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## President's Report

G'day everybody.

I never thought I'd be happy about road closures, but it's great to see many shires closing roads due to wet weather. We have had so many months of hot/dry weather that a bit of moisture is a welcome sight. It certainly came in with a blast and a drum roll though.

Trip plans are starting to roll out and it looks as though it will be a busy year for Freedom. There is always room for more trips and functions, so if you have some ideas please bring them up. Many shires have extended the fire ban season, so just check before lighting a campfire.

Welcome to the new members that have signed up or are in the process of signing up. The more members we have the more trips we can run.

Carole and I are busy trying to get confident with our new pre-loved camper, ready for the Easter camping trip at Hyden.

Stay safe out there

Tony Allender

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### Dates for your Diary:

Next Meetings: Monday 23 March 2020

Monday 20 April 2020

Upcoming Trips: 5 April 2020: Tracks & Tucker  
Trip Leaders: Jeanette & Michael

10-13 April: Easter to Hyden  
Trip Leaders: Rowan & Michel

19 April: Gngangara Roamings  
Trip Leader: Paul Hemmings

25-27 April: Ninghan Station  
Trip Leader: Who will volunteer

9 - 21 May: Murchison Trip  
Trip Leader: Diane Court

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Freedom All Wheel Drive Club is a family oriented 4WD Club for drivers of Compact and Standard 4WDs.

**Monthly Meetings** are held on the fourth Monday of each month at the Manning Senior Citizen's Centre, 3 Downey Drive Manning. **Contact** us via email at [info@fawdcwa.com](mailto:info@fawdcwa.com)

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## Snippets from the Editor

Hello Everyone.

Well Easter is almost upon us, and that means trips away, ANZAC Day trip and more. I'm pleased to see the club doing it's bit not to congregate in groups of 500 or more!

I discovered there were many typos and other errors in the last edition of the newsletter. The obsessive-compulsive in me was shocked and revolted. I hope things are better this edition. I wish you all a happy and safe Easter and look forward to chatting around a campfire soon. I'm trialling a new format to make the images easier to see. Please give me your feedback.

Enjoy and happy reading!

Diane Court

Newsletter Editor

[possumcourt@gmail.com](mailto:possumcourt@gmail.com)

## Member Profile

### Andy & Linda Lawson

We were both born in the UK and arrived in Australia with our parents in the 70s (Linda 1973) (Andy 1974) and have both lived south of the river ever since. We married in 1982 and had three daughters and now four grandchildren.

We both still work, Linda in the Aged Care sector and Andy with The Department of Corrective Services, but retirement is getting closer every year. We have owned three 4WD vehicles: Ford Explorer, Jeep Commander and now the Isuzu M-UX all mainly for towing purposes to tow camper trailer or boat (Andy likes fishing) with occasional forays off-road.

It was one of these forays to Francois Peron National Park whilst visiting Shark Bay that we discussed joining a 4WD club. I must say if you have not been to Francois Peron National Park put it on your To Do List - it was a very memorable place to visit.

We have travelled overseas and been to some amazing places and enjoyed unforgettable experiences. The southwest has always been and will continue to be a much loved area to visit, but we now find that our backyard (WA) has so much to offer that we are planning trips to experience places further afield as time permits. A camper trailer was purchased a couple of years ago and we have had some really great times, especially when the two oldest Grandsons are able to join us. So far trips have all been towards the south but we have a trip up to the north later this year which we are looking forward to. We are fairly new members to the club, having contacted Freedom in 2018 and joining after a couple of trips. We look forward to travelling to new destinations, day outings and longer ones in company with other like-minded folk.

Cheers

Linda & Andy



# Trip Report – 16 Feb 2020

## Preston Point Beach Run

Written by Phil Slowther

### Trip Leaders – Phil Slowther and Michael Tai

We met at the BP Baldivis (Southbound) Service Station, Leary Rd, Kwinana Freeway at 9:00am. Eight vehicles with 11 participants left the meeting point at 9:30am and assembled at the end of the bitumen on White Hill Road at 10:45am where we met Michel and Rowan and visitor Steve. We aired down and headed to the beach. The tide was out and we stopped on the beach for morning tea at 11:00am. After an extended morning tea the drive to Preston Beach car park was uneventful. Preston Beach was fairly busy and we arrived at Preston Beach car park at 13:00 where we had lunch. The trip end was called after lunch and some of us gathered at Cape Bouvard Winery for coffee and a chat.

A pleasant short social trip.

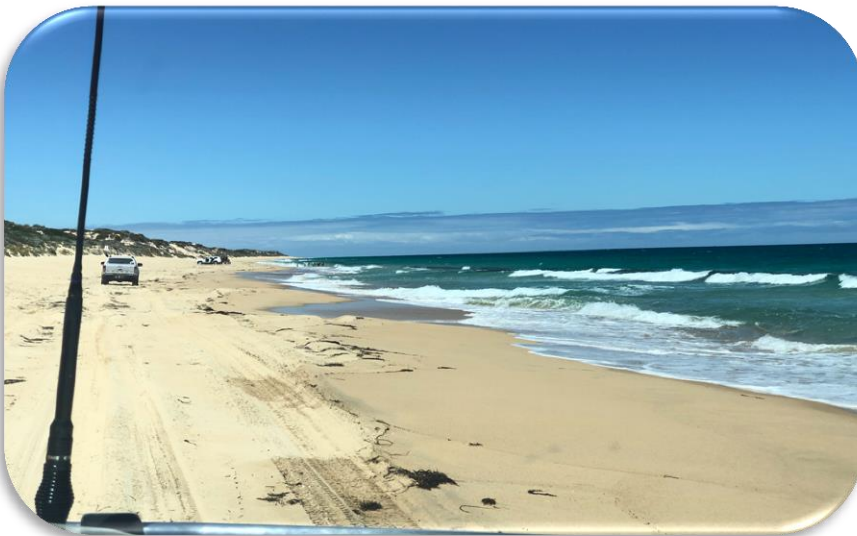


- *Preston Beach was established in 1957 because of the good fishing.*
- *Lake Preston is 9 times more saline than the ocean.*
- *Donald Campbell had planned to utilize Lake Preston to make his record breaking water speed record if his plans to use Lake Dumbleyung were thwarted.*





*Above: Photobombed by a Whistling Kite*



## ***Recipe:*** ***Apricot Chicken***

*Contributed by Linda Barrett*

### ***Ingredients***

*1 kg chicken breast fillets  
(chopped)  
300ml thousand island salad  
dressing  
50g packet French onion soup mix  
jam.  
1 cup apricot jam  
Rice*

### ***Method***

*Brown chicken in large pan  
Add dressing and soup mix and stir  
to combine.  
Simmer for 20-30 mins or until  
chicken is cooked.  
Meanwhile, cook appropriate  
quantity of rice according to  
directions.  
Serve chicken with rice*

## ***Where I've Been***

*I've been in many places, but I've never been in Cahoots. Apparently, you can't go alone. You have to be in Cahoots with someone.*

*I've also never been in Cognito. I hear no one recognizes you there.*

*I have, however, been in Sane. They don't have an airport; you have to be driven there. I have made several trips there, thanks to my friends, family and work. I live close so it's a short drive.*

*I would like to go to Conclusions, but you have to jump, and I'm not too much on physical activity anymore.*

*I have also been in Doubt. That is a sad place to go, and I try not to visit there too often.*

*I've been in Flexible, but only when it was very important to stand firm.*

*Sometimes I'm in Capable, and I go there more often as I'm getting older.*

*One of my favourite places to be is in Suspense! It really gets the adrenalin flowing and pumps up the old heart! At my age I need all the stimuli I can get!*

*And, sometimes I think I am in Vincible but life shows me I am not.*

*People keep telling me I'm in Denial but I'm positive I've never been there before!*

*So far I haven't been in Continent; but my travel agent says I'll be going soon.*





## Easter Special

*Editor: As the Club will be going to Hyden this Easter I thought we will feature a bird which is not found in the metropolitan area but is found in Hyden, and we'll also have an Easter bun (well – scone) no-fail recipe from Jo Clews which we can whip up in our camp ovens. There is also a nod to last year's Easter trip in this newsletter. Tell me when you find it.*

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## Creature Report:

### White-eared Honeyeater (*Nesoptilotis flavicollis*)

Written by Diane Court

Below: White-eared Honeyeater

Image used with permission. © Keith Wilcox, member BirdLife WA Photogroup and Subaru 4WD Club of WA

My first and only trip to Hyden was in 2018. There was a species of honeyeater I had never seen before – the White-eared HE. They are a pretty, social and quite noisy bird which I enjoyed watching. A large group would occupy a tree, flit about, make a lot of noise and generally enjoy life. I thought they were rather nice and here is their story.

White-eared Honeyeaters (HE) are a medium sized HE with a strong bill and they occur extensively on the east coast of Australia, and less so in the West. They tend to stay in wooded areas and avoid open and urban areas. They are not usually seen in the Wheatbelt, and don't like flying long distances - they prefer to travel along wooded corridors. They especially like trees with peeling bark, as they are nectar eaters, but also eat

lerp, insects and other invertebrates, which like living in peeling tree bark. Due to geological separation the West Australian White-eared HEs are a separate race to the eastern states birds (*novaenoriae*) and are smaller in size to their eastern counterparts.

These birds build neatly woven, cup-shaped nests in the canopy of trees. The nests are made from grass or bark bound together with spider webs, and lined with hairs. These hairs are usually obtained by plucking them from kangaroos, possums, farm animals, and, occasionally, people walking through the bush! The males are larger than the females, and in breeding season the female incubates the eggs, but the young are fed by both parents. White-eared HEs are one of the smaller birds which have their nests invaded (parasited) by cuckoos (Fan-tailed, Pallid, Horsfield's and Shining Bronze-cuckoos). (The cuckoos lay their own egg in another bird's nest, often destroying the biological parents eggs and leave the smaller bird to raise and feed the much larger cuckoo chick).

When in Hyden I hope you are able to locate plenty of White-eared honeyeaters!

Information sourced from [BirdLife Australia](#), [Birds in Backyards](#), [Wikipedia](#)



## Recipe: Plain Lemonade and Cream Scones

Recipe used with permission. © [Jo Clews](#), Jo Clews Australian Camp Oven Cooking (p 38)

(We stayed at Melangata Station with Jo last Easter, and she has given permission for us to use this recipe).

*These scones work every time, and are so easy to make that it is always worth hiding some cream and lemonade in the tuckerbox somewhere. It's easy to whip up a batch for morning tea, and if you can't get hold of fresh cream, then UHT cream works just as well as fresh.*

Total time: 15-20 mins per batch.

Makes 16-24

**4 cups self-raising flour**

**300mL carton fresh pouring cream or  
250mL UHT**

**300mL plain lemonade or 350mL if  
using UHT**

Grease a baking tray with spray oil. Place flour in a mixing bowl and make a well in the centre. Pour lemonade into the empty cream container, up to the crease in the carton, and add it to the cream. Mix ingredients together with a butter knife until just combined to make soft and fluffy dough. Turn out onto a floured board and gently press together and pat down to form a 2-3 cm disc of dough. With a scone cutter or sharp knife cut the dough into the desired shapes and place onto the baking tray.

Place the tray into a hot oven, on a high trivet with coals scraped to the edges, and cook for 10 minutes. Scrape coals to the middle and cook for a further 3-5 minutes or until golden brown. Serve with jam and cream for morning or afternoon tea.



**Tip** - It's a good idea to invest in a scone cutter, or use a sharp knife to cut out diamond or square shapes. Don't use a cup or glass to cut out scones because the rim of the cup is not sharp: instead of cutting the dough cleanly it squashes the edges together and you will end up with lopsided scones.

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## **Update from QLD Sub-branch**

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*G'day Members. Well Craig and I, and the dogs have made it to Ipswich. After 4,658kms we arrived here on Wednesday 11 March 2020.*

*The weather wasn't too bad ... we even saw rain at Nullarbor Roadhouse. And saw water in the Darling River, which runs into the Menindee Lakes.*

*There has been lots of rain in the northern part of NSW and the southern parts of QLD. Everything looks green and lush. We are camping at the Ipswich Showgrounds until our furniture arrives from Perth. Hope everyone back in Perth is well!*

*Luke and Craig*

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## **Answers: Header February 2020 Newsletter**

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*On the beach on the approach to  
Seabird January*



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## **For Sale: 2014 Soft Floor Camper \$6,500 negotiable**

Phil Slowther's son Steve is selling his 2014 off road soft floor camper.

Australian made.

New queen size mattress.

80L water tank.

9kg gas bottles.

Fully enclosed awning.

All poles pegs and ropes.

Solar panel.

Coleman even temp 3 burner gas stove.



**Contact Steve on 0429 503 357**





More For Sale over page

## For Sale: Black TREDs \$140

Rowan has a set of Black TRED 1100 recovery tracks for sale.  
Used once while "parked" on the beach, in excellent condition.

**Reason for sale:-** Prados don't get stuck.

Contact Rowan at [anderson.rowan1@gmail.com](mailto:anderson.rowan1@gmail.com)



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We wish happy birthdays to:

Linda Lawson  
*4 April*

John Varty  
*16 April*

