



Rangers' Review

Volume 4 No.8

Mount Lofty Rangers

February 1999



Marcin Bal in a spot of bother on the Robe – Lake George Trip

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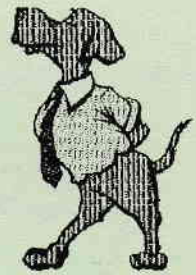
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MOUNT LOFTY RANGERS CB & UHF CLUB CHANNEL NO 27

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PRESIDENTS REPORT



Well it has been a couple of months since our last meeting and I'm sure most of us have gone away somewhere on a solo trip or shared a trip with others. Which ever way holidays for some are now over and it's time to think about this year.

The beginning of a new year brings the opportunity for recharged enthusiasm and participation for club trips and events. Clayton is our next club event and there is nothing greater to encourage our own teams across the finish line than a live crowd of cheering supporters from our club. So keep next weekend (13th & 14th February) available and join in on the fun (for more information see Peter Chapman 8381 7231).

I have heard through the club grapevine that although all that had their names on the board for the Robe trip did not front up, everyone who showed up had a marvellous time. The weather was just right, with a few cool nights. The driving was not the usual. Softer beaches resulted in a few bogs and there were some new tracks for the regulars. Thanks again to Ted Bal.

We have trips coming up that need to be filled for confirmation, so look on the board and get your names down. Although some of the trips do not have firm dates most will be worked in with long weekends. All dates will be confirmed by the March meeting. To add to this list you may want to include your own place of interest that could be shared with us, if so please see Peter Graham 8370 6224.

Joyce Gray has an abundance of social outings for the first half of this year. There are restrictions to the numbers for some of these so first in best dressed.

Welcome to 1999 and be a part of it! Once this year has gone so has your chance to make a difference in the 1900's – so get into it!

See ya 'round.

MOSSIAH



FEBRUARY 1999

SATURDAY 13th & SUNDAY 14th - CLAYTON RAFT RACE

Make a weekend of it - Make a day of it - Support your Club in its bid to be the top raft club of the Association. Lots of fun both days. Get involved.
Details: Peter Chapman 8381 7231 AH

MARCH 1999

SATURDAY 20th & SUNDAY 21st - FROLIC IN THE RIVERLAND

SA4WD Club Annual General Meeting. Stay at Chowilla Station.
More information on board.
Details: Peter Graham 8370 6224 AH

APRIL 1999

**EASTER 2nd - 5th
- TRIPS REQUIRED -**

PLEASE CONTACT PETER GRAHAM 8370 6224

MAY 1999

LONG WEEKEND 15th - 17th - MARION BAY

Ken has organised access to a large shed held on private property with bunk area, hot shower, flushing toilet, living area with open fire and a wood stove. You can camp here and make it your base to do your own thing such as sightseeing or fishing. Numbers required by March meeting.
\$10 per adult per night (deposit required) Children free.
Details: Ken Bradey 8278 2787 AH

JUNE 1999

LONG WEEKEND 12th - 14th - FLINDERS RANGES

Trip in the pipe line. Put it in your diary. More information as it comes to hand. Details: Denny or Mark Moss 8383 6324 AH

News In Brief

As amateurs in the business of making newsletters, (especially in light of the fact Dean did such a good job for quite a long time) Angie and Peter would appreciate feedback and information in the making of this newsletter. You can submit any trip reports or other information to Angie. She is happy to type up anything to go into the newsletter so please do not feel that because you don't have a computer you can't contribute. Please give Angie any trip reports at meetings or see back page for address or email. If submitting anything for the next newsletter the deadline is the first Monday of the month. Please be patient whilst we get over our learning curve – Editors.

The club recently purchased a map and computer print out of all the pastoral leases in South Australia. The print out details the name of the lessee; address and contact phone no. If this information is ever required please contact the Map Librarian Merv Tucker

Congratulations to Peter and Jenny Jones on becoming Citizens of Australia on January 26 1999. The event was held at the Glenelg Foreshore with a number of dignitaries present.

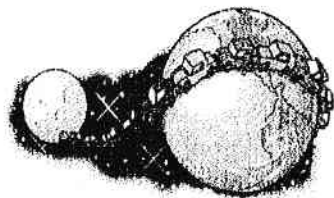
We would like to make this a regular column. If you have any news of interest, please let Angie know.

Diary Dates:

February 24 – 28 Caravan & Camping Show

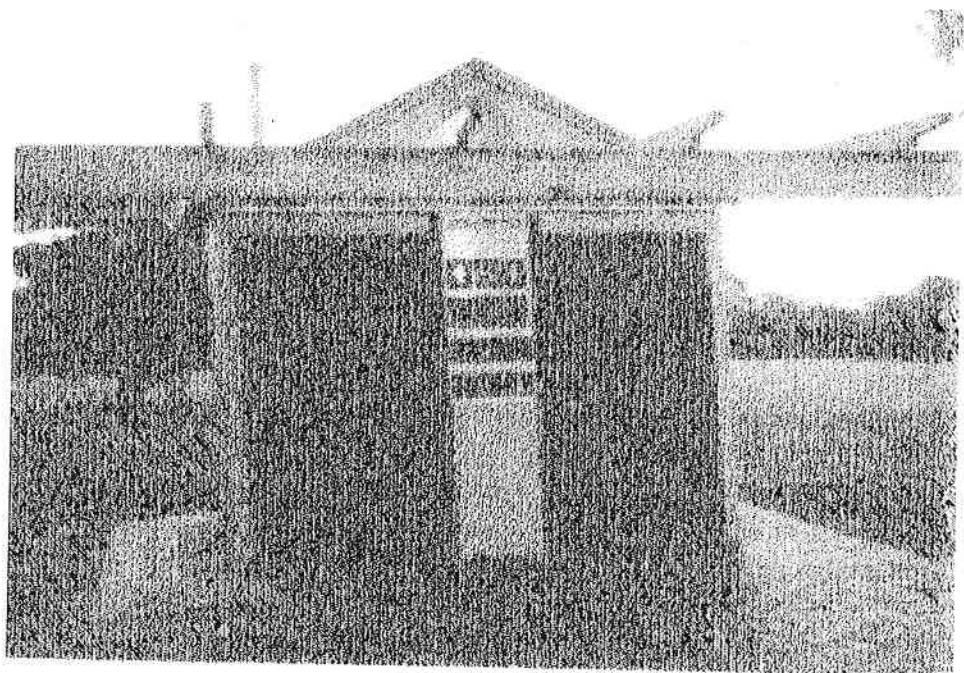
March 17 – 21 Adelaide Motor Show

MYSTERY NIGHT TRIP SATURDAY 28/11/98

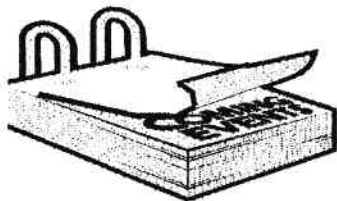


It was one of those warm November days when we met opposite the Hackam Leisure Park at about 6pm before heading off to our first mystery destination. It turned out to be a somewhat "high tech" picnic ground in Willunga with a non gender specific (is this politically correct ?), musical, auto flush &/or spray down loo!! There were also 2 free electric BBQs under shelter, lawn, a few trees & a playground. Gail Dodd recognised the convoy & although she has at least temporarily left the club due to John's study & no FWD, popped over to say hello & catch up some of the members – good to hear things are going

(Continued on page 11)



"Non Gender Specific Auto Loo" – Willunga



SOCIAL REPORT

If you would like to attend any of the outings suggested, please register by putting your name on the appropriate list and support your interest.

Any further questions please call Joyce Gray 8278 1576.

Warrawong Sanctuary - Sunset Walk

Saturday March 13th

Time: approx 7.15pm

Duration: 1 - 1½ Hours

Cost: \$12.00 per person (>15 people)

\$15.00 per person (<15 people)

Names must be placed on list at February meeting to finalise arrangements.

If you would like a meal beforehand we could meet at Mylor Oval for a shared meal at 5.30pm

Final details given at March meeting.

Visit to ALLTRAC Workshop

Friday April 30th

Time: 7.30pm Meet at Alltrac's

Cost: Free

They would like 15 - 20 in group.

Please support this visit as their sponsorship is valuable to the club.

Visit Old Adelaide Gaol

Sunday May 23rd

Time: 11.00am

Cost: Adults \$6.00

Children \$3.00

Mid-Year Dinner

Saturday June 26th

Venues being looked at. Should have more details next meeting

DEFINITELY

A HOLIDAY FROM HELL

THE FINAL CHAPTER

Wednesday 2nd September

Up by 6.45 a.m. time to get things ready as today is the day that I leave the delightful surroundings of Bramwell Station, the rest of the gang are coming to pick up Elaine about Lunch time. Just received some news from Theresa at about 7.30 a.m. It seems that the truck that was coming to pick me up has broken down along the track some where I DON'T BELIEVE IT I may get away some time tomorrow. Donald & Kevin arrived about 11.00 a.m. just in time for morning tea then the rest arrived in the next 30 mins all had lunch then they set off for Cairns at 12.30 p.m. taking Elaine with them, I sat around the bar I would have drowned my sorrows but the grog was a little to expensive for me \$3.00 a can Marika & Allan arrived about 2.30 p.m. stayed for about 30 minutes and then moved on hoping to either catch up with the others or to a least make the Wenlock River. A tour bus arrived at Bramwell Station a nice lot of people on the bus but the driver was very abrupt and expected everything to be laid out for him, he had arrived early at the station 3.15 p.m. instead of 4.45p.m. and was a bit upset that he had to supply biscuits because Theresa hadn't had time to bake. I had tea with the group, Vegetable Soup, Barbecue, salads, and for sweets Apple Crumble and custard, later in the evening Theresa had baked a huge damper that was served with Golden Syrup, sat around and chatted until 10.00 p.m. then switched off the generator, I was now hobbling around without using the crutches my leg was still very swollen.

Thursday 3rd September.

Up and ready to go about 7.00 a.m. another pleasant morning about 20 degrees had breakfast with the tour group, and after they left the truck arrived at 8.30 a.m. AT LAST to take me to Cairns. Theresa packed me some goodies to munch on during the day the driver Kenny said that he had left Archer River Roadhouse at 4.00 a.m. Elaine can vouch for that as the Gang had camped there overnight and the truck woke her up when Kenny started the engine. We arrived at Archer River at about 12.15 p.m. had lunch then continued on, the road was just as rough in the truck as it was in the car, the truck was travelling as slow as 20 km/h in some spots, and at other times 90 to 95 km/h, The corrugations were really bad in one spot that a beer stubby lying on its side in the middle of the road couldn't be seen. Stopped for tea at Hann River Roadhouse, where I met up with Marika & Allan, just as we were about to leave the Roadhouse we found that the truck had a flat tyre which was promptly changed and we were on the road again about 8.00 p.m. I rang Lakeland from the Hann River Roadhouse and booked a room at the Motel, as the driver was sleeping in a swag on the rear tray of his truck the trip to Lakeland was quite spectacular in the dark as the area was being burnt out and the fires lined the road for about 10

kilometres and had been going for about 3 weeks, apparently the fire was lit by a careless traveller we arrived at Lakeland at about 10.00 p.m. it was good to get out of the truck and stretch the legs as there is very little room in the passengers seat, in fact I think the Suzuki had more room. The motel was quite good even though there were a few green tree frogs in the shower alcove, I found out later that the rest of the gang were camped at the Lakeland Caravan Park, in fact Elaine had spent a delightful night with several young prince's outside her tent (Cane Toads) while I had to put with the motel room.

Friday 4th September

Up at 6.30 a.m. and on the road by 7.30 a.m. good scenery on the way, swapped trucks at Mareeba the Suzi was reversed from one tray to the other as the one I was with was not up to scratch for the steep decline from Mareeba to Cairns, I finally arrived at Cairns and the car was delivered to the local Suzisport dealer at about 1.30 p.m. I hitched a ride to the Coconut Grove Resort and rang RAA Plus and they arranged a deluxe cabin including a spa for 3 days and also a hire car Toyota Camry with unlimited kilometres.

Saturday 5th September

We went touring in comfort Elaine was at the wheel again, drove down the coast to Innisfail walked to Josephine Falls, which was great but was murder on my leg especially the many steep steps, had a look at the Mungalli Falls and rainforest Village where there were a number of islanders making palm frond hats, from there we had a look at the Cathedral Fig tree which was massive, the crown of the tree covers 0.2 hectares and is about 42 metres around, it is also about 50 metres high and about 500 years old, we returned to the cabin.

Sunday 6th September

Up early and mobile by 8.00 a.m. went to Freshwater Station and took the train to Kuranda, after arriving there Kevin, Donald, Elaine & I did the rounds of the markets buying the usual souvenirs went to the bird aviary which was great, then wandered I hobbled with the use of the crutches back to the station where we boarded the skyrail to return to Cairns, this was quite an experience for us especially for Elaine as she is afraid of heights, returned to the cabin had tea and then planned the trip home, there was some concern in the camp as there were still floods in the northern New South Wales area.

Monday 7th September

Donald took his car for service, mine was returned to me on the weekend by the Suzisport agent the final cost of this was \$200-00 labour and the cost of parts to be paid for on our return to Adelaide, all that was needed on this occasion was a new axle housing and a new left rear axle as the other one had a 3,000th bend in it, it appears that the reinforcing that I had done at Mount Surprise had stopped the axle from moving as it was supposed to do. We set off for Townsville at about 11.30 a.m. as we were the slowest with Donald, Kevin, & Mike to follow on afterwards. We stopped at the Mena Creek to look at the gardens but as it took two to three hours to do the trek we decided to push on, stopped at Ingham for lunch where the rest caught up then drove to the town of Lucinda which is the loading port for sugar in this area, the jetty is the longest in the southern hemisphere 6 kilometres (a cut lunch and waterbag trip) Stopped overnight at Townsville, we all decided to share cabins on the way home as it kept the cost down and saved packing up wet or damp tents in the morning.

Tuesday 8th September

Had a look at the Aquarium at Townsville first thing had to wait for the doors to open. Left

Townsville about 10.30a.m. and made Charters Towers for lunch, had a bit of trouble finding the town Bakery, asked on the CB radio and was told to look for the pink building, pink must have been on special at sometime or other as there were about 20 buildings that were pink, including City Hall Ambulance Depot and eventually the Bakery was found and the sign was in hot pink. After lunch we headed for Emerald, we arrived there about 8.00 p.m. didn't buy fuel at Clermont this time, had tea at the Fairbairn Dam Camping Resort.

Wednesday 9th September

Left Emerald in the morning after trying to eat breakfast outside on the patio with the Rainbow Lorikeets and the Blue faced Honeyeaters, stopped for lunch at Roma then on to Charleville for the night accommodation was a little hard to find as the area was quite busy as there were many roads cut by floodwaters and the Mitchell Highway was one of the few open between Northern New South Wales and Queensland. Had tea at the Cattleman's pub which served huge steaks.

Thursday 10th September

Left Charleville uneventful run to Cobar via Bourke, the Darling river was in full flood and the Mitchell highway at this point was expected to be cut within the week, the water was about 1.8 metres (6 feet) below the bridge, for those that have been to the wharf area of Bourke, the water level was within a metre of the top of the reconstructed 3 level wharf, and about 1.5 metres from the top of the levee bank, a few anxious moments for the town of Bourke was in store.

Friday 11th September

Left Cobar and headed west stopped for fuel at Emmadale Roadhouse where I persuaded Elaine to let me drive she said I threw a tantrum but I didn't really the Darling River at Wilcannia was on the rise and flowing swiftly I gave up driving about 70 kilometres from Broken Hill as my leg was still sore arrived at Broken Hill, then continued on to Wentworth really lashed out here stayed at the Two Rivers Motel for the last night, dined at the Services Club and toured the town saw where the Darling River and the Murray met, the colour difference in the water was very noticeable.

Saturday 12th September

Left Wentworth had an uneventful about 2.00 p.m. went out to tea at mighty crows win screen TV.

Went and saw the as my leg was still several X-rays in



about 8.00 a.m. trip arrived home unpacked, then the local saw the again on the big

doctor on Monday swollen, and after the following

days it was decided that the leg was broken in 3 places and an operation was needed immediately which would necessitate a bone graft and pins, plates, and screws. The surgeon was horrified to hear that I had been walking on the leg for about a month

The **MIGHTY LITTLE SUZUKI**

is no more.

It's been replaced...with a Toyota Landcruiser Mid Wheel Base



I folded under the pressure (Elaine & the rest of the travellers)

LESSONS LEARNT ON THIS TRIP.

Do your homework make sure that you can source parts for your car if possible . The company Suzisport was great and nothing was too much of an effort, their prices were quite reasonable, the bill waiting for us back in Adelaide was a further \$645-00 this included all parts, air freight to Cairns for the first lot of parts and road freight for the second diff housing.

Many thanks to Mark, Eddy and the rest of the Staff at Suzuki Auto Centre for their assistance, during this epic tour.

Make sure that you have RAA Plus or similar when travelling away from home I estimate that the RAA had spent about \$1600-00 on my behalf alone, not forgetting they helped Marika in her hour of need at Weipa. The staff of the RAA Plus also learnt a bit more about Australia as they had never heard of the Undara Lava Tubes or where Bramwell Station was or exactly where Weipa was as they had never had a claim from these areas before, I have thanked the ladies involved since returning to Adelaide

Watch out for Murphy's Law

They said at Undara Lava Tubes, "Smile things can't get any worse."

So I did smile. And things did.(get worse)

ALSO

The moral to this saga is

Don't discuss how much extra cash you have in reserve for a holiday in the presence of your car, as will duly make sure that it's spent.

Elaine & Phill.

(Continued from page 5)

well for them.

After eating & "contemplating life to music" we headed up Olaves Hill Rd to catch the setting sun. We just missed the sun sinking into the

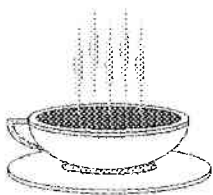


sea but the views in the sun's afterglow were still impressive & make you realise what beautiful country/beaches we have at our doorstep. This part of the journey took us into paddocks

through many gates, up hill & down dale. One very steep hill that we descended in the dark no one had been prepared to climb up in daylight about 18mths ago - I saw that as a measure of the club's training success.

Before the moon came up our leader Mossiah got lost for a few minutes-"things look a bit different without daylight". However joint trip leader & Tail End Charlie, Mallee Boy came to the rescue & showed us which paddock the cattle were in & they showed us the way along the track for a while ! Mossiah & others were leaving lollies & chocolates at the gates that needed closing but it seems some of these went missing before Mallee Boy got there (we have our suspicions). Apart from the domestic animals we also saw 2 mobs of kangaroos on the move. Some of these back tracks are rarely used & had become very overgrown & therefore interesting with the following car lights bobbing all over the place creating moving shadows. Tim cleverly noted the "Aussie carwash" effect of foliage rubbing all sides of the cars.

By this stage we had nearly reached Myponga Reservoir so decided to



have the evening cuppa in the carpark. As it turned out we were not the only people who thought that was a good place to be late at night. Funny that I didn't notice anybody sitting in the parked car but it left soon after the 12 or so FWDs pulled into the carpark ! Up until then I hadn't thought it was a foggy night but they

sure had problems !

After a few more paddocks & backtracks we ended up at Myponga for our farewells. Several people commented that it would be an interesting trip to do in daylight especially through some of the "foliage tunnels". I'm sure the River Rats would like to do it again without a sick child - glad to hear Madison recovered quickly.

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SA4WDC GREGORY BOOK OFFER

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**MEMBERS WISHING TO PURCHASE ANY OF THE PUBLICATIONS
BELOW SHOULD TAKE YOUR MEMBERSHIP BADGE TO:**

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Gregorys Adelaide Street Directory 46th Edition	\$24.95	45%	\$13.72
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Camp Oven Collectables

Chicken and Prawns

This recipe proves once again that you can create a fine pot with the most unusual combination of ingredients.

2 kg. Chicken breasts

¼ kg. Breakfast bacon

½ kg. Peeled prawns

10 Potatoes, peeled and thinly sliced

2 Onions, sliced

1 Cup of soy sauce

1 Teaspoon of mixed herbs

¼ Teaspoon of black pepper

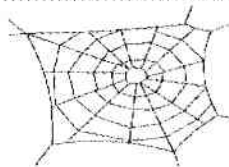
½ Cup of chopped parsley

¼ Cup of chopped chives

Cook the chicken and bacon in the pot with a little oil until nearly done. Add the prawns and potatoes, spread the onion slices over the top of the potatoes and add the soy sauce, simmer for 45 mins. Stir the herbs and spices into the stew and cook for a further 15 mins.

This is recipe No. 3 from a South African camp oven cookery book.

Enjoy Peter J



WEBSITES OF INTEREST

Simpson Desert:

<http://4wd.sofcom.com/Places/Au/Simpson/Desert.html>

Gunbarrel Highway:

<http://4wd.sofcom.com/Places/Au/Gunbarrel/Highway.html>

GPS Manufacturers

<http://galaxy.einet.net/editors/john-beadles/introgps.htm>

US Coast Guard's Navigation Information web site

<http://www.navcen.uscg.mil>

University of Texas

<http://www.utexas.edu/depts/grg/gcraft/notes/gps/gps.html>



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Sell - Allen Towbar (2 Tonne towing capacity) to suit Toyota Landcruiser HZJ 75.
\$100.00, Set of Toyota Landcruiser Manuals/Chassis and Body Repair & 2F
Engine Repair Manual \$50.00 the lot. Contact Ted Bal 8382 1963 ah

Sell - Toyota Wheels 15X7 Sunraysia Rims with 10r15 Adventurers 4 @ \$40.00
each o.n.o - Suit Trailer or spares, 1 wheel with 10.5r15 Hankook, good tyre
\$120.00 o.n.o. Phone PETER GRAHAM A/H 8370 6224

Sell - Toyota 1988 Mid Wheel Base FJ73 Petrol, excellent condition, Rego till Feb 99
162,000km, Bull Bar, Air Conditioning, Ultimate suspension, long range
auxiliary tanks, dual batteries, snorkel, plus many other extras \$16800
Contact Max Almond 82783848

Wanted to Buy 16" wheels to suit Nissan GQ Utility also 1995 Workshop manual
for same model Contact Malcolm Curtis Phone (08) 82786813



***Mt Lofty Rangers meet on the second Monday of each month at
the Blackwood Football Club Trevor Terrace Blackwood.
All welcome.***

Your Committee

PRESIDENT	Mark Moss	Wk 0418 833419 Hm 8383 6324
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VICE PRESIDENT	Clyde Paton	Hm 8278 1964
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SECRETARY & PUBLIC OFFICER	Barb Almond	Hm 8278 3848
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TREASURER	Hubert Orbons	Hm 8278 8142
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ASSOCIATION DELEGATE	Max Almond	Hm 8278 3848
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