



Rangers' Review

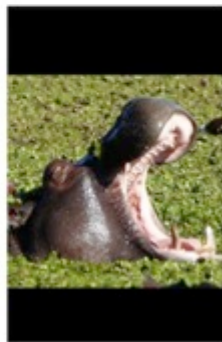
Volume 24

No. 4

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

September
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

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| MT LOFTY RANGERS UHF CLUB CHANNEL NO 27 |
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Presidential Press

Have you ever thought you wanted to do something but after going through the process actually changed your mind and been happier for it? I'm sure a lot of you could recall a time where you were in such a situation. This recently happened to the Light clan. We thought we wanted to move house, but, to cut a long story short, after doing a lot of prep including numerous appraisals from real estate agents, we realised that what we currently have is far better than what we would have potentially ended up with. After going through the process we have actually popped out the other side happier than when we started. I guess that the activity became more of a validation exercise than anything else.

Going through this process highlighted to me that life is all about choices... think about it...life just doesn't happen it's designed by you. Every moment, every situation provides a new choice, a new opportunity to do something differently. You choose to be happy or sad, brave or scared. The key is to know what we can influence or control and what we can't. By doing that, we are not wasting energy or brooding about obstacles we cannot overcome and getting ourselves overly stressed.

I guess the bottom line is, be proactive and live your own life, don't complain about something unless you are prepared to do something about it. If you complain about something and aren't prepared to do anything, that's just whining. If you can't do anything about it, why are you wasting your time in the first place? Life is too short.

Don't forget. Please ensure your emails are correct, otherwise you will miss out on updates. I have 17 members who's email address has bounced. That's a lot. I've included a list of people in this newsletter who need to verify their email address, *please* contact either myself or the membership team who will update your record.

A good example of why we need your details.... we are currently trying to find the member who recently EFT their membership via WESTPAC but no name was provided. If this was you please contact me and provide the date of the transfer so we can verify the transaction.

Final Call for memberships - Don't forget if you don't renew or notify a committee member by the end of Sept, your membership will expire and you run the risk of being denied access to club activities. If you haven't done so already don't forget to please renew your membership or speak with me and we can make alternate arrangements.

Our next monthly meeting is **10th Sep** with the next committee meeting being on **24th Sep**. Hope to see you all then.

Oh, before I forget, Happy Father's Day to all the Dads out there (2nd Sep). I hope the socks, jocks and ties are politically incorrect and last a long time.

Word of the Month:



Floccinaucinihilipilification - An abstract sense of uselessness.

[what I feel when trying to say this] (Flok-suh-nah-suh-nay-hil-uh-pil-uh-fi-kay-shuh).



YOUR COMMITTEE 2018-19

COMMITTEE DIRECTORS



PRESIDENT

Gary Light

president@mountloftyrovers.com.au

VICE PRESIDENT

Chris Gear

vp@mountloftyrovers.com.au



TREASURER

Paul McGregor

treasurer@mountloftyrovers.com.au

SECRETARY & PUBLIC OFFICER

Jo Reed

secretary@mountloftyrovers.com.au



TRIPS COORDINATOR

Trevor Light

trips@mountloftyrovers.com.au

FWD SA DELEGATE

Roger Wilkinson

delegate@mountloftyrovers.com.au



MEMBERSHIP OFFICER(S)

Lothar Dunaiki / Rob Stevens / Marianne Sag

membership@mountloftyrovers.com.au



YOUR COMMITTEE 2018-19

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

WEBSITE OFFICER

Michelle Watkin

webmaster@mountloftyrovers.com.au



MERCHANDISE OFFICER

Sheena Dunaiski

merchandise@mountloftyrovers.com.au

PROPERTY OFFICER

Peter Reed

property@mountloftyrovers.com.au



EDUCATION OFFICER(S)

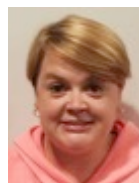
Steve Townsend / Tom Doody

training@mountloftyrovers.com.au

MAGAZINE EDITOR

Kylie Cooper

magazine@mountloftyrovers.com.au



COMMITTEE MEMBER

Craig Watkin

COMMITTEE MEMBER

Neil Stokes



COMMITTEE MEMBER

Paul Parsons

COMMITTEE MEMBER

Kim McCool



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.

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 8th 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 training@mountloftyrangersonline.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**

Keeping you off the beaten track

Talk to us about:

Motor Vehicle

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

Caravans and Campers

- Australia wide cover
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- Fire & malicious
- Cover in vehicle and
at campsites

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- Australia wide cover
- 4WD club discounts



1800 633 745 | lisa.brock@ajg.com.au
@AJG_Australia | [in](#)



Arthur J. Gallagher

MERCHANDISE



\$50

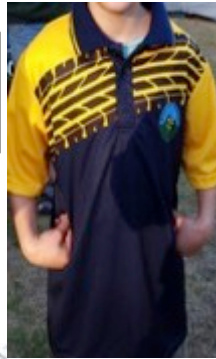
limited sizes - no names

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

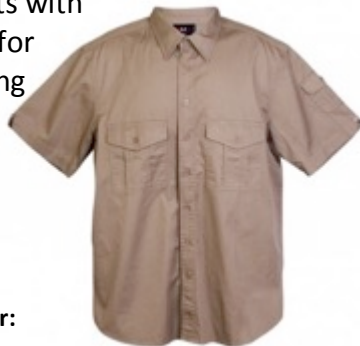
Sand Flag

\$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

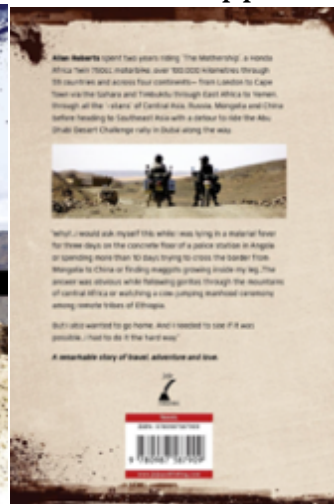
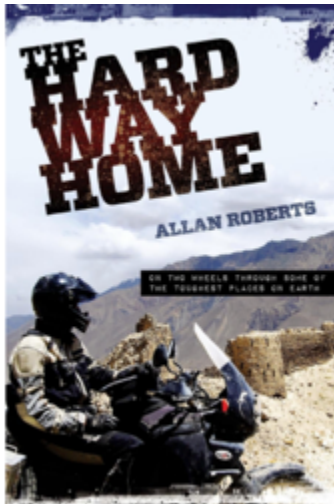
Rangers Review

GUEST SPEAKER

September meeting: African Adventures!



Did you miss out on **AUGUST** Guest speaker international explorer and traveller Allan Roberts??? You can buy is amazing book online or in book stores for approx. \$30-\$35



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

Rangers Review

**PAY
NOW**

MEMBERSHIP

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@mountlofyrangers.com.au or alternately any other committee member.

DUE by end of September!!!!

Contact Details:

It would be greatly appreciated if the following members could verify their email addresses as electronic correspondence "bounces":

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| • Peter Abigail | • Graham Missem |
| • Barry Brown | • Hubert Orbons |
| • Darryl Crouch | • Keith Phillips |
| • John Farrell | • Guy Richards |
| • Daniel Kelsh | • Dan Schultz |
| • Peter Kluzek | • Wayne Wall |
| • Hayden Lee | • Ross Wilkins |
| • Paul Lehmann | • Steve Wrobel |
| • Jason McKendrick | |

Please email president@mountlofyrangers.com.au or membership@mountlofyrangers.com.au and we will be able to confirm correct details.

TRIP REPORT: AFRICA WEEK 2

Week 2 as experienced by Paul and Sharon.

Many thanks to Sheena and Lothar who put this epic journey together. The time and effort to organise and keep it rolling along is greatly appreciated. We will be reliving the highlights for a very long time. Our thanks also go to our fellow travellers who made it a most enjoyable trip.

Our section of the adventure starts at Spitzkuppe and ends at Namutoni in Etosha National Park.

Spitzkoppje to Cape Cross Lodge via the Omaruru River Trail.

The day started with a visit to the Rock Pool, which is a large perched pool about 20m up the rock face.

A permanent pool of clean, clear water about a meter deep and 30m long. Way too cold for a swim, but the little fish seemed quite at home.



A quick scamper up to the rock arch and another photo opportunity before heading to the Omaruru River 4x4 Trail



TRIP REPORT: AFRICA WEEK 2

The 4x4 Trail is a visually thrilling trail with a variety of terrains to challenge our skills. The river forms a linear oasis and a variety of trees and plants can be seen. Along the route we visited a plant whose leaves grow from a large bulb that protrudes out of the soil and resembles an elephant foot. The skoenklip, a huge boulder in the form of a shoe, made an interesting halfway stop. The Omdel Dam however looked like it has never held any water.

A quick visit to Henties Bay for fuel and lunch at the beach. Here the temperature dropped remarkably the closer down the slope of the beach to the Atlantic Ocean. At least 10 degrees.

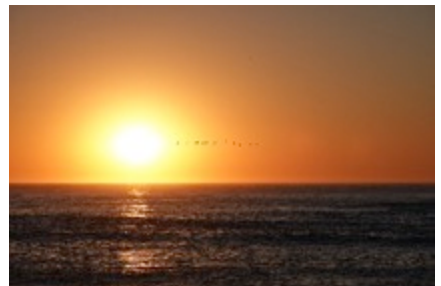
Next was Cape Cross and the seal colony. The southern African coastline is renowned as the only place in the world inhabited by Cape fur seals and the inhabitants at Cape Cross are said to at times exceed 210 000 in number. The boardwalk gave great vantage points from which to observe the seals. The smell however was quite overpowering.

The most endearing features of Cape fur seals is their ears, they have external ears, as opposed to true seals, who don't. It is also 1 of 3 species of fur seals that occurs off the coast of Southern Africa, but they do not migrate.

Here Trevor was not made welcome by an aggressive seal on the board walk.



Sitting on the breakwater at Cape Cross enjoying another gorgeous African sunset with friends and a cold beer.



TRIP REPORT: AFRICA WEEK 2

Yes, we did it hard.

The next day was Cape Cross to Desolation Valley via the Ship Wreck Coast. Sharon and I were now leading the expedition. Oh! the responsibility.

The road to the Skeleton Coast was fantastic. The salt roads were incredibly smooth and no dust.

We visited the wrecks of the Winston and the Benguela Eagle. Both wrecks are approximately 50 years old and there is not much of either. The Atlantic Ocean and the sand have been very cruel in this area.



Our drive to Torra Bay was made harder by the sand being wiped up by the easterly winds. The convoy slowed down to 10kph as the visibility was almost zero. It was the only bad day we had.

As we were driving in it and not camping in it was more of a highlight.

The turn off to Desolation Valley saw the last of the winds and ever changing vistas.



Here our first glimpse of a springbok in the distance was a highlight

The turnoff to Desolation Valley was marked only by a shredded tyre and a faint track into the distance.

Here the Hilux's lack of clearance became noticeable. Riding the rocky centre mound of the track to keep the plastic skirts up to prevent them being damaged. Neil and Pam's vehicle became our first running repair with cable ties holding the front Hilux together. Remarkably the cable ties lasted the rest of the trip.

TRIP REPORT: AFRICA WEEK 2

The views around every corner, more than making up for the long rocky track.



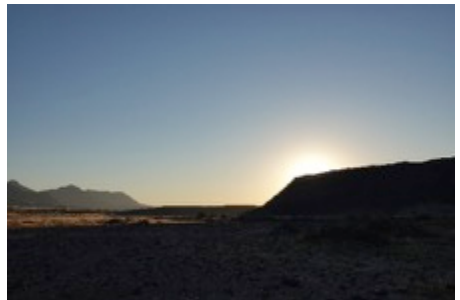
As the light was quickly fading and our destination not yet reached, we decided to camp in the open as the tracks near the river showed that critters were about .



Tom putting on his Pith Helmet made us all feel at ease.

Sitting around the campfire watching the sunset with a glass of wine. What more would you want.

The Hills around glowing in the sun's last rays.



Today we visited spectacular rock outcrops sculpted by the winds and sand. The drive in, showed no glimpses into the beauty of the rocks nestled below the cliff face.

TRIP REPORT: AFRICA WEEK 2



The day was going well until this puddle threatened us, to retracing the route back to the main road. A whole day detour.



Luckily Lothar found a crossing that joined up to another track on the other side.

All this grass and no animals and only a few birds?

The track was soft and winding with off shoots going in every direction. The GPS did really well.

The Day ended with a dry river bed camp just outside of DeRiet, and a Hoike (Camp Oven) of roast Kudu and veggies. Yum!



TRIP REPORT: AFRICA WEEK 2

Today saw us visiting Twyfelfontein and the rock art, the organ pipes, the Petrified Forest, a view of the Vingerklip and a night at Gelukspoort Guest Farm

The trip to Twyfelfontein had us winding in and out of the Aba Huab River, with soft river sands, straining to see a glimpse of elephants. But not an elephant was seen, only the teasing droppings that were everywhere.

Twyfelfontein is an 'open-air gallery' with the largest single concentration of rock art engravings in southern Africa. The world heritage site is small but includes some remarkable galleries of rock engravings (petroglyphs) depicting an extraordinary diversity of wild animals – rhino, elephant, giraffe, oryx, ostrich, flamingo, zebra and footprints.



The Lion being the highlight of the tour.

Over the road from the Burnt Mountain parking area is a path that leads to a gorge which contains what is known as the Organ Pipes, a 100m long feature of unusual 4m high dolomite columns.



The Petrified Forest exists in an old river channel and is described as 'an occurrence of fossilized trees'

TRIP REPORT: AFRICA WEEK 2

It is neither a forest in the true sense of the word and neither did any of the trees 'turn to stone'. In prehistoric times huge tree trunks were washed down a river and deposited in alluvial sands. As they were isolated from any air, a process known as diagenesis took place and as a result sand that came under pressure through sedimentation turned into sandstone. The tree trunks then underwent another process known as silicification which causes liquids that seep into the wood causes the organic materials of the wood to dissolve and be replaced by silicic acid, fossilizing the wood by transforming it into stone.



Vingerklip is a huge rock finger protruding vertically into the air standing like a monument 70km west of the little town Outjo.



Gelukspoort Guest Farm was an unexpected highlight.

The owners, relatives of Lothar opened up their home, an African game resort lodge to this vagabond group.

Stoking up the donkey hot water system we enjoyed a fantastic hot shower in the immaculate amenities.

TRIP REPORT: AFRICA WEEK 2

They put on an incredible African meal and made us most welcome. We should have stayed here longer



Etosha is our destination today. Okaukuejo Camp

Stocking up on groceries and fuel in Outjo for our foray into the Etosha Game Reserve. Okaukuejo is our first camp inside Etosha has a large, permanent waterhole which is floodlit at night. Here we witnessed Elephants, Giraffes, Rhinos and Gembok coming in for a nightly drink.

The drive in, we saw herds of Zebras and Springboks with little fear of us.

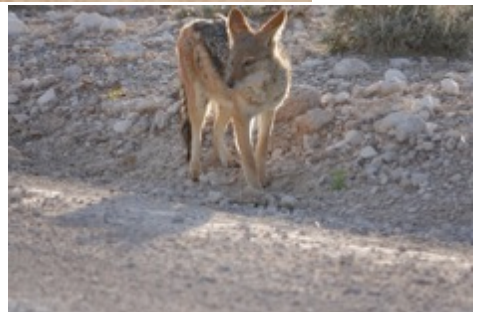
You are torn between the camera, looking for that elusive shot or just sitting there mesmerized.



TRIP REPORT: AFRICA WEEK 2



The next day is game driving looking for the big five. Here we set off by ourselves on the game trails with the map in hand following the water holes for the animals. Today we saw our first lions. A male and female coming into drink just on sunset. A truly majestic animal. We sat there until we had to back to camp as the gates are locked after 6.30.



TRIP REPORT: AFRICA WEEK 2

Today we headed to the second camp at Halai following the game drives. Another pair of lions being the highlight of an incredible days driving.



TRIP REPORT: AFRICA WEEK 2

Namutoni is today's destination, again following the game drives.

An elusive rhino in bush, a hyena coming into drink and a plethora of giraffes at Chudop waterhole.



The pictures explain more than words.

The time just sat there watching, amazed at the antics of the animals forgetting they are wild.

I would highly recommend you experience a trip like this as it will change your life.

The camera shots governed by the vehicles position do not always give justice to the scenery or animals.

But walking among the animals looking for the shot is not recommended.

Many a time the animals were there only noticeable when they moved.

Game driving was extremely tiring as the continual concentration, searching in the bush for animals but very rewarding.



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



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- Window and door replacement (not glass replacement)

New homes or renovating. Club members receive **10% discount.**

Ph (08) 8268 8808 fax (08) 8347 3152 Email ron@aawindows.com.au

Is it your birthday this month???

Come and see Kylie for a drink!



Heads-Up!!

Club Trip to Bri Glenn

15 - 16 September 2018

This site has a great combination of tracks, not too dissimilar to Willangi, however, there are also sandy and rocky creeks to drive up. Enjoy the drive up Ulooloo Creek or take one of the easier drives. Lift kit and low range is required.



The property has bush camping, plenty of fire wood available, clear night stars but no showers or toilets provided so it's self-sufficient camping. For those with thirsty cars, fuel is available at Terowie.

There is the option to head up Friday afternoon if your work commitments permit otherwise we can meet at the Caltex Bolivar at 7:30 Saturday.

The property is located just south of Terowie, about 215km north of Adelaide GPO we turn right and head to the property. Turn right onto Wonna Rd (from the Barrier Hwy, the address is -33.248445, 139.021910 just off Bri Glenn Springs Rd (Mud map will be provided)

Cost is \$20 per/person per/day. Brian the property owner has requested cash donations.

If you would like to attend make sure you put your name on the Trip Sheet at a monthly meeting or contact Roger Wilkinson.

roger.wilkinson@internode.on.net OR 0432 255 477



Join us at

THE BELAIR HOTEL

Breakfast from 8am Saturday & Sunday

Seniors \$20 Lunch Special Monday - Friday

Function Spaces Available

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ADMIN@BELAIRHOTEL.COM.AU

TRAINING

MLR TRAINING CALENDAR

Courses to be run by Steve Townsend & Tom Doody:

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

DTU TRAINING CALENDAR

26th – 28th Oct Adelaide 4WD & Adventure @ Wayville Show Grounds
- recovery demonstrations

| | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|------|-------------------|--------|
| 27 th October | Trip planning & leading | \$10 | Adelaide Car Club | 9.00am |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|------|-------------------|--------|

Annual Professional Development Weekend @ Peake 3rd-4th November
- Professional performance for Trainers/Assessors in alignment with standards in training manuals

| | | | | |
|---|-------------------|------|-------------------|--------|
| 3 rd /4 th November | Training | \$45 | Peake | 9.00am |
| 10 th /11 th November | GPS & OziExplorer | | Adelaide Car Club | 9.00am |

Contact: Geoff Green (Assistant Training Officer DTU) on 0438 874 170 if interested

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

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

Email training@mountloftyrangers.com.au for more information or to organise one-on-one or group training.

TRAINING: MUD DRIVING

Mud Training at Ashbourne 28th July Combined with the Toyota 4WD club

There were three 4WD's from the Toyota Club and 6 from MLR.

Monday 23rd July 6mm Rain – Tuesday 24th July 5mm Rain – Wednesday 25th July 4mm Rain.

Looking good for some exciting wet winter sport – **Mud Driving** - water was flowing through the mud training track and all was looking pretty good. Thursday 26th – Friday 27th sun shine and wind, but no rain, and come Saturday 28th and the track was looking decidedly dry!! but we did have sunshine, no wind and blue sky.

First there was the mandatory theory session re Mud Driving with some recovery information, and the attaching of bridles and recovery straps before you entered the mud track, in case someone got stuck. Next 9 vehicles were lined up to start driving around the track to try and get the water to come up to the surface so as to make it more interesting. Nothing happened, no water no slippery mess. Someone suggested “bring in the big gun” so off I went and bought down my fire fighting unit with 300 litres of water and started pumping water on to the track. In the mean time those involved with learning how to traverse a muddy section were playing in a creek crossing, about 6 metres across, near by and having lots of fun getting dirty and bogged in a mud hole that finished up about ½ a metre deep, extremely slippery and near impossible to traverse. Tyre pressure, position on the approach, the right gear and momentum were all needed to be coordinated just right or you did not make it through the creek. Some did get stuck and had to sit in the car and wait to be towed out, hence the reason for fitting the recovery strap before entering the mud. Keeps the boots a lot cleaner!!

Those not involved with the creek crossing started to drive the mud track, which is about 60 plus metres long, and with the water that I sprayed into the channels, it soon became very slippery and perfect for training. The exit of the mud track created some interesting moments as the tyres were full of mud and very little grip made it hard to exit with a left turn. Most 4WD's wanted to go straight ahead into the fire wood pile which cause some concern and interesting moments for those that had never driven mud before.

It was really good to see MLR members getting into the training as well as 2 new prospective members who seemed to be enjoying themselves immensely.

I think that everybody enjoyed themselves on the day including the Trainers and Assessors, until they realised that they had to clean their cars later but that's why we have 4WD's to have fun.

I wonder how many of those that attended top dressed their lawns when they cleaned the mud off their cars when they got home.

Steve Townsend



TRAINING: MUD DRIVING



TRAINING: MUD DRIVING



TRAINING: MUD DRIVING



TRAINING: TYRE CHANGING

Courtesy of Marcel Fortier

There were 5 MLR members on Steve's farm at Ashbourne on Sunday the 12th August for the tyre changing and repair course. Weather was nice as was the company. We started with a theory session in the shed and Steve talked about tire sizes, pressures, load ratings and types of tyres suitable for various types of off road driving. All very vital information when selecting tyres for your 4WD. After a short brake we started the practical side - putting in tyre repair plugs, taking the tyre off the rim, sticking a patch on the punctured sidewall and putting the tyre back on the rim. Next we took a wheel off one of the 4WD's and were shown the correct place to position the jack, securing the vehicle, the procedure for removing and replacing the wheel and the proper sequence for tightening the nuts back up tight ready to drive away. Through each step Steve shared some very helpful information and tips to make the job easier or better ie using a long handle shovel to help bear the weight when removing and putting wheel back on the 4WD and how to get the spare off the back of the 4WD without staining yourself. All in all we left with much more knowledge than when we came. I highly recommended the course next time it is put to the club.



DON'T MISS OUT!!

Do you need camping kit replaced?

Do you need extra kit?

**MLR will be holding a Club night and
Pizzas at “Anaconda” on**

Tue 20 Nov 6:00 – 8:00 PM

**This is an ideal excuse to do some
Christmas shopping.**

The evening will include:

- Pizza (supplied by the Club)**
- Exclusive access to the shop**
- Discounts for those who attend**

If you would like to attend make sure you put your name on the Trip Sheet at the monthly meetings or contact Gary Light.



Located in: Mile End Home Maker Centre

Address: Mile End Homemaker Centre, 21/121-150 Railway Terrace, Mile End SA 5031

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!



2018 SA SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

| Period | Start |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| School Holidays | Saturday 29 th September |
| Term 4 | Monday 15 th October |
| School Holidays | Saturday 15 th December |

SA PUBLIC HOLIDAYS 2018

Monday 1st October – Labour Day
Tuesday 25th December – Christmas Day
Wednesday 26th December – Boxing Day

Rangers Review



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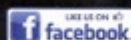
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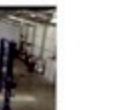
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2018 TRIPS CALENDAR

“Put up a trip sheet and people will come”

| FATHER'S DAY SUNDAY 2 ND SEPTEMBER | | | |
|---|---|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Saturday 8 th 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> | | | |
| 7 th -9 th September | Weekend Trip | Eric Kalderovski | Salt Creek Fishing Comp |
| <i>Camping at Salt Creek 42 Mile Crossing. Comp starts Sat 8am - Finish Sun 9am. Biggest salmon PRIZE = Surf rod & reel</i> | | | |
| MONDAY 10 th September | Club Meeting 7.30pm Blackwood Football Club, Trevor Terrace, Blackwood | | |
| Wednesday 12 th September | Night event | Gary Light | Aussie Disposals St Marys |
| <i>6.30pm – 8pm Pizza & soft drink provided, specials, discounts & giveaways available on the night</i> | | | |
| 15 th – 16 th September | Weekend Trip | Gary Light | Bri Glenn – East of Yarcowie |
| <i>2wd access via good dirt road, camping is basic bush camping with no facilities but plenty of firewood. Plenty of scrub for shelter, hills to climb, creeks to cross. \$10pp</i> | | | |
| FRIDAY 28 TH – MONDAY 1 ST OCTOBER - LONG WEEKEND | | | |
| EOI Late Sept/Oct | Weekend trip | Eric Kalderovskis | Loveday Park |
| <i>Camping on river bank & drive 4x4 tracks around Lovely 4x4 Park</i> | | | |
| MONDAY 8 th October | Club Meeting 7.30pm Blackwood Football Club, Trevor Terrace, Blackwood | | |
| Sunday 14 th October | Training Day | Steve Townsend | Recovery & winch training & awareness |
| <i>Recovery & winch awareness & safety training – Sunday. Option to camp Saturday 13/10. Bring BBQ meat for BBQ lunch on Sunday</i> | | | |
| Saturday 20 th October | Day trip | Tom Doody | Stockport Observatory |
| <i>Saturday night looking through telescope. \$20pp for observatory. \$20pp for Star-BQ. Staying at caravan park</i> | | | |

2018 TRIPS CALENDAR

| | | | |
|--|---|----------------------|--|
| MONDAY 12 th November | Club Meeting 7.30pm Blackwood Football Club, Trevor Terrace, Blackwood | | |
| Tuesday 20 th November | Club night | Gary Light | Anaconda (xmas shopping) |
| <i>Club night @ Anaconda. Discounts on the night and pizza.</i> | | | |
| Sat 24 th – Sun 25 th November | Xmas Show | Jordan Ray | Wirrina |
| <i>MLR Annual Xmas Show. Day trips. Catering TBA.</i> | | | |
| TBA November | Weekend trip | Eric Kalderovskis | Feed/swim with Tuna @ Victor Harbor |
| <i>Tuna feeding/swimming @ Victor Harbor – cost approx. \$120</i> | | | |
| MONDAY 10 th December | Club Meeting 7.30pm Blackwood Football Club, Trevor Terrace, Blackwood | | |
| 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 th – Mon 28 th 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. All sites held under the group booking will need a deposit and name against it by the **30th 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.





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Rangers Review

TRIP: STOCKPORT OBSERVATORY

Saturday 20th 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

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> | | | |
| TELEPHONE : | | EMAIL : | |
| MOBILE : | | SIGNATURE : | |

CRITERIA CITATION *(Attach one additional A4 page with font size not less than 10 points if required)*

| Review Committee Only | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Date Received | |
| Review Ranking | |

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TRIP REPORT: AFRICA WEEK 3

Trip report - week 3 (Botswana)

Courtesy of Heather Jesshope

Wednesday (13th June) - we left the Little Hunters Living Museum camping area at Tsumkwe and drove the 77kms to the Namibia/ Botswana border. After a fairly uneventful crossing into Botswana we had a long day driving the 340km to Maun. This included a detour of an extra 35 km (each way) to Gumare to refuel on a very badly potholed road. Kevin & I followed a local truck driver. At first we thought he would slow us down but he was so helpful. Everytime he came to a bad section, he'd put on his hazard lights or his indicator to show us which way we should go to avoid the worst potholes. When we finally passed him we gave him a big wave to say thanks.

Maun, the "tourism capital" of Botswana, is on the Thamalakane River & is a popular entrance point for safaris & tours of the Okavango Delta. As such it's a busy town with lots of people & traffic. We spent 2 nights at Audi Camp, a well equipped campground with a bar & restaurant on site, but best of all, hot showers!

Thursday (14th June) was spent filling up with fuel, food and other supplies for the next 10 days, including buying bundles of firewood from roadside stalls. We also had a chance to get some washing done & do a few running repairs, not to mention checking emails & FB.

The highlight of the afternoon was a scenic flight over the Okavango Delta. The sky was clear with perfect weather. The view was amazing with a myriad of animal tracks



criss-crossing in all directions alongside the blue of the rivers & streams. We spied elephants, giraffes, buffalo & hippos too. Our cameras were kept very busy!

TRIP REPORT: AFRICA WEEK 3

Friday (15th June) we left Maun soon after 9am to drive to South Gate, Moremi Game Reserve. Once at Moremi, our permits & maps purchased and in hand, we split up to explore the tracks, so each couple had different experiences & saw different animals. It was a case of being lucky enough to be in the right place at the right time ... or not.

From then on, most days followed the same format:

- Up early to pack up the rooftop tents (often at dawn or before)
-
- Breakfast & coffee consumed and Lunch prepared
- Game drives
- Arrival at next campsite at about 4pm (or by sunset at the very latest)
- Set up camp
- Evening meal & early to bed.
-



One of the major highlights of Moremi Game Reserve was the Mokoro ride. Traditionally a dugout canoe, a Mokoro is now made of fibreglass as they are stronger, last longer and are more

environmentally sustainable.

Our friendly crew of polers made us feel very relaxed and comfortable. The only guarantee they gave us was that we'd see lilies and frogs.

TRIP REPORT: AFRICA WEEK 3

We were incredibly blessed to see about 60 elephants. One elephant family slowly crossed the river while we watched, including several young calves. At another stage 6 male elephants quietly drank from the river as we watched from about 25m away. It was absolutely amazing!

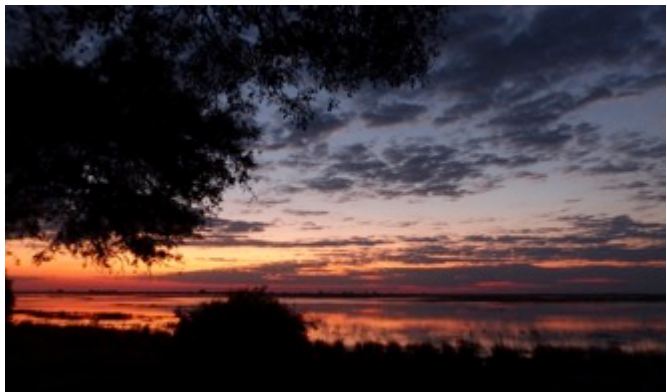
To be honest though, I don't remember seeing any frogs! LOL



On Thursday 21st June we entered Chobe National Park where we spent 4 wonderful days. My favourite campsite was Ihaha, a small campground right on the banks of the Chobe River.

Every day we saw large groups of animals including giraffes, hippos, antelopes, baboons, buffalos, warthogs, birds etc. etc.

At Ihaha we were also blessed with some beautiful sunsets.





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

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