

Subaru 4WD News



September 2021

**Next
meeting**

Tues 14th

7pm

**Ranger
Outdoors**

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Albany
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Doing the dunes in style

Lancelin day trip was full of fun. More pictures, pages 7-12

SUBARU 4WD CLUB of WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.

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<http://www.subaru4wdclubwa.asn.au/>

<https://www.facebook.com/Subaru4wdClubWA/>

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Club member of the Year 2019-2020

Joanne Norton

Life members

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



25 July - Day trip

It was a very cold day outside, which set the scene beautifully for a cosy roast dinner. Some of those attending got there early and had a drink from the bar while they waited for the rest to arrive. When all were assembled we found our way to the very cosy corner booth that had been reserved for us.

Dury Nellie's is obviously a popular location for this event as it was fully-booked. It felt very festive and welcoming. There were a few 'ugly' jumpers (it's one of the Club's traditions to wear something kitsch) while others were in Christmas colours Henry and Debbie were really dressed to impress. Jo and Adrian were happy to see the cricket was on!

We ordered our food and drinks at the bar, and were all surprised at the very generous serves. Great value!

Despite being warned that there were multiple sittings organised one after the other at the venue there was no rush to leave as although our table was booked from 2.30 to 4pm, it wasn't reserved until after 6.

Overall it was a lovely way to while away a wintry afternoon. Thanks, Jo, for organising everything.

Vanessa Carn

Inside your magazine

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- Final day of Hyden Hideouts, **p. 22**

There's to like on our Facebook page. In a year we've gone from 100 followers to more than 1000! Take a bow, Vanessa.



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To receive offers members must mention they are Westcycle members at time of bookings or prior to negotiations. Offer excludes Impreza.

Don't forget the September meeting is at Ranger Outdoors 1163 Albany Highway Bentley at 7pm. Glen has offered to host the meeting for us ... and he is having a **relocation sale!** Come early, the store is open. By all accounts the two trips to Exmouth went well. Thanks to Deb and Ross for leading the trips and well done to everyone who went along for their help during each trip. Is there interest in **mid-week events?** We have a few people who are shift workers and others who are retired and if there is sufficient interest we could schedule some mid-week day trips. Let

President's Report

me or Travis know if you are interested – and if you have ideas on where to go.

I was speaking to the chair of **Track Care** at their last meeting and he was **happy to have Subaru 4WD club members attend their events.** Track Care WA was formed in 1997 by four-wheel drive recreationalists concerned that the tracks they loved using were at risk of being loved to death. Track Care's primary objective is to "maintain access for the future" so that off-road vehicle bush-tracks will remain



accessible for four-wheel drive recreational purposes. They have a variety of projects on the go from manufacturing and installing toilets on the Canning Stock Route to assisting in conserving relics of Western Australia's pastoral heritage by restoring old homesteads. Have a look at their website <https://trackcare.com.au/> to see what they do.

David Peck

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This was my first trip leading a crew through the Lancelin dunes. Unlike other trips there's not much prior planning to be done as the dunes are a mobile system and they change a bit between trips.

Hanna and I joined the convoy at Lancelin as we live east of Perth and it was easier to take a cross-country run via Gingin, and being able to leave home later gave us time to feed our horses and other animals.

Once at the dunes I took a group of 9 cars with drivers who were new to sand driving. This was my first time leading a convoy across the Lancelin dunes, but I had backup from David who took the tail end role, and who slipped into the lead role when I led us down a blind valley and we had to turn the convoy around.

Like the new drivers, in my new role I was a little nervous. I wanted to make the trip fun but not so challenging that people would get scared and not want to go on. It helped that my first time driving on sand was only six years ago and was still a vivid memory. I decided to lead them over some small mounds and down and around some trial downhills and valleys before stepping up the the difficulty.



A brilliant day of fun - and a challenge or two

I knew we were on a winner at the top of the first real challenge when every driver was beaming and excited: they wanted more!

We found more and more challenging sections of the dunes, where I got out and walked to the edge (or over the top) to check out the

dangers before leading the convoy further. It helped having a hand-held two-way to talk people through, and David's calm presence at the end of the line.

It was lunchtime sooner than it seemed possible, and (with a bit of 'help' with directions

Cont. p. 8



From p. 7

from Adrian) we arrived at the lunch spot – which was at the bottom of a long dune at the edge of the dune system. The downhill was the steepest and longest of the day to that point, but none of the new drivers flinched and all took to it willingly. It helped having Adrian at the bottom of the slope giving fine tuning hints via the two-way.

We had lunch and then some left and others stayed to play a bit longer. This was a great day, full of fun, frivolity and friendship. Thanks to Adrian for the leading the convoy from Perth, for taking the more experienced drivers on their own adventure and once again for clear information on tyre pressures and driving hints. **Stephan Millett**

More p. 10



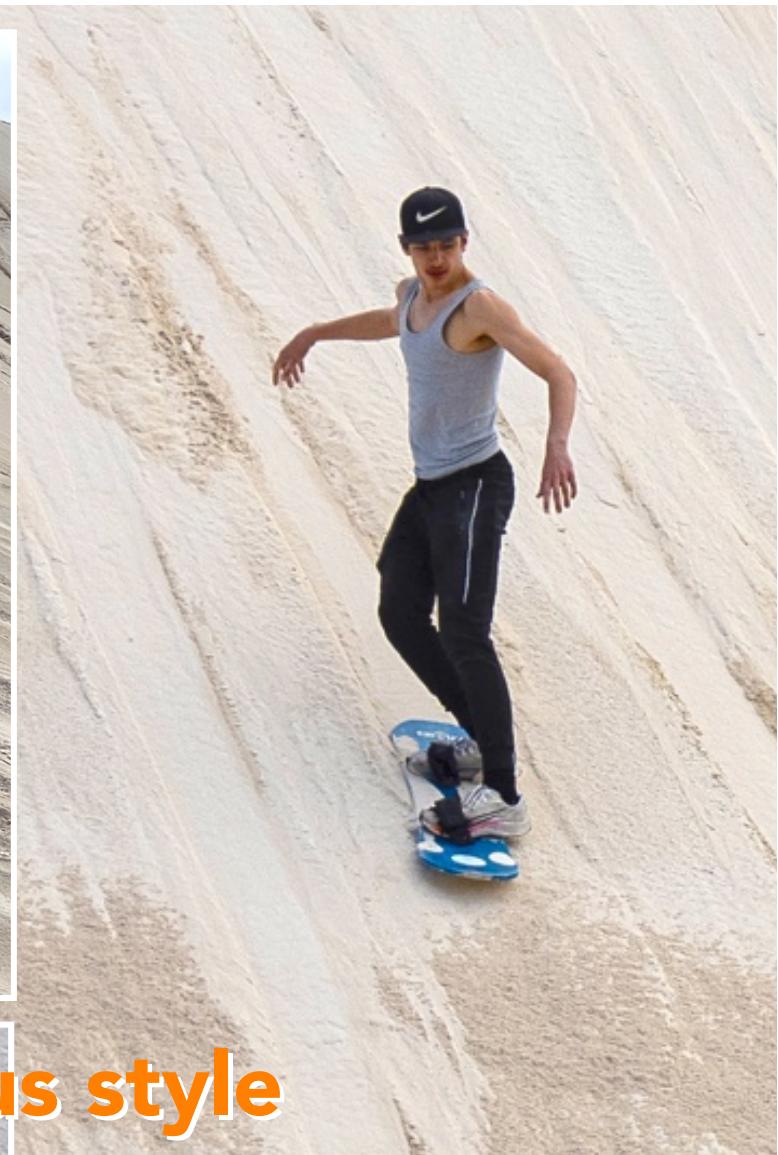
On Saturday 21 August 15 or so cars traveled to Lancelin to once again brave the sand dunes. After morning tea at the bakery Adrian took us through a safety and information drill. After deflating our tyres we were then divided into two group, learners and intermediate. Adrian took the intermediate group and Stephan and David took those new to sand driving. Stephan and David led us through the dunes till they found ones suitable for us to practice driving up and down. What an exhilarating, scary,

mind blowing experience for one who had not done this before. All I wanted to do after the first uphill and downhill experience was TO DO IT AGAIN !!! It was such fun and great to be out with the Subaru Club again on my second outing. Fortunately this time I didn't lose you all.

After a picnic lunch some had fun on the dunes others mingled and drove some more until we all departed for home.

All I wanted to do was to do it again!

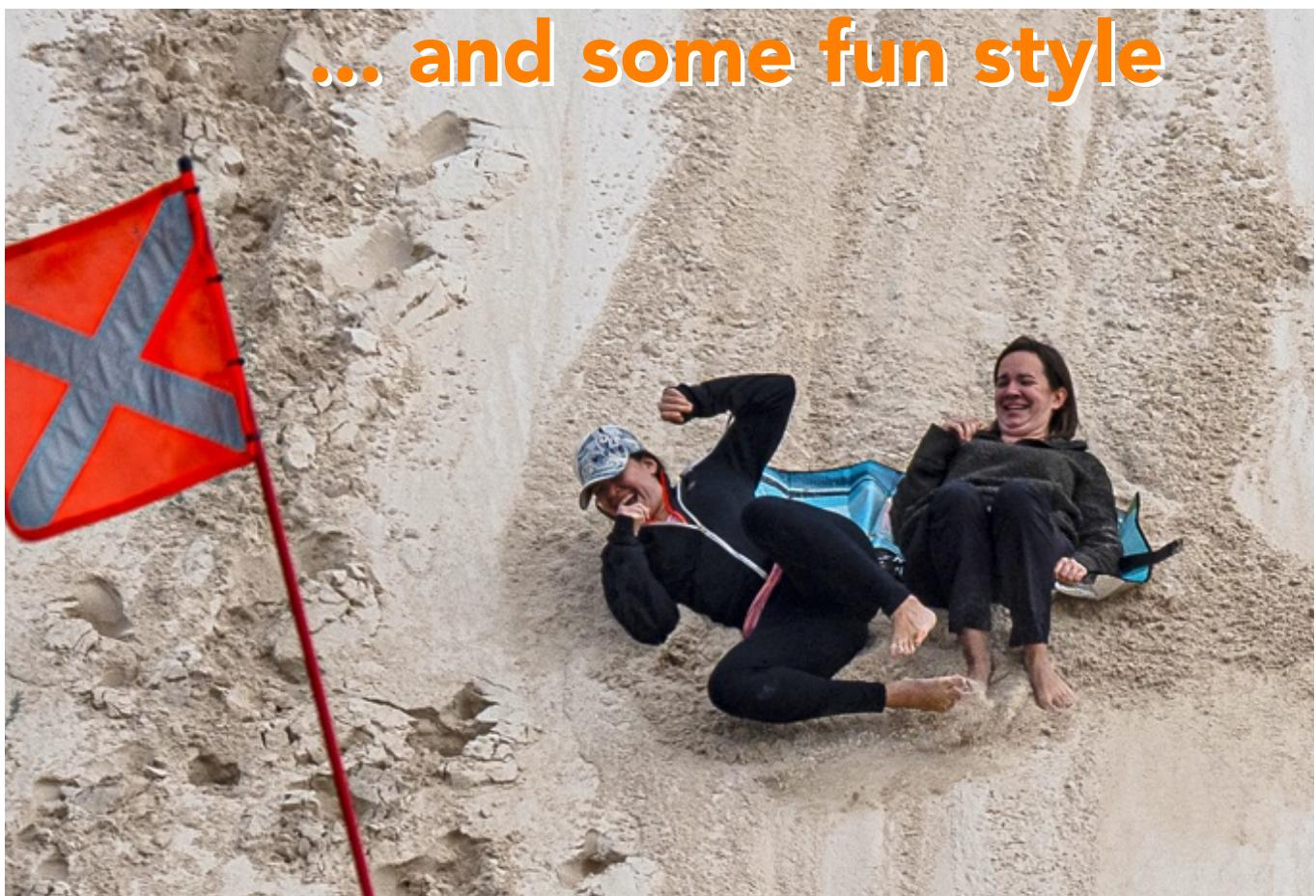




There's serious style



... and some fun style



From p.10

It was interesting to see the two-wheelers storming the dunes and to see a Magna sedan get bogged after the driver did one too many doughnuts in the sand – he basically buried the front end up over the wheel arches. It turned out that he and his mates had no recovery gear – which we found out from Adrian who some time later spent some time helping them get the Magna out.

Thanks to Adrian, David, Stephan and other members who made the day a safe, educational, fun day. What a way to learn more about our cars and to meet with other Subaru owners.

Margaret Pollard



Dunes spark early memories of north Africa

Who hasn't dreamt of driving through big white sand dunes as a kid? I certainly did... and my kids never miss a chance to join me on this annual event! Lancelin's sand dune day with the Subaru Club is now a day well-marked in our family yearly calendar!

As a kid raised in Belgium from parents who spent four years in Algeria (Northern Africa), I have my childhood memories filled with stories of the great sandy desert and how well my dad's Citroen did on soft sand while heavy cars couldn't make it through. His car was light... as are our Subies. My kids claimed on the way to 'Lano'... 'your Blueburru (Blue SJ Forester) eats sand for breakfast Papa'. From the meeting point to exiting the dunes in the early afternoon the day was super well organised as always. With a big convoy of 20 cars we split into two groups and later converged for lunch on the northern edge of the dunes.

This is my fifth time to Lancelin and I honestly never get bored of pushing our little Subies through these big walls of white soft sand. I love the thrill of not knowing if the car will make it to the top ... and the big sigh of relief every time the Subie makes it past the crest!

Thanks everyone for a great day! Can't wait for the next one.

Martin Dutry





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Cocktails and Jaffles with the Landcruiser Club September 10 - 12

Once again the Toyota Land Cruiser Club has invited us to join them for their Cocktails and Jaffles night at the Qindanning Race Course. Campers, tents and vans are welcome and the course has toilets and showers.

Attendees will be split into teams and each team has to create a savoury jaffle, dessert jaffle and a cocktail for the group to taste test and be voted on.

The trip leaves on Friday afternoon and dinner is at the pub. Saturday and Sunday is set aside to explore some bush tracks and looking for wildflowers.

Check the Club's website for costs.

Melangata camping & camp oven cooking

September 25 – 27

This is a chance to camp at historic Melangata station, NNE of Yalgoo and around 650km from Perth.

The homestead was designed by Monsignor John Hawes, who also designed a number of churches in the mid west. This station is run by Jo Clews, who is famous for her

Forthcoming Club trips

camp oven cooking and if you wish you can have a camp oven cooking lesson with help from Jo.

We will be camping at the station on unpowered bush sites which are suitable for tents, camper trailers and caravans. There are flushing toilets and hot showers at the campsite..

If you fancy taking up the camp oven cooking classes, this will cost \$85 per person and includes two nights camping, Damper making on first night, Homestead tour and extended station tour the next morning, getting back around 3pm. Then there's the camp oven master class on the second night and a shared long table dinner. We will learn to cook mains and some desserts that we will share for the Sunday dinner.

If you don't have a camp oven you can borrow one as we will have spares, or join in and help someone else. You can also compare the different style camp ovens, cast iron and spun steel, which both have their own pros and cons. If you don't want to do the camp oven classes you can pay for the camping and tours separately. Bring your own meals for Saturday night, lunch

and breakfasts.

Bring everything for a bush camp.

Wandering through the Wandoor to Wandering

18 September - Day trip

Meet at 8.15 for an 8.30 departure, see website for details.

It's that time of the year again when our thoughts turn to checking out the wildflowers and exploring the beautiful Wandoor forest. Come join me and we will go check it out.

Along the way, as well as checking out the flowers, we can explore some new country, climb an odd rock outcrop or two, try to reach the top of a hill, see how the farmers' crops are going and travel some interesting tracks.

This trip can be done as a day trip or you can throw in your camping gear and we will find a nice bush location for an overnight camp complete with campfire.

This trip is of easy to moderate difficulty. We will be travelling on reasonable gravel roads and forest tracks. There may be the odd more challenging bit.

Bring lunch plus snacks and water for the day. More food plus camping gear if you want

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From p. 14

to camp overnight. Have a full tank of fuel the standard Club trip items: CB radio, personal First Aid Kit, and a current personal medical form in your glovebox

Kaarakin Clean Up 19 September - Day trip

Come to Kaarakin at 322 Mills Road East ,Martin and help to give the Black Cockatoo facilities a general clean-up. The 4WD Association has volunteered to help the people of the Black Cockatoo Preservation Society with their regular busy bees at Kaarakin and asked our Club to provide some help.

The work is planned for the morning. Meet at Kaarakin

Rocky Pool Trail Walk

3 October - Day trip

Join in a lovely bush walk in the Perth Hills exploring beautiful bushland and abundant wild flowers.

We'll take the Rocky Pool loop walk in the Kalamunda National Park, 28kms (about 30 minutes) east of Perth.

Meet at 9.30 for a 10am start. The trail visits the natural swimming hole known as Rocky Pool, which was a popular swimming destination for locals in the 1930s. Parts

Forthcoming Club trips

of the walk are steep, and can be loose and challenging in places, but the more challenging sections offer spectacular hill and valley views as a reward for hikers. You can choose a wilder or milder track.

The Rocky Pool Walk is a 5km loop in the Kalamunda National Park visiting the picturesque Rocky Pool, with beautiful seasonal wildflowers and abundant wildlife. It includes a section of the Bibbulmun Track. There is a car park at the end of Spring Road, Kalamunda, at the start point of the trail. Information panels along the trail describe the history, flora, fauna and land forms of the area.

Participants can choose to do the shorter walk to Rocky Pool and return while others may like to do the whole 5km loop.

No matter which walks you choose to do the group can meet back in the car park for a relaxed picnic lunch before heading home.

Please note this walk does include sections of steep loose ascents and descents and a degree of fitness and great care is required. It is recommended sturdy walking

shoes be worn and bring your hiking stick if you use one. A couple of spares may be available to borrow on the day. As always, carry sufficient water for the walk, be 'sun smart' and don't forget your camera! The scenery is beautiful and hope for another good season for spectacular wildflowers.

Mulling at Marrinup 16-17 October

NOTE DATE CHANGE

This is an overnight camping trip to Marrinup Town Site Camp. After meeting at the rendezvous at 8.30am we'll drive through the forest for about anhour to the campsite to secure our spots and drop off campers and caravans. In the afternoon we can visit the WW2 POW camp ruins, a waterfall and go for a drive through the forest, nothing too serious. We intend to have a campfire, but that depends on the bushfire rating – bring some firewood if the rating is low and fires are permitted. On Sunday, those who are fit / brave / silly can ride, walk or run around the mountain bike trail adjacent to the campsite, then take a leisurely drive home, maybe with a stop in Pinjarra to check out the museum and grab a coffee.

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Details: Camping prices are \$8 adult per night, \$6 concession card holder per night, \$3 child per night (over 5 and under 16 years) there is a payment post on site. There is a long drop toilet onsite and easy access for caravans, campers and motorhomes. No water or other facilities but Dwellingup is about 5km away for those who don't want to cook. The site is easy to find for anyone who is busy on Saturday but would like to join us later. Leader: Neil Hird

Whiteman Park social day

17 October - Day trip

The WA 4WD Association Committee invites you to a social gathering on Sunday 17th October 2021 at Whiteman Park, 233 Drummellier Drive, Whiteman. A gazebo has been booked in the Mussel Pool East area next to Pia's Place and the Dog Park...there is a big carpark (#21) next to the booked gazebo.

Whiteman Park opens at 8.30

Forthcoming Club trips

am and closes at 6pm. It is a BYO everything Entrance to Whiteman Park is free, with plenty of stuff to see and do around the Whiteman Village precinct... It's a great opportunity to meet members of other clubs. The Subaru Club is one of the longest-term members of the WA 4WD Association and it is worth supporting this event.

Annual Dinner and Awards

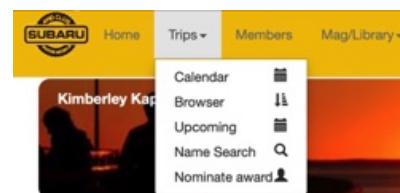
30 October - Day trip

This year's annual dinner will be held at the Bedford Arms Hotel Brookton. Join us for a fun social evening with our annual awards also being presented.

This trip will be closed 2 weeks before the event to confirm numbers with the venue.

Dinner starts from 6pm with a

three-course meal to be served. The cost is \$42 for the three courses. You will need to buy your own drinks at the bar. The menu and places to stay overnight (pubs, BnB, camping, caravans) are available in the Trips section of the website. When you join the trip, remember to choose your meal options and say if you have any dietary restrictions.



The Annual Dinner is also when we make the annual awards. These depend on members making nominations (do this on the **Trips tab of the website** after you log in) Don't forget nearer the time we will be calling for your nominations for awards such as trip of the year and club member of the year... and don't forget to get your silly award nominations in for anything daft someone does on a trip.

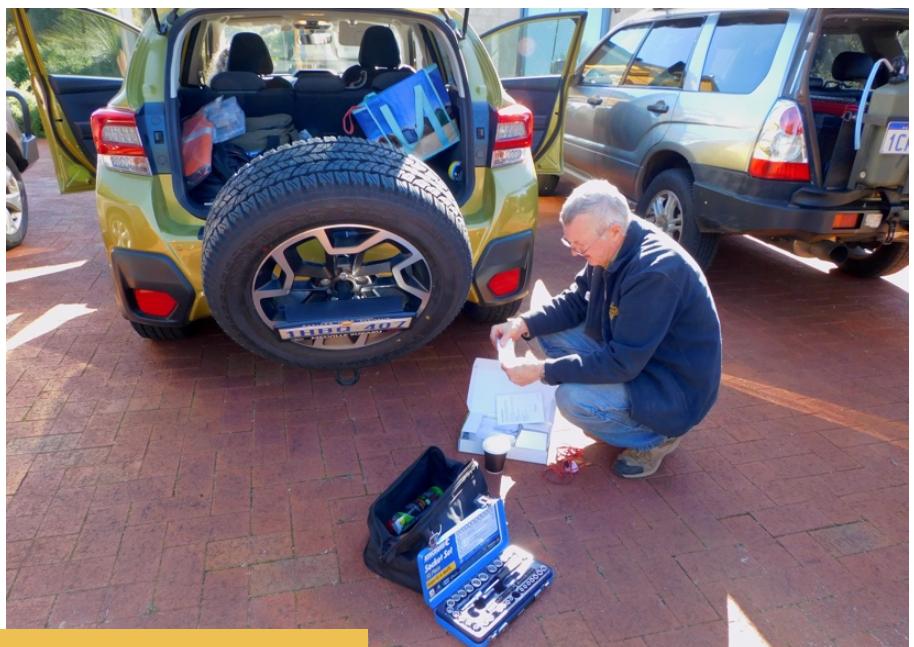
New land set aside for extra Outback parks

The WA Government has identified an extra 830,000 hectares of potential land that is now being considered. If all this land is secured the Plan for Our Parks initiative there will be around five million hectares of new National Parks and reserves jointly managed with Traditional Owners!

The announced parks include an expansion of

the Karijini National Park and the Waldburg National Park adjacent to Mount Augustus (Burringurrah). It also includes the creation of Meentheena Conservation Reserves in the Pilbara - important habitat for the critically endangered night parrot and the bilby, as well as Thundelarra Conservation Park in the Mid-West.

The Rain Gods smiled on us this day, taking a break from pummelling Perth with wind and rain, leaving a sunshiny day perfect for fiddling about outside with cars and tools or socialising on the patio. Once again Jim and Chris hosted the popular annual event at their Gnangara property. People were keen this year and arrived early, the yard and the shed soon being populated with Subarus - mostly Foresters with a couple of XVs and Oscar the Outback. When I arrived, Daniel's Forester was up on the hoist being inspected before going on the Pilbara and Beyond trip. Always a good idea to scrutinise the car both top and bottom before heading out onto those tough, rocky tracks in the Pilbara. Adrian was assisting Tash with her project of installing a second battery. It can be a tricky thing threading wire cables from the ignition battery to the back of the car and it helps if someone who has done it before can advise you on the best way about it. David and Henry were helping Mary and Jasmine install a uhf radio in Mary's XV and mount the antenna on the roof of the



Fiddles & Nibbles

Sunday 11 July.
Day trip.



Writing a trip report

On each trip the leader will get one or more of the members to write a report for the magazine. If you can't write the report assigned to you, please let the trip leader know.

Otherwise, send your trip reports in as soon after the trip as you can.

Send photos with your report if you have them. The more the merrier. Please send photos **as separate files**, and please don't embed them in the document, as quality suffers a lot if you do. Large images are usually OK to send via email. If you have lots of photos or large files, you may also choose to send a link to your cloud image storage folder (eg Dropbox).

Things to include with your report.

At the top of each report

- * • Put your name
- * • The trip name
- The date and the day of the trip

Thank you all for writing reports for the newsletter.



From p. 20

car. Jason and young Adelaide were observing the proceedings from the back of their Forester. Jo was deftly removing the back seat in Oscar the Outback to install a platform, with some help from Karl. Jo's old dog Sam was frisking about, enjoying not being on a leash as he usually is on a Subaru trip. Some of us were lounging on the patio, including Vanessa who was busy knitting as usual, while Greg had enlisted Jim to cut some iron rods and weld them onto brackets to stabilise his car awning.

The workers had a break for morning tea and we all noshed down on chips, cheese & dips, Karl's multiple packets of Tim Tam biscuits, Jo's Thermomix lemon cake (which had one entire lemon completely vitamised in it), and Chris' gluten & lactose-free apple sponge cake. After a good bit of nibbling and chatting, it was back to work on the cars until all projects were pretty well



successfully completed. It was great to see so many newer Club members being ably assisted and advised by experienced Club members passing on their practical, mechanical, and electrical expertise. This is one of the many advantages of being in a 4WD Club such as ours where newer members are supported and mentored with the result that knowledge and ideas are shared and the Subaru 4WDriving experience is made safer while we all have a good time.

Many thanks to Chris and Jim for their generous hospitality.

Joy Unno

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Hyden Hideouts

Day 3 June 8

We packed up camp in the morning and started to head home zig zagging down country roads to keep things interesting. We stopped for tea in Kulin. Here we were approached by a woman who noticed the big group of cars pull up and convinced us to check out an area of conservation of native flora. It was a short two minute drive around the corner and she met us there again with brochures that depicted pictures of the various types of native plants/flowers and their names. She then walked around with us to show us the few that were actually in bloom this time of year. Following that, she showed us an area that back in the day was used to make charcoal for the area, likely for local blacksmiths. Although not much to look at, the little history lesson was an interesting one and something Ross knew a lot about. Next, we continued towards home driving along the famous Tin Horse Highway. What initially started as a fun little piece of art to highlight the Kulin Bush Races became a competition among the nearby farmers, each



New favourites from the final day



constructing their own sculptures using farm junk. The result is a stretch of highway with a variety of unique sculptures that stretches on for 15 km. The thought that went into them was evident and some were quite clever. This wasn't one of the parts of the trip I was looking forward to seeing but having done it, I can't wait to go back and show my partner. I would recommend those who haven't been out that way to check it out. After this, we stopped for lunch at

Yeareling Lake. A pretty place to be sure, but the wind and cool weather left me hiding in my car for most of the stop. The last highlight for me before parting ways along Jarrahdale Road and Albany Highway, was the drive along North Banister-Wandering Road through the woodlands there. Just a lovely drive.

Maria Deyoung

Deb Thyne has a left-hand head light protector from a 2012 Forester to give away if anyone wants it.

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