



# Rangers' Review

Volume 3 No. 4

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

Sept. 1997

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The Oodnadatta Track into Marree after over night rain



## PRESIDENTS REPORT

Through nimble foot work and various trips I have been able to avoid writing this report for several issues, unfortunately the relentless editor has finally cornered me.

Looking out my window into the pouring rain it is hard to accept winter is over and the better weather is nearby. But it is true, the sun will appear shortly, its time to drag yourselves away from the heaters and get out into the fresh air. It won't be long before fire bans will stop the camp fires!

Heaps of events pop up this time of year, two of interest to us as four wheel drivers are the Adelaide 4WD & Outdoor Show held in the south parklands 17 - 19 October followed closely by the "Life Be In It" Leisure Day in the Park held at Bonython Park 26th October. Both events are supported by the state association.

A site is available for us to use, free of charge, in the Life Be In It Show if we wish to take part. The theme will be "Care & Courtesy in our Recreation". I would like to see us participate as this is one of the few chances we have to get our point across to the general public.

Further down the track is the interclub raft challenge to be held in February, we need a committee to put a challenge together again this year. If you can help please let us know.

We have recently started mailing out copies of our magazine to all other clubs in SA. This has resulted in reciprocal mailings to us. We will have the magazines available each meeting if you are interested. There are lots of good ideas on trips other clubs are doing. If you want to run a trip but don't know where to go, these magazines are a good starting point.

I have been loaned a CD ROM of all SA Maps (scale 1:250,000), I will have



a couple of maps at our meeting, have a look, perhaps the club may wish to buy the SA set at \$90 or the entire Australian set at \$500. They supply free upgrades from time to time.

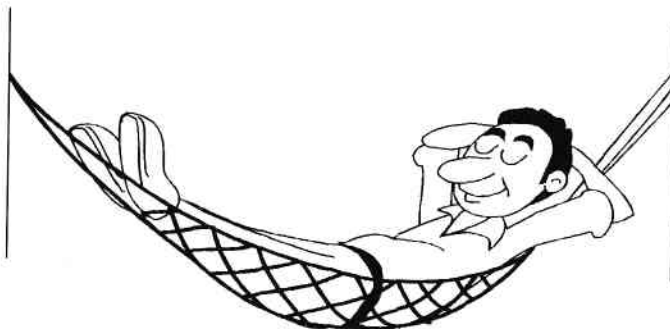
Overlander magazine have come up with a special subscription offer to club members. You can save about 40% on normal costs. Subscription forms will be distributed to all members. I think you have to act on it within the month.

The SA Association is holding a meeting on the 12th of October to review their constitution. We have been invited to attend, please let me know if you are interested in attending. I have a copy of the proposed constitution.

Guest speakers. If any one has ideas on who they would like to hear speak at the club please let the executive know. We are always looking to new ideas and contacts.

That's it folks. See you on the track

Clipper



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**Phone for an Appointment Jan Dunkley - 270 2457**



## SEPTEMBER 1997

**SUNDAY 14th** - A Social Outing to RAPID BAY - This is the opportunity you've all been waiting for. The chance to drown some bait or show just how good you are with the 'ole Rod'n'reel. The day also offers those attending to walk, talk and explore. Depart Blackwood Football Club 9.15a.m. Please bring a plate of food for a combined Lunch Table. Tea, coffee and cordial available, BYO other drinks, chairs, fishing gear and bait. Prizes for the heaviest catch and biggest fish.

Trip leaders Brian & Joyce Gray Ph 8278 1576

## OCTOBER 1997

**SATURDAY 4th/5th & 6th(Long Weekend)** The last of our training runs at Geranium. Camping area with 1 Shower & Toilet block - Plenty of shade - . Vehicle charge of \$10.00 per day - must be self sufficient Trip Leader Ken Bradey Ph

**also on**

**SATURDAY 4th/5th & 6th Buckleboo near Whyalla.** Sand driving, Great for families. Must be fully self-sufficient, NO facilities, bush camping Limit 10 Vehicles.  
Trip Leader John Dodd Ph 08 8556 6494

**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

**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



CONTINUED

NOVEMBER 1997

**FRIDAY 7th to MONDAY 10th Jussieu Peninsula -**  
Cape Domington to Cape Catastrophe. Port Lincoln 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

DECEMBER 1997

**SUNDAY 7th - Christmas Picnic Breakup**  
Last year was well attended so once again the social  
committee will be organizing something similar Venue  
to be advised

JANUARY 1998

**AUSTRALIA DAY WEEKEND - Robe** Adventure trip  
to Lake George. Sans, 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



# SOCIAL CLUB

## A Day in the Southern Vales

WHEN - Sunday, October 19th

COST - \$20.00 Per Adult.

Suitable for Club Members & Partners.  
Maximum 40 Adults

A full day visiting wineries in the Southern Vales. Price Includes "Klub Kruiser" with a D.J. and a Chef Prepared BBQ Lunch -



*crusty loaves      fresh salads*  
*thick country steaks*  
*sausages      hamburgers*  
*A surprise desert*



Drinks will not be available aboard Loweuer

BYO Drink for the BBQ or Purchase a bottle or two at a winery.

First (40 ) Adults paying full fare will be going on what will be a great socail day.

Contact Cheryl O'Toole  
8387 1571

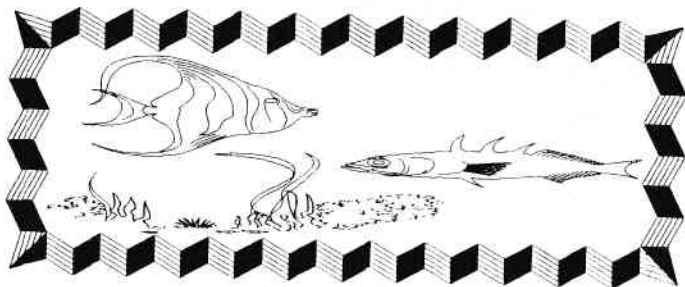
# TRIP REPORT

Coffin Bay Trip July 1997

On Saturday July 5th the Zupp's and the Scherer's eventually finished packing and headed for Coffin Bay. Mid afternoon on Sunday we arrived in Coffin Bay, stocked up on fresh oysters, and headed out along the Yangie Track and about an hour later arrived at the Black Springs camping ground. The tracks on the Peninsula are slow but fairly easy going with some areas of soft sand and many sections of exposed limestone sheet which requires the driver to pick their way among sharp rocks. The camping grounds are fantastic with good protection from wind, secluded safe beaches for the kids, and more fish than you could shake a stick at. New long drop toilets have been installed at all the camping sites but unfortunately it was only at Black Springs that they had not been completed. We were never short of fish for a meal and all the kids were able to catch fish. The number of fish that you could see swimming in the water at any one time made me feel that it would be a great place to come back to in the swimming season armed with snorkels and face masks. We had good weather while we were there and the camping site was so comfortable that there was no need to move.

On Thursday we drove out to the end of the Peninsula to see more beautiful beaches with clean white sand and crystal clear water and even better fishing. The track to Point Sir Isaac takes about an hour and a half from Black Springs and for several kilometers is along a beach, which is, quite firm and smooth provided the tide is below about 1.85m. The pool campground near Point Sir Isaac is excellent offering good protection from all wind directions and a good safe beach for the kids.

We reluctantly packed up on Friday and headed back to Adelaide, stocking up with more oysters on the way. It was a great trip and the kids still haven't stopped asking when we are going back.



CLYDE PATON  
VICE - PRESIDENT



Clyde and Susan Paton have owned a 4-W-D for only 5 years, but have previously travelled extensively in Kindswoods. They have consequently had a variety of experiences in the Kingswoods, but nothing to match having the Pajero bogged at Lake Cadibarrwirracanna with on one else around. This little mistake took 90 minutes to extricate the Pajero in the heat of day. Since owning the 4-W-D they have managed, the Simpson Desert, Cape York, The Clyulf Track to Roper Bar, Canning Stock Route plus many other



challenging trips. As current members of the Rangers and the Mitsubishi Clubs they are kept busy. They have two daughters, one son-in-law and one grandson. The next long trip will be Europe and the U.K. in 1998, if all goes to plan.

### **Most asked Questions**

**Why own a Pajero?** It is comfortable and a nice size as their only vehicle.

**Best Trip?** 10 Week trip to Cape York, Clyulf Track, N.T.

**Most exciting 4WD moment?** Spinifex caught alight under vehicle on Canning Stock Route.

**Roughest Track?** Track to Lost City in Litchfield National Park.

**Most Scenic Area?** Coastal Queensland North of Brisbane.

**Best state for 4-W-Driving?** Outback S.A & N.T.

**Best Country Town?** Rockhampton

**Advice to Club Members?** Trips are the best way to see the Country and enjoy the company of your fellow club members.



## **Facts and Fables (Part two)**

© Jim Ditchfield

Regardless of the type of tyre, it is necessary to pick the route through rocky terrain with care to minimise damage to both tyre and vehicle. This is easier with narrow tyres.

Mud calls for a tyre with an open self-cleaning tread that will cut through the morass to the firm base below. A narrow tyre is more able to do this than a wide one which will skid more readily. Skidding on mud is simply a form of aquaplaning.

Tyres for snow need similar ability to mud tyres, but in sever conditions chains are the only answer.

In soft sand it is necessary to reduce wheel pressure per unit area on the ground to prevent sinking in. Either the load must be reduced or the bearing area increased. On a bush trip dumping half the equipment and stores is not practical so dropping the tyre pressures to increase footprint area is the only option. Take care when doing this, if the pressures is too low it is easy to spin the cover. On tubeless tyres this destroys the seal at the rim, almost impossible to rectify in the bush. On tubed tyres the cover will probably rip the valve from the tube. Either way, the tyre's flat and the driver has a problem.

As the pressures are decreased two things happen. The side walls bag and the footprint length increases.

Sidewall bagging is vastly overrated. Because the tread width is constant, sidewall bagging contributes little to the increase in footprint area. Where sidewall bagging helps most is in providing a smoother transmission of torque, so reducing the probability of wheelspin. This is particularly helpful when moving off on loose surfaces. The increase in footprint length has a much greater beneficial effect on area. Larger diameter wheels start off with longer footprints and maintain this advantage as pressures are reduced.

The results of test carried out by the Bridgestone Tyre Company on two tyres common on 4WDs illustrate this point well. The maximum load at maximum inflation pressure for a 31x10.5R15, LI 109, is 1030 kg at 350 kPa. The footprint length is 173mm. Equivalent figures for a 7.50R16, LI 114, are 1195 kg at 450 kPa. with a footprint 230mm long. (figure 1)

With pressures lowered to 140 kPa, the 31x10.5R15 has a footprint 270mm long whilst for the 7.50R16 the length is 375mm. Both tyres are carrying the maximum loads for the lower pressures. The 7.50R16 has an extra 105mm, all in the centre of the footprint. The sand under this extra area,

supported by the bits at the front and back, is better able to resist the driving forces. A side benefit is the higher load that the 7.50R16 is able to carry.

Although footprints can be increased by reducing tyre pressures nothing is free. Lower pressures give slower steering response, lower load carrying ability and more probability of side wall and rim damage. This may be from staking or hitting hard objects, but the most common damage results from heat build up.

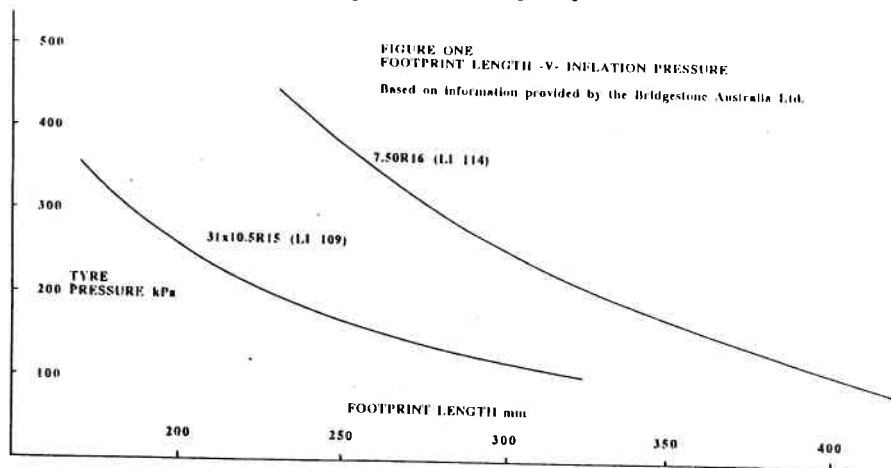
Heat build-up is the product of friction and the flexing of the sidewalls. At lower pressures the tyre flexes more and the longer footprint means that the tread has less time in the air to dissipate heat. As a result the temperature increases substantially. The smaller volume of air in the tyre aggravates the problem. High temperatures degrade the rubber to reinforcement bond and can lead to failure of the tyre.

Speed, load and inflation pressures are all interrelated. As it is impractical to significantly lighten the vehicle during a trip, to prevent tyre damage at the much lower pressures used in sand work, speeds must be reduced. Because larger diameter tyres have a longer basic footprint they often need less pressure reduction than smaller tyres. Sometimes they need no reduction at all.

Whenever tyre pressures are lowered the tyres should be reinflated to normal highway values as soon as the need for the lower pressures has passed. A typical 4WD with bullbar, winch, auxiliary tanks and batteries will weigh well over three tonnes when fully laden for a long trip. Low tyre pressures are impose severe tyre stresses that cannot be sustained for long periods.

The best source of advice regarding minimum pressures and corresponding speeds and loads for any particular tyre is the technical department of the manufacturer.

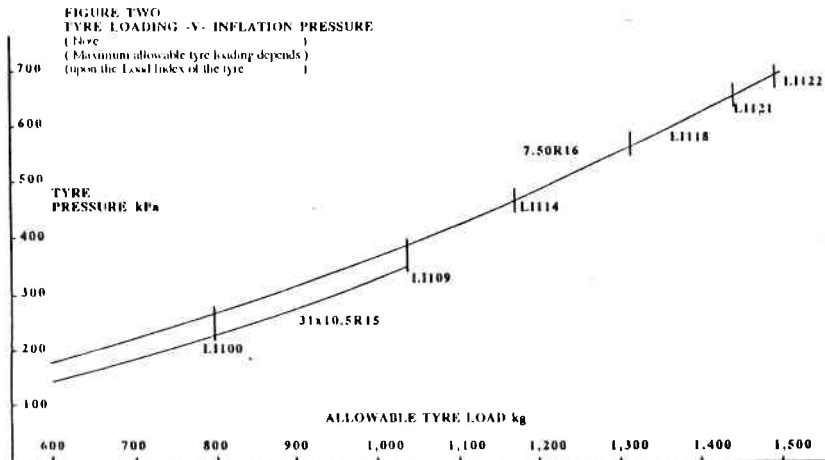
Both beaches and deserts can involve crossing soft sandy stretches. For beach work tyre pressures may often be dropped to 140 kPa or even less without problems. Deserts impose more complex problems.



Many Australian deserts are a series of sand dunes separated by hard claypans. Due to their isolation a visit involves an extended trip with a heavily laden vehicle. A compromise has to be found between tyre pressures, the load and speed to suit both dunes and claypans.

The extra power needed with wide tyres in cities is magnified in the bush where the vehicle is working much harder. This translates to higher fuel consumption. On a long trip the extra load of fuel becomes significant.

Everyone must make their own mind about the wheels and tyres on their vehicle. Around a city looks may be the deciding factor, but if you are planning to go bush consider your tyres carefully. Changing to 7.50R16 before the trip may save you considerable inconvenience.



**Sheryl Penno**

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# 'LADIES DAY'

## WHOLESALE SHOPPING TOUR

DATE - Saturday, November 15th

TIME - 9.30a.m. - 4.00p.m.

COST - \$35.00



A full day of fun, laughter and exploring the best of Adelaide's Wholesale and factory shopping secrets, just in time for Christmas.

Bring along a friend or relative if you wish. Fully escorted coach tour includes refreshments and lunch.

Part proceeds to benefit our Club.

### To be paid in full by October meeting

Either phone Cheryl to register on 83871571 after 6pm or return tear off slip to next meeting.



### LADIES DAY WHOLESALE SHOPPING TOUR

NAME -

TELEPHONE NO -

NUMBER ATTENDING -

Will be coming on the Wholesale shopping tour on Saturday,

Going on a trip?  
Can your 4X4 cope?

Alltrac can provide a full pre-trip inspection of your vehicle, carried out by fully experienced and qualified mechanics. A detailed written report, complete with check list, is given to every customer.

Don't leave your family's safety to chance - do it now!

### Members special Rates

Repairs - Wheel Alignments to ALL makes of 4X4!

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# TRADING MART

## Sell, Buy or Exchange

**Sell** - Allen Towbar (2 Tonne towing capacity) to suit Toyota Landcruiser HZJ 75.  
\$100.00 set of five tyre and rims 31 x 10.5 R15 \$700.00ono(second spare for free) set of Toyota Landcruiser Manuals/Chassis and Body repair Manual & 2F Engine repair manual \$50.00 the lot.  
Contact Ted Bal Mobile 0411223555 Bus Hrs or 8382 1963 ah

**Sell** - Nissan Steel Mesh CARGO BARRIER made by Milford - \$100.00  
BOX- Sealed light galvanised box, suit storage of sleeping bags or cloths etc. on roof rack 45"Lx24"Wx12"H. \$75.00  
BOX- Sealed light galvanised Box, suit spares etc 24"Lx12"Wx12"H. \$35.00  
ENQUIRIES FOR THESE 3 ITEMS PHONE PAUL WEST 015 393 569.

**Sell** - Tyre one only used as Spare - never been on the road. BF Goodrich's Allterrain TA 31.1050 15" rim — \$150.00 ono MAX ALMOND 8278 3848  
**Give Away** - Front Bumper & Set of Mud Flaps for HJ60 Toyota Landcruiser  
Contact Steve Wroble phone 8276 4505.

**Sell** - IDEAL ROUND AUSTRALIA VEHICLE  
OKA DUAL CAB - Lift-off POP-TOP CAMPER

With tray and tonneau.

Perkins 110T 4 litre diesel(345 Nm torque @ 1600rpm).

Seats six.

63,000 kms

### Fitted with the following extras

900R16 Michelin XZL tyres , Dual batteries-Second battery 90AH deep cycle , Dual fuel tanks with separate gauges.(approx 1900 km range) ,Dual cab air conditions, Dual spare wheels, Steel bull bar 90 litre water tank below floor, 12 volt fridge(Trailblaza 60 litres) Solar panel, Gas Stove, Limited slip diff., Free wheel hubs, Power steering, Discs all round, Brush defection rails, Under floor tool box, 240 volt ac inverter, Additional passenger grab handle at dash Water pump at sink, Spring interior posture-pedic mattresses

PRICE \$94,990

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


**Contact Jim Ditchfield a/h 08 8278 1614**

Classified ads can be placed in this section of the magazine by Phoning Dean Dayman  
After Hours on 8296 6390 between 6.00pm and 9.00pm Monday to Friday.

# Your Committee

PRESIDENT:	Ken Bradey	Wk 018 807 934 Hm. 8278 2787
VICE PRESIDENT:	Clyde Paton	Hm. 8278 1964
SECRETARY & PUBLIC OFFICER:	Dean Dayman	Wk 8346-7999 Hm. 8296-6390
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LIBRARIAN	Jack Moss	Hm. 8278-2719

## MOUNT LOFTY RANGERS

4X  UB

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