

## Welcome to our Newsletter.

This month the club trip was to Ippinitichie Camp Ground at Wirrabara Forest, over the June long weekend. Phil and I couldn't go on this camp, but I have gathered that it was a great trip. Barb will be posting the trip report soon, so look out for it. During the June long weekend, Phil and I actually spent three days on the beautiful Fleurieu Peninsular, where I introduced Phil to the beautiful Spirit of the Coorong trip into and beyond the mouth of the Murray. We were educated on the plight of the beautiful lakes and took two extremely fascinating walks into the sand dunes and onto the mighty Southern Ocean. We also learned about the aboriginal people and the very rich and diverse land that they lived on. The ancient middens were in extremely good condition and provided a wonderful insight into the way the aboriginal people lived. I think that this trip would be a very interesting club outing one day. This particular day was very cold and wet, but that did not deter the intrepid passengers and when the rain finally hit, it was good to know that Phil had my interests at heart as he bolted back to the boat leaving me with the gammy leg trying to run? to shelter!! Right at the end of the journey we were witnessed the best rainbow ever – yes it is indeed a beautiful country!



## Upcoming Trips

Daytime Orienteering Navigation and Touring  
Sunday 28 June 2009, starting at 9.00am. Barb has sent details to members – hope to see you there.

## Useless Information

There are about one trillion bacteria on each of your feet. Yuk!! Thanks Carolyn!



## Contributions

Members are encouraged to contribute to our Newsletter. Any clean jokes, recipes, handy hints or tips, and of course please feel free to email me your profile. I try to get the newsletter out by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. My email address is [helentaylor@adam.com.au](mailto:helentaylor@adam.com.au)

I am receiving more contributions – thank you to everyone. Try and not send giant articles. Whatever you are sending is greatly appreciated. Most of this newsletter is made up from club member contributions, not mine. Thanks. .

There were so many fantastic photos taken of our experiences at Black Cockatoo that I couldn't possibly include all of them in the trip report. I will include a couple each time in the newsletter, we have a spot on the web page where more photos can be displayed. Thanks to all who provided their great shots. They were great.



Thanks Phil - this was our candlelight dinner.

## Meetings

Our meetings are held on the first Wednesday of every month at Cavan. July 09 meeting is scheduled for 1 July 2009.

## Member Profile

Yay – I have received Carolyn's profile – it is a little beauty. Thanks Carolyn.

I was born and bred on the West Coast of Eyre Peninsula on a farm about 1/2 way between Kimba and Wudinna, a little place called Koongawa. I was the eldest daughter of a farmer, followed by being a wife to a farmer. I have three children, all who have left home (and 11 grandchildren - these are Gods reward for having children!! - not really, my children didn't give me too many headaches.). I also have a daughter-in-law, son-in-law and one ex-son-in-law, all of whom I love and get along with well. I moved to Adelaide about 15 years ago as a single mum, not by choice, but by the "wisdom" of the Education Department who transferred me.

As a child living on a farm, I was allowed to drive the farm utes from about 12 years of age. Being on the small size, I do recall having pillows stuffed behind me and on the seat so that I could reach the pedals. But prior to this I recall being allowed to "steer" the ute while my Dad threw the bales of hay (the small square ones) off the back of the ute to the farm animals. I was probably about 8 or 9 yrs old at this stage. I thought I was so clever, "driving" the ute - it was probably all of 200 metres however I did manage to keep a straight line. Dad would put the ute in gear, jump out onto the tray, and leave me to steer it.

(After trying to teach my children to drive, I could then understand why Dad always chose the middle of the paddock with no obstructions).

With marriage came sharefarming on various farms, all within the Upper Eyre Peninsula region. About 4 years into farming as a sharefarmer, we purchased our first 4WD vehicle, a secondhand traytop landcruiser. Prior to this we had old utes that were used as the farming vehicles. The 4WD proved its usefulness, as we had sand ridges running through the farm. I can recall having to retrieve the utes from these sand ridges on many occasions, using a tractor to pull the old girls out. With the landcruiser, we were able to negotiate over these ridges with little effort and great delight.

I also drove other farming equipment, including a semi trailer to and from the local grain terminal - about 32kms away. Just prior to moving to Adelaide my Dad had a major heart surgery. He was unable to drive tractors or trucks for the following seeding, so I came to the rescue and seeded most of the crop for that year (probably about 700 acres).

Driving those big 4WD tractors was one (or two) steps up from driving our trusty old 4WD landcruiser. It was something I achieved, but don't want to do again!!!

I have always loved getting out into the country, and found that I was missing the country while living in Adelaide. My "then husband" also loved the country but wouldn't drive "off road" because he didn't want to damage his car, hence when I needed a new car about 3 1/2 years ago, I decided to get one "that could go off road". Our first "off road" trip was when returning from Perth. We travelled the dirt road from Wave Rock to Norseman. It was a real delight getting off the beaten track and discovering all the beauty of this area (it was during the wild flower season). We also discovered that when in the middle of no where, on a very windy night, 2 people could fit in the back of the Xtrail with the back seats laid down and somehow get a few hours sleep. We did have a tent, and as we hadn't used it until this night, found that the tent pegs had been left home. With no tent pegs, it was blowing a gale, we 1/2 pumped up the air mattress, placed all our luggage on the front seats (and what wouldn't fit went outside), and made the mattress fit the back. Another plus for the then very new Xtrail.

Not long after this, I realised that I wanted to do more than just drive on dirt roads, I wanted to know what my car could really do but was afraid of trying anything on my own (and I realised the stupidity of trying these type of activities on your own). It was at this time that I seen the advertisement for the new, what was to become the "High Range 4WD Club". I joined this club, and have had many good times, realising what the Xtrail can really do - it just wont pull a 21 foot caravan which means we have to take the landcruiser on the occasions when we want the caravan.

I look forward to many more adventures with the club in my Xtrail, and to gain more confidence in "off road" driving.

You can take the girl out of the country, but not the country out of the girl!!

Hmmm, after writing this I think I need a red!! My recommendation: Voyager Estate Cabernet Merlot 2004.....

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You can complain because roses have thorns, or you can rejoice because thorns have roses.

Cheers everyone ..... til next time!!!

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