

Melrose - June 10th until June 13th 2005

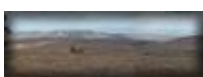
Melrose Caravan Park is located 269kms North of Adelaide in the Southern Flinders Ranges.

FRI 10th JUNE 2005: As I had finished night shift at 6am, the caravan was all hooked up and ready to go when Sally arrived home from work. Bruce and Maree arrived at our house with their caravan while we watched the rain storms coming in on the internet. With Sally now home, we were heading for Melrose by 6.30pm as the wind blew, the rain hammered down, thunder & lightening turned the night sky into daylight and we wondered if we were doing the right thing by being on the road towing caravans in such awful conditions. The further north we went, the better the weather was getting although the rain didn't let up very much until we arrived at Melrose at 9.30pm. Once the rain had stopped, it was a balmy sort of an evening and not too cold outside.



Melrose Main Street. One of the two Hotels at Melrose. Melrose Caravan Park.

SAT 11th JUNE 2005: Other than a quick shower early on Saturday, the weather was now on the improve for the remainder of the weekend. We went for a quick drive to Wilmington and ventured up to Hancock's Lookout where we found the view spoiled by so much haze.



View of Spencer Gulf looking from Hancock's Lookout.

The remainder of our day was spent taking short walks around the caravan Park and through the unpowered section which is located over the other side of the Willochra Creek. We were very surprised to see so many campers with young families here for the weekend, even the main powered section of the Park was nearly booked out for the entire weekend.

SUN 12th JUNE 2005: Today was the pick of the weather for the entire weekend with plenty of sunshine and not very much wind to contend with. Because of the long awaited rain that we were now receiving, Sue and Malcolm who were going to be part of our group for this trip were unable to join us with their caravan as Malcolm was now busy on the tractor. As it was a short run from their farm to Melrose, Sue took advantage of our location and paid us a visit for the day stopping with us until late afternoon. It was a hard walk for us oldies to reach the War Memorial Monument on

the way up to Mount Remarkable behind the Caravan Park, but we made it after a bit of puffing and panting.



Melrose township viewed from the Monument.



The Monument behind the Caravan Park

Sunday evening saw us eating bananas which had been wrapped in foil and cooked in the hot coals after having chocolate chips placed in under the skins of the bananas. This was something that had been passed onto us by Andrew who was on the site along side of us. What a treat it turned out to be eating hot banana covered in melted chocolate and a dollop of cream.

MON 13th JUNE 2005: After a heavy thunder storm & downpour at 5.00am, the ground soon dried to allow us to pack up without causing us any muddy concerns. We were soon on our way heading home with no rain about, but we did get some gusty wind at times. After a huge counter meal at the Rising Sun Hotel at Port Wakefield as we passed through, we safely arrived home during the early afternoon. Next trip, free camping at Big Bend on the Murray River in three weeks time.