

# Rangers' Review

Volume 21 No. 3

Mount Lofty Rangers Inc. PO Box 1150, BlackwoodSA5051 www.mountloftyrangers.com.au

August 2015



Taz's Hilux getting some air under the wheel at lakem Farm! Courtesy of David 'Shorty' Willsmore

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# **Mount Lofty Rangers Inc.**

### **About Us**

The Club's aim is for its members to enjoy all aspects of owning and using our 4WDs 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 cooking 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 South Australian Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs (FWDSA).

# **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 which also organises regular events that complement 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 <u>second Monday of each month\*</u> and are held at the **Blackwood Football Club, Trevor Terrace, Blackwood** 

# Time: 7:15 pm for 7.30pm start

\*Except where this Monday falls on a long weekend then the meeting is held on the third Monday of the month.

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

www.mountloftyrangers.com.au

# MT LOFTY RANGERSUHF CLUB CHANNEL NO 27





# Howdy to all....

So what's been happening since last month? Not much at all, August is here and the wet cold weather has been painful by not letting me get the list of jobs done around the house, after moving into our new house in February our list of to do's was being put off to the spring and summer, however I'll be on crutches for a couple of months, so the whips have been cracking....... Maybe it's a good thing that the patrol is out of action, meaning I can't join any trips and forcing me to stay home!

Speaking of the patrol, nothing has happened since parking it in the shed. That is apart from lots of thinking and investigating all the options – there are just too many options, reconditioned zd30, second hand or the V8 diesel option? The more I think about it the more confused I become, oh well there's no hurry, I won't be able to drive it for 12 weeks anyway, hopefully things will become clearer once I'm off the crutches in December.

It's good to see a number of trips up on the board, keep an eye out for a couple of new trips for later in the year, don't forget to get your name on the Octoberfest, Camp Cook and Christmas Show trips, these are three great trips which never fail to impress.

See you at the meeting...

# YOUR COMMITTEE 2015-16 COMMITTEE DIRECTORS

	PRESIDENT Tom Doody president@mountloftyrangers.com.au
3	SECRETARY & PUBLIC OFFICER Lainie Ray secretary@mountloftyrangers.com.au
1	TRIPS COORDINATOR Phil Simes trips@mountloftyrangers.com.au
	FWD SA DELEGATE Ron Versteeg delegate@mountloftyrangers.com.au
	VICE PRESIDENT Gary Light vp@mountloftyrangers.com.au
	TREASURER Paul McGregor treasurer@mountloftyrangers.com.au
	MEMBERSHIP OFFICER Jordan Ray <u>membership@mountloftyrangers.com.au</u>

# YOUR COMMITTEE 2015-16 COMMITTEE MEMBERS

000	webmaster@		WEBSITE OFFICER Michelle Watkin tyrangers.com.au
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	COMMITTEE MEMBER Wayne Ritchie		COMMITTEE MEMBER Rob Stevens
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P	COMMITTEE MEMBER Roger Wilkinson		

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<i>LENGTH</i>	72	74	76	78	80	82	83	84	<i>LENGTH</i>	50	54	58	62	66	70

# Contact Merchandise Officer Kym to place an order:

merchandise@mountloftvrangers.com.au

# 20 year anniversary 'loud' shirt!

Our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary is upon us and design ideas for the shirt are OPEN. We LOVE this photo Gary Light has put forward which depicts the Mount Lofty Rangers, with the track going in the middle perhaps highlighting the 'just one last track' thought of every 4WDer.

If you have picture that you believe represents MLR as a club please forward it to: Gary <a href="mailto:vp@mountloftyrangers.com.au">vp@mountloftyrangers.com.au</a>BEFORE Monday 31st August for the committee to view and make a decision.



# MLRCLUBPERSON OF THE YEAR

# Criteria:

- ➤ Automatic eligibility for minimum of 1 Trip Leader role
- Must be a financial member
- Runs May to April (as per MLR club year)
- Must attend minimum of 6 MLR events in the 12 months (meetings or trips)
- Nominated by Club Committee for—trip leader / trip attendance / club meeting attendance/ over and above activities for betterment of MLR
- Upholding of MLR values & club spirit

Can be nominated by general membership

Winner by blind vote from club members

—one membership = one vote

In case of tie, winner by discretion of Committee

# **Club equipment for loan!**

- Grate mates
- *Uniden* UHF handheld radios
- Tyre repair kit (large & small)
  - Tifor hand winch and cable
    - Car Bra

- Gazebo 3m x 3m (<del>x2</del>)
- Hot water urn and kettle
  - Bead breaker
  - Drag chains (x 2)
- Trestle tables, plastic folding 1.8m (x2)
- Recovery bag (inc snatch straps, extension strap, tree trunk protector and shackles)
  - \*All club equipment is securely stored within the club trailer @ Lonsdale

For further information on any loan equipment, please email Peter Reed, Property Officer:

property@mountloftyrangers.com.au

# **MEMBERSHIPS DUE NOW!**

Your memberships are now due and payable. They remain unchanged for the 2015 / 2016 financial year and if paid before the September meeting the renewal cost is \$70, after the September meeting the price reverts to a new member price of \$80.

EFT payments are encouraged

For payment by EFT:

BSB: 065 132

Account No: 1004 4806

Account Name: Mount Lofty Rangers Inc.

\*Remember to put your name in the reference field



# NGARKATTRIP PHOTOS

# Courtesy of Adrienne Vukovic













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# **NGARKATTRIP PHOTOS**

Courtesy of Adrienne Vukovic









# NGARKATTRIP PHOTOS

**Courtesy of Peter Davies** 







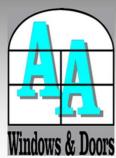






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# THINKING OF TAKING A TRIP??

# **South Australian State Schools Term Dates**

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
2015	27 Jan - 10 Apr	27 Apr - 3 Jul	20 Jul - 25 Sep	12 Oct - 11 Dec
2016	1 Feb - 15 Apr	2 May - 8 Jul	25 Jul -30 Sep	17 Oct - 16 Dec
2017	30 Jan - 13 Apr	1 May - 7 Jul	24 Jul - 29 Sep	16 Oct - 15 Dec
2018	29 Jan - 13 Apr	30 Apr - 6 Jul	23 Jul - 28 Sep	15 Oct - 14 Dec

This information is current as of March 2015.

# Public holiday dates for 2015, 2016 and 2017

Holiday	2015	2016	2017
New Year's Day 1 January - if that date falls on a Saturday the public holiday transfers to the following Monday. If that date falls on a Sunday that day and the following Monday will be public holidays.	Thursday, 1 January	Friday, 1 January	Monday, 2 January (additional day as 1 January falls on a Sunday) *
Australia Day	Monday, 26 January	Tuesday, 26 January	Thursday, 26 January
March public holiday	Monday, 9 March	Monday, 14 March	Monday, 13 March
Good Friday	Friday, 3 April	Friday, 25 March	Friday, 14 April
Easter Monday	Monday, 6 April	Monday, 28 March	Monday, 17 April
Anzac Day	Saturday, 25 April	Monday, 25 April	Tuesday, 25 April
Queen's Birthday and Volunteer's Day Second Monday in June.	Monday, 8 June	Monday, 13 June	Monday, 12 June
<b>Labour Day</b> First Monday in October.	Monday, 5 October	Monday, 3 October	Monday, 2 October
Christmas Day 25 December - if that date falls on a Saturday the public holiday transfers to the following Monday. If that date falls on a Sunday that day and the following Monday will be public holidays.	Friday, 25 December	Monday, 26 December (additional day as 25 December falls on a Sunday) *	Monday, 25 December
Proclamation Day public holiday 26 December - if that date falls on a Saturday the public holiday transfers to the following Monday. If that date falls on a Sunday or a Monday that day and the following Tuesday will be public holidays.	Monday, 28 December (substitute day as 26 December falls on a Saturday)	Tuesday, 27 December (additional day as 26 December is the Christmas Day public holiday)	Tuesday, 26 December
New Year's Eve	Thursday, 31 December	Saturday, 31 December	Sunday, 31 December

<sup>\*</sup> Every Sunday in South Australia is nominally a public holiday and bank holiday under the Holidays Act 1910.

# **2015 TRIPS CALENDAR**

DATE	EVENT	CONTACT	DETAILS			
1-2 August	Weekend trip	Shorty/Steve T	Morgan			
MONDAY 10 August		LR Club Meeting 7.30 <sub>l</sub> tball Club, Trevor Teri				
9-29 August		Graham Burdon	Birdsville,			
			Longreach, Fraser Is			
23 August	Day tripinc picnic lunch	Scott Watkin	Saunders Gorge cost \$50			
28-30 August	Weekend Trip	Eric Kalderovski	Salt Creek 'Fishing comp'			
12-13 Sept	Weekend Trip	Tom Doody	Camp CookTowitta			
MONDAY	MLR Club Meeting 7.30pm					
14 September		tball Club, Trevor Ter				
18-19 September	Weekend trip	Paul McGregor	Octoberfest recce			
1-5 October	Long weekend	Roger Wilkinson	National Jeep			
	trip		Jamboree			
2-5 October	Long weekend trip	Graham Jones	Octoberfest			
MONDAY	M	LR Club Meeting 7.30p	om			
12 October		tball Club, Trevor Teri				
MONDAY	MLR Club Meeting 7.30pm					
9 November	Blackwood Football Club, Trevor Terrace, Blackwood					
21 November	MLR Xmas with woodfired pizza	Tom Doody	Towitta			
MONDAY		& champagne for the l				
14 December	Blackwood Football Club, Trevor Terrace, Blackwood					

For further information or to book on any trips, please email Phil Simes, Trip Coordinator: <a href="mailto:trips@mountloftyrangers.com.au">trips@mountloftyrangers.com.au</a>



1-2 August 9-00am	MLR Training @ Morgan Quarry
15 August 12.30pm	MLR Tyre repair @ Mt Barker 4X4 plus sausage sizzle
22-23 August 9-00am	Mud & water training @ Jakem Farm \$35
12- 13 Sept9-00am	WHS, Risk & Emergency response course @ Cavan \$20-00
10-11 October	Sand Driving @ Peake sharing with Jeep Club
10-11 October	DTU Basic Theory @ Cavan
18 October 9-00am	Trip planning course @ Cavan \$20-00
31 Oct -1 Nov 9-00am	Sand Training @ Peake \$40-00
7 AND/OR 8 November	DTUOzi Explorer – GPS @ Cavan

# **Club Trainers**

**Education Officer: Steve Townsend** 

Assessors: Steve Townsend, Mark Curtis, Jeff Morgan & Dave Willsmore

Trainers: Tim Byrne, Tom Doody, Glenn Lawson

Advisor: Brenton Bowley

For further information on training, please email Steve Townsend,

training@mountloftyrangers.com.au



# **Driver Training Unit**

# Training courses program

# **4WDSA Driver training unit**

### Upcoming courses

- Practical Driving mud and water at Callington on 22-23 August
- Trip planning and leading atCavanon 18 October 2.
- Basic Driving and Recovery theory training course 3.

This course is made up of:Theory training weekend on 10-11 October followed by a practical driving weekend at Peake on 31 October-1 November May

- Practical Driving sand at Peakeon Oct 31 and Nov 1 Oziexplorer/GPS Cavan 7 or 8 November 4.

Note this is a one day course with choice of either date

### Course costs

To do the Basic Driving and Recovery course and the practical training events you will need to purchase a set of training manuals which consists of a comprehensive reference manual and a training checklist.

Training manuals	\$60
Basic Driving Theory weekend at Cavan	\$20
Practical training weekend at Callington	\$95
Practical training weekend at Morgan	\$40
Practical training weekend at <b>Peake</b>	\$70
Trip Planning and Leading at Cavan	\$20

Oziexplorer / GPS training at **Cavan** To be advised

### **HOW to NOMINATE for a course**

- Send an expression of interest for the course by email to dtutraining@4wdsa.asn.au providing you contact details and which club you are a member of.
- 2. For the Basic Driving and Recovery course fill in the attached form to purchase a set of training manuals.
- 3. Pay the fees for the events you have nominated for plus the purchase cost of manuals if required. (payment is required before the course commences)

### DTU account details for electronic transfers

Account Name Four Wheel Drive SA

**BSB** 805 050 Account No 4265362

(Please put in your initial, surname and brief reference so we can identify who has paid.)

### **Basic Driving and Recovery course**

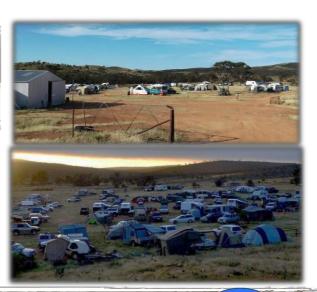
Theory training weekend on 10-11 October followed by a practical driving weekend at Peake on 31 October-1 November May

Note 1: If you are unable to attend the practical event you can attend the theory session and catch up with practical training at a later event.

Note 2:If you already have a set of training manuals you may also nominate for either or both weekends











# Willangi Bush Escapes

near Peterborough SA

Spend the long weekend camping in bush surrounds, enjoying great day trips with other 4wd enthusiasts from SA clubs.

Activities will include:

camp cook-off, kids' movie night, night Nav Drive, prize draws and door prizes, socialising and evening entertainment.

# www.mountloftyrangers.com.au

This event is open to all financial members of FWDSA or an affiliated club. For insurance purposes all participants must register for this event with their club as a club trip.

For more information or if you have any queries please speak to one of the Octoberfest sub-committee, Graham Jones, Paul McGregor, Gary Light, Glenn Bull, Tom Doody or one of the other helpers.

# **UPCOMING NON-CLUB EVENTS**

When

Sunday 13 September, 2015

Where

Victoria Park Racecourse, Adelaide BOOK TICKETS ONLINE:

http://thecolorrun.com.au/adelaide/2015-09-13/







Sunday 20th September 2015

WALK OR RUN

12km, 6km 3km

Book online: <a href="http://www.city-bay.org.au/index.php">http://www.city-bay.org.au/index.php</a>



# 23-25 October 2015 Adelaide Showground

Tickets available online or at the gate! <a href="http://adelaide.4wdshow.com.au/index.phtml">http://adelaide.4wdshow.com.au/index.phtml</a>

- Adults \$16
- Concession \$13
- Children under 16yrs FREE

BUY YOUR TICKETS **ONLINE** TO RECEIVE A **\$20** VOUCHER TO SPEND AT THE SHOW! \* T&Cs apply

# **GUEST SPEAKERS**

Month	<u>Guest Speaker</u>
August	Donaldson Fuel & Air filters

For further information or to book a guest speaker, please email Gary Light, Guest Speaker Co-Ordinator <a href="mailto:vp@mountloftvrangers.com.au">vp@mountloftvrangers.com.au</a>







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Rangers Review

# JAKEM PARK TRIP PHOTOS

# Courtesy of Lainie Ray





Rangers Review

# TRIP LEADER TRAINING

# **Courtesy of Peter Buss**

# Meadows to Goolwa Trip, July 19th 2015

Having visited the Mount Lofty Rangers meeting for the past few months as a potential new member, I signed up for my first training event. On a  $2\,^{\circ}$  C beautiful clear Sunday morning in July, a few Mount Lofty Rangers in 4 vehicles met at the Memorial Hall in Meadows to receive a course in "Trip Planning" conducted by Steve.

A lot of interesting and sensible information was shared, how to plan and conduct 4 –wheel drive trips including new acronyms for 4 –Wheel drive greenhorns, such as "TEC" and "Code Yellow". Finally we were off meandering through the backroads towards Goolwa. My wife and I enjoyed great views revealing silvery eucalypts contrasting with lush green pastures. The leader Steve and Les, our Tail End Charliemade sure we did the proper convoy "wait and vehicle rotation thing" at each turn off.

Great views again from the hilltops towards Middleton Beach before we were descending down to Goolwa.

All in all, what a great half day trip. Lots of new information and tips to think about. Well done Steve, Les and Gary, looking forward to the next meeting to become a Mount Lofty Ranger!



# Courtesy of Tom Sag

MLR Simpson Desert East to West Party of Four Cresting July 2015

(The title above was our leader's call before cresting many of the larger Simpson Desert sand dunes.)

The four vehicles taking part in our trip were Toyota Landcruiser "Manny" (Kevin and Heather Jesshope) trip leaders, Nissan Patrol "Lefty" (Marianne and Tom Sag), Toyota Prado "Hi Ho" (Paul and Kay) and Mitsubishi Pajero "Dreamweaver" (Lloyd and Jordan). The first three vehicles met at Castle Plaza Edwardstown at 7am on July 4th and met up with "Dreamweaver" at Roseworthy about an hour later. On our way up to Maree from here we stopped at Burra for a morning break and then at Peterborough for a fuel top up and Hawker for lunch in the park. We arrived at Maree just after 4pm after a short break at Lyndhurst. Our first night was spent at the caravan park after a nice dinner at the Maree Roadhouse.

### **DINNER AT MAREE**





**CLAYTON "HOT SPRINGS"** 

Day 2: After a cool night we had a reasonably early start heading north on the BirdsvilleTrack which was in reasonably good condition enabling good progress through flat grassy country with a few small bushes and occasional small hills. Our first stop was at the top of a hill to the right of the track overlooking Lake Harry. From the top we had good views of the lake and surrounding country. A little later we stopped to check out the Clayton "Hot Springs" campsite near the Clayton River which was equipped with toilets showers and a hot Artesian bore tub. Near Cooper's creek we stopped first to check out MV "Tom Brennan" a 12foot steel barge once used to ferry supplies across the Cooper in times of flooding. Further on we also checked out another campsite equipped with toilets near the creek. Then it was time for a lunch stop at Mungaranie Road House for a late lunch (most tried their "Mungo Burgers") and a look at the interesting bar inside and wetlands and hot springs nearby. During our stop it was discovered that Manny's front led light bracket was broken so the lights were removed. Soon after leaving Mungaranie Hi Lo discovered his radio aerial bracket was broken and so more repairs were carried out. We then carried on to our campsite at Tippipila Creek near the start of the "Inside" Birdsville track. The toilets were in the middle of a stony open area not suitable for tents but we found a softer and more sheltered site near the trees lining the creek.

### LAKE HARRY

### MUNGARANIE SPRINGS





<u>Day 3:</u> The country from our camp to Birdsville was increasingly bare and stony as we were now passing through Sturt's Stony Desert. We passed Lake Surprise and Koonchera sand hills before turning off to the right to try and find a memorial site visited by Lloyd on a previous trip. The memorial was erected at the spot where in 1963 the Page family (The parents and 3 sons) tragically perished after a vehicle breakdown. The memorial was erected by the children of the surviving daughter of the family. We continued on to Birdsville after a photo stop at the Queensland border crossing the Diamantina River to get to the town. We had a long lunch stop with time to check out the pub (interesting bar), the Bakery (the quondong berry pie was nice), the visitor centre (lots of info and history) and refuel (cheaper than Maree).

We set off again just before 2pm and quickly reached the start of the Simpson Desert just before the Big Red sand dune and erected sand flags and aired down ready to tackle the desert. The desert extends for over 300km in both east west and north south directions and is spread between Queensland, Northern Territory and South Australia. The main vehicle tracks are mainly in South Australia. The desert was occupied by native Australians for hundreds if not thousands of years but was first explored by Europeans including Sturt, Leichardt and David Lindsay in the mid to late 1800's. Government surveyor Augustus Poeppel surveyed the border of SA in the vicinity of the north south Queensland/ Northern Territory Border and established the position of the junction of these two borders (now called Poeppell Corner). Other explorers Ted Colson and Cecil Madigan who named the desert after Allen Simpson President of the Australian Royal Geographical Society followed in the 1900's. In the mid 1900's the desert was explored in search of oil and a French Oil company developed The French Line starting at Poeppel Corner in the east and ending at Purnie Bore in the west. Other tracks including the WAA line and Rig Road were also developed and linked to the French Line by several shorter tracks such as the K1 line, AAK or Knolls track and Colson Track.

We completed day 3 at our campsite near Eyre a few km from the entrance to the Queensland MungaThirra (Simpson Desert) National Park. We crossed our first batch of sand dunes with no problems to get there after first passing Big Red which was a large dune with several play tracks. We enjoyed a night around the campfire in amongst the trees.





**BIRDSVILLE PUB** 

**CAMPFIRE LAKE EYRE** 

<u>Day 4</u>: We left camp at about 9am and stopped at the entrance to the National Park an hour later. Our average speed was now about 20kph as we traversed many sand dunes and travelled over bumpy track in between them. After a morning tea stop we began to notice lots of yellow and white flowers and light green grass in the desert. We stopped for lunch at 1pm having covered about 60km and 99 sand dunes. Just after lunch Lefty got stuck climbing sand hill 101. After several attempts and then lowering tyre pressuresKevin took over and just managed to get Lefty over the crest. Later after passing a wooded area we came upon a large salt lake and headed south along the western shore of the lake towards Poeppel Corner just after leaving the Queensland National Park. The track took us into the Northern Territory then back into Queensland and then into South Australia at which time the track turned to the west and we found a campsite just east of Lake Thomas. The track was easier for the last part of our journey and we were able to reach speeds of 35-40kph and arrived at camp around 4pm having covered about 110km.

### POEPPEL'S CORNER

# SAND FLAGS UP, TYRES DOWN







Day 5: We awoke to lovely pink tinged clouds just before sunrise and I had a bit of time to explore the camp site and surrounds before we left just after 10am. We took a 2-3 km detour to the north to Poeppel Corner and took some time to explore the site which contained a replica of Poeppel's original wooden marker and a nearby concrete pillar with a brass plate on top indicating the state boundaries and also wooden walkways along the boundaries. We then retraced our steps and crossed Lake Thomas and continued WSW along the French Line and crossed or passed another 7 salt lakes before stopping for lunch in sight of the 9th lake. There was plenty of vegetation and a many sand dunes to cross along the way. After lunch we crossed lake 9 and soon came to the AAK or Knolls track leading SSW to WAA corner the start of the WAA line. Just after turning on to this track we sighted Lake Tamblynand after crossing an arm of the lake we came upon the Knolls a pair of small flat top hills made of gypsum. We climbed one of these to enjoy the views of the surrounding desert and the lake. We also read about the aboriginal legends of the Knolls and some history of the area before continuing along the track. Progress was slow due to the many gypsum rocks and bends along the track. Later we occasionally crossed a dune but in between the crossing the track ran parallel to the dunes. We reached WAA corner at about 4pm and travelled a few km west along the WAA line before stopping to camp on the western side of another lake.

<u>Day 6:</u> After enjoying the view of the rising sun on the lake we left at 10am and after crossing the Erabena track and about 60 dunesand travelling 40km we stopped for lunch. Just after we finished lunch the other MLR party of 8 vehicles led by Gary Light came over the hill from the west. We spent some time with them talking about our experiences and taking combined group photos.We then continued west travelling over many dunes during the afternoon, some close together and others separated by wide relatively flat valleys (swales). The desert was covered with many small



MLR EAST MEETS WEST

treesincluding flowering acacias, and pale green spinifex, and yellow, white and purple flowers and light green ground cover. We camped at a spot about 7km east of the Colson track after crossing about 225 sand hills but covering only 75km for the day.

<u>Day 7</u> After starting off just before 10am we crossed the Colson Track and a big dune before arriving at George's Corner (the point where the Rig Road comes in from the south) shortly after. We saw many paddy melons alongside the track including one about football size and later came upon a large red sand dune (which I called Big Red 2) as it had several play tracks leading up to its crest. We made attempts at two of these which I will call Manny's Hill and Dreamweaver's Hill. Manny managed to get over his hill at the 4th attempt while the rest of us with lighter vehicles all made it on our first attempt. However Dreamweaver's hill remained unconquered despite many attempts by Dreamweaver and one or two by Hi Lo and Manny. After our play time we continued along the rig road westwards. The road had a much harder surface (constructed by the oil exploration parties) enabling us to reach

speeds of 50-60kph before reaching our net stop which was near the Mokari Air Strip at "Mr Peck's Grave" (the grave of JaraslovPecanek an outback pioneer who died in 1988 and was awarded a British Empire Medal for services to the outback). From here we travelled NW and soon reached the junction of the Rig Road and the French Line. After travelling at good speed we soon reached the eastern boundary of the Witjira National Park which contains the western portion of the Simpson Desert and Dalhousie Springs. We backtracked a few kms to find a campsite outside the park so we could enjoy a final campfire. The site was small but sheltered by a few small sand hills. After a late lunch we set up camp which in our case included a bit of ground leveling for our tent site.

Day 8: We left camp at 9.30am and soon were back at the National Park entrance and continued on to PurnieBore which was sunk by the French Oil company when drilling for mineral samples. Leaks in the bore resulted in the formation of a sizeable lake but also caused depletion of the water table in surrounding areas such as Dalhousie. Today a small controlled flow feeds into surrounding wetlands which encourages native bird life. Shortly after our exploration of the bore we spotted two healthy looking dingoes and then a third mangy looking one in the scrub. Shortly after we reached the western end of the Simpson. The country now was pretty flat with some bare patches but in other parts there was some desert vegetation including many purple flowers. In the distance we saw several flat topped hills. Further on we passed a batch of some fairly rare larger trees and as we neared Dalhousie we stopped near a lagoon with some water in it. After Manny had sorted out an electrical problem we made our way into Dalhousie arriving in time to select a good camp site, have lunch, set up camp and go for a nice warm swim in the 34°C Dalhousie Spring. However it was a little cool after getting out due to the fresh breeze blowing. Later some of enjoyed a walk around the springs with good views of the surrounding areas before we all prepared and ate our last dinner together.

### **DALHOUSIE RUINS**

### **DALHOUSIE SPRINGS**





<u>Day 9:</u> After a reasonably early start our first stop was at the Ruins of the Dalhousie Homestead. Here we had a good look around at the various partly restored ruins, the numerous palm trees, the stockyards and an elevated spring with good views of the surrounding country. We then travelled on some corrugated reddy brown road at about 50kph out of the Witjira National Park past Pedrika and joined the Mt Dare - Oodnadatta road near Hamilton Station homestead and after a morning tea stop got to Oodnadatta fairly quickly due to an improved road surface. We had lunch together at the Pink Roadhouse and Kevin and Heather caught up with their native Australian friend Geoffrey. After lunch we split into two parties. Dreamweaver and Hi Ho set off south on the Oodnadatta track towards William Creek and Maree while Manny and Lefty travelled SW to Coober Pedy on a very good gravel road passing lots of yellowy green (canola like) grass and also "Lolly Pop" lane an area with lots of lolly pop like trees on both sides of the road. In Coober Pedy we stayed in cabins in a caravan park and enjoyed a great pizza dinner at John's Pizza Place. Next morning we started on our journeys towards Adelaide after a really enjoyable Simpson Desert Trip.

# LUNCH AT OODNADATTA PINK ROADHOUSE







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# **FUNNIES**

# Truckie

A nasty and mean looking truckie came into a truck stop café and placed his order. He said, 'I want three flat tires, a pair of headlights and a pair of running boards.' The brand new blonde waitress, not wanting to appear stupid, went to the kitchen and said to the cook, 'This guy out there just ordered three flat tires, a pair of headlights and a pair of running boards...... What does he think this place is, an auto parts store?'

'No,' the cook said. 'Three flat tires mean three pancakes; a pair of headlights is two eggs sunny side up; and a pair of running boards are 2 slices of crisp bacon!' 'Oh... OK!' said the blonde.

She thought about it for a moment, and then spooned up a bowl of baked beans and gave them to the customer.

The truckie asked, 'What are the beans for, Blondie?'

I LOVE THIS ONE.....

She replied, 'I thought while you were waiting for the flat tires, headlights and running boards, you might as well fill up on gas!'

# Random thoughts as we age...

- > The biggest lie I tell myself is ..."I don't need to write that down, I'll remember it."
- > Wouldn't it be great if we could put ourselves in the dryer for ten minutes; come out wrinkle-free and three sizes smaller!
- Last year I joined a support group for procrastinators. We haven't met yet!
- ➤ I don't trip over things, I do random gravity checks!
- > I don't need anger management. I need people to stop annoying me!
- Old age is coming at a really bad time!
- ➤ Lord grant me the strength to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can & the friends to post my bail when I finally snap!
- $\succ$  I don't have white hair. I have "wisdom highlights". I'm just very wise.
- My people skills are just fine. It's my tolerance that needs work.
- > If God wanted me to touch my toes, he would've put them on my knees.
- > The kid's text me "plz" which is shorter than please. I text back "no" which is shorter than "yes".
- > I'm going to retire and live off of my savings. Not sure what I'll do the second week.
- > Why do I have to press one for English when you're just going to transfer me to someone I can't understand anyway?
- Of course I talk to myself, sometimes I need expert advice.
- > At my age "Getting lucky" means walking into a room and remembering what I came in there for.





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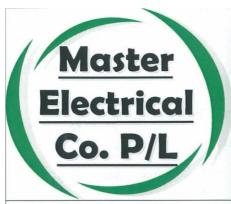


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# FOR THE LADIES

# **CAMPING TIPS!**

# How do I wash my hair?

On short trips, many ladies don't, they just wear bandannas, braids or otherwise tie back their hair. When in a campground, you can heat some water over a stove or you can fill a few bottles with water in the morning and set them in the sun all

day. Then in the afternoon they might be lukewarm or will be at least be not too cold and you can lean over a restroom sink, pour them over your head, put on a little more shampoo than you might use at home and wash/rinse your hair. For long hair you might want four or five bottles. You can then refill the bottles and use the same ones for putting out the campfire that evening.\*\*Don't pour soapy water on the ground, or wash hair at taps outside. No matter how biodegradable your brand of soap is, never use it in or near a lake, stream, river, etc.



# Make up?

Most women camping and backpacking don't wear much makeup, just sunscreen, (15 SPF is **not** strong enough), chapstick or chapstick with sunscreen, and dry skin lotion (pack maybe more than one small bottle), and maybe a little waterproof/sweatproof mascara. Remember that **any perfumed product will attract mosquitos**. This includes clothes that have been rinsed or dried with scented softeners.



Your fingernails may have more wear, so a real, sturdy type nail file will be better than a paper emery board. Real nail clippers work for nails; scissors don't. You need sunglasses, with UV protection, and a hat with a wide brim.

# **Can menstruating women camp around bears?** Yes!

The question whether menstruating women attract bears has not been completely answered. There is no evidence that grizzlies are overly attracted to menstrual odours more than any other odour and there is no statistical evidence that known bear attacks have been related to menstruation.





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# **RECIPES**

# Simple Grilled Onions Side

# **Ingredients**

- 1 Vidalia or Sweet Onion (More for larger crowd. One serves 3 to 4 adults 5 or 6 piece portions.)
- 1/3 Stick Butter
- 1 Beef Bouillon Cube (stock cube)
- Aluminum Foil

# **Instructions**

- Peel outer skin off of onion.
- Remove one end of onion.
- 3. Slice onion 3/4th of way down (Not all the way as you want onion to partially stay together) as if dividing in half. Do the same thing lengthwise. Make one more cut across diagonally.
- 4. Pieces of onion will start to fan out, but be held together at the bottom.
- 5. Cut Bouillon Cube into small pieces and sprinkle throughout the onion.
- 6. Slice up butter in small pats and insert into slits throughout the onion.
- 7. Completely wrap onion in Reynolds Wrap with ends of foil gathered together at top of bundle.
- 8. Place wrapped bundle on grill, off to the side of direct flame, and let cook at 200 degrees to 230 degrees for about 25 minutes. Grill time may vary by height of flame and individual grill performance.
- 9. What you are looking for to know the onions are done is that they are soft to the fork touch throughout.

Once fully grilled, you may want to stir bouillon and butter sauce throughout the onion, distributing any last bits of bouillon in mixture evenly.



# RECIPES

# **Campfire Banana Boats**

# What you'll need:

- Bananas
- Marshmallows
- Chocolate Chips
- Aluminum Foil
- Extras: Nuts, peanut butter, coconut etc.

### How to make:

- Open up the banana on one of the seams from about 1 inch from the bottom to 1 inch on the top.
- Sprinkle in chocolate chips and marshmallows
- Close tightly and wrap with aluminum foil.
- Cook over coals (charcoal or logs) or a warm grill. These will cook best on hot coals but not necessarily ones with the flames. Put these on the grill right after you are done cooking or to the side of the flames. You can also put these on the BBQ Grill in your backyard. If you are using a propane grill, put the flame on low. These should be on the grill for about 5 7 minutes. Remove with caution, open and serve!

\*\*Want to get creative? Add some more flavors like coconut or peanut butter to the banana after cooking!



Rangers Review

# **READ ME!**

# **ROAD TRAFFIC ACT 1961**

EXEMPTION FROM REGULATION 54(5)(a)(ii) OF THE ROAD TRAFFIC (MISCELLANEOUS) REGULATIONS 2014 FOR OFF ROAD PASSENGER VEHICLES (AUSTRALIAN DESIGN RULE CATEGORY MC)

Pursuant to Section 163AA of the Road Traffic Act 1961, I, Paul Anthony Gelston, Chief Operating Officer, Safety and Service Division, delegate for the Minister for Transport and infrastructure, hereby exempt vehicles of a specified class, identified as follows:

- 1. Australian Design Rule Category Off-Road Passenger Vehicle (MC). From the following provisions of the Road Traffic (Miscellaneous) Regulations 2014: *Regulation 54 Wheels and tyres*
- (5) Despite the requirements of any other regulation or rule under the Act, a light motor vehicle that is required to comply with ADR or the tyre and rim selection requirements of ADR 42 may be
  - (a) equipped with tyres other than those listed on the tyre placard fitted to the vehicle, provided that
    - (ii) the overall diameter of a wheel and tyre fitted is not more than 15mm greater than that advised in the Tyre and Rim Standards Manual for the largest tyre size listed on the placard and not more than 15mm less than that advised in the Manual for the smallest tyre size listed on the placard.

Subject to the following conditions:

- 1. The increased tyre diameter is no more than 50mm greater than the largest tyre listed on the placard;
- 2. That the speedometer accuracy is retained; and
- 3. That the total ground clearance is increased by no more than 50mm.

Dated 30th June 2015

P.A. Gelston. Chief Operating Officer, Safety and Service Division, Delegate for the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure

View online: http://www.governmentgazette.sa.gov.au/2015/july/2015 043.pdf



Rangers Review

# A WORD FROM THE EDITOR

I will be away in Alice Springs for a month so won't be at the next meeting but please still send me your trip reports by email.

And don't forget to send me your piccies for the magazine too!

Cheers Kylie

magazineeditor@mountloftyrangers.com.au

