



Rangers' Review

Volume 8 No. 4

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

August 2002



Cameron Corner

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Well winter is here but not for me and five other lucky club members, for we were on the way to a warmer peaceful place known as Innamincka. Well warmer it was, 24-25 every day with not a cloud in the sky to be seen. Peaceful it was not - with the first visit to the Innamincka Trading Post (General Store) car park. There must have been 400 4wd parked (well maybe not that many but let's say the car park was full). It didn't matter we found a very peaceful camp-site at the end of the Cullymurra Waterhole. I won't dribble on about what an excellent trip it turned out to be and special thanks to Tim and Layne for their leadership throughout the week.

July was a busy month for trips and social events. The mid year dinner this year was at the Hogs Breath Café, which I might add was a beauty, 36 members attended in a private area (called the Pig Pen) to ourselves. Well done Christian and Karen and Scott Young.

Thanks to Max for running the July meet as Craig and myself were both away and I hope the guest speaker from the Salvos was a good one.

The day trip (the king of southern tracks) Merv ran which I missed out on because it was full, I believe like all day trip was a little ripper. Many tracks were found and I heard Merv and Layne both had a little trouble getting out of a certain river. Well that's enough about that I'm sure we will all hear about it tonight at the meeting.

August is already shaping up to be another good month with a day trip planned on the 18th to Southern Vales and I've heard we might be seeing a little more wine tasting than normal and on the 18th there's also a trip to St Kilda to the tram museum and play ground and maybe a boardwalk through the mangroves. At this stage there's one trip booked in for early September so please don't stop if your thinking of a good place to go lets get it on the board.

The most important thing to remember is don't just be a club member! Reap the benefits from a little participation and involvement.

Now just one more thing,

As mentioned in the July report we were still looking for good ideas for the club stand at the 4wd show this year so please put your thinking caps on and if something comes to mind please let myself or a committee member know.

Ok that's enough from me now it's late Sunday night and my fingers are starting to miss the keys I'm meaning to hit so I'll see ya tonight.

Happy trails

Shaun Lawson



Innamincka — 6th-14th July

Day's 1 & 2

At last it was holidays. We got up at 5.00am and picked up some McDonalds on the way and then we met with the rest of the group at the Brickworks Market at 7.45am. Once we dispensed with the formalities we headed along Salisbury Highway on our way to our first stop of Burra. As we travelled North the weather finally started to improve. It seems the only way to see good weather in Adelaide in winter is to be somewhere else.

Once we arrived at Burra, the bakery was the first stop, followed by the pub, for some last minute refreshments. We left Burra and turned onto a little-used dirt road. This road is used by the homesteads between Burra and the NSW border. For a dirt road it was fantastic, not a corrugation in sight along its length of approx 250 kms.

We arrived in Broken Hill right on time at 4pm, booked into the Broken Hill Caravan Park and the restaurant. I was looking forward to my last decent meal for a week before I had to cook myself.

We had dinner at the Democratic Club, in the main street of Broken Hill. Nice meal and one member even had a win on the Pokies. We went back to the caravan park quite early and retreated to our warm cabins, as the night temperature was about -7°C . I was not looking forward to the cold nights ahead. It was an early night and some watched The Power win the footy. Go The Power!!!

Next morning we left the comfort of our warm cabins at the caravan park at 9.15am and headed off to the Miners Memorial Lookout. From here, you get a good view of Broken Hill, and its a great spot for souvenirs and coffees. We even got a new hat for Joel as I left our sun hats at home! I found out later I got good value for money at \$6.50 for a baseball cap. We also looked at the Line of Load, we were going to visit the RFDS but it didn't open until 11am on a Sunday and it was \$5.50 for adults, \$2.50 for children and a family pass was \$15. Whilst we were checking out the prices of the RFDS, Sparky had stopped at a nearby Fire Engine, and Samuel and Jordon got a personalised tour of it. We left there and topped

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News In Brief

Fees are now overdue: \$50.00 (\$35.00 for a second club)

There will be magazines from other 4WD clubs available for your reading at the meetings.

Don't forget that the annual 4wd show is coming up in October, 11th-13th.

Please could you let me have any photo's that you wish inserted in the magazine, my supply is non-existent

Nick.



(Continued from page 3)

up supplies again, Angie found a bakery for us all to get fresh bread, Craig found his round the corner "Sip n Save" and I stopped off there too.

Then we headed off to the Packsaddle for lunch.

Con, Luke and Joel (Conair)



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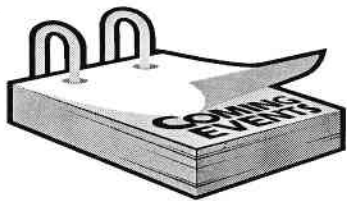
Denny Couprie

Phone: 8383 6262

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Chandlers Hill SA 5159



SOCIAL SCENE

Mid Year Dinner.

This year's mid-year dinner was held at the Hogs Breath Café at Glenelg with a good night had by all who attended. We had plenty of amber fluid flowing and lots of BIG yummy steaks. After our meals some of us headed down to the Ramada Grand for a quick drink and then to a local coffee shop to finish off the night.

Many thanks to Scott Young "Tax man" for his help with this years mid Year dinner.

St Kilda play ground and historic tram

On the 18th August we are going to St Kilda playground for a fun day out and a look at the old tram museum. We will meet at Hungry Jacks carpark Castle Plaza, South Road Edwardstown at 9.30am or you can make your own way there. We will be having a picnic lunch, if you wish to have a BBQ, you will need to bring your own cooking equipment. There is an oval there as well so if some one could bring a bat and ball we may organise a game of cricket. More info to come.

Christmas Party, December 2002

Contact
Christian or Karen
Whamond
(Hm) 08 8322 1766
(Mb) 0408 322 176
(Fax) 08 8322 8895
whamond@chariot.net.au

The last few years we have all ventured up to Loftia Park for our Christmas get together and even though there is nothing wrong with

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this venue, I thought that this year we should try some where different, so if anyone has been to a park, or large playground where we can book an area for our Christmas get together that would be suitable, can they please let myself or Karen know.

Social Secretary.

I have enjoyed this position for the past couple of years but with the extra commitments I have taken on with the Driver Training Unit and SAAFWDC, I would like to pass the position of Social club secretary on to someone else. Please think about it as I will not be accepting the position after next year's AGM and if no one puts their hand up we will be without a social scene which will be a real shame.

To all Members

We are always looking for new and exciting events that people can participate in as a social activity in the club. If anyone has any suggestions or has recently done a activity that they found exciting and would like to share this experience with other club members, please talk to Christian or Karen and we will make a note in the club Rangers review and possibly organise a club trip.

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Calendar of Events

August 2002 – September 2002

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
August 11	12 Meeting	13	14	15	16	17 Southern Vales
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
1 Sept.	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 Swan Reach	9 Meeting	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21



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, Craighurn Road, Blackwood.
(off Trevor Terrace) All welcome.

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



Upcoming Trips

SOUTHERN VALES — AUGUST 18TH

Day trip through the Southern Vales region. We might even see some wineries!

Meet at Norman's winery at 10:00am.

Details: Mark Moss

SWAN REACH — SEPTEMBER ¹⁵⁻¹⁴ 8TH

Meet at Crafers at 8:00am

CURDIMURKA OUTBACK — OCTOBER 3RD - 6TH

Outback Ball at Curdimurka Railway Station, out from Marree.

Bush Camping.

Details: Ian Mangelsdorf — 8384 5691

GRAMPIANS — OCTOBER 4TH - 8TH

More information on its way.

Details: Mark Moss — 8383 6324

GERANIUM — OCTOBER 5TH - 7TH

More information on its way.

Facilities include a large Shelter shed, Hot showers, Toilet (and longdrops).

Details: Ken Bradey — 0418 807 934

*"Views expressed in this magazine are not
necessarily those of Mt Lofty Ranger's Inc."*

LANGHORNE CREEK – 21/07/02

Eight vehicles departed Xanadu Winery (Normans) at 9:15 am. We headed through Cherry Gardens using some road reserves, one of which proved very slippery for Steve and Chris. We wound our way past the Scott Creek Conservation Park to Bradbury, then along Longwood Road, Kangaroo Reef Road, and Camel Hump Road. On through the outskirts of Harndorf, to Paechtown, which is the site of the original German settlement in this district. This area was devastated by the Ash Wednesday fires. Some of the buildings have been rebuilt in the traditional style. We continued through Totness Recreation Park, where Merv finally found some mud.

After a coffee break was realised at Mt Barker at 10:30, we continued on to Zion Hill, Wistow, and Macclesfield, breaking for lunch at Strathalbyn. This was a pleasant Park setting with lots of sunshine.

Heading further south along Yates Lane, we found some more mud, and soon entered vineyard country, with huge areas of new plantings. At Langhorne Creek, we tasted the fine wares of Bremerton, and Bleasdale Wineries. Both are well worth a visit, with Bleasdale being over a Hundred years old with an old Redgum grape press and vats, and historic photos.

Merv was keen to get his wheels dirty, so we ventured along some back roads, although there was more dust, than mud. We found an Angus River crossing, which had a well worn track leading into it, but not much on the otherside. Bad omen. Merv found himself sitting in the river, unable to proceed either direction. Out with the recovery straps, and Lane did the honours of pulling him out. Lane wanted a go also, was equally unsuccessful, but did manage to reverse out. We backtracked and headed to Milang. Another track that was tried, proved to be too overgrown, so we had to

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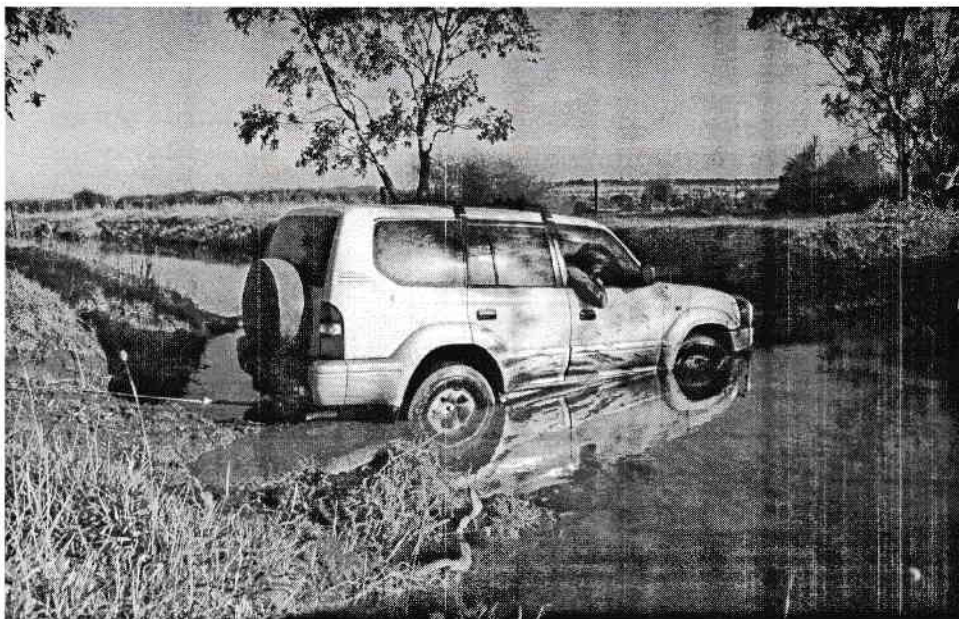
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turn around. We then travelled along Tucker Road, which is named after Merv's ancestors, and eventually emerged onto Bull Creek Road, near Ashbourne. At around 5:15pm we drove pasted Xanadu Winery again, completing the day's excursion. About 190km was travelled.

Thanks to Merv and all participants for a very enjoyable day. The banter over the radio is always amusing. Thanks to Pete (Zulu) for suggesting that I do the trip report. (Early, is not always better)

Peter and Tasha Graham.



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ITEMS FOR SALE

Lets Promote Our Club!!!

Cloth Badges	\$6.00
Car Stickers	\$2.50
Name Badges	
Initial 2 on joining	FREE
Additional	\$6.00
Replacement	\$6.00
Sand Flags	\$2.50
Tyre Plugs	\$7.50

Please see a committee member for the above purchases.

Windcheaters (fleecy lined)	\$40.00
<i>(includes name and logo embroidered on & GST)</i>	
Rugby Tops	\$52.00
<i>(includes name and logo embroidered on & GST)</i>	
Polo Shirts (short sleeve)	\$29.00
<i>(includes name and logo embroidered on & GST)</i>	
Caps <i>(including logo embroidered on)</i>	\$15.00

If you require clothing please speak to a committee member.

ITEMS FOR LOAN

Books	Recovery Kit
Club Banner	Tirfor Winch
Club Flag	Puncture Repair Kit *
GPS Promotional Videos	First Aid Kit *
Maps	4 x Lightweight Shelters with sides.

* *Please replace used items*

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

Happy Birthday

Zoe Couprie (7)	16th August	Danni Warbout	19th August
Jordon Byrne (3)	19th August	Scott Young	20th August
Michael Brett	21st August	Kim Baxter	24th August
Kylie Phillips	24th August	Nathan Harding (10)	26th August
Kerry Laird	26th August	Lyn Orbons	2nd September
Emma Brett	4th September	Charlie Raphael	5th September



Innamincka — 6th-14th July

Day's 2 & 3

Lunch at Packsaddle Creek was very enjoyable. Some of the kids took souvenirs with them, red dirt !! The road out of Packsaddle was very dusty, even Layne (Nike) complained and he was in front !!

The road we have been travelling on is dirt for kms and kms and then it goes bitumen for kms and kms then back to dirt for kms and kms. None of us could work out the logic in that so if anyone else knows can you please let someone who attended this trip know.

Troy pointed out a Crocodile enroute. In the distance to the right was a group of hills that looked just like a crocodile. A small tail at the end, followed by a big hill which made the back, small flat spot for the neck, next mound was the head another flat spot then 2 small hills for the nostrils. We were very impressed with his imagination and he was spot on! "Well Done Troy!"

Layne claims to have seen a wild pig. We have seen a fair bit of wild life so far. The standard kangaroos, heaps and heaps of emus, crows, sheep, foxes. Yesterday there was a wedge tail eagle, goats and now today we have seen a crocodile, wild brumby and wild boar (or so Layne and Ryan say anyway).

Con (Conair) tells me he hasn't told you who is on this trip. I am typing this as we go along and there is nothing much happening so I will tell you that Tim, Lynette, Samuel & Jordon Byrne (Sparky) are our trip leaders, Layne, Julie & Troy Holberton (Nike) are our assistant trip leaders, Craig, Ryan & Ashleigh Need (Han Solo) (he's also known to some of us as Hans Full!), Con, Luke & Joel Mastroyannis (Conair), new members Paul, Mel, Jackson & Lauren Brindley (Quickie) and us your illustrious president and his family known as the River Rats. A total of 6 vehicles, 3 camper trailers, 3 roof racks, 10 adults and 11 children.

The further North we head the warmer the weather is getting. The flies were out annoying us all at lunch time so it is probably a good thing we bought some of those fly/mossie nets.

We just drove past a dead pig. I suppose Layne did see one earlier. Then again he is 5 mintues ahead of us. The good thing about not leading is you get warnings about the conditions ahead. There is a road train approaching and he is throwing up lots of

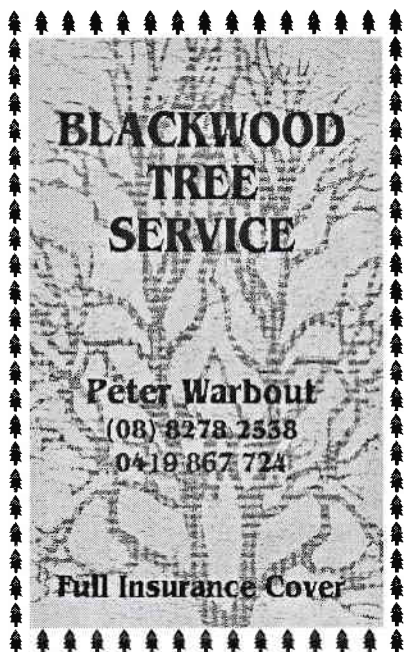
dust and stones. We were able to find a small patch of bitumen and were lucky enough to let him past on it rather than on the dirt. You also get warnings about pot holes, soft patches of road, oncoming traffic, and the best ways to approach certain turns, floodways etc.

The 3 in front, Nike, Han Solo & Conair have got to Tibooburra and are checking out the camp sites for us. Another one of the advantages of being in the rear group is not going round and round in circles looking for suitable camping spots. A lovely spot has been found in Thomsons Creek with a waterhole and firewood available. The waterhole was empty and there was a dry creek bed too for which we set up a camp fire. There was a variety of different meals cooked, Yiros, pasta, BBQ, spag bog but all was eaten and dishes done by 7.30pm! The younger kids enjoyed playing in the creek bed, and they all needed a wash before they could get into bed.

Morning has come and we have found out that it was -1°C at 7.00am. Mel froze all night, Jordon's new hot water bottle had a hole in it and his bed was wet through and Samuel's bed was wet too but for a different reason again. Departure time was meant to be 9.00am but only Craig was ready by then. We ended up leaving Thomsons Creek at around 9.50am and then stopped again at the man made dam to pick up some firewood and put it in Con's ute. Then to Tibooburra (which means *rocks or heaps of boulders* in Aboriginal) to top up fuel and other supplies. Diesel was \$1.13

and unleaded was \$1.11 per litre. A big difference from the 89.9 for diesel in Broken Hill. Tibooburra was bigger than we thought and had some nice souvenirs etc.. We then went to see a replica of The Whale Boat Captain Charles Sturt in 1844/45 carried to Depot Glen from Adelaide. They abandoned it when they couldn't find water !! There was much talk on the radio about how frustrated they would have been to have dragged this 27-foot boat all those miles and not found water. Whilst stopped at the boat we discovered our front tyre was low and had to go back to the fuel station to put some air in it.

Layne then lead us on through the Sturt National Park in the Strzelecki desert towards Olive Downs Station which will then take us to the Dog Fence. In the middle of this desert we have found a dam that has lovely green walls.



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(Continued from page 15)

It is rather bizarre to see such a green patch in the middle of this barren dry country. Some of the dirt seems to be green, which Tim suggested could be why the station we are heading for is called Olive Downs. We stopped at the Olive Downs lookout for a photo and toilet opportunity, but I don't think the photos will show the unusual green dirt. Other parts of this track are covered in bull dust. Difficult to drive through and exceptionally dustier. Con had decided he and the boys will be eating bull dust for tea.

Olive Downs station is a historic homestead with a tennis court. Not used for a few years though by the looks of it! We are seeing lots more kangaroos today than yesterday. Yesterday was emu spotting day, today kangaroos.

We have just got to the Dog Fence and as the track turned to follow it some vehicles were parked on the track to have their lunch! Not a brilliant choice of picnic spot. There are also some markers to our left which indicate the Gas line from Moomba. The track has also changed from dirt to very rocky. Its back to dirt now we are heading to Fort Grey for lunch and the guys have mentioned how much fun this track would be in a WRX Subaru. They also think it should be used for time trials in a rally or something. There are 3 camper trailers and a roof rack stopping the fun though. But we are treading lightly as always.

A eagle just flew across the front of Nike's bonnet and stopped in a tree for the rest of us to see that if he had hit it, Nike would have been eating eagle for lunch. The track has changed again from red dirt to white dirt and very smooth. Shaun informs me it is a flood plain.

We stopped at Fort Grey Campground for lunch. There were several other vehicles stopped here too, with good facilities, such as free gas BBQ's, shelters, tables, toilets with toilet paper and bins. Now we are off to Cameron Corner to be in 3 states at once. The track there is full of corrugations and is trying out our suspension and letting us know where our rattles are. The corrugations are also testing out Layne's speedo. It is going from 0 to 60 back and forth all over the place. Lucky we've got Sparky here. The CD player doesn't like the track much either. Some nice person just opened the gate for us at Cameron Corner to welcome us back into our home state. I gave him a lolly because nobody else in our convoy would. We stopped for a photo at the monument that is Cameron Corner and then went for a drink, (alcoholic) and ice blocks at the Cameron Corner Store. We left our mark in the Visitors Book with "So there is something on the other side of the

(Continued on page 18)



News from the South Australia Association of Four Wheel Clubs. (SAAFWDC) & Driver Training Unit (DTU)



National Insurance:

(John Sandland)

John spoke on some confusion still from some club members on Insurance policies, outside the Associations. He also said to go to the said Insurance Company and have a clause inserted into your policy stating that they are covered for off road I.E Club Trips, Training & so forth. John also said that he had a look at a couple of policies and there is no mention that you are covered OFF ROAD it just states that you are covered

Driver Training Unit:

(Glenys Elliott)

Glenys spoke on the DTUs first training night at the new venue and that they are not happy with certain aspects in the room (ie: lighting & a couple of other faults) Also looking for expression of interest from club members for a Certificate 4 course to be held later on in the year. So let her know if anyone is interested so they can set course up.

Correspondence In & Out:

A letter from **ARB** relating to there Snatch Straps manufactured since last December with **Serial numbers between 11900 and 14000 & between 16000 & 16425 could be faulty** so ask your club members to check and return to point of purchase if there is any concern with the stitching.

General Business:

John Caldecott reported on the running of a **Clean up Australia** event for the year 2003 under the auspices of the Association. John has prepared some arrangements for the event, elaborating on the event and procedures for running the event. This should be put on the agenda for each meeting of the Association for discussion. This could be included in Club trips and/or outings; he also spoke on the Insurance issue. John Sandland will check on the public liability issue relating to the event.

(Continued from page 16)

Mt Lofty Ranges" signed by the Mt Lofty Rangers 4WD Club.

We then headed off to find our campsite for the night, at Bollards Lagoon Homestead. We paid our \$10 per vehicle and then took off due North on the Bore Track to our actual camping site. We arrived at camp at 4.15pm and are resident fire monitors, Layne and Con, got our fire going for the night. Tea was early for some, 5.30pm for spag bog, but others waited for the fire to reach its full potential to cook baked potatoes with baked beans, sour cream & cheese or a BBQ over the coals. The other meals were Basil Chicken, Apricot Chicken and soup and toast. It was an early night as we were saving our energy for my birthday celebrations the next day.

In summary for the River Rats we would like to say it has already been great fun with a great bunch of people. It is amazing to see the beautiful colours of this vast outback region. The blue sky, the different shades of red dirt, the white dirt, the wildlife are really a wonderful experience.

A big thank you to Tim & Lynette and Layne & Julie for a great trip. We are looking forward to the rest of the week in Innamincka, especially not having to pack up camp each night!

Angie, Shaun, Madison & Jackson Lawson (River Rats)

Courses Four Wheel Drive

SAAFWDC Driver Training Unit
Unit 2
9 Cardiff Court
Cavan

Contact: Ian Mangelsdorf 8384 5691
Mobile: 0414 677 858

Those interested in the Basic training course, could you please add your name to the list. When there are enough interested, then I will schedule the course.

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