



4WD Day Trip (Karoonda)

4WD Day Trip to Karoonda (Sunday, 27 September 2020)

On the first sunny day for the week, we left the Gawler information centre at 9am. I won the trip report prize and as we were the only ones towing a caravan for an overnight stay, we were also Tail-End-Charlie! It was lovely to catch up with our 4WD family once again after so many months of time away, quarantine, COVID rigmarole and miserable winter weather. We certainly had plenty to talk about.

It was a relaxing drive through beautiful green country side where we stopped for morning tea at Walker Flat. Bronwyn and Roy met us there. There were 16 people in all, Lisa and Stephen, Q and Deb, Bronte and Norma, Max and Lyn, Peter and Jo, Peter and Sandra and Keryn and Brent. There were lots of baby wood ducks and the cutest little fluff ball diver ducks scooting along the water's edge.

After crossing the river on the ferry, we travelled to Karoonda. We had never been there before and were very surprised that the country side was definitely drier and harsher along the way but the Karoonda district is much like parts of the Yorke Peninsula. We soon

enough arrived to view the silo art, which was well worth the trip and a real spectacle. One of my favourites so far, featuring Whiskey the Kelpie dog, the Big Ram and the magnificent soaring Wedge tailed eagles. Other nearby sculptures are the Big Ram, windmill, Mallee Boy and the Karoonda shuffle screens, all beautifully designed and crafted.

The small community of Karoonda have worked hard to landscape the area to make it very appealing for the tourist, it's an RV friendly town and they even opened several shops as they were expecting extra visitors to their town.

After lunch we visited the Pioneer Museum which was also their annual open day. We were met and welcomed to the museum and encouraged to enjoy the displays at our leisure. They are very proud of their collections of old





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machinery, shed displays and pioneer buildings. The Gawler 4WD club even got a special mention on their advertising flyer!

Then it was time to move on. Our club members left Karoonda, calling at Mt. Pleasant for afternoon tea. We set up at the local caravan park for the night, with power and ensuite bathroom facilities for \$15. We explored the town and at dusk wandered to the silos for the night light show.

On Monday we meandered home exploring areas adjacent to the river, observing working dairies but many in disrepair. We stopped in Mannum before heading home, ending another adventure in the great outdoors.

Thanks to Q and Deb for leading the trip and the Karoonda community for their friendly hospitality.



[Keryn]