

Gawler and Districts 4WD Christmas Show Port Broughton 28-29/11/2009

We awoke to a rather overcast day but forever optimistic we continued on to pack and get ready for the weekend. The meeting spot was Mallala where we all gathered waiting for the Schwertz's who were not lost but had somehow misplaced Mallala.

The drizzle continued and the wind was starting to pick up but we continued on. I had written a quiz to be filled out along the way, however some started early by getting local knowledge. They probably should have got extra points for entertaining the local information gatherer.

The trip was a rather easy drive with a quick stop at Pt Wakefield and then on to Bute for morning tea under the protection of a rather large shed. The township of Bute certainly has impressive buildings that the locals keep to a high standard. We heard during morning tea that the wind at Pt Broughton was *brisk* and that sleeping on the previous night was difficult because of it. Thankfully the Caravan Park has a new large Camp Kitchen and our plan was to use this for the evening.

We were expecting to find the park empty because of the weather but were surprised to find it quite busy with lots of really big boats, apparently the Snapper season was starting on Monday and everybody arrives on the weekend to get ready.



great range of salads.

A few brave soles (pun intended!) decided to walk down to the foreshore to see the jetty and surrounds however this was cut short due to the gale force winds (I don't think I have ever walked in such strong winds) and we retired to the camp kitchen for afternoon tea, newspaper reading and rather noisy card playing.

We started to fire up the BBQ about 5.30 and got ready for the Christmas dinner; most of us dressed for the occasion with a Christmas shirt or hat with the eventual prize winner being John M with his rather dashing tie and flashing tee shirt. The dinner was enjoyed by all with a

We were just cleaning up when we heard the familiar HO HO HO of Father Christmas brought in by two good looking but worn out helpers on the caravan parks Pedal Bike. It seems a bit of a theme for Santa to arrive on a 3 wheel bike – although with the economic downturn this year's trike had no motor! Presents were given out to Lachlan, Cooper, Andrew, Blaze and Regina with big smiles all round. Santa even found another present for a girl who was with another group, talk about a resourceful Santa.

The Photo Competition photos were also put on display by Sandra and we were given the opportunity to vote on what we thought was the best one and Lyn was chosen as the best.

The winner of the best club photo was Jane with her photo of Yakas and received a \$50 voucher from Gawler Fishing and Outdoors as her prize. Thanks again to Karl and the boys for supporting the photo competition for many years. The winner of the funny sign was Marie who received a voucher supplied by La Dolce Vita Italian Restaurant in Gawler and the Heintz's. I am sure the Funny Signs competition will be run again in 2010, so keep your eyes open and camera ready. The travel quiz was a tie won by Chris and Julie and Norma and Bronte.

The evening wound up after a lot of laughter and games and was enjoyed I think by all.

We awoke the next day to a fine day and very little wind. We met for breakfast in the Camp Kitchen and slowly packed up before the rain and after a brief stop at Fisherman's Bay, the group split into two; one group headed home via the Pt Wakefield Bakery which can be recommended whilst the others headed for Moonta and a little known homemade ice cream shop. This shop is on the Maitland road a couple of kms out of Moonta and has great coffee, pancakes, Gelato and Ice cream. I think Sandra managed to taste all! Quenton is still raving about how good the coffee was.

Thanks to Sandra who asked for directions in Moonta. In fact this place was so good, some planning was done over the UHF radios on the way home how another Club Trip could be organised to involve another visit.

Thankyou John & Karyn, Roy & Bronwyn, Max & Lyn, Brent, Keryn, Scott, Lachlan, Cooper, Nick, Robb & Andrew, Julie & Chris, Sandra, Wayne & Blaze, Bronte ,Norma, Josh & Reggie, John & Jane, Marie, Mark, Quenton and Deb for a great weekend and despite the weather, all went well.

[Deb]