

# WANNEROO WANDERERS 4WD CLUB



**Wanneroo Wanderers Magazine**

**Autumn Issue 2024**



## **Inside this issue**

<b>Inside this issue</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Note from the Editor</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>The Committee</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>About the club</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Code of Ethics</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Equipment required</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Convoy Procedure</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Club property</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>A Little Bit About—Jacky and Terry Humphries</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Lessons Learned—Phil Anderson</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Trip reports:</b>	
<b>2024 New Years Day Brunch</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Olive Tree Farm</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Romance with a Touch of Red</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>2024 Events calendar</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Birthdays</b>	<b>15</b>

## NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Hello Wanneroo Wanderers,

This is indeed our shortest edition with sadly only three trip reports.

Thank you Phil and Judy for your article. It is sure to bring up some interesting topics for discussion. While it is some time since Dave and I did a very similar trip it has brought back fond memories. That is, including those hundreds and hundreds of corrugations to Cape York.

*Pat Whitehead*

gldnidl@bigpond.com

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT .....Phil Anderson  
VICE PRESIDENT .....Keith Richards  
SECRETARY .....Brendan Waddell  
TREASURER ..... Richard Dettmer  
SOCIAL CO-ORDINATOR ..... Maureen Hurrlein  
TRIP CO-ORDINATOR .....Russell Crook

## NON EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

CLUB DELEGATE AND .....Keith Richards  
ENVIROMMENT OFFICER x 2 .....Therese Richards  
PROERTY OFFICER .....Alan Wyatt  
  
FINES MASTER .....Alan Wyatt  
MAGAZINE EDITOR .....Pat Whitehead  
MEDIA/WEB MANAGER .....Kym Batten  
INSURANCE OFFICER .....Kylie Smith  
HISTORY OFFICER .....Elisa Arrigo

## **WANNEROO WANDERERS**

WEB: [www.wanneroowanderers.com.au](http://www.wanneroowanderers.com.au)

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/WannerooWanderers>

Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month (except in January when it is held on the second Wednesday,. The AGM is in September which is a dinner function).

Meetings are held at

Warradale Hall in Landsdale – 7.30pm for a 7.45pm start

Magazine articles: [gldnidl@bigpond.com](mailto:gldnidl@bigpond.com)

## **WANNEROO WANDERERS 4WD CLUB INC**

The Wanneroo Wanderers 4WD club is an enthusiastic group of people who have banded together to enjoy 4WD trips and excursions while conserving the natural bush ecology.

Club membership comprises families and individuals of all ages. The range of club activities caters for the novice as well as the experienced drivers. Activities include social functions, day drives, weekend and extended trips both on and off road at various times during the year.

Club members use a range of camping options from swags, tents, troopies, camper trailers and caravans. The club has no preference to the make of 4WD vehicle owned. Personal and vehicle safety during club events is of the utmost importance. Where possible proposed trips are thoroughly planned and surveyed in advance.

The club is an affiliated member of the WA 4WD association and we support the aim to promote 4WD vehicle owners as responsible, community spirited people concerned with conservation and the environment.

The club Meets at the Warradale Community Centre, Warradale Terrace, Lansdale on the first Wednesday of each month except for January when it is held on the 2nd Wednesday, commencing at 7:45pm.

Visitors are always welcome to attend meetings and club events. Prospective members are encouraged to attend two club meetings and two club activities before applying for membership.

If you wish to obtain further information about the club, please feel free to contact us at:

**Wanneroo Wanderers 4WD Club Inc.**

**PO Box 414**

**Wanneroo WA 6065**

## CODE OF ETHICS

1. Obey restriction on use of public lands. Respect national parks and other conservation areas, (i.e. DPAW, Water Authority, Fire Authorities).
2. Obtain permission before driving on private land. Leave livestock alone and gates as found.
3. Keep to existing tracks where possible.
4. There shall be no deliberate destruction of trees, shrubs, or wildlife. Respect our wildlife, stop, look, and observe but never chase animals.
5. Use a well-worn campsite to minimise impact on the environment.
6. No firearms to be displayed or used in campsite or prohibited areas.
7. No unofficial competition or displays of "4WDing" shall take place during trips without permission of the trip leader.
8. At club functions members shall obey verbal instructions and visual signs erected by the organisers.
9. Drive very slowly within camp area.
10. When answering the calls of nature, members are asked to take the shovel and bury the result at all times. Ladies are respectfully requested to dispose of their paper hygienically. (i.e. rubbish container or campfire).
11. Keep the environment clean. Be prepared to carry out all the rubbish you take into un-serviced areas.

## EQUIPMENT REQUIRED ON VEHICLES ATTENDING TRIPS

### MANDATORY EQUIPMENT

SUITABLE TOW POINTS FRONT AND REAR OF THE VEHICLE

### RECOMMENDED EQUIPMENT

'D' SHACKLES (Minimum Specification: BODY 13mm PIN 16mm)

TOWROPE AND OR CHAIN SNATCH STRAP

SHOVEL

SPARE TYRE (Same as other 4 tyres on vehicle)

TYRE INFLATER AND TYRE PRESSURE GAUGE

BASIC TOOL KIT TO SUIT VEHICLE

JACK, JACK-HANDLE, JACKING PLATE WHEEL BRACE

FIRST AID KIT

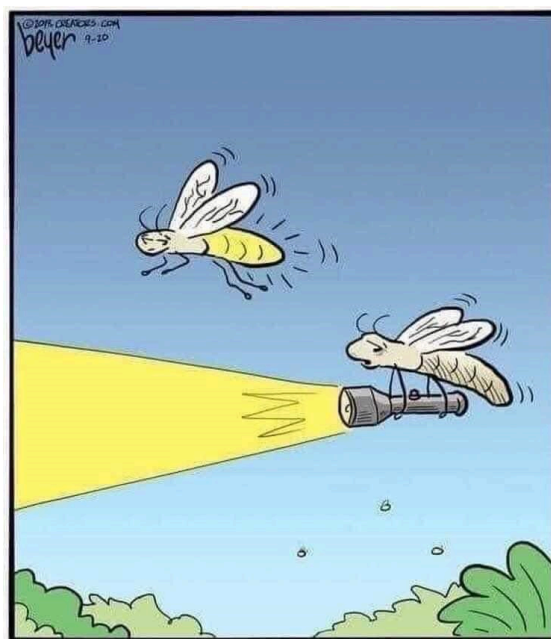
SPARE RADIATOR HOSES AND FAN BELTS

## CONVOY PROCEEDURE

1. Fuel tanks must be filled prior to start of trip.
2. Before moving off from a designated departure point the trip leader will appoint tail-end Charlie.
3. At all turn-offs, vehicles shall wait until the following vehicle is aware of the former's intention. Periodical checks for the following vehicle must be made as per convoy procedure.
4. Persons leaving the club convoy MUST notify the trip leader and if possible, give details of their intentions.
5. No vehicle in the convoy is to pass the lead vehicle.
6. When travelling in convoy on the open road, the distance between vehicles shall not be less than six vehicle lengths and keep the vehicle behind in sight at reasonable intervals.
7. At nature stops the rule to be followed is ladies to the left - gents to the right.
8. In recovery procedures to avoid injury to personnel the drivers of the vehicles involved shall ensure that the immediate area is cleared.
9. All persons travelling in convoy must be inside a vehicle

### CLUB PROPERTY

Club banner	1
Gazebo	3
Urn	1
Defibrillator Phillips	1
Personal locator beacon	1
Chain saw Stihl	1
ARB Pully blocks	2
Snig chain 3m x 700mm	1



*"When you get to be my age, things don't work like they used to."*

## A LITTLE BIT ABOUT— Terry and Jacky Humphries

Q. How long have you been a member of Wanneroo Wanderers and why did you join?

A. 12 months. We were looking for a club in the northern suburbs with active membership.

We knew John (former president). He suggested Wanneroo Wanderers.

Q. Do you have a favourite club activity and why?

A. Jacky and I have enjoyed both social events and the trips we have been on. Our favourite activity is bush camping and sitting around a campfire.

Q. What interests and hobbies do you have outside of Wanneroo Wanderers?

A. Jacky: quilting, Terry: Photography. Both: Travelling OZ and overseas when we can.

Q. What interest or hobby would you get into if time and money were not an issue?

A. Jacky: Cruising; Terry: travelling OZ; Both: Iconic Train Journeys

Q. Is there something that your friends wouldn't believe was true about you?

A. No.

Q. If life is a game like some people say, what are some of the rules?

A. Respect, kindness, help out wherever possible.

Q. Is there something you like to do the old-fashioned way?

A. Steam Train Journeys.



*Thank you Jacky and Terry for taking part .*

## LESSONS LEARNED, OBSERVATIONS, WHAT WE WOULD OR WOULDN'T DO AGAIN

I thought I would put together a series of short notes about events on our recent 5-month trip across the top of Australia. Also to add some content for our club magazine.

I am sure some of the stories will stir up debate, but that is more or less the point of it.

First to frame the scenes for these stories. The trip started in early May and concluded in early October. We left on a rainy weekend and returned on a rainy weekend, with barely any rain in between. We had a week in South Lefroy Bay Ningaloo, a few days in Millstream Chichester NP and two wonderful weeks on the Dampier Peninsula. From there we met up with Richard Dettmer and tackled the infamous Gibb including the Mitchell Falls. From there it was onto Darwin taking in Litchfield NP (my favourite) and Kakadu. Then it was the Savannah Way through Roper Bar (very interesting/ underwhelming) Boorooloa, Hells Gate, Burketown and onto Cape York (roughest road I've ever been on) unfortunately we had to come back down the same road. A couple of weeks in the Atherton tablelands then down through outback Queensland via Winton and Boulia (no Min Min lights to be seen) to Birdsville for the iconic races (what a hoot that was) Home via the Birdsville track, Flinders Ranges and the York Peninsula. 25,000km probably 8,000 of that on dirt.

Phew, I tried to keep it brief.

As you all know, our van is not exactly Off Road but Mark Henderson and Paul Di Georgio had done some major improvements to it before we bought it from Mark. Just as well, because we took the poor old van down some very rough roads.

On upgrades on the Hilux, either stock standard except for an extra leaf added to the rear suspension.

My thinking on that was after this trip I would certainly know where the weaknesses are and I would address them, luckily nothing Hilux factory broke on the car, but I did need to tighten the tub bolts down on one occasion, one was almost ready to drop out. Near the end of the Gibb my Tracklander tradies roof rack had come loose. The aluminium Unistrut had started to crush under the weight of two spare tyres and the 360 awning. I made a temp repair at Home Valley Station and a permanent one in Kunnunarra. My water tank in the tub also came loose and had to be bolted back in. Quite a bit of dust ingress in the ARB canopy, so further dust proofing required there.

Apart from some of the accessories fitted the Hilux came through with flying colours.

The caravan, less dust in the van than I expected, some days were worse than others. Not sure why, but mostly on the dirt roads dust inside was minimal. One day while we were on the Gibb I opened the Scupper hatch on the roof to see how that would work, all good, no more or less dust than normal. Thumbs up. But when I tried it again a few days later, big thumbs down, lots

Cont.....

of dust inside. Didn't do that again. Another time the outer door did not latch properly at the bottom and again a lot of dust inside. It does look like dust comes in where the walls meet the floor, especially in the cupboards around the wheel arches. Need to sort that out sometime. Generally, though, pretty happy. We met people along the way that had way more dust issues than us. Had a fridge door shelf break twice, the first time because we had too many full jars on it. The shower cubicle also moved. You would think it would be fixed to the floor somehow.

Now for the topic sure to stir up debate. When Judy and I were leaving Millstream there was a straight very corrugated road around 1km long, curious as to what happens in the caravan on rough roads, I grabbed the handheld and climbed into the van. When Judy started, the first thing I noticed was it is very noisy, not only road noise but pots and trays and other items rattling around. (we took the trays out of the oven after that exercise) It was a very rough ride inside the van up to around 40km per hr, it smoothed out and was pretty good at around 60-70kph, and again very rough when slowing down through 40-0kph. Most surprising was the furniture, where it was fixed to the floor, it was going up and down about 6-7mm. On inspection the plastic angle brackets inside the cupboards had all broken.

Improvements made prior to the trip were pool noodles to all the exposed pipes under the van, extra fixings to hold the fridge in place (I had heard stories of fridges falling out) and I purchased a second hand set of Rock Tamers. Not entirely happy with them, still lots of stone damage under the van so sold them on when we got back.

All up our Windsor Rapid went everywhere much more expensive off-road vans went and more.

Tyres: Before we left, I got a new set of Toyo AT 2's on the car. I have had them before and was pretty happy with them. A friend also lent me his tyre pressure monitors (more on that later)

On the way into Millstream via Pannawonica I got my first puncture on the car, rear drivers' side. I picked up a hex head tek screw. Bad luck. Next day we went out to Python Pool. Quite a rough road and should have let my tyres down and didn't, so second puncture. A slit on the tyre from the very coarse aggregate. When we got to Karratha a few days later, the Tyrepower guy told me the Toyo's I had were totally unsuitable for where we were going, towing a van, and he talked me into at least upgrading the rear tyres to AT3's, which were light truck tyres and the AT2's were not. It made sense, so my near new Toyo's were replaced. 2 anyway. I may have been stitched up there. Nd I should have taken them with me as there was a \$50 disposal fee per tyre. I reckon he sold them on.

Some lessons learned there.

The tyre pressure monitors saved me there, probably would have damaged the tyres without them, and they are only the cheapy ones also. Saved me a tyre on the van also. I had a leaky valve and the monitor warned me before it was too late.

Cont.....

I was curious what tyres other drivers with vans had on their cars. At one off the water fall car parks along the Gibb I had a look around. A great number of vehicles there were near new and with factory tyres still fitted, and some had the not so unusual overweight van on the back. Obviously Light truck tyres are better, but essential?

Tyre pressures: A lot of people on our journey asked me what tyre pressures I run. When cold I had 28 on the front, 30 on the rear and the caravan. Lots of people said that was way to low. But the only punctures I got was when I had road pressure in the tyres. Around 42psi. Some people I met said tyre pressures on rough roads don't matter and they don't bother mucking around dropping their tyre pressures.

One example was the guy at the Boorooloola caravan park waiting for his appointment at the garage to fix his broken suspension in his cruiser and do repairs to various broken bits on his huge caravan. I rest my case on that one.

There are many more stories on that topic. Last one is a couple camped next to us at Seisia on Cape York. I overheard them saying that I had no idea about tyre pressures that my tyre pressures are miles too low. He looked like his were road pressure, maybe a bit less. Good luck to him.

What we would or wouldn't do again:

Not sure if I would drive those distances over that time frame again. 25,000km in 5 months. Almost \$10,000 in diesel, so that is \$500 per week, a fair wack out of the budget.

Loved everywhere we went, highlights would be Ningaloo, Dampier Peninsula, the Gibb experience, Darwin, Queensland in general, The Flinders and the Birdville races. (Already booked a week at Ningaloo prior to the Murchison trip in September)

Not sure if I would take the caravan over the Gibb again, and definitely not to Cape York even though we came back unscathed.

Next extended caravan adventures will be more focused on a particular state, probably Queensland or SA.

Probably next tyres I get for the car and caravan will be the Maxxis Raza, I had to get one for the caravan in Darwin and it has worn a lot better than the Toyo on the van.

Well, I'll wrap it up there, but as all you travellers know there are always many stories to tell.

I hope this inspires some of you to put your stories down and send them off to Pat and Dave to include in the magazine. I am sure a lot of you have many stories to tell.

Happy camping.

Jude and Phil.

**Wanneroo Wanderers**  
**2024 New Years Brunch**  
*By Archie and Karen Lind*



The weather was absolutely perfect for a mid-morning gathering of WW members down in Mandurah to celebrate the start of 2024. It was very well attended with about 30 of us happily chatting about our christmas and new year celebrations. There were a few late scratchings due to Covid and similar issues.



Us country folk were well represented. There were eight from the Mandurah chapter (Archie & Karen, Larry & Jane, Alan & Carol, Mark & Stella), two from Busselton (John & Penny) and two from Brookton (Dave & Penny). It was especially nice to see Alan and Carol come along as Carol has some health issues that has stopped them attending WW functions for a long while.



In fact much of our discussions revolved around medical problems as it often does with our demographic. Old age is not for sissies!!!!



Only a couple of people had bbq breakfasts with most bringing lots of yummy brunch treats already prepared. The coffee van did a very good trade. It was almost 2.00 oclock before the last of the group left, so it continues to be a popular function. Thanks to everyone for making the trek



## OLIVE HILL FARM TRIP

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> – Monday 29<sup>th</sup> February. Joe & Elisa organises.

Joe and Elisa were the first to arrive on the Thursday. Followed by Richard, Kylie & Bella, Sue & Steve, Kerri & Steve, Ellie & Arthur, Leeann & Steve, Maureen & Dieter, Judy & Phil, Marian & Kieth, John & Penny and Allan & Alison. Tony & Jenny arrived later on Saturday and stayed the night.

12 cars/caravanners participated in a very relaxing and lovely trip away. Olive Hill farm is such a relaxed environment and Helen (host) is amazing.

Thursday night consisted of Happy hour, which continued into the night.

Friday morning up early and headed into town for the annual Cowaramup Citizenship ceremony and celebrations followed by a hearty breakfast supplied by the locals. A few of the "Wanderers" discovered that Phil was not a citizen and suggested he become one at next year's Cowaramup ceremony. He declined stating (fairly) that the ceremony in Cowaramup was held for the locals and that he would commit to joining the superior nation when he can qualify!!!!!! The remainder of the morning was occupied by most exploring the quaint town of Cowaramup.

On Saturday morning a few ventured into the Margaret River farmers market and Joe had booked a table for the group at the Colonial Brewery. We got a beautiful spot under a tree and whiled away the afternoon eating lunch and enjoying the lovely weather. Several Wanderers discovered the Blood red orange and a few were consumed. This was followed by the obligatory ice cream at Millers. Once back at camp. It should be mentioned that there were very few Wanderers willing to take a dip in the creek, as Saturday was particularly hot.

Phil had brought some port out for all to sample that evening, labelled F..... Good Port, bought at the Birdsville races and made in Queensland. Joe had bought some with the same label made in NSW???? After a few samples it was decided it wasn't bad. The girls got into some Tia Maria.

Most of the Wanderer's left on Sunday, only leaving Joe & Elisa, Judy & Phil, Richard & Kylie and Kerri & Steve. Light drizzle was falling in the morning but that cleared up by midday.

Those who were left took a drive to The Berry Farm for morning tea before taking a drive to Darnell's General Store to pick up a few supplies and then back to camp, and it was a very lazy afternoon around camp. Phil demonstrated cooking a damper in a camp oven during a fire ban, using charcoal brickettes heated in a charcoal starter. It mostly went well except for all the smoke that filled the dome marquee.

All except for Joe and Elisa left on Monday morning, who were staying another night.

As is always the case, it was a great weekend at Olive Hill Farm and I am sure we will be back there again in the future.

## Valentines Social Event

### *'Romance, with a touch of RED'*

*Report and photos by Brendan Waddell*



This event was held on Saturday 17 February 2024. A total of 34 Wanderers gathered at Deanne & Brendan's house to celebrate Valentine's Day, with the theme being 'Romance with a touch of RED'. Everyone seemed to get into the spirit of the Romance theme, with a wide variety of touches of RED, ranging from 'full dress' to 'barely-visible' bracelets!

Most gathered outside for drinks and a cheeseboard on the lawn under the trees on what was a warm evening. We then enjoyed a big spread for dinner – roast beef, pulled pork and a wonderful array of salads.

We then had part 1 of our music quiz – 'Love Songs from Last Century'. Four teams were formed (basically from where everyone was sitting for dinner). We commenced with three rounds (1950's, 1960's and 1970's) which obviously included many people's favourite songs (based on them joining in the singing!) We then had a break to top up drinks and enjoy a range of beautiful desserts. The quiz continued with three final rounds (1980's/90's, Beatles and Aussie Songs). After completion of all six rounds two teams were tied on 66 points (out of a possible 67!!) so one extra song was used as a tiebreaker. Congrats to the winning team of Eric, Julie, Maureen & Dieter.



Thanks to everyone for your wonderful food contributions (salads and desserts) and for your enthusiasm for playing and joining in with the music quiz. The scores suggest it may have been a little too easy!!

## 2024 EVENTS CALENDAR

*Wanneroo Wanderers 4WD Club  
Trip and Social Events - Fridge Flyer*

**WANNEROO  
WANDERERS  
4WD  
CLUB**



Time	Monthly Club Meeting 2024	Venue
7.45pm First Wednesday of every month (excl. Jan & Sept)	10 Jan, 7 Feb, 6 Mar, 3 Apr, 1 May, 5 Jun, 3 Jul, 7 Aug, (Sept meeting at AGM Sat 7 Sept), 2 Oct, 6 Nov, 4 Dec	Warradale Community Centre, Southmead Dve, Landsdale
Date	Event	Leader / Host/ Organiser
<b>JANUARY 2024</b>		
(School Holidays until Tue 30 Jan)		
<i>Public Holidays Mon 1 Jan &amp; Fri 26 Jan Australia Day</i>		
Sunday 7 Jan	New Years Brunch @ Egret Point	Archie & Karen
Thur 25 to Sun 28 Jan	Olive Tree Farm Trip	Joe & Elisa
<b>FEBRUARY 2024</b>		
Saturday 17 Feb	"Valentines Day" @ Coolbinia	Brendan and Deanne
<b>MARCH 2024</b>		
(Autumn School Holidays Fri 29 Mar to Sun 14 Apr)		
<i>Public Holidays Mon 4 Mar Labour Day</i>		
<i>Easter Public Holidays Fri 31 Mar to Mon 1 April</i>		
Fri 1 to Tue 5 Mar	Hillriver & Fish Comp - The Swamp	Paul & Allan W
Saturday 16 March	Social Event @ Gabbadah	Carl & Rachael
<b>Wed 27 Mar to Wed 3 April</b>	<b>Peak Charles and surrounds</b>	<b>Mark Bolton &amp; Allan W</b>
<b>APRIL 2024</b>		
(Autumn School Holidays to Sun 14 Apr)		
<i>Easter Public Holidays Mon 1 April</i>		
<i>Public Holidays Thur 25 Apr Anzac Day</i>		
<b>Sunday 7 April</b>	<b>Kaarakin Black Cockatoo Conservation Centre 'Clean-Up' Day</b>	<b>Volunteers needed</b>
Saturday 13 April	High Tea & Planning Meeting @Madeley	Ray & Chris
Wed 24 - Sunday 28 April	Captain Fawcett Track Trip	Eric & Julie
<b>MAY 2024</b>		
<b>Mother Day Sunday 12 May</b>		
Fri 3 to Sun 5 May	Annual Amateur Golf comp @ Ledge Point and camp over	Archie & Karen
May	Kalgoorlie Train - TBC	TBC
<b>JUNE 2024</b>		
(Winter School Holidays Sat 29 Jun to Sun 14 July)		
<i>Public Holidays Mon 3 Jun WA Day</i>		
Fri 31 May to Tue 4 June	Shannon River Way Trip	TBC
<b>Sunday 16 June</b>	<b>Kaarakin Black Cockatoo Conservation Centre 'Clean-Up' Day</b>	<b>Volunteers needed</b>
Sat 8 June to Sun 7 July	Flinders Ranges Trip / 21-24 days	Steve Bly
<b>JULY 2024</b>		
(Winter School Holidays to Sun 14 July)		
Saturday 13 July	Annual Christmas in July @ Hillside	Dave & Penny / MH
Sat 27 or Sun 28 July	Day trip TBD	TBC
<b>AUGUST 2024</b>		
Saturday 3 Aug	Ten Pin bowling bi-annual competition @ Joondalup & Dinner	Maureen Hurrlein
Fri 23 to Mon 26 Aug	Westonia & Wild Flower Trip	TBC
<b>SEPTEMBER 2024</b>		
(Spring School Holidays Sat 21 Sept to Sun 6 Oct)		
Saturday 7 Sept	AGM @ HYC	Maureen Hurrlein
Fri 14 to Tue 24 Sept	Gascoyne Trip	John & Penny Stoffels
Fri 27 to Tue 1 Oct	3 Bears Trip	Eric & Julie
<b>OCTOBER 2024</b>		
(Spring School Holidays to Sun 6 Oct)		
Fri 4 to Sun 6 Oct	The Mangowine concert and harvest festival at Nungarin in the	TBC
<b>Sunday 27 Oct</b>	<b>Kaarakin Black Cockatoo Conservation Centre 'Clean-Up' Day</b>	<b>Volunteers needed</b>
<b>NOVEMBER 2024</b>		
Nov	Social Event @ Sorrento	Steve & Sue
Nov	Trip TBD	
<b>DECEMBER 2024</b>		
(Summer School Holidays Fri 13 Dec to Tue 4 Feb 2025)		
Dec	Christmas Awards Dinner @	Social co-ordinator
Sunday 15 Dec	Annual Christmas BBQ @ Greenwood	Kym & Glenda

# BIRTHDAYS

