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ALDECC

2003



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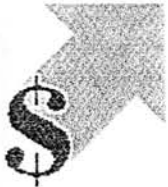
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JIM HEYWORD
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Annual Subscription: \$15 (Couple \$20) Due: 1 Feb, 2003
 Joining Fee: \$5 (plus Annual Subscription of \$15)

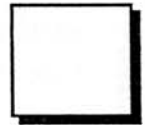
Membership is open to extended tour coach crew employed for a period not less than 12 months full time
 (full time casual for hosties and cooks), on tours of a duration of 7 days or more
 (5 days or more for Tasmanian crew).

ARE YOUR ALDECC SUBS NOW DUE??



If at the time of preparing this newsletter, our records indicate you to be unfinancial, an X will appear in this square.

Orange is one year overdue. Green is two years overdue.



CHANGED YOUR ADDRESS?
 Please advise our Secretary of the change

LOGO ITEMS



Iron-on Transfers - Black or White
 Transfers and Stickers
 Replacement Badges
 ALDECC Keyrings

No charge
 No charge
 \$5.00
 \$5.00



Please place your orders with the Secretary
 Cheques or money orders payable to ALDECC Inc.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello Members,

I hope this newsletter finds everyone healthy and busy in their employment. Plans are well underway for a fantastic 2004 reunion. Your committee has been working very hard to make our reunion the very best. Members, if you know past members or people who could become members invite them along to make our 25th year the best.

As this will be the last letter before 2004 I would like to take this time to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas & a very Happy & Healthy New Year.

Bye, Kevin Gough.



A MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY / TREASURER

Hello Everybody,

I sincerely hope you are all enjoying the longer hours of daylight and the warmer weather (in some parts!) I hope also that you are looking forward to February 13, 14 & 15 our 25th reunion.

It was a pleasure to mail the brochures to you along with the last newsletter and I hope everybody found them informative and the venue congenial to our type of weekend.

Now!! CLARIFICATION THIS IS NOT THE OLD HUME RESORT. It's 40Kms north of Albury and turn off the Hume Highway at the Boomerang Factory (So they tell me.) I've just spoken to a "Young Pony" in NSW and I think quite a few members maybe saw **HUME** and assume (d)!! One should never assume anything – it makes an **ASS** (out of) **U** (and) **ME** ! Now is this OK for a "Mud Map"? OK lets drive on.

The committee are now busy setting the agenda and finalizing costs for the most pleasure and comfort at reasonable prices for the perfect party.

We are still asking for as much memorabilia as possible. I will bet there's some funtastic and quirky items hidden away – even old tickets, brochures or anything that relates to the industry or maybe a special occasion a particular trip – just write it down! Don't forget the uniforms, tents (?) cooking gear!!! Etc etc. wouldn't it be interesting to have a "then and now" segment.

We still want "people from the past" give me a bell if you find someone who might be "hiding away" and would like details. Remember – it doesn't matter if they were members or not we just need the "pleasure of their company" (and a "leaf from their wallet for weekend costs!!).

And by the way – Feb 14th is a significant date for the romantics – I dare say a honeymoon in the bin of a Moonee Valley Coach (oops) might be in the offering – or Grenda's! Watch out for those folk who are in charge.

Regards RUTH.





RMB 204 Wymah Road, BOWNA NSW 2644

ALDECC REUNION
13th - 15th February 2004
25 Years

From: Reen Hillman <Laureen.Hillman@minit.com.au> Date: Thu Oct 9, 2003 4:41:30 PM Australia/Melbourne.

Greg Oakley is going really well. Has recently been for a trip up to Marla and had a great time. He is healing well and the visits back to the specialists are getting less frequent, which in turn makes life a whole lot easier. You can't keep a good man down! He and Helen are getting ready to go away next year so Greg is busy preparing his "new wheels" for the journey. Both are looking forward to catching up with everyone at ALDECC -and you just never know where else they will appear along the way!

Doug Lever is now home again in beautiful Bega following a solid bout of Chemo - which I am sure he is very glad to be rid of. His progress is good and he is now on the road to recovery and in a couple of months, Doug should be back to his "fighting weight" and feeling a whole lot more like his old self again. Our good wishes and thoughts are with him for a very speedy recovery.



From: Paul & Liz Pincini <pincini@asitis.net.au> Date: Wed Sep 17, 2003 9:41:56 PM Australia/Melbourne
To: aldecc@bigpond.com.au
Subject: The games changing
Reply-To: Paul & Liz Pincini <pincini@asitis.net.au>

How Things Have Changed. Recently I saw a Dysons coach in Australian Pacific Livery doing a job for Dreamtime Tours towing an Edwards of Eden trailer painted in Austour livery delivering the trailer for Swagman Tours. Believe it or not!



Cheers Paul and Liz Pincini

ALDECC COMMUNICATION LINE

Please send all items of interest for the ALDECC newsletter to:

Garry Mathewson

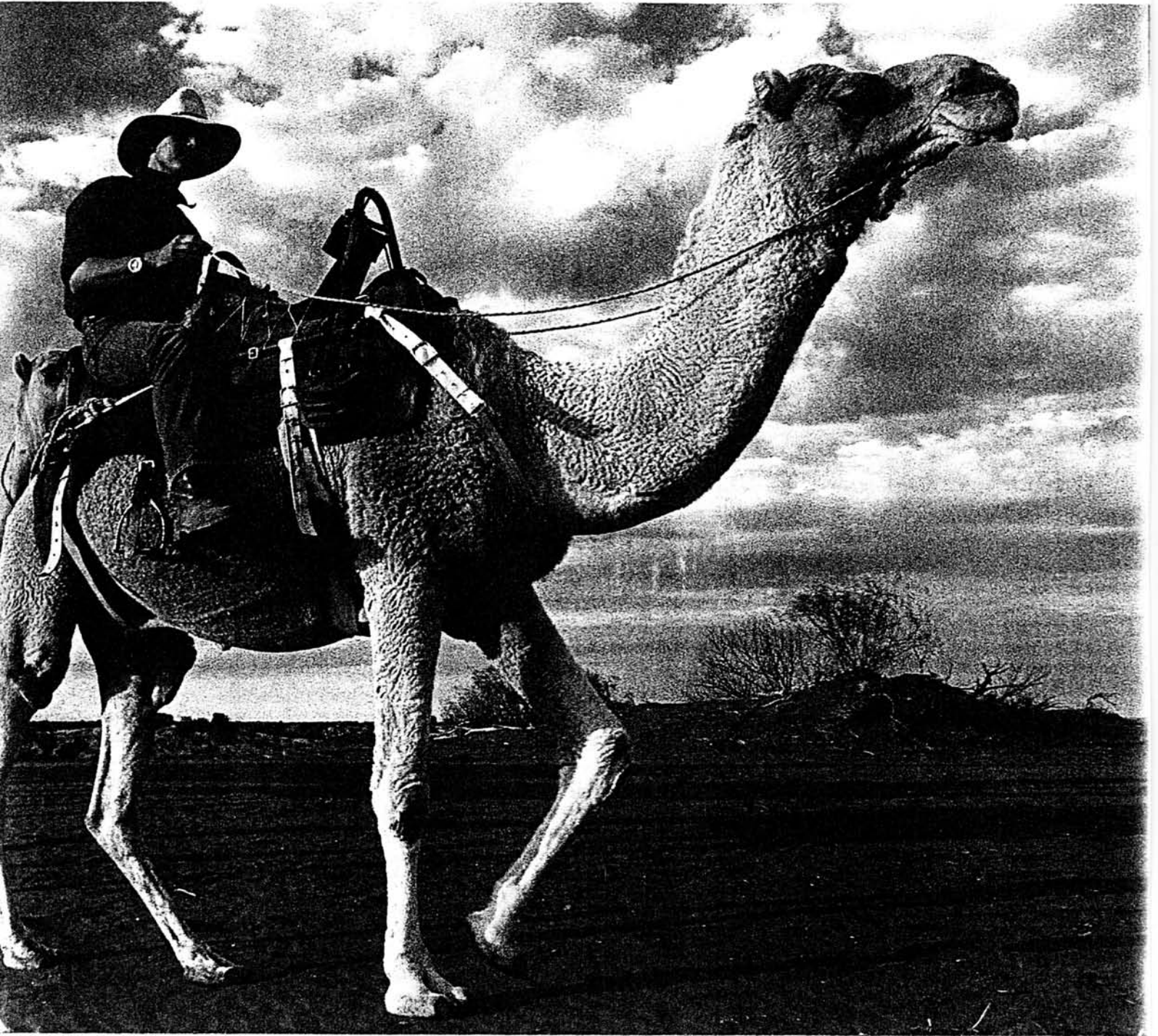
34 Roberts Ave, BOX HILL SOUTH Vic 3128

Fax : (03) 9310 4923, e-mail aldecc@bigpond.com.au



Curtin Calls

IF YOU'RE VISITING THE RED CENTRE, IT'S WORTH MAKING TIME TO JOIN A CAMEL SAFARI FROM CURTIN SPRINGS CATTLE STATION TO SPECTACULAR MT. CONNER.



Words **Sandy Guy** Photography **John Henshall**

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Qantas The Australian Way Magazine October 2002



A STOPOVER AT CURTIN SPRINGS IS A GREAT WAY TO EXPERIENCE LIFE ON AN

Opposite, clockwise from top left: cameleer Chris Hill silhouetted against a Red Centre sunset; Peter and Ashley Severin have eked out a living from the desert since 1956; Peter Severin holds a snapshot of himself as a young man; a flock of galahs take flight; mustering at Curtin Springs – spectacular and dangerous.

When Peter Severin took over Curtin Springs in 1956, tourism was the last thing on his mind. The bankrupt cattle station 80 kilometres from Ayers Rock (now Uluru) was a bumpy, two-day trek by dirt road from Alice Springs when Peter, his late wife Dawn and their three-year-old son Ashley moved to the 4000-square-kilometre property, and the only access to the rock was via a goat track.

"There was nothing at the rock in those days, not a bloody thing," says Peter, 74. He sits in the shade of the spinifex roof of a bower shed made of gum tree trunks he built as his family's original home at Curtin Springs.

It took Peter six weeks to drive 1500 head of cattle 500 kilometres from a property at the edge of the Simpson Desert to what would become his cattle station. "It rained the first day we arrived at Curtin and I thought, 'Beauty, this place is all right.' Then it didn't rain for the next nine years. Most of the cattle died."

It was during that drought that Len Tuit from Alice Springs began taking tourists on a bone-crunching bus trip across the desert, calling into Curtin Springs for Devonshire tea on the way. "Len's tours meant we managed to hang on to the property," Severin says. As the road improved and Uluru's popularity increased, he installed a petrol pump and opened a shop.

Forty-six years later, little has changed at Curtin Springs. It's still a working cattle station, run by Ashley Severin, now 49. It also still has petrol and

a store, but instead of a dirt track the bitumen Lasseter Highway passes by, busy with tourist buses heading to Uluru.

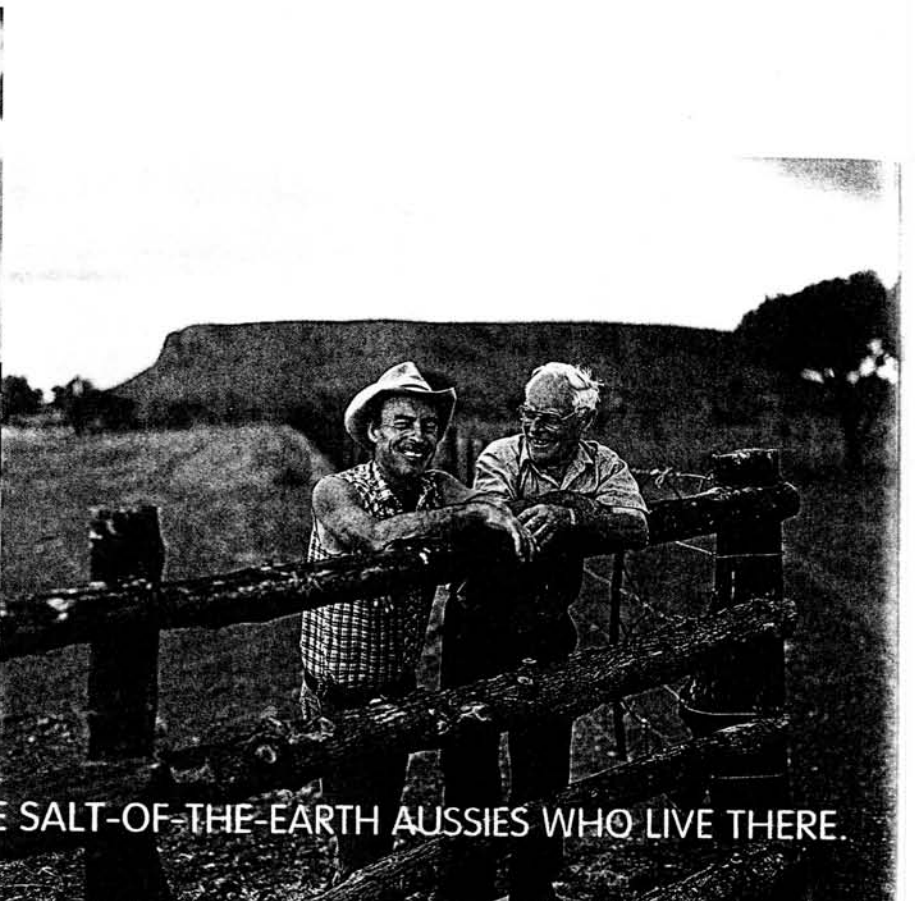
A stopover at Curtin Springs while visiting the Red Centre is a great way to experience life on an outback station and meet the salt-of-the-earth Aussies who live there. Although usually arid, the vast property teems with native wildlife and can be explored from the back of a stately camel by taking a two-day camel safari with the property's resident cameleers, Mark Swindells and Chris Hill.

Mt Conner, a 1200-million-year-old mesa twice the size of Uluru (it is 18 kilometres around the base), rises imperiously from the desert landscape 35 kilometres from the homestead and is the destination on day one of the safari.

Experience counts for everything when heading into the harsh Australian desert, so it's heartening to know that Swindells has previously crossed the Simpson Desert with his camels, while Hill led his own camel expedition across the Outback at the tender age of 15.

Aside from the occasional screeching of galahs, the bush is silent as the camel train makes its way across dozens of bright red, spinifex-dotted sand dunes. The landscape is alive with wallabies, emus, bush turkeys and dingoes, while huge wedge-tailed eagles glide overhead across the cloudless expanse of blue sky.

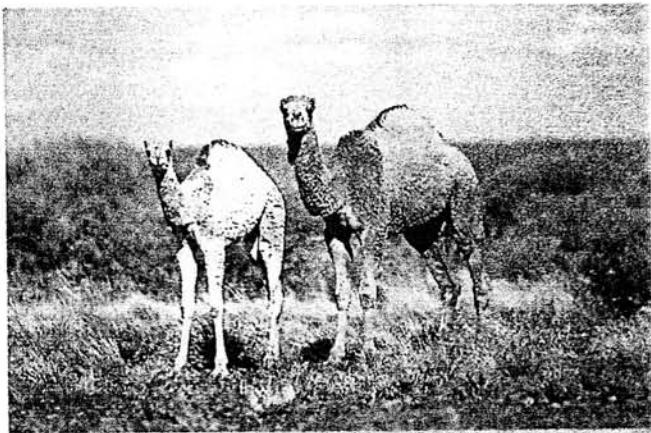
As the sun sets, bathing the sky in a gorgeous array of magentas, the party makes camp by a huge salt lake. Chris and Mark knock up a hearty meal of "wilderness stew", comprised of salt beef >



OUTBACK STATION AND MEET THE SALT-OF-THE-EARTH AUSSIES WHO LIVE THERE.



QANTAS



From top: a mother camel and her baby check out the tourists; cameleers Chris Hill, 28 (rear) and Mark Swindells, 31, are no strangers to the desert; the Curtlin cattle know how to make an entrance.



and vegetables, and that great Aussie bush food, damper. After yarning around the campfire for a while, the group bunks down for the night in swags under a brilliant starlit sky, the only sound the occasional crackling of the fire.

Chris and Mark are up early saddling the camels, and breakfast is cooked shortly after dawn. Today the group will meander along the shores of another salt lake, stop for lunch amid a grove of desert oaks and traverse endless sand dunes.

Less adventurous visitors can head into the bush in the comfort of a four-wheel drive with "Uncle" (whose real name is Ian Barker), a stationhand who has a bush camp near the base of Mt Conner. It's a five-hour return hike from the camp to Mt Conner's plateau, where climbing enthusiasts can experience breathtaking views across the desert to Uluru, Kata Tjuta (the Olgas) and the Musgrave Ranges to the south.

After a tiring day in the bush, visitors return to the homestead to knock the dust from their throats at the station's tiny bar, where they can share a beer and a yarn with local stockmen and stationhands.

Curtin Springs is an affordable getaway for those who wish to experience Australia's outback wilderness. Don't expect haute cuisine – there's steak, and lots of it, which the cook (called "Cookie", believe it or not) hurls onto a sizzling hotplate in the homestead kitchen.

"Dongas" (portable cabins dotted around the homestead) offer basic accommodation, but the beds are comfortable, sheets clean, showers hot and the airconditioners very welcome. Visitors drift off to sleep to the burbling of camels in the nearby yards and wake to the sounds of station workers whizzing around on their trail bikes. It's a perfect antidote to the hustle and bustle of city life.

For more information on Camel Adventure Tours from Curtin Springs, call (08) 8956 7784 or visit www.cameladventuretours.com.au



Qantas flies daily to Alice Springs and Ayers Rock. Call 13 13 13 for more information. For holiday packages call Qantas Holidays on 13 14 15.



“Where’s the party.....??”





AUSSIE LOVE POEM

OF COURSE I LOVE YA DARLING

YOUR A BLOODY TOP NOTCH BIRD
AND WHEN I SAY UR GORGEOUS
I MEAN EVERY SINGLE WORD

SO YA BUM IS ON THE BIG SIDE
I DONT MIND A BIT OF FLAB
IT MEANS THAT WHEN I'M READY
THERE'S SOMETHIN THERE TO GRAB

SO YOUR BELLY ISN'T FLAT NO MORE
I TELL YA, I DONT CARE
SO LONG AS WHEN I CUDDLE YA
I CAN GET MY ARMS AROUND THERE

NO SHEILA WHO IS YOUR AGE
HAS NICE ROUND PERKY BREASTS
THEY JUST GAVE INTO GRAVITY
BUT I KNOW YA DID YA BEST

I'M TELLIN YA THE TRUTH NOW
I NEVER TELL YA LIES
I THINK IT'S VERY SEXY
THAT YOU'VE GOT DIMPLES ON YA
THIGHS

I SWEAR ON ME NANNAS GRAVE NOW
THE MOMENT THAT WE MET
I THOUGHT U WAS AS GOOD AS
I WAS EVER GONNA GET

NO MATTER WOT U LOOK LIKE
I'LL ALWAYS LOVE YA DEAR
NOW SHUT UP WHILE THE FOOTY'S ON
AND GET ME ANOTHER BEER!

Author Unknown