



Rangers' Review

Volume 8 No. 11

Mount Lofty Rangers Inc.

PO Box 1150, Blackwood SA 5051

April 2003



Many thanks to CENTRAL Towing for assisting with our Cleanup Australia Day

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Presidents Report	2
News In Brief	4
SAAFWDC Courses	22
Ngarkat ; High Country	3,6
Upcoming Trips	13
Trading Mart	23

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



G-day

Well April is here all ready and the AGM is only one month away but I will talk about that later. Firstly I would like to thank the current committee for the great job throughout the year. Membership is now standing at 89, which I think is the highest, and it's good to see the enthusiasm of new members and their willingness to get involved with club activities and events. At the end of the day it doesn't matter how good the committee is you only get out of the club what you put in to it and in the last 12 months I strongly think everybody has put in a big effort and now the club is motoring along strongly. That's why we are the best family 4wd club around.

Now, the AGM is the next meeting on Monday May 12th and I expect all of you to be there. As a member you have the option to vote some one or nominate yourself for one of the committee positions. Nomination forms are in last months and this months mags SO PLEASE FILL THEM IN -THANK YOU. There will not be a guest speaker but the club will be providing pizza for tea which will start at **7pm** so if you will be attending please put your name down in the blue book along with family numbers also coming along. E.G. 2 adults 2 kids.

Warren Gorge was on the 5th and 6th and I believe 5 members went so I will be looking forward to hearing all about it tonight.

Thank God the Easter break is nearly here which means getting away for a few days. This year there's a big trip on at Chowilla Station which can be as relaxing as sitting back fishing or around the camp fire or being a little bit daring getting into the cold Murray and doing a little skiing. There is only the one trip on the board at the moment but no doubt there will be more trips put up on the board tonight for Easter.

There are all ready a lot of good trips on the board for the rest of the year and I believe there will be a number of new trips going on the board tonight so don't forget to check them out.

That's about all so I will catch ya all tonight.

Happy trails

Shaun Lawson — River Rats



Ngarkat Conservation Park

Border Track Interclub Working Bee

17th-19th May

Meeting Point: Pinnaroo Main Street - Saturday 9:30-10:00am

We will be camping at Pine Hut Soak. The campsite is spacious, has a toilet, and is situated just inside the Park entrance when approached from Pinnaroo. Anyone who would like to camp on Friday night at Pine Hut Soak is most welcome to do so.

Enjoy the break from the routine and help the ongoing SAAFWDC involvement with the Border Track, and the Centre Track which forms the South—North route, and other tracks within the Park.

KERRIGAN COLE

GENERAL MANAGER

JOHN MUNN

TOWING MANAGER

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**Weekend project:
Rehabilitation work on the
Border Track.**

Bring strong gloves, hand saw, shovel, rake, etc.

It is a relaxing, and fun weekend. You are only expected to do as much as you feel able to do.

Many thanks to all who came to the Working Bee last October, and for the work on the Mount Shank track.

**Border Track Maintenance
Committee**

Contact:

Sue: 8269 2883 (ph/fax)

Lloyd: 8569 1889

News In Brief

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

TRIP LEADERS WANTED


We need more day trips & weekend trips for 2003. Anyone interested in leading a trip or requiring assistance with leading a trip please contact Layne Holberton (0412572139)

Please note: changes to my email addresses. Please use either:

mlr4wd@yahoo.com.au
nickt_4wd@yahoo.com.au

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

Nick.



NEXT MEETING
Monday
May 12th
@ 7.00pm

Mount Lofty Rangers Inc

Nomination Form 2003 Annual General Meeting

I nominate _____ for the position of:

President

Vice-President

Secretary/Public Officer

Treasurer

Association Delegate

Trips Co-ordinator

Membership Officer

Nominated by _____

Seconded by _____

I agree to stand for the above position _____

Signature of Nominee

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Somerton Park SA 5044

High Country (January 6th-14th)

It was with much expectation that the Lawsons, Byrnes (Tim, Lynette, Samuel & Jordon) and Seals (new members – Darren, Ali, Nathan & Jayden) headed from Geelong to our camping spot at the Pioneer Racecourse. Shaun and I had done the trip 2 years previously, but for the Byrnes and Seals it was their first time in the beautiful Victorian High Country.

We packed up from the Caravan Park at Geelong and had left there by 7.15am. We went to Maccas for breakfast and to the supermarket for bread and last minute items it was 8.00am by the time we were really on the road. Fortunately being Sunday the trip through Melbourne was very easy and we had no hassles traffic wise. Paying the toll for the bridge over the phone though was another story. We all paid using our mobile telephones and each of us had problems with the computer generated voice understanding us. We all ended up speaking to a “real” person in the end, so it makes you wonder why we start with the computer generated one at all.

We filled up with fuel and gas at Sale as we were not sure if there would be fuel at Stratford. As it turns out the fuel and gas were cheaper at Stratford, but we weren’t to know. As we headed up towards Dargo we stopped at a little caravan park/electrician which had fuel and decided to lunch there instead of heading to Dargo then back down the road to take our track to the Pioneer Racecourse. We found the lady very unhelpful here and she wouldn’t even let us use her toilet!

We took off after lunch along the Crooked River Track, we were all towing camper trailers, and were grateful there was only 1 oncoming vehicle the entire length. We took one wrong turn, we went over the Kingwill Bridge instead of right, just in front of it, but other than that were without incident.

The previous group of Mt Lofty Rangers led by Hubert Orbons and family, had kindly left the First Aid Kit and the marquees all set up at their campsite. They had left the day before, Saturday, and it meant we were guaranteed of a good spot. They had hoped to find our camping spot from 2 years previous but unfortunately for them somebody had already set up there. We found Huberts camp site and decided that we would see if the other was available. Lucky for us it was and we set up there and went back for the marquees later in the day. We were all set up and at happy hour by about 6pm.

An early evening was had and we looked forward to our rest day on the Monday when our fearless leader and co arrived. Monday gave us a lovely day weather wise and the kids and us had a great day playing in the creek and just relaxing overall. The Moss’ and Holbertons arrived mid afternoon and asked us if we had heard from Paul West with Merv

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

Tucker. Paul had been experiencing problems with his vehicle from gas to petrol and stopped at the same caravan park/electrician that we had, and also found them quite unhelpful. Paul and Merv only arrived about 15 mins later and they all set up camp. Another happy hour and Mark informed us about the weeks activities so we decided on an early night to prepare us for the next day. A “long day” 9am – 4pm and short day 10am – 3pm were the plans day about. Tuesday was to be a long day...

We arose early and departed from camp at 9.10am. We headed to Randall Track which had lots of dry dead fallen trees all around. We then had morning tea on the Border Track. Other tracks we tackled were Maguire Track, Scrubby Creek Track, McCarthy Spur Track and Junction Spur Track where we stopped for lunch. There were beautiful lush green ferns and wildflowers here which Merv told us were called Billys Buttons. We actually saw millions of them by the end of the week along with beautiful Snow Daisies and another pretty purple/violet flower which we never found out the name of.

From lunch we headed toward the Pinnacles. We saw the fantastic view all over the mountains and also found the previous groups entries into the Visitors Book. Ironically the Ranger mentioned how badly the area needed a bush fire as there was such thick undergrowth. The last fire being in the area 10 years ago. Now the area is well and truly alight. On our way back to the cars, Lynette showed Jordon that she doesn't nag him for a reason about running down walking tracks. Let that be all that is said.

We headed back to camp going down Billy Goat Bluff Track. I was not looking forward to this at all, but it turns out that going down is better than going up because you can actually see the beautiful views around you instead of just track track and more track.

We got back to camp at 6.00pm! A BLOODY LONG DAY. It was agreed that we would not have such a big day again during this trip. We were all hot, tired and hungry so after a swim in the creek, we had tea (along with the flies) and had an early bed time.

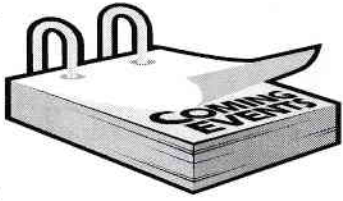
Thank you Mark and Linda for your wonderful skills at planning these trips, and to everyone else on the trip. We had a wonderful time.

Angie, Shaun, Madison & Jackson Lawson.
River Rats.

Sunday 12th January

It was decided that Sunday was to be a day off and everyone could do what they liked. It was a warm day and the girls decided to go for a walk while most of the men seemed to be checking over the cars or cleaning them.

(Continued on page 20)



Social SCENE

Hopefully the next person that takes over the Social Secretary position next year will have as much support to these events as we have had.

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

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

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.

Sheryl Penno

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Upcoming Trips — *continued*

(Continued from page 13)

PINK LAKES — QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY W/END — JUNE 7TH-9TH

Bush camping at 2 different spots and driving around Pink Lakes area.

Contact: TBA

KAPUNDA AREA DAY TRIP — JUNE 22ND

Details on the trip board

Contact: Merv Tucker (8278 1414)

SOUTH EAST BORDER TRACK — JUNE 20TH-25TH

Refer to the trip board for more details

Contact: Mark Curtis (8388 4776)

ADVANCED NOTICE

SOUTH EAST BORDER TRACK — JUNE 20TH-25TH

Details on the trip board

Contact: Mark Curtis (8388 4776)

SIMPSON DESERT — JULY 5TH-18TH

Adelaide to Birdsville, across the Simpson, east to west, via QAA line, French line, Knolls track, WAA line, Colson track, French line, to Dalhousie Springs, Mt Dare, Oodnadatta, Coober Pedy, then home, possibly via Googs track.

Contact: Layne Holberton (0412 572 139)

CAPE YORK — JULY 12TH — AUGUST 13TH

Details on the trip board

Contact: Mark Curtis (8388 4776)

MARTINS WASH POOL SOUTH EAST — AUGUST 2ND-3RD

Bush camping and driving (Further details later)

Contact: Merv Tucker (8278 1414)

GERANIUM CAMP COOKING W/END — AUGUST 23RD-24TH

Bush Camping at Darado Downs. Sand driving available. Main emphasis on a big group camp cooking meal on Saturday night

Contact: Greg Goding (8387 3118)

WEEKEND AWAY TO ??? — SEPTEMBER 20TH-21ST

Who's prepared to organise this one ???

Contact: You ??

(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 10)

BURRA — OCTOBER 4TH-6TH

Based at Burra, or nearby, with day trips around the surrounding areas

Contact: Mark Moss (8383 6324)

WEEKEND AWAY TO ??? — OCTOBER 25TH-26TH

Last chance for camp fires and camp cooking before the Fire Bans start.

Who's prepared to organise this one ???

Contact: You ??

ADVANCED NOTICE — 2004

MILDURA - SAAFWDC AGM — MARCH 12TH-14TH, 2004

Staying at the Riverbeach Camp Ground, APEX Park, Mildura

See trips board for more details

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Calendar of Events

March 2003 – April 2003

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
April 13	14 Meeting	15 School Holidays	16 School Holidays	17 School Holidays	18 Easter Chowilla	19 Easter Chowilla
20 Easter Chowilla	21 Easter Chowilla	22 School Holidays	23 School Holidays	24 School Holidays	25 Anzac Day Murray Sunset NP	26 Murray Sunset NP
27 Murray Sunset NP	28	29	30	May 1 Goog's Track	2 Goog's Track	3 Goog's Track
4 Goog's Track	5 Goog's Track	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 AGM Meeting	13	14	15	16	17 Minlaton Ngarkat
18 Minlaton Ngarkat	19 Adelaide Cup Day Minlaton	20	21	22	23	24



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: mlr4wd@yahoo.com.au
or visit our Web Site: www.tcis.com.au/rangers.htm



Upcoming Trips

APRIL 2003

CHOWILLA STATION — EASTER WEEKEND APRIL 18TH-21ST

Bush camping at a single location, on a private island (\$10/car/night.

Fishing, limited 4x4 driving, relaxing & water skiing.

Further details on the trip board

Contact: Tim Byrne (0412 527 176)

MURRAY SUNSET N.P. VICTORIA — APRIL 25TH-27TH

Bush camping at 2 locations with no facilities. Meet 9:30am Friday 25th at the last service station in Pinnaroo.

Refer trips board for more details.

Contact: Rodney Curtis (8278 6280)

MAY 2003

GOOGS TRACK — MAY 1ST-5TH

Details on the trip board

Contact: Mark Curtis (8388 4776)

MINLATON, YORKE PENINSULA — ADELAIDE CUP DAY W/END — MAY 17TH-19TH

Based at Minlaton Caravan Park, with day trips around the Yorke Peninsula

Contact: Shaun Lawson (h: 8381 7865 / m: 0411 702 742)

NGARKAT N.P. CLEANUP — ADELAIDE CUP DAY W/END — MAY 17TH-19TH

Details on the trip board

Contact: Mark Curtis (8388 4776)

JUNE 2003

ADELAIDE HILLS DAY TRIP — JUNE 1ST

Start 10am at clubrooms, spend a couple of hours driving and then stop at a pub ?? for lunch then a couple more hours of driving.

Contact: TBA

(Continued on page 10)

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

Alpine Country Notes

The following is an indication of the fallout from the Alpine bushfires...

Alpine Huts

Preliminary reports suggest that the following huts have been burnt:

- Batty's Hut
- Bogong Creek Huts (2) (unconfirmed)
- Bon Accord Hut
- Briggs Logging Camp
- Damm Hut (unconfirmed)
- Federation Hut
- Honeymoon Cottage (Huggin's Hut)
- Horsehair Hut (3)
- McNamara's Hut
- Michell Hut
- Quintet Mine Huts (2)
- Red Robin Battery (6-8)
- Roper Hut

Further Information on **park and track closures** can be obtained by ringing the Parks Victoria Information Centre **13 1963**

Prado Day

TLCCSA is organising a Prado Field Day on May 3 and 4 (boots and bonnets type event just for Prados), and we are opening it to all clubs, so I'd appreciate it if you could mention it to any fellow Prado owners at Mt Lofty club.

Flier is at <http://www.picknowl.com.au/homepages/tlccsa/events/>

Solar Panels

If there is any interest in solar panels for vehicles please contact Jeff Morgan 0410 665 019.

In order for the club to provide more trips that you interested in, we need to know where you interested in going, and are you interested to lead the proposed trips.

Name: _____

Contact: _____

Where do you want to go	When do you want to go	Are you prepared to be a Trip leader



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 (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

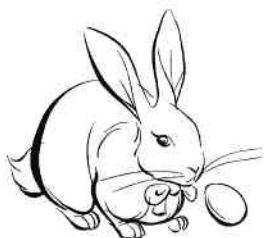
Books	Recovery Kit
Club Banner	Tirfor Winch
Club Flag	Puncture Repair Kit *
GPS Promotional Videos	First Aid Kit *
Maps	4 x Lightweight Shelters with sides.

* *Please replace used items*

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

Happy Birthday

Ian Mangelsdorf	15th April	Barb Couprie	21st April
Nathan Munn (5)	22nd April	Max Almond	25th April
Chelsea Moss	6th May	Paul West	7th May
Samuel Byrne (6)	19th May	John Munn	19th May



Happy Easter
to all club members
for the 18th-21st of April
from the committee of the
Mount Lofty Rangers 4WD Club



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.

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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.

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

40 Highways & Trucks (Firmly established by tradition).

10 4WD Drivers (By courteous agreement).

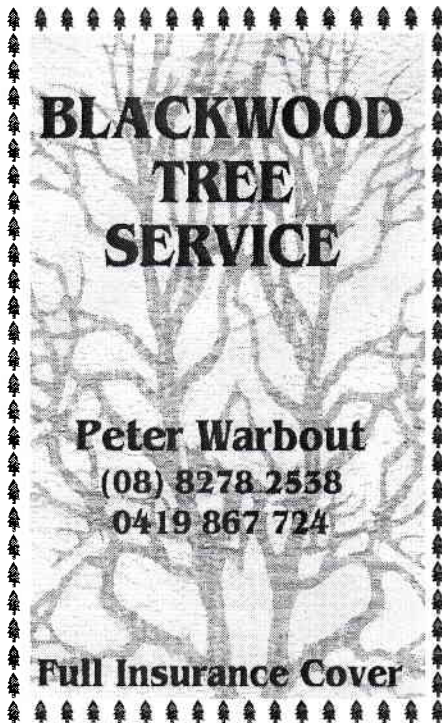
- Usage is becoming popular as a general channel for 4WD drivers
- Recommended officially within National Parks

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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(Continued from page 7)

After lunch some of the men went for a drive to explore some of the old battery sites leaving the rest of us back at camp enjoying a dip in the creek where we were visited by four reasonable size trout (and not fishing rod or net in site!) The intrepid explorers returned around 5.00pm all with sore itchy legs from their adventures.

Monday 13th January

Off to an early start as we knew it was going to be a long haul out of the valley. We awoke to an orange sunrise which indicated there were bushfires nearby. We anticipated an 8.00am departure and everyone was keen to get out and leave the bushfires behind. Leaving early also meant we beat the heat and did not meet any oncoming traffic which was a relief as there was no where you could pass or overtake. Unfortunately the spectacular views through the valleys were marred this morning by the smoke but this just confirmed for us that we were leaving at the right time.

A decision was made to go home via Hotham Heights & Bright to avoid the Melbourne traffic. We made good time so we stopped at Bright for morning tea. The original plan was to stop at Bendigo overnight but once we arrived there we decided to keep going to Horsham where we arrived at the Caravan Park at 6.00pm. Now that we were back in civilization there were no tents erected as everyone decided to opt for onsite vans, ensuite sites or cabins and we could hear those pizzias calling us.

Tuesday 14th January

Tuesday morning we left at 8.00am with Lynette Byrne setting a blistering pace which no mere male could match (you go girl!). After brunch and a fuel stop at Bordertown we all arrived home at a respectable hour.

Mark & Linda Moss
Messiah.

Peake - 7th-9th March

Friday saw some of us arrive at Peake. We got there just on sunset and set up our tents. There was already a few people there and they had a fire going.

Saturday more vehicles, caravans, arrived and were set up, we were split into 2 groups. Greg took us and about 5 other vehicles for some basic, but very important 4WD tips, tyre pressure settings, reverse key starts, going up and down a sand hill the correct way. We learn't so much in a short time thanks to Greg's guidance and patience. Greg then lead us up and down some sand hills, including a close encounter with a tree on the way down one sand hill. We then headed back to camp for lunch before heading off again where a few more vehicles joined in. Some people had other commitments or only came for the day so they headed off home Saturday afternoon. We organized tea and then went back to the campfire to chat and get to know other people a bit better.

Sunday morning Tony took us through a recovery process and then we practiced some more driving in the dunes and headed back to camp to pack up and head home.

We would like to thank Greg and everyone else for making this a great weekend.

The Chant's and Co.

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ELECTRO STATIC DISCHARGE

This is what that horrible zap is called when you reach to close the car door after you have just drag your bum across the car seat

I have had many customers in the past, asking for me to fix anything between, the short-circuit in their car, to performing an exorcism on it

Two easy ways to fix this...

Change the clothes you wear:

by wearing non-synthetic clothes you will remove the necessary tools for generating an electrostatic charge

Change the way you exit the car:

by clutching the top of the door, before you begin to exit the car. this will immediately dissipate the static charges before, during and after the manufacture of it.

Try it, it works



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 - Sunshine executive 320 family tent, NZ brand, New \$3000 — \$800 ono
Gas Light — medium Companion — \$15
Gas Light — large Primus (with custom foam lined box) — \$30
Gas Light extension pole — suit Primus — \$10
Gas cooker stand, with shelf — \$10
Hanging food storage cupboard — \$15
Beige colourbond, fully insulated kennel — suit husband (or medium-large dog) — \$50 ono
Fridge slide (Piranha) — as new — \$150
Contact: Kim Rawsthorn 8270 3751.

Sell - Hyundai Excel GXL 1996 3 door hatch. Dark green, good stereo, new tyres, power steering, 79,000 kms, excellent service history & condition. \$6500
Contact: Scott Young 8370 4956 / 0438 318 148

Sell - Warn power winch M8000, with mounting bracket to suit Landcruiser 80 series — \$700
Brand new UHF Uniden UH089, with CD63-71-50 6.0db gain aerial — \$290
Contact: Gant Charity m: 0417 892 803 / h: 8263 9099

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

Your Committee

PRESIDENT	Shaun Lawson	Hm 8381 7865 0411 702 742
VICE PRESIDENT	Craig Need	Hm 8376 8855
SECRETARY & PUBLIC OFFICER	Barb Almond	Hm 8278 3848
TREASURER	Lynette Williams	Hm 8364 0496
ASSOCIATION DELEGATE	Max Almond Christian Whamond	Hm 8278 3848 Hm 8322 1766
MEMBERSHIP OFFICER	Rodney Curtis	Hm 8278 6280
TRIPS CO-ORDINATOR	Layne Holberton	0412 572 139
EDUCATION OFFICER	Ian Mangelsdorf	Hm 8384 5691
MAP LIBRARIAN	Merv Tucker	Hm 8278 1414
SOCIAL SECRETARY	Christian Whamond	Hm 8322 1766
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