

Rangers' Review

Volume 6 No. 4

Mount Lofty Rangers Inc. PO Box 1150, Blackwood SA 5051

July 2000



Doug Laird crossing the Finniss River - Kuitpo Trip (Report page 13)

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PRESIDENTS REPORT

Well, hasn't this winter been wet and chilly - so much more comfortable staying inside where it's warm and dry.

To those who were able to attend the June meeting I apologise for the long period between liquid refreshments and will ensure in future that we break for a drink sooner.

During June there was a day trip to Mt Crawford Forest, led by Mark Moss and Merv Tucker. It was great to have the company of some new members and I hope they enjoyed themselves as much as we did. Some of the tracks were challenging to say the least and compensated for the closure of many of the forest tracks due to recent heavy rains. In the forest one of the convoys was "followed" by a Ranger and "advised" as to which tracks could be used. In line with the policies and practices of the club the convoy then stuck to the tracks identified by the Ranger. In the interest of safety and responsible four wheel driving we carried out the Ranger's request.

The high safety record on club trips that the Mt Lofty Ranges enjoys is one to be proud of. The safety of our members, and their vehicles - which usually represent a significant financial investment to their owners, is an issue of ongoing importance to us all.

We must not become complacent, or casual, about our safety standards and we must all continue to be aware of specific issues in relation to safety - like making sure recovery points are adequate and that everybody is well clear when a snatch or recovery is in progress. It is worth reminding club members that all the usual road rules apply when out four wheel driving - speed restrictions, seat belts, and drink driving. Remember that an accident is an unforeseen event and prevention is far better than a cure.

Have a good meeting and roll on the warmer weather. See you in August after our return from Innamincka.

Regards, Michael Brett

Michael Brett

The Tourists

April 20th – 30th 2000 Central Australia Taking in Ayers Rock and The Oodnadata Track – Part 2

At the Kings Canyon camp site we had a roomy spot where we stayed for 2 nights quite a treat to know we didn't have to pack up in the morning. Here we were allowed a camp fire but with no wood and no wood collection allowed in the park grounds decided tomorrow we would definitely ride out of the park and collect wood. The next morning after a leisurely breakfast we set off to do the Canyon walk of more than 5 Kms. On arriving at the car park and once ready with water, camera, hat and jacket off we set the first part being the tester going straight up! They said once this was mastered it was plain sailing (or walking). We all made it some quicker than others there are some spectacular views some perfect photo shoots and a sense of achievement some 3-4 hour later.

Time now to head in the direction of the promised wood but lunch first at Katherine Springs a restful wooded spot well kept with gas BBQs and benches tables and shelters. A good place to rest the walk sore body. Not for long though time is pressing and we have to find wood for our promised camp fire. We soon found a track with all the promised wood and a very interesting water crossing but after some experimentation it was too boggy to cross (bummer) so after a little play and paddle with roof racks full back to camp.

Now our southward journey and Marla next stop. The tracks are a little drier so a good time to take the aborted track of earlier. A very interesting run, deep red earth. Saw Mount Connor from the reverse side called at Mulga Park station to check it out and chat with the owners(from Adelaide) You could buy anything here boots food TV clothing (new and 2nd hand) oil etc. Arrived at Marla about 5.30 well behind Kath and Steve who arrived along the bitumen at 1.00 and already comfortable in a cabin while we had to contend with a little drizzle to erect our accommodation! For ever onward and with lots of humour a meal was made and a warming port enjoyed before time for bed!.

We were welcomed by a dry morning and departed Marla for The Oodnadatta track following the old Ghan railway which was now passable. First interest stop at the Angle Pole memorial to the overland telegraph dated

(Continued on page 16)

News In Brief

Jane Raphael has been so busy I have had to use this area to fit in all her ideas and plans. -Ed.

2000 Christmas Picnic Sunday 10th December 2000

Loftia Park Picnic Area 2

Please note this change of date to the 10th of December. The picnic area has 2 tennis courts and a BBQ so it will be nice to have a change of venue. Jane is in desperate need of an assistant with this project, so anybody who can help her, please contact her on 8358 2882.

The St Kilda Mangrove Walk and playground idea has taken off and Jane is suggesting some time in October for this trip. Details will be at the August meeting.

Joyce Gray had a social bowling event in her time as Social Secretary and due to the success of it Jane is organising a Sunday afternoon session at the new Marion Bowland. Date to be confirmed at the August meeting but cost is \$10 per person (including children) for 2 games and shoe hire.

Had a suggestion from Natalie about Old Tailem Town Historical Village. For a group booking of 15 or more its \$9 per adult and \$4 per child. He told me it is bigger than Sovereign Hill - biggest in Australia. There are 105 buildings, 13 streets plus lots more. Picnic areas etc. or you can buy pies and pasties so would be a good day. Details at the August meeting.



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Murray Tucker stuck in a rut at Cox Scrub Track - Kuitpo Trip (See page 13)



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 on these or any other outings please call Jane Raphael on 8358 2552.

2nd Annual Ladies Only Weeked

Saturday 29 July 2000

Cost:

\$135 per double

Where:

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all a

Hahndorf Tourist Village



For those of you who couldn't join us last year, come and have a great weekend away without the kids, husbands or 4WD's! Price includes 3 course meal in Hans Heysen Restaurant, cooked breakfast, free use of all facilities at village. Staying in twin share European Spa Chalets. For more details speak to Jane Raphael or Isobelle Brett.

Russell's Pizza Night

Name Friday 25th August 2000

Another night has been organised at RUSSELL'S PIZZA. This is for Friday 25th August at 8 p.m. I have booked for 30 at a cost of \$18 per head which includes appetisers, pizza until full, corkage for BYO and the dreaded GST! Booking Sheet on the Board.

Sunday June 18th 2000



By Barbara Couprie

Well I couldn't have asked for a nicer, sunnier day for our day trip to Mt Crawford until we hit the clubrooms. That's where it changed to doom and gloom as that's where I discovered we were last to arrive so had to write the trip report. Never mind though. We had a couple of new people join us for the day and they were made to feel welcome by politely greeted with a flash of white bums from the local footy team as we drove off.

Anyway, off we went winding through the hills on everything from bitumen, dirt and grass which had a bit of mud and water along the way and a fairly good creek crossing to settle the new people's cars in with.

Our goal for lunch was to get to Mt Crawford but we didn't quite make it. I think the warm sun on the windscreen made a few people a bit sleepy, so much so that our "Tail End Charlie" didn't even notice a 4WD gate crasher slip into the convoy and who then proceeded to follow this stranger off onto another road away from the group.

Eventually we found him but we had to settle for lunch at Mt Torrens instead. It was very cold there but it made us all refreshed to face the next challenge, which was a rather steep and rough looking goat track. One vehicle got into a bit of a predicament making the passengers of a little "Kia" (one of the new people) a touch nervous watching from below.

Of course the great Mt Lofty club were very supportive of the baby Kia all standing up the top of the will with cameras, videos, ropes in and of course big grins on their faces waiting to do the big rescue. But surprise, surprise that little car flew up there no problems much to the disappointment of some I think.

Anyway it must have got the adrenalins pumping as from then on we drove to Mt Crawford Forest in a perfect tight fast moving convoy where no one ended up following strangers.

Once at Mt Crawford we split into two separate groups to go on and have some fun in the mud. However one group obviously had a little to much fun as they attracted the deep frown of a near by park ranger who told them he has to now close these tracks so they have to leave. Well that's what they were told however we drove past the same ranger to catch up with the hoon group and he never batted an eyelid at us or tell us we had to leave.

Of course Mark who is always quick with an answer responded "well what damage would the ranger think a car with a couple of women knitting in the front seat could do". Anyway with boys play put to an end it was off to the Chocolate factory for some face stuffing of chocolates and lollies then back on the road home weaving our way through some more bush tracks until we hit the highway and everyone bid their farewells.

All up a pretty good day. Thank you Mark and Merv.

Calendar of Events July – August 2000

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9	10 Meeting	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 Burra Day Trip	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1 AUGUST	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 Meeting	15	16	17	18	19



JULY 2000

BURRA - DAY TRIP - 23rd

Visit Burra Gorge then tracks, tracks and more tracks. Bring food and fuel for the day. 8.00am start from clubrooms.

Details: Mark Moss 8383 6324

MILLICENT SAND BUGGY CLUB - 29th - 30th

Working bee to replant some marrow grass at the club.

Details: Greg Goding 8387 3118

AUGUST 2000

SOUTHERN VALES WINERIES – 20th

Wineries for the passengers and tracks for the drivers. Picnic Lunch.

9.30am start from clubrooms.

Details: Mark Moss 8383 6324

SEPTEMBER 2000

MARNE RIVER GORGE – Sunday 10th

Day trip driving in behind Woodside to Marne River Gorge. There will be a walk up the Gorge and you will need to bring your lunch, a full tank of fuel and walking boots.

Details: Merv Tucker 8278 1414

OCTOBER 2000

LAKE EYRE IN FLOOD - EXPRESS TRIP - 30th Sept - 2nd

This trip is designed for those who want to see Lake Eyre in flood but haven't got anytime off work. Leaving Friday evening after work and driving about half way, the rest of the way Saturday looking at as much as possible on Saturday afternoon and Sunday. Drive home Monday.

Details: Shaun Lawson 8381 7865

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OCTOBER 2000

NGARKAT CONSERVATION PARK WORKING BEE 30th Sept – 2nd

Meet in Main Street, Pinnaroo Saturday 30th at 10am. Bring strong gloves, a bow or pruning saw and an axe if you have them. You are only expected to do as much as you feel able to do. These working bees include cutting back overgrowth on the Centre Track.

Details: Border Track Maintenance Committee – Kevin 8264 1656 or Ian 8532 4945

THE CURDIMURKA OUTBACK BALL - SATURDAY 7th

A gala night so you can dress to the hilt, dance and enjoy. Discount prices available if purchased before 30th April. Camping is free, and there will be showers and toilets available. Details: Shaun Lawson 8381 7865

Please note: A new trip leader is required for this trip as the Lawsons are unable to attend.

NOVEMBER 2000

ADVANCED HIGH COUNTRY TRIP - 3rd - 12th

This course is for those who would like to get their Advanced 4WD Certificate. Vehicle must be up to the challenge as must participants.

Details: Ted Bal 8382 1963

DECEMBER 2000

HIGH COUNTRY FAMILY TRIP - 27th - January 6th 2001.

Victorian High Country and Ottway Ranges

Designed as a family orientated trip radiating out from fixed camping sites to eliminate constant packing up of equipment. Basic training is minimal requirement. More details at later date.

Details: Mark Moss 8383 6324



SAAFWDC Driver Training Unit

Unit 2

9 Cardiff Court

Cavan

Contact: Greg Goding – 8387 3118 AH

Mobile:

0418 807 437

Advanced 4WD Course

3rd – 12th November 2000 with Ted Bal. Practical 10 days of great time in high country Sand driving to be conducted elsewhere. Cost \$25 per manual.

Senior First Aid Certificate

Fully accredited course coming up soon. Please speak to Greg for details.

Training

Anyone who has 4WDing experience and would like to be involved in the training area.

Please speak to Greg Goding for more details or to enrol.

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MT LOFTY RANGERS

ITEMS FOR SALE

Lets Promote Our Club!!!

Theory water And South Australia	Cloth Badges	\$6.00
ach in Sodar	Car Stickers	\$2.50
Name Badges		**
Initial 2 on joinin	ıg	\$2.50
Additional		\$6.00
Replacement		\$6.00
Sand Flags		\$2.50
Tyre Plugs		\$7.50

Please see Hubert Orbons for the above purchases 8278 8142.

\$29.00
\$52.00
\$25.00
\$15.00

If you require clothing please speak to Max Almond 8278 3848.

ITEMS FOR LOAN

Books	Recovery Kit		
Club Banner	Tirfer Winch		
Club Flag	Puncture Repair Kit *		
GPS Promotional Videos	First Aid Kit *		
Maps	2 x Lightweight Shelters		
	with sides.		

^{*} Please replace used items

Please see Michael Brett for any items you wish to loan 8387 1163.

Happy Birthday

Edward Travers (Belated)	28th June	Scott Fiddick	18th July
Tess Fiddick (2)	22nd July	Margaret Bal	31st July
Darien Penno (4)	4th August Let us share your b		birthdays!!!

Kuitpo Day Trip

Sunday May 21st 2000

We met at Woolworths, Woodcroft at 9.00am. We drove through Piggott Range Road and through McLaren Vale, found a couple of deep water crossings where Ken Bradey assessed some people for deep water crossings. A certain person filled his car up with water due to some alterations to his Range Rover.

We had lunch on the Finnis River and the weather was kind to us. Some people had sandwiches and others had a BBQ. Then followed the Cox Scrub Fence track which was badly eroded and some detours were needed. Some cars got stuck and some winching had to be done.

Afternoon tea was spent eating fresh raspberry and mulberry pies and sampling of homemade bread. Then we went down the Golf Course track where some more cars got bogged and Mark Moss was in his element with his new tyres. The trip ended for some at about 5.30pm, others took a few more detours and got home at about 8.30pm.

By Peter and Laura Warbout.





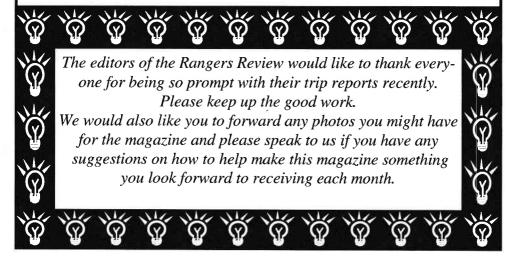
PAPRIKA PORK CASSEROLE

500g (11b) pork shoulder, diced 180g (6oz) button mushrooms, sliced 4 sticks celery, chopped 250g (8oz) zucchini, chopped 2 tomatoes, peeled and chopped 1 green capsicum, seeded and sliced 2 tablespoons paprika 1 1/4 cups (310ml) chicken stock Plain flour

Place pork in camp oven with mushrooms, celery, zucchini, tomatoes, capsicum and onion. Sprinkle with paprika.

Pour over stock, cover and bake for 1 3/4 to 2 hours.

Mix flour with a little cold water and stir into casserole to thicken. Serves 4 to 6



ANNUAL FEES

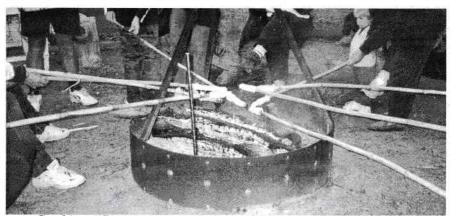
A remin
Costs
Primary Club A reminder that our annual fees are now payable. Costs include the raise from the SAAFWDC.

Secondary Club

Renewal Total Renewal-Total \$50 \$35 New Member Total \$65 New Member Total \$50

Any questions call Hubert Orbons – Treasurer on 8278 8142





Cooking "Damper Dogs" around the camp fire at Minlaton

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Mt Lofty Rangers meet on the second Monday of each month (the 3rd Monday if there is a public holiday) at the Blackwood Football Club, Trevor Terrace, Blackwood. All welcome.

> You can e-mail us at. loftyranger@hotmail.com or visit our Web Site: www.tcis.com.au/mlr/

(Continued from page 3)

1875 that connected Darwin with London. Next stop Oodadatta town and filled up with fuel (surprisingly the cheapest for a long time at 99c)at The Pink Roadhouse which was the garage, mechanic workshop Tea room, Post office, Bank ,Store. Here there was still a well preserved railway station many locals on the platform (had anyone told there had not been a train through for twenty years) .A must here was to call at this outback hotel for a well deserved beer; and with no camp sight around decided to bush camp at Algebukina just 60ks down the road passing old railway bridges and property ruins along the way. Set up camp along the river and water hole keeping the best of company with the biggest and noisiest mosquitoes ever! But it was dry and it was picturesque and it was peaceful (no refrigerated trucks here) and what a night sky.

Next stop William Creek (Interesting) Here there is only the Hotel and the Garage public toilet block and only weeks old in competition across the road a store and eating house. After a photo stop a beer in the hotel at 2.30pm we took the track towards the north shores of Lake Eyre intending to camp there. But it wasn't to be as Steve Grobel developed car trouble only 14ks down the track. Can it be fixed do we need the RAA can the mechanic fix it? After a drive back to town and a chat with the mechanic it was decided that Pete should tow the Jackaroo at 20ks an hour the 11/2 hr journey back to William Creek. We wouldn't be camping at Lake Eyre tonight so at \$3.00 each took a site behind the Hotel. In the morning while Steve was fixing his problem the rest of us decided to take the track again to the Lake and have breakfast there. Very corrugated and many bull dust bowls later we reached the shores of the Lake but there were no lapping waves to greet us, though in the distance the glistening of the water could be seen. We attempted to walk out but were met by mud flats. It was sad to see the memorial at the spot where about a recent German tourist lost her life after her and her partners vehicle bogged. The sad thing about this tragedy being the many water holes in the area that they were unaware of..

Back at William Creek at 1.00pm and Steve's car still not fixed. Hot and frustrated it was decided to split up and Kath and Steve stay with Christine and Steve and we'd meet up later. So a continued journey down the track visiting the Bubbler Mount Springs where bubbles surfaced regularly from way underground, facinating. Next a call at Curdimurka with a thought to the way it will transform for the Ball in October. Hopefully the large snake that had taken up residence in the fireplace of the main building will have moved on by then!

Met up with Steve and Christine in Maree. Kath and Steve had decided to travel on through the night back to Adelaide. One last camp stop a warm evening no

(Continued on page 17)

(Continued from page 16)

need for camp fire still in shorts and T shirts a lovely last night but then when we were finally getting off to sleep all hell broke loose and the widest night many of us had experienced for a while; gale winds and heavy rain through the night bending the tents almost horizontal. Surprisingly, nothing was blown away.

One last pack up time to complete our journey back to Adelaide. A couple of last tourist stops. Talc Alf in Lyndhurst. An interesting character makes lovely flat sculptures out of soft stone and instructs us on the development of certain words you might have seen him on television. Then on to the coal fields of Leigh Creek, and to see the expanse of the earth removed to give up its coal. Southward again through the Flinders with all thoughts that we must put the Flinders Ranges on the agenda again soon. A call at Quorn for lunch and a last fill up.

The trip over and far behind us, Pete and I arrived home about 5.30 and looked forward to a night in our own bed, with no tent to put up first! I think we all had a good time and enjoyed all that we experienced and I know that I look forward to a similar long trip to experience pastures new. Jenny Jones

Days travelled 10 4,500 Kilometers travelled Camping costs average per family \$127.00 Fuel costs average \$570.00 Dearest fuel \$1.16 per litre

Great idea with statistics given above. Thanks Jenny – Ed.

TCIS Insurance **Brokers Pty Ltd**

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I was driving home from work the other night and I pulled along side a current model BMW. The headlights on this particular vehicle were something to envy. They were the new generation in headlights called gas discharge.

This style of headlight utilises a similar setup to your petrol ignition system. The theory is a transformer coil produces an available voltage, approx 17,000 volts, and ignites a small amount of xenon gas across a gap. The result is a headlight as close to sunlight as modern technology is capable of obtaining.

The advantages are obvious but the side effects are interesting. One of the side effects of using such a high voltage is the current draw is significantly reduced...Typically 3 to 4 amps remembering this light is probably equivalent to a 400 watt halogen globe (33 amps) and using only 3 amps. The light quality is unequalled in distance and whiteness. This presents another problem. The need for active headlight aiming. These active headlight systems ensure the much improved illumination remains out of the eyes of oncoming traffic by constantly adjusting the aim approximately 4 times per second. Such headlights which sound like a fairy tale are now available on high series BMW and Mercedes Benz. I've seen them advertised in magazines and on the Internet. These technologies are what Hella use for the Predator spot light. Just wait it wont be long before its available as standard equipment on your family car.

Don't you just love modern technology!!!!

Keep the questions coming.

Tim.



TRADING MART

Sell, Buy or Exchange

Sell - Toyota Landcruiser 75 Troop Carrier 1993 Diesel, fully equipped (diff locks, PTO winch, CB radios, bull bar, etc). Ready to go bush with a fully setup shelf, and draw setting.155,000kms. One Owner. \$26,000 ono. 7 x 4 Trailer with fully lockable canopy, very good condition. Suitable for tradesman. \$1,100 ono.

Allen Towbar (2 Tonne towing cap) suit Toyota Landcruiser HZJ75 \$100 Set of Toyota Landcruiser Manuals/Chassis and Body Repair & 2F Engine Repair Manual \$50 the lot.

Contact Ted Bal 8382 1963 AH or 0409 092 252

- <u>Sell</u> Pack rack. 1200mm long . Heavy Duty steel to suit dual cab 1984 –1988 Hilux or similar with gutters \$120. Contact Peter Graham 8370 6224 AH
- Sell –Clutch Kit to suit GQ/GU Nissan. Near new \$100.00 Finer filters main plus pre-cleaner unit suit Nissan 4.2 diesel \$50.00 Contact George Vlahos 8278 9229 (AH) or 0419040407
- Sell Bull Bar as new Landcruiser '91 80 series will fit 1990 98 models. Black iron, new fittings ie blinkers \$400 ono.

 Tyre and rim 6 ply steel belted radial 109/10R15LT. \$50.

 Contact Max Savige 8276 5883
- <u>Sell</u> Barrett 550 HF Auto Tune Aerial \$2,200 ono. Contact Paul Shep 0408 271 385
- <u>Sell</u> Toyota Landcruiser Troop Carrier 1989 6 cyl. White. 2 long range unleaded fuel tanks. Over 6 months rego. 2 spares, winch, bullbar. 235,000kms. \$14,800 neg. Contact Ken Talbot-Smith 8381 3061 or 0428 857 591

Please Note:

All items advertised will only be published for a maximum of 3 months.

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