

June 2019



SUBARU 4WD NEWS

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

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SUBARU 4WD CLUB of WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.

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

Next meeting

Tuesday, 11 June, 7.30pm

Moresby Street Hall, Kensington

SUBARU 4WD CLUB OF W.A. INC.

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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



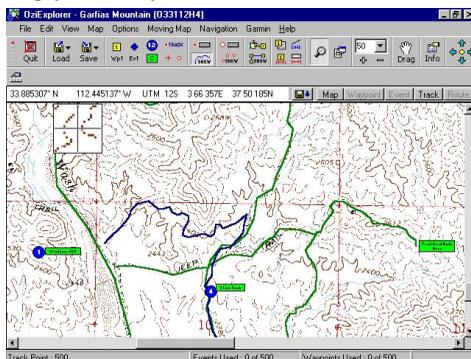
Hello all, as we soak up the last of the mild weather there's plenty happening around the club out and about on the tracks. If you didn't make it on Ross's Dwellingup trip you really missed out as he led a fantastic tour on his maiden Trip Leader voyage through Dwellingup and surrounds. Alison Goundrey graced us with her company as a guest speaker in the May meeting. She is one of the main organisers of the Tending the Tracks Alliance. They are a group formed from a variety of organisations and run a range of activities and trips full of volunteers. Follow their Facebook page to see what they have in the pipeline and register directly to secure a spot. You are all aware we have a handful going to Hill River at the end of this month. Thank you to those who've put their hand up. There are still plenty of other trips coming up that they are running in the near future. This month Ross will be taking us through map reading, yes, paper maps! These are handy when planning trips and working your way around when out remote. GPS units are handy but may not always work when you need them to. Come along and find out what the different grids, scales, contours and markers all mean.

Some of the products and gadgets I use really paid for themselves: TPMS, Garmin RV770, Ultragaugage and the Lithium second battery all proved their worth. Ask what others use too.

While Ross is busy planning the map

reading course, think of what you can present. We would like presenters for the July or August meeting. There are many topics possible, and each of us likely has one that we are able to present on. Some topics might be: cameras and equipment; using OziExplorer or Hema software; flora and fauna species identification; Dieback precautions; vehicle modifications and accessories; even kayaks – for social outings around water. If it's relevant to any trip or activity we do, then please share it.

Dave, Jo and myself had show and tell last month. Got something to show? Bring it to any meeting and share it with all or send a pic and write up to our editor Stephan. **The Pres, Adrian Longwood**



OziExplorer: Image from Stu-offroad.com

TRIP COORDINATOR'S REPORT

We have had some really good attendance on the trips last month. The Easter trip had 11 cars at Warriedar and then 6 continued on through the Murchison area. Thanks to Ross for leading his first trip, he had 15 cars which was a big convoy. He did a really good job and took us to several new places around Dwellingup, and I think this trip may become one of our regulars.

We have a few Tending The Tracks Alliance (TTTA) trips up on the website and after Alison's presentation at the last meeting I think there will be some good attendance on these trips. You don't have to do all of them, but pick one that interests you and go along. It will be a rewarding experience.

Thanks to Jim for hosting us for the Fiddles and Nibbles in his awesome workshop. Along with some of the other members there was a wealth of experience and knowledge to help with turning ideas into the finished product.

The Silo Art Trail trip for the long weekend was shortened by leaving out Albany (as many have said they have seen the silo art there). The overnight stops at Newdegate and Ravensthorpe gave options to camp, to have a room or cabin, and to eat out. The trip also planned to explore the Sutherland Track between Pingrup and Nyabing.

Some Subaru club members in Queensland found out about our 5 deserts trip and proposed to meet us in Birdsville. They must have close ties with the NSW club as they said some of their members may join in too. I made an off the cuff comment about inviting the Victorians and South Australians, and on reflection I thought why not. So I sent them an invite to meet us in Birdsville on August 1.

Cheers, David



Jim guides work on Keith's car

This job is not just about the money

Club Treasurer Erica Auld is returning to live in Victoria, near family, and has resigned as Treasurer. This means that we need to elect a new Treasurer at the next meeting. This job is not just about the money! The Treasurer has a key role in keeping the Club running. Please consider applying for this key role, or think of someone you can nominate.

do more of the fun stuff



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Noble Falls Tavern lunch ... and a walk too 16 June

Come along to lunch at the historic Noble Falls Tavern Restaurant – a laid-back watering hole turning out sizeable portions of hearty pub food. The tavern is dog-friendly (but you need to eat outside). There are gluten-free options available. Barramundi, steak, salads and many others can be made GF. Just ask the staff when ordering and they can let you know.

Make sure that you take the time to visit Noble Falls just across the road from the Tavern. The entrance to Noble Falls is via the Old Toodyay Road about 120m east of the Tavern.

There is a lovely walk from the Falls along the Wooroloo Brook, which is attractive at all times of the year. Many birds and other wildlife live in the nature reserve. The wildflowers are in bloom in the spring and the waterfall is stunning in winter. Dogs are allowed off the leash as long as the owner has them fully under control at all times. The round-trip walk takes 45 minutes.

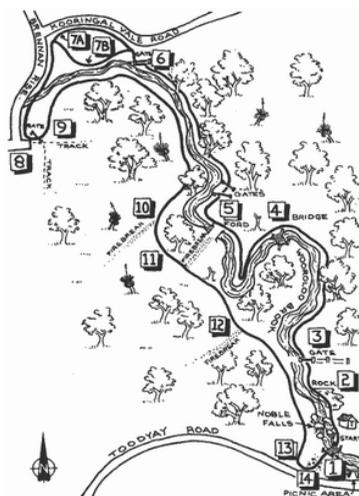


Image: Gidgegannup Community Groups website.

Winter lunch for Santa at Summer Creek

Let's have a truly Australian Christmas-in-July lunch experience at the rustic but welcoming Summer Creek Restaurant and Brewery at Bakers Hill (yes, the location of the renown Bakers Hill Bakery, iconic morning tea stop for Club trips starting off on the Great Eastern Highway). Break out your ugleeee Xmas sweaters and shirts! It's their time to shine!

When: Saturday 27 July at 12.30 pm. **Where:** Summer Creek Restaurant & Brewery, 9 Yates Street Bakers Hill. **Cost:** \$35/person.

Website: <https://www.summertimecreekrestaurantbrewery.com.au/>

Hosts Rupert and Annette are providing a delicious Christmas menu consisting of turkey and ham roast with veg plus a special home-made Christmas Pudding. A nut roast is available for vegetarians, plus some gluten-free options. Soft drinks and specialty beer and ale brewed on the premises are available.

Rupert may lead us on a tour of the impressive, shiny brewery if he is not too busy. Join the trip on the Club website or ring Joy on 0429 4737 09.

Five deserts: some still left

July-August

This trip starts with the 4WD Association's Gathering in Karratha, then heads east across the Pilbara, the Great Sandy Desert and the Gary Junction Road to the Northern Territory and Alice Springs.



There is a separate trip, leaving on July 20, from Perth to Alice but the Simpson Desert leg of the trip is full.

From Alice the trip goes past the geographical centre of Australia. Then the convoy crosses the **Simpson Desert on the French Line track**, ending up at Birdsville. Then down the **Birdsville Track to Coober Pedy**. There is still an option to travel from Coober Pedy to Laverton via the Anne Beadell Highway – which definitely is NOT a highway – across the Great Victoria Desert.

TRIP PROMOTIONS

An advertisement for Richard's Tyrepower. The top part features a white Subaru 4WD vehicle driving through a large splash of water on a dirt road. The text above the vehicle reads: "For all your 4WD Subaru tyre and wheel needs, see our friendly sales teams at the following locations:". Below this, three locations are listed: Belmont (9277 5418, www.belmonttyrepower.com.au), Claremont (9286 2299, www.claremonttyrepower.com.au), and Osborne Park (5415 2231, www.osborneparktyrepower.com.au). The bottom section of the ad displays logos for various tyre brands: PIRELLI, BRIDGESTONE, DUNLOP, Continental's, GOOD YEAR, FALKEN High Performance Tyres, BFGoodrich, MICHELIN, Cooper TIRES, MAXXIS, TOYO TIRES, and YOKOHAMA. At the bottom, the Richard's Tyrepower logo is shown, with the text "Richard's Tyrepower" and "Osborne Park Belmont Claremont" on a red background, and the Tyrepower logo on a blue background.

NEWS

Go off-road and do good work with good people

At the May general meeting we were treated to a talk by Alison Goundry, one of the coordinators of the Tending The Tracks Alliance (TTA). This community-based group managing off-road areas along the coast from Wilbinga to Dongara is an alliance of strange bedfellows: the Conservation Council of WA, the 4WD Association of WA, Track Care and local governments along and near the coast.

Alison told the meeting there were 522,000 off-road capable vehicles in WA, with 48,000 new ones added this year. These numbers showed that off-roading had special importance to the region, and these sometimes competing needs had to be managed.

The Alliance was formed in January last year to manage the tensions between the vital environmental issues in this region and the needs of the off-roading community. The Conservation Council saw a great need to secure and conserve environmentally sensitive areas and to do so with the help of off-roaders. The Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions in Jurien had had a plan for the area for the past 10 years



Alison Goundry



—and because Tending The Tracks brought volunteers and financial support from grant money, the DBCA plan could finally be implemented

The DBCA plan involved areas from Cervantes, through Harrop Inlet and Honeymoon Bay, to the Hill River Estuary south of Jurien. This area is still in good condition and with the help of citizen science coordinated by the Conservation Council, the Tending The Tracks Alliance could work on gathering important scientific data while also maintaining tracks, and limiting access to some of the more fragile areas. The citizen science teams were, in particular, focusing on three projects: monitoring



Judith Brinkley addresses the meeting

plastic on beaches, especially micro and nano-particles; beach nesting birds; and work on identifying the number of feral animals in the target areas.

Alison noted that there were plans to expand the education activities in the project, focusing on young people and schools, and incorporating Turquoise Coast aboriginal cultural education.

Judith Brinkley, who is community engagement officer with TTTA, also spoke briefly, talking about how to get involved by taking up a project. Taking up a project did not mean doing everything, but involved coordinating on the day of a trip. Each trip would have members from a number of 4WD clubs.

Club members can get involved by signing up for the TTTA trips in the Club Calendar. You can also talk to our Environmental Officer Joy Unno who has been active in the TTTA trips, and when he gets his head around the job, talk to Stephan Millett who was last week elected as a 4WD Association representative on the Tending The Tracks Alliance steering committee.



Gnome (n.) a small spirit with old magic

Some of you have met me, and some of you have given me names because of how I look. I've been lucky in this because some of you reckon I look like some wonderful people.

Gnomes have been known for quite a while: we were part of magic and alchemy in the 15th century and quite a few countries have their own names for us, names such as Leprechaun in Ireland or Nisse (in Scandinavia). And that great British author Terry Pratchett must have known a few or could not have written his fabulous books about us. But, I'm an Aussie gnome, like the ones down in the Ferguson Valley – but *real*. My name is Gnomey and although I have only been in the club for a short time I have been getting into the swing of going on the great trips on offer. The big news is I went on my first big trip over Easter to Warriedar and through the Murchison. I enjoyed this a lot, except for the water crossing where some careless big person dipped my toes in the water. I did not enjoy that, but I did enjoy making a new friend called Nathan (he's with me in the picture) who played with me.



I saw some great places including an old gold mine at Reid's Ridge, an 'Experimental Farm' at Damperwah, granite outcrops, Jokers Tunnel, Walga Rock, Wooleen Station, water from the Murchison River flowing over the road (which forced us to camp the night on the banks of the river), Murchison settlement, old stock wells, and Coalseam Conservation Park.



I also had a game of Finska. It was fun for a while hiding in among the gnome-size skittles, but then the big people started throwing sticks at me. The people on the Easter trip were friendly and started calling me 'wee Jimmie' as a nickname. But they were a bit rude and said I must be Scottish because I didn't pay for my share of the fuel costs and camping fees for the trip. So I didn't talk to them for a couple of days!

I love to have my photo taken and I would like to share my photos with the world. If someone is able to help me set up my own Facebook page I would appreciate it.

I am also a little bit fragile and really need a proper padded sleeping bag to protect me. Would any club members who are handy with a sewing machine be able to make one for me?

I would love to come as a passenger on trips with you, and I promise to behave myself and not get too drunk and unruly like those Irish cousins of mine seem to.



SUBARU 4WD CLUB OF W.A. INC.

CLUB CALENDAR

JUNE 2019						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
30	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

Sat-Mon 1-3. Silo art tour
Tues 4. Committee meeting
Tues 11. General meeting
Sun 16. Noble Falls Tavern lunch
Sat- Sun 29-30. Camp oven cookout

JULY 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			

Tues 2 Committee meeting
Tues 9. General meeting
Sat 6 – 20. Gathering short trip
Sun 14. Powerlines, Mundaring
Mon 15-25 Karratha-Alice Springs
Sat 20 – Wed 24. Perth to Alice
Thurs 25 – 5 August. Alice via Simpson Desert to Coober Pedy
Sun 27. Xmas in July

AUGUST 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

Tues 6. Committee meeting
Tues 13. General meeting 7.30pm
Sat 17. Breakfast at the Left Bank. 8am
Fri-Sun 23-25. Tending the Tracks
Sun 25. Lancelin Dunes

SUBARU 4WD CLUB OF W.A. INC.

CLUB CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 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					

Tues 3. Committee
Tues 10. General meeting
Sat 7. Tenpin bowling. Morley
Sat-Mon 28-30. Coalseam Conservation Park wildflower trip

OCTOBER 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		

Tues 1. Committee
Tues 8. General meeting
Fri-Sun. 4,5,6 Cocktails and Jaffles
 Quiz: there's a lovely word in this mag that means the special light at twilight. What is it? Answers by email to the editor. Oh, and one particular member is not eligible for this prize.

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A new roll for an old bottle

Life Member Ray Stewart has a mate who makes all sorts of joke items. This one (right) looks useful for a late night run in wet weather.



A chilly start to a busy day seeing the sites

Warriedar Day Two, Saturday 20 April

TRIP REPORTS

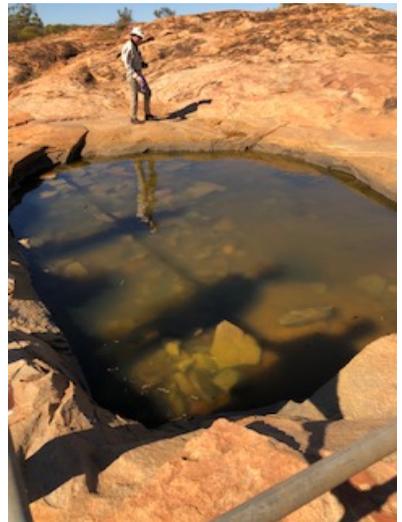
We woke up nice and early to a bright and sunny day, but then the wind came in across Monger Lake and it was bitterly cold (and thermals time for me).

Quite a few people were already up trying to catch the early worms so after having breakfast and making sure everything was ready for departure (in our case making sure the Quad copter and Go Pros were charged etc) we all gathered and departed from the camp site around 9.15. Heading towards the old ruin house and open shafts the roads were great and we could reach speeds up to 80 km/h and arrived about 10. After arriving we dispersed and, looking at the scattered bricks around, we could identify where the house had been built. There were also plenty of old bottles broken of course and old tins.



Then we were all back in our cars and hit the road again, heading toward

Rothsay cemetery. It was amazing to see graves dating back to 1883. There were five graves I could see, with one having a large headstone and wrought iron fencing around the grave. It is incredible to think that in those days to bring the head stone would have taken a long time by horse and cart. It is hard to imagine taking so long to bring this memorial to its final resting place.



Next was a quick stop at Sandalwood Cutters Hut ,then straight off to Boiada. For lunch we stopped at Damperwah State Farm for about 45 minutes. For 10 years , between 1929 and 1939, the then Department of Agriculture

Cont. p. 15



Jo and Oscar find some water, and mud, near Warriedar. Wheeeee!

Seeing the sites

From p. 14 conducted wheat cropping trials at the farm to determine the wheat varieties and cropping method for the region.

Our next stop was the Camel Soak and by this time the weather was great and getting hot. Camel Soak is a waterhole on a granite outcrop currently used by wildlife and human visitors. It was a water source for camels and workers when building the rabbit-proof fence, and was important to Aboriginal people long before then. I must mention that the toilet facilities were excellent, with flushing toilets.

After spending around 20 minutes there, we all jumped back into our cars and headed for the last place of the day – John Forrest lookout – before heading back to the camp site for Tea. At the lookout a few people managed to walk to the top but I stayed at the cars with a few others. This lookout forms part of the Damperwah Hills, which John Forrest (later the State's first Premier) named during his 1869 search for the missing German explorer Ludwig Leichhardt.

In 1897 Forrest used the top of the hill as a survey point during his expedition to Cue and Day Dawn.

The current lookout was an Australian Bicentennial project with financial assistance from the State and Commonwealth governments.

Once back at camp site we waited for the wind to drop before we lit a fire and gathered to have nibbles and chat about the day till dark then said good night until the next day. **Julie Shrubsall**

Breakfast with chocolate chasers

Warriedar Day 3. Sunday 21 April

The day began with a range of Easter Bunnies distributing eggs in the early morning. After breakfast with chocolate chasers we set off at 9.15.

The plan was for this to be a much shorter driving distance than the day before. Nine cars set off as Julie remained at camp, Jo got a lift with Wayne

and Kris was a passenger with Mark. The main focus of the day was to be a visit to Thundelarra which was northwards from our camp site. David was aiming to pick up a track heading in the desired direction. After a certain amount of milling around a concrete tank and following an old fence line we arrived once again at Warriedar homestead. We were met there by Matt W., a former participant in club trips. Matt has now moved on to a different Subaru from the Orange, highly lifted, loud and turbocharged Liberty he previously drove.

Some further track hunting took place till we eventually found our way to Reid's Ridge Mine (abandoned). There was a very untidy collection of machinery and accommodation which had been vandalised over the last 15 or so years.

Kris searched at a much more micro level and found some tiny land snail shells. She planned to pass these on to her scientific contacts who study such things. After morning tea at the mine site, we searched for a track that would take us in the desired direction. There were lots of radio discussions about what people could or couldn't see on their GPS and various episodes of backtracking. Tracks in all directions seem to be a hazard around old mine sites. Guidance eventually came via the UHF with a 'heavy' driver providing directions. We had seen him earlier near the mine site. His advice saved us time and fuel. **Cont. p. 17**





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Day 3 From p. 16. Possibly he couldn't bear listening to the process any more. Jason and Julia returned to camp as their eight-month-old was reportedly going into meltdown phase.

Further travel on good dirt roads brought us to Thundelarra Homestead where we were met by Ranger Paul. He gave very generously of his time explaining the history of the Thundelarra homestead and the adjoining five former pastoral stations that have been amalgamated to form the Karara Rangelands. From memory, he is the principal manager of some 600,000 hectares with limited assistance sometimes from volunteers and resident hosts. Thundelarra has a number of buildings of various ages and states of repair. There is provision for groups of up to 20 people at a time to stay there. No tent camping is permitted.

On our way back to camp we visited Field's Find Cemetery. This has a grave for four miners who were killed in an underground explosion in 1899. One of

these apparently made the poor decision to light up a cigarette next to a store of explosives. There were another four or five graves with the whole cemetery encompassed within what is basically a small vehicle turning circle.

On the way home, about 3km's from camp, we came across a sizeable pool of muddy water across the road. Wayne had so much fun blasting through at speed he returned later with six cameras and two drones. We did not get back to base till late afternoon. As David pointed out, he said that the driving distance for the day was short but hadn't said anything about driving time. Either way, it was a whole lot of fun and a most interesting day. **Tom Minto**



You can take a gnome to water, but... he won't want to get wet.

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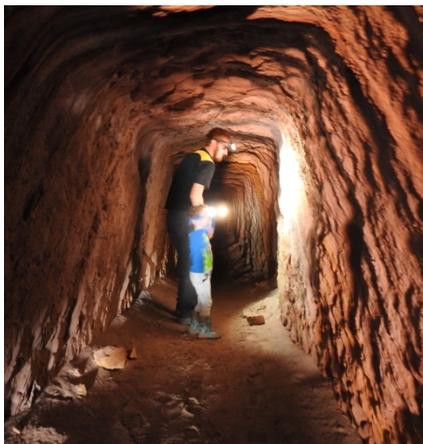


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Jokers, bats, chapels and tongue-rolling tests

Warriedar Day 4 . April 22

On the final day at Mongers Lake everyone had packed and was ready to depart by 9:30am. Most people were heading back to Perth and only six vehicles were travelling further north. Our first stop wasn't far away as Dave took some action photos of us travelling through one of the larger puddles in the area but then we were off again to visit Jokers Tunnel and have morning tea. As soon as someone mentioned there were crickets in the tunnel, Jo decided it wasn't for her – just



as well she didn't know about the micro bats that Nathan and Jason had found. After leaving Jokers we were then heading to Yalgoo to refuel – both the vehicles and ourselves, with lunch. The 24hr fuel pumps (credit/debit cards) were the only option on Easter Monday, so after the vehicles were full* we tracked down the Dominican Chapel of St Hyacinth that was constructed by Monsignor John Hawes. After getting a detailed insight into the building and John Hawes from Kris, we headed back into town to have lunch on the shady grass in the town park.



Whilst Adelaide had some fun on the grass, Nathan enjoyed himself in the Yalgoo waterpark before it was time to continue down the road for a short stop at Chinaman Rock. We were able to reach Melangata Station by 3:30pm, find our preferred camping sites and start settling in before Stephan joined us around 4pm. As the crepuscular light faded and the small campfire glowed, Nathan conducted a 'tongue rolling' survey for us. We must be a unique bunch, as 8 of the 9 people around the campfire passed his test !*not exactly full as each of us was shortchanged a few dollars from our pre-fill amount. **Mark Smithers.**

CLUB MERCHANDISE – buy items at the meetings



Bisley khaki 100% cotton long sleeve shirts (in Men's and Women's sizes) are available at a subsidised cost of \$40 with logo (but no name) and \$45 with logo and name. If you buy a shirt from Club stock with no name, you can have your name added later by taking the shirt to Hip Pocket in Balcatta and having it embroidered (on the spot if you ring first) at a cost of \$7.



Royal blue and white ("Contrast") polyester/cotton polo shirts (with pocket) are available at a subsidised cost of \$15

JBsWear Full Zip Polar Jackets (in Men's and Women's sizes) with logo (to be added) are available for \$36. Details: 100% polyester for durability; 290gsm low pill polar fleece; 2 front pockets; and adjustable elastic hem with toggles



Cap – royal blue and white. Logo added. \$15



History Books \$10



Royal blue and white ("Podium Bold") 100% polyester polo shirts (with pocket) are available at a subsidised cost of \$15.



Embroidered Badges – \$5



Club stickers \$3



Beanies – \$9



Wide-brimmed hat. \$20



Neoprene can coolers – \$5

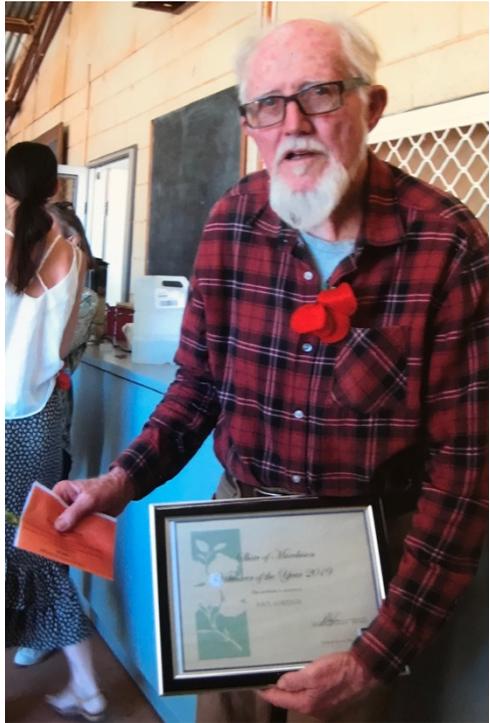
Paul nurtures Lone Pine at Shire with no town

Murchison Settlement has a war memorial, an impressive one with several standing stones, which is all the more impressive considering it is the only local government area in Australia without a town. With only 26 residents (with Shire staff away on leave for the week) a large crowd of more than 40 people – and several dogs – attended the 10am ANZAC Service.

Located centrally on the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road in the red dirt mid-West Australian Outback, some 200km from any town, it is an extraordinary surprise to discover a small, thriving northern hemisphere pine – a Lone Pine.

Across Australia and New Zealand many war memorials (including parks, RSL and schools) have varying success in growing this symbol of the ANZAC spirit acquired in the defining events of the World War 1 Gallipoli campaign, particularly the landing on the peninsula and the brutal battle at Lone Pine.

An article in the *Australian Geographic* (1 April 2011, p44) outlines the story of two soldiers sampling pine cones of different sources. A seedling from the demolished Lone Pine itself provided for the tree grown at the Shrine of Remembrance in Melbourne. A different species of pine taken from a branch imported to build the Turkish trenches provided a seedling to stand at the Australian War Memorial in Canberra. **Cont. p. 23**



From p. 22. The original seedlings from the 1930s plantings, when matured, produced cones for the next generation of many seedlings for general distribution.

Binnu primary school has a Lone Pine, planted in 1968. Sandy McTaggart, from Murchison, germinated seedlings from a Binnu tree cone, but the initial attempt to grow a tree in a pot failed. Paul Lukitsch, who looks after the Murchison memorial, required a replacement seedling. “Paul of Murchison” as ABC radio talk back listeners know him, received advice from gardening guru Sabrina Hahn.

Nestling the roots immediately, to keep them cool, into the red soil that had been bolstered with particular micro-biotics, Paul has nurtured a flourishing specimen.

The young tree is usually protected from kangaroos and other wildlife with wire mesh that Paul has constructed, along with a reticulation system. The tree is ‘unveiled’ for its special day each April.

Paul Lukitsch is 80 and emigrated from USA to Australia in 1970, making Murchison Settlement his home three years ago. He served two tours of duty for the USA in Vietnam with the Quaker-inspired International Volunteer Services.

After the moving ANZAC commemorative ceremony at ‘smoko’ in the sports pavilion, Paul Lukitsch was honoured to be made “Shire of Murchison Volunteer of the Year, 2019”.

Club members on the Murchison trip were at the ANZAC ceremony and were invited to ‘smoko’ to see Paul be honoured.

Kris Brimmell



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