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## Wilpena Pound - September 30th until October 4th 2005

**Wilpena Pound Camping and Caravan Park is located 481kms North of Adelaide in the flinders Ranges.**

**FRI 30th SEPTEMBER 2005:** It was just before 9.00am when Bruce & Maree arrived at our home and we were soon on our way heading towards Port Augusta which was our first port of call with a quick stop at Dad & Betty's to eat our lunch. Then it was onto the Stirling North Cemetry to place some flowers on Mum's grave before we headed for Wilpena Pound via Quorn and Hawker. It was the first time that Bruce & Maree had been in this part of the country so that added some excitement to the trip for everyone. After a good trip for the remainder of the way, it was 4.00pm when we finally arrived at Wilpena Pound to meet up with Sue & Malcolm who were already there for the Art Exhibition.



On site and all set up for the weekend.



Wilpena Pound is a National Park and as such National Park rules apply. It has it's own Tourist Information Centre which has fuel outlets



The Wilpena Pound complex including the campground area, is all powered from a Solar Cell power station which is boosted by three diesel generators when required.



Most of the powered camp sites are set out as one would expect in a caravan park, but the open unpowered camp sites are scattered around the trees and creeks offering some very good spots to camp.



**SAT 1st OCTOBER 2005:** By mid morning we were all on our way walking into the Pound to view the old homestead and to take in the views from the two lookouts above the homestead.



It was a nice day for a walk into the Pound with wattle flowers out in bloom as were many other flowers. The old Homestead is shown to the right.



Great views were had on the walk from the old Homestead up to the two lookouts above.



Sally and Malcolm enjoying the views on offer from the top lookout above the Homestead.



After we had arrived back at the camp ground and enjoyed a well earned bite to eat for lunch, it was off to have a look at the old Wilpena Homestead and shearing shed.



Access to the old Wilpena Homestead is via the road that runs along side of the old Woolshed. A \$3.00 per person entry is payable at the Tourist Information Centre to gain access to the old Homestead.



Two of the old buildings at the old Wilpena Homestead.



The Painters of the Flinders Ranges held an art Exhibition in the old Wilpena Pound Woolshed from September 18th until October 16th. This exhibition is held during this time of the year on a yearly basis.



Sun setting on Rawnsley Bluff as viewed from Rawnsley Park Station.



We had always wanted to try the roast meal at the Rawnsley Park Woolshed when we were up that way so we didn't hesitate to book a table for the Saturday night. It was at a cost of \$25.00 per person, but something we wanted to try,

**SUN 2nd OCTOBER 2005:** Today was the day we had picked to go for a drive through Bunyeroo Gorge and return home via Parachilna, Bratchina Gorge and finally the small township of Blinman. There wasn't as much water in the gorges as we had hoped for, but it is still a very pretty drive at this time of the year.



Views looking from the Bunyeroo lookout.



The road follows the bottom of the creek as you drive through Bunyeroo Gorge.



Bunyeroo Gorge

We shared our BBQ lunch with the flies in the bottom of a creek in Bratchina Gorge.



Old building in the main street of Blinman.

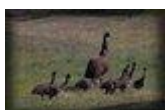
Great views from Huck's Lookout between Blinman and Wilpena Pound



**MON 3rd OCTOBER 2005:** Today was the day for the short drive to view the Elder Range from along the Moralana Drive. This drive was 33kms towards Hawker from Wilpena Pound where we left the black top and turned west to start our way along the drive.



Early morning view of Rawnsley Bluff To the left and the Elder Range to the right.



Dad with his chicks along the Moralana Drive.

During the early afternoon we were visited by Dad, Betty and Kerry who spent time with us before returning back to Port Augusta for the night. It wasn't long before we were asking ourselves where the weekend had gone. With interesting places to visit and perfect weather to do it all in, it doesn't take long for the time to go. It is just a pity that it is so far from home for us to go or we may get there more often than we do.

**TUES 4th OCTOBER 2005:** All packed up and ready to go. It was a quick goodbye to Sue & Malcolm before we headed off on the journey home. We stopped and visited Jeff Morgan's Art Gallery at Hawker before going onto Orroroo where we visited Sally's father for a quick hello on the way through. It was lunch time when we arrived at Peterborough so it was another stop for a nice counter meal at the Junction Hotel.



Some paddocks were a picture to look at with the sun shining on the canola crops



After a lengthy day on the road we arrived home safely at 4.00pm knowing that the weekend was worth the seven hour drive home.



