



PATROLLING



Volume 43 Number 6
December 2021



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Nissan Patrol Club of South Australia Inc

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Membership Officer **Aileen Kitto**

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Trips Officer **Paul Ware**

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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@nissanpatrolclubsouthaustralia.org

Magazine

editor@nissanpatrolclubsouthaustralia.org

Website

www.nissanpatrolclubsouthaustralia.org
webmaster@nissanpatrolclubsouthaustralia.org

The Nissan Patrol Club of South Australia was founded in 1979, to provide a meeting place for individuals and families with an interest 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

Things are looking up

Hello Patrollers. It has been another funny year, with one lock-down and mask wearing continuing, but it has been heaps better than 2020. Despite a few COVID issues, the Club has run pretty much normally throughout the year. For that, I thank the Committee and all Club Members who made this possible.

The Theatre Night, *Nice Work If You Can Get It*, in October was very well attended. I personally had no idea what the show was about, but it was very funny and well-acted. It was just a shame the organisers, Jeff and Jeanene, missed out as their intended trip was cancelled.

Deep Creek was unfortunately cancelled this year. Let's hope we can get down there next year to help with the conservation of the area.

Morgan was well attended again this year by both Club members and members of the Mitsubishi Club. All enjoyed frolicking in the quarry. The meal at the Terminus Hotel was delicious as always. On the Sunday morning some went back to the quarry, whilst a contingent headed to the Morgan Museum. It is a fascinating place with an excellent DVD of the 1956 floods, and much larger than the outside suggests. Well worth the visit.

I am looking forward to catching up with Members at the AGM on Thursday 2 December at 7.30pm at Challa Gardens School and at our final event of the year, Breakfast in the Park, on Sunday 19 December.

A gentle reminder that subscriptions are due. The subscriptions have been reduced to \$75.00 this year due to a reduction in FWDSA fees and insurance costs. If paid before the end of the AGM a \$5.00 discount does apply, reducing the subscription to \$70.00. It is pleasing to note that many have already paid for the 2022 membership year.

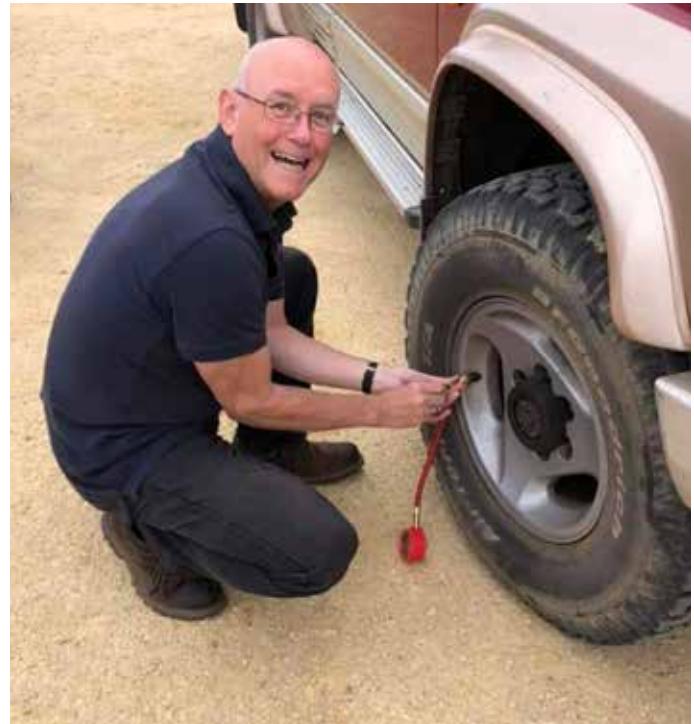
From the Editor's Desk

Check out the expanded trips list for 2022

Well another year has flown by and here we are at the last issue of *Patrolling* for the year. A highlight of this issue is the unveiling of several new proposed trips, weekend, long weekend and day trips. Many of the new ideas come from the Trips Officer, Paul Ware, but he is very keen that other people should suggest outings. In particular, he would like to hear of any day trips Members would like to make.

I'm sure you will agree, though, that he has done a great job with something proposed for every month. Be sure and let him know if you want to join any of them. Note some are caravan friendly while others more suitable for car camping.

Our centrepiece trip report for this issue is the old club favourite Morgan, which combines the sometimes challenging drive around the quarry with good food and fellowship in town. You can also see the winners of the annual photo competition on the inside



2022 is looking very positive with a multitude of trips already being organised, including the Club "staples" of mid-year lunch, Breakfast in the Park, Theatre nights, Peake, Deep Creek and Morgan quarry. Exciting times ahead.

Happy Travels in 2022 and beyond and stay safe out there.

Signing off as Your Club President.

John Day NPC 407

back spread. Make sure you check out the PDF of the magazine to see them in their full glorious colour.

One sad note is the obituary for Member Phil Reeve. We remember and honour his life on Page 17 and our thoughts and prayers go to Sue and family as they face the difficult prospect of Christmas without him.

Finally a note about an excellent suggestion for inclusion in the magazine from Jeanene Schapel – to run introductions of our new members. Unfortunately, with the expanded trips list and the photo comp to cater for there was no room this issue, but I will make they are included in February's magazine, along with Paul Ware's account of travelling the PARs in Blinman earlier this year.

A happy and safe Christmas and New Year to all members.

Bill Condie NPC 423



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And that was the year that was...

Breakfast in the Park

19 December 2021

Contact Helen Richards

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



26-30 January 2022 Australia Day at Murbko

It's a great Club tradition and it's back on for another year after the disruptions of 2021.

Canoes and cruising on the cooling waters of the Murray. What better way to spend the Australia Day weekend.

Contact: Brian Cook

27 February Murray Mouth Run

Paul has checked the tides and they are perfect for a whole day out at the mouth of the Murray with no concerns about running out of beach on the way back.

A spot of fishing, a BBQ, chill in the sun by the sea. It's up to you.

Proposed for now. To be confirmed..

Contact: Paul Ware



11-14 March Douglas Scrub & Bluett Springs

A casual weekend of touring the wetlands, mystery drive(s) around the dirt roads in the area and general camaraderie. We will be staying on powered sites at the Girl Guides complex at Douglas Scrub. No pets are permitted. If you are intending to come, please complete your details on the trip sheet and we will organise the sites..

Contact John & Maddie Day



**15-18 April
Little Desert National Park**

Sand driving and fun with the Otways 4X4 Club

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.

Staying at the Goroke Caravan Park.

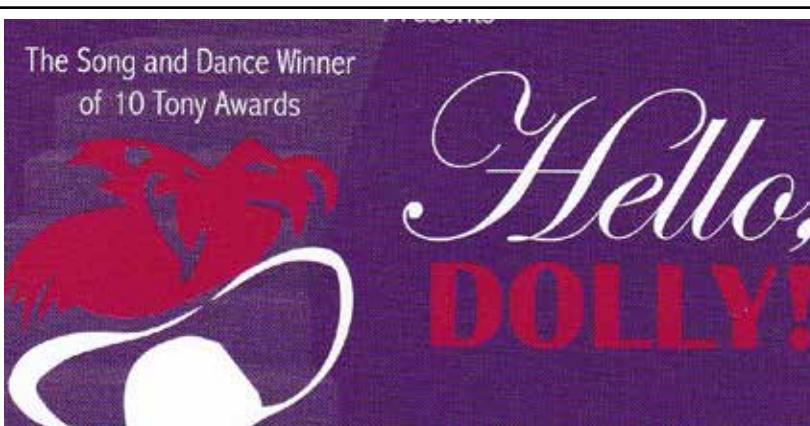
Numbers are strictly limited so if you want to join this fun weekend, get in quickly.

Contact: Helen Richards

**15-18 April
Victorian High Country**

Proposed alternative Easter trip, which would be camping only – no caravans.
To be confirmed.

Contact: Paul Ware



**6 May
Theatre Night - Hello, Dolly!**

The next theatre night will be this new production by the Metropolitan Musical Theatre Co of SA, directed by Barry Hill at the Arts Theatre, 53 Angas Street Adelaide. We have not yet been given ticket prices but the 2021 prices were \$28 per person provided we had a group of 30 people or more.

Contact Jeff Schapel

**13-16 May
Dorado Downs**

Sand driving, bonfires and camp cooking

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.

Contact: Helen Richards





11-13 June

Melba Gully & Lake Elizabeth

Melba Gully State Park was formed to protect a pocket of natural rainforest in the Otway Ranges near Apollo Bay. It is now part of the Great Otway National Park. The gully has a dense rainforest of myrtle beech, blackwood and tree-ferns, with an understorey of low ferns and mosses. Glow worms can be seen at night. Proposed trip. No caravans.

Contact Paul Ware



June 2022 (date to be decided) Goolwa Hotel – Mid-Year Lunch

Details are yet to be confirmed but the Goolwa Hotel is a great venue with a large space to fit the club. Stay tuned for details

Contact: Helen Richards

17-19 June

Peake

4WD driving, Sand driving, social

Contact: Dave & Helen Richards



Back on the sand. We are sharing this weekend with the Mitsubishi Club for this long-standing and popular mid-winter outing.



24 July

Eagle View 4WD Track & Saunders Gorge

A proposed day-trip to this self-drive 4WD track through a Private Conservation Area. The track is about a three-hour drive with many scenic spots to stop and enjoy. Entry permit cost \$60 per vehicle for a one way loop of the property.

Contact: Paul Ware

NOTE: Dates for Deep Creek conservation weekends to be confirmed

20-21 August Peechara Hills

Bush camp with 4wd tracks

Contact: Paul Ware



A late winter run to Peechara Hills bush camp and 4WD park out on the Barrier Highway on the way to Broken Hill.

The property includes some challenging 4WD tracks including the pipe tunnel pictured left. There's a bit of everything from creeks, hills, and mud at the right time of year.

All campsites have long drops and the main camp has a shower, flushing toilet and kitchen.

There's also gold and rock fossicking and bush walking..

1-3 October Gammon Ranges Grindell's Hut Arkaroola

4WDriving, social

Contact: Paul Ware



The Vulkathunha-Gammon Ranges National Park is a protected area in the Flinders Ranges of South Australia, immediately south-west of and adjacent to the Arkaroola Protection Area.

An opportunity to explore some of the best sights in the Northern Flinders before it gets too hot.



4-6 November Morgan

4WDriving, 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).

This longstanding fixture on the club calendar is one of our most popular weekends. If you haven't joined in the past, see the trip report in this issue to see what you've been missing.

19 December Breakfast in the Park

Social

Contact: Helen Richards



Our usual get-together in Rymill Park as we say farewell to yet another year.



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Paul Ware presents outgoing president John Day with a NOA award (inset)
"For Juggling the many Committee Positions during the last few months"
 in recognition for

holding down the fort on so many fronts as committee members took off to warmer places over the winter (above). PJ from Repco's St Marys store, who addressed the same 7 October general meeting and donated some generous gifts (right). Aileen Kitto presents Karen and Stuart Humpherson, left, and Alison Annells, right, with their membership packs.



A moment on the Murray



The gang at a lookout over the river on the Saturday "mystery" tour.

MORGAN WEEKEND 5-7 November 2021

Participants:

Helen and Dave Richards, John and Maddie Day, Jeffrey and Jeanene Schapel, Paul and Sara Ware, Peter and Val Sara's Parents, Phil Stanley and Lisa Patterson, Bill Condie, Alison Annells, Colin and Carmen Riddle, Brian and Christine Robinson, Bill Smith, Craig Wood and Mark Eaton, Geoff Webber, Kobus and Mariki Mostert - visitors

This weekend hosted by Helen and Dave was a joint event with the Mitsubishi Club for the sole purpose of familiarisation of difficult driving in the old quarry. It was good to welcome NPC visitors Kobus and Mariki. 34 members of the Mitsubishi Club were present, including their three leaders.

Several cars were stopped at Blanchtown by PIRSA officers to check that they were not carrying restricted fruit and vegetables. The 'bring a receipt' system no longer applies which is something to remember when travelling into the Riverland.

Late Friday afternoon Paul and Rod commenced heating up their Baby Q's in readiness for the big pizza night. A cheery sign appeared on the side of Sara and Paul's caravan welcoming everyone to "Paul and Rod's Pizza Parlour". Paul explained that everyone was to bring the ingredients for their pizza to the parlour and

proceed to assemble their pizza. A parade of pizzas was assembled and upon each pizza being cooked everyone was offered a piece. This continued until all appetites were more than satisfied. It was interesting to note that the greatest topic of discussion was – should pineapple be included on a pizza? I think it was 50-50. To remind us all that Friday was Guy Fawkes day Sara dress up in a black hooded cloak and wore a white ghost face mask illuminated with green and white lights which made her look rather sinister.

9am Saturday morning saw all vehicles assemble in readiness for the morning of driving. Three groups were formed and the 14 NPC members were in one group to be led by Paul Ware. Initially we started off in the mosh pit to deflate tyres. Interesting to see Lisa receiving a very serious lesson on deflating types by Phil. The



Paul Ware takes a spin in the quarry Saturday morning



Paul & Rod taking orders at their pop-up Pizza Parlour at Morgan caravan park

Nissan Patrol Club was allocated the northern side of the power line. This area provided some moderate to quite challenging driving. The enthusiastic drivers negotiated steep rocky declines and inclines. The morning was completed by spending time in the play ground negotiating more challenging spots. On the return trip to camp a mystified Rod announced that he had spent the entire morning in two wheel drive – no wonder he had difficulty in one particular spot.

For the mystery drive in the afternoon we were once again divided into three groups – NPC being one. The exercise for the after-

noon was to practice convoy procedures. Our group was led by Mitsi Club member Colin. The trip took in the high Bryant Creek lookout, which gave a great panoramic view over the river. The information board gave interesting details of early development in the area. From this panoramic view we could see very threatening clouds descending upon the Morgan area and on checking information from Mr Google who predicted a thunder storm and hail; it was agreed to head back to camp. Happily the storm skirted around Morgan.

Evening dinner was booked at the Terminus Hotel, but 60 pa-

Trip Report: Morgan cont'd



Following the leader through the hills and dales of the Morgan quarry, above, making dust, below





The convoy rolls out as the storm clouds roll in as we join the Mitsubishi club on a tour round Morgan

trons plus the locals proved a bit of an overload for management. The food was good but very late for some. During the evening a Mitsubishi member thanked Helen for inviting their Club to join with the NPC and in response Helen reminded all that this event commenced 9 years ago with very few participants and over the years it has developed into an extremely well attended weekend

Helen had prearranged for a 12.30 pm departure from the caravan park which meant people could spend the morning participate in various activities. The keen drivers returned to the quarry to conquer the southern side of the power line which I believe provided more extreme driving conditions and thus proved to be useful in practicing driving techniques. Many visited the local Museum and the remainder just enjoyed the park.

Our grateful thanks go to Helen and Dave for a great weekend, to Paul for leading the Saturday morning driving experience, Colin for leading the mystery tour and the Mitsubishi Club for their companionship.

I was curious as to what was quarried at Morgan and according to the Information Office and Council it was either gypsum or metal for road works.

Jeanne Schapel NPC 31

A tip for travelling to the Riverland

Fruit and vegetables that are at risk from fruit fly cannot travel with you into the Riverland. To protect Riverland growers **the 'bring a receipt' rule is no longer recognised**. Due to changing regulations for fruit and vegetables it would be wise to refer to the Department of Primary Industries and Regions for the latest regulation as fines will be imposed if you are caught travelling with banned fruit and vegetables.



NPC 31

The Terminus Hotel does us proud again

A whale of a time in the west



Southern right whale breaching and jumping at the Head of the Bight.

Picture: puyalroyo/Shutterstock

Member trip: Geoff & Marie Dalitz

Marie and I were picked up in a car at 6:15am and after picking up another lady at Medindie, went to the depot of Aust-Wide Tours on Muller Road, Hampstead Gardens.

We boarded a 24-seat, special purpose coach and left at 7am. There were 19 passengers and Peter the Driver. We stopped at Snowtown, near the "Bodies in the Barrels Building" for morning tea and toilets.

The bus has its own urn with hot water available. We then travelled to Port Augusta and parked on the waterfront and everyone had lunch where ever they chose.

We continued on past Iron Knob to Wudinna for a toilet stop and onto Poochera where we turned off and went to Streaky Bay. We stayed at the hotel and had dinner there.

The next morning after breakfast, we boarded the bus and had a look around Streaky Bay. Peter, our driver had lived there so he had a good knowledge of the town.

We then left and headed west, seeing Sceale Bay and Murphys Haystacks which are large rocks protruding out of the ground. We then stopped at Ceduna and continued through Penong and arrived at Coorabie Station, which is a farming property that caters for tourists.

We had dinner and an early night as no TVs in rooms.

The next morning, after breakfast we went to the Head of the Bight on the Nullarbor and viewed the whales from the cliff top. There were more than a dozen there with their calves.

We then proceeded to the Nullarbor road house where three of the group chose to do an air flight in a Cessna over the Bight, the cost was \$195 each.

We then headed back to Coorabie Station for dinner and the second night there.

The next morning, after breakfast we left and went to Fowlers Bay on the coast. We boarded a 50 foot vessel, the "Asherah" and headed out to see more whales, rugged cliffs and coves of Point Fowlers Bay with sea lions.

We then had lunch at the local hall catered by a local lady. After lunch we returned east and viewed the Penong windmill museum and back to Wudinna for dinner and the night at the Wudinna Motel.

The next morning after breakfast, we boarded four 4WD's and headed north into the Gawler Ranges. We visited Polda Rock, Paney Shearing Shed and stopped for morning tea, then onto Old Paney Homestead and Yandinga Gorge.

We then visited Corrobinne Depression an old river system, Nukey Valley, Kolay Hut, Mirica Rock which is similar to wave rock in Western Australia. We then returned to Wudinna for dinner and our second night.

The next morning after breakfast, we headed for home, stopping at Kimba for morning tea at the giant galah. We stopped at Iron Knob for a look around the town and back to Port Augusta for lunch. We then stopped at Port Wakefield and back to the Adelaide depot, where the cars were waiting to take us back home.

A very enjoyable six days!

Geoff Dalitz NPC 400

Vale Phillip Mark Reeve

A man of faith and service: 16 June 1951 — 10 October 2021

Phil Reeve (NPC 402) was an active vigorous man who was making the most of his retirement. He and Sue had just finished rebuilding their home and moved back with plans to compete all those projects that come from a new build.

Phil had been diagnosed with Cancer two years ago and appeared to have recovered, regrettably, it recently returned with a vengeance to the extent that he could not be treated and he passed away at home with his family some four weeks after his last diagnosis.

He is survived by his wife Sue, three children and six grandchildren.

We cannot hope to capture a complete sense of Phil's life in a short resume of all his accomplishments but the following may give you some idea of the man.

Phil's life, professionally, socially and personally, was full and successful. He was born in Naracoorte and grew up on his parent's Soldier Settler Farm in the south east where he developed his desire to become a Vet.

In 1968 he graduated from Naracoorte High School as the first student to go to university on a Commonwealth Scholarship and enrolled at Sydney University's Veterinary Course. He met Sue, also a Veterinary student whilst visiting Queensland. They married and moved to South Australia.

Together they established the Para Hills then the Tea Tree Gully Veterinary practice which has with the recent development of a new purpose built clinic and hospital become a leading exponent of design, standards and ethical practice. It is now owned by his son, Mark.

Phil had a commitment to ongoing education and learning not only for himself but also for his profession. His professional commitment was recognised in 2008 when he received the Meritorious Service Award from the Veterinarian Association for this work in developing the professional and educational opportunities for Vets in South Australia.

His commitment to animal welfare is demonstrated by his 10 year membership as Board Member and then Chairperson of the Animal Welfare League and oversight of the building of new premises at Wingfield.

He was a;

- Board Member of the Australian Council of Animal Welfare Leagues.
- Consultant to the Tea Tree Gully Council Dog and Cat Management Board
- Appointed to the University Animal Ethics Committee.
- Supporter of the RSB Guide Dogs

His community commitment can be seen from his 22 year

membership with the Country Fire Service as a volunteer with the Paracombe Unit. In 2016 he received the National Medal from the CFS in recognition of his service in a number of roles within the service apart from his involvement in fire, accidents etc. In 2020 he was awarded Life Membership with the Paracombe CFS.

His skills and management abilities as a board and committee member were recognised with his appointment as Independent Chair of the Chief Officers Committee of the CFS

His commitment to animal welfare was exemplified by his work at the time of the 2015 bush fires and his care, rescue and treatment of the animals from the Inglewood Boarding Kennels.

He was a man of faith and served his community by involvement in physical activities as well as using his skills in a variety of areas including Chairperson of the Pedare Christian College Committee and was instrumental in the construction of their Chapel

His love of four wheel driving was the basis of his regular camping trips with a group of friends over the past 10 years.

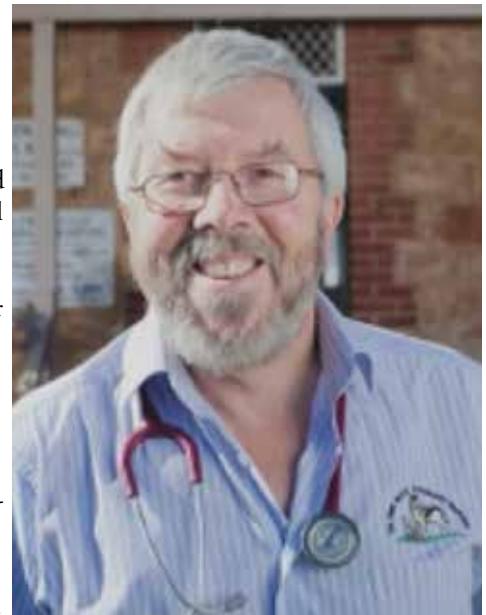
In addition he and Sue were involved in club related trips with club members to the Otway Ranges, Googs Track, Simpson Desert and the Oodnadatta Track. All of these were usually taken at record breaking speeds.

Overseas travel was also something he and Sue loved with trips to Europe, Canada, America (to catch up with his daughter) and possibly his most memorable excursion, Antarctica, where sleeping on the ice was a highlight.

As a friend and travel colleague we will both miss him. Especially on those unexpected occasions when we bumped into him and Sue at the Man From Snowy River Festival, Corryong, or whilst crossing a street in Rome, Italy.

requiescat in pace meus amicus

Michael & Brenda Colin NPC 394



Phil Reeve will be missed as friend and travel companion.

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



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Photos, video, details of upcoming trips and guest speakers

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Caravan water tank hack



You can hold the hose and wait for the tank to fill. Or you can remove the fitting from the hose and poke it into the tank to fill.

However an easier way is to place a garden tap fitting on your tank.

The spout on the tank doesn't have a thread but the lip on the filling point will allow a garden tap fitting to screw on.

Paul Ware NPC 421



Save a costly key mistake

What to do when your key won't turn your ignition

1. Wiggle the steering wheel to unlock the ignition. ...
2. Check the gear shift. ...
3. Try the spare key to turn the ignition. ...
4. Use a silicon-based spray in the lock. ...
5. Jiggle the key in the ignition. ...
6. Jack up the front axle to move front wheels to take any pressure off steering lock... .
7. Get annoyed at the situation and swear a bit – in fact a lot

Well this happened to me one Sunday when I wanted to go down the street to do some shopping. I “fixed” the problem by using another vehicle; however the problem still needed fixing so.

8. Get the mobile phone out and call an automotive locksmith to come out and fix it.

When he arrived on Monday morning (because it would have

cost twice as much on the Sunday with the extra callout fee) I was informed that it was a common problem as the key gets worn over time. Hence the problem with the spare key, as it was a copy of the existing key copied only a couple of months again (so the “new” key was worn too).

Well the first thing he does is open the bonnet and obtains the VIN number and then enters it into his fancy and expensive computer key cutter.

He can then produce a factory quality key and the ignition works and the motor starts and the passenger door lock that was a little difficult to open works perfectly.

So the point of this tale is when and if your ignition switch gets a little iffy (full of uncertainty; doubtful.) with the eventual possibility of you being stranded somewhere remote, instead of as in my case the driveway, **get a new original, correct size key cut and not just a copy of the existing key.**

Paul Ware NPC 421

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Photo Competition Winners



NATURE: Rod Kitto - I glow (above).



NATURE: Michael Garrett - Who is going to get to the end of the rainbow's end first? (above).



SUNSETS: Anne Fritsch - Lake Leake sunset (above) and Helen Richards - Sunset in the river. (right).





PEOPLE: Jeanene Schapel - Collectable Classics (above) and Rod Kitto - Not here please (right).

VEHICLES: Helen Richards - Wheels up Mother Brown (below right) and Paul Ware - A gully trap. (below)

