



A bit further along is a church with some old buildings at the rear which were being restored including



the thatched roofed structure.

We backtracked a couple of km to Lyndoch and had morning coffee at a little café. We stopped at the Château Tanunda Winery and tasted one very dry wine which neither of us like so didn't try anymore as the others were drier still.



Then through Nuriootpa onto the big A20 highway for a few km then northward through Kapunda. By this time the country was beginning to be flatter and drier. We had our picnic lunch in a little pit stop called Winkler Park.



The big statue of a man called Mac The Miner because the area was mined for copper in the past.

Through Burra which was a very busy railway link in regards to mining years ago. We were surprised to see the town's kerb and gutters were quite deep, similar to those in Mackay in Queensland. Do they or did they receive heavy rainfall?



There are also grapevines growing along many of the shop fronts as in the photo. This is common in the area but more so in Burra.

Terowie

We had been driving in almost semi-desert country on The Barrier Highway which links Adelaide to Broken Hill as we came to Terowie. Terowie was a very busy railway town during the first half of the 20th century as it was another railway centre for the Broken Hill mine materials. It had three gauges of track which was common in South Australia at the time. Now it's a registered ghost

town. We drove off the highway for 100mts to the almost disintegrated railway station.



The photo shows Archie and the Terowie sign.



The main platform of Terowie and only two rails remaining as most was pulled up by the state or vandals. How sad.



Here is a photo of a desolate scene of some of the shops.

Peterborough

The main aim for me of this S.A. Journey was to see the three gauge railway tracks in Peterborough. And now we were here. In 2002 we stopped for a few minutes in the Indian Pacific train on our way from Kalgoorlie to Sydney.

We booked into a Budget Motel and I went for a walk to the station to see it and the tracks. I walked down into the walk subway that goes under the tracks which must have been very busy in days long ago. After rail gauges were changed and so on Peterborough took over much of the rail traffic that was going through Terowie. People on the Perth to Adelaide and Sydney trains had to change trains here. It was a very busy town but unlike Terowie it hasn't died but there doesn't seem much of a future for it nevertheless. While I was on the main platform a goods train with diesel locomotive coming from the east came through so I took a video of it, wasn't I lucky?



One photo shows what would have been the busy hub of the town, the Signal Box which is all boarded up now as is all the windows and doors of the front of the station, the place where hoards of people would have walked in the past.



This photo I took from the platform looking towards The Railway Hotel with its red roof. Three tracks can be seen, the shiny one in the foreground is the track that is still used and the other different gauge tracks are now disused.



That night we had a very nice dinner at The Railway Hotel and one can only imagine how busy this hotel and others in the town would have been.



It is stated that this area near Peterborough has recorded the lowest temperature in South Australia. A

man told Marie that some winters it snows in Peterborough.

Thursday 1st May 2008.

We left the motel and drove around the corner to a small supermarket for some more groceries. I left Marie there so she could walk the main street and see a few of the old buildings while I drove a couple of km to the railway museum called Steamtown.

This was where the railway system was serviced years ago, the locos, carriages, wagons and so on. I was shown around by a very friendly man. The tour was very interesting but I wonder how long it will continue to exist. A thousand or so workers were retrenched in 1964 when Peterborough became more or less redundant and like many other men in the town who didn't move to other places have been on a pension or "dole" ever since. Very sad!

North of Jamestown we came upon two big trucks, each one carrying a huge propeller of some sort, perhaps for a wind power generator. They seemed too long to be for an aeroplane.

The Adelaide to Peterborough railway line or in other words the main line to Perth, Sydney and Darwin was beside the road at times and at a crossing I took this photo of a solar powered warning signal.



At Jamestown we had lunch in a little café. Shortly afterwards we bought another drink for Archie, 34lt at 149.0 cents /lt total \$50.00.

We drove via Jamestown, Crystal Brook to arrive in Port Pirie at about 1.45pm. A very busy town or city still as the ore is moved from Broken Hill to Port Pirie by rail.

Port Pirie

We booked into a motel across the street from a football oval. Archie was dirty so when we were in the

city I asked a man who told me that a car wash was around the corner. I always like to keep our rental/lease cars clean. We would have Archie for only a few more days .

We visited the museum which was the Railway Station in Ellen Street. The usual standard museum with some things shown in relation to the sea as this is a coastal town.

Back home we telephoned Maria as Marie was understandably concerned about her cactus house. O'possums have been invading it to eat many of the plants but Maria told her that the man put chicken wire around the top of the the wall so all should be OK now.

Friday 2 May 2008.

This motel had the quietest refrigerator on our journey so far. Just before we were about to depart I had my left thumb banged by one of Archie's doors, on the thumbnail which quickly went red and I felt like I was going to faint so I sat on the bed for awhile. After twenty minutes or so we were on our way.



We stopped at Port Broughton where I took a photo of the tall TV antennae which reminded us how it was years ago when TV first commenced transmission in Australia. Places such as the Gold Coast where people had to have tall antenna masts to receive a good signal.

Moonta is known for the mining of copper by a lot of Cornish men.

We drove up and down the streets of the little town where we had lunch at a café that specialises in Cornish style pies. They were delicious. I bought a sound cassette from a bric-a-back store of old music to remind us of Moonta and South Australia.

Then we visited the museum and information centre which was, can you guess?



Yes, an old railway station, the Moonta station of course.

We drove around a small part of the old copper mines before moving on.

Kadina

We arrived at our next night stop being Kadina at 1.30pm. We had a little trouble finding the Budget Motel which is a little way out of the town. It is owned by new people who are trying to build it up again so we enjoyed the little chocolates that was in the tray which held the tea, coffee bags and biscuits. Most unusual. We wished them the best success with their motel.

I haven't mentioned in the main text of our journey so will do so here. Marie used her film camera to take photos and I my Nikon digital camera for photos and small videos.

Saturday 3 May 2008.

Today we original planned to stop the night at Gawler just north of Adelaide. At 7.00am we listened to a few nice country, Irish and gospel songs on the radio, very pleasant.

It was still rather flat country but some hills were in the distance. I stopped north of Port Wakefield and took a video of a pipeline situated near the highway.

We stopped for a pit stop near a park where we took this photo of a Pepper Corn tree which is reputed to be over 150 years old. Its trunk circumference is 6.6mt, big!



From Port Wakefield the road is a big four lane highway which is named A1. It continues north to Port Augusta.

We stopped at Two Wells for lunch at a fish-and-chips type café. The meal of chicken breast, potato chips, salad and gravy was humongous, see the photo.



We drove past a footy ground where there were hundreds of cars with people attending football matches.

From here on we saw probably hundreds of white shade houses as used for vegetables and fruit. Many are in disuse so the plastic is falling apart.

When we reached the turn to Gawler it was still early afternoon so we decided to continue to Adelaide. We found the Budget Motel named Lindy's Lodge Motel and Restaurant on one of the main roads in Woodville called Torrens Road. The room rate was \$83.00 per night and was the only place we bargained for a cheaper price as we were going to book in for five nights. We settled for \$80.00 which came to \$400.00 for the five nights.

It is a nice big motel with plenty of car parking space with ground floor and 1st floor units. We got what we requested, a ground floor unit.



Sunday 4 May 2008.

We drove to Port Adelaide to the Markets which is at the inner harbour's edge in a building about the size of a soccer ground. See the photos.



Marie got talking with a woman who had a succulent and cactus stall. I bought a DVD from another stall holder who made a small business out of gathering old photos of South Australian towns and cities. This one is of the Barossa area where we had been.

I drove around a few streets where a section is a heritage part of Port Adelaide with buildings still as they were when built in the early 1850s and later.



This is the Railway Hotel where I had lunch when I visited Port Adelaide a week or so ago.

We had lunch there then drove into the city to the East Terrace - Rundle Mall Markets which is on the eastern

part of the street. Very similar to Brisbane's South Bank Markets.

The next was to visit the Botanic Gardens but we drove all the way through the Gardens but didn't find a parking space for Archie so we drove around North



Adelaide which is a lovely area. Before driving over the Adelaide Bridge we saw AAMI Stadium, home of the Adelaide Crows footy club. A nice sunny day today.

The music system in our room is one which was probably installed by Muzak. Muzak in Brisbane was a part of TV 9 when we used to service the Muzak systems in the 1980s. I got a kick out of seeing the system which of course is now defunct. See the photo.



Monday 4 May 2008.

We walked over to the Arndale Shopping Centre across the street and caught an Adelaide City bus which stopped at many places on the way to the city which picked up plenty of people. We debused a few metres from the Rundle Mall. We caught a tram to Glenelg which is used by tourists and Adelaidians alike. Some men on the tram were speaking a language we could not work out from what country they came. So I eventually asked them and was told they were policemen from Estonia and were here for a big Policeman's Convention.

We wondered if they had seen the ocean close-up before coming to Adelaide.

I took Marie to the Glenelg Town Hall and to the museum where I had been a few days earlier. She enjoyed the many displays. The photo shows her watching one of the four old penny arcade entertainment things. I think it was a man sitting in a room with a spider dancing above him.



Here Marie is standing outside the Town Hall.



We walked up the street and caught the tram back to the city.

We sat in a seat in King William Street and had our picnic lunch then walked along Rundle Mall which was a hive of activity compared to the day I was here, Anzac Day. We caught the free 99C bus which drove us around about ten blocks, similar to our Brisbane one. Next a short visit to the Adelaide Town Hall which is the first Town Hall built in any Australian city. Inside Marie took a photo of me standing next to a statue of Queen Adelaide.

We caught a bus back to the Arndale Shopping Centre and bought a couple of things there.

Tuesday 6 May 2008.

Two more days in Adelaide which I intended to go back into the city by train but we were both a bit tired. Age is catching up on us! We sorted our travel brochures and other items and did some packing.

We went to the shopping centre and some others nearby across the street.

Tonight we had dinner in the motel's restaurant which is quite fancy. A very nice meal.



I drove to the miniature Steam Train place a couple of km away but it opens only on the weekends.

We 'phoned Maria in Toowong and she told us that husband David was also in Adelaide for a conference.

Wednesday 7 May 2008.

Our last full day in lovely Adelaide.

We planned to stay home to finish packing. We played a game of pool in the restaurant as the photo shows.



Thursday 8 May 2008.

We departed the motel at 7.00am. The owner, Lea wished us good wishes as he came out to our car as we drove off.

We stopped at a service station on the way to the airport to fill Archie's petrol tank as I agreed with Hertz costing \$21.30 13lt. We dropped Archie off at Hertz with a total kilometres travelled by us being 1182km.



We arrived in Tullarmarine Airport just before 12 noon and only waited a few minutes as John picked us up.



Greensborough

The photo is of the front of John and Lyn's new home, their very own, their first. It is about 4km from the previous rented home in Greensborough. Marie and I say it is a mansion. From ground level as at the front door there is two rooms on the floor above. There is the "lower ground floor" which is the kitchen, lounge and big sun/rumpus room where one can watch the birds feeding as well as what one may see in the bush over the creek. On another floor further lower is John's office and a billiard table. Off that is the double garage. Down more steps outside at the back is Joshua's "Granny Flat".

What's more wonderful is at the rear of the mansion and the other homes each side is a creek and a hill rising on the other side so there is a lot of animal and bird life.

John and Lyn have a bird feeding plate which is pulled up by a rope so that it's about 10mt above the ground.



After we settled in we walked with John and Lyn along a path at the rear of the homes where we heard the bellbirds even louder with their lovely sounds. Of course they and other birds can be heard from inside their home.

The weather was the usual wet and cold Melbourne day, about 12c during the day. It is winter after all!



John surprised us by pointing out his new (almost) red 1.5 litre Toyota Yaris 3 door hatchback car. Later in the evening John wrote my 360 or so digital images and videos to a CD.

Friday 9 May 2008.

John and Lyn took us to the new Cranbourne Gardens which are something different in gardens, more in our Australian dry conditions theme.

We had a picnic lunch outside the gardens in a little park/picnic area and we again heard bellbirds singing our “restaurant” background music.



Then they took us to Tyabb a few km further south where the Tyabb Packing House Antiques place is which is purported to be the biggest such place in Australia. The brochure shows six businesses but I think there are more than that as it is huge. We all split and went to the shops, if can call them that, and naturally I went to the bookshop, see the photo.



It's Web site is;

www.tyabbpackinghouseantiques.com.au

This area of Gippsland as I have mentioned in some of my other books where I lived as a boy was the apple, pears, plums and other fruit growing area.

The photography and camera shop has the biggest range of such things I have ever seen.

Saturday 10 May 2008.

I helped John, Lyn and Joshua move two water tanks that were in the garage where they were put after purchasing them. We moved them to under the floor where a plumber would install them in the future. Then my darling gardener Dimmpy and John did some gardening at the front of their home. Because John would be busy tomorrow, Sunday, they arranged a mothers Day dinner tonight. We enjoyed a lovely meal and a bottle of wine supplied by the Real Estate firm who arranged the home purchase. Joshua joined us, he usually has meals in his own flat.



Later we all watched some of the 150 years football game at the MCG but by half time I was on my own. It was a good game. Victoria defeated the Dream Team.

Sunday 11 May 2008. Mothers Day.

Lyn drove us to Greensborough where we walked and walked and Marie shopped at Savers while I took photos



of the railway station. Then we looked over the Sunday Markets which was a bonus. We had lunch in the shopping centre.

After dinner John lit the fire in the sun room as in the photo.

Monday 12 May 2008.

John had left early to fly to Sydney. Lyn took us to Kangaroo Ground, Diamond Valley and other places. We saw the place where John and Lyn spent a week doing art with other artists. This was David Taylor's home on some hectares of hilltop land.

She then took us to a little gold mine. Close by I took a photo of an electric power line which uses only one wire not two or more as is normally the case. The system is called Single Wire Earth Return (SWER). The system is used for various reasons, one being that it is cheaper to install. The last time I saw a SWER was in West Australia.



Tuesday 13 May 2008.

Our last full day of this S.A. And Victoria journey for us. There was a thick fog this morning which lifted about 12 noon. The photo is of Joshua with his white 1996 Nissan Skyline.



In the evening we showed the DVD of Peterborough which I purchased there. Lyn, Laena, Joshua and John are in the photo.

Wednesday 14 May 2008.

John was still in Sydney so Lyn drove us to ultramarines Airport at about 10.15am. Our flight departed at 12.20pm then landed in Brisbane at 2.15pm. The taxis are now organised by an attendant who got us a Maxi-Taxi. See the photo.



This book is also in PDF form.

My E-mail address is;

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Thank you.

John C.E. D'Alton Toowong, Queensland Australia.



Alphabetical Index

Barry Klose	8	
Lodge Motel	15	
Tanunda Winery	11	
Adelaide Town Hall	16	
Angaston	9	
Archie	4	
Arndale Shopping Centre	16	
Bethany	10	
Birdwood	9	
Burra	11	
copper	14	
David Taylor	19	
Departure	4	
Ellen Street	14	
Friday 2 May 2008	14	
Friday 25th April 2008	4	
Friday 9 May 2008	18	
Glenelg Town Hall	5	
Greensborough	17, 19	
Her Majesty's Theatre	5	
Hoffnungsthal	10	
Joshua's "Granny Flat"	17	
Kadina	14	
Kalgoorlie	12	
Kapunda	11	
Lobethal	8	
Lyndoch	10	
Maria	20	
MCG	19	
Monday 12 May 2008	19	
Monday 28th May 2008	7	
Monday 4 May 2008	16	
Moonta	14	
Mothers Day	19	
Mount Barker	8	
Mt. Barker Railway Station	8	
Muzak	16	
Nuriootpa	11	
Peterborough	7, 12	
Port Augusta	15	
Port Broughton	14	
Port Pirie	13	
Port Wakefield	14	
Pt. Adelaide Markets	15	
Railway Hotel	6	
Rundle Mall	16	
Saturday 10 May 2008	19	
Saturday 26th April 2008	5	
Saturday 3 May 2008	14	
Signal Box	12	
Steamtown	13	
Sturt River Caravan Park	4	
Sunday 11 May 2008	19	
Sunday 27th April 2008.	6	
Sunday 4 May 2008	15	
SWER	19	
Terowie	11	
thatched roofed	11	
The Railway Hotel	13	
Thursday 1st May 2008.	13	
Thursday 24th April 2008.	4	
Thursday 8 May 2008	17	
Torrens Road	15	
Tuesday 13 May 2008	19	
Tuesday 29th April 2008.	8	
Tuesday 6 May 2008	17	
Tyabb	18	
Tyabb Packing House Antiques	18	
Wednesday 14 May 2008	20	
Wednesday 30 May 2008	9	
Wednesday 7 May 2008	17	
Winkler Park	11	
WWII air raid shelter	5	