



Rangers' Review

Volume 8 No. 5

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

September 2002



The Innaminka Gang

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Finally winter is over and spring is here, the flowers are starting to come out and the sun is starting to kill those winter chills away. With the warmer weather just around the corner, now is the time to get those trips up on the board.

Last month had a bit of activity with day trips being very popular once again. Mark Moss led another trip down south but this time it wasn't zipping in and out of tracks but zipping in and out of the wineries tasting the different fluids the great south has to offer. There also was a social day down to Saint Kilda led by Christian and Karen where the tram museum was available to go through and there was also a tram to take a ride down to the beach where the afternoon was spent at the well equipped playground. I was told everyone that went had a good time but a few more members would have been nice.

Yesterday we also had Merv's day trip to Swan Reach to check out some caves along the river. I can't tell you how excellent it was now, as this is being printed before the day has eventuated, but I am looking forward to it very much. There is still time for another day trip before the end of the month so if something comes to mind let Layne know so he can put it up on the board.

OK, October is going to be a very busy month with the first week-end being the long week-end, the one we all have been waiting for over the last 3 months. There are two trips on. One to the Grampians and the other to Geranium so don't leave it to late to put your name up on the board as both trips are filling fast.

The four-wheel drive show is the 2nd week-end; the 11th, 12th, and 13th. The photo boards will be on display again so if you have a really cool photo to display get it to one of the committee members quick so we can get a copy.

Prizes for the raffle will be needed again so if you know of someone to donate a prize or have something to offer please speak to a committee member, thanks. There is no club meeting before the 4WD show so if you have anything to offer, please contact a committee member so we can do something quick smart. Could members also think about a new theme for the stand and, if available and intending to help with manning the stand for a few hours over one of the days, please let me know as I will have a roster to fill in at the meeting tonight.

Well I think I've just about covered every thing so I will get of my soap box and go outside and enjoy some of this fine weather we are having, so by for now, see you at the meeting.

Happy trails

Shaun Lawson



Innamincka — 6th-14th July

Day 5

Lunch was at Will's Grave Site next to the Cooper Creek. He died on or about 29 June 1861. The creek was almost bone dry. Jackson Lawson tested out the slopes by sliding down on his backside.

Heading to the Dig Tree via Innamincka we stopped off to check out Ski Beach. Nice place to camp. We also got a great group shot of the vehicles on the Causeway over the Cooper Creek just outside Innamincka.

It was a roller-coaster road, very rocky but there was an opportunity to collect firewood in a creek-bed. The area was called the Gibber Plains, with means stony plains. Shaun also mentioned the creeks around the area have been known to have sapphires in the them.

We travelled through the Sturt Stony Desert and noticed lots of table top hills. There were lots of explanations of why they had flat tops, giants and UFO's were mentioned, but erosion the most likely reason. There were not many trees or wildlife around.

We had to stop to change River Rats' flat tyre. Nice hole in the side from a sharp rock. Didn't take long though with lots of helpers.

We crossed the border into Queensland and travelled along the border to the Dig Tree. The Dig Tree had an \$11 per vehicle admission but there was lots of information on the

history of the area on the board there, although there is nothing to take away with you, such as brochures on the history.

KERRIGAN COLE
GENERAL MANAGER

JOHN MUNN
TOWING MANAGER

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On the road homeward, Lynette noticed the cattle droppings and we think it may have been part of the cattle drive as part of the Year of The Outback celebrations. There was also lots of cattle on the road.

We travelled over the Burke and Wills bridge and Paul and I noticed a dingo and got a great shot of it with the sunset behind it.

We got back into SA at dark and headed back to camp. Much later than the planned arrival time of 4pm, realistically it was 6.30pm for us, with stops for Lauren.

Roast was planned for most, but only half the group decided to go with the plan. Others opted for spag bog or spag on toast. Angie and myself got to christen Layne's new heat exchanger

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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.



**NEXT MEETING
Monday
October 14th
@ 7.30pm**

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shower. It was brilliant, especially having not had a shower for 3 days. We decided cold showers weren't good enough and the wait for Layne's was worth it. Another nice night around the camp fire.

Day 6

The trip to Coongee Lakes was planned for a 9am start and we had our best yet with 9.30am. First stop was the Innamincka dump and a visit by the resident dingo and then the Trading Post to top up supplies and pick up some freshly baked hot bread.

Tim told Paul and I about a dingo on the road to Coongee Lakes. There were also lots of cattle on the side of the road and some being drenched in the pens.

There were lots of vehicles on this road. Sign on the side of the road mentioned Road Trains frequent this road, but fortunately for us we saw none.

Layne had to stop for a broken exhaust. Fortunately only a weld that will be fixed tomorrow. Still able to continue on to the Lakes.

The other vehicles that were going in the same direction as us were kind enough to let us through, but almost caused Shaun to make a new 3rd rear seat for Con.

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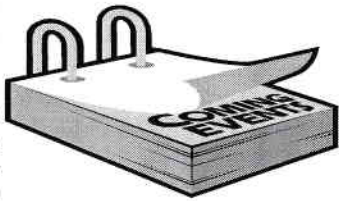
Denny Couprie

Phone: 8383 6262

Fax: 8383 6999

15 Treetop Rise

Chandlers Hill SA 5159



SOCIAL SCENE

St Kilda play ground and historic tram

On the 18th August a small group of Rangers made their way up to St Kilda playground for a fun day out and a look at the old tram museum. We had lunch on the Oval and then went to the play ground where the kids had a great time on the big slippery dips, flying foxes and lots of other adventure equipment. We then all had some ice-creams and caught the historic tram to the museum where we took in some local history.

Christmas Picnic, 1st December 2002

This years Christmas party will be held at Belair National Park on the 1st of December.

We will be having a lunch there so if you are intending to cook up on a BBQ you will need to bring your own, or make arrangements to borrow someone's.

Father Xmas will be making an appearance after lunch, so if you want your kids to have a present then you

will need to give them to me at the November meeting.

We have made a booking at the Government



Contact

**Christian or Karen
Whamond**

(Hm) 08 8322 1766

(Mb) 0408 322 176

(Fax) 08 8322 8895

whamond@chariot.net.au

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Farm One and tennis court 58, so just follow the signs once you have paid your \$6.50 per car to get in.

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.

Southern

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Calendar of Events

September 2002 – October 2002

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
September 8 Swan Hill	9 Meeting	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	October 1	2	3	4 Grampians Trip	5 L-W/end
6 L-W/end	7 October Pub/Hol	8	9	10	11 4WD Show	12 4WD Show
13 4WD Show	14 Meeting	15	16	17	18	19



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, Craighburn 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

CURDIMURKA OUTBACK BALL — OCTOBER 3RD - 6TH
Outback Ball at the Curdimurka Rail Station, out from Marree.
Bush Camping.
Details: Ian Mangelsdorf — 0891

CANCELLED

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

FLINDERS RANGES — OCTOBER 5TH - 7TH
Bush camping in Parachilna Gorge (no charge). Need to be self sufficient wrt food, water & toilets. Suitable for camper trailers. Nearest fuel and goodies up to 10 kms away depending on campsite. Relaxing weekend with a day trip to Chambers Gorge (rock art site) and bushwalking. Bring some firewood if possible.
Leave Globe Derby 6-00am Sat 5th October.
Details: Hubert Orbons 8278 8142

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

UHF Channel Guide

Channels:

1 to 8 (31 to 38) Repeater channels.

- Each repeater requires a pair of channels to work
- When on channel 1 repeater, then channel 31 is also in use. 2 w/- 32; 3 w/- 33, etc.
- Avoid channels 31 to 38 for general use. If you are within range of a repeater, your voice could exceed 10,000 sq km coverage, and that repeater could become unusable — without you knowing.
- For general travelling use, it is suggested that the REP/DUP function is left/set permanently **ON** at all times, on channels 1 to 8.

Please avoid using these channels — unless you choose to access a repeater.

5 Emergency repeaters (Allocated in Law).

- There are lists available that identify where Channel 5 repeaters exist
- For other regions, scanning **all** channels is a far more effective way of locating other UHF users in an emergency.

11 Calling channel (Allocated in Law).

- Used to call another user who may be listening on the call channel (such as a friend). After contact you must move to another channel.
- Most country operators sit on other general use channels. Scanning is more useful to find these other operators.

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22 & 23 Signalling & Telemetry (No voice allowed) (Allocated in Law).

40 Highways & Trucks (Firmly established by tradition).

10 4WD Drivers (By courteous agreement).

- Usage is becoming popular as a general channel for 4WD drivers
- Recommended officially within National Parks

18 Caravans & Campers (By courteous agreement).

General use channels are therefore:

9, 12 to 17, 19 to 21, 24 to 30, and 39

NOTE: Major cities often have one channel that attracts rude and inconsiderate people. Do not get into arguments with these people, they are just plain idiots, and you will not win, instead move to another channel.

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National Insurance Scheme

Australian National For Wheel Drive Council (ANFWDC)

* Four Wheel Drive Motor

* Camping Equipment

* Camper Trailer & Caravans

* Home & Contents Cover



MT LOFTY RANGERS

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 (fleece 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

Kimberly Orbons	15th September	Samantha Curtis	19th September
Madison Lawson (6)	20th September	Jenny Jones	22nd September
Malcolm Curtis	23rd September	Natalie Drazil	26th September
Julie Bradey	4th October	Ben Travers	5th October
Neil Penno	6th October	Carolyn Rawsthorn	6th October
Kerrigan Cole	8th October	Isobelle Brett	14th October



Where are the Whales ??

FIRE REGULATIONS

Fire Restrictions

During The Fire Danger Season fire restrictions apply throughout South Australia including Adelaide Metropolitan (Inner Adelaide). During this period you must apply for a permit to use fire outdoors at any time.

There are some exceptions, notably barbecues, campfires, incinerators and some industrial processes such as gas and electric welding.

If you have any doubt about lighting any fire during the Fire Danger Season use the CFS Fire Bans Hotline 1300 362 361 to seek advice.

The penalties for illegally lighting a fire are severe. You face the possibility of incurring a fine of up to \$8,000 or imprisonment for up to two (2) years.

Total Fire Bans & Hotline

On days when extreme weather conditions (high wind and high temperature) could cause fires to become uncontrollable, Total Fire Bans may be declared in some fire ban districts or even across all South Australia. These bans will apply for 24 hours from midnight to midnight the following day. They are broadcast on radio and television from 6.00pm. If in doubt check on the CFS Fire Bans Hotline.

Be aware that if extreme weather conditions develop suddenly, a Total Fire Ban could be announced as late as 7.00 am on the morning of the ban. Total Fire Bans may also be removed at 7.00 am, where weather conditions have moderated considerably. Both situations would be broadcast on radio and the CFS Fire Bans Hotline.

Barbecues & Campfires

Throughout the Fire Danger Season if a Total Fire Ban has not been declared, you may use any barbecue or campfire for cooking or warmth (personal comfort) but there are conditions that you must follow.

The fire must be contained in a barbecue or cooker, a properly constructed fire place or a 30 centimetre deep trench, not more than 1 square metre in area. As well, you must have cleared away all flammable material for a 4 metre space around and above it.

While it is alight you must also stay with the fire and have with you sufficient water or other appropriate extinguishing agent to be able to put the fire out.

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On a Total Fire Ban Day:

The only fires you can use outside on a Total Fire Ban Day for cooking, are gas stoves or kettles, gas barbecues and electric barbecues or stoves. Even these can only be used within 15 metres of a dwelling or on coastal foreshore in a 4 metre cleared area with a responsible person in attendance at all times and water or other extinguishing agent on hand. All campfires are banned.

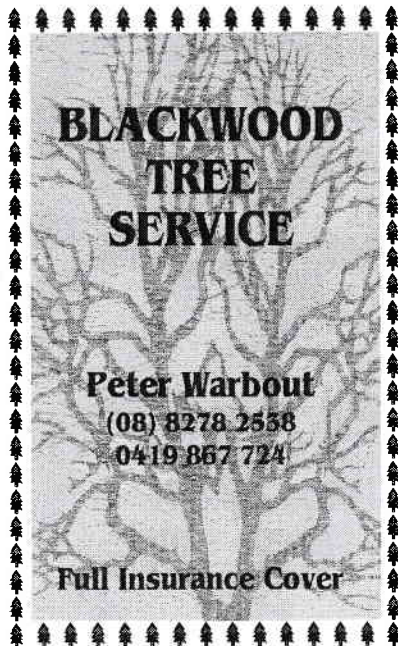
Some councils also allow gas or electric barbecues to be used in caravan parks or cleared picnic areas on Total Fire Ban Days. Look for the signs or notice boards, or contact the council office for advice.

National Park Reserves

The National Parks and Wildlife Service *have strict regulations* on the use of barbecues and all types of fires in their reserves. During the Fire Danger Season, fires are only allowed in those reserves which have signs at entrances stating *that fires are permitted*.

These fires may only be lit in designated areas especially set aside for this purpose.

No fires are permitted in National Parks or Forest Reserves when a Total Fire Ban has been imposed.



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A number of National Parks and Wildlife reserves have total bans on the use of wood fires. For your safety and to confirm what types of fires are permitted, contact the National Parks and Wildlife Service Offices under the heading 'Environment and Natural Resources', in the telephone directory.

For the more commonly used reserves.

Gas fire are permitted only on prepared fire pads in designated areas.

(For further details contact the park offices between 9am and 4.30pm).

These details are as posted on the CFS' website.

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The track had lots of washouts and soft sand that made driving fun for the boys. They were enjoying not having loaded up vehicles.

Arriving at Coongee Lakes at 12.30pm there was a sand dune to come in and Paul attempted it in 2 wheel drive but alas no luck. He had to go into 4WD.

There was also a Range Rover that was having problems getting up the sand dune, but nobody else had any troubles.

There was a lovely view from the top of the dune with lots of swans on the lake.

Beautiful spot for lunch and the kids had lots of fun mud wrestling in the shallows of the lake.

Back on the road at 1.45pm we went to visit some ruins. Paul and I decided not to stay as Lauren was asleep but the others inform me that there were no ruins to be seen and nobody was aware of any either. They were on the GPS map on Shaun's laptop though.

We were stopped by some Parks Hosts because we didn't have our Deserts Parks Pass on the windscreens. They were friendly but warned us that if we hadn't been with our car we would have received a \$100 fine. The other group stopped at Kudremichi Station and they were also questioned about their passes.

Paul had a little incident on one of the corners on the way home. All OK, except for my heart pounding way too fast and the fridge came loose because of it.

We came across a convoy of cows going single file down the track. We managed to encourage them to go off to the side and we got past easily.

We arrived back at camp before 4.00pm and others followed from 4.15pm or so.

We had a happy hour tonight and the kids lost their appetites for their dinner.

Layne got the shower going again and Julie, Jackson L, Troy, Ashleigh, Lynette, Con and Layne all got to try it out and agreed it was great. Shaun got the laptop out after tea and the kids got to watch some of 'Shrek'. It kept having problems though so it was bed for them.

We are still sitting by the fire now, enjoying the warmth and some chocolate that is going around.

Mel, Paul, Jackson & Lauren Brindley (Quickie)



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



Glenys Elliott commented on the poor attendance of members at the DTU meetings and also that information is not being passed on to Clubs. Although the minutes are explicit, it is not like having the information first hand. Glenys commented that she would like to see more members attend the meetings, despite the cold and distance.

Glenys spoke on Spear Creek and the events that took place, training and assessing that has been achieved using the water crossing and Warren Gorge. A good time was had. Glenys thanked those that attended.

Glenys spoke on the **Four Wheel Drive Show on the 11th, 12th & 13th October. Only DTU members will be driving the vehicles, no Club members.** We will need volunteers, give your name to Ray if you are available.

Warren Wilson stated that some of the ASSOC. Equipment is missing he suspected that this gear has been borrowed and not returned the Equipment are as follows: **1 Hand Held Radio: GME TX 6000; A small Generator which has not been seen for some time; A Red Knapsack off the Breakaways trailer; and the Operating Manual for the Copier.** Warren is asking if anyone out there in the Clubs knows of the whereabouts of this gear he would like it returned post haste especially the **Hand Held Radio**, it is needed elsewhere. If not, Warren said there will be lost report filed with the Police.

George Murrell commented on Spear Creek and its suitability for training/assessment and that the Training Committee has declared that Spear Creek is not to be used for 'advanced' training / assessing, the tracks are only at the basic level; Warren Gorge is more suitable for 'advanced' training and assessing, so please keep this in mind when you take your Club to Spear Creek, it is not an 'advanced' training area.

Norm Baker asked on the methods of Assessment in relation to the Assessors qualifications; George explained that an Assessor couldn't assess a topic that he/she has not been assessed as being competent. General discussion on what method Clubs' use for recruiting Advisors, Trainers and/or Assessors and the costing.

Paul Kelly asked about all the PARs that have been opened; Glenys advised that there have been, thanks to the NRAU members and Don Ransom. Further information from Peter Pyman, next meeting when he does his report.

John Callecott spoke on the CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA paperwork that was sent out to all the Clubs asking them to get involved but not to interfere with there existing projects, John asked if the Clubs would support it and endorse the action that have already been taken a vote was taken and passed to support Clean up Australia.

Just a note about the resolve on the discussions about the loaning of the Club Equipment.

I would like to thank members for settling the issue with club equipment which now will be able to be used by members on private trips if not being used for a club trip.

These items are:

- 1) Tirfer winch
- 2) Snatch block
- 3) Shackles
- 4) Tree trunk protector (if used member to replace)
- 5) Tyre repair kit (items used are to be replaced)
- 6) Drag chain

All items are to be returned clean and in good order.

Shaun



Four Wheel Drive
Courses

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.

Trading Mart

Sell -

Full set 80 series 'Cruiser Std Springs & Shockers (2 wks old) \$125
75 series 'Cruiser Fuel gauge (new) \$30
2 CB radios (Gardner / Pearce Simpson Super Tomcat) \$25 each
Electric Bug spring base aerial \$20
Companion Gas compatible — 1 medium Light \$10 — 2 new Heaters
\$15 each
Contact Kim Rawsthorn 8270 3751.

Trading mart — Members — no charge
— non-member \$20 for 3 issues.

Sheryl Penno F.G.A.A.

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