



# Rangers' Review

Volume 24

No. 3

**Mount Lofty Rangers Inc.**  
PO Box 1150, Blackwood SA 5051  
[www.mountloftyrangers.com.au](http://www.mountloftyrangers.com.au)

August

2018



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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](http://www.mountloftyrangers.com.au)

<b>MT LOFTY RANGERS UHF CLUB CHANNEL NO 27</b>
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# Presidential Press

I thought I would use this update to reinforce what was discussed at the last club meeting in terms of camp etiquette. Things like general siting, fire s and toileting are essentially common sense. How many times have you seen poo tickets floating around the scrub? From my perspective one ticket is far too many. Bottom line is, if we adhere to the principle of leave the area in a better state than we find it and be courteous to others the outdoor experience will be greatly improved for all. If you want to know more read the article further in the magazine or check out our Club Bi-Laws on the MLR webpage.

Speaking of Bi-Laws, are you aware that... (extract from section 6)

*All members & visitors participating in a club activity at all times shall abide by the directions of the activity organizer or trip leader in respect to;*

- a. Compliance with Club by-laws & rules*
- b. Safety of all other members*
- c. Fire precautions & restrictions*
- d. Care & respect of private property*
- e. The rights of other people*

*On trips, the Trip Leader has absolute authority over the whole trip & they must ensure that members & visitors are aware of all relevant Club by-laws & rules & have adequate recovery equipment. A member contravening Club by-laws or rules may be asked by the trip leader to leave the activity or trip & the incident reported to the Committee. Disregard of club by-laws & rules should be reported to the Committee members by the club members. All members must inform the Trip Leaders of their intention to go on a club trip.*

Bottom line is the Trip Leader has the responsibility for the interests of **all** members on the trip. As such, there may be times where a Trip Leader may, in the interests of the individual and the group elect to restrict participation on his/her trip. If this is the case individuals will be informed as to the reasons why e.g. driver skill, vehicle capability etc. Be aware, Trip Leaders have exercised this clause in the past and will probably happen again in the future.

Congratulations to Michelle Watkin who won the Goggleman voucher with a bid of \$50 which will be donated to the RFDS. Thanks to all who participated.

Food for thought... How many people have done some sort of modification to their vehicles? I expect the answer is all of us. How benign are those modifications? On the whole I'd expect most would be fairly safe. However, just like cheap Chinese imports, recent history indicates if you have to rely on it, buy a reputable brand. Likewise, if your modification requires you to rely on your modification make sure its compliant with relevant standards as your car or worst case your life may be impacted.

**Time is running out....**If you haven't done so already don't forget to please renew your membership.

Have you seen someone who has gone out of their way to do things for others, not because they want recognition but because it comes from their heart. Then consider submitting a quiet achiever nomination (see form in this newsletter).

Our next monthly meeting is **13<sup>th</sup> Aug** with the next committee meeting being on **27<sup>th</sup> Aug**. Hope to see you all then.

**Word of the Month:**

*Absquatulate – flee or run away, usually with something or someone.*



# YOUR COMMITTEE 2018-19

## COMMITTEE DIRECTORS



PRESIDENT

Gary Light

[president@mountloftyrovers.com.au](mailto:president@mountloftyrovers.com.au)

VICE PRESIDENT

Chris Gear

[vp@mountloftyrovers.com.au](mailto:vp@mountloftyrovers.com.au)



TREASURER

Paul McGregor

[treasurer@mountloftyrovers.com.au](mailto:treasurer@mountloftyrovers.com.au)

SECRETARY & PUBLIC OFFICER

Jo Reed

[secretary@mountloftyrovers.com.au](mailto:secretary@mountloftyrovers.com.au)



TRIPS COORDINATOR

Trevor Light

[trips@mountloftyrovers.com.au](mailto:trips@mountloftyrovers.com.au)

FWD SA DELEGATE

Roger Wilkinson

[delegate@mountloftyrovers.com.au](mailto:delegate@mountloftyrovers.com.au)



MEMBERSHIP OFFICER(S)

Lothar Dunaiki / Rob Stevens / Marianne Sag

[membership@mountloftyrovers.com.au](mailto:membership@mountloftyrovers.com.au)



# YOUR COMMITTEE 2018-19

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

WEBSITE OFFICER

Michelle Watkin

[webmaster@mountloftyrangers.com.au](mailto:webmaster@mountloftyrangers.com.au)



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Sheena Dunaiki

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PROPERTY OFFICER

Peter Reed

[property@mountloftyrangers.com.au](mailto:property@mountloftyrangers.com.au)



EDUCATION OFFICER(S)

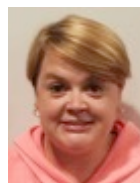
Steve Townsend / Tom Doody

[training@mountloftyrangers.com.au](mailto:training@mountloftyrangers.com.au)

MAGAZINE EDITOR

Kylie Cooper

[magazine@mountloftyrangers.com.au](mailto:magazine@mountloftyrangers.com.au)



COMMITTEE MEMBER

Craig Watkin

COMMITTEE MEMBER

Neil Stokes



COMMITTEE MEMBER

Paul Parsons

COMMITTEE MEMBER

Kim McCoolle



## YOUR COMMITTEE

Committee members are elected by the members for the members. They are volunteers who kindly donate their time to represent the members interest in the day to day running of the Club, are you:

1. Interested in putting your hand up to help this club get even greater?
2. Not sure what role you'd like or what's involved?

Keep reading for a brief description of each role:

**President:** - Convenes all meetings of MLR. Meeting with 4WDSA to push the MLR interests. Sponsor Liaison.

**Vice president:** - Facilitate monthly topic of interest e.g. guest speakers, awareness sessions etc. Becomes acting President when the President unavailable

**Treasurer:** - Looking after club financials. Sponsor liaison.

**Secretary & Public Officer:** - Minute taking for meetings. Correspondence in and out.

**Trips Coordinator:** - Primary point of contact for members trip planning, advice and attendance sheets. Communicates trip calendar to members

**4WDSA Delegate:** - Attends bi-monthly 4WDSA meetings and is the voice of MLR, also reports back on any relevant information from 4WDSA that affects MLR.

**Membership officer:** - First point of contact for visitors that come to MLR, keeps track of criteria for membership acceptance.

**Website officer:** - Looks after MLR website and Facebook administration

**Merchandise officer:** - Organises clothing and other club approved merchandise for sale to members.

**Property Officer:** - Looks after club property and trailer, by maintaining where appropriate and lends equipment out to members.

**Education Officer:** - Organises club training and awareness days. Liaises with 4WDSA Driver Training Unit for wider training opportunities.

**Magazine editor:** - Collates all material to go into club magazine – photos, trip reports, jokes, interesting 4WD related stories sourced elsewhere. Facebook administration.

**Committee Member:** - Supports other Officers of the committee, and helps with club events and trips where needed.

If you would like to share your experience and contribute to the running of the club, please speak to a current committee member to obtain a nomination form.

## **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](mailto:property@mountloftyrangers.com.au)**

## Keeping you off the beaten track

### Talk to us about:

#### **Motor Vehicle**

- Agreed value options
- All accessories included
- Modifications OK
- Full off-road cover
- No claim bonus protection
- Flexible cover

#### **Caravans and Campers**

- Australia wide cover
- Agreed value options

#### **Camping**

- Theft from open air
- Fire & malicious
- Cover in vehicle and at campsites

#### **Additional benefits**

- Annual or monthly payments
- Australia wide cover
- 4WD club discounts

Call us today, quoting **'GET OFFROAD'** and get a better deal for your 4WD.



**1800 633 745** | [lisa.brock@ajg.com.au](mailto:lisa.brock@ajg.com.au)

 @AJG\_Australia | 



Arthur J. Gallagher



# MERCHANDISE



**\$50**

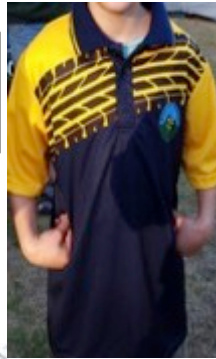
limited sizes - no names

## Yellow Tyre Tracks Design

Ladies: 7 shirts in sizes

14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 32

Mens: 3 shirts in sizes 18, 28, 30



## Blue 25th Anniversary Design

Ladies: 1 shirt size 26

Mens: 2 shirts in sizes 26, 28

**\$50**

limited sizes – no names

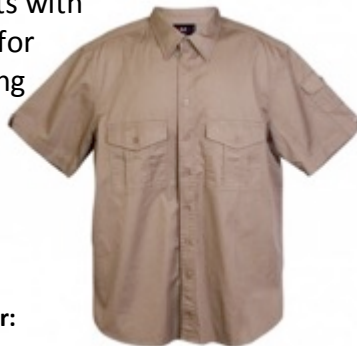
## Sand Flag

\$25 - MLR Sand Flag to be used under the the orange flag as required in the Desert Parks, Beachport as well as other places we 4WD like Peake and Morgan.

## Khaki Shirt

We have new khaki shirts with the MLR logo, available for order, either short or long sleeve for \$40.

Add name for \$7.



Contact Sheena to place an order:

[merchandise@mountloftyrangers.com.au](mailto:merchandise@mountloftyrangers.com.au)

Rangers Review



**AUGUST 25<sup>TH</sup>!!!!!!**

Learn  
how to  
**TAKE BETTER  
PICTURES**



1. Do you like taking photographs?
2. Would you like to get to know your camera?
3. Do you like good company?
4. Do you fancy a meal out one night?

If you answered yes to the above, can I do a deal for you...

Lindsay from Diamonds Photographic who many of you will remember from his guest speaker spot and the Diamonds store visit last year, runs numerous courses and has offered to run one just for us.



If you are interested the details are as follows:

- When – **Saturday 25 August 2018**
- Starts – **1000am**
- Where – Meet at the Diamonds store (165 Rundle St, Adelaide) then around the CBD
- After – A meal somewhere
- Cost – we are getting a significantly discounted rate, normally \$129 our rate for the day **\$69**
- Numbers – in order to get the discount I need a minimum of 8 people to attend.
- Due to cost and number constraints, I will be asking individuals to pay up front by the week prior (payment details later). If I can't get the numbers I'll have to cancel and refund monies.

If you would like to attend make sure you put your name on the Trip Sheet at a monthly meeting or contact me [vp@mountloftyrangers.com.au](mailto:vp@mountloftyrangers.com.au)

**Diamonds**   
CAMERA / VIDEO / DIGITAL / THAT'S YOUR BEST SHOT

## GUEST SPEAKER

**AUGUST** Guest speaker is international explorer and traveller Allan Roberts

Check out his you tube clip for a preview:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QErvinr3s8>

Stay tuned for African Adventures in September!

**For further information or to book a guest speaker, please email  
Guest Speaker Co-Ordinator & Vice President at  
[vp@mountloftylanders.com.au](mailto:vp@mountloftylanders.com.au)**

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CONGRATUATIONS to Michelle Watkin the winner of the \$100  
Goggleman gift voucher with a bid of \$50.  
Proceeds will be donated to the RFDS



Thanks Chris & Pete for putting together some last minute reminders about camping etiquette. Here's a brief run-down if you weren't able to attend last month's meeting

## Camping Etiquette

Below is a recap of the items discussed at the July 9 meeting

### Camp area

- Camp in areas set aside for camping
- Respect the space of other campers
- Loud music can disturb some campers
- Use generators sparingly
- Be aware others sleep in and keep noise low
- Avoid horseplay



### There are no janitors to clean up after us

- No trace rule – only take photographs and leave foot prints
- When packed up to go do a quick sweep of the area for rubbish / wrappers / smoke butts
- Take your rubbish to the nearest drop point or take it home
- Take plastics home and avoid disposing in the fire



### Pets

- Abide by the local regulations for parks
- Clean up after your pet
- Control your pet



### Fires

- Just big enough to serve the purpose ( cooking, warmth, atmosphere )
- Keep a shovel, bucket of water, soil ready to extinguish the fire in case of flare ups and escapes
- Do not leave fire unattended when burning
- Use fire pits provided and if none available use someone else's fire spot
- Avoid creating multiple fire spots
- Do not discard aluminum foil and glass in the fire
- If burning paper / cardboard don't do it when anyone is cooking
- A buried fire may still be alive



### Having a "BUSH POOH"

- Dig a deep enough hole to stop animals digging up your waste
- Burn your paper so it doesn't blow around if an animal does dig it up
- If you can't burn your paper bring it back and place in your garbage pile – carry paper lunch bags to collect your used paper

For a copy of "CLUB BYLAWS & RULES FOR TRIPS & ACTIVITIES"

[http://mountloftyrangers.com.au/wp-content/uploads/docs/club\\_bylaws.pdf](http://mountloftyrangers.com.au/wp-content/uploads/docs/club_bylaws.pdf)



Rangers Review



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**Ph (08) 8268 8808 fax (08) 8347 3152 Email [ron@aawindows.com.au](mailto:ron@aawindows.com.au)**

Is it your birthday this month???

Come and see Kylie for a drink!





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E: [daniel@tyrepowerblackwood.com.au](mailto:daniel@tyrepowerblackwood.com.au)

# TRIP REPORT: MURRAY SUNSET NP

## **Murray-Sunset National Park 2018 Trip Report**

Trip Leader: Gary Light

When: 13 - 15 July 2018

Where: Murray-Sunset National Park, which is the largest national park in Victoria, stretching from the Murray River at Lindsay Island, in the north, to Pink Lakes near Underbool, in the south.

Mallee vegetation dominates the sandy loam soils with pockets of Native Cypress-pine and Belah woodlands scattered throughout.

Trip Report: Sue Peake

Photos: Courtesy of the participants

### **Participants:**

Gary (Prado)

Henry (Landcruiser 200 Series)

Kim (Ford Ranger)

Les (Landcruiser 200 Series)

Marcel (Mitsubishi Triton)

Pam & Neil (Nissan Patrol & camper trailer)

Sue (Prado)



### **Friday 13 July 2018**

We all met at 1.00pm, at the Shell Service Station at Taillem Bend. We then travelled towards Pinnaroo, via the Mallee Highway. Prior to Murrayville, we turned off the highway and went to Ngallo Park Camping Area, where we set up camp. The camping area has a drop toilet, small shelter shed and fire rings. Anthony Ilsley camped with us for the night and then continued on with his travels on Saturday. It was a calm, clear night and we spent the evening socialising around the campfire.

### **Saturday 14 July 2018**

It was a cold night and we woke to ice on our tents and vehicle windscreens.



We packed up camp and departed at 9.00am, after thawing out a bit. We drove to Murrayville, for a short stop and then headed north towards the park. Once on the dirt roads, we stopped to reduce tyre pressures. We had to do some back tracking, as a particular track showed on the Hema Map but petered out. Once in the park, we reduced tyre pressures further. We headed

towards the Pink Lakes via Firebreak Track, Underbool Track, Underbool Tank Track, Grub Track and Ring Road.



# TRIP REPORT: MURRAY SUNSET NP

We stopped at Lake Becking at 12.15pm for a lunch stop.



After lunch, we drove past the Salt Museum to look at Lake Crosbie Camping area.



Then Mt Crozier Track to Mt Crozier Camping Area, where we stopped to walk up Mt Crozier. During the day we saw some kangaroos, particularly as they crossed the track, in front of our vehicles. Then we headed towards Mopoke Hut Camping Area via Mt Crozier Track and Underbool Track. The tracks were fairly flat, so Gary took us on a narrow track, so that we wouldn't fall asleep. The track would take us through to the Last Hope Track, close to the Mopoke Track turn off but it was quite narrow and windy and a slow going for Pam and Neil with their T Van, so we returned to the main track. Then we continued on the Last Hope Track and Mopoke Track to Mopoke Hut Camping Area.





# TRIP REPORT: MURRAY SUNSET NP

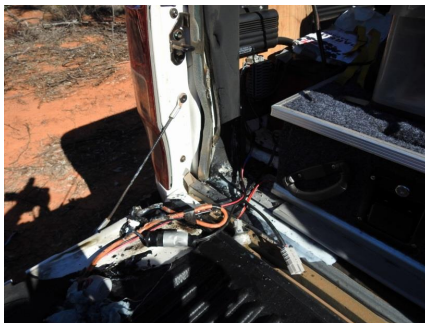
We arrived at 4.30pm and had the campsite to ourselves. We set up camp and spent a very enjoyable evening around the campfire.



In the darkness, there were foxes moving around the camping area and in the drop toilet, there was a sign recommending not leaving your boots outside your tent, as they might disappear overnight.

## Sunday 15 July 2018

It was not as cold as the previous night, so we woke to another fine day but without ice. We packed up camp and departed at 8.30am. Les prepared ham and cheese croissants, which he heated in his 12 volt oven. We ate them later for morning tea and they were very nice. We got back onto the Mopoke Track and headed towards Rocket Lake Camping Area, via the Rocket Lake Track. We drove around the camping area and then headed towards the Shearers' Quarters Camping Area via the Underbool Track, Pheenys Track, Bambill South Track and Miners Track. At one point, Marcel noticed that Kim had smoke coming from under the canopy of his ute tray. We stopped and Kim extinguished a small electrical fire.



We stopped at the Shearers' Quarters Camping Area for a lunch break and then continued west to the Border Track. On some sections of the track we had to detour around bog holes. Another section of track did not appear to have been used much, as there were lots of sticks and branches, so we took care not to stake our tyres. Then we continued south on the Border Track. We exited the park and stopped to reinflate our tyres. On a section of the dirt road, we had to stop to wait for a pair of Malleefowl to move off the road. Then we headed back to Pinnaroo via the Pinnaroo Loxton Road. There was some concern that Marcel was going to run out of fuel but he made it to Pinnaroo, where he was able to refuel for the trip back to Adelaide. The trip ended at Pinnaroo at about 4.15pm.

It was a very enjoyable weekend and thanks to Gary for organising the trip.

# PAY NOW

## MEMBERSHIPS



### Memberships are due, time to renew

If you haven't done so already, we ask that you please renew your membership today! If you renew your membership prior to the end of August 2018, you will receive a \$10 discount after which the fee increases to \$80. In today's climate this is good value for money. It should be noted that the fee has not changed for at least five years. Don't forget your membership is linked to your vehicle, which means all of your immediate family are also members. By renewing you will be able to:

- attend more trips, see new places, meet new people and share the experiences
- be eligible for Sponsor discounts (with participating sponsors)
- Purchase a wide variety of MLR merchandise
- Have a say in how your club develops.

There are two options available to you for renewing your membership these include:

- Electronic funds transfer:
  - BSB: 065 132
  - Account No: 1004 4806
  - Account Name: Mount Lofty Rangers Inc.
  - Reference on transaction, [name] and membership renewal  
(Bendigo bank does not show their customer's name on account transfers unless it is the in reference)
- Face to face with the treasurer

Should you have any questions relating to membership I encourage you to direct them to one of our three membership officers via [Membership@mountloftyrangers.com.au](mailto:Membership@mountloftyrangers.com.au) or alternately any other committee member.

## DUE by end of September!!!!

# TRIP REPORT: FINKE

Courtesy of Michelle Watkin

## Participants

Ron and Michelle Versteeg

Jeff and Lyn Morgan

Mike Paul

Peter Beck

Peter and Jo

Craig and Michelle

Pete and Anne Kluzek

Ann and Malcolm Morris



Our camp at Farina.

Saturday 2nd June saw 8 vehicles converge on Farina, after numerous bakery stops, to enjoy our first campfire to warm up on a freezing night. Lesson 1 learnt - summer sleeping bags are not adequate in June.

Sunday morning, we all converged on the Farina bakery. So yummy. So many times Craig and I have passed by and finally the timing was right to get it open. Well organised Pastry Pete.

# TRIP REPORT: FINKE

Monday was another bucket list item ticked off for me - Algebuckina bridge. Lesson 2 - it's best to wait and watch the sunset instead of convoy driving into a setting sun in bulldust.

Mike managed to puncture a tyre with a rock that looked like an old stone arrow head on the Oodnadatta. The boys all attempted to fix it at camp at Old Andado. Lesson 3 - make sure before leaving home that your tyre patch glue hasn't dried up. Sadly the patch failed.

Another night of camping on the Binns Track and we arrived in Alice Springs for 2 nights. Tyres, a sleeping bag and a sleeping mat were bought! North of the town is a free weigh bridge. Lesson 4 - it pays to check your weight, you may be surprised.



Lined up at Algebuckina Bridge for morning tea

We were in Alice to watch the Finke Desert race, and we headed 150 kms down the old Ghan track to set up camp for 2 nights to spectate.

On Monday, we headed into Finke to refuel. Sadly we lost a convoy vehicle- after Ron had filled up his long range tank, it was noticed it was leaking. Soap worked for awhile but Ron and Michelle had to make the hard decision to not follow us into the Simpson.

# TRIP REPORT: FINKE

The Iveco had performed great up till then. If you have a chance, check out Ron's fit out. It's a bit special.



So 7 vehicles headed into the Simpson. Lesson 5 - maps can lie. Camels and dingoes were sighted and everyone got up Big Red. Showers and pub tea at Mungerannie were very welcome.

We were very lucky with the weather, up to 30 in Alice Springs, but then the last night in Melrose, the last 2 cars camped in the first rain of the trip.  
Thanks Peter and Jo Reed, it was a great trip.

PS if you love Nespresso capsules, this gadget is the ants pants for camping  
<https://www.wacaco.com/pages/minipresso-ns> Just Google: Wacaco Minipresso-NS

# TRAINING

## MLR TRAINING CALENDAR

Courses to be run by Steve Townsend & Tom Doody:

Sun 12<sup>th</sup> Aug Tyre repair & changing Ashbourne  
9am. 855 Ashbourne Road Strathalbyn. BYO lunch & chair.  
Remove & replace tyre from rim & changing wheel.  
Plug a tyre – wheel with tyre supplied.

Sun 14<sup>th</sup> Oct Recovery & winch training/awareness Ashbourne  
\*\$15 to camp at Steve's Sat night. BYO BBQ lunch Sunday.

## DTU TRAINING CALENDAR

27 <sup>th</sup> October	Trip planning & leading	\$10	Cavan	9.00am
3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> November	Training	\$45	Peake	9.00am
10 <sup>th</sup> /11 <sup>th</sup> November	GPS & OziExplorer		Cavan	9.00am

MLR offers non-stop 4WD education from our trainers:

Tom Doody & Glenn Lawson as well as the assessors: Jeff Morgan, Dave 'Shorty' Willmore, Mark Curtis as well as Steve Townsend.

Email [training@mountloftyrangers.com.au](mailto:training@mountloftyrangers.com.au) for more information or to organise one-on-one or group training.

# 2018 TRIPS CALENDAR

**“Put up a trip sheet and people will come”**

11 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> August	Weekend trip	Eric Kalderovskis	MLR Fishing Comp. Salt Creek
<i>Camp @ 42 mile crossing – online camping permit required May the best fisherperson win!</i>			
MONDAY 13 <sup>th</sup> August	Club Meeting 7.30pm Blackwood Football Club, Trevor Terrace, Blackwood		
Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup> August	Day trip	Gary Light	Diamonds photography course & dinner
<i>Saturday in CBD &amp; end the day with dinner at the pub. Cost TBD</i>			
<b>FATHER'S DAY SUNDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> SEPTEMBER</b>			
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> September	Day trip	Tom Doody	Uni SA Planetarium @ Mawson Lakes
<i>Meet 3.30pm for 4.00pm start at Uni SA Mawson Lakes. \$13 cost. Pub dinner at Mawson Lakes. Max 45.</i>			
MONDAY 10 <sup>th</sup> September	Club Meeting 7.30pm Blackwood Football Club, Trevor Terrace, Blackwood		
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> September	Night event	Gary Light	Aussie Disposals St Marys
<i>6.30pm – 8pm Pizza &amp; soft drink provided, specials, discounts &amp; giveaways available on the night</i>			
<b>FRIDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> – MONDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER - LONG WEEKEND</b>			
MONDAY 8 <sup>th</sup> October	Club Meeting 7.30pm Blackwood Football Club, Trevor Terrace, Blackwood		
MONDAY 12 <sup>th</sup> November	Club Meeting 7.30pm Blackwood Football Club, Trevor Terrace, Blackwood		
TBA November	Weekend trip	Eric Kalderovskis	Feed/swim with Tuna @ Victor Harbor
<i>Tuna feeding/swimming @ Victor Harbor – cost approx. \$120</i>			
MONDAY 10 <sup>th</sup> December	Club Meeting 7.30pm Blackwood Football Club, Trevor Terrace, Blackwood		
Expression of interest - Nov	Day trip	Tom Doody	Stockport Observatory
<i>Saturday night looking through telescope. Camp over out close to Stockport. Sausage sizzle for tea?? Approx cost \$15/adult plus camping</i>			
TBA April 2019 School Holidays	Extended trip	Tasman Hunt	Uluru (Ayres Rock)
<i>Walk up the Rock for the last time. Truck Museum in Alice Springs</i>			



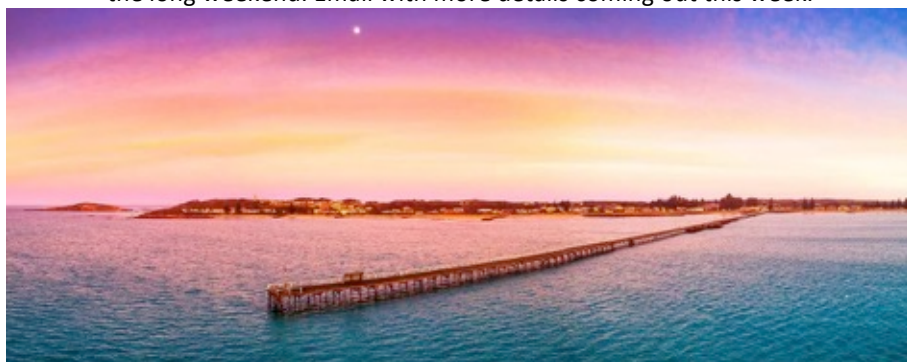
## 2019 TRIPS

Fri 25 <sup>th</sup> – Mon 28 <sup>th</sup> JANUARY	Long Weekend	Gary Light	Beachport
<i>Dress up party! Day trips to Carpenters Rocks for hot chips! Wander the main street of Robe, visit the ICECREAM SHOP!!!! Local wineries. And lots more.</i>			

## \*\*\*\*\* AUSTRALIA DAY @ BEACHPORT\*\*\*\*\*

Book your site for Beachport through Tom [training@mountloftyrangers.com.au](mailto:training@mountloftyrangers.com.au)

All sites held under the group booking will need a deposit and name against it by the **30<sup>th</sup> of September 2018**. After this date sites that have no name and deposit against them will be released back to caravan park. \*Minimum 3 night stay for this booking over the long weekend. Email with more details coming out this week.



## 2018 SA SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Period	Start
School Holidays	Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup> September
Term 4	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> October
School Holidays	Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup> December

## SA PUBLIC HOLIDAYS 2018

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> October – Labour Day  
 Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Day  
 Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> December – Boxing Day

**Rangers Review**

# MLR RECIPE BOOK

## Ingredients That Require No Refrigeration

### 1. Velveeta or Cheese Whiz

If the term “cheese product” doesn’t bother you, these tasty cheese substitutes are great when a refrigerator isn’t available. Drizzle them on tortilla chips to make some nachos, or melt it over pasta to make an easy campfire mac and cheese.

### 2. Honey

Both natural and sweet, squirt-bottle honey is an easy option for adding something sweet to tea, coffee, biscuits, and toast.

### 3. Bisquick

This floury mixture is how so many delicious breakfast foods start. Pancakes, waffles, biscuits and more. Bring along some baking powder and you’ll have no problem using it without eggs and milk.

### 4. Dried Herbs and Spices

Your food doesn’t have to lack flavor just because you are camping. And the best part is none of the dried herbs and spices need to be refrigerated. Cumin for your salsa, oregano for your spaghetti, and of course salt for, well... everything.

### 5. Canned Evaporated Milk

If, like me, you shudder at the idea of being without milk for a few days but keeping your dairy cold is going to be challenging, you really have two options. Evaporated milk in a can has become one of the staples I always have around the house and on a camping trip. While I might not use this to lighten my coffee, it is a really great substitute for any recipe that requires milk. It might not taste exactly the same, but hey, you’re camping, and you might find you like it better.

### 6. Powdered Milk or Soy

Your second option in the milk department is to buy it powdered. In a pinch it, it serves as a great substitute, especially for coffee. Believe it or not, you can use it for your cereal too. Add some to cold water till you get the taste you like and dump in your Wheaties. Vegan or have a milk allergy? No problem. They also sell powdered soy!

### 7. Dry Lentils and Beans

Rice and beans – the camper’s go to food. But really, dry beans are a great addition to your camp kitchen that won’t take up a lot of space and don’t need any refrigeration. Remember for both beans and lentils, they can take a while to cook. Soak them in a pot of water overnight and you will have a much easier time getting them soft when you boil them the next day.



# MLR RECIPE BOOK

## 8. Bread

Taking its place next to milk as man's ultimate staple, bread is a good filler when you are packing light and don't want to take up room in the cooler. Toast, sandwiches, French toast, or a side for dinner.

## 9. Soy Sauce

Thinking of frying up some veggies and rice on your cook stove? Bring along some soy sauce. This Asian sauce is so salty, a little goes a long way, and it can go right back on the shelf after opening.

## 10. Butter

Some people don't know that you actually don't need to refrigerate butter. We keep ours out on the counter in a covered dish all the time so it is soft and spreadable. But be careful, it will be very soft and easily mashed. And if it gets warm enough you could have a greasy mess. Keep it in a container with a lid that seals.

## 11. Stock cubes

Such a great seasoning, comes in beef, vegetable, and chicken flavor. It is a good way to make broths for soup on the go.

## 12. Individual Mayonnaise, Mustard, Ketchup and Relish Packets

You know when you get take-out and they send you home with those little condiment packets? They work perfectly for camping! While their larger cousins, like a tub of mayo, need to be refrigerated immediately after opening (and is a major food poisoning culprit), these little packets are single serve and require no refrigeration. Just toss the package when you are done.

## 13. Potatoes

They make French fries. Enough said. But seriously, potatoes are incredibly versatile, easy to cook in a variety of ways and stay good for a really long time.

## 14. Oil

How does anyone cook without it? You can use it to fry up basically anything, dip bread in it, or grease a pan. Oil is something you should definitely put in your cooking essentials with the added bonus that it doesn't need any chilling.

## **Make Ahead**

### 15. Muffins

Delicious for breakfast and snacks, muffins come in all shapes, sizes, and flavors. Add chocolate chips, blueberries or make corn muffins to go with chili. Let them cool completely and put them in a plastic bag. They will stay good for up to 4 or 5 days.

### 16. Fruit Leather

Try this fruit leather recipe in our post 25 Make Ahead Camping Meals to Feed a Whole Family to make your own fruit leather. You'll have a yummy snack that is good for you and your kids.

# MLR RECIPE BOOK

## 17. Energy Bites



Energy bites are little round, bite-sized snacks that you can easily make at home and pack a great protein and fiber punch. You can keep them in a bag or box. Since most are made from oats and nut butter, there is no need to refrigerate them.

## 18. Coffee Cake

Make a sheet coffee cake and you have an easy breakfast option that everyone at the campsite will love. Try this recipe from Damn Delicious.

## 19. Banana Bread

Use up those leftover bananas on the counter before you pack up your camping gear. Banana bread is easy to make camping food that stores well without refrigeration. Cut off a slice and toss it on the fire grate to get it toasty before enjoying. We like this recipe from Chef John at All Recipes.

## **No Cooking Required**

## 20. Jarred Salsa and Queso

Jarred salsa and queso have come a long way, and while they are no match for the homemade version, they are a great option at the picnic table. Put them out as a dip with tortilla chips or use them to season tacos and quesadillas.

## 21. Wasabi Peas

This little snack will separate the men from the boys with their super spicy bite. But once you get a taste for these crunchy little treats you won't be able to stop.



## 22. Snack and Energy Bars

Cliff Bars, Lara Bars and so many more. These brands have made a killing off of the camping and hiking community. And for good reason. Easy, light, small, and packed with protein, fiber and fat, these little snacks are a great option when you are away from home and aren't able to prepare a meal. Want to make your own? Check out our Nomadic No-Bake Bars in our post, 15 Delicious & Easy Camping Breakfast Ideas.

# MLR RECIPE BOOK

## 23. Pop Tarts

Kids and college students have learned to live on these. They are a breakfast junk food, up there with cocoa puffs. But they are super simple, come in individual wrappers and have a shelf life of a twinkie... well almost. Try the unfrosted ones if you are looking for something a little healthier.

## 24. Raisins

Raisins are packed with energy and fiber, along with other good stuff like vitamins and minerals. If you want to jazz them up a bit you can get them chocolate or yogurt dipped.

## 25. Fresh Fruits

Most fresh fruits can be kept on the counter or in a knapsack before being cut open. A few of the ones that travel well are berries, lemons, kiwi, bananas, mangoes, pears, avocado, oranges, and melons. We love to grab peaches and apples from the farm stand on the way to our campsite in the summer and fall. But remember, once cut open, they won't last long.

## 26. Fresh Vegetables

Most vegetables hold well without being refrigerated too. Look for the veggies that your grocer keeps in bins rather than the refrigerated section. Some good ones are corn on the cob, tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, onions, garlic, eggplant, and green beans. Same as the fruits, many of these veggies, like cucumbers and tomatoes, will need some chilling once you cut into them. Best to just eat them up.

## 27. Dry Cereal

What is simpler than a bowl of cereal? Some are even great to eat dry, without your powdered milk mixture, like Cheerios, Frosted Mini Wheats, Fruit Loops and Cocoa Puffs.

## 28. Fruit Cups

We used to open up a tin of fruit cocktail for lunches as a kid. But now these little fruits are available in individually portioned cups. Now most of them are in real fruit juice instead of heavy syrup too.

## 29. Applesauce

Sweet, light, and sometimes cinnamon. You can get individual cups of applesauce to take on your next camping trip and they won't need any refrigeration.

## 30. Chocolate



It can easily make or break any camping trip. Be it in a candy bar, a warm cup of cocoa or between a graham and mallow, [chocolate](#) is essential. Eat it before it melts!

# MLR RECIPE BOOK

## 31. Nuts

The varieties and flavors of nuts seem endless. From habanero almonds to honey roasted peanuts. They are a delicious snack, a great source of fats and protein and will never see the inside of a fridge.

## 32. Dried Fruit

Dried fruits are great in a mix but they are also good just on their own. Sugared pineapples, banana chips, mango slices, yum!

## 33. Canned Meats and Fish

Canned meats get a bad wrap but you can get your protein and meat fix without having to refrigerate it. Deviled ham makes a great sandwich, as does tuna (break out those individual mayo packets!), canned chili is a great option to add to your campfire nachos, and Vienna sausages are a good replacement in your pork'n'beans campfire dinner.

## 34. Canned Vegetables and Beans

Canned vegetables and beans are a great alternative when you are looking to avoid the mess and time it takes to prepare fresh veggies and dried beans. All you need is a can opener and a spork.

## 35. Jerky



**Jerky** is great for any camper, but especially for backpackers who are looking for something to chew on along the way, as well as a way to replenish their salts as they sweat down the trail. Jerky comes in so many flavors these days and if you have a **dehydrator** you can make it at home for a lot less.

## 36. Trail Mix

It is the quintessential campers' and hikers' snack. It will give you energy and fill up your belly. The best part is you can buy it for a no-fuss option, but you can also make your own custom mix (again with the help of a **dehydrator**). Add all the things you love from salty to sweet to spicy.



## 37. Nut Butter

Peanut butter, hazelnut spread, almond butter, the list goes on. They are packed with protein and good fats and are a great way to satiate hunger at the campsite without a lot of fuss. Spread some on crackers, bread or fruit, like apples and bananas. If you don't want to bring along a whole jar, you can pick up some individual packets.

# MLR RECIPE BOOK

## Hot Snacks and Meals

### 38. Campfire Cherry Pies

This is the campfire dessert you remember making as a kid and it is still just as yummy, and easy! All you need is white bread, a can of cherry pie filling and a campfire pie iron. Best of all, none of these require refrigeration.

### 39. Oatmeal or Grits

Overnight oats are all the rage right now, but if you want the warm belly feeling of hot oatmeal in the morning, you're in luck. All you need for this tasty breakfast is water. The same goes for oatmeal's southern cousin. Grits are a delicious, lightweight, and easily storable addition to any breakfast.

### 40. Popcorn

What's better than a bag of freshly popped corn over a campfire. If you've never tried it, following this recipe from WikiHow to make your own popcorn over an open fire under the stars.

### 41. Boxed Mac and Cheese

It's not just for kids. Our tip: stay away from the instant mac and cheese. The idea is clever, but the reality is sub-par. Stick to the regular box and substitute evaporated milk.

### 42. Pancakes

But even Bisquick requires eggs and milk, you say? Not so, when you use this genius recipe from Livestrong, which uses only non-perishable items. And don't forget your maple syrup (which doesn't need a refrigerator either!)

### 43. Rice, Couscous and Quinoa

Mix them with anything and you have a meal. These grains are great options for any camper because they are easy to store and carry, and are quick to cook up. Plus they are versatile. Some canned veggies or beans, maybe some olive oil and salt, or just plain butter.

### 44. Instant Noodles

They are cheap, easy and all you need is water. Plus they are pretty yummy in their multiple flavors. The pasta will give you energy if you've been hiking and the broth will help to replenish salts. Best part, you just toss the cup. No need for dishwashing.

### 45. Canned Soup

Similar to instant noodles, canned soups are a great option when you are trying to cut down on the number of things you bring camping. Creamy, hearty or alphabet filled, there is a canned soup for you. Pour, heat and enjoy.

### 46. Pasta and Sauce

It seems basic but add a little parmesan cheese or some canned vegetables and you have an (almost) gourmet meal. It's quick to cook up over a fire or on a stove and can feed a lot of people. If you want to try going a little fancier, try a pasta sauce dry packet and substitute evaporated milk.



# MLR RECIPE BOOK

## 47. Dehydrated Meals and MREs

A lot of backpackers carry around at least a few of these. They are hearty, calorie heavy, and actually taste pretty good. Dehydrated meals require you to add hot water, while MREs are standalone meals. An MRE (or Meal, Ready to Eat) is a military ration meal packaged to withstand combat conditions and is heated with a flameless heater that is provided within the MRE. Keep in mind, both of these types of meals are for folks who are using up a lot of calories. Most MREs contain the full daily value a human needs and about 1200-1500 calories.

Send your favourite camp cook recipe into the Magazine [magazine@mountloftyrangers.com.au](mailto:magazine@mountloftyrangers.com.au) to start compiling an MLR Recipe Book!

---





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.

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# MLR CHRISTMAS SHOW

After 2 positive years we have decided to hold the MLR Christmas Show again at Wirrina Cove with catering TBA. Dates & menu TBA as we get closer so stay tuned!



# TRIP: PLANETARIUM

## What exactly is The Planetarium?

A planetarium is a room with a dome-shaped ceiling on which the night sky is displayed through a star projector. The Adelaide Planetarium houses a Zeiss Jena ZPK1 star projector that displays an artificial night sky onto the eight-metre diameter domed ceiling and can show the position of constellations, stars and planets. The projector displays the relative position and brightness of about 5,000 stars that are visible from the Southern Hemisphere.

## When is it I hear you ask?

Saturday September 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting at 3.30pm at Uni SA Mawson Lakes Campus (map to be provided) for 4pm start

We will get an hour long guided tour of the night sky followed by a short movie - "Wildest Weather in the Solar System".



### Wildest Weather in the Solar System

Join National Geographic on a spectacular journey to witness the most beautiful, powerful, and mysterious weather phenomena in the solar system. From a storm the size of a 100-megaton hydrogen bomb, to a 400-year-old hurricane, to a dust storm that could engulf entire planets.

Audiences will fly through the thick atmosphere of Venus, encounter magnetic storms on the sun, liquid methane showers on Titan, and anticyclones whirling at hundreds of miles per hour on Jupiter. Packed with eye-popping visuals, amazing computer generated imagery and cutting-edge science.

After this whirlwind adventure, you'll be glad you live on Earth!

Cost for Planetarium is \$13 per adult and \$11 per child, payable at the August club meeting.

Around 5.30pm when finished, we can adjourn across the road to the Mawson Lakes Hotel for dinner.

Please confirm if you are still interested in joining us for The Planetarium and if so, will you also join us for dinner at Mawson Lakes Hotel – there will be another email coming out to all club members end of next week to fill the gaps, so please reply at your earliest convenience to cement your spots. Contact Tom for more info and to secure your spot by the August meeting [training@mountloftyrangers.com.au](mailto:training@mountloftyrangers.com.au)

# TRIP: STOCKPORT OBSERVATORY

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> October is the second part of our astronomy awareness trip.

Stockport Observatory is located in the small town of Stockport (6kms north-east of Hamley Bridge) approximately 80kms north of Adelaide. It provides a convenient astronomical facility away from the light pollution which surrounds Adelaide (population 1 million). The Society owns two large observatories in Stockport. One of them (foreground) houses an 12-inch (30cm) Schmidt-Cassegrain, while the Charles Todd Observatory (background) houses the Society's largest telescope at present - the Jubilee Telescope.



Cost for the Observatory is \$20 per person, we need a minimum of 10 people for them to go ahead with this evening. Having visited the observatory for Uni last semester, it is worth much more than \$20! They will give us a guide of the night sky (with one of those illegal laser pointers☹) and then into looking through the telescope and depending on the clouds etc, one or planets may or may not be visible.

I have organised for them to cook us a “Star-B-Cue”, for dinner Saturday evening which will fit nicely as it will be daylight savings. Our meal an Aussie BBQ consisting of (patties, sausages, chicken shashliks, salads, bread, lamingtons, tea & coffee) for \$20 per person. It will be BYO drinks.

We are also talking to the Stockport Caravan Park which is within walking distance to the Observatory, so we can sleep over. More info on this as it comes to hand.

Get your name on the trip sheet to confirm your spot.

Please do not hesitate to contact Tom if you have any queries on

[training@mountloftyrangers.com.au](mailto:training@mountloftyrangers.com.au)



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## MLR Club Night @ Aussie Disposals

- **When** – Wed 12 Sep 6:30 – 8:00
- **Where** – 1223-1231 South Road, St Marys
- **Free Pizza and soft drink**

Aussie Disposals are an Australian owned outdoor adventure store, operating for more than 50 years, and have recently opened a brand new store at St Marys.

They are stockists of popular brands such as Darche, Ridgeline, Engel, Leatherman and Led Lenser as well as holding a great range of camping, outdoor, ski and travel gear.

Andy Cox the store manager would like to offer a standard members discount of 10% off regular ticketed prices in store (excluding fridges, gift cards and laybys) to all MLR members.

The St Marys store will host an after-hours 20% + off club night, and potentially offer some great specials plus a giveaway prize.



If you would like to attend make sure you put your name on the Trip Sheet at a monthly meeting or contact me [president@mountloftyrangers.com.au](mailto:president@mountloftyrangers.com.au)



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# MLR QUIET ACHIEVER AWARD

Votes can be submitted at any time of year for members acknowledging how much they are valued and appreciated, recognising their important (often behind the scenes) contribution to the fabric of MLR. This is an award presented to those special people who go out of their way to do things for others, not because they want recognition but because it comes from their heart to give and serve others. Quiet achiever may contribute in numerous ways including:

- Always friendly and supportive consistently helping others
- Continued fundraising efforts
- Volunteer efforts for the betterment of MLR
- Behind the scenes support



## NOMINATION FORM MLR Quiet Achiever Award

NOMINEE NAME:			
NAME OF NOMINATOR:			
<i>Nominators contact details:</i>			
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# TRAINING REPORT: Trip planning & leader course

Courtesy of Chris Grear

**Sunday 22 July 2018**

**Vehicles:** Seven Vehicles

Trip began at the Meadows Bakery – “Pic A Pie”. The venue was very suitable for holding the small group eager to learn. A warm venue on a cool windy morning with ample bakery items to choose from and of course coffee to enjoy.

Steve Townsend distributed learning booklets to each ‘team’ which served as our reference manuals. These included “Planning your Trip” “Trip Leaders Checklist” and “Would YOU like to be a Trip Leader?”

Steve held a well-paced talk allowing ample time for questions and experiences from the group. The notes were quite spacious and allowed his students to make their own notes.

After we had been through the theory it was onto practical of convoy driving including the using of the UHF radio and communications etiquette.

After instructions to return to our vehicles and line up in single file we then selected the club channel 27 for the trip to begin. Each member performed a radio check. Steve was the trip leader and Tom nominated as the Tail End Charlie. Steve gave clear radio instructions and we proceeded down the road towards Goolwa. As a road junction approached Steve radioed the instructions. The method for us following was the car behind Steve would mark the corner and all others pass that car and tail end Charlie would invite the marking vehicle to pull in front of him. This meant you moved up to follow Steve and then drop back to just in front of tail end Charlie and then moved again at each change of direction. This happened on each corner where a change of direction was required. The procedure worked smoothly.

When we were discussing the leader role in the bakery it was raised about the possible changing conditions and original trip outline has to flexible and mould around the conditions. Our trip was planned out well and the Steve had a plan and map to follow but our path changed with arriving at a road junction only to have no through road access in all other directions. We gathered to discuss this as a good example of the possible changes we could experience out in the bush so be prepared was the message.

We carried on with some back tracking and then back to the original plan. We arrived at Goolwa just before noon. After the we alighted and adjusted fluid levels at a nearby convenience, We had a debrief of the trip and any questions answered and some additional comments from Steve and Tom were of great value. A tip brought up was the around the middle should radio back that instructions received and radio back the instructions. As the distance expands the communications can become a little scratchy. Good tip. Also when travelling with other traffic it is important that you know the vehicles as it can be misleading when watching out for marking vehicles.

Lunch at the nearest pub was a nice end to the official day proceedings. After lunch we all went out separate ways. Thank you to Steve and Tom for taking time in training us.



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# TRIP REPORT: AFRICA WEEK 1

By Tom & Tania Doody

## Monday 28th

Fly from Perth 11hrs and a little bit to Johannesburg, leaving just before midnight. Don't you just love long haul flights, the lack of legroom for the taller ones and the ability of others to sleep for 4-5 hours (hey Tanya?). Regrouped in a café in the airport and seen the first of many (we suspect) African sunrises!

## Tuesday 29th

After a 4 hr lay over, we flew from Johannesburg to Windhoek which took a little over 2 hrs, surprisingly the landscape looks very much like The Flinders!

We were collected at the airport by the Car Hire company and then back to their yard to collect our 4wds and many discussions with what we'd ordered vs what we got.....

Shopping was next on the list, we needed provisions for almost a week, would we go out on a limb and have local foods or would we stay with as much similar Aussie fare as we could find? We had ordered some "local meats" read wildlife, so we were going out on the limb.... Lothar and Sheena had guided us a little with our food requirements. Once we were all done, the first real convoy started. Trying to keep track of 6 vehicles in a city that was close to peak hour was fun to say the least, anyway we survived and headed out to our first camp.

Elisenheim Lodge was our first night in the roof top tent, after a quick lesson on how to set it up, it was time to pack and repack the car, so everything was accessible for the next 4 odd weeks. Showers were next on the agenda followed by tea in the restaurant, then early to bed as we'd had not much sleep since waking up in Perth over 40 hours ago.





# TRIP REPORT: AFRICA WEEK 1

## Wednesday 30th

Slept like the dead, the roof top tent is not as uncomfortable as I expected, but Tanya and I were also using our hiking mattresses for extra softness. After Brekky in the restaurant it was to the local

Camping shop for gas for the Jetboil, wood and some other odds and sods, we then were off to finish shopping and then back to car hire place to see if Tanya had left her pillow and jacket in the bus as they had gone missing, Paul and Trevor joined us to get a couple of small issues with their cars sorted.

Lunch was had on the side of road, shortly after my “check engine oil light” was to make the first of many appearances over the next 4 weeks. There was plenty of oil in the engine depending on what side of the dipstick you checked.....Hmmmmm?

On the way to our camp for the night we saw baboons and dassies (rabbit sized but their closest relation is an elephant). The scenery was brilliant, we were spread out enough so that us as TEC, the dust wasn't too much of an issue.

Tonight we were camping at Namibgrens – which was absolutely bloody brilliant! Showers and flushing toilets under the stars, separate cooking fire areas which were up off the ground and separate fire rings in an amphitheatre like setting. Why can't our parks be like this in Australia?



Out for a drive to a look out, and we got a puncture on the way back to camp..... How many more we will have as a group?

Zebra mince for tea with veg and flavoured rice pack - it was alright, at least I haven't died yet!



# TRIP REPORT: AFRICA WEEK 1

## Thursday 31st

Up early to get sorted and watch the sunrise

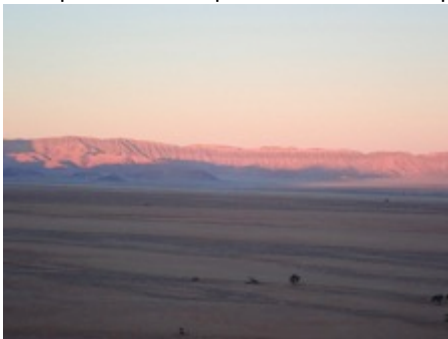
Bakery at Solitaire - yummo!

Sesriem campground for permit.... hike the canyon..... lunch and then out to Dune 45 to have a look. Came across a World Heritage Site marker – The Namib Sand Sea. This would be one of many World Heritage Sites we would be lucky enough to visit.



The wildlife had started to show itself, we've seen springboks, oryx, meerkat, and jackals mostly all from a great distance, but we still taking photos, much to Lothar and Sheena's amusement and comments that we'll see them closer and in bigger quantities later in our trip.

Returned to Ellim Dune to watch sunset, but only made it to the false top, it was another half hour further (at least) walk on..... still the colours were unbelievable. The walk up to top was hard, the air is so dry here and the sand is so dry and fine, some of the uphill is one step forward - half a step back.



Back to camp to set up our roof top tent and prepare tea, Tanya made Zebra Spaghetti Bolognese which she shared with Paul and Sharon, while I had left overs with extra veg from the night before.

# TRIP REPORT: AFRICA WEEK 1

## Friday 1st

Up ultra early to catch the sunrise at Dune 45, the gate would be opened at 6:30am. Head lamps on, to be packed up and ready..... boy! it was bloody freezing, even with gloves on my fingers where frozen. At least the car heater thawed them out. The speed limit is 60 and good bitumen out to the dunes, however no one travels at that speed, I was doing 115 and got passed!

Once we got out there it was freezing, time to toughen up and get up the Dune to watch the sun come up..... the Dune is 85 m high and again was one step forward and half step back - the air was freezing, breathing was hard but we got there and WOW the colours as it got lighter cannot be described. Only Paul & Sharon, Neil, Sheena and Tan and I ventured to the top.



# TRIP REPORT: AFRICA WEEK 1



Off the Dune and time for brekky, hot weetbix never tasted so good! Off a little further down the road to see "Big Daddy" the tallest Dune in the Sossusvlei area of the Namib Naukluft park which is the largest conservation area in Africa. These dunes in this area are often referred to as the highest dunes in the world.

The Tsauchab River flows no further here, that is on the rare occasions the river does flow, as the dunes and clay pans stop it, causing pans that are surrounded by dunes allowing trees to grow while there is water!



# TRIP REPORT: AFRICA WEEK 1

Back on the road to our camp tonight, via the bakery and refuel again at Solitaire, thru the Gaub Pass and another I can't remember the name of, to camp at Butkuppe Camp. On the way we came across a family of warthogs, springboks and Zebras. Camped separate from the group, and hit a rock and dented the rim which let the air out..... tyre trouble number 2!



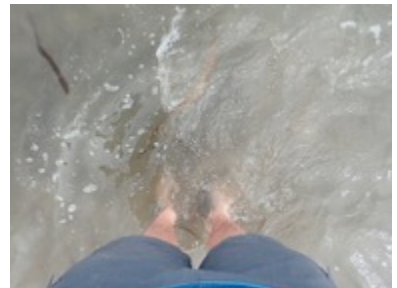
We found out later Lothar also had a puncture once arriving at camp, although his jack didn't work and one of the spares was flat, good thing we are heading to Swakopmund, a large town tomorrow so we can sort our tyre issues out.

Another great camping spot, no showers like Namib Grens though :-( (joking) it's still unbelievable! Paul cooked Kudu for tea with veg, it was as good as any steak I've eaten, maybe I won't be losing weight on this trip?

We are visited by a black backed Jackal, while sitting around the fire, he wasn't too worried about us at all.

## Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup>

From Butkuppe to Swakopmund into a resort, with toilets and hot showers. Swakopmund is a weird sort of place (in a good way!) the roads are made of sand and covered with sea water to harden them, I imagine they'd be like wet soap when it rains! This area gets a lot of sea fog coming in from the Atlantic Ocean, which we had to put our feet into obviously.



# TRIP REPORT: AFRICA WEEK 1

## Sunday 3rd

Quad biking was on the agenda for Paul & Sharon, Tanya and I – what a blast! What started with no wheelies, no jumping and tame follow the leader turned into almost an open slather follow the guide tour with us hanging off the edge of the tall dunes and absolutely fangng it! The rest of our group decided last minute to also quad bike on a different style tour and all survived and apparently had a ball as well.



## Flamingos!

Picture tells a thousand words so here you go.....





# TRIP REPORT: AFRICA WEEK 1



## **Monday 4th**

Early morning to pay outstanding money to Namibia Desert Tours and get tyres fixed, fill up with fuel and restock with last minute provisions.

Driving thru Swakopmund and Canne rivers for over hundred kilometres came across really tight bit between two huge immovable rocks but with a bit of road building and some great guidance from Trevor and Kevin, we all got thru with no issues.

To Spitkoppe campground, which Lothar knew well as he grew up not far from this area.

# TRIP REPORT: AFRICA WEEK 1



Zebra burgers in a roll for tea

It was an extremely windy night, which convinced a lot of us to never buy a roof top tent!

Stay tuned for the remaining weeks over the next couple of months or make sure you come to the September club meeting to see and hear the groups highlights.



**A poem, penned by**

**A.B. (Trombone) Thomas.**

(Found in a Queensland free camp toilet)

*In campsites 'round Australia*

*The Loos - well they are mixed*

*There are some that need a  
cleaning*

*And some that should be  
fixed. Some of them are long  
drops*

*And some won't drop at all,*

*There are those that have  
rude drawings*

*And verses on the wall.*

*There are Loos that have big  
spiders*

*And a fat cane toad or two,*

*One of which you recognize*

*Must be from another Loo.*

*Once they charged a penny*

*But now they all are free*

*In some of them the door  
won't close*

*So everyone can see.*

*But up in sunny Queensland*

*Beside a secret creek*

*Some go just to contemplate*

*And some to have a leak.*

*It's just behind a boulder*

*And beside another two*

*It's the best on in Australia*

*And they call it WINDYLOO*

*Windyloo at a free camp by Boulder Creek  
near Mt Ossa just north of MacKay*



Make sure to send in your amazing trip photos  
and trip report to be published next month!

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