



Rangers' Review

Volume 10 No.9

Mount Lofty Rangers Inc.

PO Box 1150, Blackwood SA 5051

March 2005



Morgan Weekend Training

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"President Report"



Welcome all again.

The committee met on Monday and discussed the future direction of the Club. In two months time we will be having our Annual General Meeting (AGM) and all Directors positions will be available. If you wish to put something back into the club, please consider helping out where ever you can.

Other points discussed were: was a discount structure on membership for people that do put into the club, either from committee or running trips. At this stage this will not go ahead, as all members should be treated equally.

Club fees will be due at the AGM in May. You can pay from any time now. Fees will be increasing to \$60 per year next year. A discount structure will apply to those people that pay on time. If payment is made by the end of the AGM in May, you will receive a \$10 discount. After July, if payment still not received, you will be regarded as non financial, and your magazine will not appear in your folder, and you will be expected to sign in as a visitor to the club at each event.

This year we had some great sponsorship of the club magazine through advertising. I encourage all club members to consider these businesses for there next purchase of goods. We will be looking for new sponsors next year. If you are currently advertising and wish to continue or if you have a business that you would like to advertise in the magazine, please give your details to me, or the magazine editor.

For people interested in becoming a Director of Mount Lofty Rangers, I have put together a brief description as I see it.

President: The president of the club is the chairperson for the general

meetings held each month. Plus he is to chair the Committee meeting held quarterly. The president is a central point for any issues and questions relating to the club and its activities. He / She gives an overview of club activities on a monthly basis which is then published in the club magazine.

Vice President: In the absence of the President they are to chair the general and committee meetings. He / she is to arrange for a guest speaker at meetings.

Trip Coordinator: To assist members in preparing trips. The Trip Coordinator would speak about up and coming trips as well as past trips at the general meeting. Trip sheets would be held and all trips on the notice board would need ratification by this person.

Association Delegate: Reports back to the club the activities of the South Australian Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs (SAAFWDC). He / she is the voice of the club at meeting which are held monthly at state head quarters. This person is empowered with the task of been able to vote on behalf of the club on issues at association level, then report this back to the club through the general meeting.

Membership coordinator: Welcomes visitors at club general meetings. Introduces the visitor to the club. He/she has a large part in the organisation of the annual Four Wheel Drive show. They will collect the club magazine from the printer, and distribute to members through the folders.

Secretary / Public officer: records the minutes of the general and committee meetings. Receives all correspondence in.

Treasurer: Manages the funds of the Club. Is the co-signer of the club cheque book with the President. He/ she would report on bank balance to the general meeting, and put forward for acceptance by the members of the general meeting any accounts for payment.

Other positions held with in the club, but do not hold the position of Director are as follows.

Education officer: Makes arrangement for ongoing training according to the SAAFWDC division of Driver Training Unit (DTU) The Education officer will attend monthly meetings of the DTU held at Association head quarters.

Ongoing theory and practical training would be coordinated by this person. He/She would oversee all club Advisors, Trainers and Assessors. He/she would be the voice of the club at DTU meetings, and report back to the club at the general meetings any information.

Social Secretary: Arrange social events. There are a number of main social events conducted annually. These are the Christmas meeting, mid year dinner and the AGM. In addition Mount lofty Rangers has now taken on an annual event of "Camp cookout". These event's are coordinated by the social team.

Property Officer: Holds the property of the club at a secure location. Keeps track of the equipment if loaned out to club members for club activities. Plus checks for damage on return of the items. He/she arranges for badges and apparel for club members.

Magazine Editor: Collates all trip reports and reports from the Directors. He/she then puts all the information into a magazine format and sends to the printer for printing.

Insurance Officer: Reports at Club meetings any changing news relating to SAAFWDC national Insurer, TCIS.

Aboriginal Liaison officer: Attends monthly meetings at SAAFWDC head quarters and reports back to the club news relating to Aboriginal affairs and access to four wheel drivers in these areas.

National Parks officer: Attends monthly meetings at SAAFWDC head quarters and reports back to the club news relating to access to national parks

If you wish to do any of the above positions, then please put in your nomination form before the commencement of May meeting. On opening of the AGM all nominations will be read. If no one nominates for a position it is then offered to the person previously holding the position.

See you all soon

Christian



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SOCIAL SCENE

MID YEAR DINNER 2005

Each year we have a Mid Year Dinner in either July or August. If you know of a venue you would like to recommend for this occasion please let Linda, Jo, Julie or Lyn know in the near future so we can arrange this event.

To date Mount Hurtle Winery and The Flagstaff Hotel have been suggested.

SUNDAY QUIZ AFTERNOON AT SHENANNIGANS

Shenannigans have a Sunday Quiz Afternoon, Are you interested? Tables can only be booked if you have lunch there or you can just turn up for the Quiz and hope there is a free table. There will be more information available at tonight's meeting.

As always please come and speak with Linda, Jo, Julie or Lyn tonight if you have any suggestion or question regarding our events for the year. Have a great night!

Social Committee

Editors Note: "New Magazine Editor wanted"

I will not be taking on the Club Magazine again this year after the AGM so if there is anyone interested in taking on this roll please contact me or Christian. You don't have to be a PC guru as long as you have a PC we should be able to set you up with the appropriate tools and give you an easy transition into the roll over 2 or 3 magazine editions.

Mount Lofty Rangers Inc

Nomination Form

2005 Annual General Meeting

I nominate _____ for one of the following positions:

President

Aboriginal Liaison Officer

Insurance Officer

Vice-President

Secretary/Public Officer

Treasurer

Association Delegate

Trips Coordinator

Membership Officer

Social Secretary

Education Officer

Magazine Editor

National Parks Officer

Nominating Person: _____ Signature: _____

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March 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 I
6 I	7	8 II	9	10 IV	11	12 III
13 III	14 Meeting	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 Easter	26 Easter
27 Easter	28 Easter	29	30	31		

- I) Association AGM – Yankalilla
- II) DTU Training Committee Meeting – Cavan 07:30 pm
- III) SAAFWDC Clean Up event
- IV) DTU General Meeting – Cavan 07:30pm

April 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 I	12 II	13	14 III	15	16
17	18 SH	19 SH	20 SH	21 SH	22 SH	23 SH, AZ
24 SH, AZ	25 SH, AZ	26 SH	27 SH	28 SH	29 SH	30

I) Club Meeting

SH) School Holidays

AZ) Anzac Weekend

II) DTU Training Committee Meeting – Cavan 07:30 pm

III) DTU General Meeting – Cavan 07:30pm

May 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 I	10 III	11	12 IV	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 V
22 V	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

- I) Club Meeting
- II) 002 & 003 Skills Update—Warren Gorge
- III) DTU Training Committee Meeting & AGM – Cavan 07:30 pm
- IV) DTU General Meeting – Cavan 07:30pm
- V) Training Small Groups Course—DTU

June 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 II
5 II	6	7 III	8	9 IV	10	11
12	13 I	14	15	16 V	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

- I) Club Meeting
- II) Training Small Groups DTU
- III) DTU Training Committee Meeting & AGM – Cavan 07:30 pm
- IV) DTU General Meeting – Cavan 07:30pm
- V) Association General Meeting

Upcoming Trips

June 2004: Simpson Desert :11th to 25th

Adelaide — Rawnsley Park — Coward Springs — Oodnadatta — Mt Dare
— Dalhousie Springs — Birdsville — Mungerannie — Wilpena —
Adelaide
Anthony Tavan

JULY 2004: Anne Beadell Highway: 9th to 24th July

Will head west from Coober Pedy along Anne Beadell Highway. At this stage return route unknown, may head north and back through the Great Australian Desert or south and back along the Nullarbor. Remote Bush travelling and few refuelling places (1350km 's without fuel or water), so vehicles must be prepared to suit conditions. Persons interested **MUST** be prepared to commit to trip early next year as permits need to be organised.

Mark Curtis: Trip limit 8-10 vehicles — enquiry has made about camper trailers on trip, under consideration and investigation

Under Development:

GPS Training—Oziexplorer: G Morgan

Please provide expression of interest

Morgan

Training

Track



MLR Club Training

Contact: Jeff Morgan
Home: 8381 5404
Mobile: 0410 665 019

**Four Wheel Drive
Courses**

**31st June 2005
to be determined**

**Skills Update 002 & 003
7th & 8th May 2005
Warren Gorge
DTU**

**Basic Training Skills Update 002 &
003**

Peake or Geranium 30th &

Kuipto

**Training Small Groups
4th & 5th June 2005
Unknown**



MT LOFTY RANGERS

Lets Promote Our Club!!!

Cloth Badges	\$7.00
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)	\$26.00
<i>(includes name and logo embroidered on & GST)</i>	
Caps (including logo embroidered on)	\$13.00
NEW ITEM	
Bucket Hats (including logo embroidered on & GST)	\$13.00

If you require clothing please speak to a committee member.

ITEMS FOR LOAN

Books (hopefully in the future)	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 Merv Tucker for any items you wish to loan Ph 8278 1414.

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How To Join The Mount Lofty Rangers 4WD Club Yahoo Group.

The simplest way to start is to send an email to...

mlr_4wd-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

I would strongly advise you to join Yahoo! as the group also provides other functionality that can only be accessed after you have logged in to Yahoo! The two simplest functions the group's home page (http://autos.groups.yahoo.com/group/mlr_4wd/) provides are a calendar and photo albums. There are other goodies and we will use them appropriately in due course. If there are any further questions I can answer them for you via email (langy67@tpg.com.au).

Langy! (Group Owner/Moderator)



Future Meeting Dates

May	9 th (AGM)
June	13 th
July	11 th
August	8 th
September	12 th
October	10 th

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Morgan Weekend Club Trip....19/02/05

Trip led by Christian.....Alias Toolman ...Alias D-Boss

Most people arrived around lunch on Saturday.....We left at LunchThus the trip report

Arriving very late, about 3 pm , the group was just setting out on the afternoon drive through the Morgan quarry. Having been here before I had some idea where to find them.

Listening on the radio, I heard the unmistakable voice of Mossia. If I remember correctly his words were, and I Quote..... "Just follow the dust"

It was good to see the convoy of the Whamond's,Brett's,Moss's,Morgan's,Luff's and new prospect, Matt Eastman (already on his second club trip...well done)

For those who haven't been to the Morgan Quarry, It is a ??square acre property of crown land criss crossed with varying difficulties of tracks and hill climbs. For training purposes or just testing out your vehicle it is a fun place.

Playtime finished about 4.30 and back to the Whamond's annex for an early happy hour or three

Matt shot off for a pub meal; the rest of us fired up the BBQs

Dinner started about 6 ish ...for some, would have been later, if not for the foresight of Christian to bring three of every thing ...yes I forgot a spare gas bottle... My wife and family thank you

After getting the kids to bed a few of us tried a night nav in the Quarry...Good fun if you haven't tried it before.

Breakfast the next day and quick pack up for the cabin dwellers .The Moss's and the Brett's departed from the group. The remainder crossed the ferry into Morgan Conservation Park for a nosy.

Easy and legal access via many tracks, some showing signs of scars of winters past. A couple of good rocky hill climbs and modest sand hill for easy sand driving. Passing a bird filled billabong some suggested this would be a superb campsite, with the correct authority of course.

A quick nosy behind the shacks opposite Morgan (still part of the conservation park)

Very pretty drive amongst the billabongs, scrub and sand dune.

Thanks Christian for organising the weekend.

And it doesn't take too much effort to fill a social weekend with friends.

So please, other people reading this article give it a go.

Ask some questions, make some phone calls and put up a club trip, who knows you might even have fun.

Sparky

Tim Byrne



Wot Watts What?

If you are reading this article you are probably the owner of a 4WD vehicle. And if you're anything like the rest of us, you just can't bear the thought of leaving your vehicle in standard form. Tyres and suspension aside, the most common modifications need electricity to operate. Things like fridges, camp lights, driving lights and GPS systems to name a few. Quite a lot of stuff really, and it all chews up power. This can come from your car battery or another power source such as another battery or solar panels.

Now we can use a little bit of power over a long time or a lot over a short time, but the main thing is that eventually it will run out (ssh, don't mention the 'G' word). It would help then to know just how much power we are using. Up next are a few definitions and formulae that will help. Don't worry, if I can understand them they must be pretty simple.

Electricity is made up of electrons (hence the name). Think of them as base-balls. The faster the ball, the higher the voltage (**volts**). The more balls there are, the greater the current (**amps**). Stick them into a formula and you get:

$$\text{Volts (V) x Amps (A) = Watts (W)}$$

You can fiddle with this formula depending on what you want to find out, eg:

$$W = V \times A,$$

$$V = W/A$$

$$A = W/V$$

Now, this last one is the most use to us because we usually want to know how much current we are drawing from our power source.

In the case of driving lights of 100 Watts, draw is 8.3 amps:

$$100/12 = 8.3$$

The Versa Lite type fluoro of 11 watts draws about 0.92 amps $11/12 = 0.92$

Most car batteries will deliver about 13.25 volts to start with so the above figures will change to 7.5 and 0.83 respectively. If a higher voltage reduces the current draw then trucks using 24 volt systems should draw even less. They do;

with the above figures becoming 4.2 and 0.46.

So why don't we use 24 volt systems in our cars. The simple answer is space and cost. Sometimes its hard enough to find space for one extra battery. Imagine trying to shoehorn four in! A word of caution though. Don't try to run anything on 24 volts unless it is specifically designed for it. The results would be probably dangerous and definitely expensive.

Try this exercise. How many watts would a solar panel need to be to keep the battery topped up to run a fridge? Lets use a 12 volt Engel fridge for example, which draws about 4.5 Amps when running. $V \times A = W$, so $12 \times 4.5 = 54$ Watts or 1296 Watts in 24 hours. Assuming the duty cycle is 25% then 324 Watts would be needed in this period. Assuming also that there are 6 hours of full capacity sunlight per day, the panel would need to be of 54 Watts/hour capacity.

My camper trailer, sometimes known unkindly by some disreputable club members as the 'Taj Mahal', needed internal lighting, so I bought a three-pendant house light, fitted with 240 Volt, 75 Watt globes. Armed with the above information I'm sure you've already worked out that this draws 0.94 amps from any caravan park's power plug. No problem, but what about when I'm doing proper camping? (I thought I told you not to mention the 'G' word). Surely I can use one of those inverter gadgets that bump up your 12 volts to 240. Buying one is easy but what size? Lets see, if $75 \text{ watts} \times 3 = 225$ Watts then a 300Watt unit would do nicely. But can the batteries take it Cap'n? Yep, you guessed it, its formula time.

Watts of the lights @ 240V times 1.15 (15% inefficiency of the inverter) divided by the battery voltage will give me the current drawn from the battery.

$$(75 \times 3 [1.15]) / 13 = 19.9 \text{ Amps.}$$

I don't think the fuse will be happy with that tally and the duration would be pretty short.

What if I tried the new warm coloured fluoro globes that draw 14 watts instead?

$$(14 \times 3 [1.15]) / 13 = 3.71 \text{ Amps}$$

Much better.

This article is fairly brief and there are many variables to consider including cable size, fuses, etc. If in doubt consult an expert. Isn't that right Tim?

Have a play with the numbers the next time you add something electrical to your vehicle. Just remember if you are going to talk about it around the campfire, do it before the port gets handed around.

Cheers

Rick Luff



Morgan Training Track

Trading Mart

FOR SALE:

- 5 of 265x16 Bridgestone all terrains....3x50%...1x100%...1 has slight side wall split....\$250
 - GQ metal Draw System Brand new ...could be modified to suit GU 100 or 80 series....\$1190 rrp sell to club member \$1100
 - Brand new Ralley 4000 spot lights Sped Beam only to club members only \$195 each
 - Modified Poly Water Tank to suit ute \$50 ono
 - Window Side glass Slide to suit challenge canopy \$100 ono
- Contact Tim Byrne 0412 527 176

- Bushboy 54 litre Fridge/Freezer (includes 3 internal baskets), 240 volt transformer with 2 x 12 volt outlets, Canvas cover, Good ,strong steel fridge. Works perfectly but won't fit my new camper.

New price about \$1800. Sell \$950

Contact Rick Luff 83704774(h), 0411426913(m), 8161 6143(w)

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Contact Anthony.Tavelli@gfmb.com.au

4WD for sale

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