

November 2018



SUBARU 4WD NEWS

Meetings of
THE SUBARU 4WD CLUB of WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.
are usually held

At 7.30pm on the second **Wednesday** of each month in the

John McGrath Pavilion, South Perth

Enter off Hensman St, between Sandgate St and Allen St

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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SOCIAL MEDIA:	Jason Moore	0423 088 587 socialmedia@subaru4wdclub.asn.au

Club member of the Year 2018-2019: Robert Griffiths

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Hello all Members, what a month (and year) for the club it's been! We were lucky to have our last meeting at Subaru HQ to check out the new Forester and have some great little prizes. Those who made it had a great night and anyone who didn't missed out. Thanks again to Gary and the team at Subaru Australia WA office for staying back for us!

November is upon us, but before I get in to what's coming up, I'd like to take time and thank the committee and members for another good year as a club. We've had new trip leaders, new destinations and visited some regular favourites we can't help going back to. All of this comes down to the committee doing all the prep work behind the scenes every month to keep things running along and fresh events being planned. Without the committee and trip leaders putting in the effort we wouldn't be getting out anywhere. Recently, we just had our annual awards dinner and presentation night and congratulations go out to all the award winners and extended thanks to **Rob Griffiths** for his continuous efforts on the website. Voted "**Club Member of the Year**" is only a small recognition of the work Rob put in, well deserved, thanks again!

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. This month brings us to the **Annual General Meeting**, where we elect our Committee and the formal positions of President, Secretary, Treasurer, Editor, Trips/Social Coordinator, Delegates.

With the new constitution now in place, anyone is able to sit for a continuous term of up to 4 years if nominated and voted in, so some who have done 2 years aren't restricted like before. With Tony Richards unable to continue, we are looking for a **new Treasurer** as a minimum but all positions are open for nomination and election by anyone, so if you'd like to have a go at any of the roles, or to sit on the general committee, you can nominate on the night or send in a nomination early via the Secretary. Forms are on the website. **It's your club, so please get involved** and help shape it how you want it.

The Club financial year ended last month and membership renewal fees are all due effectively from October 1. 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. We now have EFTPOS so you can pay with most credit cards for any membership renewals or merchandise.

Thanks for reading. See you again soon. **The Pres, Adrian Longwood.**



SubieFest 2018. Our display is at the rear of this photo by Oliver Downs Photography from the SubieFest Facebook page.

SubieFest a way to introduce the club to Subaru fans

A handful of club members went down to join Perth Subaru Alliance (PSA) in their second annual 'Subie Fest WA 2018' Charity Fundraiser event. There were around 250 Subarus on display in a car show style event. There were cars

from the 70s through to the latest and greatest. All participants contributed to raising more than \$8000 for the Perth Children's Hospital Foundation. Thanks go to the PSA team on getting that together and making it even better



Our display this year at SubieFest

than the previous year's event. Stay tuned as it's set to be an annual event. Joanne, Travis, Stephan, and *eventually* Cameron came down to raise funds for PCHF and build awareness of the club. There was a good response from people visiting the club display, with a number of people excited about joining the club and camping in the bush. I enjoyed the browse around the cars and socialising with like-minded Subaru owners.

Adrian Longwood

Busy Bee date change

The date for the Busy Bee at Kaarakin has been changed to **17 NOVEMBER 8.30am – 11.30am**. This is a general busy bee. No club has nominated to lead this so if you are able to attend please do so. Bruce will be organising – his number is 0401 524949



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Annual Awards Night

Rob's site work brings Club's top honour

Robert Griffiths has been voted the 2018 Club Member of the Year.

Rob is seen here being presented his award by Club President Adrian Longwood at the annual awards night, this year held at the Dunes Restaurant at the Lancelin Beach Hotel.

Rob won his award for his "amazing work spending hundreds of hours building the best Club website". Over many months and many hundreds of hours he created a top-class website that is mobile friendly and must be one of the best club sites going in Australia.. We are lucky to have such a talented member, and we thank him.



Social trip of the year

Chris and Jim Wilcox (left) were jointly awarded the Social Trip of the Year for yet another Fiddles and Nibbles event.

Social Trip Leader of the Year

Jo Norton is the Social Trip Leader of the Year for her Christmas Party and for the Jaffle and Cocktail event at Quindanning.

Annual Awards Night



Ilan leads the way

Trip Leader of the Year is Ian Johnson.

Ilan has led a number of great trips again this year, and for each of them his organisation and attention to detail has been exemplary. All that research on Google Earth paid off with some amazing tracks that are hardly ever used, and certainly not mapped. Ian is always willing to share his experience and encourage new members to get

out in the bush camping. Of course, as anyone who has been on a trip with Ian and Nina knows, they are a team and combine their skills for every trip. Congratulations both of you.

Two remote adventures share Trip of the Year



David and Stephan's Flinders Frolic and Ian and Nina's Purnululu and Gibb River Road trips took out joint honours for Trip of the Year.





A first time for everything
Tony Richards celebrates **NOT** getting a Silly Award this year.

Girls Just Wanna Be Great 4WDrivers: to Deborah Thyne for taking her unmodified Forester over all 363 dunes on Goog's Track in South Australia. She did not get bogged, but did 'bottom out' often enough for the rest of the group to know the underneath of her car really well.



Deb (L) receives her award from Joy Unno

More Silly Awards

Depart the Wife Award: to Daniel Bedo for leaving his wife Catherine standing 'gobsmacked' beside the road on the Purnululu trip.

Inspiration Award: to Julia Moore who, while pregnant with baby Adelaide, made camping look easy while tending to son Nathan and still smiling with husband Jason.

Lost Keys Award: to Tom Minto who, on the Porongorups trip lost his keys. After watching the crew look for them for half an hour he found them by reaching into his pants pocket.

Lucky Egg Award: to Daniel Bedo who was given two uncooked eggs to prepare for breakfast. He was carrying them in one hand when he tripped over a tent guy rope and fell heavily. Daniel was a bit worse for wear but he triumphantly held up two intact eggs that he had saved from being scrambled.

Stiff as a Board Award: to Stephan Millett. While at the Wilpena Pound campground in the Flinders Ranges, Stephan washed his clothes one evening and hung them out. Next morning they were frozen stiff due to sub-zero temperatures overnight. He declined offers to play Frisbee with his undergarments!

Annual Awards Night



White knight to the rescue

Ray Dobson is presented with his White Knight 'Silly Award' by Club President Adrian Longwood. Ray produced a set of tent pegs (plus a power drill to screw them into the ground when Tom forgot his).

Pictures of the Awards Night by **Chris Thyne**

The Clayton's Leader Award: to David Peck. On two big trips where David was a nominated leader he has not been able to turn up on the first day. For the Rudall River trip he was sick and Stephan led the group north. On the Mundaring-Albany trip he was sailing on the Duyfken and caught up with the group in Collie. Stephan again led the trip, south this time.

For all your 4WD Subaru tyre and wheel needs, see our friendly sales teams at the following locations:

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Richard's Tyrepower
Osborne Park Belmont Claremont

Tyrepower

Annual Awards Night



Erica Auld and Karen Eldridge

*Deb Thyne won the **Magic Fridge Light Award** for suggesting we open the fridge for light during a power blackout*



Deb Thyne



Joy finds the Golden Spike

While in the Flinders Ranges Joy Unno took us on a goose chase to find 'the golden spike' which signified the change in rock formations and the start of the world-renown region where Ediacaran fossils are found.

Despite our searching we never found it, so here is a substitute. The Ediacaran discoveries changed existing understanding of when animal life began on the Earth. The Ediacaran Period lasted between 635 and 542 million years ago.

Yet more Silly Awards

Cameron Allen got the **Mr Sleepy Award** for sleeping in and missing three trips. **Rooky of the Year** went to Catherine Bedo. The **Seasoned Swaggers** award went to John Kiszco and Penny Price. Karen Eldridge won the **OMG What Did You Talk About Award** for surviving three weeks in a car with resident philosopher, Stephan. Joy Unno gets the **Where's Everybody?** award for turning up on the wrong day for Finska, and Jason Moore gets the **Shutting the Door Does Not Mean She is In** for driving off without Julia.

Annual Awards Night

The Foot in Both Camps Award

This goes to Karl Boeing for turning up at the Porongorups in odd shoes.

He had left home in a rush leaving another pair of odd shoes back in Esperance. At least he got them on the right feet!



The Off-piste in Camp Award went to Daniel and Catherine Bedo. When walking back to camp after a sunset view, Daniel and Catherine went 'off-piste', but nearby campers noticed. They quickly jumped into their Nissan Patrol and ferried them back to base tent - a distance of 200 metres line-of-sight!

Above: Joanne Richards and Ray Dobson. **Below left:** Wendy, Rob, Jim, Chris and Karl. **Below right:** Jenni Ibrahim.



SUBARU 4WD CLUB NEWS

CLUB CALENDAR

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
Sat 17. Kaarakin clean-up day

DECEMBER 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
31						1
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

Saturday 1. Christmas party at Jo's
Tuesday 4. Committee meeting
Wed 12. Club meeting

JANUARY 2019						
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		

No committee or general meeting

Sun 13 Annual beach run
Sat 26-Thurs 31 Deepdene Farm Stay Augusta

SUBARU 4WD CLUB OF W.A. INC.

CLUB CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 2019						
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		

Tues 5. Committee meeting
Tues 12. General meeting
Sat 9. Fish and chips at the beach. Woodman Point

MARCH 2019						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
31					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

Sat 2 – Mon 4. Camping trip. Venue tba
Tues 5. Committee meeting
Tues 12. General meeting
 Quiz: There was a bougainvillea for a baby and a sign for a town that wasn't there. It should have been cold, but wasn't. In Latin we'd say 'I believe' it was here. What is it?

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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.



We will split into groups depending on experience and start off easy, progressing to something more challenging. It is a fun day in a safe area, with experienced members who will give you advice on all facets of driving on sand, including tyre pressures, choosing the right gear ratios and how to get out after getting stuck in the sand.

This is suitable for all model 4WD Subarus (except unlifted Libertys or Imprezas). Outbacks have had a few front clearance problems in the past, so if these owners have any concerns please contact the trip leader.

Also it pays to remove the plastic splash tray under the engine if it has not already been replaced with a sump guard.

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

do more of the
fun stuff



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TRIP REPORTS

Credo Station Sunday August 26

After their trip up from Perth on Saturday, the group spent a chilly night (minimum 5°C) in the Shearer's Quarters' dongas. Karl got so cold that he got up and ran around outside trying to warm up. The thin



weatherboard of the homestead was not much better insulation than the dongas but Chris, Jim and I had perfected the right amount of bedding to keep warm in our three previous weeks of residence as Station caretakers. That included one memorable morning when it was minus 1°C and with frost on the lawn.

At 9am on Sunday we set off for a tour of areas on and off the Station, driving north up Coolgardie North Road, then taking 4WD tracks up the west side of the Clear and Muddy Lakes Reserve, heading initially towards Theil Well Mine and the former town of Siberia (yes- Siberia!).

After trundling over a reasonable track with some washouts, ruts, and roots, and lovely views of bluebush and Salmon Gums, we stopped at Rundle Dam which, unlike many Credo dams, still had water in it and sported a barbed wire fence to deter cattle. Luckily there was a cocky's gate which was ably managed by Jim and Stephan to allow us access and egress.



Sedge clumps (possibly *Juncus pallidus*?) grew along the water's edge, many of these were cropped so maybe the fence was not doing its job. Further down the track we crossed a creek gutter and stopped for morning tea.

Chadwin Tank

Cont. p.17

A little history of Credo

Credo Conservation Park is a 2120 km² former pastoral lease (Credo Station) that was established in 1906–07 by the Halford family where it first carried cattle then sheep. The Funston family bought the lease in the mid-1980s and then sold it to the Government in 2007. Credo was purchased by the Government as a representative conservation area and an important water catchment area for Rowles Lagoon (largest freshwater lake in the Coolgardie bioregion).

The Halford family had an interesting history, undertaking a year and a half long journey, with several hundred head of cattle, from Mintabying (near Tarcoola) in South Australia in 1903, across the Nullarbor, and arriving in Kalgoorlie in 1904. They really should make a movie out of this epic trek. Mrs Halford described an occasion where the horses bolted with the buggy she was driving. She and the children clung on desperately as they careened off into the bush until her husband caught up on his horse and grabbed the horse's bit to slow them down. Amazingly all the family and most of the cattle survived the trek.



Spider in a turret: probably a Lycosid (wolf spider)

From p.16 I remembered this spot from the recce we did before the Group came to Credo because there was an interesting ground spider nearby. This small brown arachnid (probably a Lycosid or Wolf Spider), had constructed a vertical earthen tube about 3 cm high in which it sat at the top surveying the surrounding area for prey. Quick as a flash it would pop out, snaffle a small insect, and zip back into the tube. It would spot a person moving and disappear instantly. Thank goodness I had a good zoom function on my camera. Heading West now, we went in search of Chadwin Tank, a 50,000 gallon concrete dam built in 1910 to support gold mining in the area. It had been filled in over the years and was restored in 2013. **Cont. p.18**

Credo: Sunday

From p.17 This was not part of the aforementioned recce and there were forays down several tracks (the Trip Leader is never lost, just exploring!) before we realised that we were searching for Chadwin **Well** on the map. Chadwin **Tank** was a different item entirely and eventually we located it a few kilometres away. In the meantime, we had found an abandoned mine – a huge hole in the ground exposing some impressive folded strata. Ever inquisitive, Stephan went for a stroll into the depths down the old interior haul road. At Chadwin Tank numerous Broom Bushes (*Eremophila scoparia*) were blooming with lilac flowers, one of the few displays of wildflowers we'd seen in the area.



Commemorative bougainvillea at Siberia

Continuing northwards, we stopped for lunch at another abandoned mine (Theil Mine) before leaving the less travelled 4WD tracks and driving down the old haul road to Siberia (that sounds so cool!). In fact, nothing now remains of the 1890s gold mining township except a small cemetery. The town was named after the nearby Siberia Tank water supply, which may have been named due to the freezing night temperatures or, in the Australian tradition of redheads being called “Bluey”, the baking hot summers being the opposite of snowy Russian Siberia. Or perhaps the words “To Hell or Siberia” cut into a tree on a local track had something to do with it. Chris and Wendy watered the 114-year-old bougainvillea bush planted in memory of the deceased newborn child of James and Mabel Kirkham, owners of the now long-gone Reward Hotel, Siberia. Leaving Siberia (I love that name!), the convoy drove through some dense mallee countryside to Ularring Rock, site of the Ularring Soak well. In 1875, the Giles exploration party stopped at the soak and, after an initially friendly interaction with local Aborigines, used firearms on a large, approaching group. **Cont. p.19**



Ularring Rock gnamma

From p.18 Giles recorded this incident as an “attack”. Ularring Rock is part of an extensive area of granitic outcrops. There were a couple of deep gnammas on the rock, still with water in them, and the granite was bisected by several large pegmatite veins. After thoroughly inspecting the rock, we visited the nearby gold mining ghost town of Davyhurst,

gazetted in 1901. Nothing there except a herd of cows and another small cemetery which we visited. Outback Graves had done good preservation work here as at the Siberia cemetery, with new signage in place. The afternoon was waning so we drove back to Credo Station on the Coolgardie-North Road, trying (not always successfully) to avoid the ruts and washaways hidden in the lengthening shadows. A round trip of about 200 km and a very historically interesting adventure in the Goldfields. **Joy Unno**

Credo: Monday

On Monday morning we bid farewell to Stephan as he headed back to Perth for an appointment, leaving Karl, Ross, Robert and I in the capable hands of the Credo Station caretakers, Jim, Chris and Joy. We all set off at around 9am to deliver lunch to the security guard at the Credo airstrip [see photo]. We continued on with Jim leading us into the bush of the station to look for various dams and waterholes. First was Almond Dam which was dry, second was Little Turkey Dam with just a small puddle at the bottom, then on to a lovely spot for morning tea, Dam 54 which had plenty of water and a flock of zebra finches to keep me entertained. The tracks were good, just a few corrugations and the odd washaway. Chris kept the following cars informed of the conditions ahead with her descriptive terms such as ‘another wobbly bit’. We headed off from morning tea to Carbine Dam which although it was dry had a carpet of green lush grass at the bottom. **Cont. p.20**

Credo: Monday

From p.19 Lunch was at Ora Banda Pub with Karl devouring a huge T-bone steak which hung over the edge of his plate. We left Ora Banda after we had our fill of burgers, chips and mobile phone coverage and headed back to Credo via Rowles Lagoon to do a bit more bird watching. A lovely day out with perfect weather and great company. **Wendy Griffiths**

Happily, the people in the Shearers Quarters were prepared for the cold this time and experienced a much better night. Jim was pleasantly surprised when Karl gave him a packet of dark chocolate Tim Tams with a Happy Birthday note as, yes it was indeed Jim's birthday.

At 9am on what was shaping up to be a sunny day, Subarus assembled and, led by Jim, headed out past the airstrip. There was an obligatory stop to say Hi to Fred, the airport security guard – a helmeted, horned cow skull stuck atop a stuffed hi-vis work suit. Although us caretakers had done a recce, we had not saved a track plot on the GPS so it was a bit of a mystery tour at first until we arrived at Almond Rock Dam



Fred, the guard at Credo airstrip

(thanks Ross for getting the name from your Hema map) which was dry. Many of the dams on the station are being closed to water collection in a bid to reduce wild cattle numbers.

We realised that we had missed the turn-off to Dam 54 so, after retracing our path, we passed Fred again and drove along the side of the airstrip past the collection of metal tables where bait for feral animals is prepared and dried. Driving past an active mine lease, we travelled over reasonable-to-rough tracks through lovely Western Woodlands landscape, eventually coming to Dam 54. Here we had morning tea, complete with a rousing round of "Happy Birthday" for Jim initiated by Karl. **Cont. p.22**

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4WD Show Prices



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Credo: Monday

From p.20 Leaving the dam, we headed north-east towards the Coolgardie North Road, stopping along the way to look at Small Turkey Dam. Ross explained that a lot of dams are round-shaped like a bird's nest and often get bird related monikers. The dam still had some water in it and being unfenced, was popular with the cattle which were evident nearby.

Eventually we emerged from the bush onto the main gravel road and headed south towards Ora Banda Inn where we were going to celebrate Jim's birthday lunch. We arrived at Ora Banda, a Goldfields ghost town with only the pub remaining, although there is the working Ora Banda gold mine nearby. The historical pub was built in 1911 and has had a chequered history including being bombed by bikies in 2000 after one of their gang was shot. It really is quite ancient and outbacky with a staff of young backpackers but has decent food including the best chips in the Goldfields. I was fascinated by an old newspaper clipping describing the demise of a local in the early 1900s who had stayed a bit late at the pub then drove his horse and wagon home but never made it. He, his dead horse and smashed wagon were discovered eventually at the bottom of a mine pit and he died in hospital from his injuries. A truly terrible example of the consequences of drink driving.

On a happier note, we enjoyed our lunch, then headed back to Credo via 4wd tracks that ended up at Rowles Lagoon. There were some deep creek ditches to cross but the Subarus all made it with flying colours. The Perth group had not visited the Lagoon before so they stayed to look around while we caretakers (who been there before - we have to visit the Lagoon once a week and clean the long drop toilet at the campsite) went back to Credo. We were expecting the imminent arrival of Regional Rangers for a 10-day stay at Credo on a works program. Later, after the Lagooners returned, we had nibbles and chocolate birthday cake (cooked by Chris) at the big table outside the homestead. After Jim blew out the candles there was another resounding round of "Happy Birthday" sung. Not long after a convoy of vehicles arrived – the DBCA Rangers, some from Kalgoorlie and some from Mundaring, the latter group quite surprised to see Ross lounging about as they have worked with him before in Perth.

The visiting Subaruers left the next morning for the drive back to Perth, all expressing their appreciation and enjoyment of their Credo Station visit. **Joy**

Unno

Flinders Frolic, Day 14, 29 June Wilpena to Gawler Ranges

It was a slow drive out of the ranges toward Port Augusta because of many kangaroos along the roadside, but on the way the temperature rose to a sunny 17 degrees and the trip in was uneventful.

Refuelling and shopping done at Port Augusta, we headed for Kimba on the Eyre Highway across barren and dry looking country. We bypassed Kimba's famous 'big galah' but stopped to admire the beautifully painted wheat silos before getting park permits at the Shire office – a slow and labour-intensive process, but at least we were out of the cold wind. We had lunch at nearby Eileen's cafe then headed northwest to the Gawler Ranges. Despite being rated for 'high lift 4WDs' the road was quite smooth up to Kolay Hut where we camped for the night. The 'hut' is a restored cement block building with three useable rooms. Deb, Joy and I each used one of the rooms while the rest set up tents anywhere they could get some shelter from the cold wind.

Day 15, 30 June Kolay Hut to Streaky Bay

In the morning David found a geocache nearby which, when we investigated it, was found to contain diverse trinkets and two notebooks with entries going back to 2005. We inserted a note and left a club card. Our first stop was Kolay Mirica Falls, barely a kilometre away. From there we continued on a smooth track through rolling hills with only occasional rocky or rutted sections to Pondanna Outstation where a group of volunteers from the Friends of Gawler Ranges were laying a concrete floor in a shed. The outstation, which dated from the 1850s and 60s, had been restored in stages by the group since 2003. It is very neat and comfortable and can be booked onsite via a microwave link to the town of Wudinna.

We pressed on to Conical Hill, a few kilometres to the West, for morning tea and a view over a valley and rolling hills. The road then descended, becoming more of a driving challenge with some rocky bumps and ruts. Our next stop was at the Organ Pipes, reached along 10 km of the roughest track we encountered in the Gawler Ranges. Climbing upstream from the carpark gave good views of columns on both sides which were tilted at an angle to make the suggestion of organ pipes quite clear. After lunch there we continued to Pildappa Rock, a large monolith similar to Wave Rock at Hyden. From there it was a non-stop drive to Streaky Bay where we decided to escape the weather by taking cabins at the Foreshore Caravan park. **Daniel Bedo**



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