



Rangers' Review

Volume 22

No. 7

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

December
2016



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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 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
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Prez Sez



Hey...guess what...for this month no one knows what the Prez is sezing as he is in Nepal doing his bit for mankind. Accordingly, I've been asked to sez a few words. As it happens it's not as hard a task as I originally anticipated. Given it's the last Review of the year I thought I would go into reflective mode.

I've had the opportunity to fill in for Tom on a number of occasions at monthly meetings (thanks for your patience) but this is the first newsletter article I've had to draft in his absence. I guess that's why they call the role Vice President. Notwithstanding that it wasn't until I ran a meeting or two that I realised it's quite lonely up front. You don't get that close interaction with other members like you do when you sit at a table until a break in proceedings. I think anyone who has been president of secretary will support this. With Christmas only a few weeks away I'm sure many of us are looking forward to a well-earned break. For those that have to work over the period either by choice or necessity, I hope the period is productive.

So.... 2016 is nearly done and dusted, what happened to the time and what did we get up to? This year was MLR's 20th anniversary year. It seems so long ago we introduced the new shirts and had the dinner in April. It was at the anniversary dinner we announced our inaugural club person of the year Paul McGregor. You may have also noticed 2016 saw the introduction of our new website and Facebook pages.

The year started with what has become one of the clubs traditional trips, the trip to Beachport for the Australia Day weekend. Speaking of Beachport have you booked your place for 2017 (Southern Ocean Tourist Park - D Section). Hopefully you will be fortunate enough to plug the gap between Australaia Day and the weekend. There will be more information out early January for those attending the weekend.

Some of the other trips club members have been involved with included; a mystery day trip and a trip to Warraweena in March, followed by trips to Lindsay Island over ANZAC Day, a working bee at Ashbourne, trips to the Finke Desert Race, Border Track, Big Desert, fishing comp, weekend in Whyalla, camp cook, 1st aid training, Redarc factory visit and Snowys. I know I've probably forgotten some but the point is, trips were many and varied.

The trips culminated with our Christmas party on the last weekend in November, this time we ventured to Wirrina. The location was fantastic, weather was great, the spit roasted meats were excellent and it was good to see plenty of people show up to enjoy the event. Question for you all... where are you going in 2017? Have you thought about putting a trip sheet up?

Don't forget the 'Evil Kris Kringle' (\$10-\$15 present) with tickets sold at \$1 each or 6 for \$5 and the \$2 champagnes at the Dec meeting; there is no guest speaker so bring a small plate of nibbles to share with your table. There will also be a raffle for a snatch strap (11 000kg) kindly donated by Snowys Outdoor. Your Kris Kringle ticket will also be your snatch strap raffle ticket.

Don't forget #2, the show and shine at the Jan monthly meeting, come along and show of your rig. Prizes will be given for numerous criteria. It's not all about the glass paint jobs and spotless engine bays so don't be shy.

Finally, I would like to thank the committee for their efforts to date and on behalf of your committee and the Light Clan, I'd like to wish you all a happy safe Christmas and a prosperous 2017. See you at the meeting.
VP



YOUR COMMITTEE 2016-17

COMMITTEE DIRECTORS

	<p>PRESIDENT</p> <p>Tom Doody</p> <p>president@mountloftyrangers.com.au</p>
	<p>VICE PRESIDENT</p> <p>Gary Light</p> <p>vp@mountloftyrangers.com.au</p>
	<p>TREASURER</p> <p>Paul McGregor</p> <p>treasurer@mountloftyrangers.com.au</p>
	<p>SECRETARY & PUBLIC OFFICER</p> <p>Jo Reed</p> <p>secretary@mountloftyrangers.com.au</p>
	<p>TRIPS COORDINATOR</p> <p>Roger Wilkinson</p> <p>trips@mountloftyrangers.com.au</p>
	<p>FWD SA DELEGATE</p> <p>Ron Versteeg</p> <p>delegate@mountloftyrangers.com.au</p>
	<p>MEMBERSHIP OFFICER</p> <p>Jordan Ray</p> <p>membership@mountloftyrangers.com.au</p>

YOUR COMMITTEE 2016-17

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

	<p>WEBSITE OFFICER Michelle Watkin webmaster@mountloftyrovers.com.au</p>		
	<p>MERCHANDISE OFFICER Sheena Dunaiki merchandise@mountloftyrovers.com.au</p>		
	<p>PROPERTY OFFICER Peter Reed property@mountloftyrovers.com.au</p>		
	<p>EDUCATION OFFICER Steve Townsend training@mountloftyrovers.com.au</p>		
	<p>MAGAZINE EDITOR Kylie Cooper magazine@mountloftyrovers.com.au</p>		
	<p>COMMITTEE MEMBER Wayne Ritchie</p>		<p>COMMITTEE MEMBER Rob Stevens</p>
	<p>COMMITTEE MEMBER Craig Watkin</p>		<p>COMMITTEE MEMBER Marianne Sag</p>
	<p>COMMITTEE MEMBER Lothar Dunaiki</p>		



Paul McGregor – 0408 900 889

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- Agreed value options

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- Fire & malicious
- Cover in vehicle and at campsites

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Ph: (08) 8370 2195 W: www.tyrepowerblackwood.com.au

E: daniel@tyrepowerblackwood.com.au

UNIFORM

We have a new supplier for our uniforms and they have provided better guidance on measuring and choosing the best size garment for order.

How to measure: select a similar garment that fits you and lay it flat. Then measure from side seam to side seam under the armhole; this will give you the half chest measurement shown on the sizing guide.

Note the half chest measurement is the *finished garment size* not your body size

Khaki Shirt

We have new khaki shirts with the MLR logo, available for order, either short or long sleeve for \$40. Add your name for an extra \$7.



Description

180 gsm
100% cotton drill work shirts
soft and durable
UPF50+
Complies:
AS/NZ 4399:1966
AS 2919-1987

Sizing guide

Here you will find the sizing for this product

SIZE	XS	S	M	L	XL	XXL	3XL	5XL
HALF CHEST	55	57.5	60	62	64.5	67	69.5	74

Polo Shirts

Available for order in the two designs: Tyre print and Flinders print
Short sleeve \$55

Long sleeve \$58

Add your name for an extra \$5.50



UNIFORM

Jackets and Vests

These are still available to order

Softshell jackets - Ladies \$70; Mens \$75

Softshell vest - Ladies \$55; Mens \$60

Add you name for an extra \$7.00



POLO Sizing Chart - NEW SIZES 2016

Emmsee Sportswear

PLEASE NOTE: $\frac{1}{2}$ chest measurement is finished garment size **NOT BODY SIZE**
When measuring length start at highest point near neck / shoulder

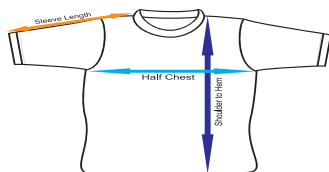
Emmsee sizes	$\frac{1}{2}$ chest	high point of shoulder		$\frac{1}{2}$ chest
Size 6	38	53		kids 6
Size 8	40	56		kids 8
Size 10	43	58		kids 10
Size 12	44	60	ladies 8	kids 12
Size 14	47	65	ladies 10	kids 14
Size 16	49	70	ladies 12	kids 16
Size 18	53	74	ladies 14	mens S
Size 20	54	75	ladies 16	mens M
Size 22	58	76	ladies 18	mens L
Size 24	60	78	ladies 20	mens XL
Size 26	63	81	ladies 22	mens 2XL
Size 28	66	81		mens 3XL
Size 30	70	81	ladies 24	mens 4XL
Size 32	75 hip 79	81	ladies 26	mens 5XL
Size 34	79 hip 83 85			

How to measure a garment to get a half chest measurement

Lay a garment that fits you flat and measure from side seam to side seam under the armhole this will give you the half chest measurement

To measure the finished length - measure next to the neck of the garment near the highest point of the shoulder

Where to measure



Contact Sheena to place an order:

merchandise@mountloftyrangers.com.au

Club equipment for loan!

- Grate mates
 - *Uniden* UHF handheld radios
 - Tyre repair kit (large & small)
 - *Tifor* hand winch and cable
 - Car Bra
 - Trestle tables, plastic folding 1.8m (x2)
 - Recovery bag (inc snatch straps, extension strap, tree trunk protector and shackles)
- Gazebo 3m x 3m
 - Hot water urn and kettle
 - Bead breaker
 - Drag chains (x 2)

***All club equipment is securely stored within the club trailer @ Lonsdale**

For further information on any loan equipment, please email Property Officer: property@mountloftyrangers.com.au



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Ph: 08 8271 7617 FAX: 08 8272 8510
E-Mail: brae59@internode.on.net

Snake awareness workshop

Presented by Geoff Coombe, *Living with Wildlife* & Adelaide Snake Catchers



- ✓ Want to learn about snakes in our region, snake behaviour and how to interact with snakes?
- ✓ Want to know more about identifying and resolving snake hazards, what makes a snake dangerous and venom including its effects?
- ✓ Want to find out about snake bite first aid techniques such as pressure bandage and immobilisation?

Then register now for this **FREE** workshop!

Aldinga Bay Surf Lifesaving Club (Norman Road Silver Sands)

Date: Wednesday 7 December 2016

Time: 9.30am - 1pm (Morning tea provided.)

Para Wirra Resource Centre (Para Wirra Conservation Park)

Date: Thursday 8 December 2016

Time: 1pm - 4.30pm (Afternoon tea provided.)

Belair Volunteer Centre (Belair National Park)

Date: Sunday 11 December 2016

Time: 1pm - 4.30pm (Afternoon tea provided.)

Registration is essential, numbers are limited so get in quick!

To register or to obtain further information please contact Deborah Furbank, Volunteer Program Coordinator on 0428 680 538 or Deborah.Furbank@sa.gov.au

These workshops are funded from the NRM Levy



Government of
South Australia



Natural Resources
Adelaide and Mt Lofty Ranges

TRIP REPORT: SNOWYS

Courtesy of Gary Light



Wednesday 16 Nov 2016

Due to the success of last year's event I decided to hold another Club night at Snowys. After some last minute apologies 20 people managed to make the evening, so thanks to all for making the night a success. I thought I would arrive first and have a chat with Neville (Assistant Manager at Snowys) but followed Steve Townsend into the car park and we were closely followed by Marianne and Tom Sag, it was only 5:15.

Whilst touching base with Neville, Roger arrived with the club trailer and after completing the set-up we were ready to start cooking the sausage sizzle. Over the course of the next 40 minutes or so people started to arrive and were initially directed inside to have a look around whilst the food was cooking.

Around 6:10 we were ready to serve. After eating a hotdog or two or in some cases several, we went inside dispensed with the evenings formalities and introduced the Snowys team who then provided a quick run-down on some of the cooking options available.



One of the more interesting things I saw during the evening was one of the new blow up tents (go figure) apparently they are the "beez neez" in Europe and New Zealand. Imagine a large tent with tubes filled with air instead of standard poles and you get the picture. The technology was borrowed from the military which use it for field hospitals. After that it was more browsing and for some purchasing and socialising prior to heading home with our numerous purchases.



Big thanks to those who helped make the night a success Neville, Kevin and Ben from Snowys, and everyone who helped with the BBQ and shelter then cook and serve the hotdogs.

P.S. Snowys donated an 11K snatch strap, which I will raffle off at the Dec meeting

MLR XMAS @ WIRRINA

Photos courtesy of Kerry Henness (via MLR facebook), Frank Aschmoneit, Dan Kelsh & Steve Brown's drone.

Fantastic location and hospitality from Ben & Holly at Worrina Cove. Thanks to all who organised, those who helped cook, serve and wash up and all who attended.



Watching the cars, trailers, campers and caravans roll in to fill up our spot!



Checking out the goods!



**Our 30+ cars
fit in nicely**

Rangers Review

MLR XMAS @ WIRRINA

Check out the amazing view from a short walk up and over the hill!



Feast preparations!



Cooking with coal = dirty hands!

MLR XMAS @ WIRRINA

Lamb spit ready to go!



Cooking well under way



MLR XMAS @ WIRRINA

Henry & Jason preparing the pork for the 2nd spit



Keeping Shorty company and well hydrated while supervising the spit



MLR XMAS @ WIRRINA

Official taste testers!



Duke checking out the drone



Ready to eat! Lamb, beef, pork or chicken with yummy salads!



MLR XMAS @ WIRRINA

Table for 70 please!

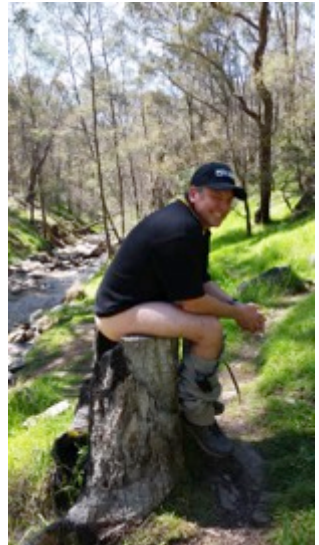


MLR XMAS @ WIRRINA

Oops! Not everyone's weekend ended well!



CAPTION THESE!!!



GUEST SPEAKER

NO Guest speaker for December – social evening

January Guest Speaker:

Tom's Nepalese Adventures



For further information or to book a guest speaker, please email

Gary Light, Guest Speaker Co-Ordinator & Vice President at

vp@mountloftyrangers.com.au

ORANGE SKY LAUNDRY @ NOVEMBER MEETING

Thanks to Tim Smeaton from Orange Sky Laundry who came out with Peggy to educate us on the good work their service provides to homeless Adelaideans not only for clean clothes/bedding but the positive effect of conversation.



Rangers Review

TRIPS CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT	CONTACT	DETAILS
MONDAY 12 th December	Christmas Club Meeting 7.30pm Blackwood Football Club, Trevor Terrace, Blackwood		
<i>*Social evening * All welcome</i> <i>**BRING A PLATE OF NIBBLES TO SHARE ON YOUR TABLE **</i> <i>* Kris Kringle versus Evil Santa * Fruffle sales * \$2 Champagne*</i>			
<div></div> <div></div>			
**PLEASE BRING A \$10-15 WRAPPED GIFT – RAFFLE TICKETS \$1-2 AT THE DOOR			
2017 MONDAY 12 th January	Show 'n' Shine Club Meeting 7.30pm Blackwood Football Club, Trevor Terrace, Blackwood		
<i>Show your wares! Categories to be announced! Prizes to win!</i>			
<div></div> <div></div>			
Thurs 26 th – Sun 29 th January	Extended long weekend	Tom Doody	Australia Day @ Beachport
<i>Sand & dune driving / ladies trip / ice cream / wine tasting / quiz night and more!</i>			
<div></div> <div></div>			
29 th April – 20 th May	Extended trip	Paul & Kay Martin	Red Centre
<i>Uluru, Kings Canyon, East/West MacDonnell Ranges</i>			

2016 SA SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Period	Start
School Holidays	Saturday 17 December, 2016

2017 SA SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Period	Start
Term 1	Monday 30 January, 2017
School Holidays	Friday 14 April, 2017
Term 2	Monday 1 May, 2017
School Holidays	Saturday 8 July, 2017
Term 3	Monday 24 July, 2017
School Holidays	Saturday 30 September, 2017
Term 4	Monday 16 October, 2017
School Holidays	Saturday 16 December, 2017

SA PUBLIC HOLIDAYS 2017

- Sunday 1 January - New Year's Day
- Monday 2 January - Additional Day*
- Thursday 26 January - Australia Day
- Monday 13 March - March Public Holiday
- Friday 14 April - Good Friday
- Saturday 15 April - Easter Saturday
- Monday 17 April - Easter Monday
- Tuesday 25 April - ANZAC Day
- Monday 12 June - Queen's Birthday / Volunteer Day
- Monday 2 October - Labour Day
- Sunday 24 December - Christmas Eve**
- Monday 25 December - Christmas Day
- Tuesday 26 December - Boxing Day / Proclamation Day
- New Year's Eve - Sunday 31 December**



** applies as New Year's Day falls on a weekend

** from 7pm to midnight

FRUFFLES

Available for purchase at the December meeting from Debbie.




"Fruit Truffles" Individually handmade with a selection of dried fruits & a hint of honey



Fruffles

"Fruit Truffles" Individually handmade with a selection of dried fruits & a hint of honey

ORDER FORM

Phone: 0403 433 026

Fax: 8321 9765

1 Doz Loose Chocolates @ \$14.00 each

Qty Req. _____ Milk / Dark / Mixed Total \$ _____

Loose Chocolates @ \$1.00 each

(applies to orders of 100 or more only)

Qty Req. _____ Milk / Dark / Mixed Total \$ _____

Wrapped Singles @ \$1.80 each

Qty Req. _____ Milk / Dark Total \$ _____

Bon Bon 3 Pack @ \$4.50 each

Qty Req. _____ Milk / Dark Total \$ _____

Bon Bon 6 Pack @ \$8.00 each

Qty Req. _____ Milk / Dark / Mixed Total \$ _____

1 Dozen Gift Box @ \$15.00 each

Qty Req. _____ Milk / Dark / Mixed Total \$ _____

2 Dozen Family Box @ \$29.00 each

Qty Req. _____ Milk / Dark / Mixed Total \$ _____

(Please circle your selection)

Name: _____

Contact Ph: _____

Date Required: _____

All orders payable cash on delivery.
(Unless prior arrangements have been made)



Loose Chocolates

\$14 per doz (milk, dark or mixed)
Bulk loose orders 100 @ \$1.00 each



3 Pack Bon Bon

\$4.50 (milk or dark)



1 Doz Gift Box

\$15 (milk, dark or mixed)



Wrapped Singles

\$1.80 (milk or dark)



6 Pack Bon Bon

\$8.00 (milk, dark or mixed)



2 Doz Family Box

\$29.00 (milk, dark or mixed)

TRAINING

MT LOFTY RANGERS TRAINING

DATE	TRAINING
------	----------

DRIVER TRAINING UNIT

DATE	TRAINING
November 5 th – 6 th	DTU Training – Peake (sand)
November 12 th – 13 th	DTU Training – GPS Ozi Explorer – Cavan \$10

2017 TRAINING DATES TBA

Club Trainers

Education Officer: Steve Townsend

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

Trainers: Tim Byrne, Tom Doody, Glenn Lawson

For further information on training please email Steve Townsend

training@mountloftyrangers.com.au

**Never take google map
too seriously!**



Mount Lofty Rangers 4wd Club



Present



4WD Octoberfest

FRIDAY 29TH SEPT TO MONDAY 2ND OCT 2017

BASED AT WILLANGI BUSH ESCAPES - PETERBOROUGH

WHAT'S NEW THIS TIME YOU ASK?

MULTIPLE 4WD CLUB LEADERSHIP
NEW PROPERTIES
NEW TRACKS
ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

COME AND JOIN THE FUN!!!!!!!!!!!!

DETAILS TO FOLLOW IN EARLY IN 2017

OCTOBERFEST 2017

It's that time of year and we need to get cracking on Octoberfest 2017 planning.

Our first meeting to form the new sub-committee is on Friday 4th November 6.30 pm for dinner and 7.30 pm for meeting at the Maid of Auckland Function Rooms 926 South Rd, Edwardstown.

Paul has already had some initial discussions in regards to other club assistance, new properties and sponsorship proposals.

If you are interested in helping out please do not hesitate to join us (partners welcome too), so if you're coming please let Paul know on treasurer@mountloftyrangers.com.au or 0408 900 889, so we can ensure we have enough seats. If you can't make it on Friday 4th and want to be involved please can you please let Paul know on the contact details above.

2017 OCTOBERFEST TRIPS

DATE	EVENT	CONTACT	DETAILS
August	Firewood collection	Paul McGregor	Camp at Willangi Bush Escapes. Chop and collect firewood for Octoberfest. Drive some tracks
September	Reccie weekend	Paul McGregor	Reccie weekend 4WD Octoberfest tracks
29 th September – 2 nd October	OCTOBERFEST	Paul McGregor	Long weekend Event

FOR SALE

Auxiliary battery box & a portable fridge stand.

\$60.00 the lot

Or of course, \$30.00 each.

Contact Frank



Learn to
Train your wife
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FREE booklet shows you how!

Teach her to:

- Fetch your slippers and pipe
- Massage your feet
- Serve you ice cold beer and snacks
- Sit quietly while you browse your favorite television stations
- Respond to non-verbal cues, such as the snapping of fingers
- Answer "Yes, dear" to any and all requests
- Greet you at the door wearing nothing but cellophane wrap

*Five scientific
proven words are the most
difficult ones!*

WRITE TO: The Committee for a Better America, 200 King Street, Washington, D.C.

TIPS FOR CHRISTMAS CAMPING

Going camping at Christmas time is an Aussie tradition. In fact, Christmas camping is about as Australian as the flies that will be there to greet you when you arrive at the camp site. But due to its popularity, Christmas camping can be challenging. Chances are you won't have that idyllic bush camp site next to the **Howqua River** to yourself. Everybody is on annual leave, the kids are off school – heading bush at Christmas time isn't just your bright idea!



Pack early – be prepared

Leaving things to the last minute is never a good idea. If you plan to head off over Christmas, **make sure you start planning a few weeks in advance.**

Prepare a checklist. Be sure to write a shopping list for anything you may need to buy. If you're going to shop online, make sure you leave plenty of time for the purchases to arrive. Over Christmas Australia Post and couriers are run off their feet so get your purchases in early.

Download the WikiCamps Australia app and check it out. WikiCamps is crowdsourced (campers just like you list their favourite sites) and allows users to leave comments and photos of their experience. The comment section is a handy way of gauging how busy a camp site might be at a particular time of year, and any other useful tidbits that might help fellow campers, e.g. pub happy hour is at 4pm!



Also, be sure to research fuel prices. Petrol and diesel can be really expensive the further you travel outside of the city. There are many sites and apps out now that display fuel prices in a particular area – have a look at **FuelMap** and **MotorMouth** as examples. Don't leave anything to chance. Be prepared. You'll be less stressed. Oh, and don't forget the dunny paper!

TIPS FOR CHRISTMAS CAMPING

Book!

Make sure you have booked your fave spot in advance so you don't miss out! A lot of spots can be booked online.

Arrive early

Sometimes getting ahead of the crowds and arriving on Christmas Day can mean you beat the hoards. **Get in early to bag the best spot!**

Head a little further afield

The easier a camp is to access, the more people it will attract. Consider going a bit further afield this Christmas to avoid the crowds. It may just afford you the peace and quiet that we tend to like when we go camping. Having a 4x4 and a sense of adventure comes in handy. Just a note, if your intention is the fire up the trail bike or jet ski, be mindful that others that have gone to the effort to camp out in the sticks might have done so to avoid that sort of noise.



Shop in Town

Do your shopping before you leave the big smoke. Not only are prices cheaper, you'll be able to buy a lot of things that you might not be able to get in rural or remote areas. Like with Tip 1, preparation is key. Write a list. Come up with a menu. Work out what you can take from home, what you need to buy, what can go in a storage box or on ice, and what needs to go in your car fridge / freezer.

That said, **support the local economy by picking up the essentials in the local town.** And don't forget to visit the local bakery. Country bakeries are always the best!

Make Friends

Camping over Christmas usually means sharing a camping spot with lots of other people. Don't let this be a negative, see it as an opportunity to meet new friends. After all, you all have a common interest – you like camping!

10 TIPS FOR CHRISTMAS CAMPING

Get wet

Holidaying near the water is such an Aussie thing to do over summer. **It's likely to be hot if you're out over Christmas, so add some water to the experience.**

Australia is a big place with heaps of great camping spots close to beautiful beaches, rivers, streams, and lakes. There's nothing quite like making a morning cuppa while staring out over a beautiful stretch of water, then ten minutes later take a dip. Camping near the water also allows you to take some water toys with you. Snorkels, body boards, surfboards, jet skis, boats, fishing rods. Your togs.

Buy gifts that can be enjoyed on the trip

As the kids get older they're probably less interested in heading bush with their crusty old folks (if not, you have top kids!), only to be away from the new PS4 they got for Christmas, or not have any mobile reception for their new iGadget. Consider gifting them something that they can use while camping. It might be a snorkel or a small kayak or a camera or colouring in books. Buy them something that will keep them entertained while you're laying back with a cold one.

Get merry

If you're camping on Christmas day, it doesn't mean you have to pass up the Christmas meal. There are some amazing recipes floating around the place for Christmassy things like **Jack Daniel's honey glazed ham** (in the Cast Iron Boys Camp Oven Recipe book), **Christmas damper**, and **stove top roast chicken** that can be cooked in your camp oven (check fire bans in your area) or camp stove.

Nothing says Merry Aussie Christmas more than fresh seafood. So if you're camping near the ocean or river, and have some luck with the rod and line, you could have the beginnings of the most Aussie of Christmases yet!

Be prepared for hot weather

Summer in Australia gets hot. Who would have thought? So it's important to be prepared for a scorcher. There are stacks of things you can do to maximise your comfort if you're faced with blistering temperatures



10 TIPS FOR CHRISTMAS CAMPING

HERE'S SOME MORE TIPS:

- Position your camp in a shady spot and **set up a sunshade**
- Remove your tent fly to encourage airflow (and **place a shade over the top** of it if necessary)
- **Buy a lightweight 12V fan** or air conditioner
- Hang out in the water all day
- Keep hydrated

Don't forget to slip, slop, slap, and don't overdo it on the frothies.

Bonus tip: Stay safe

Finally, being safe when out bush is vital to an enjoyable trip. Camping during summer can be risky, what with snakes and bush fires out to get you. Keep tabs on the weather and conditions. If a bush fire approaches your campsite, **follow the instructions as set out by the local fire board.**

Getting to and from your camp site requires you to exercise caution and good judgment too. You may be a top driver but not all other road users are. And a distraction in the car can have shocking consequences. **Don't push yourself, don't drink and drive, drive to the conditions, and take regular rest breaks.**

THE AUSSIE BBQ ROUTINE

- 1. Woman buys food**
- 2. Woman makes salad**
- 3. Woman collects utensils and takes food to man**
- 4. Man puts food on BBQ**
- 5. Woman goes inside and organises plates, etc.**
- 6. Woman tells man the meat is burning**
- 7. Man deals with burning meat while having another beer**
- 8. Man takes meat of BBQ to give to woman**
- 9. Woman serves food and clears and cleans dishes**
- 10. Everyone praises man on great BBQ and thanks HIM**
- 11. Man comments on how he gave woman the night off cooking**
- 12. Man is confused by woman's look of frustration on her face**



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FUNNIES

Two guys grow up together but after college one moves to Michigan, the other to Florida. They agree to meet every ten years and play golf.

At age 30, they finish their round of golf and go to lunch.

"Where you wanna go?"

"Hooters."

"Why?"

"Well, you know, they got the broads, with the big racks, and the tight shorts, and the legs ..."

"OK."

Ten years later at age 40 they play.

"Where you wanna go?"

"Hooters."

"Why?"

"Well, you know, they got cold beer and the big screen TVs and everybody has a little action on the games."

"OK."

Ten years later at age 50 they play

"Where you wanna go?"

"Hooters."

"Why?"

"The food is pretty good and there is plenty of parking."

"OK."

At age 60 they play

"Where you wanna go?"

"Hooters."

"Why?"

"Wings are half price."

"OK"

At age 70 they play

"Where you wanna go?"

"Hooters."

"Why?"

"They have 6 handicapped spaces right by the door."

"OK."

At age 80 they play.

"Where you wanna go?"

"Hooters."

"Why?"

"We've never been there before."

"OK."



FUNNIES

- The Grim Reaper came for me last night, and I beat him off with a vacuum cleaner. Talk about Dyson with death.
- I went to the cemetery yesterday to lay some flowers on a grave. As I was standing there I noticed 4 grave diggers walking about with a coffin, 3 hours later and they're still walking about with it. I thought to myself, they've lost the plot!
- My daughter asked me for a pet spider for her birthday, so I went to our local pet shop and they were \$70! Blow this, I thought, I can get one cheaper off the web.
- I was at an ATM yesterday when a little old lady asked if I could check her balance, so I pushed her over.
- I start a new job in Seoul next week. I thought it was a good Korea move.
- My neighbour knocked on my door at 2:30am this morning, can you believe that, 2:30am?! Luckily for him I was still up playing my Bagpipes.
- My girlfriend thinks that I'm a stalker. Well, she's not exactly my girlfriend yet.
- Bought some 'rocket salad' yesterday but it went off before I could eat it!
- A teddy bear is working on a building site. He goes for a tea break and when he returns, he notices his pick has been stolen. The bear is angry and reports the theft to the foreman. The foreman grins at the bear and says "Oh, I forgot to tell you, today's the day the teddy bears have their pick nicked."
- Just got back from my mate's funeral. He died after being hit on the head with a tennis ball. It was a lovely service.
- Walking can add minutes to your life. This enables you at 85 years old to spend an additional 5 months in a nursing home at \$5000 per month.
- My grandmother started walking five miles a day when she was 60. Now she's 97 years old and we don't know where she is.
- I joined a health club last year, spent about 400 bucks. Haven't lost a pound. Apparently, you should go there.
- I should exercise early in the morning before my brain figures out what I'm doing.
- I like long walks, especially when they are taken by people who annoy me.
- I have flabby thighs, but fortunately my stomach covers them.
- The advantage of exercising every day is that you die healthier.
- If you are going to try cross-country skiing, start with a small country.

FUNNIES

COUNCIL AND HOUSING ASSOCIATION COMPLAINTS

The following are real extracts from actual complaint letters sent to various councils and housing associations throughout the UK.

- I want some repairs done to my cooker as it has backfired and burnt my knob off.
- I wish to complain that my father hurt his ankle very badly when he put his foot in the hole in his back passage, and their 18 year old son is continually banging his balls against my fence.
- I wish to report that tiles are missing from the outside toilet roof. I think it was bad wind the other night that blew them off.
- My lavatory seat is cracked, where do I stand.
- I am writing on behalf of my sink, which is coming away from the wall.
- Will you please send someone to mend the garden path. My wife tripped and fell on it yesterday and now she is pregnant. We are getting married in September and we would like it in the garden before we move into the house.
- I request permission to remove my drawers in the kitchen.
- 50% of the walls are damp, 50% have crumbling plaster and the rest are plain filthy.
- I am still having problems with smoke in my new drawers.
- The toilet is blocked and we cannot bath the children until it is cleared.
- Will you please send a man to look at my water, it is a funny colour and not fit to drink.
- Our lavatory seat is broken in half and is now in three pieces.
- Would you please send a man to repair my spout. I am an old age pensioner and need it badly.
- I want to complain about the farmer across the road; every morning at 6am his cock wakes me up, and its now getting too much for me.
- The man next door has a large erection in the back garden, which is unsightly and dangerous.
- Our kitchen floor is damp. We have two children and would like a third so please send someone round to do something about it.
- I am a single woman living in a downstairs flat and would you please do something about the noise made by the man I have on top of me every night.
- Please send a man with the right tool to finish the job and satisfy my wife.
- I have had the clerk of the works down on the floor six times but I still have no satisfaction.
- This is to let you know that our lavatory seat is broken and we can't get BBC2.
- My bush is really overgrown round the front and my back passage has fungus growing in it,
... and he's got this huge tool that vibrates the whole house and I just can't take it anymore.
... that is his excuse for dogs mess that I find hard to swallow....:)

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ICE OR NO ICE?

Whatever brand or size of icebox, esky or cooler you own, these tips will help you keep your ice longer so you can get the best out of your camping trip or backyard barbecue.



- 1. Prepare your icebox** - Spread a layer of crushed ice around your ice box the day or night before you use it. A bag of crushed ice costs around \$5, but don't worry it won't be wasted. By cooling down your icebox, and the air inside, in advance you're doing half the job of the main ice you'll put in later.
- 2. Use block ice** - Crushed ice is full of space and air which means there isn't much actual solid ice, so it melts quickly leaving you with an icebox of cold water. Block ice is a solid mass of ice. It will keep your icebox as cold as crushed ice but won't melt as quickly. When block ice is unavailable, make your own using ice cream containers or juice bottles remembering to only part-fill them to allow for expansion.
- 3. Add some salt to your ice** - Adding salt to water before freezing lowers the freezing temperature of the water, meaning that your ice will actually be colder than frozen fresh water. Using seawater will work even better than adding your own salt.
- 4. Cool your drinks and food first** - No matter what you're putting into your icebox, cool it down first if possible. By taking your food or drinks from the fridge straight into your icebox, you're saving your ice from having to cool the beers down in the first place, making the ice last longer. If you don't have room in the fridge, put your beers in the crushed ice you've already put in the icebox.
- 5. Adding the Beers** - If you're putting drinks in your icebox, leave the crushed ice in even if it's already half melted. The cold water will help to slow your block ice from melting.
- 6. Keep it out of the sun** - The sun is your worst enemy in preserving your ice and the reasons should be obvious. Keep your icebox in the shade as much as possible and ensure there is good air flow around the box. Sitting the icebox inside your tent or car is like putting it in an oven as temperatures can often climb 10 – 20 degrees higher than outside. You could even cover your icebox with a blanket or towel to shade it from the sun, and if at the beach a wet towel will work even better.
- 7. Avoid opening your icebox too much** - This is obvious, but every time you open your icebox not only do you let the heat in but you let the cold out. Avoid opening your icebox too much.
- 8. Fill your icebox as much as you can** - An icebox packed to the brim will preserve its ice longer than a part-filled icebox of air. The more food or drinks you have in your icebox, there is less air which needs to be cooled down and kept cold.



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- Pasadena Green Shopping Centre
- Fairview Green Shopping Centre
- The Avenues – St Peters



MERRY XMAS FROM THE EDITOR

Have a wonderful Christmas and New Year celebrating with family and friends. Please stay safe when travelling



Don't forget to send me your piccies
and trip report for the magazine!

Cheers Kylie

magazine@mountloftyrangers.com.au

