



Rangers' Review

Volume 20
No. 9

Mount Lofty Rangers Inc.
PO Box 1150, Blackwood SA 5051
www.mountloftyrangers.com.au

February
2015



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Cover shot: Jordan having a spot of bother on his Carpenter Rocks to the Victorian Border trip

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 second Monday of each month* 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 RANGERS UHF CLUB CHANNEL NO 27

Where are you going on a trip in 2015?
Have you thought about putting a trip
sheet up?



REMINDER: Check under your vehicle!!

Please send contributions for the magazine to: magazine@mountloftyrangers.com.au

Deadline COB Monday 23 February 2015 for the next issue. Please send photos separately (jpg or png files, small file size) and include names please. Note that any articles submitted after the deadline will be considered for inclusion in the next issue.

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the editor or of Mount Lofty Rangers. Inc. No liability in any form shall be accepted. The editor claims full discretionary rights to include, discard, copy, distribute, amend and/or alter any articles/photos submitted for publication.



Prez Sez

Welcome to February!

The Doody's have got our plans and trips set for the year—how are you going with your list?

Beachport is done and dusted, The Reeds trip to Tassie, although lighter in numbers than when first announced is only a couple of weeks away, then into March and the long weekend, followed closely by Easter and we'll be a third of the way through the year! I know I keep saying it but whoa, where does the time go?

Beachport sort of officially starts the year of MLR trips, and this year was great with over 35 cars present, including a fair number of newbies, both to the club as well as to sand driving. For those members that were there: did you go out of your way to introduce yourself to the newer members? As you would expect with the number of people present in the confines of a caravan park, the fun and frivolities can lift the noise level to a sometimes unacceptable level and continue on until past the unofficial "quiet time of caravan parks. Unfortunately this was one of those times and we had a complaint relayed to us from the park management, WE ALL need to be aware of these types of situations and keep them in hand from a noise and time curfew.

Sadly the trip reports are light on from the many trips over the weekend, thanks to those that made the effort to write a trip report or send in some photos, without this kind of support there could be nothing for you to read. An even bigger thankyou to the members who put their hand up to lead a trip, even if they hadn't really done one before or had no idea where they were going?

While Liam and I left Tanya back at camp working hard (well that's what she told us) we went Tail End Charlie for Craig Watkin's trip from Beachport to Carpenters Rocks, having done this trip numerous times over the years, it never ceases to amaze me how things can change over the years. I think we started with 4 landrovers of various disguise, 1 surf, 1 Navara and 2 patrols, as TEC I was happy as we had the landrovers covered incase of the inevitable landrover breakdown! Well the inevitable happened long before I expected—Scott and Kerry decided to pimp up their Discovery, I think that should read pimp down as



the suspension went into over ride mode and was mere cm's off the ground! It was with a heavy heart filled with much sadness, crying into my hankkerchief that we were to carry on one man down.... If you were to use Google Translator on that last sentence it would probably come up with:

The worlds most awarded 4WD—awarded by who? The Sentineese Islanders?

You know this is all in jest, if we Nissan drivers weren't picking on the landrovers we'd have to pick on the Toyotas, oh that's right we do that too!

The rest of the trip was pretty much uneventful until we reached the Whale Rock area, known for the sloping beaches and the at times extremely loose sand, where just less than a nano-second of inattention and total focus on the job at hand, can you leave you perilously close to walking home, like many have done over the years along the coastline in the South East of SA.

Craig had one of those nano-second moments, followed by much digging, frantic radio calls, only being able to move one maxtrax length at a time, the wild ocean lapping at their ankles,. Our beloved trip leader was in trouble, they were too far away to walk up to carrying shovels and extra maxtrax, basically they were on their own..... Doom, doom, doom.... Oh no I hear you gasp! Will Craig and Michelle get out? Will they ever get to lead another trip? Will anyone want to go on that trip?

As with all good fairy tales, this story also has a good Samaritan knight riding high on his (or in this case **in** his) trusty white steed, after a brief discussion with the rest of the convoy, the trusty steed was loaded up with extra provisions, a couple of extra knights (for recovery and rescue purposes) and they were off into the treacherous unknown. They were unfortunate in this rescue mission, there's no Rapunzel with long flowing locks in this story.

Tyre pressures down to 10psi, precision timing between the lapping waves on the sloping beach, finally the good knights made the couple of treacherous km's to the stricken maiden (and Craig). The situation was quickly assessed, we needed to use a snatch strap as well as the winch extension strap, so we could get the distance required to solid sand, please remember in this story, we had no Rapunzel with those long flowing locks. There was no bravado with high revving of engines and off with great pace, all that was needed was a gentle tow up to the solid sand. We re-joined the group and continued on towards Carpenter Rocks after stopping to pay our respects to one of the landrovers relatives.

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WITCHELINA NEWS 2015

To all those interested in continuing the good work that MLR have done for the SA Nature Foundation @ Witchelina Station, I have arranged 3 restoration projects events for the 2015 calendar year:

- Project 1 - Bend Hut wall and foundation restoration - Stabilised wall with bracing while up at Witchelina
- Project 2 - Pug Hill foundation restoration, finish off long drop, install water feed to kitchen and solar panel, re-arrange bedroom 3
- Project 3 - Move water tank from Mirra Well to North shed, install guttering and plumbing.

The dates are:

- Event 1: Saturday 18/4/2015 to Thursday 23/4/2015 (Over April School Holiday period)
- Event 2: Saturday 13/6/15 to Thursday 18/6/2015
- Event 3: Thursday 9/7/2015 to Friday 17/7/2015 (Over July School Holiday period)

More details will be provided at a club presentation over the next couple of months.

Pug Hut Restoration Update: There is still some minor restoration work to be done at Pug Hut but it appears that after our southern boundary fence run earlier this year, the Hut may be put to use as a base for the fencing contractors repairing 26kms of damaged fencing.

I know that the SA Nature Foundation are extremely happy with the work we have done down there but I would like to see if the Club could go that little bit further and furnish the hut. Member Scott Watkin donated 2 bunk beds and a friend from work donated a double bed base which have been placed into the hut. If club members have any sort of kitchenware that they would like to donate then just drop me an email or see me at club meetings.

Kitchenware examples: tables, any type of kitchen buffet cabinets or old kitchens that could be reused, pots and pans, cutlery, dinner sets, etc

Mark Curtis

YOUR COMMITTEE 2014-15



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Wayne Ritchie

COMMITTEE MEMBER

Linda Nagel



WATKIN'S WORKING BEE

17th January 2015

A Working Bee at Scott and Kerry Watkin's Little Farm. 17th of January.

On Friday 2nd of January I was driving home from the city and looked towards the hills. You may remember that it was pretty hot that day. It was so hot that my tyre temperature alarms were triggered (55 degrees on the road). It had been already declared a catastrophic fire risk day. A column of dense white smoke was visible not far from where I estimated our farm to be.



When I arrived home it was evident that the fire might be coming our way.

To cut a long story short, the fire came through 4 times during the next 24 hours. My brother, Craig and his wife, Michelle saved the day (and our house) by turning up on Saturday morning just as the second front of fire reached us. We were putting out spot fires every day for another week even though it had rained

40 mls.

The fires burned or melted all of our pasture, most of the fencing and pipework to troughs and irrigation. A lot of trees were damaged. Even our underground SA Power Network pit melted and so we relied on our generator for electricity for 9 days.

Behind the scenes people were rallying to come to our support and aid.

During the fires the four of us knew we were on our own. Our area was deemed too dangerous for the CFS to enter. Afterwards we heard that the MLR committee were thinking of us and had been considering ways to help. My Facebook friends were asking what they could do. It occurred to me that I would take years to repair and replace the damage from the fire. With so many generous and sincere offers of help I hurriedly made plans for a working bee. Tom Doody helped by making the day an official club trip. I explained the concept at the January club meeting and I was overwhelmed by the support.

We met at the Kersbrook Post office at 0930 on Saturday and hence drove the 2km along the recently reopened roads to Arpsyn Downs (the name we gave our 20 acres). After making sure that those who had parked under burned trees had moved to safer places, we all assembled for a briefing. There were the MLR members, my Facebook friends and family. Probably 40 people all together. Craig Watkin had plied his skills as a project manager and we had divided up the jobs to best employ the variety of skills available. Graham from the SES had provided safety glasses, ear protection and gloves. I have never seen so many chainsaws outside a Stihl shop.

WATKIN'S WORKING BEE

17th January 2015



The crowd dispersed and the work began.

Peter and Tom lead a gang who proceeded with rolling many kilometres of burned wire on to a big cable drum. This proved to be a great success and solved a major problem with what to do with the damaged wire. Shorty and a mob of others helped with restoring pipes and irrigation. Big piles of firewood, cut and stacked appeared where trees had fallen.

The enthusiasm of the lumberjacks had to be restrained when I discovered one gang had continued well onto my neighbour's land. Eric and a smaller group with chainsaws centred their activities near the dam. Quite a few yabbies were caught, a legitimate by-product of their efforts.

Burned materials, tyres and recently created junk was loaded onto trailers and carried to the skips that the council had supplied at the Kersbrook Oval.

Wayne and Nick re-clad a green house that had melted due to the radiant heat during the fires. Others re-plumbed the veggie garden and the orchard. Staples that lay where fence posts used to be were collected and all manner of jobs were done.



WATKIN'S WORKING BEE

17th January 2015

By early afternoon we had achieved a great deal and it was time for lunch. With the meat vouchers donated by the winners of the MLR lucky numbers plus a little more from us (and some well earned refreshments) I thought we would be calling it a day. Volunteers cooked up a delicious barbe-cue and we took some rest. BUT the willing spirit of the throng was strong and work recommenced.

The burned gardens around the house were cleared and many other tasks completed before we retired for a few more ice cold beers, wines and softies.

I cannot begin to say how grateful Kerry and I feel towards everyone who was able to help. There were others who we know wanted to help and who would have, but for other commitments. Our spirits have been greatly lifted and any sense of loss has been restored.



To everyone we say
a great big
thankyou.



How can the Project Manager
get this dirty sitting in his air
conditioned office?

BEACHPORT

Australia Day Long Weekend

Clockwise: D section or is that MLR Section;
Ranger Lofty—where are we going?
Trip leader in a spot of bother
Steve's convoy en route to Naracoorte
New members Lothar and Sheena in the sand
Happy Hour



4WDSA WORKING BEE

Dates: 28th & 29th March

KEEPING IN TOUCH A PRODUCTION OF THE FWDSA EXECUTIVE



Se
K. I. T.
"KEEPING IN TOUCH"

Number 34
20/01/2015

NGARKAT CONSERVATION PARK **INTERCLUB WORKING BEE 28th & 29th March 2015**

WHAT: Each year a group of volunteers from FWDSA affiliated clubs meet at the Ngarkat CP to undertake a number of tasks that have been developed in conjunction with the Senior Ranger, Natural Resources (SA Murray-Darling Basin, DEWNR) from Lameroo. These tasks assist DEWNR in maintaining, sustaining and enhancing the Ngarkat CP for all park visitors.

This year the work to be undertaken is again generally on or near the one way section of the Ngarkat CP Border Track and includes signage, fencing (repair, replacement or installation), fireplace & rubbish cleanup, signage, vegetation trimming, painting and rubble placement. DEWNR will be providing materials and specialist tools needed for the work and the volunteers will need to provide all the basic hand tools and labor.

The one way section of the Border Track is closed to public traffic until the first weekend of April and therefore will be closed to public traffic during the working bee.

WHEN: Weekend of 28th & 29th March 2015. Work starts at 9am on Saturday 28th March, but you may setup camp on the afternoon or evening of Friday 27th March.

WHERE: Meet at the Ngarkat CP Pine Hut Soak campsite (S35° 25' 20" E140° 52' 46").
See the map overleaf.

Directions: Heading south from Tailem Bend cross the railway overpass, turn left onto the Mallee Highway; drive through Lameroo, Parilla and past the T-Junction to Bordertown (do not turn at the T-Junction), 5km west of Pinnaroo turn right on to Rosy Pine Lane (Ngarkat Park sign at this point, see RAA map 'Upper South East ref: J2), continue south for approximately 17 km. The Pine Hut Soak campsite is located just inside the Park entrance.

WHAT TO BRING:

Camping: Camper trailers and caravans can be accommodated. The site has one very good long drop toilet but you need to bring everything else (water, food, shelter). Please note that the 28th and 29th March will still be in fire danger season so the "camp fire" will need to be artificial (a gas stove will be OK).

Equipment:

Tools Post hole digging tools, pruners, loppers, bow saw, handsaw, shovel, rake, hand tools. A wheelbarrow will be useful for one of the tasks at Pine Hut soak.

UHF In car and handheld UHF radios will be useful, Channel 16 will be used.

Personal Working gloves and footwear, drinking water, sun protection (hat, long sleeves, long pants, and sun screen).

Bring high visibility vests or clothing and possibly share them with your fellow workers.

4WDSA WORKING BEE

Dates: 28th & 29th March

CONTACT:

Darryl McManus - e-mail ddaajmcm@bigpond.net.au, Mb. 0488 275 300; Ph. (08) 8281 3394.

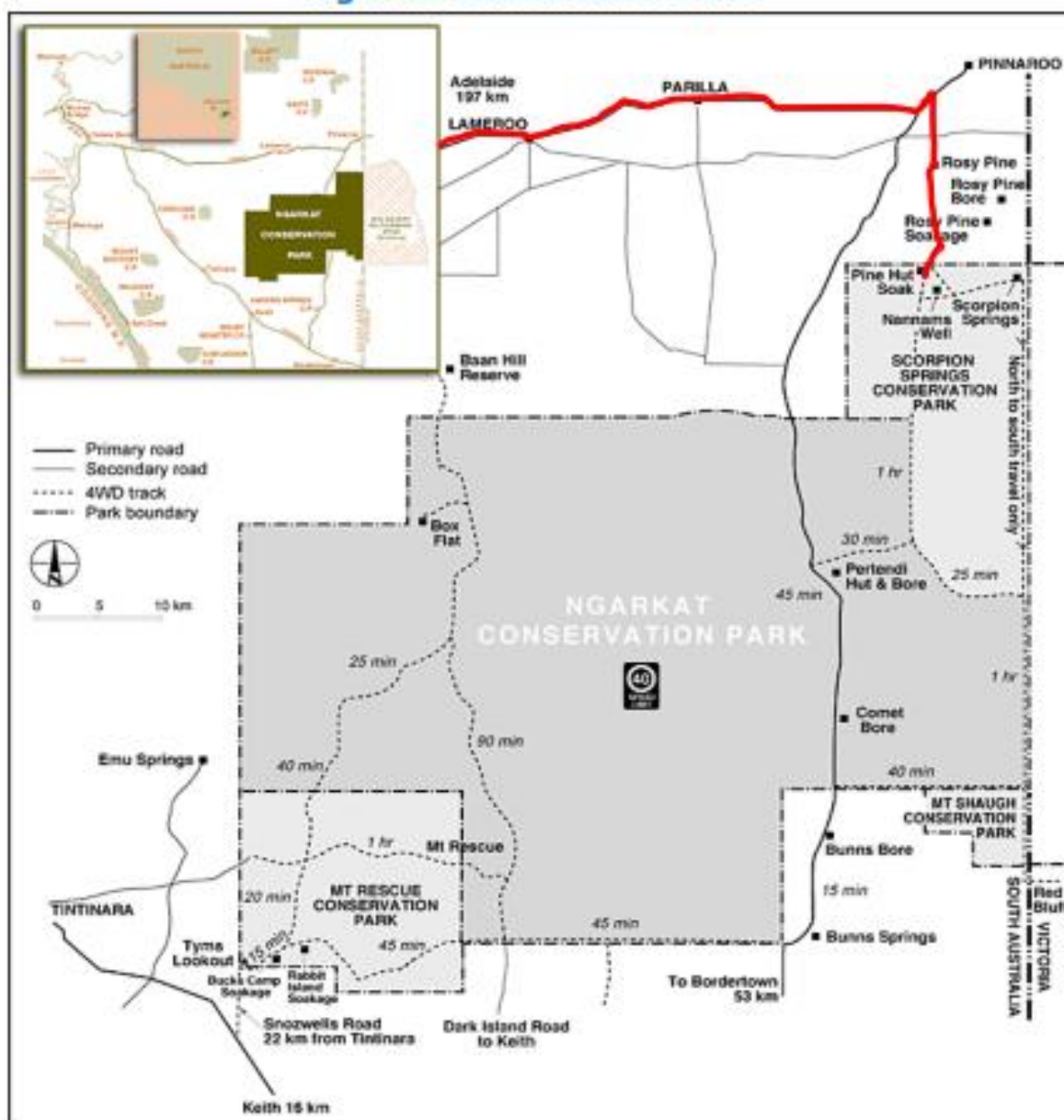
Satellite phone: 0424 212 534 for Emergency incoming & outgoing calls during the working bee.

Important Note - let us know in advance:

- Contact details for your group.
- When you plan to arrive.
- The number of people and vehicles in your party.
- If you can bring a trailer that could be used to transport materials from the campsite.
- If you can bring a wheelbarrow.

www.4wdsa.asn.au

Ngarkat Conservation Park



BEACHPORT TO NARACOORTE

Australia Day Long Weekend

JANUARY 25TH

By Steve Townsend

Some sunshine and a cool breeze 6 vehicles left Beachport about 9-45am Sunday morning for a scenic drive to Black Cockatoo, just out side of Naracoorte, to check out the "Black Cockatoo Bush Camp" With Ranger Lofty on board to direct us through some back roads, with our first stop being Bool Lagoon, not much water there at the moment and quite peaceful with lots of info on the local bird life and walking trail around the lagoon.



Next stop was Naracoorte then north to Black Cockatoo where we met Liz, the owner of the Bush Camp, who welcomed us and spoke about the facilities and future improvement before letting us have a look around at the camp sites, toilet and shower facilities then out the back to the 4WD tracks and challenges.

The camp ground lay out is very well looked after with several fire pits with each having a

shelter to get out of the weather if necessary and lots of well maintained lawn area around each fire pit. Site seeing done we signed the visitors book and headed back to Naracoorte for lunch.



BEACHPORT TO NARACOORTE

Australia Day Long Weekend

After a very brief discussion we all agreed the Naracoorte Hotel would be the place for lunch. Lucky we were able to get a table for 9, plus 4 late comers after visiting friends, being that it was a long weekend and we had not made a booking. After lunch back on the road to Lucindale and then some back roads through to Beachport arriving about 4-00pm in the afternoon.

Ranger Lofty only gave us one wrong turn but I picked that up before we went too far, you have to watch him with his directions at times as he mumbles a lot and is hard to understand.

I found the drive quite relaxing and the country in that area never fail's to impress me with it's colours and



trees. I hope those that came on the run with me enjoyed the drive as much as I did.

I will look at a trip to Black Cockatoo Bush Camp later in the year if members are interested.

.Cheers

RON'S TRIP TO NORA CREINA

Australia Day Long Weekend

They say a picture tells a thousand words....

Well here is a 5 thousand word long trip report!



Matching glasses?



RON'S TRIP TO NORA CREINA

Australia Day Long Weekend



HERE'S SOME GREAT DAD JOKES

Someone will laugh, maybe at you, but they will laugh!

- Q. What's a crocodile's favourite game? A. Snap!
- Q. What's small, furry and bright purple? A. A koala holding its breath!
- Q. What do you call a boomerang that doesn't come back? A. A stick!
- Q. Why did the emu cross the road? A. To prove he wasn't a chicken!
- Q. Why did the dingo cross the road twice? A. Because he was a double-crosser!
- Q. What's a koala's favourite drink? A. Coca Koala!
- Q. What do crocodiles call children? A. Appetizers!
- Q. What do you get when you cross a kangaroo with sheep? A. A woolly jumper!
- Q. What animal can jump higher than the Sydney Harbour Bridge? A. All animals, because bridges can't jump!

Sheila walked into the kitchen to find Bruce stalking around

with a fly swatter.

"What are you doing?" She asked.

"Hunting Flies" He responded.

"Oh. Killing any?" She asked.

"Yep, 3 males, 2 Females," he replied.

Intrigued, she asked. "How can you tell them apart?"

He responded, "3 were on a beer can, 2 were on the phone."

A bus driver was heading down McNamara Street in Queenstown Tasmania. He saw a "no right turn" sign, but turned right anyway. He came to a one-way street, but went the wrong way. A police officer saw everything he had done, but did not arrest him. Why not?

The bus driver was walking, not driving the bus.

A police officer stopped a motorist who was speeding down Main Street. "But officer," the man began, "I can explain."

"Quiet!" snapped the officer. "I'm going to let you spend the night in jail until the chief gets back."

"But, officer, I just wanted to say,"

"And I said be quiet! You're going to jail!"

A few hours later the officer looked in on his prisoner and said, "Lucky for you, the chief's at his daughter's wedding. He'll be in a good mood when he gets back."

"Don't count on it," answered the guy in the cell. "I'm the groom."

HERE'S SOME GREAT DAD JOKES

Someone will laugh, maybe at you, but they will laugh!

On the last day of school, the children brought gifts for their teacher. The florist's son brought the teacher a bouquet of flowers. The candy-store owner's daughter gave the teacher a pretty box of candy. Then the liquor-store owner's son brought up a big, heavy box. The teacher lifted it up and noticed that it was leaking a little bit. She touched a drop of the liquid with her finger and tasted it. "Is it wine?" she guessed.

"No," the boy replied.

She tasted another drop and asked, "Champagne?"

"No," said the little boy..... "It's a puppy!"

A guy is 72 years old and loves to fish. He was sitting in his boat the other day when he heard a voice say, 'Pick me up.' He looked around and couldn't see anyone.

He thought he was dreaming when he heard the voice say again, 'Pick me up'

He looked in the water and there, floating on the top, was a frog. The man said, 'Are you talking to me?'

The frog said, 'Yes, I'm talking to you. Pick me up then, kiss me and I'll turn into the most beautiful woman you have ever seen. I'll make sure that all your friends are envious and jealous because I will be your bride!'

The man looked at the frog for a short time, reached over, picked it up carefully, and placed it in his front pocket.

The frog said, 'What, are you nuts? Didn't you hear what I said? I said kiss me and I will be your beautiful bride.'

He opened his pocket, looked at the frog and said, 'Nah, at my age I'd rather have a talking frog.'

An Australian drover rode into Dubbo on Thursday, stayed three days and then rode out on Thursday. How did he do that?

Thursday was the name of the horse.

When spelled out, how many numbers between one and hundred have the letter A in it?

None. Surprised?



Product Safety Recall

MASTERS HOME IMPROVEMENT
takes product safety seriously and wishes to advise customers of
a product recall on the following product
TASK FORCE Heavy-Duty Recovery Strap 20ft. /6.1m



IDENTIFICATION:

TASK FORCE Heavy-Duty Recovery Strap 20ft. /6.1m (900030099). Sold in Masters Home Improvement stores from 3 September 2011 to 7 January 2015.

DEFECTS:

The product does not comply with the mandatory standard for a motor vehicle recovery strap. It has an inadequate warning label on the permanently fixed tag and may not make the user aware of the safety hazards when using the product.

HAZARD:

Incorrect use of the strap could potentially cause death, injury or damage to property.

ACTION REQUIRED:

Customers should immediately cease using the TASK FORCE Heavy-Duty Recovery Strap 20ft. /6.1m and return it to any Masters Home Improvement store for a full refund.

Masters Home Improvement apologises to its customers for any inconvenience caused by this recall.

For further information

See www.recalls.gov.au
for Australian Product Recall Information

MP190115PRA

+ Pge 42 The Advertiser 23rd Jan 2015

Did you buy one of these?

October
2-5
2015



Octoberfest



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 SALE

Moving sale—there's no shed at our new house!



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\$45 (game is fake, crack on lid)

Burke and Wills Double Coolabah Swag **\$250**



FINKE DESERT RACE & SIMPSON

31 May—14 June 2015



Leaving Saturday 31st May for Farina, followed by the Oodnadatta Track, aiming to get to Alice Springs Friday morning.

What is “The Finke” you may ask? Now in it’s 40th year, the Tatts Finke Desert Race is an off road, multi terrain two-day race for bikes, cars, buggies and quads through desert country from Alice Springs to the small Aputula (Finke) community. The race is held each year on the Queen’s Birthday long weekend in June. “Finke” as it is commonly known, is one of the biggest annual sporting events in the Northern Territory and has the reputation of being one of the most difficult offroad courses in one of the most remote places in the world. Finke is unique and the most fun you can have with a helmet on!

Finke Desert Race festivities and vehicle scrutineering on Friday afternoon followed by qualifying on Saturday. Late Saturday afternoon head off down towards Finke to find a camp spot alongside the track. Sunday watch the competitors head to Finke and Monday till mid afternoon watch them head back to Alice Springs. Monday afternoon head towards Dalhousie Springs and then into and across the Simpson Desert towards the infamous Big red and Birdsville.

Expecting to be home over the weekend of 13/14 June

Interested talk to Tom or Jordan



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Paul McGregor

Club equipment for loan

- *Grate Mates*
- *Uniden* UHF handheld radios
- Tyre repair kit (large)
- Tyre repair kit (small)
- *Tirfor* hand winch and cable
- Car Bra
- Drag chains (x 2)
- Gazebo 3m x 3m (x 2)
- Recovery Bag (incl snatch straps, extension strap, tree trunk protector and shackles)
- Trestle tables, plastic folding 1.8 m (x 2)
- Hot water urn and kettle
- Bead breaker

For further information on any loan equipment, please email Eric Kalderovskis,

Property Officer: property@mountloftyrangers.com.au



Bruce's Meat specialising in local pasture grazed beef, local first cross lamb from the Strathalbyn area and our pork is all female from the Adelaide Hills through too Two Wells in the north. We make all our own smallgoods, ham, bacon, fritz and have over 20 flavours in our award winning range of sausages.

Going away on a 4WD trip to remote areas then come and see us first we vacuum seal your meat at no extra charge giving you up to 4 weeks shelf life in your fridge, no need to freeze it.

Poultry Options is Adelaide's only 100% free range fresh poultry shop. Exclusively stocking Lilydale Free Range Chicken, even our award winning chicken sausages and value added meal options are all made with Lilydale Chicken.

3 Great Locations

Mitcham

Mitcham Square Shopping Centre

119 Belair Road Torrens Park

Ph Bruce's Meat 8272 9539

Ph Poultry Options 8172 1388

Pasadena

Pasadena Green Shopping Centre

16-30 Five Ash Dr Pasadena

Ph 8276 4077

Fairview Park

Fairview Green Shopping Centre

325 Hancock Road Fairview Park

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LOOKING FOR SOMEWHERE TO GO

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www.4x4earth.com.au

4x4 Earth, Australia's National 4wd track database, brings to you 4wd track locations using interactive mapping technology. Our 4x4 track location reviews use google mapping to allow you to see exactly where all the great 4x4 tracks are around Australia.

So if you're looking for a good route, you've come to the right place!



www.outbacktravelaustralia.com.au/



www.australianexplorer.com/4wd/



www.australiangeographic.com.au/travel/destinations/.../best-4wd-trips



www.vks737.on.net

BEACHPORT NIGHT DRIVE

More than we bargained for....

It was 8 30, the sun was well and truly setting, when the three cars, Bully and Tom in Glenn's Jeep, Ron, Jordan and myself in Ron's Toyota 40 series and the Sims boys in the patrol left the caravan park. The breezy drive on the way to the beach got us going before the fun started. We got going on the beach as the sun set and the almost full moon came out. We zipped our way up the beach to 5 mile drift in quicker time than we expected, in under half an hour. So we decided to head a little further up the beach, a little while later a suggestion to start the drive back was thrown up after a bit of fun on the dunes near the sea. That was met by a "but I just started having fun from Ron" this comment was a bit like when a mum tells her son to go to bed. So deeper into the dunes we went and we soon learned that shadows play tricks in the dark. A dune with barely a crest would look like a straight drop off which did cause some hesitation with the first few goes at a couple of the dunes but we had fun all the same. After a wombat sighting and a few recoveries we decided it was time to head back. So began our real adventure. The dunes take on a whole new persona in the dark, we sat there turned our lights off and just listened, we could hear the ocean but from which direction? We set off in the general direction we thought home was but no one thought to bring their gps and there was no phone service to run Google maps so after at least 5 circles we got the right track. And then the rain started. Of course everyone else was dry but in the back of Ronnie's car I got a bit damp. But I didnt care! I'm young and it was a fun night.....

Liam Doody

PS I'll have my learners by next Beachoort, so I'll have to tell Dad I'm doing this night drive!

Editor required

Sue has resigned as Editor in Chief of this fine publication, so we are in need for someone to put their hand up and help out for the next couple of months before we hold the AGM.

I'd like to thank Sue for her work with the magazine over the last couple of years. I go by the adage you must leave a job in a better place than when you took it on, and Sue has done that with this magazine, I'm sure you have enjoyed reading it as much as I have.

Do you have a passion for the written word, do you harbor becoming the next media mogul rising through the ranks of News Corporation—well this is the start you need!

Treat the next couple of months as your apprenticeship, in this cut throat world of Club Magazine editorship, priming your wit, your wordsmanship, your creativity, the world , no this magazine is your oyster! Please see Tom at the meeting if interested.

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Manuals and Certificates– new process this year

There is a new process now for obtaining your training manuals and at completion of your training, your certificates, from the DTU 4WD SA as of 01 January 2015.

You personally must apply for a Unique Student Identifier number (USI number), before you apply for your manuals and/or certificates.

Any issues please contact me and I will endeavour to head you in the right direction.

Steve Townsend, Education Officer

KEEPING IN TOUCH A PRODUCTION OF THE FWDSA EXECUTIVE

Number 32
3/11/2014

K. I. T.

"KEEPING IN TOUCH"

IMPORTANT NOTICE

FROM THE DRIVER TRAINING UNIT (DTU) of 4WDSA

The government has introduced a requirement that all students involved in Vocational Education Training (VET), which the 4WD driver training certificates are part of, needs to have a Unique Student Identifier (USI). The purpose is to create a central location where all VET qualifications are recorded. Any student can then get copies of their qualifications even if the training organisation that issued them does not exist anymore.

The USI will commence on 1 January 2015 and all new and continuing students undertaking nationally recognised VET courses will need to have a USI to receive their statement of attainment or qualification.

You create your USI online and provide it to the training organisation when you enrol to do a course. To create your USI you will need to access the USI website on <http://usi.gov.au>. This gives more information about the USI. The website is open now for you to create your USI.

From November 2014 the DTU will only accept applications for driver training courses that contain your USI. The application form for training manuals has been updated to include a section to record the USI. If the form you received from your training officer does not have an area to enter the USI, you have been given an out of date form. Ask your training officer for a copy of the latest application form.

Existing students already enrolled in the driver training courses will also need to apply for a USI and provide it to the DTU before your certificate can be issued. Also anyone requesting a certificate after completing the 4WD assessments will need to provide the DTU with their USI. We will need your USI before we can apply for the certificate. If you do not supply it, it will delay the issuing of your certificate.

www.4wdsa.asn.au

Training

Training provided by FWDSA Driver Training Unit (DTU)

14-15 March, 10-00am	Tyre Repair @ DTU Cavan (\$15-00)
3-6 April	MLR Training @ Jakem Farm (TBC)
16-17 May, 9-00am	Basic Theory @ Cavan (\$20-00)
18-19 July	Trip Planning Course MLR
1-2 August 9-00am	Morgan Quarry (Training \$40 Advisor \$60)
22-23 August , 9-00am	Mud & water training @ Jakem Farm (\$35)
12– 13 September, 9-00am	WHS, Risk & Emergency response course @ Cavan (\$20-00)
10-11 October	Sand Driving @ Peake sharing with Jeep
18 October, 9-00am	Trip planning course @ Cavan (\$20-00)
31 Oct -1 Nov, 9-00am	Sand Training @ Peake \$40-00

Club Trainers

Education Officer: Steve Townsend

Assessors: Steve Townsend, Mark Curtis, Jeff Morgan, Paul Tabone,
& 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

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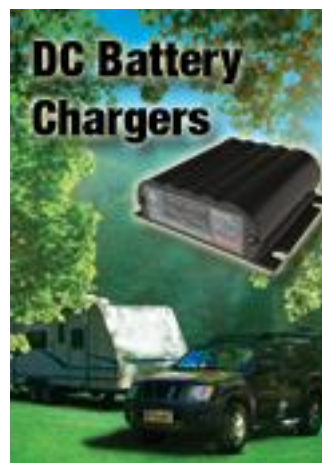
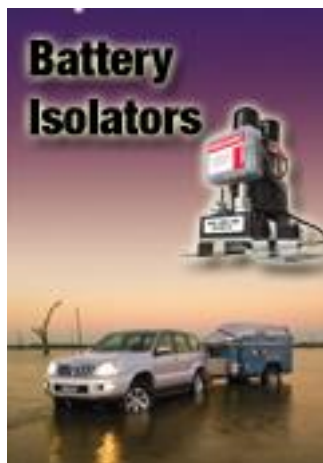
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2015 CALENDAR



Date	Event	Contact	Details
<i>Monday 9 February</i>	<i>MLR Club Meeting 7.30pm Blackwood Football Club, Trevor Terrace, Blackwood</i>		
March 2015	Extended Trip	Peter Reed	Tasmania
7-9 March Long W/end	Weekend Trip	Paul McGregor	Creating tracks at Willangi for October- fest 2015
<i>Monday 16 March</i>	<i>MLR Club Meeting 7.30pm Blackwood Football Club, Trevor Terrace, Blackwood</i>		
3-17 April	Extended Trip	Wayne Ritchie	Binns Track section
18-23 April	Extended Trip	Mark Curtis	Witchelina (see in- side or Trips Board
<i>Monday 13 April</i>	<i>MLR Club Meeting 7.30pm Blackwood Football Club, Trevor Terrace, Blackwood</i>		
30 May-14 June	Extended Trip	Tom Doody	Finke Desert Race- spectating & camping
<i>Monday 11 May</i>	<i>MLR Club Meeting 7.30pm Blackwood Football Club, Trevor Terrace, Blackwood</i>		
13-18 June	Extended Trip	Mark Curtis	Witchelina (see in- side or Trips Board
<i>Monday 15 June</i>	<i>MLR Club Meeting 7.30pm Blackwood Football Club, Trevor Terrace, Blackwood</i>		
4-17 July	Extended Trip	Gary Light	Simpson Desert- West to East
4-17 July	Extended Trip	Kevin Jesshope	Simpson Desert- East to West
26 July-19 Sept	Extended Trip	Steve & Chris Wrobel	Cape York. See trip sheet for details

For further information or to book on any trips, please email Phil Simes,
Trip Coordinator: trips@mountloftyrangers.com.au