

GOLD NUGGET TIMES



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SA Gold Prospecting Championships



South Australian Prospecting Championships

The South Australian Prospecting Championships is run in conjunction with the Palmer Gem Club each year in Palmer, South Australia. Palmer is a small country town half an hour from Murray Bridge. This was the first time that Gold & Relics had attended this 3 day event and we were made to feel very welcome by the organisers.

The location was the Palmer Oval which is a very pretty football oval surrounded by an olive grove.

Camping was available with hot & cold showers and toilets.

The first two days consisted of a trade event where about 70 traders were selling gold, gemstones, books and bric a brac.

Entertainment was provided by a local band on the first night. Meals were available to be bought and it turned out to be a real social event.

On the third day the South Australian detecting competitions were held. A paddock had been ploughed for the event and 136 detectorists put their metal detectors to the test. Tokens, coins, badges, a gold speci and lots of rubbish were found. It was a well kept secret as to what we were meant to be finding. It turned out that the badges were the holy grail. They had been planted and ploughed in and they were the entry to the prize draw. The sessions ran for an hour and with 136 people in one area it was difficult to detect especially with a GPX 5000, even in cancel mode. But I still managed to find a reasonable amount of targets.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

As can be seen from the graph below the GOLD PRICE rose for the last 4 weeks from \$1640.00 to \$1735.00 in mid May. The Australian dollar has dropped to \$.72910.



Goldfields Central Prospecting Branch

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 18th May at the Maryborough Highland Society, 35 High St, Maryborough at 6.00pm for a meal and 7.00pm for the meeting.

All Welcome



SA Gold detecting championships cont

In the afternoon, there was a detecting session in a different section of the paddock for an hour which all participants took part in.

This time I tried a few different settings on the 5000 and it worked a treat because I got twice as many targets as before. The targets were anything from 8 inches down to sitting on top.

After the hour I had 2 pocketfuls of coins, tokens and rubbish whereas some others had coins, tokens, keys and some unusual badges.

We all gathered back at the oval and assembled on the tennis courts and then spread all of our items out on the tennis court for the marshals to view.

The grand prize was announced later in the afternoon. One of the major prizes in the childrens' event was to find a gold coated badge. All of the kids came away happy because they all won a prize ranging from a detector to a panning kit.

An auction was held on the Saturday evening. This was held from donations sourced from the traders and included gemstones, rocks, books, tours, clocks, paintings by local artists and a mystery prize (I didnt find out what that one was!)

A storm hit on the Saturday night and blew a poptop off a caravan, marquees were twisted and blown away and tree branches had fallen. Despite that, the show went on.



Lots of targets at the South Australian Detecting Championships including coins, token and buttons

A raffle was drawn on Sunday evening with prizes including Minelab and Garrett detectors, probes, panning kits and many other prizes. This resulted in almost everybody receiving a prize. I won a Minelab pen.

It was an enjoyable weekend with lots of networking opportunities. I caught up with Ian Aitken, a well known prospecting identity, as well as a lot of friends made over the years of taking tours and my buddy Josh.

RACV Share & Save

An event at the RACV Goldfields Resort was held recently to which Gold & Relics was invited. Gold & Relics has recently joined forces with the RACV to offer their customers a discount on our half day and one day gold prospecting adventures.

An evening of networking tourism operators, RACV executive and staff made up the evening. The reason for the event was so that the RACV staff could become familiar with Share 'n Save partners.

A highlight of the evening was producing a large gold nugget and handing it around the room for closer inspection by those present. Most of those attending had never held real gold before and when told of the value of this particular piece (\$55,000.00) their jaws dropped to the floor. All in all, a stand out evening. Thanks to the RACV for hosting this event.



RACV Goldfields Resort, Creswick

GOLD & RELICS NSW GOLD PROSPECTING ADVENTURE



Some of the group detecting on the New South Wales Adventure

When I arrived a few days early to set up the New South Wales tour, I found that the original camping spot that I had in mind for this tour had no water due to the recent drought. This meant that I had to make hasty amends and hunt around for another spot to camp. I found a great little spot hidden away in the bush with water, toilets and shelter and only a stones throw from gold.

There were large shallow surfacing patches within walking distance and alluvial holes dotting the creek lines which produced gold for us. There weren't many fresh holes as it was an older area. The tour group did well in this area.

Another area that we prospected was a similar big surface patch not far away and there wasn't a hole on it. Various pieces were found on this patch by the group.

One spot that we tried was quite an obvious spot where Louis found a nice quartz & gold specimen.

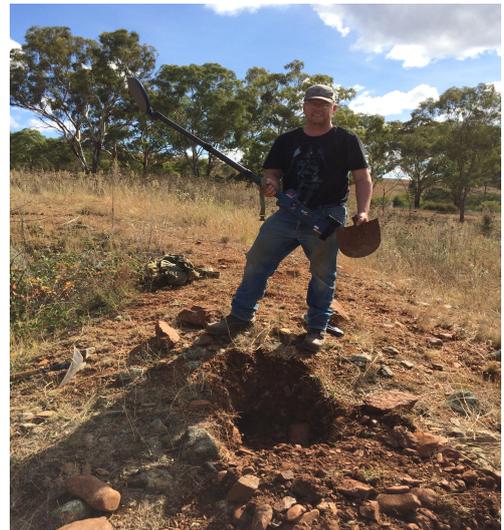
A noise that Mark got with his Minelab SDC 2300 on an old washheap was a good 2 feet down. It turned out to be an old shovel head.

One day we went exploring a remote spot that I had researched. The track was very rough and the 4WD OKA thrived on this whereas the other 4 wheel drives had scrubbed out. It was very scenic with rivers and hills. The track was only wide enough for one car with no room to turn around so we were desperately hoping that nobody was coming from the other direction.

When we got to the spot there was surfacing on the sides of the hills with a lot of workings and remains of old stone walls.

Whilst we were in the area, we checked out the Sofala Museum where Richard, the owner made us feel most welcomed. We were shown his own private collection of goldfield relics found in the area as well as some other very interesting items. Richard talked about the history of the area and gave us a very interesting insight into life in Sofala in the 1800s.

It was a really good trip and we prospected a lot of different ground and areas of historical significance that you wouldn't normally see due to the intense research that we have done in this area.



Mark, the hole and the shovel head!

MASS EXODUS OF PROSPECTORS TO WESTERN AUSTRALIA

It is that time of the year when all sensible Victorians head to warmer climes.

Darren heads off in the next few days to lead the Gold & Relics' tours in Western Australia.

Things change quickly in WA. Darren was speaking to the mining Warden last week who told him that some prospectors are entering leases without permission and that the gold police are on full alert.

The gold police have the power to confiscate all vehicles, caravans, detectors and gold from prospectors who are caught jumping leases. It is similar to somebody entering somebody's house or backyard and stealing. This law also applies to tour

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MONTHLY INSPIRATION



40.3 gram gold nugget found in April 2016 by two guys who hired detectors from us for a day

Continued from previous page...

companies operating outside of the law, as some are, in Western Australia. The gold police can come in and confiscate the possessions of everybody on the tour.

There have been reports of prospectors in the Kalgoorlie area using small equipment such as bobcats to push areas where they are not even allowed to detect on. One person has been caught recently and charged.

A Miners Right only gives people the right to prospect on land that they have written permission to be on.

Some leaseholders will not allow prospectors on their land unless they have their own public liability insurance.

We have several new claims in the Leonora/Laverton area which we will be detecting on this year. It can be an expensive and drawn out process to obtain your own claim. Gold & Relics has spent two years trying to get through one particular claim with monthly court hearings to try and negotiate a lease.

There are only a few places left on the last two Gold & Relics tours in the Leonora/Laverton area. Available dates are 14-24 July and 1-11 August.

Ring to book your place or book online.

Social Media = Daily Inspiration

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram as we spend more time on the internet than ever before. Instead of a once per month update via newsletter you can now keep up with the latest on an almost daily basis by following us on facebook or instagram.



Facebook: goldandrelics



Instagram: #goldandrelics

Over the past month we have posted the following on Facebook:-

- Mt Panorama
- Pics of Gold & Relics NSW 7 day tour
- 40.3 grammer found

Hot Tip

Go back to the burnt off areas after heavy rains. A lot of ash and debris gets washed away allowing you to get the coil closer to the ground. Look for the patches that have had visible wash ways running through them and detect those.

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THE GOLD NUGGET TIMES...the newsletter that keeps you up to date on the Australian goldfields.

If you or a friend would like a copy of our free monthly newsletter emailed to you each month please email info@goldandrelics.com.au with "Newsletter" in the subject line.

Marital problems

A couple were driving down a country road not saying a word after an earlier discussion had led to an argument and neither of them wanted to concede their point.

As they passed a farm with donkeys, goats and pigs, the husband asked: "Relatives of yours?"

"Yep" said the wife. "In-laws"

A husband and wife were having problems at home and had been giving each other the silent treatment.

Suddenly, the man realised that the next day, he would need his wife to wake him at 5am for an early morning business flight.

Not wanting to be the first to break the silence (and lose) he wrote on a piece of paper "Please wake me at 5am".

He left it where he knew she would find it.

The next morning, the man woke up, only to discover it was 9am and he had missed his flight. Furious, he was about to go and see why his wife hadn't wakened him, when he noticed a piece of paper by the bed.

It said "It's 5am. Wake up".

Wife: What is 10 years with me?
Husband: A second.

Wife: What is \$1000 for me?
Husband: A coin.

Wife: Ok give me a coin.
Husband: Wait a second

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Mark Your Calendars

May 2016

May 14th—International Detecting Day

May 17th—Ballarat PMAV Branch Meeting

May 18th—Central Goldfields PMAV Branch Meeting

May 24th—Gold & Relics Tour 1 to Western Australia

If you don't wish to receive this newsletter please email info@goldandrelics.com.au with the word "STOP" in the heading.

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GOLD & RELICS
Gold Prospecting Adventures

Po Box 339
Ballarat Vic 3353
Phone: 1300 882 199
Email: info@goldandrelics.com.au



2016 Tours

10 day Western Australian Tagalong

Gold Prospecting Adventure

\$1495.00

Tour 1: May 24th—June 3rd Kalgoorlie -

Sold Out

Tour 2: June 10th—June 20th Laverton -

Sold Out

Tour 3: July 14th—July 24th Leonora

3 places left

Tour 4: Aug 1st—Aug 11th Laverton

2 places left

We invite you to join us for a fun filled adventure of gold prospecting, campfires, wide open spaces, camaraderie, friendly banter, relaxing entertainment and best of all, gold!

**2016 10 Day All Inclusive
Western Australian Tours**

\$4695.00

Sold Out

Tour 1A: June 27th—July 7th 2016

Pick up from Kalgoorlie

Enjoy an all inclusive gold prospecting adventure with accommodation and delicious meals provided. Also provided is transport from Kalgoorlie and return, full training and tuition. The perfect option for international travellers or for those on a tight time schedule.

BOOK NOW

Tel: 1300 882 199

New!

NSW Gold

Prospecting Adventure

7 day NSW Tagalong Gold

Prospecting Adventure

Only \$995.00

Oct 15th—Oct 22nd 2016

We have had very successful trips in the past to the Central West Goldfields of NSW. During the October trip we will be moving into some new and very promising gold producing areas.

3 day Victorian

Boot Camp

Tag-a-long \$467.00

• 24th-26th September 2016

Ballarat

Special Guest: John Tully, famous Australian author & gold map publisher.

Learn how to:

Research areas, read the ground, choose a coil, improve your technique, ensure that your detector is set up correctly and, most importantly, find more gold.

3 ways you can book:

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