

Dry stone walls on *Landline*

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ABC TV Landline interviewing Nic Cole, West Cloven Hills, near Camperdown, Victoria

Readers of *The Flag Stone* hardly need be told that dry stone walls and structures are a wonderful feature of our landscape. Beautiful, historic and often full of mystery, they are ready-made for ABC TV's signature rural program *Landline* to be screened nationally in April.

The DSWAA recently partnered the ABC, backgrounding the story and introducing the team to some iconic walls and top class wallers.

Filming began in **South Australia** last October, making the most of a workshop at Mt Pleasant. A dozen locals suddenly became film stars, or rather 'extras', as the real attraction was Ian (Wally) Carline. Wally didn't pause for the cameras but just kept on doing what he does – showing the students (and now a national audience) how to select and place the right stone in the right place with absolutely no wobble.

The crew then took in some historic walls on the host property, *Rosebank*. Settled by George Melrose in 1843, *Rosebank* still has beautifully maintained dry stone sheep yards, wells and walls along with a heritage-listed shearing shed where 70 000 sheep were shorn annually in its heyday. As producer Prue Adams commented: "Absolutely loved Angus [McLachlan's] place! A real treat to visit."

The eastern Mt Lofty Ranges boast some of the finest walls in SA so the film crew went on to shoot the Linke family's property *Weroona* near Keyneton where the stone walls would do justice to Yorkshire. Not only are these remarkable walls, they also distinguished themselves early in 2014 when they arrested the progress of the huge bushfires that swept through the region. Final filming will be of the famous Camel Hump wall, 62 km long through the Mid-North.