

October 2018



SUBARU 4WD NEWS

**General meeting, this month only, at:
SUBARU (AUST)
21-25 ILDA ROAD CANNING VALE
7pm**

Subaru 4WD Web Site: <http://www.subaru4wdclubwa.asn.au/>

SUBARU 4WD CLUB of WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.

P.O. BOX 434, SOUTH PERTH, W.A. 6951

SUBARU 4WD CLUB NEWS

2017/2018 COMMITTEE

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Club member of the Year 2017-2018: Adrian Longwood

Life members: Fred Offer, Keith Anderson, Jonel Householder, Ray Stewart, Ian Johnson, Peter Andruszkiw, Ron Caunce, Jim Wilcox and Tony Richards

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



If you missed the front cover, **our meeting this month will kindly be hosted by Subaru Australia at their office, 21-25 ILDA Rd, Canning Vale.** Doors will be open from **7pm**. We will have the new Forester to peruse, so get excited and come on down!

Last month our editor had us all bamboozled with his puzzles and cryptic clues. It's fair to say he got the better of us this time!

This month's prizes are now doubled so there could be two

winners! Or Zero again?

While out and about on Deb's Porongorups trip I was climbing Castle Rock

See the new Forester! Come to the meeting on Wednesday, October 10

granite lookout, while they were just leaving Bluff Knoll and turning on to Stirling National Park scenic drive. Now for those who don't have a map handy, we were 40km apart. So? So Melanie and I just started climbing down and heard them chatting on the UHF, I had my 2W GME hand held unit with me, and they had their 5W in-car units. We managed a brief conversation not realising at the time exactly how far apart we all were! 40kms between a 2W handheld and 5W in car unit! That's extraordinary. We also managed long distance communications with Keith Wilcox while on Bluff Knoll and he was back around the Porongorups so another similarly long distance! And to think we lose comms within 500m of each other between large hills in a convoy....

The Camping Demo weekend at Willowbrook CVP, proved to be a great spot: spend a weekend there with the kids or grand kids and enjoy the fresh scones on Sunday mornings too.

Club Sponsors Tyre Power have a new Tyre Pressure Monitoring System (TPMS) on the market and it's looking a good option and stacks up against well-known brands like TyreDogs so I'll be installing the internal wheel sensor kit with wireless dash controller in the near future and doing some show and tell at a meeting once it's installed. They start around \$300 for the kit and need professional installation as I'm getting internal ones, not external caps.

Recently my second battery was giving up so I've now replaced my 120a/h AGM battery with the iTech World 120a/h LiFePo Lithium Phosphate Deep Cycle and shaved 18kg of weight off and improved battery capacity **Cont. p. 4.**

From p. 3. usage by 40%. With the outgoing battery topping the scales at 29kg and the new one going in at 11kg it's a very important weight saving.

They will also typically perform as well as almost 2 AGMs of the same capacity. It has inbuilt integration with normal DCDC chargers and internal low volt cut out.

If you're still reading down this far I need you to **login and get your votes in for the major awards** at our upcoming annual dinner, which I strongly encourage you to attend. Details are all on the website. Contact Joy for assistance. There's also votes for silly awards so get those in too! I think I'm nominating myself for one after forgetting my towels on the last trip...

A few more details are available for Subie Fest WA, a fundraising event the club will be attending in November. Most of their details and tickets are available through their website/facebook page. It's a car show with all sorts of Subarus on display and for a great cause.

Perth Children's Hospital Foundation is the worthy beneficiary of all proceeds. The Club financial year ends now and **membership renewal fees** are all due now. As per the new Constitution you have until the end of December to pay before your membership is no longer valid and website access is removed. **PS we now have EFTPOS** so you can pay with most cards (except which ever bank Dave is with) for any membership renewals or merchandise. Thanks for reading. See you again soon. **The Pres, Adrian Longwood.**



EFTPOS now available

Club president Adrian Longwood shows Erica Auld the gadget that now allows members to tap and pay for merchandise.

It can also be used to pay your membership fees, which are now due. Receipts can be sent to you via email or via text to your phone.

TRIP CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT



Thanks to Tony for organising the first aid course. There were 12 of us who managed to survive some interesting scenarios and requalify as first aiders. During the course they stressed how important it was to get a quick response and how vital CPR was. We have loaded the user manual for the club's Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) on the club website under Safety.

Congratulations to Deb for leading her first trip – to the Stirling Ranges and Porongorups. With 11 cars and 26 people along that must be some kind of club record.

There were some emails going around the committee about the club's Personal Locator Beacon and how we should educate the club members who may be likely to use it. We have loaded the instruction manual on the club website under Safety.

The Cocktails and Jaffles trip has the potential to be a lot of fun and a chance to dress up too. We have been invited to join the Toyota Landcruiser Club, which is running the event – to be held at a private campsite near Quindanning.

VOTE!

Get your nominations in for the annual awards. Go on, do it now. It's easy: log in then click on the **red text** on the front page of the website. Awards will be presented at the annual dinner which this year is at Lancelin. Sign up for it now. Voting for the annual Awards is easily done on the Trip page by clicking on the middle orange button labelled "Nominate for award" on the menu bar at the bottom of the page. **Or click on the red text.**

Don't forget the Annual Dinner which will be held at Lancelin. **Please put in your nominations for Club member of the year, Trip of the Year, Social Trip of the Year, Trip Leader of the Year or Social Trip Leader of the Year.** All of these, and a few **Silly Awards**, will be presented and you can nominate someone via the website or by a nomination form.

Cheers, David

A Trip Leader is never lost, just exploring

SAFETY RECALL – LIBERTY AND OUTBACK

A report has just come out that Subaru Australia is recalling up to 40,000 cars built between 2010 and 2014. There is a problem with the circuit board controlling the electronic park brake in Liberty and Outback models built in those years. The board can crack, making the brake unusable.



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A day at the races, with a cocktail and a jaffle!

October 13-14.

The Toyota Landcruiser Club has invited us to join its members for their annual Cocktail and Jaffle night at Quindanning, at the same time as the Quindanning Races. The site is a private camp area near Quindanning with lots of space to ourselves. There are toilets, showers and shelters. We meet in Dwellingup on Saturday afternoon for the drive to Quindanning and the campsite. So, get creative with your cocktail ideas and bring ingredients for your favourite Jaffles.



Traditional round jaffles. Pic is from Getaway mag in South Africa

The dress code is for a day at the races. The trip will be divided into groups, with each group to bring enough ingredients to make a pre-designed cocktail or two, and a 'special' jaffle. Be creative and give your cocktail and jaffle combo an appropriate name. If you don't have a jaffle iron, don't worry, there will be spares. There are prizes for the best cocktails and jaffles. Trip leader **Jo Norton**

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TRIP PROMOTIONS/INFORMATION

Annual Dinner and Awards Night Saturday 20 October

Yes, it's that time of year again – this is when you do all your Award voting on the website (don't forget the Silly Awards!), put on your glad rags, and tootle off to the Club Annual Dinner. It is a wonderful chance to catch up and socialise with Club Members. New members are very welcome.

This year we are going to the Lancelin Beach Hotel Dunes Restaurant, just around the corner from the Lancelin Dunes. You could go 4WD driving in the sand on the Sunday if you wish.

The Dunes Restaurant is on the foreshore and has panoramic views of the ocean. Manager Nola Brown tells me that they have a Balinese chef so the curry will be authentic. The chefs are very accommodating of special dietary requirements. Please enter your meal selections in the “Members Attending” section. There is a menu document uploaded on the Trip page.



Lancelin Beach Hotel, Dunes Restaurant
1 North St, Lancelin
Phone: (08) 9655 1005
Time: 6 PM
Cost: \$45 per person

There is accommodation on site. Please ring the Hotel to book (Ph 96551005) as it may be cheaper than going through Wotif, etc. The hotel rooms come with TVs and free Wi-Fi, plus

minibars, microwaves, and tea and coffeemaking facilities. Some rooms have private balconies with views and/or indoor sitting areas. Some rooms have a queen bed and a single and there is a Family Room for 6 people. Contact the hotel for more information. Other amenities include an outdoor pool, a sports bar with a beer garden and a bottle shop selling beer and wine.

Subaru Osborne Park



SUBARU

TRIP PROMOTIONS/INFORMATION

This time it will be daylight! Julimar State Forest

27-28 October

The last time we went to Julimar, it was night-time and the trip David Peck had planned ended being a lot shorter than intended. In the weeks between reconnoitring the trip and actually going into the forest at night, there had been a lot of rain and the track was in places deeply rutted and a challenge to all of us.

The going was slow because it was dark and quite a bit of 'track gardening' was called for.



A flashback to '90s style



Life member Ray Stewart was rummaging in the merchandise box last meeting and found this jumper, which he said was the club's first jumper - one knitted by a neighbour of his around 1991.

This time we are going back to Julimar to see what it looks like in the day time. With more time to do the trip we should be able to do sections that we missed during the night drive.

We will leave Perth and head up through the picturesque Chittering Valley and into the Julimar state forest. We will be following forestry tracks and stopping for lunch in the bush. We will then head down through the northern section of the Avon Valley National Park through some lovely Wandoo forests. For those who want to camp the night we will pass the '37 mile' camping area which has a long drop toilet and numerous camp sites. As we will be travelling through a National Park dogs will not be allowed.

Contact: David Peck

TRIP PROMOTIONS/INFORMATION

Lancelin Sand Dunes

18 November - Day trip

Come along and have some fun in the sun and sand. Our cars are great on sand, and this trip will show you just how great they are. It will also show the value of being in a group with other cars and drivers. Let's face it, on this trip if you make it up every dune first time then you've chosen the easiest dunes.

Prospective, new and existing members are all invited to learn the capabilities of their vehicle and to test their driving ability.



getting stuck in the sand.

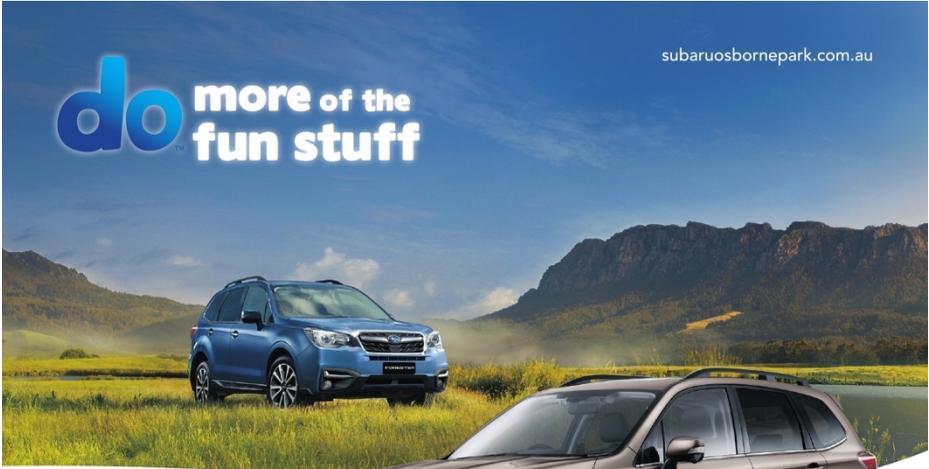


sump guard.

Adrian will be looking after beginners and novices and another of the highly experienced sand drivers will be will looking after those with experience who are a bit more adventurous.



Quiz question. Which upcoming club event uses the name of a Marx Brothers' film in the heading?
Answers to editor@subaru4wdclubwa.asn.au



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SUBARU 4WD CLUB NEWS

CLUB CALENDAR

OCTOBER 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Tues 2. Committee
Wed 10. Club meeting
Sat 13-Sun14. Cocktails and Jaffles, Quindanning
Sat 20. Annual dinner, Lancelin.
Sat 27. Julimar State Forest, optional overnight
Sun 28. Perth Subaru Alliance – SubiFest. McCallum Park

NOVEMBER 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Tues 6. Committee meeting
Wed 14. Club meeting
Fri 9 - Sun 11. 4WD Show
Sun 18. Lancelin sand dunes
Sun 24. Kaarakin clean-up day

Quiz question quandary

The quiz last month proved a bit tough, it seems. The cryptic clue proved a bit too cryptic for our usually smart members. At the last meeting, the editor gave a few more clues and a bit of a helping hand. It went like this. The clues were: **Sounds like this native Australian makes a marque standing still. It adds something to the magazine**

A marque is the name of a car brand. In this magazine it can only be Subaru. 'Sounds like' is looking for something that sounds like it might be a native Australian. Something born in Australia is a native Australian, and 'Oz Born' fits the bill. If something is standing still, it can be considered to be parked. And an ad adds something to our mag each month. So the answer? It can only be ... One of our long-term sponsors, **Subaru Osborne Park.**

SUBARU 4WD CLUB OF W.A. INC.

CLUB CALENDAR

DECEMBER 2018							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
31						1	Saturday 1. Christmas party at Jo's Tuesday 4. Committee meeting Wed 12. Club meeting
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	18	19	20	21	22	23	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	

JANUARY 2019							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
		1	2	3	4	5	No committee or general meeting Sun 13 Annual beach run Sat 26-Thurs 31 Deepdene Farm Stay Augusta
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30	31			

FEBRUARY 2019							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
					1	2	Tues 5. Committee meeting Wed 13. General meeting Quiz question #2. If one of US in Perth had to retire which of our advertisers would it be best to call?
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
24	25	26	27	28			

TRIP REPORTS



Panorama of the Flinders as we headed north toward Arkaroola via Leigh Creek

Flinders Frolic. Day 7 Port Augusta to Arkaroola

A clear, crisp morning greeted us as we woke from a restful sleep at the Shoreline Caravan Park in Port Augusta. Smart phones indicated it was about 0 degrees and was supported by ice on Joy's windscreen!

We left for the shopping centre earlier than planned to restock our stores for the Flinders Frolic leg of the three-week trip. Following this a leisurely chat, an impromptu exercise program led by Deirdre and coffee from the van on the old wharf was enjoyed. We refuelled and checked tyres at the nearby petrol station and our small convoy headed east out of Port Augusta and soon after leaving town we took a left turn for Quorn.

The road to Quorn wound through very scenic with hills and green vegetation. Quorn is a beautiful little town with many historic and beautiful buildings lining the main street. Heading straight through we made for Hawker. We were amazed at the number of emus we were to see on this, and the remainder of the road up to Leigh Creek where we had turn east to Arkaroola.

Hawker was also a little interesting town and we pulled into the local park to enjoy a late morning tea/lunch. Having been tipped off about quandong pies they were soon found at the local bakery. Quandongs (*santalum acuminatum*, related to sandalwood and referred to by Julie as a bush peach) were said to taste like raspberries or rhubarb. The pies had a pastry base with quandong filling and crumble topping. They were absolutely delicious!

The drive up was punctuated by spectacular, picturesque mountainous scenery. Folds of the earth formed the mountainsides and low arid scrubland covered them. Sometimes it felt like you were in a giant bowl with mountains surrounding the flat plain we were driving across. **Cont. p. 15**

Day 7, From p. 14. Some of the mountains looked like giant slopes and Daniel told us that these ones would have a sharp drop off on the other side due to the way they were formed.

Many more emus and sheep with lambs were seen on the road to Leigh Creek. It was decided to pull into Leigh Creek, a mining town, to refuel before heading off to Arkaroola.

After turning right on the road to Arkaroola the road became unsealed but the surface was relatively smooth and a speed of around 80km to 90km could be maintained. Along this road it soon became clear both drivers and passengers needed to keep their wits about them as the roads were unfenced – allowing lots of sheep, lambs, emus, goats



The road in to Arkaroola, taken by Karen on a walk she did with Deidre

and many wallabies to graze near the road, or hop straight across it!

The terrain changed many times with low hills and flat plains. Italinowie Gap was very spectacular. We negotiated many dips, gullies, bends and dry creek

crossings. The creek beds had river red gums growing in them and some were very large and majestic. The conditions must have been ideal as there were also an abundance of saplings in the creek beds. We passed through two communities along the way Warta and Nepabunha.



The view to the northeast from a walk trail above the settlement

After some distance heading north on Arkaroola Road, we turned left to Arkaroola **Cont. p. 16.**

Day 7 From p. 15. settlement and the setting sun proved to be challenging as we got closer and it required driving at less than 40km an hour so drivers could see enough to negotiate the road, which traversed a number hills and bends. Soon we arrived at Arkaroola where Stephan had pre-booked cottages for us all. We had a quick look at some activities for the following day. Deirdre and Karen decided to do the ridge top walk while Joy, Julie, Deb and Daniel booked on the ridge top drive departing at 8am. Others considered a flight to Lake Eyre or a balloon ride – but to be confirmed!

David produced a lovely dinner called 'Sloppy Joe' that was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone and Deb did a self-saucing plum pudding and custard for dessert. We all then retired to our accommodation to wind down for the evening and prepare for tomorrow. There was no doubt we were all looking forward to our stay at Arkaroola and exploring this part of the Flinders Ranges.

Deb Thyne

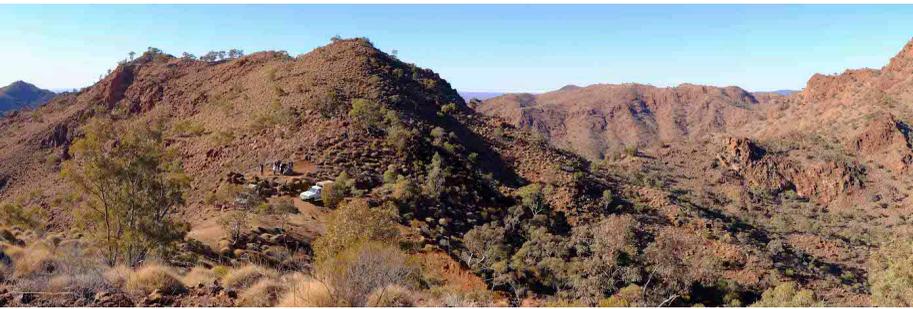
Flinders Frolic. Day 8 Arkaroola

It was a crisp morning and the first time I had ever seen ice on my car. Despite the cold start, it was a promising day weatherwise with a maximum of 18 degrees forecast. On arrival at Arkaroola the previous day Joy, Julie, Daniel

and I had booked on to the morning Ridge Top Tour departing at 8am. We went to the departure point rugged up like Antarctic explorers as the vehicle for the tour was an open-backed V8 turbo Landcruiser! The Ridge Top Track has been developed as a tourist attraction from tracks originally graded out of the mountain sides for mining and mining exploration. **Cont. p. 17**



Looking to the south from the Acacia Ridge walk



Daniel's view of Split Rock Lookout on the ridgetop tour

Day 8, From p. 16. However, the South Australian State Government made the previous pastoral area of Arkaroola a Protected Area in April 2012.

We headed out of the village to the north and wound our way along the track by the creek bed until we reached a gate that was to prevent public access to the Ridge Top Track. It soon became clear that the vehicle we were in was the correct one for the conditions. Steep climbs, at times very steep (30 degrees) and corresponding steep descents on the other side became the norm! Seat belts prevented us from slipping from our seats! The way was rocky with occasional 'jump ups', ruts and small rocks to negotiate. It certainly was a rough but exhilarating ride!!

We passed Mt Oliphant named after Sir Mark Oliphant who assisted in the development of the nuclear bomb. Uranium was mined in the mountainous areas but was of a poor quality. One geologist proposed that due to erosion, the better grade of uranium ore would be found down on the



Griselda Hill

plains. This was not proven until 1971 and the geologist died in 1974 so was finally able to say, 'I told you so'! In the early days of the uranium mine the ore was carried by camels in hessian sacks but due to the movement of the camels as they walked the rocks rubbed causing it to become fine and valuable minerals were lost through the hessian. **Cont. p. 18**

Day 8, From p. 17. We passed from sedimentary rocks (500 – 800 million years old) to granite (1.6 billion years old) over an ‘unconformity’ (no transition from one to the other).

The first lookout we stopped at was Coulthard’s which provided views to Lake Frome down on the flat land and back through a ‘saddle’ to Arkaroola. Also from here Greenie, our guide, pointed out Radium Ridge, Mt Painter, Mt Gee and Armchair.

More climbing and descending in our trusty vehicle saw us make our way to Split Rock Lookout also known as Bill’s Folly Lookout. This is named after one of the bulldozer drivers who drove his dozer over the edge while cutting the track. It must be said that during the entire tour the scenery was spectacular with changing vegetation depending on the terrain. At Split Rock Lookout yakkas or xanthorrea had begun to appear. Smaller and lighter green than the West Australian ones, some were beginning to flower. Daniel climbed a nearby higher section and took photos looking across to the main group.

The third leg of the trip involved steeper climbs and descents on our way to Siller’s Lookout at the end of the Ridge Top Track. Sections of this track had been closed last year due to it being considered unsafe for the passage of the vehicles. Work by prisoners on release from Port Augusta prison and park rangers during the summer has seen the track restored. This had involved the



After hearing about our trip, Stephan went on the ridgetop tour the next day and took this photo of the approach to Siller’s Lookout. The red jacket belongs to one of four siblings hailing originally from Adelaide: they were great company.

use of jack hammers to break rocks. It was common for there to be steep drops on one side of the track –not for the faint hearted!! Siller’s Lookout was on the top of a small peak with sheer drop-offs on three sides. The final ascent to the top was hair raising!! Greenie asked us to alight and admire the view while he executed **Cont. p. 19.**

Day 8, From p. 18 a three point turn in a very small space! Amazingly, the second vehicle with us did the same!

The views were breathtaking across to peaks and Lake Frome in the distance. The road out towards the Strezlecki Track could be seen disappearing into the distance. On the way to Siller's the guides had mentioned a rock wallaby that appeared to be unwell and that was frequently there when the vehicles arrived each day. On occasions the rock wallaby appears on the road as if waiting for visitors. The wallaby is being fed special pellets and being left water and over the time his health seems to have improved to a degree. Today was no exception and 'Billy' appeared shortly after we arrived and he received his daily portion of pellets and some fresh water. Many photos were taken of him!!

After an enjoyable morning tea of a cuppa and lamingtons we climbed aboard for the journey back to Arkaroola. The total journey out and back is 42 kilometres but due to all the climbing and descending seems much further!

If venturing to Arkaroola the Ridge Top Tour is well worth the \$165 we paid to see such spectacular scenery and be informed about local vegetation, wildlife and geology. However, if you easily suffer motion sickness or have a fear of heights then this trip may not be for you. **Deb Thyne**

Flinders Frolic, Day 9 Arkaroola

Another cold night and as we set off west on the track to Bolla Bollana, and Nooldoonooldoona

Waterhole various readings of 0 to -1 degree were being seen on car thermometers.

The track wasn't too bad and our first stop was at the Pinnacles before travelling further on to Bolla Bollana. Here was a beautiful rock wall with striations of rock ridges as if it had been tipped up on its side. There were large river red gums and native pine trees. Some of the latter were clinging to the side of the wall. It was very cold in the shade as we walked along the creek bed. **Cont. p. 20**



Bolla Bollana, a copper smelter: with lots of heavy iron work originating in England and carried by camel

Day 9, From p. 19. Quite a number of finches were seen coming to alight on a dead tree. Then in smaller numbers they flew to a tree near the water and darted down for a drink before flying back up and out. By the time we walked back to the cars the sun was shining down into the creek bed providing much needed warmth!

It was a short drive to the Bolla Bollana copper smelter site where a building resembling a large pottery kiln remained standing.

The track was rough in places with some dry creek crossings with it ending at Nooldoonoldaoona

Waterhole. This was almost gorge like with huge boulders in the creek bed. There was a small pool of water but it contained two dead kangaroos with another nearby on the rocks and did not smell pleasant! Stephan and Deb went on ahead back to Arkaroola Village as Stephan was booked on the afternoon Ridge Top Tour.



Bolla Bollana smelter, ruin in a bleak landscape

I got the afternoon bus to the Acacia Ridge Trail along with six other people. The climb up took up just over 2km of the 5.8km walk. The climb up afforded changing views of the surrounding landscape as more peaks in the distance came into view as you got higher. As I got to the Wootana Saddle near the summit, there were spectacular views from each side of the ridge. It was a 200m walk from here to the summit where it was great to take a breather and enjoy the wonderful views and take more photographs!

The walk from the summit across the ridge was relatively easy and very enjoyable. At one point I disturbed a yellow footed rock wallaby that sat a short distance away on the ridge top. I got a good photograph as it sat and watched me. The descent was taken carefully negotiating some rocky areas and in no time at all I seemed to be back into the Arkaroola Village.

While I sat writing this report a helicopter was heard and came into land on the helipad near our accommodation. **Karen Eldridge**

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The view from Brachina Gorge Lookout on the way to Wilpena Pound.

Flinders Frolic: Arkaroola to Wilpena Pound

After breakfast in the cabins and final packing, we bid fond farewell to Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary and drove off down the dirt road in convoy. Our car almost took a bit of wilderness with us as an early morning Yellow-footed Rock Wallaby (*Petrogale xanthopus*) made a dash across the road directly in front of our car (Jim's car really - I hope he doesn't read this!). Everything went into slow motion as I applied the brakes, heard the ABS crunching and watched as we drew closer and closer to the oblivious macropod. Then time suddenly resumed normal speed as the wallaby zipped

past the front of the car with a few centimetres to spare and disappeared unscathed into the bushes. Meanwhile Julie and I were having minor heart attacks in the front seats. That was, fortunately, the closest we



ever came during the *Chambers' Gorge petroglyphs* whole trip to collecting the local wildlife. It set the scene for the rest of the journey however, and Karen and Stephan in the lead car were busy calling out warnings over the CB radio and dodging various animals.

For morning tea we stopped in at Mt Chambers Gorge (Wadna yaldha) on Chambers Creek, 60 km NE of Blinman, named after the Chambers brothers who owned pastoral leases in the area in the 1800s. The impressive peak of Mt Chambers loomed over the boulder bed of the creek lined with large, old Red River Gums (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*). After being distracted by one of the very photographable Gorge walls, **Cont. p. 23**

From p. 22. we eventually made our way into the chasm and started spotting the odd Aboriginal petroglyph before coming across the main body of work etched into the rock walls. This is obviously an important location for the Adnyamathanha people and the glyphs looked quite old and weathered.

On the way out of the Gorge, Stephan was alerted by his TyreDog (tyre pressure monitor) that he was losing pressure in his right rear tyre. He ended up pulling over further down the track and Operation Change Stephan's Tyre swung into effect. It

wasn't long before the spare tyre was on and we were all looking at the nasty sharp shard of rock jammed into the original tyre. In the mean-time people not involved in the tyre-changing



Tyre pressure monitoring (TyreDogs) meant a slow leak caused by a shard of granite was caught early before the tyre was ruined.

efforts had a chance to climb a near-by mound to look at the view. Continuing on, we arrived at Angorichina Village roadhouse on Parachilna Gorge Road, to have lunch, refuel, and buy some last-minute groceries from the well-stocked store. As we were soon to be heading into the Ikara Flinders Ranges National Park, Stephan led us into a near-by campground along a creek lined with gums to collect firewood. It was here that Julie spotted a bird (which David photographed), later identified as a Rufous Treecreeper (*Climacteris rufus*), scurrying up and down a tree trunk.

The rest of the afternoon was spent winding our way through Bunyeroo and Brachina Gorges past spectacular scenery and avoiding the ubiquitous wildlife. We commented on the pine-covered hills (Native White Cypress, *Callitris glaucophylla*), which reminded Daniel of Canadian landscapes. We came at last to Wilpena Pound Resort and secured a spot under the trees in the campgrounds. An adjacent camp kitchen with a large picnic bench was the scene for dinner - Stephan's borscht, which was rapidly devoured. After a sit around the campfire, we all retired to the tents ready to explore the sights of Wilpena Pound on the next day. **Joy Unno**

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