone and iron shed was built with large 40 foot timber beams imported from England and was the largest Woolshed at that time in the North. Its sandstone floors of flat stone inside the storage area and outside were fascinating and would have taken some manhandling to lay the very large pieces. It was these stones, complete with sea ripple marks, that a friend of the Farghers suggested there may be fossils in the area. Next we visited the Interpretive Centre, a beautifully restored Blacksmith Shop and watched a video explaining

the discovery of fossils by Dr Reg Sprigg (late of Arkaroola) 75 years ago and the work done by leading palaeontologist Dr Mary Droser and her team who visit the site every winter from



the US and, up until recently, her son celebrated his birthday each year on Nilpena Station while staying in the Shearers Quarters. Then we visited the room set up with a large fossil bed laid out at table height and each fossil was explained and we could touch each one as it was lit up with an excellent audio visual show. Dr Mary Droser ensured when set up, the fossils would be available for visitors to touch and truly immerse themselves in the experience. "Silly Putty" was used to show the fossil shapes and we had

plenty of time to explore under John's expert guidance. Our two hour tour was up and we were returned to the car park by bus. Certainly worth the \$80!

Picnic lunch back at Parachilna in a shelter opposite the Pub, and then back to Hawker General Store for an ice cream before having dinner at the Cradock Hotel. Although not the gourmet range of food on offered on at our last Club visit in 2007, the menu range was small, but good value and good food. We all enjoyed whiting, chips and salad. A slow trip back to Shepherds Hut, although we only saw one skippy.

Thursday morning Tas was up early and left for home, while Deb and I had a leisurely breakfast leaving the hut at 9.30am. We had morning tea at Maggies Rendezvous cafe at Orreroo which has good food and is well priced, so I decided this will be our "go to" cafe for



Orroroo. We drove home via Pekina to get a couple of photos for this month's "Towns of South Australia" article.

I really enjoyed our Jamestown week-end with highlights visiting Penn Glass and the Yatina Hotel and the extended few days seeing the newly opened Nilpena Ediacara National Park.

Quenton

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 -

Pekina

The name Pekina derives from the Ngadjuri Aboriginal name for "creek water". European settlement began in earnest in 1846 when Price Maurice (who the main newly bituminised road from Orroroo to Pekina is named after - Price Maurice Road) brought 3,000 sheep to the district. His Pekina Station was said to be one of the most profitable sheep runs in South Australia. In 1871 Pekina Station was resumed for closer settlement and farms of no more than 640 acres were taken up by mainly Irish Catholics. A sailing ship of 1865 was also called Pekina (built in Aberdeen and plying the South Australian trade with sister ship "Coonatto"), as was a later railway sleeping car "Pekina" used on the "Overland" from Adelaide to Melbourne and being restored at "The Overland Museum" at Kaniva, (which I hope to take the Club to visit in the near future).

The first building in the town was in 1874 and Michael Duffy (arrived in Australia in 1865 from County Cavan, Ireland) built a tin shop. Duffy had been a Hawker, selling goods as far North as the Blinman mines. Michael Duffy was illiterate, but with the help of a Catholic priest taught himself to read and write. He devoured many medical books and this held him in good stead to help the locals with all health problems bar childbirth. He was appointed Postmaster in 1875. He soon built a stone General Store/Post Office with attached house (pictured) in c1876.



Duffy ran the shop until his death in 1917 and then was taken over by his sons Mick and Bristie. Mick becoming the first telephonist when the telephone was connected in 1921. He held this position until his death in 1957 when his daughter Margaret (Maggie) took over. The Presbytery had phone number Pekina 1. Soon a red public phone box was installed outside the store and an operating public phone still exists on the store verandah today. The original tin store was used as a storeroom and contained tinned petrol until a petrol bowser was installed on the footpath in 1927. This original tin store remained until 1974.

Due to the large Irish Catholic population, a Church was soon established with Bishop Reynolds, assisted by Father Nevin laying the foundation stone on the 7th October, 1875. Bishop Reynolds went on to lay foundation stones at Melrose, Yatina and Yarrowie on the same visit. On the day of the foundation stone ceremony, £80 was raised by the locals to



start the build of the first church. This church was turned into a school when the new bigger church was built in 1925 (pictured). A boarding school for girls (from nearby station properties) was also built as Pekina had no state school. The "Jesus, Mary and Joseph" Convent was also built along with a holiday accommodation building. Interestingly the Pekina Hotel was bequeathed to the Congregation of the Sisters of the Sacred Heart of SA in

1936. Historian John Mannion said they owned the hotel until 1945 "...but the Nuns never poured a beer!". In 1896 Mary MacKillop inspected the school and it is believed she coined the phrase "Vatican Valley" as the town was made up of so many Catholics!

The Pekina Hotel was built in 1878 (pictured) and advertised "Ales, Wines and Spirits of the best quality on hand, First-class stabling, good sale yards, horses and traps on hire at the shortest notice". It boasted six bedrooms, a dining/assembly hall (used for social occasions before the Hall was built), a billiard room, parlour, two tap rooms, kitchen, two roomed cellar, bathroom and living quarters. Long drop toilets were out the back near the stables. The minimum



drinking age at this stage was 15! A front verandah was added in 1892. Although 6 o'clock closing was brought in in 1916, Pekina was known to flaunt this law, enlisting a "cockatoo" (look-out person) to sit on the verandah and keep watch for the Orroroo Constable arriving on horse-back and later in his Citroen car. The billiard room became the dining room and a large mural was painted on the dining room wall in the 1970's by Tony Thirkill of Peterborough and remains an attraction today with a road that appears to change direction. (see Facebook post).

The Pekina Institute (commonly referred to as "The Hall") was built in 1906 with the help of the local Catholic priest Rev. M.J O'Flynn. The cost of the Hall was a modest £328. Saturday night dances were held in the Hall on a roster system with nearby towns of Yatina, Black Rock, Mannanarie and Tarcowie and the Pekina hall was regarded to have the best dance floor in the mid-North. Admissions to dances were 3/6 for gentlemen and 2/6 for ladies. Admission prices were to pay for the band and extra money funded the building of the "new" church. Finances were always a concern and in 1937 the Catholic Church took over the ownership of the hall, thus saving on council rates! (the Church being exempt from paying council rates). In 1983, the hall was sold to a private buyer.

Sport - The other religion, was well catered for in Pekina. football, cricket, tennis, basketball, table tennis, rifle shooting, coursing, kangaroo hunts, athletics, horse racing and even a golf course were available in Pekina over the years.

Petrol powered washing machines, kerosene fridges, 32 Volt petrol lighting plants, windlites, and batteries were the norm for Pekina residents as 240 Volt E.T.S.A power did not come to the district until 1966-68. \$20 per Quarter (for 40 quarters) was paid by most properties (on top of usage charges) to pay for the poles and wires.

Motor cars and tractors became more common from the 1920's and farmers took on extra land and less staff were needed to work the properties, so the population declined over the years. There was even an agent selling "Essex Six" cars in Pekina. Better roads and transport also resulted in the closure of the General Store/Post Office and the Hotel has opened irregularly.

Thank you to born and bred Pekina local and historian John Mannion for his help with this article.

[Quenton]



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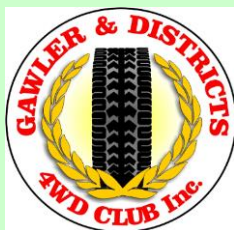
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WHERE AM I



Answer on Page 28



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See Quenton at the General Meeting

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*******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 Qenton by close of November General meeting
- (f) Late entries will not be accepted

ENTRIES TO BE HANDED TO QENTON 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
The "Peoples' Choice" prize will also be awarded this year so you know what to do!!



year

So remember to take photos during the year and get them in to Qenton 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

First 4WD

I first learnt to drive as soon as I could touch the pedals in a Land Rover SWB 3 door on the farm. Although complicated to get into 4WD using red and yellow knobbed levers on the floor, this vehicle would go anywhere. If it was too wet to get the truck into the paddock, the land Rover pulled a large car trailer to feed out the hay to the dairy cattle. We would check the sheep, loading any orphan lambs in the cab with us, or sick or injured sheep in the back. We would go to town to "collect the mail", which we knew was 'code' to go to the pub and Pop would bring us out raspberry drinks while waiting in the Land Rover with the dog. This capable vehicle was traded in for a first generation Toyota Hilux; possibly the first Toyota in the district. It had a 4 speed column shift which was a b#tch for us kids to get in reverse!

[Quenton]





CARAVAN AND TOWING SAFETY

October could be the perfect time to check that your caravan and towing vehicle are safe to use and meet ongoing safety compliance requirements. There are many pre safety check lists available on line or you may even have devised your own over the years, nonetheless, here is one compiled by the NRMA and supplied by The Meridian Line:

At times, towing a caravan can be difficult - especially if it's your first time. Controlling a heavy mobile home, combined with mixed weather conditions and new driving techniques can be extremely challenging. But as the saying goes: practice makes perfect. Naturally, the more you tow a caravan the easier it'll get.

Preparation is key. Just like a pilot runs through pre-flight checks, you should always run through pre-towing checks. This means making a checklist and triple checking it before even thinking about hitching your caravan up to your vehicle.

To help you master the art of towing, we've prepared this handy safety checklist so you can be sure of all the important things you need to do before taking off on your next road trip.

[Pre-trip towing safety checklist](#)

REGULAR MAINTANCE

Regular maintenance is essential for safe driving and towing. Routine checks of your vehicle, tow vehicle and caravan or trailer will reduce the likelihood of breakdowns and reduce any unnecessary risk, making travelling on roads safer for you and other drivers.

Keep on top of this by servicing your vehicle and caravan or trailer at least twice a year. If you're not confident to do the job yourself, take it to a professional service technician.

Regular routine checks should include:

TYRES

Tyre condition: If the tread is low, it may be time to replace them. Also check the condition of each tyre - and don't forget to check your spare tyre(s).

Tyre pressure: Check all tyres have the correct PSI. Your tow vehicle or caravan may have recommended tyre pressures to follow when towing. Double check with your vehicle service provider if you're unsure.

Wheel bearings: Caravan wheel bearings are prone to early wear and need to be checked more frequently. Unlike car wheel bearings, hearing the grinding of failed bearings on a caravan is almost impossible. Ensure the bearings for all tyres are correctly fitted. Just like you'd carry a spare tyre, make sure you carry the correct spare replacement bearings in case any of them get damaged. Check the wheel hubs on a regular basis to make sure they're in working condition. For example, if one is significantly hotter than the matching opposite wheel, it can indicate either a brake or bearing problem that should be attended to immediately.

BRAKES & SUSPENSION

Brakes: Always check your brake pads and adjust the brake controller so that your caravan brakes share the same load as your car. This is important because if the load isn't evenly distributed it can cause your caravan brakes to overheat and lead to further issues such as scoring, glazing or cracking. If your brakes heat up the hub enough, wheel bearing grease can boil and cause dry bearings which will eventually cause them to fall apart.

Suspension: Because your suspension is out of sight, it may be left out of mind. But it's just as essential to check as any other part of your vehicle. The type of suspension your caravan has will depend on the type and model. The general rule of thumb is to check for wear and tear, cracks on springs, pins, bolts, bushes and other moving parts.

Bear in mind, checking your breaks and suspension requires your vehicle to be raised and the tyres removed. If you're unsure of how to test the condition of both brakes and suspension, take your caravan or trailer to a professional.

BODY STRUCTURE

Prior to any road trips, especially off-road adventures, your vehicle may require a professional inspection to ensure all parts are operating correctly. Professionals will check for:

- Loose panels
- Condition of the chassis
- Condition of the nuts, bolts and fasteners

CONNECTIONS

Coupling and tow ball: Ensure both coupling and tow ball match and fit correctly. Adjust and lubricate the ball and coupling to maintain its condition for longer.

Safety chain connection: Check the condition of the chain(s) and safety pin. Ensure the U-bolt on the chain is the correct grade and size.

Breakaway system: Check all components are installed and secured correctly. If you're unsure, refer to the manufacturer's manual.

LIGHTS & VISIBILITY

Clean lights will help you see where you're going and provide clearer visibility. Wipe down the lights on all vehicles and check the electrical connections between the car and caravan to make sure they're all fully functioning. These lights include:

- Headlights
- Brake lights
- Reversing lights
- Clearance lights
- Front and rear indicators
- Number plate light
- 5/7/12 pin plug. Ensure it's not corroded or damaged. Check the pins are spaced apart properly to ensure it properly connects to one another. Using a contact cleaner spray can help keep the connections electrically conductive.

TOW VEHICLE MAINTENANCE UNDER THE BONNET

It's a big job for your everyday vehicle to take on the load of a caravan or trailer, so give it the care and attention it deserves. If you tow regularly expect to spend more time on servicing and maintenance. Before taking off on your road trip, be sure to check the levels of the liquids below and if they need filling, top them up:

- Oil
- Brake fluid
- Coolant
- Windscreen wiper fluid
- Power-steering fluid

ADDITIONAL CHECKS

Although it may seem really obvious, make sure you turn off all gas bottles before you travel. Inspect for cracks or leaks in the LPG regulator, gas hose and water storage tank. Don't risk using old parts if they're worn out. Your safest bet is to replace them with new ones and ensure they're fitted and function correctly.

REGISTRATION & INSURANCE

Ensure your registration is current, and the plate is clean, in good condition and visible to other drivers.

Keep in mind that it's illegal to drive any vehicle uninsured. To help you on the road, NRMA Insurance offers a range of [Caravan and Trailer Insurance](#) to protect your touring caravan, camper trailer, on-site caravan, or trailer for accidental damage, theft, fire, storm and more.

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ANSWER TO "WHERE AM I"

Answer to "Where am I?" -

Seppelt's Wines sign, Adelaide Railway Station

Seppelts Wines neon sign, Southern wall of the Adelaide Railway Station Concourse. This sign, un-lit for many years has now been restored and re-lit in a total make-over of the lighting to show off the inside of the concourse, including the ornate ceiling and the exterior of this magnificent building.

Seppelt's Wines were started in 1851 and by 1900 was the largest winery in Australia. In the 1940's through to the 1960's, Seppelt's were Australia's most awarded sparkling wine company.

Who can remember the Mah Jongg Tea with the fire breathing dragon neon sign on the Northern end of the concourse? It was installed in the 1930's and was replaced prior to 1981 by an Anchor Cordial neon sign.

The Adelaide Railway Station built in 1926, and opened in 1928 was designed by Herbert Louis Jackman who was also responsible for many other of Adelaide's prominent buildings, for example; Tattersall's Hotel, (now known as "The Little Pub") Hindley Street (1900), Bowman's Building King William Street (1902), Charles Moore's Department Store, Victoria Square (1913) and Hooper's Furnishing Arcade, Hindley Street (1927 - 1930). Not bad for a country lad from Kapunda!

The Concourse was alive with kiosks that sold everything from newspapers and fresh fruit to hot chocolate and the latest popular novels.

You could get a haircut, take a hot shower, have a three-course meal in the Overland Dining Hall, complete with their own distinctive railway crockery and cutlery, (now the Guardsman), visit the beauty parlour, enjoy a port in the wine saloon, send a telegram or have your baby weighed by a Registered Nurse.



[Quenton]