

## MEMORIES FROM FLINDERS RANGES – AUG/SEP 07

A recap of some events that happened on the Flinders Ranges Group Travel Marketing Bus Tour for the Combined Wheelers Hill Probus Club, Wed 29 Aug 07 to Fri 7 Sep 07. (Presented to group during the long bus trip home after leaving Mildura.)

### LEGAL DISCLAIMER

In these stories, bus driver's licence has been used to distort the truth, fictionalized characters have been used throughout, names & places have been changed to protect the innocent & all those named shall remain anonymous.

### DAY 1 (WED) – VIC/SA BORDER FRUIT FLY CONTROL



How can we forget what happened here? - After several warnings from our illustrious & esteemed hosts that officers at this border control are quite vigilant & sometimes board for inspection, what do they do - Hell n Ive attempt to smuggle a couple of tomatoes into SA – what were they thinking?



### DAY 2 (THUR) – PETERBOROUGH AFTERNOON REST STOP



Dave Studwik returns to the bus in a very distressed state, concerned that his wife Jone is likely to be charged with sexual molestation of a minor. He rounded the corner to discover his wife Jone applying a heartfelt bosomy cuddle to a young 13 yr old boy. Turns out the young lad had just attended a court hearing where his mother's boy friend had stabbed both his mother & brother & the lad was very upset – Jone felt sorry for him.

### DAY 3 (FRI) – PORT AUGUSTA

#### Arid Lands

Brine Broun, while intensely watching the birds, explains to me the subtle difference between a crow & a raven. If you compare the wing feathers of a crow & a raven, the crow has 8 pinion feathers while the raven has 9 - so it is just a matter of a pinion!

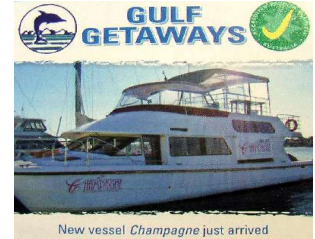


#### Spencer Gulf Champagne Cruise

Who could forget the tantalizing striptease dance (more of a threat than a tease) of the Hell n twins? - I have never seen so many moving parts in the one place! Bit like watching a front loading washing machine.



Hell n Broun was also most disappointed to learn that the cruise didn't include free champagne – it was actually the name of the boat – what a con Hell n!

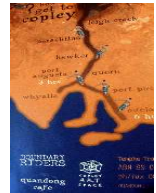


### Standpipe Motel

Dick Onlee surprises everybody by declaring that he loved the motel location next to the golf course because he loves searching for balls on these cold mornings.

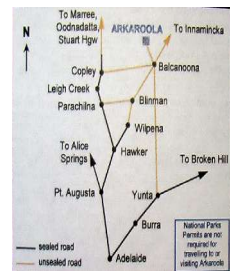
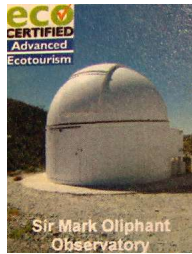
### DAY 4 (SAT) - PITCHI RITCHI STEAM TRAIN, QUORN, LEIGH CREEK & COPLEY QUANDONG CAFE

Pitchi Ritchi is an aboriginal word meaning “narcotic drug” which may have been the reason for Dave Studwik, while eating a “Quandong Pie” at the Quandong Café, suggesting that “Quandong” sounds like “Condom” but doesn't taste quite so rubbery – how the hell does he know that?



On the way to Leigh Creek we stop for R & R at Parachilna. RodHowl shouts me a beer (thanks Rod) & when the barman returns with the beers & Rod's change, he says thanks donkey. I said to Rod that barman just called you a donkey, are you going to stand for that. Rod replies, eew, eew, eew, eew always calls me that.

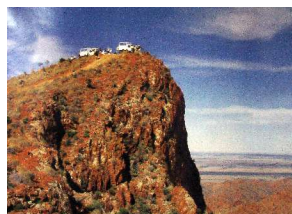
### DAY 5 (SUN) – ARKAROO LA OBSERVATORY



Pammy Cotton on the 9 pm observatory tour. In the dome it was dark & she was directly opposite her Davy. She was trying to convince him that it was actually quite romantic under the stars. Davy kept saying “Oh Pammy, you

sound like you are right behind me” – Everyone could hear every word. (sound travels amazingly clearly around the dome)

### DAY 6 (MON) – ARKAROO LA RIDGE TOP TOUR



What an enthralling, exciting & filled with danger this 4WD experience was! - JacKill nodded off in the front seat beside the driver. Stewie the driver commented, there's a first for everything!





## DAY 7 (TUES) – WILPENA

Traveling as a group in two separate vehicles on the Gorges Tour, our first stop “Razorback Lookout” is greeted with a flat tyre. On the road again after a short delay, Dave Studwik complains to the 4WD driver (from the back of the vehicle) he thought he was being groped. It transpires that it was just Jone attempting to fasten her seat belt.

The tour operator soon picked up that some of us were rather sceptical about wavy rocks being from an ancient sea bed some 560 million years ago, but convinced us of its truth when he splashed some water over some limestone rocks to reveal many ancient sea fossils which could be clearly seen in the rock.



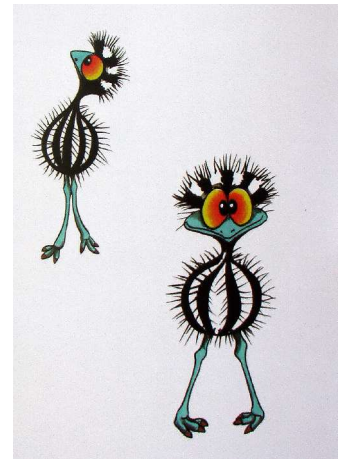
Jone Studwik bumped her head every time she got back into the 4WD. We soon realized that Dave was assisting her to board by supporting her bottom. Bumping her head was caused by being startled each time!



Good customer relations - how to keep your customers happy on a 4WD tour? – Close the car door on their fingers – this actually happened to Joyce as she was getting out of the vehicle!

## Emu Stories

We learn some Emu facts – the female lays 8 to 20 eggs, taking 8 weeks to hatch. The male sits on the eggs for this time without food or water, only stands to turn the eggs & loses about one third of his body weight. Meanwhile the female clears off with another bloke. The male then rears the chicks for 18 months. Would you ever have fun again if you were a male Emu?

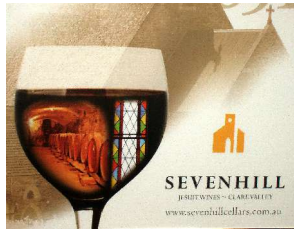


## Father's Day & Birthday

Our gorgeous hosts (Hell n Ive) arrange a few casks of wine to jointly celebrate Father's Day & a birthday. Kar n Woof's birthday cake is large enough to feed an army & absolutely delicious.



## DAY 8 (WED) – WILPENA TO CLARE VALLEY



Visit the Sevenhill Winery (Jesuit Wines) for a lot of tasting, then onto Clare. I was going to mention Kar n Woof's, layer by layer strip off in the bus but she told me to go to buggery. Dave Studwik notices a mountain on the map called Mt Buggery & decides to give this to Kar n for her birthday. (Reg Sprigg did a similar thing for his wife at Arkaroola)



We note that Dave Studwik seems to be involved in one way or another in almost every event we have experienced & Jone informs us that she finds she has to apologise for Dave on almost every trip they take – what a dull holiday without Dave – Thanks Dave for giving us a lot of enjoyment.

## DAY 9 (THUR) – CLARE TO WENTWORTH

On it goes. At breakfast in the Clare Valley Motel, a lot of commotion & we notice that we have Allbran Cereal all over the table & floor. Dave, the **Cereal Offender**, has done it again. A bridge had formed within the device used for metering cereal into the plate. Dave removed the container & sure made the cereal flow freely.



A visit to the historic old Martindale Hall in the historic town of Mintaro, then onto a beautiful luncheon aboard the Murray River Queen at Waikerie before traveling to Wentworth.



Grand finale dinner at the Wentworth Motel & RSL - we thank our hosts for an exceptionally enjoyable tour & some travelers lose on the pokies.

Pammy Cottonon asks bus driver if it is very difficult to change a flat tyre on the coach. Ive says button it up Pammy, we don't talk about those things!

## DAY 10 (FRI) – WENTWORTH TO MELBOURNE

A town tour to the “Two Rivers Junction” & what happens? - we have a flat tyre on the rear RH side of the coach – thanks Pammy. Spare is fitted in Wentworth with a stop at Mildura to have the spare replaced.

We have a lovely lunch stop at Ouyen near the big Malley Root & reminisce over the events of the trip, new friendships & the lovely weather we had for the whole journey.

Memories of the trip – **“What happens on the bus stays on the bus”**  
Pammy Cottonon, Sep 07



Lunch at Ouyen

