

Gawler & Districts

www.gawler4wd.com.au

4WD Club Newsletter

April 2024



Founded in 2002



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



Whyalla Steel Works - Spot to visit next time we are in the area

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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. 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 \$65 per vehicle/family, plus \$10 joining/late 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
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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

	2024											
Meeting	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Ju	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
General		9	1	12	10	14	12	9	13	11	8	13
Committee				3	1	5	3		4	2		4
	31	21					31			30		

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

Public Holiday Dates for 2024

ANZAC Day Thursday 25 April: King's Birthday Monday 10 June: Labour Day Monday 7 October:
Christmas Day Wednesday 25 December, Boxing Day/Proclamation Day Thursday 26 December:

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 at this month's meeting is Steve Ahrens from Lyndoch Motors with the New Generation Triton Ute. The new model will be displayed in the carpark ready for 7.30pm.

Great to see so many trip reports and articles in this month's newsletter. Thanks to all who contributed.

An "Outback Morning Tea" as a social gathering and RFDS fundraiser has been pencilled in for Saturday morning 6th July, 2024 as a interclub activity with the Barossa 4WD Club. We will enjoy BYO tea, coffee and yummy morning tea to share (home baked preferred!) at the historic 1898 Old Cromer School (near Mt Pleasant) with its restored facilities and warming open fire. PLEASE MARK YOUR DIARIES.

Our Christmas week-end will be held on Friday 29th November, Saturday 30th November and Sunday 1st December, 2024 at Victor Harbor. We are staying at Adare Camp and Caravan Park. Have you bank transferred your deposit to secure your site yet? See details in this Newsletter.

Quenton]

Editors Report:

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

First of all, some sad news. On behalf of the Club, may we extend our deepest condolences to Kerry and Brent on the passing of Kerry's dearly loved father and to Gary and Julie on the passing of Gary's beloved sister. We hope that you find peace and solace in the memories you hold dear and that they sustain you and comfort you through this very sad time.

As you can see this is quite a busy Newsletter and I hope you find the trip reports interesting as well as the other articles. I did have some other content to include but will leave that for another time. A big "thank you" to our contributors for this month.

Details of the Christmas Party at Victor Harbor are attached. Please note when payment is due.

We have had to change the dates of the Farina trip and I hope this doesn't prove to be a problem as we've had to bring it forward a few days due to other commitments on our behalf. The new dates are included in the Newsletter under "Coming Events." We've also included more detail on the "Christmas in July" trip to Wilmington and this is also under "Coming Events."

Think that's it from me for this month - have a great month and I'll catch you in May.

[Sandra]



COMING EVENTS

22-30 April	Western Wanderer
Trip Details:	Far West coast of WA
Where:	Visiting beaches and places of interest between Streaky Bay and Fowlers Bay
Cost:	Usual Caravan Park fees - 1 night at Streaky Bay Islands, 1 night at Smoky Bay, 1 or 2 nights at Penong. 1 night at Fowlers Bay if participants wish to tow vans that far. Self-cater for all meals. Opportunity for evening meal at Penong pub.
Meet:	To be decided.
When:	22 April. Approximately 5-7 days Itinerary and duration are flexible. Can be tailored to suit those going.
Trip Leader:	Tas, 0458 183 818
More Info	Visiting Perlubie, Haslam, Point Brown, Laura Bay, Ceduna, Denial Bay, Lake McDonnell, Cactus Beach, Point Sinclair, Windmill Display, Fowlers Bay, Point Fowler (if possible), Mystery Site, Old Yalata Station, Coorabie, Wandilla Beach, Mexican Hat former OTC Satellite Earth Station, Pildappa Rock. Trip out to Point Fowler is over sand dunes and will be subject to sand and weather conditions. Bring recovery tracks and tyre pump, if you have them. Suitable for caravans.

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

**17 June- 27 June
2024**

******FARINA – please note change of date******

Trip Details: Farina, SA Outback

Where: The Farina Bakery

Cost: Your cost at caravan parks or for accommodation and any lunches or dinners factored into the trip otherwise you need to be self sufficient.

Meet: TBA

When: 21 June to 2 July 2024 (weather dependent)
We have tried to avoid school holidays both interstate and SA's

Trip Leader: Peter Harper 0410 526 317

More Info The proposed route to Farina is via Wilmington, Port Augusta, Woomera, Roxby Downs with a side trip to the opal town of Andamooka, Maree, Farina, back via Leigh Creek, Hawker, Wilmington and Gawler.
The trip will take approx. 8-10 days depending on where and how long we stop.
We are trying to find places that offer accommodation for those people who wish to come but don't have a caravan or camper trailer. More details to follow.
If you are thinking of joining us, please add your name to the trip sheet so that we can gauge interest and plan accordingly.
Thank you.



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

See Quenton at the General Meeting



**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

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 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

MORE NOTES ON THE PROPOSED "CHRISTMAS IN JULY" WEEKEND AT WILMINGTON 2024

This is just a broad outline of what to expect from the weekend.

Stoney Creek Caravan Park is a bush style caravan park with large trees just outside Wilmington. It does have bush styled showers and flushing toilets. It also has cabins to rent and full details re costs are listed in the Newsletter and if you need any more information, please use the email address as shown.

Extra costs will include: pizzas on Friday night should you wish to partake, some costs associated with the Christmas dinner for meats which we will purchase and take with us, dinner at the Wilmington pub on Sunday night should you wish to stay, oh and Kris Kringle cost around \$10 or, of course, you can re-gift something you might already have. It's a fun thing not serious.

It is intended to cook the meal on the camp fire and wood can be purchased from the Caravan Park or you can bring your own. **We will need some extra camp ovens to cook the meal so if you have one, please bring it along. It's better to have too many than not enough.** "Bring your own veggies" are cooked in foil parcels in the campfire. There will be dessert too but more details will be available closer to the date. Please advise if you are gluten free or if you have any other dietary requirements.

You will also need to bring tables and chairs and Christmas decorations - as many or as few as you like - to make it look "Christmassy!!" There are some tables there but they are made of metal and have bench seats attached - I can tell you in July they are a bit cold to sit on but, hey, it's up to you. Maybe a cushion or two will make them more comfortable.

There is a large enclosed camp kitchen which does have a wood heater and it's usually lit so you don't have to sit outside in the cold. They also have some games which can be used or you can bring your own.

As mentioned, more details will follow closer to the date. Thank you.

6 - 8 September 2024	Quandong Station
Trip Details:	Staying at Burra Caravan Park. Visiting Quandong Station - East of Burra
Where:	Burra , South Australia
Cost:	Friday - Sir Hubert Wilkins Talk - Donation Friday night - Burra Film Group - \$15 each membership (entitles 3 x films in 12 months) Saturday - Quandong Station - Talk, Morning Tea, Tour \$30/head. Sunday - Visiting the restored Farrell Flat Railway Station
Meet:	Burra Caravan Park. Friday 6 September, 2024
When:	Friday 6th, Saturday 7th & Sunday 8th September, 2024
Trip Leader:	Quenton Earl 0407 604 601
More Info	Friday 2.00pm - Burra Town Hall. Kymm will talk to us about his life living along the Barrier Highway (including ex Publican of the Mount Bryan Hotel) and his collection of Sir Hubert Wilkins memorabilia. Friday night - Burra Town Hall - Burra Film Group - showing of classic 1953 movie "Shane". Saturday - Leave 8.00am - drive 1 3/4 hours, cross 23 stock grids to Quandong Station for 10.00am Morning Tea, Talk and Tour. Pack picnic lunch, water, hat, sturdy walking shoes/boots, etc. Suitable for AWD and 4WD. A great opportunity to learn the history and up-to-date running of an Outback Station with owner Mary Lou and Joe. Sunday - 10.00am Visit the restored Farrell Flat Railway Station with owner Dr Paul.
	www.paxtonsquareprecinct.com.au/burra-caravan-park/
	Caravan Park - Ph 0488 513 101 - Please book yourself ASAP direct (ask to be near the Earl caravan; near Camp Kitchen) \$30/ night (powered site)
	https://burramotorinn.com.au/
	Burra Motor Inn(Just over the creek from Caravan Park) Fri night \$128 Sat night \$145(King Bed, 2 Ad)

15 October 2024 Tasting Campbelltown

Trip Details:	Food tasting – guided tour of Campbelltown food industries
Where:	Campbelltown
Cost:	\$70 pp
Meet:	Adelaide railway station
When:	15 October 2024
Trip Leader:	Pauline, 0422 386 202
More Info	Bus pickup and return to Adelaide railway station

GUEST SPEAKERS

	<i>These guest speakers have kindly agreed to talk with us at the following general meetings:</i>	
	April	Steve Ahrens – New generation Triton
	May 2024	Christian Kenzel - Heritage Stonemason
	June 2024	"Bake-off" - First prize \$25 Cafe voucher
	July	"Surprise" (we have a plan, but can't confirm until nearer the time....)
	August	Cameron - Adelaide Hills 4WD Park
	September	Kap Industries – Custom Fire Ext vehicle brackets

PAYING YOUR SUBS BY EFT

Did you know that you can pay your membership subscriptions of \$65 by EFT?

The club bank details are:

Account Name: Gawler & Districts 4WD Club

BSB: 105-109

Acc no 018030740

Ref: Surname + 2024

If you do pay by EFT, please email a receipt Treasurer Wayne,
treasurer@gawler4wd.com.au, so he can update the club records.

**29/30 November
& 1 December
2024**

Christmas Party – Victor Harbor

Trip Details:	Staying at Adare Camp and Caravan Park – 2 nights
Where:	20 Wattle Drive, Victor Harbor
Cost:	<p>Powered site \$50/night for 2 people + \$15 /each extra over 5 y/o</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Friday night dinner – your cost food and drink - Walking tour – Victor Harbor, \$5/head - Cockle Train – return Adult \$38/head, Seniors \$34/head, Child \$19/head - Goolwa Museum - \$3.50 Adult, \$1.00 Child - Sat & Sun Café – your cost (prices correct as at 4.4.24)
Meet:	At Adar Camp and Caravan Park from 3.00 pm Friday 29 November 2024
When:	Friday 29, Saturday 30 November & Sunday 1 December 2024
Trip Leaders:	Jo and Julie
More Info	<p>Arrive anytime after 3,00pm Friday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Friday 6.30pm Whalers Seaside Dinining, 121 Franklin Parade, Encounter Bay - Saturday 8.30am Guided Walk – Meet at start of Causeway (near horse tram office) - Saturday 10.00am Coffee at Ninos, Victor Harbor - Saturday 11.00am Cock;e Train leaves Victor Harbor Station, Pack picnic lunch - Free time for lunch and discovering Goolwa, Visiting Goolwa Museum - Saturday 2.45pm Leave Goolway, arriving Victor Hoarbor Station 3.15pm - Saturday Happy Hour & BBQ dinner at Adare Camp Kitchen - Meat and dessert supplied by Club. Please bring a salad to share. - BYO drinks, chair, plates, cutlery etc - Sunday 10.00am Swagman Country Dining – morning trea, coffee and wattle seed scones, cakes, sundaes. - Softfoot Farm, 594 Sawpit Road, Hindmarsh Valley, leave Adare by lunch time. <p><u>Note: to book your caravan/camping site, you must pay \$50,00 deposit ASAP via EFT (balance before 30 September 2024)</u></p> <p>Pay Gawler 4WD Club, BSB 105 109, Account 018 030 740 Reference – Deo/your name</p>

HISTORY MONTH FESTIVAL MAY 2024

Guided Tour of Paringa Hall

Saturday 25th May, 2024. Tour 10.30am - 12 noon. Cost \$20 each. Book online.

The city mansion for wealthy South Australian pastoralist James Cudmore. Built near Glenelg in Adelaide in 1882.

James Cudmore- Paringa Hall (Sacred Heart College.) Unlike many other great pastoralists Daniel and James Cudmore came from an Irish background. They arrived in SA in 1837 and soon had the leasehold of an extensive station near Jamestown called Yongala (1847). James soon added a huge station of the River Murray which he called Paringa, hence the township of Paringa outside of Renmark and Paringa Hall at Somerton. Daniel acquired other stations near Wilmington, and a number of large properties in Queensland for sugar growing. He used Kanaka indentured labourers from the New Hebrides for this. Daniel also ran Avoca station near Wentworth on the Darling River. He lived at Claremont Estate next to Peter Waite at Urrbrae. When Daniel died in 1891 he left his various properties to his sons. James kept Paringa station and some Queensland properties. Daniel junior inherited other SA properties and built a lavish summer home at Victor Harbor called Adare which is now owned by the Uniting Church of Australia. James built a huge mansion for his family at Somerton which he called Paringa Hall. He moved into the new house in 1882. But his fortunes changed. In 1886 he went into insolvency, but Paringa Hall survived as it had been transferred into his wife's name and he had income from his interstate properties not covered by SA insolvency laws. He lived on at Paringa Hall until he died in 1912 when a life insurance policy enabled his estate to pay off his debts. In his will he also provided for a spinster at Nailsworth who had born him two illegitimate children! He was survived by 11 children from his marriage! Edmund Wright designed Paringa Hall for the Cudmores. The entrance hall is the grandest in SA. James Cudmore's wife died in 1912 also and the house was sold to the Marist Brothers in 1914 as headquarters of their Sacred Heart College which had been established in 1897 at Port Adelaide.

Paringa Hall with its 20 or so rooms are quite lavish. The stairwell of mahogany has lizards carved into the column tops and magnificent stained glass windows let in the light from the east. The hall has mosaic tiles on the floor and bronze classical female figures holding up the stair lights. The ballroom is known for its exquisite ceiling, complete with portraits of mediaeval musical instruments. Beautiful black marble mantles adorn the many fireplaces. The clock in the stables kept correct time for SA for many years.

The Sacred Heart chapel was opened in 1924 as a memorial chapel for the old collegian soldiers who lost their lives during World War One. It is a grand chapel adding to the ambiance of the Paringa Hall precinct. Information from Flickr - Credit - denisbin

<https://festival.history.sa.gov.au/events/guided-tour-of-paringa-hall/>



BIRTHDAY WISHES

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

◆◆ April ◆◆
Peter H
Wayne
Bob M



RAFFLE ROSTER

We ask if all members could kindly donate an item for a raffle prize each month to approx value of \$15. . Without these the raffles would have to cease. 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.

Please check below to see if your name is on the roster

April	May	June
Tas	Keith and Di	Pete and Jo
Robert and Pauline	Brenton and Keryn	Stephen and Lisa

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]

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

THE BIG "BAKE OFF" – JUNE 2024

You are all invited to submit your favourite home-made goodies for our "Bake Off" at our June 2024 meeting:



Can be sweet or savoury, Breads, scones, cakes, biscuits, slices, sausage rolls, pasties, desserts.etc.

After judging by our very experienced judges, all goodies will be shared over a selection of teas and coffee for our supper.

A \$25.00 Cafe voucher as First prize.

The Rules

Must be home-baked - no store bought goods, or packet cakes etc.

Please show your goods off on your best 'fancy' plate.

Criteria will mainly be taste, but presentation is important too.

Judges decision will be final! We don't want fights or tears!

Judges will be Pete (VP) and Q (Pres) - (We have been training our whole life for this!)

[Quenton]

TRIP REPORTS

Spear Creek- 13 -18 March 2024

TRIP PARTICIPANTS

- Bob and Pauline
- Peter and Sandra
- Peter and Jo
- Roy and Bronwyn
- Gary and Julie
- Keith and Di
- Steve and Lisa

Wednesday 13 March

As Steve and I had been in Queensland to

finalise a caravan layout we were to meet up with everyone at Spear Creek. We

arrived at around 10 am as we stayed at Peterborough the previous night. Peter and Sandra were already there. When we arrived we were given a choice as we couldn't all be together so went up to the Balaclava camping area which was a little more roomy and Peter had already set up camp. Power was better down below for those with air conditioning.

Peter and Sandra had gone to Whyalla for the day and did a tour of the steelworks. We set up camp and relaxed. Not long afterwards Gary and Julie arrived and they set up down below where the other caravans were. At about 1.30pm everyone else arrived and Keith and Di set up near us. Everyone else set up below as there was only one more camping spot where we were.

We enjoyed happy hour before some tea then headed off to watch the sunset, although it was a little overcast.

The 4wd tracks were closed but they did have a sunset tour where they took you on one of their vehicles and provided drinks and food. We had considered this option but a minimum of 3 was required. Gary and ourselves were told it would cost \$44 a head and the others were told \$70 a head so as the information was a bit confused we didn't do it.

Thursday 14 March

An early shower before breakfast then prepared morning tea and lunch for today's outing. Our first stop was Hancock's Lookout. A well maintained 7km gravel road leading to a spectacular view of the Spencer Gulf, Mount Laura and Dutchmen's Stern range. Large sugar gums and drooping she oaks provided some shade. Then it was on to Chinaman's Creek for morning tea. There were a few campers there.

Afterwards we travelled on to Port Augusta for lunch and for those that needed it, to re fuel. The Arid Gardens and Matthew Flinders lookout were next on the list.



Very warm on Monday -
Pete and Sandra installed a mist spray cooler



The Arid Gardens and Matthew Flinders

Back to camp for our communal dinner. Everyone provide something to share. We dined on roast lamb, bubble and squeak, roast chicken, satay chicken and fried rice, chicken balti and naan bread, tuna pasta salad, coleslaw and garlic bread - apologies if I have forgotten anything. This was followed by desserts of apple crumble by Pauline and sponge cake by Jo. Thanks to everyone, dinner was delicious - good food, great company and conversation made for a great night.

Friday 15 March

It came in very windy overnight and we had to get up at about 1.30am and remove a broken pole from the awning. Many got up and had to put their awnings away. It was windy all night with a little sprinkle of rain.

When we got up we prepared for another day out and at 9am headed off to Quorn.

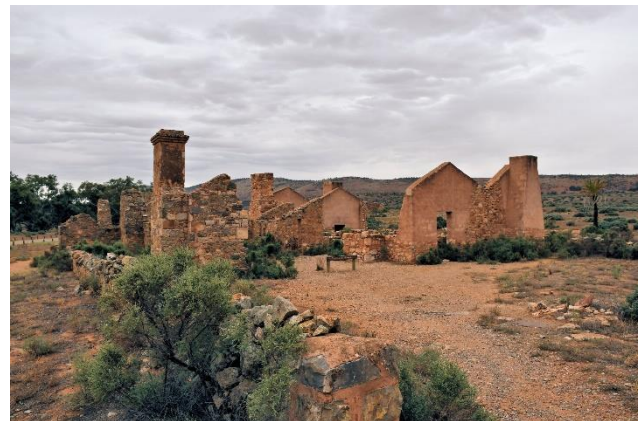


Our first stop was Proby's grave. Bob had given us an information sheet on Hugh Proby who had taken up the lease at Kanyaka and Coonatto but died a year later when he drowned in the flooded Willochra Creek searching for cattle frightened by a storm. He was only 24 years old when he died. . From there it was onto the Buckaringa Lookout for morning tea.

Our next stop was Simmonston ruins which was abandoned before its completion in the early 1880's.

It was intended to be a new railway town but it ended up being called Gordon instead. It is now known "as the town that was."

Onto Kanyaka ruins which was once one of the greatest pastoral runs in the southern Flinders Ranges. They are very impressive ruins and were in a good condition compared to many. The stone shearing shed was just as impressive. I was surprised that the stable and cart house were so far apart. You could spend hours exploring the ruins.



Onto Hawker for lunch before stopping at Wilson ruins after which we headed back to camp only stopping at Quorn for Keith to



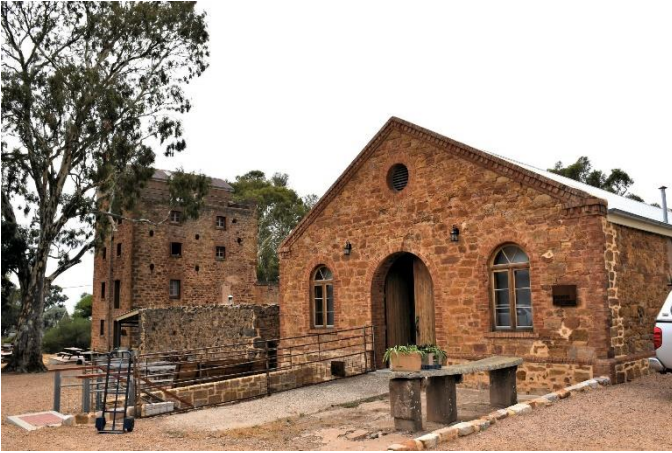
refuel. A little relaxation before tea which included some nibbles before a BBQ tea. Steve and I bought some lamb steaks from the shop at Spear Creek. Pauline made a lovely potato bake and some garlic bread. There were also some roasted veggies and some potato salad.

Saturday 16 March

Peter and Sandra headed home this morning as they had some previous commitments. This morning we headed off

at 10 am. First stop Spring Creek mine, a lovely drive through the rolling hills with some

great views. Spring Creek mine was an old copper mine in Mount Remarkable and there are some old ruins that are now used by SA Water. Onto Melrose - we were unable to visit the old police station as there was to be a wedding there this evening.



Then it was onto Jacka Brothers Brewery where some of us tried the local drinks or had a coffee. Once a flour mill it was transformed into a brewery in 1877 and closed in 1934. It was purchased in 2016 and four a half years later reopened. It also caters for weddings and other functions. We had lunch at Melrose before heading to Port Germain via the Bridle Track, a great scenic 4wd track. Great views of Spencer Gulf and the surrounding country side. A quick stop in

Port Germain before heading back to camp.

A few of us played a game, it was really fun. It was a drawing game and the end results were not how they started out. After tea we went back to Bob and Pauline's caravan for a while.

Sunday 17 March

There was no normal Sunday sleep in this morning we had a pancake breakfast for all this morning in the camp kitchen. Fresh pancakes with bacon, blueberries, maple syrup, limes, sugar, honey, pear and wattle seed jam and cream were toppings of choice. Then it was a day of relaxation. A game of monopoly in the afternoon happy hour which extended into the evening

Monday 18 March

Time to pack up and head home. Keith and Di were the first to head off, followed by Gary and Julie.

Once Bob had his tyres pumped up we headed off with them and Peter and Jo. leaving Roy and Bronwyn to finish up their packing. Stopped at Stone Hut for morning tea, then home via Blyth and Mallala to avoid Clare.

We would like to thank Bob and Pauline once again for a great weekend and everyone else for their great company. We look forward to our next catch up.

[Lisa and Steve]

Ngarkat Working Bee – 23/24 March 2024

We stayed at the Pinnaroo RV Park on Thursday night and went to the hotel for tea. Got cold overnight.

Friday 22 March

It was cool when we got up. Packed up and headed off. Arrived at Pine Hut Soak about 9am. As we were the first ones to arrive, we picked a nice spot. Others started arriving after lunch. Peter arrived around 4.00pm and gave us our paperwork to fill out. Martin and Brett arrived about 8pm. It was entertaining watching them set up their tents and stretcher (sorry guys!!).

Saturday 23 March

Rebecca and Ryan arrived at 8am and we all congregated together to get our assignments for the day. Steve and I together, with Travene and his son Kian joined us to do some sign painting, move some signs and some post painting at Hensleys Trig and some revegetation signs, as well as some minor fence repairs using poly pipe along the Border Track. We had to wait at a gate for Rebecca to open it so we could go onto Pertendi Hut to paint the toilet roll holder. Good excuse for a rest! We were blessed with good weather. Track very soft in some places, and took a couple of goes to get over some of the dunes. Martin, Brett, Rebecca, Ryan and Peter built a retaining wall and a seat at Hensleys Trig.

Back to camp via the Centre Track to paint a toilet roll holder which Travene and Kian did. It was a cool evening so had a little port to warm us up.

Sunday 24 March

After bacon and eggs for breakfast some people headed home. Not all tasks had been completed so the rest headed off to complete them. Peter had to retrieve a trailer which had been left by the group on the Border Track as it was too heavy for them to get over a dune before Hensleys Trig, Greg and Larry supported him. We went with Russell and Toni and another couple from the Summit 4wd Club and cleared some vegetation along the Border Track. We had lunch at gate and then headed back to camp. Packed up and headed to Pinnaroo for the night staying at the caravan park, a very nice park!



[Lisa & Steve]

The Easter Weekend Mallee Tracks Trip Report – 29 March To 1 April 2024

Participants: Bob and Pauline (Leaders)
 Jo and Pete, grandchildren Charlotte and Lily
 Gary and Julie
 Sandra and Pete

Good Friday 29 March

We left home to meet up with Bob and Pauline at Drakes, Gawler at 9.00am. There was no sign of Bob and Pauline so maybe we've got the wrong Drakes! Sure enough, that was the case and a quick phone call to Bob clarified the situation - the meeting place was Drakes on Calton Road. Off we went and got to the meeting place just as Bob and Pauline were pulling up, great timing so we kept going. Next rendezvous was with Pete and Jo at Williamstown, no problems there and Pete and Jo tagged on the back and became "Charlie" for the journey.

We drove through Palmer and Murray Bridge and decided to stop for morning tea at the bakery in Tailem Bend which we did at around 10.30 am. It was a very busy place as, being Good Friday, not many cafes were open but we were able to secure tables. We met Charlotte and Lily here and they had the biggest doughnuts I think we've ever seen and it didn't take long for the girls to polish them off.

On the road again and the next stop will be the caravan park at Lameroo where we will meet up with Gary and Julie who had travelled down the day before. The Lameroo Caravan Park is not very big but was filling up fast. Fortunately our four vans were in close proximity to each other which was great especially as we ended up chasing the shade as the days became very hot during the weekend.

Happy hour was followed that evening with a shared meal (which was a surprise to us as we hadn't been part of the planning conversation in Spear Creek as we had already left) but it worked out well and there was plenty for everyone. More chat followed putting the world to rights before retiring to bed as we had an early start the next day.

Easter Saturday 30 March

We had an early 8.30 am start as the forecast for the day was 35C and headed off on the bitumen then turned left down a dirt road. We stopped at Baan Hill to let the tyres down then headed into the Ngarkat Conservation Park where we turned right onto the Box Flat track - a narrow, well rutted and sandy track.

We stopped at Box Flat Soak campground for morning tea. Bob

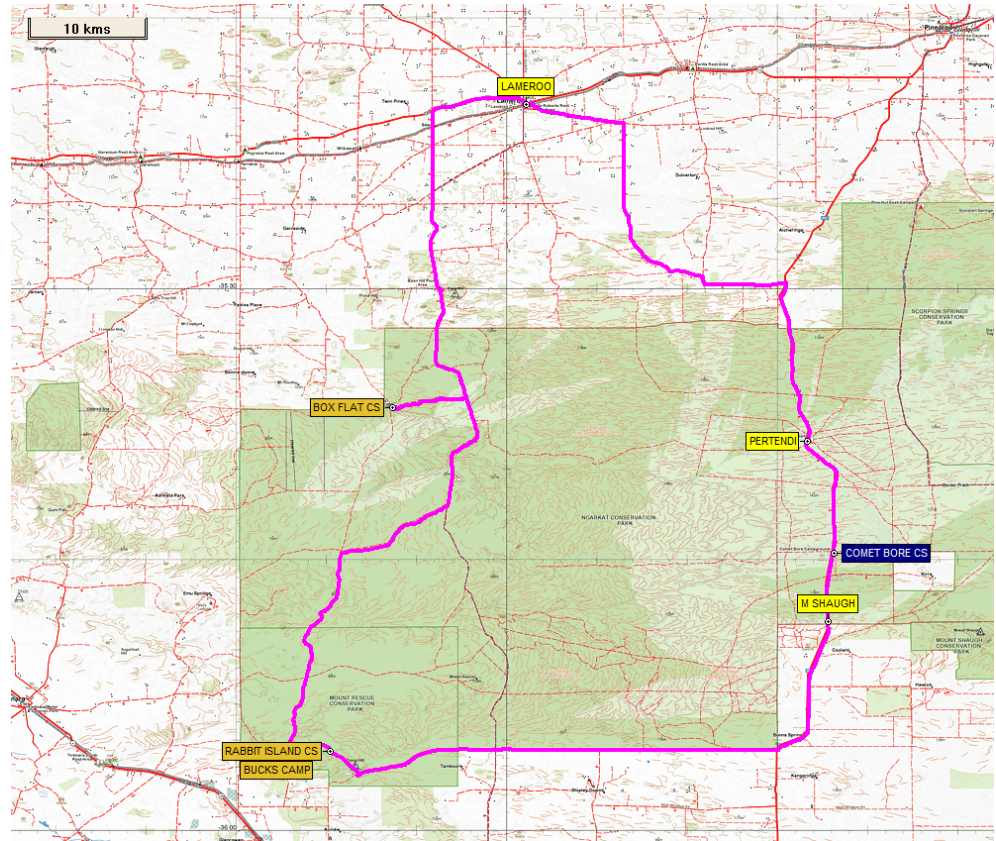
had been down this track many moons ago and together with Pauline were trying to remember where some ruins were located. Which track, what direction? They made a decision so we hopped back into our vehicles and headed, hopefully, to the ruins. Stopped at a dead end with a sign pointing to the Box Track Ruins 600m! Well, it turned out the ruins weren't that far away and it took no time at all to explore.

Off again and went back the way we came in then turned left onto Buck's Camp track. There were changes to the vegetation on the different tracks - some was low growing, others interspersed with trees.

Found Emu Springs but there was no water and the track was rockier than the others and crossed Mt Rescue Track heading towards Buck's Camp ruins which was a lunch stop.

After lunch we returned to the track and headed towards the main road. We came to Rabbit Island Soak campground after which we found a turn off for the Gosse Hill Lookout which required a walk to the top- a

no goer today as it's too hot! Saw emus and kangaroos that mostly seemed a bit thin on the ground - I guess they were also seeking shelter from the heat.





Huge Beehive on Box Flat Homestead Wall

Took a left turn at the Gosse Hill track and followed the fence line a lot of the way back to the main road.

At approximately 2.50 pm we reached the main road - I was feeling thankful as a headache was starting to develop due to all the rocking, rolling and jiggling about on the tracks. We all stopped to pump up the tyres as we were heading back on the bitumen.

We parted company with Bob as he needed to head to Pinaroo for fuel so we all carried on and arrived back at the caravan park at 4 pm. It had been a long day!

No cooking tonight as Bob had booked us into the Lameroo Community Hotel for dinner at 6 pm. Great to sit in relatively cool comfort after the heat of the day. As is usual with our club when we eat out, it was Bob and Pauline's turn to have to wait for their meal to be delivered to the table. Charlotte and Lily (and

Jo) had the biggest ice cream desserts I've ever seen but it didn't take them long to finish them (Jo shared hers with Pete.)

Back to the campsite where we played a card game - Quiddler - with Charlotte and Lily and when they went to bed we enjoyed a game of 5 Crowns with Pauline, Jo and Pete. Gary took himself off to bed.



Box Flat Track

Easter Sunday 31 March

A bit later start today, 9.30am. We were lucky as Easter Bunny had visited us and everyone had been left some chocolate goodies. Yum! I think both Charlotte and Lily had consumed some of their treats before breakfast.

We packed morning tea and lunch, not such a long day today as we were going to visit some of the places in the Mallee region and stay mainly on the bitumen. We started off at the ruins of Gurrui - not much to see here except for some silos, a railway line, part of a platform for loading goods and another building which could have been an office.

Passed through Billiatt Wilderness Protection area - the track turnoff was overgrown with quite thick vegetation on both sides of the road, it appeared to be hardly used. (This particular track wasn't open to the public as it was a management track only.)

Allawoona was our morning tea stop. It's only a small place but something appeared to be going on in the town as a lot of the townspeople were out and about gathering near the silos. Pete said there were "muscle cars" to see, not that I saw any. We found a shady, small shed

located in a children's playground to have morning tea and out came an assortment of goodies - bunny biscuits, apricot balls and chocolate slice together with my crumbly biscuits (must have been dropped at some point.) By the time we finished morning tea, the one car that was left as it appeared to have a problem, had gone so the young men obviously fixed whatever it was.

On the road again heading towards Paruna which is a small town with a showground, bowling green and a Memorial Park. Amazingly the general store was open. Then right onto Conservation Road, a wide, dirt track that ran alongside a Pistachio farm with newly planted trees as well as mature ones. At Peebinga we turned right onto Conservation Track where there was a "Closed Sign" that stopped us in our tracks. It stated that the park was closed due to "pest animal control between the dates 2 March to 26 March." Phew, we were now outside those dates so decided to proceed along the track. At Karte we stopped for lunch but there was not much shade to be had and the day was very hot. Back into the vehicles and on our way again down Karte Road track.

Turned right onto Claypan East Road and came upon a 5-ways corner. Took the Claypan West track then left at a "Give Way" sign and drove onto the small town of Parilla where there is a mural to see on the side of a building.

We arrived back at the caravan park around 3 pm. It was very hot - the hottest day so far with hardly any breeze so, again, we chased the shade in an attempt to keep cool. Enjoyed happy hour again with plenty of cool drinks, then cooked tea. Afterwards enjoyed more camaraderie as the sun went down and the air started to cool a bit.

Easter Monday.1 April

Today most of us were packing up to head home leaving Gary and Julie to spend another night at the caravan park and avoid the Easter Monday rush.

Thank you to Bob and Pauline for organising the trip and to everyone else for a most enjoyable weekend.

[Sandra & Pete]

An interesting PS to the trip: The Lameroo silos are to be painted and painting was to commence on 4 April. Camped behind us at the Lameroo Caravan Park was the painter who was going to do this work. You look at the silos and wonder how he was going to do that. Would be an interesting spectacle to watch.

There is some detail on Facebook.

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)

TOWNS OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Due to other content in this month's Newsletter, Quenton has been given a month off.



Look Who Came for Supper at Spear Creek With Pete and Sandra

WHERE AM I



Answer on Page 26

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MEMBERS NOTICE BOARD



*****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 a **Prize** for the lucky participant
so please keep-on writing!!!

ANSWER TO "WHERE AM I"

John Ridley bust, Roseworthy Agricultural College. Dedicated in March, 1913.

John Ridley was born on 26th May 1806 at Durham, England. In 1839 Ridley emigrated with his family to South Australia. He settled in Hindmarsh and within a few months had built the colony's first flour mill, using a steam engine he had brought with him from England.

Ridley was an avid reader and collector of books and he maintained at the mill a 300-volume library which he placed at the disposal of the public, free of charge. He was also a compulsive inventor and became involved in assisting the agricultural, horticultural and mining industries with various mechanical aids.

It was his timely invention of the world's first successful mobile grain-harvesting machine that earned him the everlasting respect and gratitude of his fellow colonists. In August 1843 South Australia was faced with an emergency. A bumper crop was assured in the coming wheat harvest but the workforce was totally inadequate to handle it with sickle and scythe. It seemed inevitable that there would be enormous waste at a time when the economy was in dire distress. It was then that Ridley stepped in and devised his ingenious harvester, which both reaped and thrashed the grain. But he immediately went one step further. On the day following the successful trial of his machine, he lodged a caveat specifically phrased to allow his design to be copied but not patented. He did not take out a patent himself because he knew that he alone could not build sufficient machines to meet the urgent needs of the wheat growers. Both James Martin & Co and May Bros built harvesters in Gawler of Ridley's design.

The invention of the Ridley stripper had an enormous impact on the lives and morale of the pioneers. It revolutionized the wheat industry and triggered the rapid expansion of other industries, particularly flour milling and the manufacture of farm machinery." This in turn meant huge increases in the colony's export marketing ventures, giving the struggling economy an enormous boost. By the mid-1850s South Australia had become known as the granary of Australia. It was the first place in the world to harvest grain directly from a standing crop - a giant step forward.

In 1861 he was presented with a magnificent silver candelabrum, topped with a small golden replica of the stripper. It was made entirely from South Australian materials by a South Australian silversmith and paid for by public subscription. It is now on display in Urrbrae House at the Waite Institute.

John Ridley died in London on 25th November 1887. His name is honoured by the Ridley Scholarship at the Roseworthy Agricultural College and the Ridley Gates at the Wayville Showgrounds, as well as in two streets, a reserve, a suburb and an electoral district, and the Ridley Arms Hotel (1874), now known as Wasleys Grainger Hotel.

[Quenton]

ANOTHER OF TAS'S BEDTIME STORIES

THE PANEL

This happened on KI, back when the Earth was flat and sharks were vegetarians.

As a teenager I had purchased an old FJ Holden panel van for the princely sum of \$50. It had been a bread van in its early days. The motor was that clapped and worn out that incontinence pads had been fitted. Wherever it was parked overnight Santos would mark the spot as the site of a future oil well. During its lifetime it had been adorned with some artistic embellishments. These included a Bacardi bat symbol, the words "Wot me worry!" on the tailgate and "Don't laugh Sir your daughter may be inside" emblazoned down one side. What it lacked in beauty it made up for in character.

My mate Robbo and his mechanic Dad had substantially customised a FJ Holden sedan. The back bumper bar had been removed and the bodywork rolled under, the grill and front end modified and a floor-mounted straight shift gear stick fitted. The motor had also been tweaked and hotted up. It was a work of art and a joy to behold. It covered a lot of kilometres before the body work and suspension eventually succumbed to rust and the rigours of KI's notorious corrugations.

Robbo then acquired "the panel" and transplanted the motor, transmission and floor shift from his previous pride and joy and gave it a new lease of life.

Brownlow beach is situated on the outskirts of Kingscote. It is one of those typical SA Gulf flat and shallow beaches, where, if you decide to walk out to the water when the tide is out, you will probably have a couple of birthdays on the way. One Saturday night we were sedately cruising along the shoreline of Brownlow beach heading for the mouth of the mighty Cygnet River when we came across Farmer Brown's stock fence. This extended quite a long distance from the shore and the tide was way out.

Robbo was of the opinion that we could drive around it. I, being more cautious, was of the opinion we would get bogged and should backtrack. Our judgment was probably significantly enhanced by the liquid, which may have contained traces of barley and yeast, we had consumed earlier. In any case it was decided we were going around it, as the panel could go anywhere. We reversed back a way and Robbo gave it some curry. A quick turn to the left and we were charging across the flats to the end of the fence. We had nearly got to the end of the fence and FLOP! - Tas 1 Robbo O. Flat to the floorboards in blue/grey glutinous mud. It did not take long to work out the panel wasn't going anywhere under its own steam.

So, we walked and ran the few kilometres back to Kingscote and procured our parents' cars, some ropes and a couple of extra pairs of hands and returned to the scene of the crime. Despite our best efforts all our attempts proved fruitless. In the wee small hours with the tide now coming in and the leading edge past the panel, we abandoned the panel to its fate and wended our way home to get some sleep.

By the time I got to Robbo's place later in the day, Robbo and his Dad, with the help of Farmer Brown and his tractor, had extricated the panel. When they got to the beach, the tide had ebbed and the panel was standing alone on the flats. There was seaweed hanging off the steering wheel and in the back of the van along with a small fish. They were now well under way with getting it mobile again.

Electrolysis had permanently taken care of the starter motor and battery. When they got it home and removed the sump plug, only water came out as the oil had all flowed out of the breather tube. The motor, transmission and differential were flushed out with kerosene and all had their fluids replaced. The starter motor and battery were replaced and the sodden seats were removed.

The panel was towed out of its watery grave at 9.00am on Sunday morning. At 2.30 that afternoon we went surfing in it, perched on a couple of wooden crates.

I should clarify that we drove to the surf beach in the panel, parked, got out and then went surfing as the panel had already had enough of the sea for one day and its surfing prowess was best left untried.

Needless to say, the panel did not last a long time after its immersion, but that didn't matter as shortly after the event we both emigrated to Australia, with Robbo going into Nashos and me heading off to Port Lincoln.

[Tas]
