

# ***PATROLLING***



***Volume 43 Number 5  
October 2021***



# RIGHT NOW EXTRA GRIP IS WORTH GOLD

## That's why you fit Cooper tyres

Beware of tyres that imitate the Cooper look but are not built to perform

If you want more control on outback roads, you need tyres with sharp, square tread edges that dig down and bite more during cornering on gravel, loose dirt roads and dirt tracks. Check before you buy.

Other tyres may look similar to Cooper tyres, but most 4WD tyre brands make only one all terrain tread – either one with

a round edge or one with a sharp, square edge. Meanwhile Cooper all terrain tyres come in a choice of tread edges so you can match your tyres to your driving. Feel the difference from the first moment you go off-road.

### Generate a quote

Generate a quote for your vehicle and find your closest Authorised Retailer at

[www.coopertires.com.au](http://www.coopertires.com.au) or call 1300 COOPER.



AMERICA'S MOST TRUSTED 4x4 TIRE

 Find Cooper Tires Aus on Facebook

# Nissan Patrol Club of South Australia Inc

Established 1979

President **John Day**

Vice President **Paul Ware**

Secretary **Helen Richards**

Treasurer **Maddie Day**

Minute Secretary **Christine Robinson**

Membership Officer **Aileen Kitto**

Property Officer **Brian Robinson**

Trips Officer **Paul Ware**

Magazine Editor **Bill Condie**

Historian/Archivist **Jeff & Jeanene Schapel**

CSU Delegate **David Richards**

FWDSA Delegate **John Kerr**

Public Relations Officer **Bill Smith**

Fundraiser **Carmen Riddle**

Webmaster **Rod Kitto**

Facebook **Helen Richards**

Auditor **Kevin Osborn**



## Contact us

Nissan Patrol Club of South Australia  
PO Box 153  
Kilkenny SA 5009

### Membership

[membership@nissanpatrolclubsa.org](mailto:membership@nissanpatrolclubsa.org)

### Magazine

[editor@nissanpatrolclubsa.org](mailto:editor@nissanpatrolclubsa.org)

### Website

[www.nissanpatrolclubsa.org](http://www.nissanpatrolclubsa.org)  
[webmaster@nissanpatrolclubsa.org](mailto:webmaster@nissanpatrolclubsa.org)

---

**The Nissan Patrol Club of South Australia** was founded in 1979, to provide a meeting place for individuals and families with an interests in four wheel driving and associated activities. From the beginning we have promoted safe and environmentally responsible, four-wheel driving as a way to enjoy our great country.

The club welcomes all makes of vehicles, and has drivers with all skill levels. For the novice there is a wealth of experience to draw upon. Some members have had formal training, many more have had years of experience.

We run many trips each year, offering members a chance to learn new skills or practise old ones. We also have events that range from the extreme to the sedate, with a social program throughout the year

We participate in a volunteer program of environmental care work in one of our national parks, allowing us to give something back to the bush we enjoy so much.

**Club Meetings** are held at Challa Gardens Primary School, Humphries Terrace (off Torrens Road), Kilkenny, on the first Thursday of every month except January. They commence at 7:30pm

The Nissan Patrol Club is a member of Four Wheel Drive SA Inc, which is a member of Four Wheel Drive Australia Pty Ltd.

**UHF 21** is the official club radio channel

# Exciting times ahead

It has been a quiet winter with no trips since the Peake weekend and no events since the Mid-Year Lunch, both of which were in June.

However, the rest of the year is looking positive, with two trips over the long weekend, Deep Creek and Theatre Night in October, Morgan in November and Breakfast in the Park in December.

It is also good to see that the Nissan Patrol Club will be manning/womaning (is that a word?) a stand at the 4WD Show from 22 to 24 October. If anyone wishes to support the Club by helping at the stand, please contact John Kerr.

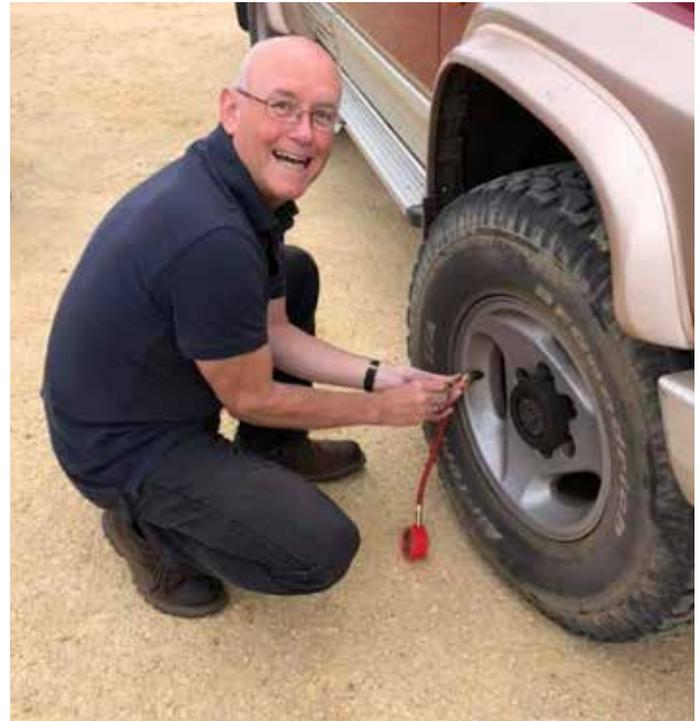
2022 is also looking very positive with four trips already "on the table", the mid-year lunch and two proposed trips. Exciting times ahead.

It was good to see our Membership grow by two, Alison Annells and Karen (Kaz) & Stuart (Stu) Humpherson. Alison was presented with her badge at the September Meeting, and Kaz & Stu will be presented with theirs at the next meeting they attend. Aileen Kitto has safely returned from her travels so all will receive their membership packs and Membership numbers at the next meeting they attend.

Thank you to Sara Ware for the presentation on Lorella Springs. Very informative and entertaining. The map review of the trip at the end was a great overview of the whole trip.

A reminder that the AGM is looming on Thursday 2 December. Nomination forms were sent out via email. Please consider supporting your Club and nominate for a position within the Committee. If you require a list of the Committee positions, please contact the Club Secretary, Helen Richards.

Please keep reading the General and Committee Meeting minutes



for details of up-coming trips, events, and what is happening within the Club.

It has been a great year for the Club so far, despite COVID restrictions trying to get in the way. Let's continue to make the rest of 2021 a fun year. Enjoy life, make new friends, and travel as far and as often as possible.

Happy Travels, and stay safe out there. Your Club President.

**John Day NPC 407**

## From the Editor's Desk

# Time to take advantage of warmer weather

It's either feast or famine here at *Patrolling*. Last issue we had too many trip reports to fit in but with the diaspora which comes in winter and the trek to warmer, northern regions of our members it slows down.

Still, this issue we have a diary of the return leg of the Lorella Springs trip, which was held over from last time (see page 9), and some very swift reporting by Helen Richards brings us an account of a wonderful trip to Mt Compass region of the Adelaide Hills (page 12) on the October long weekend.

We will have to wait for a report of the long weekend's other trip to the Flinders Ranges and, in particular, travel on some much-loved PAR routes there. Routes incidentally that may soon be closed to us if the Government has its way. See my plea to get

active, write to our politicians and demand our rights to access the country that belongs to us are taken into account and protected (see page 17).

The extra space in the magazine means the return of the cooking column (page 18) and an entertaining account of the Clayton Raft Races from the archives – plus a reminder of how our members have been navigating the often wild terrain of our country for a long time. (page 19).

As we get back to normal – and we hope and pray that Covid allows us to do that – it's amazing to think that there is only one more magazine this year. Where did that time go?

**Bill Condie NPC 423**



CONQUEST TYREPOWER  
72 GRANGE ROAD  
WELLAND  
PH. 83401404  
CHRIS BAKER

TYRE PRESSURE MONITORING  
SYSTEMS  
  
FROM \$349 LESS 10% CLUB  
DISCOUNT \$315

T/LESS TYRE REPAIR KITS  
  
\$45 LESS 10% CLUB  
DISCOUNT \$40

10% DISCOUNT ON ALL BRAKE, STEERING AND SUSPENSION  
REPAIRS INCLUDING IRONMAN SPRINGS AND SHOCKERS.

SPECIAL CLUB PRICES ON ALL KELLY, KUMHO, COOPER &  
TOYO TYRES

FREE AFTER SALES SERVICE ON EVERY SET OF 4 TYRES  
PURCHASED (ROTATION AND BALANCE, & CHECK STEERING,  
SUSPENSION & BRAKES EVERY 10000KM FOR THE LIFE OF THE  
TYRES



# Conservation working bee at Deep Creek

Weekend 15-17 October 2021

Contact **Wayne Dunn**

Time to get digging again at the beautiful Deep Creek National Park as part of the club's on-going campaign to eradicate the Sea Spurge weed.

The weekend begins with lunch at the Yankalilla Bakery on Friday, from where we move to Trig campground. *writes Wayne*

The difference we have made is substantial and very obvious to those who ventured here five years ago.

The area east of the creek has been revegetated and protected by fencing, apart from minor regrowth it's Sea Spurge free. The western side of the creek is a work in progress with still more to do, but still a very real improvement

Come along, it is a great weekend.



## 22 October Theatre Night

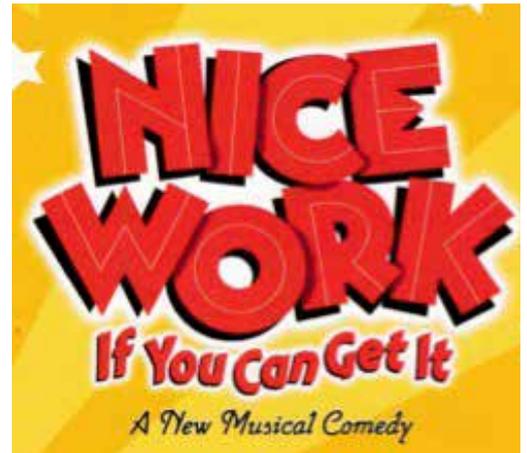
The Arts Theatre in Angas Street Adelaide.

*Nice Work if You Can Get It*

Tickets: \$28 per person provided we get 30+ people. Otherwise \$30 per person.

Contact: **Jeff Schapel**

The tale of Jimmy Winter, a wealthy playboy living the good life in the midst of Prohibition. Jimmy has an unfortunate habit of marrying chorus girls, until he's forced to marry a woman of substance - Eileen Evergreen, the finest interpreter of modern dance in the world. On the weekend of their nuptials, Jimmy meets Billie Bendix, a bootlegger who has stashed 400 cases of gin in Jimmy's basement. Jimmy must deal with his fiancée, bootleggers, prohibitionists, G-Men and chorus girls. Music and Lyrics by George and Ira Gershwin.



## 5-7 November Morgan

4WD driving, social

Contact: **Dave & Helen Richards**



Test your skills, drive the tracks, catch up with your friends on the Murray.

Site bookings can be made now at the Morgan Caravan Park - phone 8540 2207. Quote the reservation under Helen Richards (Nissan Patrol Club).

Helen is warning anyone who wants to attend to book the caravan park now. Some people missed out last year as sites fill up very fast!

## 19 December Breakfast in the Park

Time to get together and celebrate the year that was! Better than 2020 in many respects, but let's hope 2022 is even better.

**Contact: Helen Richards**



## 15-18 April 2022 Little Desert National Park

Sand driving and fun with the Otways 4X4 Club

**Contact: Helen Richards**

This is a new destination for us, after years of travelling to the Otways at Easter, we are meeting the Otways 4X4 Club halfway! They know how to deal with mud but let's see how good they are on the sand. Numbers are strictly limited so if you want to join this fun weekend, get in quickly.

## 13-17 May 2022 Dorado Downs

Sand driving, bonfires and camp cooking

**Contact: Helen Richards**

A return to Dorado Downs after last year's outing. Time to pit yourself against the biggest sandhill on the property and maybe this year redeem some of our pride lost to the Mitsubishi Club.





NAVARAPART.COM.AU  
PATROLAPART.COM.AU

With over 3.000 parts listed online and our showroom now open, our experienced and specialist team are here to help you with all your Navara, Pathfinder and Patrol needs.



39 INDUSTRIAL PARK DRIVE  
LILYDALE VIC 3140

 03 9735 9099

 SALES@PATROLAPART.COM.AU



# Taking the long way home



The iconic Birdsville Hotel on the trip back to Adelaide

## Return trip from Lorella Springs 22-30 May 2021

**Day 16 – Saturday 22 May.** The sad day has come as we head south and begin our journey home.

First stop Borroloola BP for some air in our tyres, fuel, and gas then homeward bound. Back to the Heartbreak Hotel at Cape Crawford then down the seemingly never-ending Tableland Highway to the Barkly Homestead Roadhouse. It was an interesting road, a single lane most of the way. When oncoming vehicles approached, one moved one set of wheels off the tar on to the gravel and slowed down in a hope not to spray the other vehicle with stones. Unfortunately, the same could not always be said of the other vehicles. When a Road Train came towards us, the only option was to move completely off the road and allow the Road Train to roll on through.

On arrival at Barkly Homestead, we were informed it would be a better option to take a powered site as the unpowered area was being taken over by the Shirtbox Rally participants (car rally raising funds for the fight against cancer) that night. Later that afternoon, they started to arrive, the whole 129 Rally cars plus support vehicles all lining up for fuel. The Rally people partied on through the night, but we were far enough away to not hear them.

### Day 17 – Sunday 23 May

Heading east on the Barkly Highway saw us arrive at the Queensland Border for a photo stop, then on into Camoweal.

At the lunch stop, which was at the turn off to Lavers Hills and Riversleigh Fossil area, we met a fellow traveller on a motorbike who was heading to Arnhem Land to give to the community a whole lot of supplies to “take it back” for some help he had received in the past.

Eastward to Mt Isa with a fuel stop before heading to the site of the old Mary Kathleen Township. This was where, up until 1984 when the place closed down and was sold off, they mined Uranium.

Paul set up his van on the concrete floor of the old Bowling Club while the other settled down around the site of the community swimming pool overlooking the old oval and cricket pitch.

A tour of the old township, mine site, production areas and tailing heaps before dinner. Our peaceful slumber that night was only disturbed by the sounds of grazing cows as they wandered through the campsites.

### Day 18 – Monday 24 May

Headed back to Mt Isa with the rising sun behind us, lighting up the hills in front of us, a pleasant drive.

Stop off at the Tourist Information Centre for some information, hot coffee, and scones. A few of us took the opportunity to have a (coin-operated) hot shower before doing some retail therapy, relaxation, and sightseeing.

Meeting up at the Tony White Oval (part of the Mt Isa Irish



### Roadside stop on the way

Club) at midday, we proceeded south towards Boulia, stopping 65km short at Peak Creek Rest Area for the night. The football was brought out for some kicking practice.

Happy Hour ensued, complete with fly nets as the flies had become a problem.

### Day 19 – Tuesday 25 May

Heading south to Bedourie, the home of the tin camp oven with a tail wind. We stopped at Boulia for fuel and a look at the Information Centre. Across the road at the Waddi Tree Art Gallery, two Brolgas were in the back paddock along with some kangaroos and alpacas.

Alistair and Susan left our merry band of travellers to head east to Winton and onwards through Central Queensland to do some visiting before making their way back to Adelaide.

Arriving midday at Bedourie, we set up camp at the caravan park near the swimming pool and hot artesian spa (40 degrees). While Sara had a job interview via Teams, the rest of us had a swim and a look around town, enjoying an afternoon of rest.

Later, we assembled for Happy Hour as the sun went down and chatted about our day.

### Day 20 – Wednesday 26 May

Our first chilly morning with 11 degrees Celsius. Some of us went to the hot spa thermal pool for a quick dip. After drying off and a change of clothes, we left town on our way to Birdsville. With the amount of road works going on, it will not be long

before it is all tar sealed between Bedourie and Birdsville.

All was going well until 20 minutes from Birdsville, Mike found a sharp stone that went through his tyre. With no hope of repair, we put the spare on and went to find fuel and a new tyre in Birdsville.

Next, we headed to the Birdsville Bakery for a well-deserved lunch of baked goodies, then off out to Big Red for a look at the start of the Simpson Desert. We went over Little Red and approached Big Red from the west where 5 tracks can be used to ascend. We conquered 4 of them.

Tyler was the first of our group to climb Big Red and was awarded a sticker saying, "I Climbed Big Red".

Returning to Birdsville, everyone went to the Hotel for a look and a beverage. Some of us even went back there for dinner.

There was a total eclipse of the full moon around 9pm which some of us managed to see.

### Day 21 – Thursday 24 May

Up early, pack up, and head south down the Birdsville Track. A stop at the Walker's Crossing turn-off (the short cut to Innamincka) then past the Inside Track and Warburton Track turn-offs. The sand hills and Sturt's Stony Desert give way to the jump up at Mungerannie Gap, bringing you into the Strzelecki Desert. We had a quick stop at the Mungerannie Roadhouse for fuel and drinks, then were on our way to the Cooper Creek Crossing where we stopped to see the old punt that was used to ferry goods and supplies across the creek in times of flooding.



**The open road**



### Big Red lays down its challenge

Further down the track we saw an Ostrich, a survivor from an Ostrich Farm in the area many years ago.

We pulled up for the night at a campsite on Clayton Station, complete with hot shower, flushing toilets and thermal spa.

### Day 22 – 25 May

Upon waking up we found that our campsite had once again been infiltrated by interlopers, with all the huge area available at the campsite to use they had stopped and parked in the middle of our group. This had previously happened at two other locations, Hutchison Memorial Campsite and at the Bedourie Campsite.

We made our way to the end of the Birdsville Track at Marree where we fuelled up and take a small break which included a quick game of tennis on the local court before heading south to Farina.

A stop at the Underground Bakery at Farina for a coffee and



That's a long way to travel to pick up fresh bread!

bakery delights. A quick look around at the restoration works that have been undertaken to some of the buildings. Then off, once again, in search of more baked goodies with a stop at the Copley Bush Bakery and Quandong Cafe for some Quandong Pies. We also picked up some frozen savoury pies in readiness for the evening meal.

Travelling south, with the Flinders Ranges on our left, we stopped at the Prairie Hotel at Parachilna for a coffee. Unfortunately, it was closed due to Covid-19 cancellations. We had a short stroll around town before heading off to Hawker to refuel. We also had a look at the Jeff Morgan Gallery with its amazing panorama paintings and mineral collection.

As we were leaving town, we bumped into members Jim and Pauline who were also visiting the neighbourhood.

Travelling further south, we arrived at Mambray Creek Rest Area for our last night. As the evening was cool, we gathered firewood, put the pies in the oven and had an enjoyable last night. Tyler tried, very enthusiastically, to cook a bag of micro-wave popcorn over the fire, to no avail. Some of the kernels managed to pop, after the bag burnt and the contents fell into the fire.

### Day 23 – 26 May

Mike headed off early. The rest of us made a stop at Harry's Fine Foods for some gourmet supplies.

Our final stop for the trip was at Port Wakefield for brunch at the bakery. After that, we all went our separate ways home.

NOTE: The first part Paul's trip diary was published in the August issue of *Patrolling*.

Paul Ware NPC 421

# Magic at Mount Compass

*Mt Compass, 1-4 October 2021*

*Mt Compass and surrounds.*

*Trip Leaders- John & Maddie Day. Attendees- Jeff & Jeanene Schapel, Rod & Aileen Kitto, Don & Kathy Grigg, Wayne & Dallas Dunn, Brian & Judy Cook, John O'Daly & Christine Galbraith, Peter Galbraith, Dave & Helen Richards*

This was John and Maddie's inaugural event as Trip Leaders for the Nissan Patrol Club. They promised a fun-filled weekend and they did not disappoint us.

For those who do not know where Mount Compass is, it is a beautiful small town and is in the Australian state of South Australia and is in the Mount Lofty Ranges, 60km from Adelaide, and north of Victor Harbor. It is a small community, traditionally supported by farming. Both market gardens and dairy have proved very lucrative in the area. There are also surrounding wineries and cafes.

We all made our way up on Friday afternoon to the Mount Compass Caravan Park. This Park is quiet, secluded and has clean amenities and a well-equipped Camp Kitchen including fridge, stove, microwave, toaster, coffee machine washing up facilities, even a pizza oven. There are four large tables and chairs for patrons to use. The gardens are well maintained with bushes of coloured Proteas.

We all set up camp on large, grassed sites and then sat around for an afternoon of relaxation.

John welcomed us and thanked us for supporting them for their first trip. He gave us a short brief of the days Itinerary. Dinner was

booked for 7pm at Mount Compass Hotel (Tavern).

We enjoyed our first meal together, with a few drinks and then headed back to camp,

Saturday morning at 9.30am we met at the bottom of the road just outside the caravan park for our first adventure. We were all ready for some serious fun. John and Maddie Trip Leaders and Dave and Helen Richards were Tail End Charlie. There were eight vehicles in total.

We travelled though the backroads with spectacular scenery. The natural beauty of this region from Mount Magnificent, Kuitpo Forest to the vineyards of McLaren Vale which have some of the world's oldest grapevines, to the coast.

We enjoyed a coffee at Pruners Hut, a little wine tasting for members, with a few cartons of Rose being delivered out to 4WD boots. Ceramic pots which were locally made were quite a popular buy.

We then headed to Hugo Winery where Don the owner gave us an informative talk and insight of his wines. Tastings were complimented with a Ploughman's Platter shared by 2.

These platters were freshly made and consisted of Cheeses (Vintage Cheddar & Camembert), Olives, Semidried Tomatoes, Ham, Mini Cucumbers Salami, Jamato Relish, Crackers & Toasted Bread.

We sat under the vines enjoying the perfect sunny day. Members had the opportunity to purchase wine and relishes.

It was a wonderful day. On our return drive back to camp we

**Continued on page 15**



The fully loaded Steam Ranger makes its way to Goolwa.



The gang's all here! Hugo Winery was a highlight on Saturday while the weather was good.



**Ford every stream... Sunday driving around the Currency Creek area on our way to a picnic lunch had a bit of everything, including old stone road bridges, below, and railway viaducts, opposite**





**Continued from page 12**

included a walk to Hindmarsh Falls. Today we had immersed ourselves completely with premium wines and ate delicious food. Time to head back to camp taking in all the spectacular views on the dirt tracks.

We sat around for a Happy Hour, relaxed. We were ready to unwind and enjoy listening to Shaun Coghlan who is a singer/writer who sang songs from various artists and included his own Mount Compass Caravan Park song. Shaun entertained us for about an hour and a half. We all had tea and returned to the fire that Peter had set up.

Sunday we headed to Mosquito Hill with John O'Daly as Tail End Charlie, enjoying the views of Goolwa, Lake Alexandrina, and Currency Creek. Morning Tea was at Goolwa, some choosing to visit the markets, others had coffee and cake while the rest of the members enjoyed the atmosphere of the township.

We were extremely fortunate to take a photo of the fully loaded Steam Ranger which was making its pilgrimage to Goolwa. We then made our way to the Lions Park Currency Creek for a picnic lunch, visiting the old stone road bridge, railway viaduct and Currency Creek.



**I'd like to meet the ploughman who lunched this well.**



**Singer-songwriter Shaun Coghlan evn had a Mount Compass Caravan Park Song**

The rest of the afternoon was driving through fords, farms, and conservation parks. Even passing over the Finnis River. Returning to Mount Compass, members refuelled cars, bought fresh bread and supplies. Another lovely day with water, sun, and misty showers.

We all congregated into the camp kitchen for Happy Hour as severe weather was setting in. Lots of chatter, drinks and nibbles kept us going for well over two hours. We returned to our caravans for dinner and made it a night as it was cold and wet.

Monday morning, we awoke to rain, hail, and sun. It was time to pack up and head home.

Highlights of the weekend were listening to Shaun Coghlan, visiting Hugo Winery & enjoying those amazing Platters. The retail therapy of Ceramic Pots and cartons of cleanskin Rose.

Watching Rod Kitto pulling a spider out of his beard and Dave Richards cleaning dog poo out of his sneakers with a stick were also highlights!

Thank you John and Maddie for a fun-filled weekend. We all had a fantastic time. It is all about making memories and enjoying experiences in your own back yard.

**WE ATE- WE DRANK- WE EXPLORED- WE EXPERIENCED.**

**Helen Richards NPC 364**

# Hut living in the Flinders

**A**lpana Station, 5km south of Blinman is a great base to explore the northern end of the Flinders Ranges. There is a range of accommodation from the seven-bedroom shearers quarters to the four powered caravan or camp sites with private ensuite bathrooms.

But really the jewel of the property is the Nungawurtina Hut, a pine and pug hut built in traditional style in a valley about 7km from the homestead.

Although it looks like it was the work of a settler in the 1880s, the hut was in fact constructed in 2002 by the current property owner's father, who had grand plans to build a string of them for bushwalkers to overnight in. The undertaking was so arduous, however, only one was ever built.

Access to the hut is only by 4WD down a rough old track that takes about 40 minutes to drive. You could get an off-road van down there no trouble but not a conventional one. The hut has no power, except a small 12-volt solar system for lights. The recently improved ablution block includes long drop and bush shower – with a 12-volt solar water heater!

The hut sleeps six on three bunk beds and has an open fire, table, chairs, crockery and cutlery for six, a two-ring gas stove and a kitchen sink. As an added advantage for those who like travelling with their pets, dogs are welcome.

It is the perfect base for bushwalking, or just relaxing in utter

peace and quiet. If your party is bigger than six, or you just want a bit more space, there is ample camping areas around the hut. There is an outside fire pit and an ample supply of wood (and you are allowed to collect more from the property around).

Alpana has a very beautiful 4WD track of moderate difficulty that takes you up behind Mount Samuel and down a steep and breath-taking descent into (the very tight and squeezey) Mount Buggery Gorge. The 78km loop brings you back into Parachilna Gorge.

There is another shorter track up to the Sunset Hill, between Nungawurtina and the homestead which, as the name suggests, is a great place to watch the sun go down.

There is a beautiful walk to the amazing Blinman Pools, which when we were there were brimming full after a wet weekend. But beware. It is quite a challenging trek from the hut. They say four hours but in our case it was more like six!

For the less athletic there are any number of short strolls with beautiful views all round the hut and apart from the odd roo, not soul within miles.

There are no shortage of properties to stay on in the Flinders of course, but Alpana, particularly Nungawurtina Hut, is a stand-out. Well worth a visit.

**Bill Condie NPC 423**



No shortage of grand views on the Mt Samuel 4WD track.



The hut nestled in a valley by a creek bed, above, and below the rugged but beautiful walk to Blinman Pools



There are lots of shorter walks, above left, or just sit and watch the sun set from the verandah of the hut.

# Club merchandise available to purchase

**Nissan Patrol Club sticker:** Large Circle \$2.20

**Nissan Patrol Club cloth badges:** \$6.00

**Nissan Patrol Club key rings:** \$5.00

**Water Bottles:** Light stainless steel, \$8.00 each or 2 for \$15.00

**Contact Aileen Kitto**



## Support the businesses that support the club

*Wedding*  
& Special Occasion Stationery

Contact Ian Delbridge  
M.0402 362 011 P.8234 1411  
www.weddingpapers.com.au  
Unit 3/75-77 South Road, Thebarton SA

[www.batterydiscounters.com.au](http://www.batterydiscounters.com.au)

**CHEAPEST BATTERIES TO SUIT  
ALL CARS & 4WDs IN ADELAIDE**

Peter & Rick's Auto Workshop

14 Provident Avenue  
Glynde SA 5070  
Ph: 08 8365 5100



Keep up to date with the club on Facebook

[www.facebook.com/nissanpatrolclubs](http://www.facebook.com/nissanpatrolclubs)

Photos, video, details of upcoming trips and guest speakers

# Time to fight to keep access

Never have our vehicles been better equipped to tackle the Outback than they are today and yet never has our access to remote Australia been so under threat – in South Australia perhaps more than anywhere else in the country.

The state Government is trying to change legislation of the Pastoral Act (mysteriously becalmed after last year's "consultation") which could permanently ban 4WD users from using Public Access Roads – the very roads that were tossed to us like a bone the last time our rights to visit our country were eroded.

The threats can't be far behind – they never are – and we can just imagine the fines they will use to back up their legislation. You have to wonder who the government have been listening to in all this – or maybe you don't have to wonder too hard. The proposed legislation extends lease terms from 42 years to 100 years, effectively taking Crown land – our land – making it freehold.

While some pastoralists – the very biggest – say it gives them more certainty, interestingly many of the smaller leaseholders are less hardline. They are desperate to expand the use of their land, which has uneconomic carrying capacity unless you are the size of Gina Rinehart's S. Kidman & Co, to ride the tourism boom led by, well, us in our 4WDs.

It's not just 4WDers uneasy about this latest shut down of access to our country. Conservation Council of SA chief executive Craig Wilkins said the body had significant concerns about the draft bill, believing it didn't "hit the mark" for anyone.

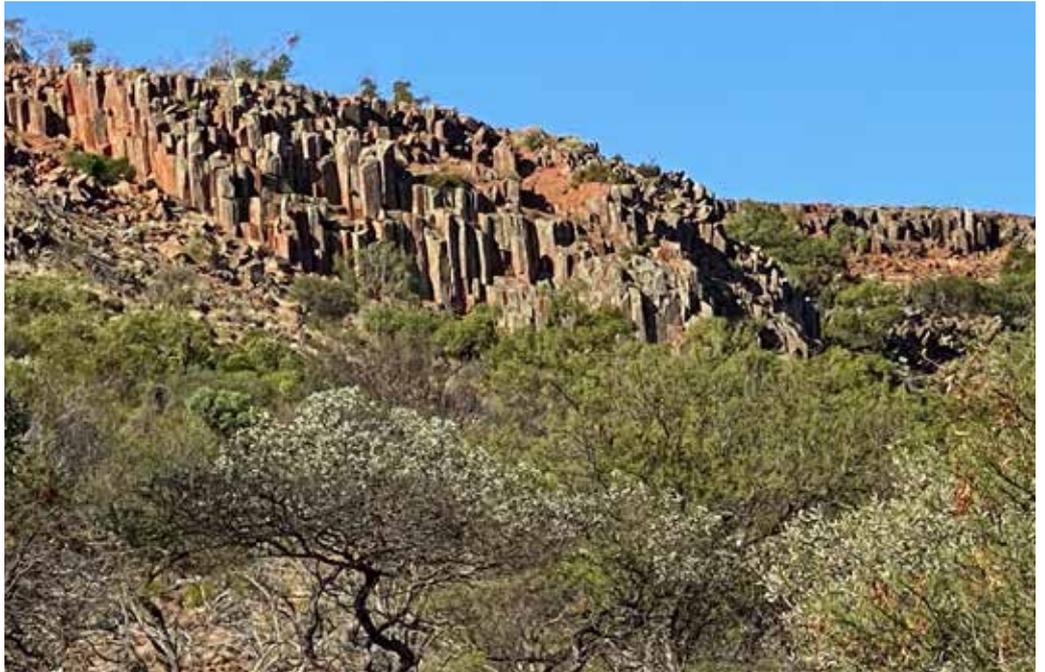
And as for Indigenous people, the government didn't even bother speaking with them at all until wet, after the consultation process had closed.

Again, just who is the Government listening to? The consultation period came and went with little fanfare to let the public know it was going on. Yet there were still 205 valid, complete survey responses, the largest group being Members of the Public (123 responses or 60% of all responses).

Even the government's report on the surveys acknowledges that the overwhelming support was for mixed/diversified use (by 74% of survey respondents), provided that land condition and ecology is preserved or improved and that pastoral use is not impacted.

Suggestions for mixed use mainly focused on tourism – including recreation – bushwalking, 4WD and camping – and biodiversity/environmental restoration.

And yet the Bill reflects little or nothing of this and reads as if



**Mt Ive Station welcomes the income stream from giving access to beauty spots like the Organ Pipes but not all pastoralists are as accommodating.**

it could've drafted in S. Kidman's office in Archer Street, North Adelaide.

It is hard to think that the Government genre ally, and Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development David Basham in particular, has anything but contempt for recreational Outback users such as ourselves.

If in doubt, just read the July report by the Chairman of 4WD SA's Natural Resources Advisory Unit (NRAU). These guys have devoted years to developing and maintaining contacts with bureaucrats managing the bush.

And yet when it came time to finalise a new Memorandum of Understanding on volunteer work with the Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA), after a departmental reorganisation now responsible for National Parks as well as Pastoral Lands, PIRSA didn't want to know.

I quote direct from the NRAU Chairmans' report: "The meeting with PIRSA did not go well and I as told basically that the dept could see no good reason to recommend an MoU to the Minister. I raised volunteer work, capacity to report on PAR conditions and the need to be recognised as a stakeholder in respect of any proposals to close PARs. Final result, no MoU with PIRSA."

No one is suggesting that pastoralists' interests should not be looked after. But so should conservation, Indigenous interests, and those of the tourism industry and users including 4WDers, campers, birdwatchers – in short all of the people who OWN this land.

It's time we made a noise, got on to our politicians and made it plain we're here, we vote, and we want our interests, like everyone else's, protected.

# Bolognese moves to Spain

Whatever past you prefer, Bolognese sauce is an old favourite of all the family. It's a great choice for camping as it can be made in advance, frozen and then simply thawed and heated up with a minimum of fuss and mess.

But variety is the spice of life and recently I came across this variant on the theme - a quick and simple chorizo version. I owe the recipe to the YouTube cooking channel Delicious Australia. If you don't know it it's worth checking out for the variety of simple meals entertainingly and clearly presented you will find there.

In fact this recipe is so simple, it would be easy enough to prepare at the campsite itself - although having a food processor to prep the sausage is a plus.

You will need three 125g chorizo, with their cases removed and chopped (this is the part that can be done with a food processor if you have access to electricity), plenty of thyme leaves, a 400g bottle of tomato passata, 400g of pasta (Delicious calls for pappardelle but it could be any long pasta), about 500g cherry tomatoes, halved, and chopped flat-leaf parsley leaves and grated Parmesan to serve.

If the chorizo has brought out your inner Spanish you might like to use a little smoked paprika or even chilli flakes.

Simply pop the chopped chorizo in a frypan with a little olive oil and turn on the heat. Sizzle the chorizo for about five minutes letting it brown and get a little crispy on the edges until the fat renders.

Add in the thyme leaves and stir them through and wait for them



**Everyone loves Bolognese. Now for the simpler version**

to heat up enough to release their flavour. Pour in the passata and a little water - enough to rinse out the passata bottle - and reduce a little. It will only take five minutes for so. Now would be the time to stir in the paprika and chilli if using.

Cook the pasta and when finished drain but keep aside a cup or so of the cooking water. Toss the pasta in with the sauce and the cup of pasta water and mix together over the heat. Throw in the cherry tomatoes and stir until warm through. Top with the parsley and Parmesan.

You could even serve on toast as a sort of Iberian savoury mince. Easy and restorative after a long day on the road.

**Bill Condie NPC 423**

## Fire to Fork: camp meals that will inspire

You've got to take your hat off to the dozens of 4WDers who have tried to make their weekend passion a business by starting a YouTube channel. It sounds ideal to give up the office and make a living doing what you love best. The reality is a little different I suspect. Filming is a time-consuming business, setting up shots, repeating the same thing over and over again until you get it right, then editing and post-production. It's a lot of work.

Then there is the question of payment. YouTube ads deliver pennies and sponsorships only work if you have built up enough of an audience for companies to see you as worthwhile.

Still there are quite a few who do make it - usually those with a specific niche they hold all on their own.

One of these is Harry Fisher from Perth, whose channel *Fire to Fork* explores the world of campfire cooking. Check out his web-

site at <https://firetofork.net/> and YouTube channel here <https://www.youtube.com/user/harryfishaman>

His recipes range from classic campfire favourites - try out his real back-to-basics Sticky Chicken, peri peri sauce marinated chicken thighs impaled with a green stick and rotisseries slowly by hand over the fire - to the innovative bush biltong made in a tent.

It's also worth checking out his heavily modified Prado - modified that is, not mechanically but with an all-mod cons kitchen set-up that is sure to give you a few ideas.

He's just published a collection of his recipes amid tales of camping (mainly in WA) which would make a great Christmas present. It's called *Fire to Fork, the Adventure Cooking Book*, and costs \$39.95 on his website. But there are also a bunch of free recipes available there to if you want to try before you buy.

# Hijinks from the past

Excerpts from the 2002 Clayton Raft Races

by Member 182

The Nissan Club was well represented for the raft weekend.

The Nissan raft Miss'n Patrol Boat, for its debut and was a credit to those who had designed and built it. The weather was perfect and the waters were still.

The Nissan raft was not required on the Saturday, instead, each club was issued with a bath tub complete with ropes, 22 plastic bottles and two planks of wood.

Each team had to make their bath float using the given equipment and then one person had to paddle it around the buoy and back with it sinking.

But wait there's more!

Balloons were involved too and they had to be inflated, make the journey intact and then be popped when back to shore.

Our team of fellas fought a great battle, winning their heats and

then leading all the way in the final until they came unstuck with the added extra, a large plastic bladder that had to be blown up to complete the race.

The fellas found the task hard, especially when they realised the lid had to be removed first to get the thing to inflate!!!

Happy hour was had and then fish and chips for tea from the local shop. Coorong mullet and mulloway went down well. No cooking for us all and the dishes were done in a flash. Time for the night's entertainment to begin, so we all gathered together with the other clubs in a central area.

First up was a magician who had us and all the children enthralled. Lots of crowd participation. Next it was time for Red Faces. Our first act went down rather well I thought, but the judges were a bit harsh. You did well Jeff, Jeanene and Reg.

There were a few good acts and some not so good ones as well. Where's the gong when you need it? I'm not being biased but I must say our second act, the Melodrama, was a classy piece of

**Continued next page**



Jeff Schapel recently recalled how the Nissan Patrol Club of SA crossed the Simpson in May 1981 and were in Birdsville when the Diamantina crossing was closed. He unearthed a photograph of his Nissan Patrol G60 being towed across the Diamantina by the a front end loader. "Our kids are in the G60 not in the bucket!" he explained. "Note the excess tow rope going into the passenger side window."

## From the Archives

### Continued from previous page

work and this was reflected by the laughter heard and in the scores given by those nice judges!!

(A 10 would have been appreciated from one of them at least!).

We won the event, blitzing our nearest rival.

The Weakest Link followed and Reg Sharpe did a brilliant job, he even voted himself off as I think he wanted to get away from that man in the cow spot trousers! I don't blame him! Now we know why we don't watch that programme on TV.

Early to rise, and it was egg and bacon muffins all round for brek-kie, cooked by the host club.

Time to get serious now and much effort was put into organising our teams for all the events. Darryl Cook, our captain, took a while to get us all in line as we were easily distracted. Let the fun begin.

The A-team men were up first but there was a bit of interference. A rerun later sorted that one out. To cut a long story short, we qualified for all of the finals that we'd contested. We had only one child in the kids race, but Aaron Cook soon found three willing participants from other clubs to help him put Patrol Boat through it's paces.

We came out victors in the men's race, the ladies race and the old codgers race. Too bad it wasn't a clean sweep, but that would have been a trifle greedy. The Nissan Cheer Squad helped to put our teams over the line with the waving streamers and their chanting and singing.

Well done guys and gals!! We were all very proper too, not a revealing outfit among us. All those who had wanted to and some that didn't, had turns on the raft. So it was a real group effort.

The tug of war between the rafts proved interesting and there were some underhand methods being trialled. Finally it was all over and the winners of the weekend were announced.

The Suzuki club had claimed the honours in the hi-tech section, but our club had taken the trophy for the low-tech section. Not bad for our first foray into the world of raft races.

Packing up and saying goodbyes were all that was left now. It had been an enjoyable weekend and thanks must go to all those who built the raft, to those who paddled it, to the directors of our red faces act, to those who participated in it and to everyone who helped make it a fun weekend.

Maybe we will see Miss'n Patrol Boat 2 next year, or maybe we will stick with a sure winner.

## Support the businesses that support the club

### GREG'S ALIGNMENT SOLUTIONS

#### TYRES & SUSPENSION

Wheel Alignment on all cars, 4x4

Vintage cars, Classics, Light Commercial Vehicles.  
Email: gregalignmentsolutions@commander.net.au

Unit 12  
10-12 Opala St  
Regency Park SA 5010  
Phone: 08 82446763



**ROWELL & SEARLE**  
AUTO TRANSMISSIONS PTY. LTD.  
SA's First Automatic Transmission Specialists - Est. 1945

Kings Court, Adelaide SA 5000  
Ph 08 8221 6694  
1300 668 829  
Fax 08 8221 6673  
Web www.unclutchables.com.au

**Peter Stewart**  
Dip. Auto. Dip. T. Adv Dip. T. MIAME.  
Managing Director  
Mobile 0418 808 200  
Email peter@unclutchables.com.au

### + HOME OF 12 VOLT -

Ph: (08) 8262 6890  
Mobile: 0422 698 393  
Fax: (08) 8349 7462  
www.Homeof12volt.com.au  
Email: pooraka@homeof12volt.com.au



Alan Fairhead

Powerpacks A.G.M. Batteries Solar-Panels 12 Volt Accessories

## JTDrawer Systems

ABN: 42 280 507 409

• 4WDS • Utes • Vans

Custom made to suit your needs!

John  
M: 0409 557 171

2 Drawer System  
suit most 4wd  
**\$995**

**We Hold Ourselves to  
A Really High Bar**



uniden



axis



CEL-FL



THE POWER OF  
REDARC



GARMIN

iridium



THURAYA



AND MORE!



**ELECTRIC BUG**

The cheapest thing, is  
the right thing, **the first time...**



[electricbug.com.au](http://electricbug.com.au)



(08) 8346 9234



199 - 203 Torrens Rd,  
Ridleyton, SA, 5008

**Sales - Install - Service - Repair - Hire**

