



Rangers' Review

Volume 3 No. 5

Mount Lofty Rangers Inc.
PO Box 1150, Blackwood S.A. 5051

Oct 1997



Section of "Explore N.T." 4WD track between Arltunga Gold Fields and Gemtree east of Alice Springs



12/11 Fishing DAY

OCTOBER 1997

^{23/11}
SATURDAY 18th or SUNDAY 19th Scott Creek Conservation Park clean up - this our own back yard - lets been seen to care
Picnic after clean-up Organiser Ken Bradey Ph 82782787

SUNDAY 19th A DAY IN THE SOUTHERN VALES- SOCIAL EVENT
CANCELLED DUE TO LACK OF CLUB MEMBERS SUPPORT

SATURDAY 26th thru to 29th Pink Lakes and Beyond
Beautiful Sunset Country - 4wd driving, bush walking and just relaxing.
Magnificent area in the heart of Victoria's Mallee Country
Trip Leader

NOVEMBER 1997

~~X~~ **FRIDAY 7th to MONDAY 10th Jussieu Peninsula** - Cape Domingon to Cape Catastrophe. Port Lincoln has many area Great fishing spots, Historical area, rugged coast line.
Trip Leader

FRIDAY 14th thru to MONDAY 17th- Flinders Ranges - Visiting and exploring the Parlana Hot Springs at Arkaroola, the Alligator Gorge, the Grumbling Ghost Town of Sliding Rock hidden in Loneley Valley
Trip Leader

SATURDAY 15th - LADIES DAY - SOCIAL EVENT
CANCELLED DUE TO LACK OF CLUB MEMBER SUPPORT

SUNDAY 30th - CHRISTMAS PICNIC BREAKUP - SOCIAL EVENT -
VENUE FOR THIS YEARS XMAS PICNIC IS AT THE WILFRED TAYLOR RESERVE, WHEATSHEAF ROAD, MORPHETTE VALE TIME -from 11a.m.

DECEMBER 1997



CONTINUED

*Ring
MATCH*

JANUARY 1998

AUSTRALIA DAY WEEKEND - Robe Adventure trip to Lake George. Sand, sand and more sand with spectacular coastal scenes and beach driving.

Trip Leader Ted Bal Ph 83821963 or Mob 0411223555

FEBRUARY 1998

FRIDAY 13th to MONDAY 16th - Glenelg River

Gorge - The lower Glenelg River National Park is truly magnificent area with something for everyone. Take a 3 hour cruise to Princess Margaret Rose Caves.

Trip Leader



FRIDAY 20th to MONDAY 23rd - The Coorong

Time and Tide - Sand driving/water crossings. Popular fishing spots and magnificent sand driving areas

Trip Leader

MARCH 1998

FRIDAY 27th TO MONDAY 30th - Coffin Bay

Whispering Sands-Yangie trail to Yangie Bay -Sir Issac Point. Camping at Black Springs and Sensation Beach

Trip Leader



APRIL 1998

MAY 1998

FRIDAY 15th to MONDAY 18th - Gawler Ranges

Easy highway drives - some dirt roads through Gawler Ranges visiting Kingoonya, the Old Stuart Highway and Gawker Ranger's short cuts

Trip Leader



Trip Report - Muloorina Station - September 5th to 8th

Peter, Tasha, Jessica Graham, Isobelle, Michael, Emma & Andrew Brett, Paul West & Cheryl O'Toole, Mark, Linda, Chelsea and Stacey Moss, Bill Schneider and Rob Paternosta

After spending most of the weekend trying to decide who actually was last - it was decided we would all contribute to the trip report. So now there are three trip reports for one weekend. Could this be a club record? I have attempted to put all three together - sorry for any omissions.

There was a mixture of departure times for this trip with the Brett's setting off early Thursday morning, and the Moss', Bill and Rob setting off at 2.00 pm from Gepps Cross. The remaining poor souls had to work for the rest of the day and set off around 7.00 pm that night. The Moss party very sensibly stocked up on necessary supplies at Gepps Cross, this turned out to be a good move as Eagle Blue sells for \$30.00 and Carlton Cold sells for \$45.00 at the Maree Hotel

Arrival at Mambray Creek for the Brett and Moss families, along with Bill and Rob turned out to be a very wet experience. Just as we arrived the sky fell in and it poured. The Brett family managed to secure the ranger's spare Atco hut, after spinning a great "sob story" about having a leaky camper trailer, which left the Moss family, Bill & Rob with the alternative of wet sleeping bags or

roughing it in an ensuite caravan in the Port Augusta Big 4 caravan park. The Grahams, Paul & Cheryl arrived at about 10.30 and avoided most of the heavy rain. Paul & Cheryl declined the floor of the Atco hut and drove off to Port Augusta to unknowingly join the Moss party. The Grahams were hardy campers and set up their tent for the night and fortunately it did not rain again that night.

We all met up at about 9.30 Friday morning at the turn off to the Flinders Ranges. The trip was uneventful apart from losing Paul & Cheryl somewhere between Hawker and Leigh Creek. There were various messages on the radio from Peter looking for Paul, then Mark looking for Paul - all very biblical. Eventually we found them and stopped for lunch at Leigh Creek. The weather was by then perfect, clear blue skies and warm sun. After lunch there was a quick look at the coal mine and an old giant excavator nearby. As a result of the many questions and photo shoots at the coal mine, the Brett family now has a new call sign - The Tourists. There was also a stop at the Ochre Pitts near Lyndhurst with the yellow orange and red ochres which were prized by the aborigines for ceremonial decoration and for trading with other aboriginal clans.

The party arrived at Muloorina Station at about 5.00 pm and began setting up camp for the next three days. The waterhole appeared like an oasis after the long drive across treeless plains of stunted grass, saltbush and polished gibbers. The waterhole is fed from a bore which is used to generate electricity. The trees and reeds give good refuge for many types of birds including a resident pair of brolgas. We were also visited by the friendly neighbourhood bull who wondered around the campsite for most of that morning.

Saturday dawned (very early - the bird life there are early risers) bright and clear and the morning was spent exploring the surrounding area and the homestead. An early lunch was followed by a drive to Lake Eyre. On the way a group of five horse running wild came up to some of the cars. First was Lake Eyre south, along Goyders Channel to Lake Eyre North. The track ends near the spot where Donald Campbell broke the land/speed record in 1964. The lake was an amazing sight and extremely windy, it is such a huge expanse of land with nothing on it, it was crunchy to walk on and damp underneath the surface. After some extensive map reading and decision making - for next day, we all headed off back to camp. The wind had dropped off and after happy hour, everybody was able to cook tea without the gas blowing out. The campfire was lit and it was a beautiful calm evening - so we thought. By about 7.00 o'clock the wind picked up, the clouds rolled in and lightning was seen all over the sky. The campfire was in danger of causing some fire damage so it had to be put out and everybody took refuge in their tents or cars. The Moss family took the precaution of tying their tent to their car - just in case. It was an early night for all. Mrs Mitchell came down from the homestead to offer accommodation in the shearer's quarters if conditions got worse. Fortunately, soon after the wind died down but everybody appreciated their concern and their offer.

After some spring cleaning and dust removal on Sunday morning, not to mention a chorus of Happy Father's Day from the kids, the convoy started off for Curdimurka (of Outback Ball fame). The drive was like a zoo tour, with emus, kangaroos, camels, and horses. The Brett's call sign

was firmly entrenched by then with many calls of “are the tourists still coming along, over”. Bill has also earned himself a new call sign - Billerina - after a very interesting piece of driving down the muddy track out of the station. It was a fascinating sight from in front and behind, and it was only the frantic arm movements on the steering wheel that gave him away. Next time his hubs will be locked in!! A quick stop was made to look at Lake Eyre South - where we could see the white caps being whipped up as there was water in this part of the lake. Curdimurka is an old railway siding in the middle of nowhere, Rob assured us all that the last ball was so good that he will definitely be returning for the next one. We then drove another 20 km down the dirt road to see Blanche Cap and the Bubbler, which rise out of a desolate moonscape creating a touch of green. Blanche Cap is a bubbling spring rising out of the ground, and it is very windy up top. Bill lost his baseball cap into the middle of the spring. Rob in trying to retrieve the cap got a bit bogged and had to be winched out by Michael - which was quite hilarious to watch (one of those had to be there sights).

Paul and Cheryl turned off to head towards Roxby Downs as they wanted to be home in time to attend the meeting on Monday night - it is hoped that everyone appreciates the dedication of our new social club organiser and supports the upcoming functions.

On return to camp the wind had done a good job of dismantling the Moss' outback dunny and everything was covered in dust. However, it was a perfect night for a campfire and some damper, courtesy of Peter. Mark and Linda told some jokes - none of which can be printed, and it was a lovely relaxing night. There was more excitement

when a small brown snake ventured into camp and wanted to nestle in the reeds that the children had been playing with. Mark skilfully collected the snake on a shovel and carried it away from the camp.

Monday morning saw everyone packing their tents away and setting off for home. The Tourists set off early, knowing that everyone would catch them up - which they did. The drive home was long with only a flat tyre on Mark's trailer providing some excitement. However, it was agreed that the drive was worth it and that everyone had had a good time.

Thanks go to Peter and his family for leading the way and Peter extended his thanks to everybody for making the weekend enjoyable even though the weather sometimes was not too friendly. As Peter said in his contribution to the report - people have made new friends within the club which is one of the benefits of participating in club trips. All in all a good holiday.

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Seal fix Super Strings - Tubeless Tyre Repair

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IDEAL WHEN IN THE BUSH

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CHRISTMAS PICNIC BREAKUP



Sunday *14^{Dec} 30th Novemberr*
Venue *Wilfred Taylor Reserve*
 Wheatsheaf Road
 Morphette Vale
Time *from 11a.m.*

Please mark this on your calendar, come along and spend the day with other club members and their families.

BYO picnic lunch and each family to bring a plate of cakes/sweets Christmas goodies to put on a community dessert table for all to share.

Please fill in the tear off slip or phone Cheryl O'Toole with number of children attending. The Social Committee must have this information by November's meeting so that they can organise a Christmas surprise for those children nominated

Cheryl O'Toole 8387 1571

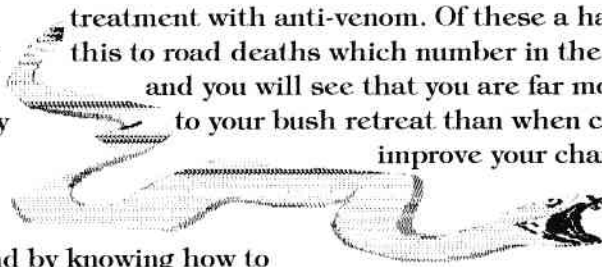
Things that Bite in the Bush

Published with permission from our Guest Speaker Dr. Kelvin Hogarth

When I was a final year medical student I had the opportunity to study at the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, Scotland. In this historic city I boarded with a delightful family with whom I still maintain regular correspondence. My host once asked me how we (Australians) can bear to live in that country with all those snakes and spiders. Naturally I laughed it off at the time. But putting together this article and considering how to deal with not only the snakes and spiders, but also the ticks, bees, wasps, ants, centipedes, millipedes not to mention the Blue-ringed octopus, stone fish, sea snakes, jellyfish, crocodiles, sharks well maybe she had a point.

Snakes

Perhaps our most feared bush dweller. There are more than 3000 real or suspected cases of snake bite each year and some 300 of these require treatment with anti-venom. Of these a handful will die. Compare this to road deaths which number in the thousands every year, and you will see that you are far more likely to die on the way to your bush retreat than when camping in it! You can improve your chances even more by avoiding an encounter with the snake kind and by knowing how to administer effective first aid.



Avoidance The majority of snake bites are due to human stupidity.

RULE 1 If you see a snake, leave it alone!

RULE 2 Wear stout shoes and ankle protection when in snake

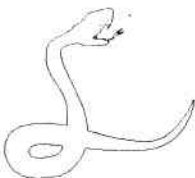
Treatment Modern treatment of snakebite is safe, simple and effective. The old method of slash, suck and strangle with a tourniquet is definitely OUT for Australian snakes. Cutting does not release much poison once it has been injected into subcutaneous tissue, sucking is hazardous to the first aider and the tourniquets can strangle limbs with permanent damage to the limb.

CORRECT TREATMENT IS AS FOLLOWS

- * Immediately apply a firm broad bandage over the bitten area and the whole length of the limb. If bitten on the body or head, simply apply a firm broad bandage to the area. The crepe bandage should be applied with the same firmness as if to an ankle sprain - it doesn't damage the limb and can be left on for many hours safely.
- * Immobilise the limb with a stout splint (eg a tree branch).
- * Do not cut or wash the bitten area(doctors can use the residual poison to identify the snake).
- * Try and reassure the victim to remain calm whilst arranging contact with Flying Doctor or transport to nearest medical help.
- * **THE BANDAGE MUST NOT BE DISTURBED** until the victim is attended by a doctor with antivenom and full resuscitation facilities!

THESE SIMPLE MEASURES HAVE BEEN PROVEN TO BE HIGHLY EFFECTIVE IN SURVIVING A SERIOUS SNAKE BITE.

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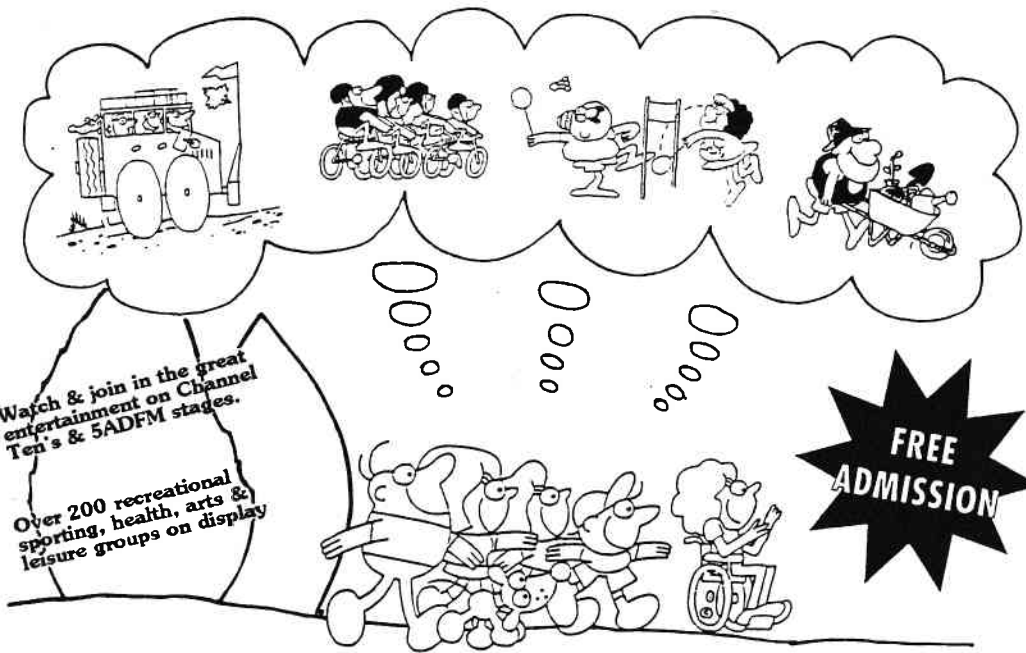
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Sunday October 26th, 1997

Bonython Park

10am - 4pm

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Contact Ted Bal Mobile 0411223555 Bus Hrs or 8382 1963 ah

Sell- BOX- Sealed light galvanised box, suit storage of sleeping bags or cloths etc. on roof rack 45"Lx24"Wx12"H. \$75.00
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Seats six.

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PRICE \$94,990

New vehicle costs, dual-cab tray-top with camper approx \$150,000

Contact Jim Ditchfield a/h 08 8278 1614

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After Hours on 8296 6390 between 6.00pm and 9.00pm Monday to Friday.

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MOUNT LOFTY RANGERS

4X [REDACTED] JB
