

Just Cruisin with Mick and Sally

[Home](#)
[About Us](#)
[Travel Destinations](#)
[Photos](#)
[The Big One](#)
[Park Reports](#)
[Favourites](#)

Gawler Ranges South Australia - June 8th 2007 until June 11th 2007.

Although this trip has been labeled "Gawler Ranges" it is more along the lines of a trip down memory lane as it was all planned to allow us to have a look at Siam Station which is north west from Iron Knob. From there we continue our way north west along the top edge of the Gawler Ranges until we arrive at Kingoonya before returning to Adelaide through Port Augusta.

Fri 8th June 2007: Once Sally had arrived home from work, we soon headed for Booleroo Centre where we were to overnight with Sue & Malcolm who were joining us for our weekend trip. It was an easy two and a half hour drive from our home here in Adelaide and once there, we did the final packing of the Patrol before darkness set in.

Sat 9th June 2007:



We were all out of bed a little earlier than planned, so we were on the road heading to Port Augusta by 6.50am. Once at Port Augusta, we refueled which was going to allow us to travel through to Glendambo without chasing fuel. A quick visit to Dad's to drop off some stuff for him and then a quick hello to Kerry who is my older brother before heading towards Iron Knob. It was a bit of a worry to us as the closer we got towards Iron Knob, the heavier the rain was falling.

Once we turned off of the main road at Iron Knob and started to head out into the Station country, the rain started to lighten which was very pleasing indeed. Siam Station was where Dad was working for the early part of our childhood so it was good to see some of the country side again. The dams were no longer as big as we all could all remember them , but by no means were they small. The recent rains in the area were reflected by the high green grass which was seen growing in some of the paddocks.



Once we had arrived at Siam Homestead and spoken to the Manager, we headed out towards the woolshed traveling via Government Dam and another dam called the Two Mile. The later dam getting it's name from the distance it is from the woolshed. The light misty rain continued to flow us as during the morning.



By the time we arrived at the woolshed, the rain had eased off enough to give us plenty of time to walk around the outside of the woolshed without getting wet. The shearing stands had been pulled apart which made us think that they were possible fitting electric stands. The old engine in the engine shed would have seen many shearings, if only it could talk.



Once we left the woolshed, it was a short drive over the hill and around the next bush until we located a suitable spot to stop for lunch. With Sally looking for her cup of coffee, there was no shortage of wood to sit the tripod over to heat the billy. By the time the rain had almost finished our lunch, the rain had almost cleared allowing the sun to shine through for some better photos.



We had decided to leave photographing the Siam homestead until after the woolshed hoping that the light would be better and we were not disappointed as by the time we had arrived back there, the sun was shining for a lot of the time. It must have been our lucky day as we also found a track which allowed us to drive up to the top of what we all used to call the little hill. It was there that we were able to capture a semi aerial view of the homestead. The small building shown here in the right hand side photo, was once the Rural School which used to be the school for the surrounding stations.



Because of our early start to the day, we were now ahead of our schedule so it allowed us to travel further than we had expected. Passing one of Edward John Eyre's camps on our way, we finally turned off of the main road to head over a hill on Kolendo Station to set up our first of two camps for the weekend. Find an isolated location away from the road with plenty of firewood and bingo, the perfect spot for the night.

Sun 9th June 2007:

Much to our surprise, the night didn't get as cold as we had first thought it might have. With two tents and no caravans, it didn't stop us from enjoying a cooked breakfast in the morning. After a good sunset the night before, we were also greeted by a wonderful sunrise.



Back on the road by 9.00am and we were headed towards Yardea Station before arriving at a secluded location for lunch somewhere on Hiltaba Station. The change in scenery was fast paced with red dirt at one stage to lightly coloured sand hills. It was nice to see some of the Sturt Dester Peas out in flower although the bushes had only just started to flower so in a few weeks time, it would be wall to wall red flowers.



Our second and last night on this trip was spent between Kingoonya and Glendambo, once again in a location well off of the road where there was plenty of firewood. It was a big cook up for the last night to use all of the meat that we had left in the fridge.

Mon 11th June 2007:

Once packed up and on the road again, we headed into Glendambo to fuel up before traveling the 600 odd kilometres that we had to do to get back to Adelaide for the night. Even though it was a long way for the last day, by the time we stopped off at Lake Hart and then at Booleroo Centre to drop off Sue and Malcolm, it didn't seem that far as it amysound. It was a great weekend to be camping out in the bush, even without the luxury of our caravans.

