

Daily W/D Limit



Rangers' Review



Mount Lofty Rangers Inc.

PO Box 1150, Blackwood SA 5051
www.mountloftyrangers.com.au

Volume 13 No.6

October 2007



80 Series Landcruiser Wedding Car Hire ? (see more page 14 & 15)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

President's Report.....	3
Trip Reports.....	6, 22-25, 30-33
Upcoming Trips.....	16-18
Social Events.....	20-21
Trading Mart.....	29

Mount Lofty Rangers Inc.

About Us

The clubs aim is to enjoy all aspects of owning and using our 4WD's while enjoying the diverse surroundings offered by this great country. We are a club of 4WD enthusiasts who enjoy challenging driving, regular trips, camping, camp cooks and a great social scene on and off track.

Membership

Membership is open to anyone who owns a 4WD regardless of its make or model and has a passion for driving. Mount Lofty Rangers Inc is an affiliated member of the SA Association of 4WD Clubs.

Club Outings

The Mount Lofty Rangers provides regular day, weekend and extended four wheel drive trips, lead by experienced trip leaders. Trips are rated on the level of difficulty and are available to all members and guests.

The club has a dedicated social committee who also organises regular events that compliment the club trips.

Experience and Training

Our current members possess a wide range of skills ranging from beginner to advanced. The club has a number of accredited instructors and assessors, and is involved in regular training via the SAAFWDC Driver Training Unit.

Meetings

Club meetings are the second Monday of each month* and are held at the

Blackwood Football Club

Trevor Terrace

Blackwood

Time 7:15 pm

*Except where this Monday falls on a long weekend then the meeting is held on the 3rd Monday of the month

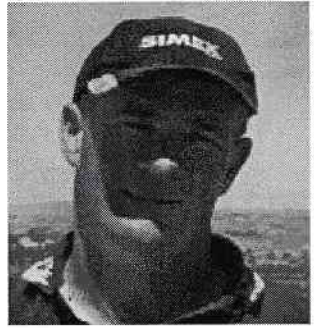
Information

For more information on the Club please check out our website at:

www.mountloftyrangers.com.au

MT LOFTY RANGERS UHF CLUB CHANNEL NO 27

"Shorty's Presidential Report"



Hi All,

I have just come back from the long weekend trip up to Waraweena Conservation Park. What a great property, with lots of tracks & scenic driving. I think on Saturday we were out driving for about 8hrs & Sunday for 6 Hrs. The area up there is huge and we drove thru several different properties. A great time was had by every body.

The first aid course currently has 10 names on the sheet. This is for a senior first aid certificate and will run over a weekend. The cost will be \$125.00. Doing a first aid course is not only important personally but within the club it will become compulsory for trips in the near future. It is equally important for your families sake. Hopefully you will never need it, but it is reassuring to know what to do in an emergency. (which we had at Waraweena)

I am taking names of members willing to help out at the 4X4 show. We need to have 2 people on the stand at all times. So if you could give half a day to tell prospective members what a great club we have, that would be great. If you are going to the 4x4 Show this year just to have a look , could you please wear your club shirt. It looks great seeing members out there wearing them & it also promotes the club.

Camp cook also comes up this month. Can you please advise Jeff or Lyn Morgan of what you are going to cook so we don't have 10 people cooking a roast. If you are participating in the Navrun on the Saturday morning I would like to kick that off around 9:30 am. You will need to bring your GPS & cable to connect to PC to download the waypoints. Don't forget you will also need your digital camera & download cable.

See you on a trip

Dave Willsmore (Shorty)

Southern Vales 4WD

Ian Richardson

0414 322737



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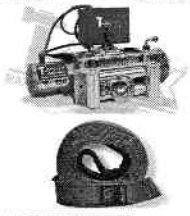
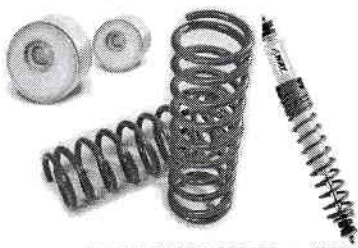
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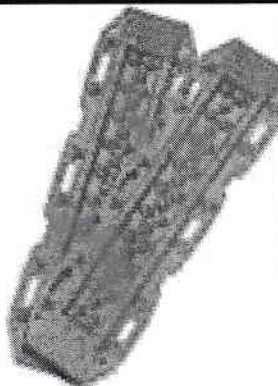


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WEEKEND AT ALLAWOONA AND SURROUNDING PROPERTIES

15th – 16th of September 2007

We all met at Tailem Bend at 9.00am Saturday Morning (some of us a little late, hence the trip report!). There were six 4WD's in total, the weather was fine and all were eager to embark on one of Merv's adventures.

The trip started through Billiat Conservation Park and through Mooreland Station which only survived for around 15 years in the 1870's due to rabbits and when the drought became too much. Wasn't long into our trip when Mark and Leonora (new club members just passing through Adelaide) developed what seemed to be electrical problems in their Nissan and after various discussions they decided to go home.

Most of the tracks were well defined and they were plenty of wild flowers in bloom. We had just passed by Merv's grandfather's property from 1935, when Mark and Leonora joined us again. It seemed that their electrical problem was a leaking water container in the back that had leaked into the seal panel and onto some wiring.

After lunch the tracks started to get a little narrower to say the least, we stopped at a gate when Mark Curtis had the first puncture. Further along Sarah, (who was trying to impress boyfriend Matt on his first club 4WD trip, she wasn't scoring too many points to start with as she left his beer at home) realised that the Suzuki was not performing as it should, and on further inspection there was one tyre beyond repair and another with a large gash to the sidewall. Luckily many hands make light work, the spare was changed and the other one used as a group tyre mending demonstration the next morning. The Suzuki had to be abandoned on the track for the night.

Found a nice spot to set up camp with plenty of fire wood, when we met up with the Morgan's who we had been trying to contact all afternoon. There was plenty of campfire talk about tyre sensors and that maybe they could have prevented the problem. All that effort I had put in trying to convince Peter over the last few weeks that it was just another one of those accessories that you don't really need!!! After that weekend though, I did weaken and Darren Callary is fitting them for the long Weekend".

All in all it was an enjoyable weekend, just a bit more expensive for some.

HAPPY CAMPING

FROM THE REEDS

Group photo of Merv Tuckers trip of 15-16 Sep 2007



Winner of the "It's Not My Job" Award





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QUIZ NIGHT

November 17th

Get a table together for a good fun night

Test your general knowledge

Everyone knows the good time had at these night so

Mark it in your diary and let the Social Committee know of
you interest.

More information available soon

Christmas at Wall Flat

Social event at Wall flat over the 1st-2nd of December

Join the fun at the start of the festive season

A trip sheet has been started so we can get an idea of numbers
attending

Games and other activities will be arranged

See Up Coming trips for details

Editor's Request

I am in need of any stories, tips, vehicle setup ideas,
Recipes, even jokes (printable ones) to enable me to fill
the magazine when I am a page short so please share your
experiences with others

Please email them to southern.vales@esc.net.au

THANK YOU



NGARKAT CONSERVATION PARK

INTERCLUB WORKING BEE

29th, 30th Sept, 1st Oct 2007

Ngarkat Working Bee is here again!

Doesn't time fly? It seems like only yesterday when we were slipping and sliding our way into Pine Hut Soak campground to undertake the April working bee on the Border Track!

This time around we have a completely different challenge for you, literally helping a campsite "raise from the ashes".

The Box Flat Campsite, on the Western side of the Park (off the Baan Hill Track) was a favourite camping location for visitors for many years. Being a natural soak, the area was a cool oasis in the middle of "the desert", teeming with wildlife and shaded by beautiful Eucalypts. Unfortunately, the campsite was hit hard by the January 2005 fires, and hit again (even harder!) by the January 2006 fires.

Due to the public risk hazard from falling trees and limbs, the decision was made to close the campsite until it could be made safe again.

Now, this is where you come in! The staff in the Murraylands region would like some help in reopening this wonderful campsite. It's going to be a big job, and we will need assistance to lop trees and limbs, reinstate (and remake!) fencing and furniture, clearing away an old enclosure and fallen trees, installing new fire rings as well as many other smaller jobs. If conditions are right, we may even get to do some of the banksia spreading that didn't quite take off in April!

The campsite may not be as beautiful as before the fire went through, but don't let that put you off!

Box Flat is still a pleasant place to visit, and we will provide a toilet for those who don't want to "rough it" completely.

The staff of the Murraylands region would like to thank you in advance for your assistance in getting this campsite open again, as well as all the help you have provided in past years.

We look forward to seeing you.

Donna Nussio Senior Ranger, Mallee

Meet at Box Flat campsite

35° 36.592'S 140° 23.640'E

Saturday 9:00 to 9:30 a.m. or set up camp on Friday evening

Directions:: From Tailem Bend, follow the Mallee Highway; 8 km west of Lamerou turn right on to Bews Rd (sign "Baan Hill"); at 22 km take right fork (sign "Box Flat campsite"); 10 km to camp.

Camper trailer – yes; caravan – please phone

Bring: strong gloves, handsaw, pruners, pick, crowbar, shovel, rake and other useful hand tools for furniture construction, etc.

Tree lopping: will require chainsaws and ropes. If you can help, please get in touch to discuss safety gear requirements.

Trailers: some would be useful.

Please let us know in advance

When you plan to arrive.

No. people & vehicles in party.

If you are bringing a trailer?

If you can bring a chainsaw?

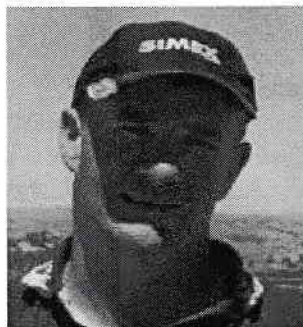
Ngarkat Tracks Maintenance Committee

(a sub-committee of the NRAU of the South Australian Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs Inc.)

Contact: Sue (08) 8269 2883 suzy@internode.on.net



Member Profile



Name: Dave Willsmore

Nick Name: Shorty

Call sign: Shorty

Motto: If up cant get up it give it more MRF

Occupation: Jim's Mowing

Family: Wife: Sheralyn & Son : Jack to whom most of you know

Vehicle: 02 GU Nissan Patrol & 89 GQ SWB Ford Maverick

Modifications: GU Patrol Dtronic chip, Ridepro 4" suspension lift Mickey Thompson 33" MTZ's, Dual Battery system, Magnum Winch.

GQ Maverick: 2" lift 31" tyres, Dual Battery system.

First Vehicle Owned: 74 Mazda RX4

Ultimate 4WD: Nearly what I've got now with a front locker , water tank & 7" LCD Screen & Garmin GPS276

Favourite Holiday Spot: Otways State Forest

Other Interests: Fishing, Having a few beers with my mates

Favourite Food: Good T-Bone Steak

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What Cars Do You Use For A Wedding?

3 TUFF 80 SERIES LANDCRUISERS!

*On the 8th of September 2007
Matt Koopman and Wendy - Lynne Jones
Tied the knot at Concordia Chapel*

Darren Callary, Brian Spratley and Myself were given the honour to use our Landcruisers as the wedding cars.

With a bit of spit and polish they all come up a treat and it's the cleanest they have been for a long time.

The two burgundy cruisers had the bridesmaids, page boy and flower girl and Darren's white cruiser had the bride and her father.

Seeing a bride get into a lifted 80 series is something, but Wendy-Lynne had no trouble at all.

After the ceremony we all headed off down to Brighton jetty for photos and then down to the Seacliff boat ramp to have some more photos with the 4WDS.

Having the photos with the cars on the beach really drew a crowd, having around 15 to 20 people standing around watching.

We then all hopped into the cars and took Mr & Mrs Koopman to their reception at Saint Francis Winery.

Durran Baker





Upcoming Trips

Summary of up coming trips:

When putting your name down for a trip you **MUST include your contact number**
If you cannot attend and your name is on the trip sheet you **MUST** contact the trip leader or Trips coordinator.

1. We need helpers for the 4wd show please see Shorty.
2. Social – Kuitpo camp cook weekend 20-21 October. **TRIP FULL**
3. Riverland 4x4 challenge October dates to be confirmed.
4. Christmas at Wall Flat 1 -2 December. -
5. Christmas 2007 Vic High Country or similar dates to be confirmed.
6. Beachport 26-28 January long weekend 2008 This is a great trip.

Besides Beachport there are no other trips for 2008 planned.

I would like to see some new trip leaders coming forward it is not hard to do and I will help you if required.

Day trips, weekenders or longer trip suggestions are:

Goolwa beach run and on to Deep Creek NP.

Hog wash bend

Mungo NP

Border Track

Salt Creek fishing trip

Any of the 4wd tracks in the Flinders Skytrek, Arkaba station to name a couple.

Trip	Camp Cook Nav-Run
Date/s – Duration	20th October
Trip Leader	Shorty - Glenn Bull
Distance – Kms	Not sure
Departure / meeting point & time	9.30am Saturday Morning
Radio	UHF 27 – Club channel
RSVP – deposit	Required by
Special requirements	GPS. With download cable to laptop Digital camera & cable

Upcoming Trips

Trip	Riverland 4x4 event
Date/s – Duration	27-28 October.
Trip Leader	Neil Cook
Convoy limit	Unlimited
Distance – Kms	Few hours
Departure / meeting point & time	To be confirmed
Radio	UHF 27 – Club channel
RSVP – deposit	
Special requirements	Spectator event. Starts 10am- admission fee \$10 per day.
General comments	See Neil re camping.

Trip	Victoria High Country
Date/s – Duration	26 Dec to 2 or 6 Jan.
Trip Leader	Reno – 0418 828 372 & Shorty
Convoy limit	10 Vehicles
Distance – Kms	See Reno or Shorty
Departure / meeting point & time	To be confirmed
Radio	UHF 27 – Club channel
RSVP – deposit	
Camping	Mainly bush camping.
Special requirements	Be prepared for some tough tracks.
General comments	Must have good tyres.

Upcoming Trips

Trip	Christmas at Wall Flat.
Date/s – Duration	1-2 December
Trip Leader	Committee
Convoy limit	Unlimited
Distance – Kms	
Departure / meeting point & time	To be confirmed
Radio	UHF 27 – Club channel
RSVP – deposit	Required by: November Meeting. \$5 per adult Kids under 12 free.
Special requirements	Good sense of humor.
General comments	BBQ and salads provided for Sat night dinner, On site toilet will be hired, Picnic races, visit from Santa. BYO drinks and a plate of sweets or nibbles.

Trip	Annual Beachport Trip
Date/s – Duration	26 – 28 January
Trip Leaders	Required.
Convoy limit	More the merrier.
Distance – Kms	Approx 350 kms
Departure / meeting point & time	Southern Ocean Tourist Park. YOU will need to book your own camp site. Ph 8735 8153.
Radio	UHF 27 – Club channel
RSVP – deposit	Payable to caravan park direct.
Special requirements	Sand flag, compressor & fire extinguisher in vehicle.
General comments	Some training & assessment may be available. If you have never done this trip you should.



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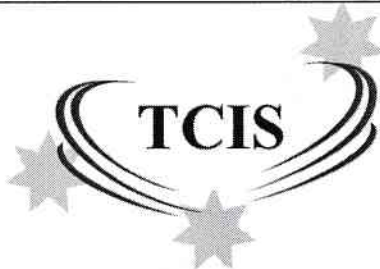
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SOCIAL SCENE



CAMP COOK WEEKEND – 19th & 20th October

This popular annual event will be on again at Jack's Paddock, Kuitpo. Mark your diaries now & more information will follow.

QUIZ NIGHT - November 17th

Get a table of eight together for a good fun night

Test your general knowledge Everyone knows the good time had at these night so Mark it in your diary and let the Social Committee know of you interest

Christmas at Wall Flat - 1st-2nd of December

Join the fun at the start of the festive season. A trip sheet has been started so we can get an idea of numbers attending. Games and other activities will be arranged.

See Up Coming trips for details

If you have any other suggestions for a fun day or afternoon please let Lyn, Jo or Sheralyn know. We will advise you of more details soon.

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

Social Committee

Camp Cook List 19th & 20th October

Attendees Names	No	Fri	Sat	Sat	Fri
Joan & Murray Tucker	2	▪	▪		
Reno Poropat (Skippy)	1	▪	▪	Lamb Roast 1.5hrs	
David Willsmore (Shorty)	3	✓	✓	Beef Stogenoff 1hr	
Lyn & Jeff Morgan	2	✓	▪		Bread & Savory Lamb
Sandy & Grant Burden	4	▪	✓		
Sam & Nick Bray	2	▪	▪		
Elizabeth & Malcolm Curtis	2	▪	✓	Baked Apples	
Gary Sawyer	3	▪	▪		
Matt Eastmure	1	✓	✓	Slavaci Lamb	
Angie Lawson	3		▪	Nachos	
Narelle & Mark Palmer	3	▪	▪		
Paul West	2	▪	▪	Bread & Butter Pudding 1/2 hr	
Linda & Mark Moss	2	▪	▪	Chill Concarne	Chicken Casserolle 1 hr
Anne & Merv Tucker	2	▪	▪		
Lynette & Tim Byrne	4	▪	▪	Bread & Ministrone Soup	
Marian & Tom Sag	3	▪	✓		
Linda , Neil & Haley Cook	3	✓	✓	Kangaroo Curry	
Pat O'Kane	2	▪	▪		
Pam & Glenn Bull	2	▪	✓	Chicken Wings	
Lena & Rob McClintock	4	✓	✓	Chicken Curry	
Trish & Donald	4	✓	✓	Lamb Roast	
Matt Walker	2	▪	✓		
Isobelle & Mike Brett	2	✓	✓		
Jenny & Peter Jones	2	▪	✓		
Lyn & Hubert	2	▪	✓	Green Thai Curry	
Total	62				
Final Costs TBA					
Guide \$6.00 per adult, \$3.00 per child - Per Night					
\$15 per family					

WARRAWEENA STATION

TRIP REPORT FOR SATURDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER 2007

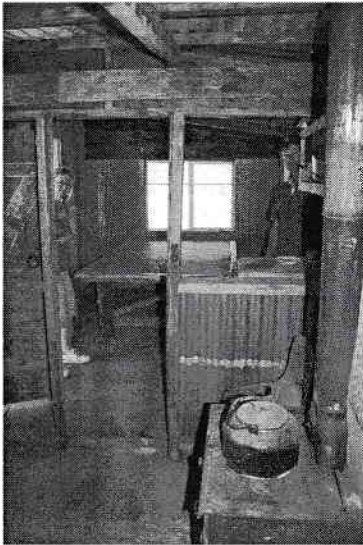
The October long weekend. This would have to be the one I look forward to the most, as it is the longest wait in the year since the last long weekend and it is the best time of the year to visit the Flinders Ranges. Only problem is someone forgot to tell nature to make it rain in winter in the Northern Flinders Ranges so that all us city folk could see the colour we so look forward to, and of course this means that it is very dry and dusty.

After finally having an event free trip, we had a broken axle on the trailer last time we came here, we being Graham, Coralynne and Danielle, the only one of our five children that was able to come away with us, arrived at Warraweena Station at around 4:30pm. We were met by Gina who told us that our group was camping at the Lambing campground, so off we headed, as this was where we stayed in June and we knew how to find it. Some of our touring party, the 2 x Tabone families, our President, First Lady and their Son were all ready there and the others being Trevor, Nick, Frank and Debbie, Matt, Luke and Wayne arrived later to be ready to hit a track on Saturday. Trevor had completely shredded a tyre on the way in so his car sat at camp all weekend as he now had no spare.

The first thing I learnt on Saturday morning was not to wave to Stony the station manager at the same time that Trevor was on the radio asking for a volunteer to write a trip report for the day. I was not listening to what Trevor was saying as I was leaning out the window talking to Stony, waved to say goodbye and that I would catch up with him later, and, Bobs your Uncle, I had volunteered. I did not know what I had done until Danielle had explained what Trevor was saying and what I had inadvertently gone and done. Never mind.

So here is Saturday's run down from what I can remember. We awoke at around 6:45am to a beautiful morning that was very pleasant until the flies kicked in. They were not as bad as I have seen at times but still it was good to get in the car and be able to clear them out. Had some breakfast, and at about 9:00am we headed off towards the homestead and that is where I got myself into this trip report writing trouble. We headed out on the track that leads into Warraweena back towards Sliding rock mine and just before the mine site took a left track and headed south. This track had a few challenging spots but nothing too hard, it took us through some very interesting landscapes that typify this area of the Flinders. After a couple of hours of driving that included a stop for morning tea we came to the track that leads into the Nuccaleena mine site. A short trip of 3 or 4 kilometres and we arrive at the site of the town and copper mine.

The first thing that comes to mind is why, the information board tells us that the mine produced about 13,000 pounds worth of copper but the big thing is that it cost 60,000 pounds to set the town up. Not a very good return for your money but more in this case is the effort that people would have put in to be in this spot that would have been so remote back in its time. With modern vehicles it is so easy to get to these places, but some 120 years ago, just think about it.



The stonework that is in the remaining buildings is sensational and has stood the test of time. It is a credit to the people who built them with what I must imagine were very crude tools. We did not stay here all that long but when I visited there 10 years ago I spent half a day just scratching around and finding myself drifting in my thoughts and imagining what life would have been like living there and working in such a remote place.

Looking at the mineshafts and imagining the work that would have been required to dig this ground is beyond me. I get stuffed digging a fence posthole with posthole borer. The evidence that is left there of a bygone era is well worth a visit. You never know you may get lucky and find your fortune in Gold like Shorty thinks he did.

Leaving the mine site we drove about 1 kilometre back down the track and stopped under the shade of the majestic river gums so we could strap on the feedbag and grab some much needed nourishment, after all I would not want to fade away. Must remember to put the chairs in tomorrow. It is a long way down even for a short arse like me, and as for getting up from the ground, not very elegant.



After lunch we hit the track again and passed the intersection of the track we came in on and headed towards Moolooloo Station. When you get there you turn left and head towards Hannigan Gap. It is amazing how much the scenery changes at times as we headed between majestic hills towards the gap. This is where we stopped for lunch on the last day of the Oodnadatta trip in July, and when Jack threw a paddy melon at me and skimmed the top of my head with it as it whistled past, it was a great shot. I quickly jumped out of the car to find a melon and then find Jack but we started to move again and I did not want to hold anyone up. Next time Jack.

On towards the Artimore Ruins and Patawarta Hill, a great climb with excellent views but no time to climb today, that was lucky. This track from Moolooloo Station to the Narrina Station road takes in some of the most picturesque country of the Flinders and can present some challenging driving at times especially after rain when the wash outs are deep. Just after the Artimore ruins we had a motorbike rider come up behind us, being impatient as they normally are he went to pass Crooza and fell off in a cloud of dust. Paul asked if he was ok and then reminded him of how being patient would be beneficial. A little embarrassed he took off only to stop again after 100 meters as bits were falling off his bike from the fall. MLR to the rescue and Paul produced a coil of wire to help hold his bike together so he could get home in time for tea.

We finished off the track and hit the graded roads, how do they grade corrugations in the road any way, and onto Blinman. The town centre, all 15 meters of it, was shut off for some cook out thing that was happening so we headed off through Parachilna Gorge to get to the Prairie Hotel. A quick drink, some coffee for the ladies, use of the facilities and pump up the tyres and we took to the black top back to Beltana and then on to our campsite. Getting the fire going was a priority as we were having steak for tea and needed the coals, gather up a bucket load of vegies and put them in some ovens, and there you have it, a meal that tasted fantastic and eaten in the best restaurant in the world. A day like this followed by a relaxing night around the fire, life just does not get any better. Well not for me anyway. Thanks everyone.

P.S. As this was Grand Final day and we were able to pick up the broadcast on the radio, some of us had it on just for interest or because we were Geelong supporters. One very passionate Power supporter had a large flag displayed above his car. Going through a gate that had a wire connected to a tree to hold up the post this vehicle had to lay the antenna over to get through, for some reason he did not put it back up.

Graham Jones

Four Wheel Drive Courses

MLR Club Training
Contact: Jeff Morgan
Home: 8381 5404
Mobile: 0410 665 019

TRAINING DATES

TRAINING

Trip Leaders Advisory Course - Date TBA based on numbers

DTU Skills Update Peake 3-4th Nov

Ozi Explorer - Intermediate Users - Date TBA subject to numbers

Advisor Course 10-11th November

Assessors Course TBA

Trip Leaders

For those Trip Leaders planning trips this web site is good value

<http://www.toiletmap.gov.au>

For those with Garmin GPS's check for your latest updates

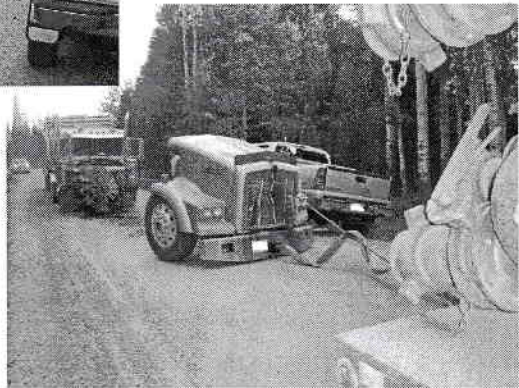
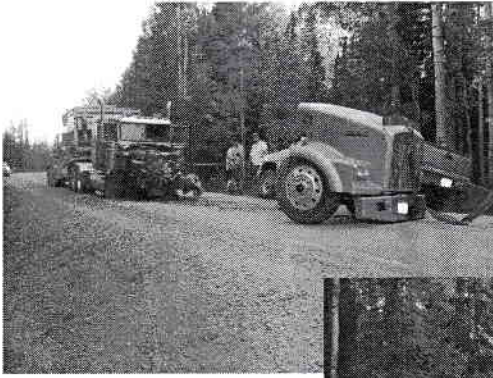
<http://www.garmin.com/support/blosp.jsp>

Club Trainers

Trainer's: Ian Manglesdorf, Paul West, Tim Byrne, Paul Tabone

Assessor's: Ken Bradey, Mark Curtis, Layne Holberton, Jeff Morgan,
Christian Whamond, Ricky Esser, George Haniotis.

Why we use "RATED" Recovery Points





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)	\$45.00	
<i>(includes name and logo embroidered on & GST)</i>		
Arctic Fleece Tops	\$45.00	
<i>(includes name and logo embroidered on & GST)</i>		
Polo Shirts (short sleeve with Pocket)	\$37.00	(no Pocket \$35.00)
<i>(includes name and logo embroidered on & GST)</i>		
Beenies (including logo embroidered on)	\$13.00	
NEW ITEM		
Baseball Caps (including logo embroidered on & GST)	\$17.00	

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.

Trading Mart

For Sale

Nissan Patrol GU Series 3 Alloy Bull Bar Good Condition \$200.00

DMH Outback 6 Dome Tent 6.0m x 3.0m 2 Bedroom can sleep up to 6 used 4 times also has brand new fly. New canvas carry bag **\$200.00**

2 Dunlop Grandtrek AT2 265/70/16 to Nissan Patrol 3/4 Tread \$50.00ea

2 Bridgestone Duelers D693 Pattern 1/2 Tread \$50.00ea

Contact Dave Willmore (Shorty) 0412 411751

For Sale

GU ARB Large roof rack for sale, \$650 ono

Contact Reno 0418 828372

For Sale

80 litre Waeco Fridge/Freezer with cover and Mobi-tronic 240-12 volt power pack Approx \$1600 new. Sell for \$1100 ono about 12 months old used about 4 times. Good reason for sale

See Darren Callary Total Traction Tyres 8186 10011

For Sale NEW! Ex Display stock

Michelles sacs Fridge Cover suit 40lt Engel NEW! RRP \$199.00

Sell \$159.00

WAECO 50lt Fridge/Freezer Previous Model

RRP \$1049.00 SELL \$920.00 including Cover *1 ONLY*

See Ian Richardson Southern Vales 4WD 8381 8300

WARRAWEEENA STATION

TRIP REPORT FOR SUNDAY 30th SEPTEMBER 2007

Sunday 30th Sept. A beautiful morning at Warraweena tinged however with memories of our great loss the day before at the MCG. Today gone was Shorty's Port cap and my flag which I didn't have the heart to fly as planned at half mast.

The original plan was a late 11.00am start for a short 36km but "hard" rated track "Mt McGill". This turned out to be booked so plan "B" was the "Old Angepena Goldfield" track a 67km loop rated as moderate to hard. Shorty told us they suggested 6 to 9 hours which seemed to us to be somewhat excessive initially.

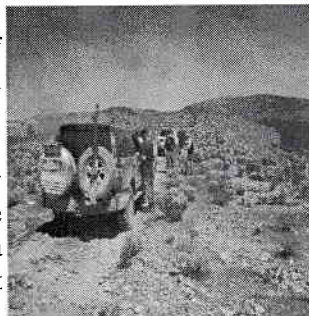
The reality turned out to be 6 ¼ hours of 5 to 10km driving which meant low range for most of us all day with the exception of two in automatics who thought high range was more appropriate. (I would have thought the manufacturers installed low range for a purpose, mostly to give you greater control of your vehicle under 40km ie 5 gears and their associated torque instead of possibly to 2.)

There was a 3km exception with graded track and this gave Shorty a chance to test his qualifying skills for Bathurst with the rest of us following trying not to suffer the same fate as Brocky.

There were 10 vehicles but Matt was expecting some friends from Victoria and Nick needed petrol so we split into two groups. The first eight with the others to meet up which they did by the "Lookout". I should mention that Trevor played passenger for both days as he suffer the indignity of losing a tyre before he even got to the property and chose the cautious option of not driving without a spare.

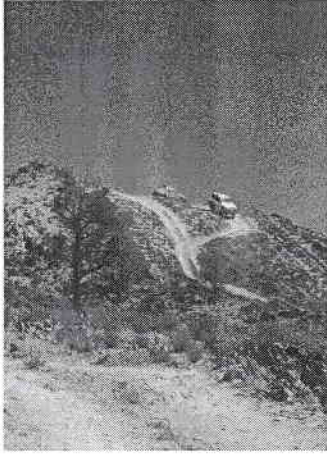
While Warraweena is large 355 sq kms and 250kms of tracks, many of the routes cross several properties and this would cross four.

While the driving was not very difficult it was very rocky and we stopped on the first ridge to adjust our tyre pressure, in my case from 25 to 20psi. The rock was a pleasant change from the smoother sections as it meant no dust and I had been eating dust all the previous day.



The early sections of this track were part of the old Coach Road and even in its glory days I suspect it was pretty rough.

In the comfort of our air conditioned 4wds fridges and eskies at hand its easy to forget what life was once like, the hardships, isolation, time and discomfort the early settlers experienced. The isolated ruins of the mines and buildings which we would visit were a reminder of



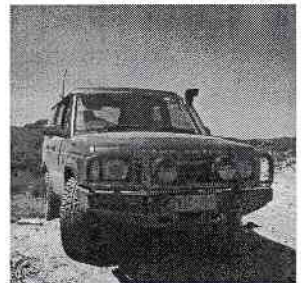
how tough it would have been. The track consisted of

numerous culverts and washouts often only a few metres apart so you were no sooner out of one and preparing for the next, not difficult I know but very slow. We then entered the creek and the track would weave in and out of it for some time and again it was slow going.



We climbed out of the creek and up the ridges towards a lookout. Luke experienced a little slippage on the first climb due to lack of weight in the back which we rectified later with my spare, toolbox and recovery gear but I was to draw the line at the eskie.

The 750m summit would only take two vehicles at a time so we had to wait about 100m below and ascend in pairs. The climb was not too difficult but it was a long way down if you made a mistake and amongst the many phobias I suffer from acrophobia is about the worst. So for me it's all about fear, my rising pulse rate and adrenaline. I did get the courage to get out at the summit helped by the fact that if I needed someone to cling to Trevor was there with his video like the Rock of Gibraltar.



To add to the torment I was the second vehicle up and on this miniscule summit in the heavens had to make a three point turn to get back down. On my safe return I reflected on my adventures and thought that in comparison to those poor boys from Port yesterday they didn't really rate.

Nick, Matt and his friend Ryan met up with us at the base. We were now 16km into the trip.

The track from the lookout to the Old Angepena ruins was again very slow with hundreds of dry creek crossings and washouts often only metres apart, but it was fun.

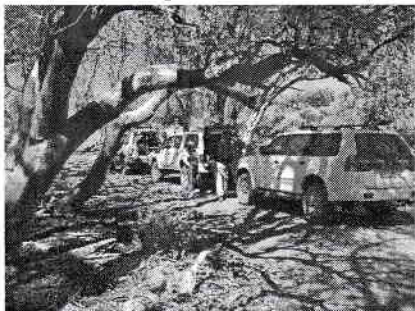
We stopped briefly at the ruins which were just a couple of walls from 2 buildings and some wood debris. We then continued on until we found a shaded spot on the track to stop for lunch.

We had now traveled about 25km in 2 ¾ hours.



The tracks as with the previous day had provided for a bit of vehicle articulation or as some would have it “beefing out”.

Shortly after lunch we hit the graded section which gave Shorty the chance as mentioned previous to put his foot down with the rest of us following in his dust cloud hoping to avoid a close encounter with the many trees.



Another short toilet stop at the Xmas gold mine and a brief look at Pinda reserve and some more diggings.

The track is now very rough again and we come across two fairly challenging sections, the first a very rutted hill climb and the second a deep gully crossing. We first went direct across the gully trying not

to bottom out and then tried a diagonal crossing back over to again “beef out”. Lots of fun and everyone made it in both directions with the only casualties being two Patrols which both lost rear tail lights in the flexing exercise.

My Disco “The Dancer” a superb example of British engineering performed like the Prima Ballerina she is holding her own against the might of Japanese Technology requiring only a slight nose lift and a new set of treads. No longer the ignominy of being snatched from a ditch because of ground clearance.



So while it was all fun no one got stuck so there were no recoveries the whole weekend.

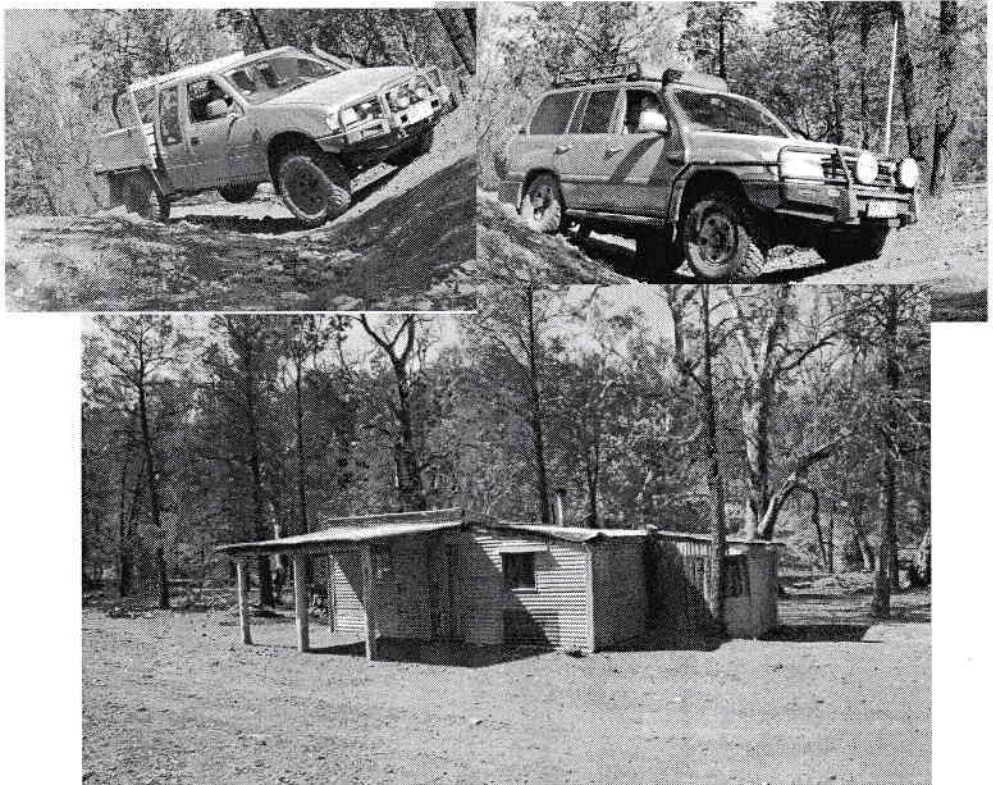
It was more of the same rutted tracks and creek bed crawling with the omnipresent dust and flies all the way back to camp. As the aged member of

the group my mind recalled a few phrases from a time long past that seemed appropriate approaching the camp. Immortal words from a couple of legends, “shake rattle and roll” from Elvis, “shake baby shake” from Johnny O’Keefe or my own plagiarism “rocking & rolling & all shook up”.

While the traveling was over, the day was not and I can’t go without mentioning Trevor’s culinary expertise both the previous night and this evening. With eight camp ovens and a couple of willing lady helpers he cooked 3 roasts and veges for about 20 of us, then Shorty finished it off with an amazing damper.

I would like to thank Shorty for giving me, on my maiden/virgin trip report all of 24 hours to complete it. I didn’t get a chance to get photos from anyone else so the are a little egocentric.

Wayne





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2