

Welcome to our Newsletter.

Phil, Jim and I had the privilege and the pleasure to be invited to Wonoka Homestead during the last week of the April school holidays, via friends of ours. Wonoka Station is just out of Hawker, Flinders Ranges. It is a privately owned sheep station of 20,000 acres. Peter, the owner is 68 years old and there is nothing about the property that he doesn't know. Born and bred at the station, Peter is the epitome of a quiet achiever. We were offered the unique experience of exploring 20,000 acres in an off-roading adventure that provided the wow factor. Our club has been invited to participate in this experience and we were eager to accept. Phil and I were thinking as 2011 Easter is 5 days, we could maybe take the opportunity of visiting Wonoka then. Hawker is around 5-6 hours, so that would leave three days of off-roading. The Territory was able to negotiate all tracks (having a higher clearance and new all weather tyres helped). There is plenty of space for camping as well as toilet and kitchen facilities. There is a cost, that probably can be negotiated. Campfire is mandatory!! We had a brilliant time, good weather, not many flies (too many moths, locusts!), and fantastic scenery that is not available to everybody. Hopefully as a club, we can enjoy the next experience together.

Upcoming Trips

May trip Border Track Pinaroo, organized by Geoff Mundi, details have been circulated.

June trip is Bendelby Ranges for June long weekend.

Repairs

A small radiator leak can be temporarily stopped by adding pepper to the radiator. Thanks Geoff

Attached to this Newsletter

Ken, Association Delegate has added the AGM 2010 report, which is attached to this newsletter.

More Repairs

Pantyhose can be used to make a temporary fan belt.

Useless Information

Did you ever wonder what the WD in WD-40 stands for? The name was lifted right out chemist Norm Larsen's laboratory notebook. Way back in 1953, he was trying to concoct an anti-corrosion formula, which worked on the basic principle of displacing water. On his 40th try, Larsen finally got it right. Hence the name WD-40. It literally means Water Displacer, 40th try.

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 15th of each month. My email address is helentaylor@adam.com.au

Wonoka Station, Flinders Ranges – checking out the creek crossing.



Meetings

Our meetings are held on the first Wednesday of every month at Cavan. Next meeting 5 May 2010. At Cavan, Headquarters.

Car Joke

Murphy's wife borrowed his car and parked in the supermarket car park. Just as she came out laden with shopping, she saw a young lad break into the car, hot wire it and drive off. Naturally she reported the matter to the police.' What did he look like?, the sergeant asked. 'I don't know she replied, but I got the licence plate'. Boom Boom!!

Bush repairs

Broken Windscreens – most windscreens are laminated, so the disappearance of your front window is unlikely. However, some laminated windscreens can get so badly cracked that they started to implode. Gaffer tape on the outside helps stabilize the glass, but you may need to brace the inside surface with some wood or wire struts. A hole in the screen can be patched by shoving a rolled-up plastic bag through the opening. If vision is obscured by this method, try several layers of Glad Wrap inside and out. Source – Outback Travel Australia 2009.

Camping Recipe – Tasty Thai

Prep Time: 20 minutes

Total Time: 20 minutes

Ingredients:

- 2 chicken breasts, chopped
- 1 to 2 red chilis, or 1 teaspoon chili powder
- 1 handful of fresh basil, chopped
- 2 teaspoons fish sauce
- juice of 2 limes
- 1 handful of cashews
- 1 bag of Asian greens
- 1 tablespoon oil or butter
- 1 bag Asian noodles

Preparation:

Heat the oil in a pan. Throw in the chopped chicken with the chili and let it cook for 5 minutes. Add the vegetables, squeeze the lime juice over the food, and add a dash of fish sauce. Cook the vegetables until they start to wilt. Add the basil and cashews, and serve it up with the noodles that you have pre-soaked in boiling water.

You could pre-chop a carrot, a stalk of celery, half an onion, 1/4 red cabbage, 1/2 red pepper (or capsicum), and 2 florets of broccoli, or buy it pre-chopped and bagged.

Variation: Another dish that goes down well is a couple of tablespoons of Thai red or green curry paste. You can buy this in the Asian section of the supermarket. Fry it up with the chicken and vegetables, then pour in a can of coconut milk, and eat with the noodles.

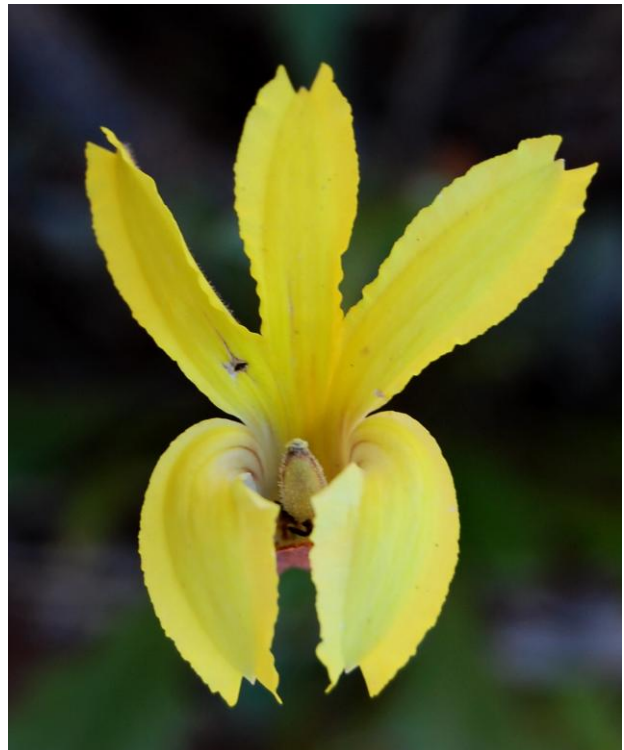
Servings: 4

Driving tips

When approaching obstacles, such as a ditch, it's best to be at an angle, so that only one tyre enters the ditch at a time when crossing. This leaves the other three tyres on solid ground to provide traction to get you across. If you enter squarely, then an entire axle could become useless, plus add to the difficulty of getting out.

Before you drive over large rocks, consider whether you need to build a ramp in front of and behind any rock that has a steep approach and/or departure that could ground your vehicle.

Since the underside of your vehicle has many fragile and vital components (differentials, driveshafts, transmission, transfer case, oil pan, exhaust, fuel tank), it's best to drive over an obstacle by placing one tyre on it, then gently driving over it, rather than trying to take it down the centre.



Picture taken by CJ of the beautiful orchid, captured at the Gawler Ranges, 2009.

"A friend is someone who knows the song in your heart, and can sing it back to you when you have forgotten the words."

Cheers everyone til next time!!!



DELGATES REPORT FOR THE A.G.M. 2010

From casual observation you could see that there was a lack of people in attendance at this AGM by at least 50 – 70 people. At the actual meeting last year they were standing around the walls, but most people this year were seated, and at least 35 caravans and campers at the show grounds. Well that is way things are, the organisers' can not be held responsible for the lack of attendance.

It looks like that there are two new clubs joining the ASSIO. They are the Bordertown and Ssyong (?) 4x4 but more details on their size and structure will be forthcoming although Ssyong are, or so it seems, are two be a web based club with no official meeting room/area. With membership Australia wide. An interesting concept.

There was comment the new look web site will be able to be accessed by the units (NARU / DTU / ALU / PROMOTIONS UNIT / NGARKAT BORDER TRACK COMMITTEE) will soon be able to have direct access to the site to control the own information process.

John Henderson (Promo Unit) was thanked for the effort he put into the organisation of the past 2 Caravan and Camping shows and he in return thanked all the volunteers that actually put the effort into manning the show over those days that it was open.

The DTU are and has put into place training of some description for an internal (club) Trip Leaders course. When and if I get more information on this I shall definitely be letting YOU ALL KNOW about it.

NARU gave a good report in what they have achieved over the past year. It seems that they have a or in the planning stage to have trip to the Aboriginal reserve on the Coorong this coming year. It would be really good for our image that we had somebody on that committee. Think about it.

There was some discussion on whether the ASSIO should keep in touch with areas/councils that have good area/s that we can access, the overwhelming answer was YES.

No indication was given on how the clubs wanted to get their tickets for future shows, but it was decided that the organiser should not get all the clubs membership names and address. There were 750 sent to various club members of which 510 were used. This number pleased the organisers.

There was also talk that there should be more cross club participation in club events. It's a good idea. I wonder who is going to be the first club to do it?

Ken Paget

Delegate to the South Australian Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs

This notice is copied from the ASSOCIATIONS' web site and well worth considering:-

Notice to Clubs

It is important to supply to the National Association what activities Clubs are doing whether it be clean ups, fund raising for charities or special groups, assistance with community projects, environmental projects etc. Please advise these to the state association secretary via the email above. This is to counter negative publicity etc.

Do any of you club members have an opinion on this?

I would like to see us, as a club make some sort of commitment and get us recognised. And to be looked upon as equals to other clubs with bigger memberships and vehicles.