

Gawler & Districts

www.gawler4wd.com.au

4WD Club Newsletter

October 2024



Founded in 2002



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



Classic Vehicles Spotted in Auburn

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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											
<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Jan</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		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

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 October meeting Keryn will talk to us and show some photos from her Uluru photography trip including the rare chance to see 'rain on the rock'. I hope you can join us - sure to be very interesting! Tell your friends too - everyone will be welcome.

Our weekend Quondong Station trip was excellent! Owners Joe and MaryLou and Manager Andrew and his partner, Sam the Overseer, went above and beyond to host us. The morning tea spread was HUGE and delicious and all home-made. Once we got Andrew talking, he was very interesting and knew his stuff about modern sheep farming practice in the Outback. See this month's Newsletter for the Trip Report and Photo Competition winning photo of the "Midnight Oil" house - reputedly the most photographed house in the state! Thank you Sandra He for judging. What a great photo!!!! HA HA

After having my 'Turbo' fitted, I have been on the sick list with Nurse Practitioner (aka Matron) Earl helping me out. A BIG thank you for Deb helping me with everything. This month's Towns of SA article and Where am I? are from my archives, so I hope you enjoy them.

As you know I am involved with Angel Flight as an 'Earth Angel' (Driver). Angel Flight has just updated their website and I urge you to have a look. Please consider clicking on the 'Donation' page - even \$10 will help keep this great service going for our country and remote cousins. Donations are tax deductible. If you want to know more, please ask me.

Our November meeting will be our usual yearly 'excursion meeting' held at the Elderly Centre large hall. We will enjoy pizza beforehand at Alfresco Pizza E Cucina (opposite Gawler Arms) at 6.00pm and then to the hall for indoor carpet bowls with tuition from Bob & Cindy. Please all join in, it will be a lot of fun! **Please mark your diaries.** [Quenton]

Editors Report:

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

This Newsletter will be sent out early as Pete and I will be entertaining our grandchildren (and their parents) in the Flinders Ranges next week which is when it would normally be sent out.

Only three more trips listed under "Coming Events" for this year then that's it, nothing for next yearYET!!! So please everyone, time to put the thinking caps on and bring forward ideas..... pretty please! The Club belongs to each of you so you are all welcome to contribute towards ideas and not leave it to someone else. Not all trips appeal to everyone and that's just fine - you choose the trips you want to go on but usually all trips whether big or small are supported one way or another. It is very rare for a trip to be cancelled due to lack of interest!! We understand with the cost of living crisis being what it is at the moment, trips that need considerable outlay are probably not viable but weekend or day trips are great "fillers" in between longer trips and will keep us going until these hard times get better. Just pass your ideas onto a committee member - I don't think we've ever knocked a suggestion back yet. Thank you. Just to start the ball rolling, may I propose another trip to Wilmington in July to the Stony Creek Caravan Park to celebrate an out of season winter Christmas?

That's it from me for now. Have a great month and I'll catch you in November. [Sandra]



COMING EVENTS

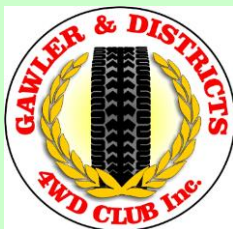
19 October 2024	Breakfast Bush Walk
Trip Details:	Short, easy grade bushwalk in Kaiserstuhl Conservation Park Breakfast at cafe
Where:	Barossa Valley
Cost:	\$5.00 pp if NOT wearing a LOUD shirt Free to Kaiserstuhl Park Your cost at cafe
Meet:	Gawler Visitor Information Centre at 7.45 am For prompt 8.00 am departure
When:	Saturday 19 October 2024
Trip Leader:	Quenton Earl 0407 604 601
More Info	Wear a LOUD shirt. Easy (grade 3 – suitable for most ages and fitness levels) Stringybark Hike 2 km loop bushwalk for approx. 1 hour or Option for a shorter 20 minute walk on easy gravelled path. Wear good walking shoes, take hat, sunscreen, camera, water etc. Drive to Hive Café, Angaston for 10.00 am breakfast/coffee & cake. NOTE: You will be fined if not wearing a LOUD shirt – can be bright colours, Hawaii patterned, plain, funny, JUST VERY LOUD COLOURS

October 2024	Maralinga
Trip Details:	Drive to Maralinga via Gawler Ranges and do 1 day tour of Restricted Area. staying 2 nights and return via Gawler Ranges. Tour booked for 29th October 2024
Where:	Gawler to Gawler Ranges to Maralinga to Gawler (flexible with route home). Stop at Hiltaba or Mt Ives
Cost:	Maralinga - \$265 Per Person
Meet:	Dead Man's Pass ready to depart at 0830
When:	Depart Gawler 23 October. Arrive Maralinga 28 October. Tour on 29 th . Depart on 30 th Flexible trip home
Trip Leader:	Tas 0458 183 818
More Info	Drive in tour at Maralinga includes two nights camping. Strictly no alcohol to be consumed / visible at Maralinga

**Sunday 3
November 2024**

Holden Heroes Day Trip

Trip Details:	Drive to Holden Manufacturing Heritage Centre, Philip Highway, Elizabeth South. Inspect displays with volunteer guides. Drive to Birdwood National Motor Museum to see the current "Holden Heroes" display. BYO picnic lunch. Coffee and Cake at The Fold Café.
Where:	Holden Manufacturing Heritage Centre, Lionsgate Business Park, Philip Highway, Elizabeth South. National Motor Museum, Shannon Street, Birdwood.
Cost:	Holden Manufacturing Heritage Centre \$15 per head, Note: This needs to be pre-paid by October general meeting. National Motor Museum - \$22.50, Concession \$17,00, Child (over 5 yo) \$9,00 NOTE: Museum is cashless The Fold Café – your cost.
Meet:	Dead Man's Pass carpark – leave at 9.00 am
When:	Sunday 3 November 2024
Trip Leader:	Quenton Earl 0407 604 601
More Info	Holden Manufacturing Heritage Centre tour – 10.00 am Drive to Birdwood National Motor Museum, BYO Lunch Coffee and Cake at 2.30 pm at The Fold Café, Birdwood (opposite the National Motor Museum, Birdwood) www.motor.history.sa.gov.au Please Note that there is a trip limit of 12 people. However, there is a waiting list available Please also note: This must be paid before or at the October meeting via bank transfer to Gawler 4WD Club Account ONLY (as we have to pre-pay on their Tax Invoice for our 12 people = \$180) Gawler & Dist 4WD Club Inc BSB 105-109: Account 018 030 740 Reference – your surname/GMH



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

See Quenton at the General Meeting

**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:	Powered site \$50/night for 2 people + \$15 /each extra over 5 y/o <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	Arrive anytime after 3,00pm Friday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Friday 6.30pm Whalers Seaside Dining, 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 Cockle Train leaves Victor Harbor Station, Pack picnic lunch - Free time for lunch and discovering Goolwa, Visiting Goolwa Museum - Saturday 2.45pm Leave Goolwa, arriving Victor Harbor 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 - Kris Kringle – please bring unisex gift to value of \$15 - Sunday 10.00am Swagman Country Dining – morning tea, coffee and wattle seed scones, cakes, sundaes. - Softfoot Farm, 594 Sawpit Road, Hindmarsh Valley, leave Adare by lunch time.

Note: to book your caravan/camping site, you must pay \$50,00 deposit ASAP via EFT (balance before 30 September 2024)

Pay Gawler 4WD Club, BSB 105 109, Account 018 030 740

Reference – Dep/your name

And just to prove how wrong I can be, we have the following pop up from the Committee Meeting:

Sunday 3 May 2025	Mystery History Day Trip
Trip Details:	Mystery Trip inter-club trip with the Barossa 4WD Club
Where:	Barossa/mid North
Cost:	\$TBA
Meet:	\$TBA
When:	Saturday 3 May 2025
Trip Leader:	Quenton Early 0407 604 601 Barossa contact *TBA*
More Info	Touring the Barossa and lower mid North. Historic stops and visits. Prize!! More information closer to the date. Please MARK YOUR DIARIES

18-21 July 2025	Christmas in July
Trip Details:	Christmas in July
Where:	Stony Creek Caravan Park, Wilmington
Cost:	Your cost at caravan park and hotel
Meet:	Make your own way there
When:	Friday 18 Jul 2025 to Monday 21 Jul 2025 Probably Friday to Sunday/Monday
Trip Leader:	Peter Harper & Sandra Harper – 0410 526 317
More Info	Cooking Christmas dinner over the campfire Friday night can be pizza night at the caravan park where the hosts cook pizzas to order. Saturday night – Christmas dinner & Kris Kringle Sunday night – meal at the local hotel Please save the date in your diaries

To be advised 2025	Tarlee to Tibooburra
Trip Details:	Historic “Pub Crawl” from Tarlee to Tibooburra
Where:	Corner Country NSW
Cost:	Your cost at caravan parks and hotels along the way, etc
Meet:	Tarlee – Date and time *TBA*
When:	August/September/October 2025
Trip Leader:	Quenton Earl – 047 604 601 – Option 1: via Silver City Highway Peter Harper – 0410 526 317 –Option 2: via Unsealed route from Broken Hill to Tibooburra
More Info	Travelling Tarlee to Tibooburra visiting Commercial Hotel , Burra Olary Hotel, Mannahill Hotel/Museum, Cockburn Hotel (on SA/NSW border, Silverton Hotel, BHP (Broken Hill Hotel,) Milparinka Hotel (and Milparinka tourist facilities including Courthouse, etc) and Tibooburra Hotel. Suitable for all caravans, off road vans/campers, tents, swags. Option 1 suitable for AWD. More information closer to the date. Timeline: approximately 14 days

BIRTHDAY WISHES

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

◆◆ October ◆◆
<i>Sandra He</i>
<i>Chris</i>



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

October	November	December
Roy and Bronwyn	Philip	Robert and Pauline
Chris and Julie	Tas	Brenton and Keryn

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

GUEST SPEAKERS

	<p><i>These guest speakers have kindly agreed to talk with us at the following general meetings:</i></p>	
	<p>October 2024</p>	<p>Keryn Wilkins – Uluru Photography</p>
	<p>November 2024</p>	<p>Pizza/Indoor Carpet Bowls Pizza at Alfresco Pizza E Cucina, Gawler, Bowls at Elderly Centre</p>
	<p>December 2024</p>	<p>AGM – BYO Supper to share</p>
	<p>February 2025</p>	<p>Ethan White - "The Leyland Brothers"</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)



**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

WHERE AM I



Answer on Page 22

FRIDAY FUNNIES

Where do bad rainbows go?

To prism. It's a light sentence, but it gives them time to reflect.

Anon.

Granny is getting a bit old and frail on her feet and the family decide to put her into a nursing home. They find a local home and granny soon settles in.

The nurses are very attentive and one day they noticed her leaning to the left. They quickly attend to her and help her to sit up straight. A few days later they notice that she is leaning to her right and again they attend to her and help her to sit up straight.

Sometime later, the family visit to see granny and ask how things are going and whether she is happy. She said she loves the place, the food is great and the bed comfortable. She said she feels safe but says " the staff here will not let me FART!!!!"

MEMORIES OF MALLALA IN THE 60'S AND 70'S

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

Mrs Thom's Deli

The Mallala Institute put on Movie nights although not every Saturday night, only when a Projectionist and film was available from Adelaide, we would pack out the Institute to see the latest "blockbuster". Interval was usually half way through the feature movie (usually just when it was getting interesting!) and the movie would pause and we would run across the road to Thompson's Deli. Here Mrs Thom, and to help out on movie nights, her son "Thommo" (Ray - didn't know his name, only knew him as Thommo!) would serve all us kids adding up the prices and change in her head as she didn't have a Till, only a wooden cash drawer. Bags of mixed lollies were already made up for 10c to save time, and I would also buy a Coke, sometimes a Woodies Big Sars for something different or an ice cream in summer. We often bought smokes for our parents (Craven A for my Dad) during the week, but on movie nights smokes were never sold!



!

[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 –

Redhill

Pastoral leases were taken up in the Redhill area in 1851, however these leases were resumed by the government after the "Strangway's Act" of 1869 and smaller parcels of land were opened up to intending farmers. Thus Redhill was born in 1869. The town was officially called Broughton after The River Broughton (named after the first Bishop of Australia). The town was known as 'Redhill' early on (simply named by the settlers after the 'red' soil of the foothills and Broughton river banks), but was not officially changed until 1940. The first four names gazetted in the district of Redhill were those of Hayes, Hopkins, Rankin and Wheaton. With the introduction of the reaper by John Ridley, Redhill became a large wheat producing area, taking over its previous main role of wool growing.

The first business premises erected in Redhill was a shop owned by the Waddell brothers. The single storey Redhill Hotel was built in 1874 followed by the two storey Eureka Hotel in 1878. A mill was also built but soon closed after it burst its boiler in 1881. In 1894 the town (pictured) boasted two hotels, two stores, Post Office, two banks, two butchers, two saddlers, a bakery, a greengrocer, carriage painter, two doctors, police



station and cells, council chambers, school, three churches and the Institute. Nearly all of these fine buildings are still standing and easily recognisable in Redhill today, such as the fine

Eureka Hotel (pictured).



The first suspension foot bridge over the Broughton River was built by shop owner Mr Parsons. The first bridge to take vehicular traffic was a wooden construction with stone pillars constructed in 1876. This was washed away in a flood in 1908 and a new steel bridge built using the original 1876 stone abutments. (pictured).

Farmers and business people were petitioning for many years for the railway to reach Redhill. The Defence

Department pressed on with plans made during WWI for the present route, but Redhill did not see the railway until 1925.

The first Methodist Church "Little Glory" was built in 1874 and the 'new' Methodist Church built in 1877. The Methodist Memorial Hall was built in 1926 (all still standing). St Martin's Catholic Church was built in 1876 and a new church built in 1986. The first three burials in the Catholic Cemetery in 1882 were sadly three babies of the Cronin, Green and Hayes families.

The first branch manager of the National Bank in 1878 (initially a leased room from the Waddell brothers store)

Mr W K Mallyon designed the St Andrews Church of England Church opened in 1881. (William Kingsnorth Mallyon went on to design 26 churches after hours and without charge for the Anglican Church all around South Australia, mainly while he was Bank Manager at Port Pirie)



This was a huge cost saving to the Church and as Mallyon was often the designer, buyer of materials and work supervisor, the local congregations were to build fine stone churches instead of timber and iron structures. Nearly all of Mallyon churches are still in very good condition. (Redhill church pictured).



The main road now by-passes Redhill and the main business is the roadhouse on the highway, but it is worth having a drive around this interesting country town including a new mural on the public toilets.

[Quenton]

FWDSA INFORMATION

NGARKAT EROSION SURVEY

FWDSA has received a small grant to conduct a dune erosion survey in Ngarkat Conservation Park. The survey is used to inform DEW on the status or natural and human induced dune erosion within the park.

The survey normally takes a couple of days to conduct and, if you are interested in taking part in this project, please contact Peter H.

[Pete H]

MARTIN, GUEST SPEAKER AT SEPTEMBER MEETING: OUTBACK MOTORBIKE TOURING



TRIP REPORTS

Quondong Station weekend - Burra.

Day 1- Friday 6th September, 2024

A pleasantly warm morning saw us travelling to Burra on Friday 6th September. We arrived at the caravan park on the river bank just in time for a quick set up and lunch before meeting with the group for a tour of the Burra town hall.

We were a group of eight, namely Keryn and Brent, Q and Deb, Roy and Bron and Keith and Dianne. The town hall is a magnificent building, built 1874, still used and a pleasure to browse the many rooms set up showing the past history of the hall and area. Our tour guide, Kym, was unavailable but Q filled in much of the required information. We had a bit of fun looking at and trying on vintage garments stored behind the stage, looking at Sir Hubert Wilkins memorabilia, photos of prize rams produced and sold in the area. In 1919 a prize ram sold for 3,000 Guinea's. Exploring the upstairs gallery, we discovered the movie projector room with all equipment in place, fire trapdoor exit and rewinding room. While there we picked our seating for that night's movie; just needed to brush off a bit of dust!!!!

A special mention was made of Roy Taplin, who re-painted the hall and also renovated and painted the Burra railway station and carriage 'Eddie'. His detail and workmanship was amazing. We especially liked the pressed tin ceilings and magnificent ceiling roses of the hall.



Next was Q's favourite treat of coffee/tea and scones with real jam and cream served in fine china in the renovated railway carriage at the station. Many of us had seen the station in disrepair several years ago and were amazed how it looks now in comparison.

During the gap until meeting again at 6pm, Brent and I enjoyed a slow drive around Burra, looking at the beautiful old buildings, cottages and stone walls mostly still standing with a few cracks and some salt damp damage. We visited the ruins



of the old village of Hampton and "Midnight Oil" cottage for some photos. Soon it was time for the movie night, so back to the town hall with refreshments to watch the cowboy movie 'Shane'. Following the movie was a quiz, the raffle draw and more refreshments and discussion regarding the movie and their future entertainment plans. The movie scored an average of 3 to 4 stars, which bought us to the end of a

very enjoyable first day. Thanks Q

Keryn

Day 2 Saturday 7th December, 2024.

We left Burra Caravan Park just after 8.00am for the 1 3/4 hour drive to Quondong Station, crossing 23 stock grids. The Eastern Road was in very good condition having recently been graded. As Quondong Station is located in the "Out of Boundaries" (council) area, the road is only graded once a year by the Outback Communities Authority. About half way we stopped to stretch our legs by an old PMG truck wreck. "PMG" (Post Masters General - now known as Telstra & Australia Post) was clearly painted on the rusty doors. Keryn even managed to find a Geocache inside the cab. back on the road, seeing numerous kangaroos, emus, goats, crows and sheep.

Arriving at Quondong Station we were greeted by our host MaryLou just after 10.00am. WOW, MaryLou had outdone herself;



morning tea was ready on the table in the garden with home-made

scones, finger sandwiches, two cakes, ANZAC biscuits, tea in a pot with fancy cups, real machine made coffee and chilled water. We also met owner Joe and manager Andrew and his partner Sam, overseer. Over the delicious morning tea,

MaryLou told us the history of Quondong dating back when Thomas Elder (Elders co-founder) owned the station. Joe told us about his history of buying the station in 2003, and Andrew



gave us an excellent talk about modern outback farming methods. Together they are working towards Quondong being financially viable, ethically sustainable and to be technologically advanced. MaryLou showed us work that the stonemasons were doing to restore the main homestead and her large veggie and orchard area which is fully fenced to stop goats, 'roos and emus eating everything! All watered by large rain water tanks.

Joe led us on a tour of the station to see poor George H Theeuf's lonely grave just out from the homestead. He died in 1896 while down a well. We then drove past the RFDS airstrip, maintained by Quondong, along a new fence line, where Joe and MaryLou talk in kms re its length and then to the shearing shed. The shed and the adjacent shearer's quarters have been given a substantial make-over to cater for the shearing team who shear every February and have used the same team for years. Joe is a pilot and has his own plane, thus saving a 16 hour drive along station tracks to check all water points.

A group of campers (2 x 4WDs - father, mother, son and daughter in-law) tagged along on our station tour. Joe showed us around the shearing shed, thought to be about 40 years old, but fully updated along with the shearers quarters with upgraded stainless steel, air conditioned kitchen and dining room with a loong old timber dining table. The original "donkey" water heater made from an old boiler should last for another 100+ years! The plan is to run the shearing shed and quarters on solar with gas hot water, saving a \$70 diesel bill per day running the generator.

Back to the shaded, lush garden for lunch and then MaryLou and Andrew led us on a tag-along tour of the property with commentary over the UHF radio (Chanel 6 with repeater). We passed one of 42 dams on the property to the 100+ year old cattle yards in remarkable condition. Here Andrew spoke more about the vast network of dams and km of drains and water pipelines etc.



He really knows his stuff, and we all found it interesting. Back on the station tracks to view the camping areas and a beautiful Quandong tree (growing off a Black Oak tree) with fruit nearly ready to pick. Interestingly, Quondong Station, named after the fruit is spelt with an 'o' not an 'a'.

The scale of this property is amazing and our tour came to an end out the front of the homestead by an old road sign which is still in miles! Obviously too remote to update to km in 1973/1974.

MaryLou equipped with Joe's money, her enthusiasm and drive and the wisdom of Joe, Andrew and Sam, will see this station go from strength to strength and I am very grateful we could experience this outback sheep property relatively close, east of Burra.

MaryLou would like to get more into tourism and has

recently joined the "Station Stays" group. Thanks again MaryLou, Joe, Andrew and Sam. I happily presented MaryLou with two Gawler 4WD Club 20 year anniversary 'limited edition' cups.

We could have spent many more hours here, but with concern of 'roo hour on the road home, we left about 3.30pm for the long drive back to Burra seeing more wild life now including a large snake cross the road - now slightly flattened!

Quandong and Oakbank Stations cover 365,140 acres or 1,477 sq km and carry Smooth Rolling Skin (SRS) Merino sheep, producing fine, ethically grown wool.

Quenton

Day 3 - Sunday 8th September, 2024.

Leaving a little later than the previous morning we left the Burra Caravan Park at 9.40am with everyone on time. We headed straight to the old Farrell Flat Railway Station now owned by Dr Paul. He introduced himself, but not using the 'Dr' and told us this was his home and that he was renovating. He went on to say that we needed to keep that in mind and some areas were not suitable to look at due to their current condition. He is the one doing the restoration and his partner is taking care of the gardens.

He took us to the front of the station onto the original platform. He explained that the building was not only a train station, but also a communication hub for both the Telegraph and a Post Office.

Paul took us inside the station where a temporary kitchen had been set up in the old waiting room and on the kitchen table was a copy of the original plans which included plans for some of the fittings. From these plans Paul and his son had made a 3D printer copy of a bracket for the original Gas Lights as he would like to restore replicas of them on the front of the station. He showed us his bedroom which still had the marks on the walls where desks, counter and communications panels and letterbox had been.



Outside he explained that there was a decision taken to remove all apostrophes by the government of the day and if you look carefully at the sign of Farrell Flat you can see where it use to read Farrell's Flat. He said Gepps Cross also use to have an apostrophe and there were plenty of other places as well.

He took us into the large gardens and showed us an old train carriage which he hopes to have as a glamping or guest bedroom option. This was on the way to the old railway water tank, which was a beautiful looking building, but before he took us inside explained that as you enter you need to be aware, when walking over planks, that there was 40 foot drop below to a well! Some were game to go in but it was very dark with a lot of old stuff in it and in need of a full renovation. We completed our tour of the garden which was full of a large variety of plants and where we met Paul's partner Bec. At one stage Paul was asked what kind of Doctor he was and it turned out he was a Palaeontologist.

From here we headed to the history shelter to enjoy morning tea, but we were unsure if we had lost Keryn to the garden and will have to pick her up later, but she joined us. Some ate their lunch as it was getting quite late.

We then went to see the Silo Art with everyone trying to find the hidden elephant in the picture, some knew where it was, some found it and other just could not see it.



This is when Quenton and Deb left us to go home and we all said our "goodbyes."

It was decided by the rest that we go to Burra Creek Gorge or, as it is now known, Worlds End Reserve. So we all met back at the caravan park and set off with Roy and Bronwyn in the lead. Quenton had asked Keryn to take a picture of an old swing bridge. No one knew of this said bridge. Walking one way by the creek included a path through the very tall reeds, but no bridge could be found, so up the hill we went with a very strong wind to help us up and met Brent up the top. We made our way down and went to the other side but still no bridge. It was decided in the end to have an improvised happy hour with everyone finding something to contribute, but when the wind got strong it was time to go. So after some decision it was decided if

there was a bridge it must be near the main road so, on the way back to the caravan park, we detoured to the creek crossing on the main road and guess what? It was there, but in very poor condition, so pictures were taken.

The following morning "goodbyes" were done with Keryn and Brent going to Cummins, Roy and Bronwyn headed home and Keith and I decided to stay another night and went off to explore Redbanks and do the Mt Dare circuit.

Di

PS - Winner of the Photo Competition - photographing the "Midnight Oil" house ruin 3 km north of Burra. (judged by our own amateur photo guru- Sandra He) - Quenton. (see photo in this newsletter and photo entries on our Facebook page)

ANSWER TO "WHERE AM I"

Basket Sculpture - Burra

A Ngadjuri woven basket sculpture, believed to be the first council-initiated Ngadjuri public sculpture, has been installed at Burra Creek Park. Ngadjuri, Narungga, Ngarrindjeri and Wirangu weaver Sonya Rankine created the masterpiece from bull wire sourced from local farms and copper wire - a nod to the history of copper mining in the township.

Located in the Burra Creek Park opposite the Paxton Square cottages.

Quenton]

QUANDON TRIP PHOTO COMPETITION

And here is the Quandong Trip Photo Competition winning photo



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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!!!

MARTINDALE HALL SURVEY



Martindale Hall, Mintaro

Built in 1880 by pastoralist Edmund Bowman Jr and bought by William Tennant Mortlock in 1882.

The Mortlock family bequeathed the Hall and estate to the University of Adelaide in 1972. In 1986 the Hall and 19 hectares were gifted to South Australia as part of the Jubilee 150 celebrations.

At the moment the Hall is being managed through a short-term caretaker arrangement with a local tourism operator. The government of South Australia has released a Martindale Hall Conservation Park Draft Management Plan 2024. You can access this plan and take a short survey by 5pm 23rd October, 2024.

If you are interested in the future of this fine SA mansion, please take the time to log on and have a read and respond.

[Martindale Hall Conservation Park Draft Management Plan | YourSAy](#)