



Rangers' Review

Volume 22

No. 7

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

March

2016



In this issue:

Prez Sez	4		
Uniform	9	Guest Speaker	20
Clubperson	10	Training	22
Adventures with Ranger Lofty	12	Funnies	24
Ranger Lofty Trip Report	13	Recipes	26
Trips Calendar	18	For the Ladies	29
For Sale	19	From the Editor	30

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

Mount Lofty Rangers 4WD Club

20th Anniversary Dinner

When: Saturday 2nd April
Where: Westward Ho Golf Club, Military Rd, West Beach
Time: 7.00pm Pre dinner drinks

2 course meal plus anniversary cake
\$40 per head to be paid before March 25th
(to ensure catering numbers)

Payment by Electronic Funds Transfer:
BSB: 065 132
Account No: 1004 4806
Account Name: Mount Lofty Rangers Inc.
(please place your name in the reference section)

Please email trips@mountloftyrangers.com.au if you wish to join us



****REMINDER TO PLEASE RSVP IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY AND PAY YOUR MONEY BEFORE 25TH MARCH TO SECURE A SPOT!**

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING EVERYONE THERE



Prez Sez

Well we are only 3 months into the year and it keeps getting busier!

Our 20th Anniversary Dinner is nearing, keep Saturday 2nd April free to join us in this great milestone for our great club. If you haven't got your name on the list and want to join us – please let Phil know ASAP on trips@mountloftyrangers.com.au

The inaugural MLR Club Person of the Year – Is another highlight of this year, you would have seen an email or two, so if you haven't please vote for the candidate that you feel has driven MLR to be a better club, a more active club. Criteria for the short list of candidates can be found in the email.

Time to get on the soapbox - When placing your name on any trip sheets, can you please do the following?

1. Write your name, how many occupants in your vehicle on this trip
2. Write your email address
3. Write your best contact number
4. Write legibly so Trip Leader can read it
5. Ensure your name is in the list ONLY once
6. If unable to make it for any reason, please let Trip Leader know asap

We need all this for a couple of reasons – ease of being able to contact you and more importantly for our insurance records. I appreciate your understanding with this!

As our club year draws to a close, the AGM will be held at our May club meeting, if you're interested in helping your club and thinking about joining the committee please come and speak to any of the current committee to find out what's involved. I do know Phil will be retiring from Trips Officer after a number of years, so we need at least one member to step up. All positions will be open for election, the majority of current committee are willing to stand against whoever else is nominated. Nomination forms will be available at this month's club meeting.

We have been lucky enough to have had copies of old club newsletters from Ken Bradey and Merv Tucker, it's actually funny to see that some of the issues we have – like chasing trip leaders as well as members not turning up to trips and failing to notify the trip leader happened 20 years ago too! There is some interesting reading with varied trip destinations and ideas. I will endeavour to get these loaded onto our website soon, as Kylie our newsletter editor has scanned all copies we have (HUGE THANKS KYLIE).



Prez Sez

One other thing that seems to have gone missing from the earlier days is the call signs (nicknames) for members, looking back through the old newsletters or hearing some names on trips here are a few:

Moses	Zulu	Shorty	Growler
Clipper	Hawk	Wombat	Overload
Rubber Duck	Music Man	Grumpy	

As you can see these could be from anything that happens on a trip, or from other friendship groups. Do we need to start a club register of call signs? Do we need to start allocating call signs to members for silly things? How about 'Bogger' for someone who is forever getting bogged or even 'Crazy' for someone that buys anything but a Nissan ☺ I'll leave it up to you.....

I'll leave you this month with a poem from "anonymous" that I found in an earlier newsletter – certainly provides food for thought, what happens at our club meetings?

"I see you at the meeting
But you never say "hello"
You're bust all the time you're there
With those you already know!
I sit among the members and
Yet I am a lonely guy
The new members are as strange as I
You members pass me by.
But damn it, you folks asked me in,
And you talk of fellowship,
You could just step across the room
But you never take the trip.
Why can't you nod and say help" hello"
Or stop and shake my hand?
Then go and sit amongst your friends,
Now that I understand!
I shall be at your next meeting
Perhaps an hour or two to spend.
Do you think you could introduce yourself?
I really do want to be your friend!"

YOUR COMMITTEE 2015-16

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>Lainie Ray</p> <p>secretary@mountloftyrangers.com.au</p>
	<p>TRIPS COORDINATOR</p> <p>Phil Simes</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 2015-16

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

	<p>WEBSITE OFFICER Michelle Watkin webmaster@mountloftyrangers.com.au</p>		
	<p>MERCHANDISE OFFICER Kym Nagel merchandise@mountloftyrangers.com.au</p>		
	<p>PROPERTY OFFICER Peter Reed property@mountloftyrangers.com.au</p>		
	<p>EDUCATION OFFICER Steve Townsend training@mountloftyrangers.com.au</p>		
	<p>MAGAZINE EDITOR Kylie Cooper magazine@mountloftyrangers.com.au</p>		
	<p>COMMITTEE MEMBER Wayne Ritchie</p>		<p>COMMITTEE MEMBER Rob Stevens</p>
	<p>COMMITTEE MEMBER Linda Nagel</p>		<p>COMMITTEE MEMBER Marianne Sag</p>
	<p>COMMITTEE MEMBER Roger Wilkinson</p>		

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20TH ANNIVERSARY LOUD SHIRTS!



Polo Sizing

Ladies	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26
1/2chest measurement	50	52.5	55	57.5	60	64.5	69.5	74.5
Men's	S	M	L	XL	XXL	3XL	5XL	
1/2chest measurement	53	55.5	58	60.5	63	68	73	

Softshell Jackets/Vest Sizing

Ladies	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24
1/2chest measurement	50	52	54.5	57	59.5	62	64.5	67
Men's	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL	5XL
1/2chest measurement	56	58.5	61	63.5	66	68.5	71.5	74.5

Contact Merchandise Officer Kym
to place an order: merchandise@mountloftyranges.com.au

MLR CLUB PERSON OF THE YEAR

Please assist us in selecting our inaugural MLR Club Member of the year. The five finalists are the top five points accumulators based on the point allocation system described below.

Eligibility

Members become eligible by performing at least 1 Trip Leader role in the course of a calendar year, AND attend a minimum of 6 MLR events (meetings or trips) in the 12 months.

Points

Points are awarded to eligible members, by the allocation table below, for trip leading, trip attendance, club meeting attendance, and activities for the betterment of MLR, and tallied at the end of each calendar year.

10 points = Trip leader

5 points = sub trip leader eg Beachport or Oktoberfest OR assistance at Oktoberfest

3 points = attendance at trip

2 points = training event attendance

1 point = monthly club meeting attendance

Please note :- No points for holding committee directors or officer position

Each membership is entitled to one vote.

In most cases, this will mean 1 vote per family.

Your vote is **required by 8pm, Sunday 21st March**, to enable the inaugural award to be presented at the 20th Anniversary Dinner.

The winner receives the honour and glory, and also the perpetual trophy, to look after for 12 months.

The top 5 finalists for 2015 (in no particular order) are:

- **Peter Reed**
- **Paul McGregor**
- **Tom Doody**
- **Lainie Ray**
- **Gary Light**

VOTE NOW!

Vote here - [MLR Club Member of the Year 2015](https://surveymonkey.com/r/rbwjkh) , before 8pm, Sunday 21st March.
<https://surveymonkey.com/r/rbwjkh>

Thank you for your participation

Phil Simes

trips@mountloftyrangiers.com.au

MLR Trips Co-ordinator on behalf of the MLR Committee



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 Peter Reed, Property Officer:

property@mountloftyrangers.com.au



Tyrepower

BLACKWOOD

ADVENTURES WITH RANGER LOFTY

Photos courtesy of Ron Versteeg



Are you sure we're going the right way?



Hanging with the Prez



Swimming in Dalhousie Springs

Checking out Larapinta Trail



Testing the waters.... But I'd rather be sunbaking with the ladies!

Rangers Review

RANGER LOFTY'S TRIP

Courtesy of Mrs Shorty
Beachport to Carpenters Rocks.



We departed at 9.30am from Southern Oceans Caravan Park. It was overcast and a cool 19c. 7 vehicles were in our convoy. On arrival to the beach we discovered the sand was quite firm and flat. No debris to be seen, which was a pleasant surprise from previous years. Shorty set a good pace and a smooth ride to Southend was had. To get back on the sand Shorty had to “relocate” some sand, and the FJ made it easy for the other 6 vehicles. The sand was more lumpy and marshmallow-soft. Along the way, Shorty made a comfortable slide backwards, sideways down off the high side, however was able to expertly pad his way forward, setting a fast pace out of there. Unfortunately not everyone was able to speed away in a similar manner.



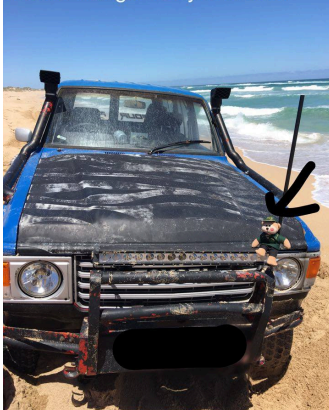
RANGER LOFTY'S TRIP

We came across an old washed-up boat which was unfortunately past retrieving. Lunch was at Carpenters Rocks and the Kelsh boys were kind enough to share their hot chips with me. Yuuummmmm....The boys took great delight in helping Lezbo finish his chips...and Pete's too. The seagulls also enjoyed them. If you haven't bought hot chips there before, here's a heads up. A SMALL serve will easily feed 4 or more hungry people.



After lunch I was excited to find we were travelling back on the beach. The weather had cleared to a brilliant blue sky and ocean. Not too far along we came across an old beat-up 60 series Toyota. Bugged....Badly....Mum and 4 teenage boys had gone for a drive and got in strife. Mum was soooooo relieved we stopped to offer help. When tested, the tyre pressures were 20. 12. 15.. Mum said she had no way of testing them, but had let a "fair bit" of air out already. They had no recovery gear, and no idea, so had been digging with their hands and were pretty much stuffed. Awww those poor teenagers!! Shorty put his trainers hat on and proceeded to talk the young driver through what to do. Lezbo, Paul, Pete, Dan and Rodger all pitched in to dig the tyres out. Shorty then showed how to pad the sand and, guess what? The lad drove out. Easy as..... Mum could not thank us enough. The family piled in, shaking hands, and went on their way. Mrs Shorty snuck in a photo of me while they were distracted, hehe.

Thanks Ranger Lofty and crew

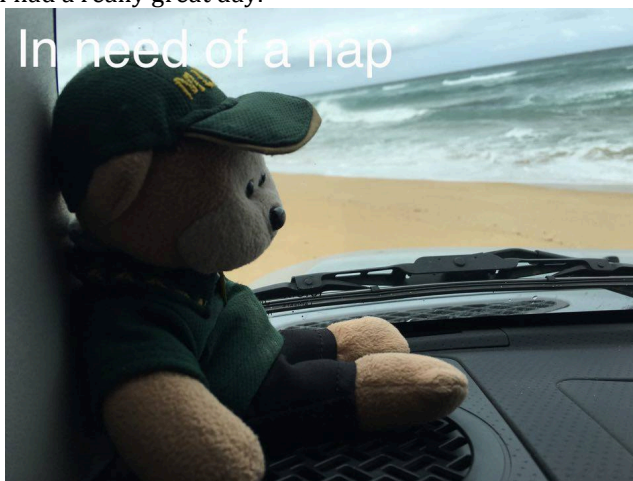


RANGER LOFTY'S TRIP

We saw the rusty remains of a Landrover Discovery along the way. It had been photographed many times during that weekend, and was even “repositioned” overnight apparently.



It was fun when someone suggested Shorty and Dan drive along the sand together. Shorty was ahead but then I heard a horrible noise and thought he had rolled a tyre. I'll have to say this quietly, because Shorty wouldn't want it known, but he had left the handbrake on the whole time. I have to say I had a really great day.



Can't wait for my next adventure. See you on a track somewhere soon.

Ranger Lofty



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2016 TRIPS CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT	CONTACT	DETAILS
18th – 20th March	Weekend	4WDSA (Phil Simes)	Ngarkat Working Bee
Sunday 20th March	Day trip	Tom Doody	Mystery Day Trip
<i>MONDAY 21st March</i>	<i>Club Meeting 7.30pm Blackwood Football Club, Trevor Terrace, Blackwood</i>		
Fri 25 th –Mon 28 th March	Extended long weekend		Easter
Fri 25 th – Mon 28 th March	Long weekend	Lloyd Weaver	Warraweena
<i>MONDAY 11th April</i>	<i>Club Meeting 7.30pm Blackwood Football Club, Trevor Terrace, Blackwood</i>		
April 2016	Expression of interest	Tom Doody	20 year Anniversary Dinner
Sat 23 rd –Mon 25 th April	Long weekend		Anzac Day
<i>MONDAY 9th May</i>	<i>Club Meeting 7.30pm Blackwood Football Club, Trevor Terrace, Blackwood</i>		
Sat 11 th –Mon 13 th June	Long weekend		Queen's B'day
<i>MONDAY 20th May</i>	<i>Club Meeting 7.30pm Blackwood Football Club, Trevor Terrace, Blackwood</i>		
25 th June – 22 nd July	Extended trip	Ann & Malcolm Morris	Simpson Desert (inc QLD/NSW)

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GUEST SPEAKER

No guest speaker for March.

Please enjoy a ***social evening*** planning your next trip and catching up with friends.

For further information or to book a guest speaker in 2016, please email Gary Light, Guest Speaker Co-Ordinator & Vice President at vp@mountloftyrangers.com.au



MEDIA RELEASE

4 February 2016

New CEO for leading wildlife charity

The **Nature Foundation SA (NFSA)**, South Australia's foremost charity for nature, has a new CEO. Mr Hugo Hopton will begin his role as CEO on February 15 2016

"Hugo has a most impressive background which is ideally suited to continuing and developing the varied activities of South Australia's Premier Environment Charity," said Bob Lott, NFSA President.

Mr Hopton's appointment comes at a crucial time for the NFSA. Originally the National Parks Foundation, whose role was to purchase land to add to SA's national parks, the NFSA now owns and manages many conservation properties, is a major manager of large quantities of environmental water in the Murray, organises the purchase and resale of land with high conservation value and is a significant funder of wildlife research in SA.

"Given the Nature Foundation's huge expansion of conservation and research activities, Mr Hopton is ideally suited to the role of leading our organisation and managing our work in all its complexity and taking the Foundation to a greater level of recognition with in the SA community," said Bob Lott.

Mr Hopton's most recent role has been as **Regional Manager, Natural Resources SAMDB** based in Murray Bridge, delivering for the community and government the programs of both the **South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board** and the **Department of Environment, Water & Natural Resources**. Previous to this he was **General Manager of the South East NRM Board**.

In these roles Mr Hopton has worked in **land conservation, native vegetation management, the management of water along the whole Murray-Darling Basin system in South Australia, and primary production**. He has strong relationships with **government departments within South Australia and the Commonwealth, and with local government and the NGO sector**.

Hugo Hopton said that he was delighted to be joining the Foundation at such an important time. "I am very much looking forward to helping the Foundation and its significant member and volunteer base build on its most impressive achievements to date."

For further information please contact:

Hugo Hopton on 0418 817 664 or hhopton@bigpond.net.au

Bob Lott, Nature Foundation SA President on 08 8223 1450 or bob@venuetix.com.au

Rangers Review

RULES OF 4WDING

PART ONE

1. Never take your wife 4WDing AND forget the toilet paper.
2. Always blame your spotter.
3. A taller lift and larger tires will temporarily lower the driver's IQ.
4. Never own more than one 80 series at a time.
5. All mud, no matter where it is in the world, smells like ass.
6. And the worse the mud smells, the greater the likelihood of you having to climb out and pull cable.
7. When someone says that you are standing in their line.....move!
8. Conversely, when I tell you my rig is going to be where you are standing in just a second.....it is.
9. "Just bump it a little" is not a phrase understood by most people. Get the hell out of the way.
10. Repeat after me....."Honey, if I can just get this one last part, the 4WD will be done".
11. The 4WD is never "done". Anyone who says that theirs is, is lying.
12. WIFE: Do you need lockers?
13. YES I NEED LOCKERS
14. Set up your winch remote BEFORE you need it.....Dumbass!
15. Thongs are not suitable footwear for 4WDing.
16. Don't forget the bug spray.
17. Oops is not a word you want to hear from your mechanic, your Doctor or particularly, your spotter.
18. Yes, your rig is going to get scratched. If you have an aversion to this, stay home. Better yet, buy a Honda.
19. One man's definition of a stocker run is not necessarily another's. Take a look at the person's rig for clarification.
20. Extreme depends on your point of view.
21. Stay far, far away from the "hold my beer and watch this" crowd.
22. Never 4WD alone. And never forget your winch remote in the garage.....ever.
23. Never, ever spot for your wife or girlfriend.
24. Whatever tool you need, just stop looking now.....it's at home in the garage.
25. No, I will not run the winch for you. I will stand behind a tree out of the line of fire.
26. If you enjoy standing in the rain, up to your knees in mud, getting eaten by mosquitoes the size of small birds, all the while tearing up hundred dollar bills, you're going to love 4WDing.
27. Have proper recovery points, because if it means me not missing dinner, I will rip the front axle right out from under your rig.
28. When someone is decent enough to tell you that you can't make a particular obstacle, do yourself a favor and listen to them.
29. Windows and top up and AC on does not make you a pussy. It makes you smarter than they are.
30. The primary uses of the CB radio are to heckle your friends and to decide where you're going to eat and drink after the run.

Training

DRIVER TRAINING UNIT

DATE	TRAINING
March 14 th	Long Weekend
March 25 th – 28 th	Easter
April 9 th – 10 th	DTU Training – Morgan Quarry \$40
April 25 th	Anzac Day
May 14 th – 15 th	DTU Training – Ashbourne \$40
August 20 th – 21 st	DTU Training – Ashbourne (mud) \$40
October 1 st – 3 rd	Long Weekend
October 15 th – 16 th	DTU Training – Trip Planning Cavan \$10
November 5 th – 6 th	DTU Training – Peake (sand)
November 12 th – 13 th	DTU Training – GPS Ozi Explorer – Cavan \$10

MT LOFTY RANGERS TRAINING

DATE	TRAINING
March 14 th	Long Weekend
March 25 th – 28 th	Easter
April 2 nd – 3 rd	MLR Basic Theory
April 10 th	MLR Ozi-Explorer Theory
April 23 rd – 25 th	Ozi Explorer Practical training (? overnight)
April 25 th	Anzac Day
May 28 th – 29 th	MLR Peake (sand) - booked
June 13 th	MLR Black Cockatoo
June 19 th	MLR Trip Planning Course
August 6 th – 7 th	MLR Morgan
August 28 th	MLR Tyre Repair – Ashbourne
September 10 th – 11 th	MLR Basic Practical Ashbourne
October 1 st – 3 rd	Long Weekend
October 8 th – 9 th	MLR Peake – booked (MLR & Jeep Club)

Ozi Explorer Sunday 10th April @2-00pm .

Venue:- No. 3 Moore St Panorama.

BBQ tea after training session BYO food and drink.

Ashbourne Basic Practical at Ashbourne changed from the 9th – 10th April to the 16th -17th April.

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@mountloftyanglers.com.au



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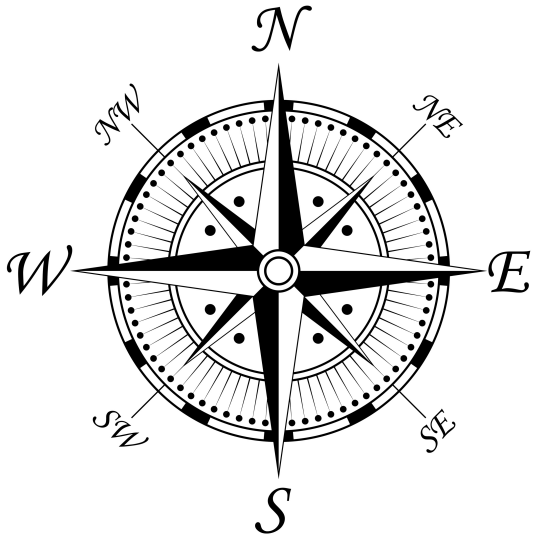




FUNNIES

CAMPING TIP:

If you get lost in the woods, a compass can help you get lost more north!!!



A man and woman were married for many years. Whenever there was a confrontation, yelling could be heard deep into the night. The old man would shout, "When I die, I will dig my way up and out of the grave and come back and haunt you for the rest of your life!" Neighbours feared him. The old man liked the fact that he was feared. Then one evening, he died when he was 98. After the burial, her neighbours, concerned for her safety, asked, "Aren't you afraid that he may indeed be able to dig his way out of the grave and haunt you for the rest of your life?"

The wife said, "Let him dig. I had him buried upside down...and I know he won't ask for directions."

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RECIPES

Sweet Onion Grilled Salmon

Ingredients – Serves 4

3 medium sized sweet onions, peeled
2 Tablespoons coconut oil
3 cloves garlic, crushed
2 Tablespoons butter
1 cup crisp light white wine
2 Tablespoons dark brown sugar
2 Tablespoons sweet honey mustard
1/3 cup honey
Salt & pepper to taste
1.5 – 2 pound salmon fillet



Directions

Slice the onions into rings on a mandolin set to thin cut. If you don't have a mandolin, slice as thin as you can with a regular knife. In a deep saucepan, heat the oil. Add the butter and garlic. Add the wine and cook the onions down until they are translucent. Add the brown sugar, mustard and honey and stir until blended. Salt and Pepper to taste. Turn to low heat and simmer about 15 minutes. Rinse and pat dry the salmon fillet and place it on a large piece of foil. Salt and pepper the top to taste. Add about ½ of the onion mix to the top of the salmon and pour the ¼ cup of the liquid from the skillet around the fillet.

Seal in foil and cook on the grill over medium heat 15-20 minutes depending on the thickness of the fish. Use the excess onion mix as additional garnish for your fish.

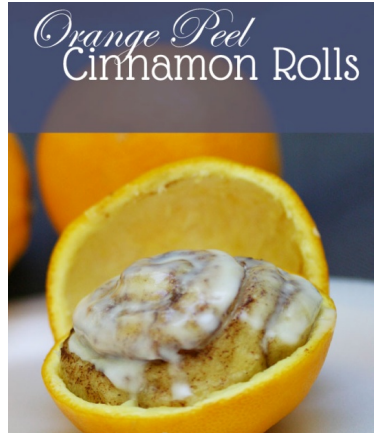
RECIPES

Camp Food Cinnamon Buns

What You Need:

- Cinnamon Rolls
- Cream Cheese Frosting
- Oranges (One for each roll)
- Knife
- Spoon

How To Make It



1. We loaded the rolls into our cooler and they were good to go the morning we made the rolls. We gathered our oranges and sliced them in half. Then we scooped out the orange and left the peel. (We saved the oranges and ate them throughout the next 2 days.)
2. Open the rolls, and place one in each orange. I found it helpful to keep orange halves paired with their mate. It made the next step easier. Top each filled half with its mate. Wrap the peels in foil and put an X on the top.
3. Place oranges in medium heat coals, flipping upside down once while cooking. (This took us about 12 min.)
4. Additionally, you could do this on a grill if you don't have a fire going in the morning.
5. Remove from heat and open foil. Drizzle some frosting on each one and enjoy when cool enough to eat!!
6. That's it! And cleanup is a breeze, since the orange is the plate. You can tell by the empty shells they were a hit! You could *sort of* taste the orange if you were looking for it, but for the most part they tasted just like at home!



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.



4 Great Locations

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

FOR THE LADIES

DO YOU KNOW HOW MANY **PINK** CAMPING ACCESSORIES THERE ARE?!?!



4WD WEEKEND IN WHYALLA

October Long Weekend

30th, 1st, 2nd Oct

2016

Silent auction with great donated prizes

Access to private properties

Trips from easy to hard

Camp Oven Cook-Off

Night Nav

**EARLY BIRD
SPECIAL \$90**



visit:

www.whyalla4wd.org.au
for details to come

****Please note: Monday 3rd is the public holiday**

Rangers Review

Desert Park Management Plans

There is now an opportunity for interested members of the SA 4WD community to have their own say



The Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources (DEWNR) have commenced the development of management plans for the Witjira and Simpson Desert Parks. The aim is to have a draft plan ready by the end of 2016. The draft will then enter a 3-month period of public consultation, followed by the preparation and release of the final plan in the later half of 2017.

The National Resources Advisory unit of 4WDSA have been invited to participate in the process. Members have had a constructive meeting with the relevant planning officer, Theresa Andrew. A summary of the topics discussed can be found on the next page. There is now an opportunity for interested members of the SA 4WD community to have their own say. Please see the fact sheet from DEWNR (last 2 pages of this KIT) for how to participate.

A summary of the topics discussed at the 4WDSA/DEWNR meeting, these topics may or may not feature in the final management plan.

- Ensuring all travellers select the appropriate tyre pressure, and utilise safety flags [possibility of inserting a pop out box in the management plan to this effect]
- Suitable signage is installed to instruct travellers on how to cross the desert safely and with minimum impact to the environment and cultural sites
- The use of generators – it would be good to allow the use of generators and we could restrict the hours of use and location in which they can be operated
- Trailers – there are pros and cons for allowing trailers (allows more people to travel the area, safer as not loading up the 4WD but without the correct tyre pressure, trailers can easily degrade tracks). Management options include restricting trailers to certain tracks (eg Rig Road), and providing education on tyre pressure
- Camp fires – would be good to continue allowing camp fires in the Simpson – possibility of mandating fire pots only, and BYO fire wood. Acceptance of the no camp fire rule in Witjira.
- Extend camping areas – instead of only allowing 50m either side of tracks, allow camping in breakout areas and/or allow camping up to 500m either side of the track in certain areas.
- Set and promote specific radio stations for each track/area
- Don't close off any existing tracks
- Consider allowing access to the no public access track that continues from the Erabena Track south to the Kallakoopah Creek. This could be done by allowing restricted access (possibly administered by 4WD SA and allowing a max number of vehicles per year and a request for travellers to note environmental conditions).

Please see some great information from 4WDSA, if you have something to comment on the below, please email

DEWNRProtectedAreaManagement@sa.gov.au and please also copy me president@mountloftyrangers.com.au.

Thanks, Tom

A WORD FROM THE EDITOR

Looking forward to MLR 20th Anniversary Dinner on Saturday 2nd April at Westward Ho Golfcourse (Adelaide Shores)! Spread the word to previous members and don't forget to add your name to the trip sheet to register interest for numbers so we can book! And stay tuned for more details!

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

Cheers Kylie

magazine@mountloftyrangers.com.au

