



Burra Day Trip

TRIP REPORT FOR DAY TRIP TO BURRA ON SUNDAY, 11 JUNE 2017 (THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY LONG WEEKEND)

Our group of day trippers included:

John & Jane, Max & Lyn, Bronte & Norma, Wayne, Keryn, Brent & Wil, Kylie & Mick, Sandra & Pete and our welcome surprise visitors Nick, Kaleb & Allie together with their friends Tracy, Bjorn & Carly and last, but not least, our trip leaders Quenton & Deb.

We gathered at the Gawler Visitors Centre at 9am on a chilly 8C morning and set out to make our way onto the highway to Nuriootpa (well, some of us did, not quite sure where John & Jane got to, they made their own way there) travelling via Sheoak Log where Max and Lyn joined us. Mist was rising from the valleys in the Barossa as we made our way towards our first stop, Eudunda.

Passing through Dutton, Wayne said a cheery "good morning" to Roy and Bronwyn as we came close to their property. We continued on through farming country and passed quite a number of derelict buildings scattered throughout the



countryside.

At approx 10 am we reached the author Colin Theile's birthplace, Eudunda, where we stopped at Centennial Gardens. The gardens are

complete with a magnificent sculpture of Colin Theile alongside Mr Percival (from "Storm Boy.") Here we enjoyed a shared morning tea – once again we had some fun with John & Jane as they decided to make a right turn rather than a left one but eventually joined us at the park. Perhaps a bit of sustenance was needed to keep them on the straight and narrow and to help



them know their right from their left!!!!

The shared morning tea was quite a scrumptious spread and I don't think anyone had ever seen a Boston bun quite as big as the one that Mick and Kylie turned up with! Max and Lyn produced some muffins which were still warm from the oven having utilised their Dreampot for that purpose and, of course, there were other goodies too. During morning tea, the children made good use of the play equipment but certainly not to the detriment of participating in the selection of goodies on offer. The temperature was still a cool 11C.

(For future information the public toilets at this park were very clean and well appointed AND there is a quilt shop located nearby for those who are interested!!)



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At approx 10.40 am we left the park and headed along the Theile Highway making a right turn for Marrabel, including John and Jane this time so the morning tea stop obviously had the right effect!!!! The sun had burnt off the morning cloud and the temperature was finally starting to rise as we turned right onto a dirt road which seemed quite dry as there appeared to be a lot of dust present.

We passed through farmland and one particular farm had geese in abundance along with many goats, otherwise the farming generally consisted of crops, sheep and lambs. We passed through the tiny town of Hampden with the only shop premises visible looking like it had closed some considerable time ago. Some cattle were also visible along this stretch of road.

We took the Scenic Road which, at an altitude of approx. 500m, gave us very good views of the surrounding district. On the way to Inspiration Point, where we stopped for a photo shoot, we came across motorbikes competing in a rally together with their support vehicles. As the track was only one vehicle wide, we stopped to let the bikes proceed first and then followed. Fortunately, there was no "coming together" of bikes and 4 wheel drives on this steep descent.

We turned left onto a section of blacktop at Black Springs Road then onto more dirt tracks heading towards Burra. Looking around the countryside, which was denude of trees, it was

hard to imagine what it must have looked like many years ago before the trees were cut down presumably to be used in the Burra mines. housing for the miners or to clear land for farming.

Lunch time was in Burra and at approx 12.25 pm we stopped for a leisurely lunch near Burra Creek where we were entertained by many



ducks trying to scrounge food together with other waterbirds. By this time, the temperature had risen to 15C with the sun shining but the air was still cool. Warming soup seemed to be the order of the day for many people but Lyn and Max, again thanks to their Dreampot, enjoyed some warm sausage rolls.

Mt Bryan beckoned for afternoon tea so we left Burra after lunch travelling down more back tracks towards Morgan passing through farmland and scrub. Halfway up Whitehill Road we stopped for another photo shoot of the surrounding district as the views were spectacular and travelled through Mokota Conservation park where mobs of kangaroos were visible in abundance.

Arriving at Mt Bryan we stopped for a group photo at the big windmill blade then proceeded to the Mt Bryan hotel for afternoon refreshments with welcome cups of coffee/tea & cake or beers/soft drinks & cake all round in front of a couple of roaring open fires. What a great way to round off the day prior to heading home.





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4pm we took our leave of Mt Bryan and headed towards home. Not sure where Nick, Kaleb, Allie & Tracy, Bjorn & Carly left us, but those heading towards Gawler passed through Manoora, Saddleworth, Riverton and Tarlee before saying our "goodbyes" as we got closer to Gawler.

What a great day we had with good company, great food and lovely weather to top it off. Thank you again to Quenton and Deb for a well organised day which we can safely say was enjoyed by all.



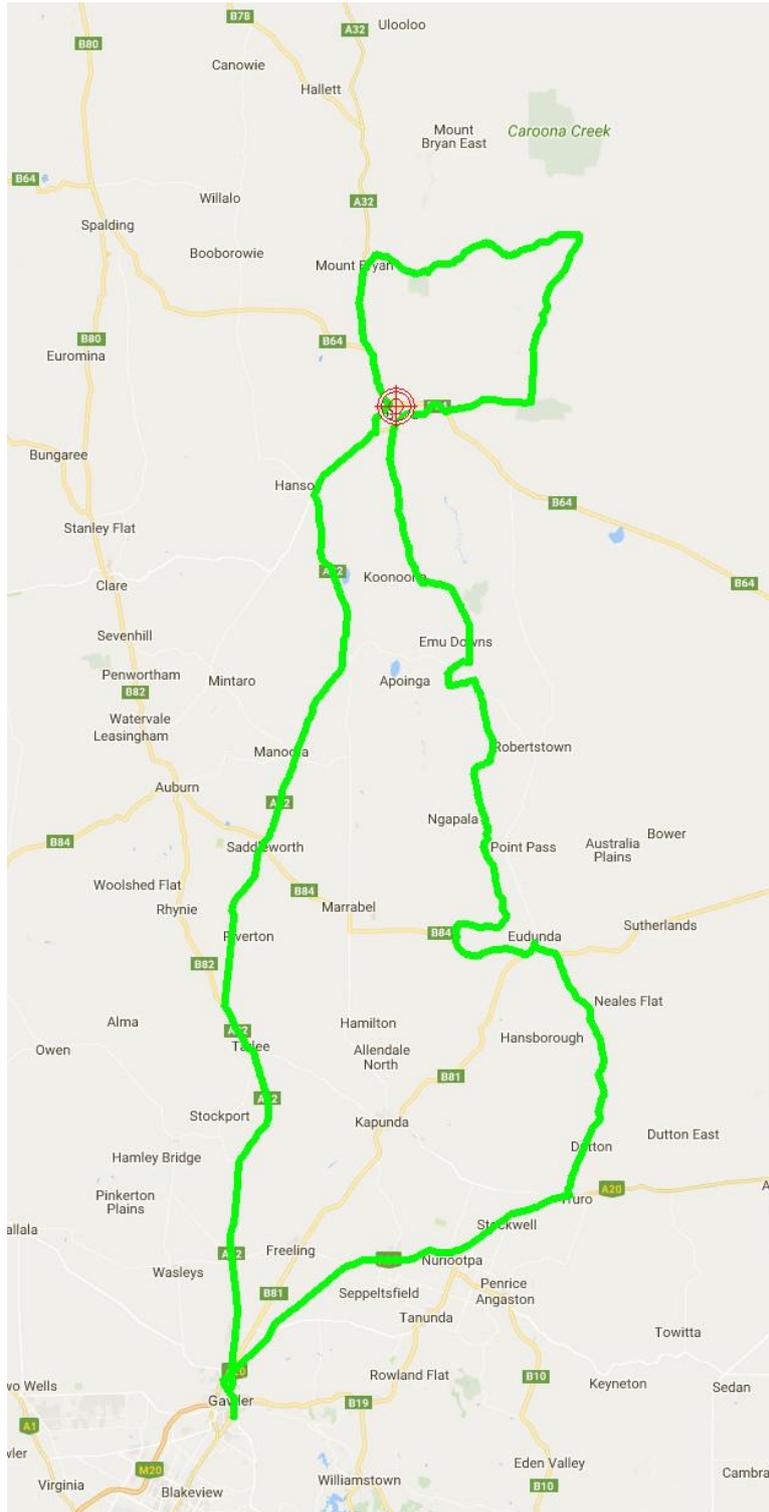
[Sandra & Pete]

(trip map on next page)





Burra Day Trip



South Burra Drive – Trip Map



Burra Day Trip

Some more photos from the Southern Burra Trip



Snakes and Ladders at Colin Thiele Park



Waiting for the bikes to get going



Where did the bikes go?



A bit dusty down the back!!



Lunch guests



Looking for the best light