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# BUTLERS WEEKEND

## 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> APRIL

Les and Eileen once again hosted an enjoyable weekend 6 months earlier than we are used to. The usual regulars were in attendance Steve and Val ,Trevor and Barb , Peter and Lynne, Gordon and Ida with grandchildren Rachael and Ashleigh, Barry and Jenny, Tim and Sharlene with children Tamsin and Lachlan. Joining us this year were Peter and James, Stephanie, Steve with partner Debbie and daughter Melanie, Grant, Bob and Ivy, Trevor, Sandra and Jenny, and Steve and Maria.

Most guests made it over to the Yorke Peninsula on Thursday with a couple of late arrivals after dark, not a good time to set up camp and find the new fridge in camper is apparently not working. Thanks guys for helping Steve fix the problem while Val ( apparently the cause ) relaxed by the fire.

Friday started early with some heading into Minlaton for the dawn service. The rest of the morning was spent relaxing with the 4 children present doing a good job of getting the adults to pull them around on the cart, by early afternoon we were gathered around the training ring in awe at the trust Colin's Clydesdales have in him. Rosie entered the ring to show us how her training is going but like all children, had a mind of her own and kept making her way to the fence for pats.



When Colin led the saddled Mr Tims into the ring, little faces lit up and being few in number did not have to wait long for their turn, but neither did the big kids. The rest of the afternoon was taken up with whip cracking lessons which, as usual, was very entertaining with some of the guests leaving with reminders of their efforts. Congratulations to Steve's partner Debbie who accomplished double handed cracking.

Colin may have a new business; he made and sold several whips on the weekend. The afternoon finished with a tractor ride to check the new lambs. Friday evening was spoilt by drizzle but that didn't dampen the spirits of a few determined to enjoy the camp fire. Les payed the price for this on Saturday when he experienced the wrath of Eileen for leaving his wet clothes on her dry ones, and not effectively mouse proofing their camper.



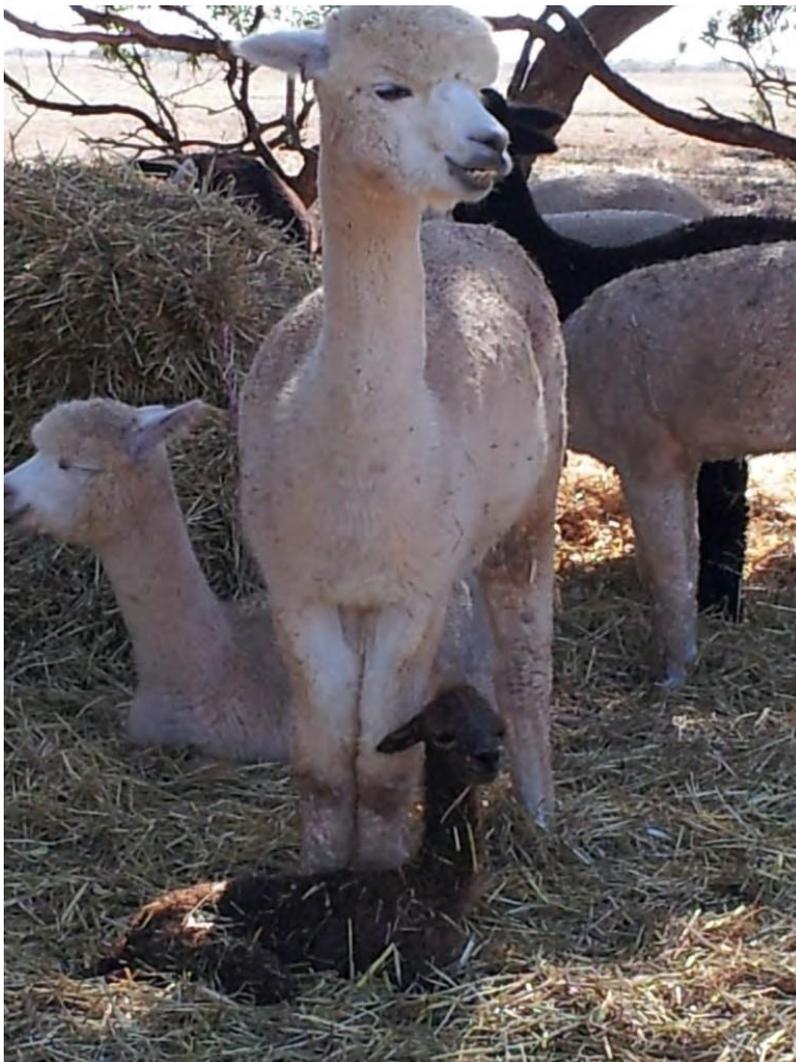
Saturday was cloudy but fine. Colin, Roy and Lindsay were ready and waiting with horse and carts hitched, everyone making sure they had a ride on each. The afternoon was free choice - Les and Eileen led an expedition around Pt. Rickaby. Obviously some vehicles found the terrain rough going - some returning minus parts of their vehicles. Others ventured back onto the sand cautious initially after recent adventures.

**(Les's report)**

From the farm gate we turned left towards Minlaton, a right hand turn saw us heading towards the coast our first stop being Barkers Rocks, then on to Pt Rickaby.

After a stop at the shop at Pt Rickaby we headed north along the beach track. The track took us past the beaches known as The Bushes and Bamboos.

The track being very narrow and bumpy (much to the kids enjoyment) Trevor and Sandy had to remove their caravan tow hitch as it kept bottoming. At the Bamboos we turned left off the beach track and found a good gravel road.



This soon changed into just a track through some scrub with wombat holes. Gordon found the track too narrow and stopped to remove his towing mirrors (but only about 100 metres for a wide road). Les checked out the hall at Wauraltee and we headed back to camp.

On the way we passed Lindsay's house as we saw his buggy wheel marks and horse droppings. On the return journey we did a slight detour past the Koolywurtie School (where Les's Mum and Dad went to school) and the Koolywurtie Church.

Sunday Grant took his Mum and Dad

squidding again to try their luck before heading home, others packed for an early get away to beat the traffic. The rest of us headed to an adjoining Alpaca farm to wander amongst mothers and young, what a delight for all to see one little one less than an hour old and still trying to stand. Before departing several of us gave the guys wallets a workout in the gift store.

## Les's report 2

There were 5 vehicles that didn't have to go home Sunday so after lunch we did a drive to Hardwicke then along the beach to Point Turton to the Tavern for coffee. The day was perfect with no wind and the sea was flat calm. A vote was taken whether we return to camp via the black top or the beach. The beach won with Steve and Maria leading us home.

Once again a most enjoyable weekend and our sincere thanks to the Butler Family and their friends for their hospitality.



Valerie