

RANGERS' REVIEW



Gapuru - Arnhem Land

November 2023

mountloftyrangers.com.au

Our values

- FRIENDLY AND INCLUSIVE
- PARTICIPATION IS ENCOURAGED
- BEING RESPECTFUL TO EACH OTHER AND THE ENVIRONMENT
- VISIBLE AND TRANSPARENT
- TO UPHOLD THE EXCELLENT REPUTATION OF MOUNT LOFTY RANGERS 4WD CLUB

Phils Phinkings

All of a sudden, it's November and before we know it, it will be 2024!

But the year isn't over yet. There's some opportunities to get away before the silly season sets in properly.

I've put a short trip up to re-visit the Big Desert Wilderness Park, for a few days from Sun 19th Nov. If the weather is too warm, we'll head over to York Peninsula instead. Sorry if you can't get the time off, but I hope a few of you can join me.



*Phil Simes,
President*

Then there's the End of Year event at Blyth. Non financial people can join us, however they will need to pay \$40 per head for the Saturday dinner and make a donation to the sports club for camping. The local Cinema will again be showing a movie for us on the Friday evening. This years movie will be 'Jerry and Marge Go Large', a light hearted comedy suitable for all ages. The cinema it's self is pretty impressive for a small regional town, staffed by local community members. Modern comfy chairs, with a touch of old school service and best of all..., choc top ice creams!

Please remember to bring some cash to the next 2 meetings, and/or Blyth, to purchase tickets in this years club raffle. Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20. Proceeds this year will be donated to the RFDS. Prizes include an ARB Portable Air Compressor Kit, donated by Mt Barker 4x4, a Redarc BCDC1225D in car battery charger donated by Redarc, and \$100 Tyrepower vouchers, donated by Tyrepower Blackwood. Please consider using the sponsors services and don't forget to mention that you are there because of their sponsorship of our club.

The Dec club meeting, 11th Dec will be your last chance to purchase raffle tickets (again cash only) with the raffle being drawn after a night of laughs, as we enjoy our traditional Evil Santa version of Kris Kringle. Bring a present of approx. \$10 - \$15 to place on the table in exchange for a ticket. Bring two gifts and you will get two tickets. Then, when your ticket number is drawn from the hat, you will get to pick a gift from the table..., or perhaps you might prefer one that someone else has already opened? Let the stealing begin!

Phils Phinkings

The first meeting of 2024, 8th Jan, will be our annual Show and Shine, where you can polish up your tow balls and UHF antenna, and be in the running for a prize. It's also a great opportunity to check out other members vehicles, chat about what mods work and what you'd do differently next time. We're also looking for judges, so please consider helping out. We take a very light hearted approach to judging categories for this event. Come and chat to me if you'd like to be part of the fun.

Our annual club trip to Beachport in Jan will also be upon us in no time. We insist that members renew their membership prior to this event, as it removes any issues with being covered by our club public liability insurance. Beachport provides a variety of driving options, from mild to more challenging. Come along and enjoy some fun with great company and amazing scenery. Again, I want to remind members that you are responsible for where you drive, but Beachport also provides the opportunity to test yourself, your vehicle and your recovery techniques, with support from other members (who may also take pics and extend the truth just a tad while recounting the story, but again also part of the fun). Please consider leading a trip while down at Beachport. It can be a trip through the dunes or to a local winery. Decide where you'd like to go and take a few other cars along with you for company!

Club membership renewal notices to be sent out shortly. Bank transfer is the preferred method, but talk to Kylie if you have any questions.

I look forward to seeing you at the Nov meeting where Ian will be giving some info about how UHF repeaters work, how and when to best utilise the service and how to set your UHF radio up to use them.

Regards, Phil.

Your committee



PRESIDENT

Phil Simes
president@mountloftyrangers.com.au



VICE PRESIDENT

Currently Vacant
vp@mountloftyrangers.com.au



TREASURER

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treasurer@mountloftyrangers.com.au



SECRETARY

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TRIPS CO-ORDINATOR

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FWD SA DELEGATE

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delegate@mountloftyrangers.com.au



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WEBSITE OFFICER

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PROPERTY OFFICER

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Your committee

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**GENERAL OFFICER**

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Committee roles

Committee members are elected by the members for the members. They are volunteers who kindly donate their time to represent the member's 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. MLR club registration officer.

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 officers (1 lead & 2 x assistants): - First point of contact for visitors that come to MLR, keep track

of member attendance at club meetings and criteria for membership acceptance, welcome visitors and link them with a buddy, run the club night raffle and pay for any birthday drinks.

Website officer: - Maintain and update 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.

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About us

The Club's aim is for its members to enjoy all aspects of owning and using our 4WDs while enjoying the diverse surroundings offered by this great country. We are a club of 4WD enthusiasts who enjoy challenging driving, regular trips, camping, camp cooking and a great social scene on and off track.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to anyone who owns a 4WD (regardless of its make or model) and has a passion for driving. Mount Lofty Rangers Inc is an affiliated member of the South Australian Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs (FWDSA).

CLUB OUTINGS

The Mount Lofty Rangers provides regular day, weekend and extended four wheel drive trips, lead by experienced trip leaders. Trips are rated on the level of difficulty and are available to all members and guests.

The club has a dedicated social committee which also organises regular events that complement the club trips.

EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING

Our current members possess a wide range of skills ranging from beginner to advanced. The club has a number of accredited instructors and assessors, and is involved in regular training via the SAAFWDC Driver Training Unit.

MEETINGS

Club meetings are the second Monday of each month* and are held at the Blackwood Football Club, Trevor Terrace, Blackwood Time: 7:15 pm for 7.30pm start

*Except where this Monday falls on a long weekend then the meeting is held on the third Monday of the month.

For more information on the Club please check out our website at:

www.mountloftyrangers.com.au

MT LOFTY RANGERS UHF CLUB CHANNEL 27

What we offer

- Inexpensive, hassle free membership to anyone with a 4WD (this is a requirement) regardless of make or model after a qualifying period (attending three Club activities, one of which must be a Club trip)
- Promote inclusiveness and participation
- Collaborative and safe environment
- Friendship
- Variety of events, trips and gatherings
- Flexibility/informality
- An opportunity to share experiences and knowledge with other like-minded people
- Training and awareness in the safe use of your 4WD and recovery techniques
- Opportunity to do trips which you might not otherwise do on your own



Meetings & Trips

FUN & RECREATION

NOVEMBER 2023

FRIDAY 10th -

SUN

POSTPONED
SAL MONSTER FISHING TRIP

Contact: Eric Kalderovskis

MONDAY 13th NOVEMBER - 7.30pm

MLR CLUB MEETING

Blackwood Football Club,

Trevor Terrace, Blackwood

MONDAY 19th -

TUESDAY 21st NOVEMBER

BIG DESERT WILDERNESS PARK

Contact: Phil Simes

FRIDAY 24th -

MONDAY 27th NOVEMBER

MLR END OF YEAR EVENT

Contact: Kylie Cooper

DECEMBER 2023

MONDAY 11th DECEMBER - 7.30pm

MLR CLUB MEETING

EVIL SANTA & XMAS RAFFLE

Blackwood Football Club,

Trevor Terrace, Blackwood

JANUARY 2024

MONDAY 8th JANUARY - 7.30pm

MLR CLUB MEETING

SHOW N SHINE

Blackwood Football Club,

Trevor Terrace, Blackwood

THURSDAY 26th -

SUNDAY 29th JANUARY

BEACHPORT - SOUTHERN OCEAN

TOURIST PARK

Contact: Phil Simes

EDUCATION & AWARENESS

Email: [education@](mailto:education@mountloftyrangers.com.au)

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

for more information or to

organise one-on-one or group

awareness training.

Guest Speaker

UHF Repeaters



Club member Ian Rowley will be speaking
at the November meeting.

He will give a talk on UHF Repeater stations including
how they work and how to use them.

Come along and learn something new.

**If you think you have something of interest that
other club members may be interested in, (a hobby, your job,
previous travel experiences etc.) we would love to hear from
you about being a speaker at future club meetings.**

Please see Phil or Roger if you have something to offer.

Club Trips Procedure

Planning a Club Trip/Event

Anyone planning a club trip or event please follow the procedure as per below.

Step 1: Email or speak to, the club trips co-ordinator.
Give as much detail as possible and fill out a “Trip Sheet”.

Step 2: The trip will then be presented to the committee for approval at the next available committee meeting. When a trip is planned prior to the next committee meeting, approval can be give by the committee via email.

Step 3: Once approved, put your trip sheet up on the board, send an email, post on Facebook, send details to magazine@mountloftyangers.com.au and get the word out there.

Step 4: Get out there and have fun!

Note: If only seeking an “Expressions of Interest” then sending emails & posting on Facebook is allowed prior to committee approval, but please make it clear that it is only an “Expressions of Interest”

**Any questions please speak to any
of the committee members.**

Sponsors

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AND READY
FOR ADVENTURE.**

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**LOOKING FOR SOME
QUALITY 4WD ELECTRONICS,
REMEMBER TO SUPPORT
OUR SPONSORS AT REDARC**

End of Year Raffle

ALL PROCEEDS WILL BE
DONATED TO THE



TICKETS
\$5
EACH

TICKETS
5 FOR
\$20



Please bring some cash to the November and December meetings and the End of Year Event at Blyth where the committee will be selling tickets to the Xmas Raffle.

Thanks to club sponsors ARB, Mount Barker 4x4, Redarc and Blackwood Tyrepower

Prizes include an ARB Portable Air Compressor Kit, a Redarc BCDC 1225D 'in vehicle' battery charger and \$100 Tyrepower vouchers.

Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20. Cash only.

This year, all proceeds will be donated to the RFDS. Prizes will be drawn at the December club meeting.



Club Trip

Big Desert Wilderness Park Sunday 19th - Tuesday 21st November



Big Desert Wilderness Park is located just over the SA/Vic border, camping at Big Billy Campground (No charge, drop toilets, shelter).

<https://www.exploreoutdoors.vic.gov.au/activities/camping/big-billy-bore-campground>

Easiest access is to drive via Pinnaroo to Murrayville, then turn right onto the Murrayville - Nhill Road.

Sunday arvo and Monday will be spent touring the area, coming back to Big Billy Campground each night.

Tuesday will be spent driving out towards the SA border, planning to exit the park about Scorpion Springs, south of Pinnaroo.

Most driving will be sandy tracks with options for more challenging sand dunes. Some tracks are likely to be overgrown with a high likelihood of some bush pinstripping.

Participants are expected to be fully self reliant with sufficient food, water and fuel.

All rubbish will need to be taken with you.

The campground is accessible for caravans and campers, however people towing trailers should return via Murrayville.

People are welcome to travel with me, leaving Blackwood at 7:30am Sunday morning, or meet me at the campground about lunchtime Sunday.

Please note that this trip may be cancelled or changed to a York Peninsula Ramble, if the weather is unsuitable. (A decision will be made Friday prior)

Get your name on the trip sheet at the club meeting Mon 13th, or sign up on the website.

**For further information contact Phil Simes at
president@mountloftyrangers.com.au**

New Merchandise

Grab yourself one of the new Pilbara Collection shirts and look the part when you're out and about.

These shirts are high quality, hard wearing and look great!

Pick your colour & have the MLR logo embroidered on it for you!

Just \$50 plus postage or collect from Sports Centre on Port Road yourself.

Simply click on the link below to order yours today.

MOUNT LOFTY RANGERS
4WD CLUB - Sportscentre



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Cobalt Blue



Azure



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Canyon



Charcoal



Clay



Cornflower



Diesel



Emerald



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Jade



Kelly Green



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Olive



Pale Blue



Purple

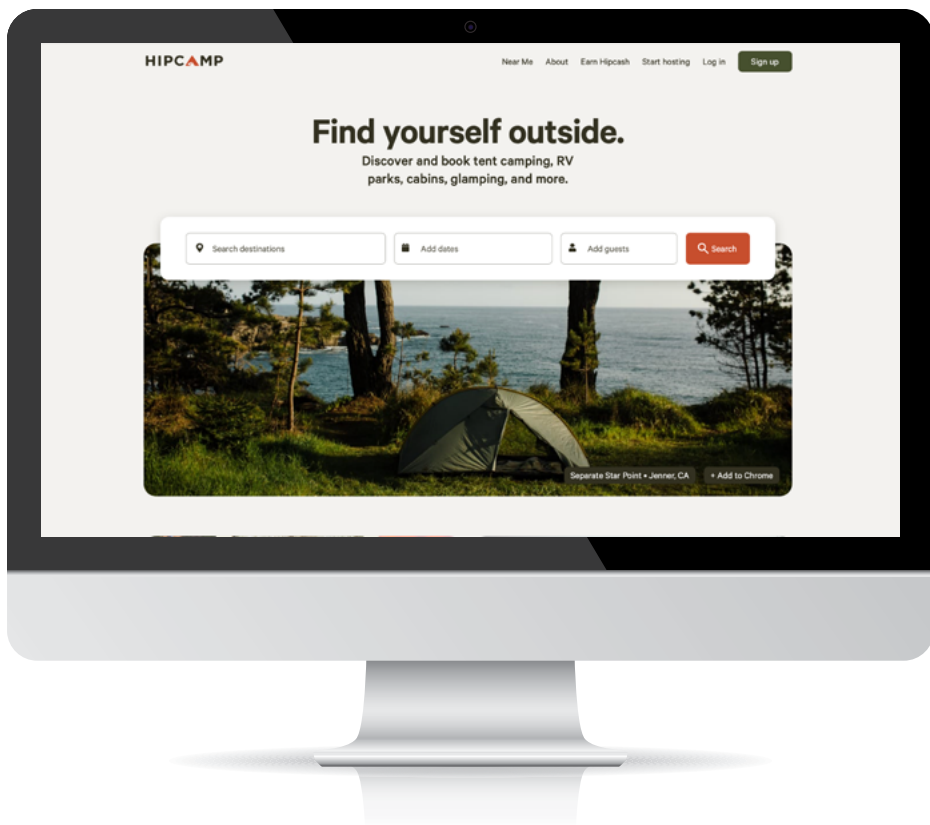


Red



Stone

Hipcamp



Most of you would have heard of, and used Wikicamps.

If you're looking for something a bit different which has private properties listed that aren't on Wikicamps, check out Hipcamp, you just might find a hidden gem for your next trip.

<https://www.hipcamp.com/en-AU>

Remembrance Day



Lest we forget

Friday 11th November

*They shall not grow old
As we that are left grow old
Age shall not weary them
Not the year condemn
At the going down of the sun,
and in the morning
We will remember them
Lest we forget*



MLR End of Year Event

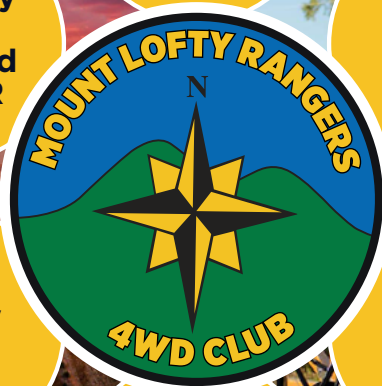


**Spend
the night
or the whole
weekend**

**Saturday
dinner
provided
by MLR**

**Walk or
Ride the
Riesling
Trail**

**Come
& enjoy
the
region**



**Wine
Tours,
Escape
Room &
Movies**

**Come
away &
relax with
friends**



MLR End of Year Event

**Saturday 25th to
Sunday 26th November
Blyth Sportsground
and RV Park**



Those wanting to attend End of Year Function at Blyth this year must be fully paid members. You will be required to pay a \$15 deposit for catering. In turn this will be paid forward to the Blyth Sportsground as payment for opening their club rooms for our toilet & showering needs.

MLR will provide dinner, catered by the Blyth Town Hall Committee, at the Blyth Town Hall, a short walk from our camp at the sports ground. If everything goes to plan, waiting staff will also be provided with some of our funds also supporting the local netball and tennis clubs. **In addition to this MLR will cover the donation to the grounds in lieu of any camping fees.**

The menu is still being confirmed, but will provide for Gluten Free and Vegetarian options. At this stage the Main will include Roast Chicken or Lentil Burgers, Potato Bake, Salads and Bread and Butter, with Quandong Pie (from locally grown quandong), Panacotta or Pavlova, Ice Cream/Cream for dessert.

If anyone has any other specific dietary requirements, please contact Phil or Kylie. The Town Hall Committee are happy to accommodate our requirements wherever they can.

There's plenty to do in the Clare Valley for the weekend, so get your name on the trip sheet at the November club meeting or register via the website

Payment can be made either in cash to Kylie at the meeting on Monday 13th November or via direct debit, if paying via direct debit please include your surname as reference.

Mount Lofty Rangers

BSB: 065 132

Account No: 10044806

Contact Kylie Cooper: treasurer@mountloftyrangers.com.au

Trip Report

Lloyd & Paula's NT & Arnhem Land Adventure Part 3

Day 20: Mainoru Store – Giddy River

Again we were up early ready for a longish day heading further North East. It was a surprise to wake up to the campsite covered in a heavy dew and fog everywhere. We left at 8am and the road was OK up until Bullman, we quickly put \$40 of diesel in and hit the road again. From this point on the road improved significantly and we were able to cruise along at 80-85km/h without an issue. We stopped on the side of the road for an early 11.30am lunch. As we got closer to camp it started raining a little bit at first but then there were a couple of heavy downpours. This helped control the dust on the road but didn't do much for our set-up as everything was now muddy with a mix of bulldust and rain. We ended up making good time today and arrived at camp just after 2pm. A quick set-up trying to avoid the mud and it was time to go and have a look at the river... what a pretty spot to sit and watch the world go by. Access down to the water was a little tricky but I made it down for a nice cool off swim. The afternoon was spent relaxing and taking photos of this lovely spot. It was BBQ over the fire for dinner but we had a few hassles getting the fire going. The wood was either damp from the rain we had, or not fully seasoned as it was smoking a lot. Luckily my blower was handy and this helped the fire along when needed. We were both a bit tired and fed up with the smoke so it was a new bedtime record and as we were both in bed just on 8pm.



Day 21: Giddy River – Gapuru (Memorial)

With only a very short distance to travel today the challenge was going to be killing some time before we could go to our next campsite. After a very slow and casual pack-up we went to go for an explore and look at a swimming hole further along the track. Unfortunately when we got there the road was closed. We went for another nosy to Scout Camp, but seeing as people were camped there when we got there we decided it best not to go in and disturb them. On the way out we decided to stop and grab some firewood for tonight, hopefully getting some drier wood than last night. It was still only just after 10am so we found a rest stop next to the river, which wasn't in the best state unfortunately, and made a coffee by the side of the road. Now we thought we could start making our way to Memorial,



Trip Report

we got to the turn-off just on 11am and turned down the single lane track to camp. It was about a 30min drive into camp where the road was a bit bumpy but very pretty. We arrived at camp just before midday to find it vacant which was good. A quick look around at the river and camp to work out the best way to set-up. A walk down to the river revealed a beautiful swimming hole full of waterfalls, rock pools, deep swimming holes and very nice scenery everywhere. The afternoon was spent reading, swimming, relaxing and snoozing which is what camping should be all about. Then at about 3.30pm a couple came in and said they just wanted to have a look. In theory you have this campsite to yourself once booked but they went down to the waterhole and were down there for quite a while. Once they came back up they were looking around for a spot to set-up. I went over and explained to them that they can't stay here as we had booked it 6 months in advance. They hung around for a bit longer but eventually left. This put a bit of a dampener on the afternoon but in the end we were the organised ones and had every right to ask them to move on. It was pizza for dinner tonight in the camp oven around a much nicer fire than last night ready for a relaxing day tomorrow.



Day 22: Gapuru (Memorial)

Well today was the sort of day we drove all the way from Adelaide for. A lovely cool night for sleeping with a sleep in to start the day followed by coffee and then bacon and eggs on the fire. The rest of the day consisted of numerous swims, a bit of housekeeping, firewood collection, relaxing, sleeping and generally enjoying this beautiful place. The day went along at a nice pace and we didn't get any unwanted visitors today. After a late afternoon swim it was time for showers out in the open before happy hour and then BBQ on the fire. All in all a very relaxing, enjoyable day and I'm glad we booked this spot for 2 x nights... the perfect spot to have to ourselves and sit back and take it all in, Arnhem Land is a great destination for any 4WDing adventurer.



Day 23: Gapuru (Memorial) - Mascassan Beach

After a nice casual pack-up and swim afterwards it was time to leave this lovely place. We left camp just before 9am and casually made our way to our next camp. We stopped off and had a look at Goanna Lagoon, which was a very pretty place for a swim with a sandy bottomed river. From there it was on to Macassan Beach via Daliwuy Bay, which was a nice spot to stop for a quick bite to eat. It was then time to grab some firewood before arriving at camp just on 11am. We scouted out the place and



Trip Report

worked out the best way to set up. Once set up we had some lunch and then the afternoon was spent exploring, reading, relaxing and taking in the beautiful scenery. It is quite a contrast from where we were last night to be on the beach/coast, it is a beautiful spot with a lovely sea breeze blowing keeping things nice and cool. Dinner was a platter in front of the fire on the beach which was perfect for this location. Another great day discovering this wonderful part of the world.

Day 24: Macassan Beach – Nhulunbuy

After getting up to watch the sunrise in front of camp it was a very casual pack-up enjoying the gentle sea breeze (which made coffee making a bit slower than normal) in this lovely spot. Left camp just before 9am and had a look at Turtle Beach, which was a very pretty little beach. When then went to Yirkalla to have a look at the cultural centre which was full of Aboriginal artwork everywhere, some of it dating back to the 1970's. It was very impressive but we enjoyed the gallery in Beswick more. It was then into the “big smoke” of Nhulunbuy for the obligatory re-stock at Woolies, shitter empty, fill up the water tanks, empty rubbish and deposit \$295 worth of diesel into the car... ouch!. After lunch at the bakery we checked into the Gove Boat Club, this was a very different environment to what we have been experiencing over the last few days. The afternoon was spent setting up in our compact little spot, chatting to fellow travellers, showering and walking on the beach. Dinner was at the boat club which was delicious and nice not to have to cook. There is a very casual feel about the place which is nice, we are only here for a couple of nights so will make the most of it while we can.



Day 25: Nhulunbuy

Well it was an early start for me today as I had a fishing charter booked for 6.45am. Anthony who runs the charters was a lovely, down to earth guy. Initially we went and caught some live bait before heading a bit further out to try and catch some bigger fish. Well I must have had my lucky charm on this morning because we ended up catching a Spanish Mackerel, a Tuna, 3 x Coral Trout and a Nanagy within the first hour or so. From there we went looking for some other fish and we ended up catching quite a few Queenies. All of them were good fun catching and putting up a good fight, Anthony was excellent at telling me what to do, and when to do it to land the fish. This quietened off as the morning went on but it was still a perfect morning out on the water. The marine life was very impressive.



Trip Report

Anthony then filleted and bagged up all the fish for us to keep which was awesome, he gave me a few tips on skinning and cutting so I was very appreciative of this. Once back at camp my next task was to portion out the fish into smaller bags for us to eat as we travel. We have way too much fish for us to consume so have offered some to The Mapuru community we will be visiting tomorrow. The rest of the afternoon was spent heading into town re-stocking again now we have fish on the menu and then sitting back and relaxing a bit. We had Coral Trout and salad for dinner followed by the Coral Trout wings and OMG... the fillets were nice but the wings were just divine. It was a great way to end the day before we head off to Mapuru tomorrow. Unfortunately Paula has been bitten by midges and is suffering quite a lot of irritation. It is hard to resist the scratching as it is pretty constant.



Day 26: Nhulunbuy – Mapuru

After a night spent sleeping/scratching/sleeping/scratching we woke up to a very heavy dew on the tent this morning, to the point it was dripping all inside of the tent as well. This wasn't ideal as we didn't want to pack-up wet. We slowly packed-up hoping for the sun to dry things off. This slowly happened but we needed to dry some of it off with towels as best we could. After chatting to our lovely neighbours, who by chance we camped next to back in Litchfield, we ended up leaving the boat club a bit later than planned. They were a lovely young couple doing a semi-lap on their way back home to WA. We hit the Central Arnhem Road for just over 3 hours before we got to the Mapuru turn-off. After some lunch it was a 1hr 50min drive up a single lane track to cover the 70kms into Mapuru. The scenery was lovely and the drive pretty good. We met Greg at the entrance to the community before we went and parked up at their house. It was then time to be introduced to the Traditional Owners to get their approval to be in community. This was a very brief encounter but essential in their culture. The rest of the afternoon was spent on the verandah chatting and trying to comprehend everything that Deb was explaining about life in the community, as well as getting lots of midgee treatment advice, including that DEET is useless. Dinner was my Spanish Mackerel cooked on the weber with a lovely salad and some roast potatoes with home-made ice-cream for dessert. They need to make a lot of things themselves up here as getting supplies in is not an easy task. It was then time for sleep in a normal bed without having to set up the camper.



Trip Report

Day 27: Mapuru

After a nice night sleep in a normal bed we got up, made some coffee and sat around chatting. It was then time to go and offer some of the Spanish Mackerel to one of the other significant members in the community. Apparently the fact I caught the fish myself 2 days ago is significant and was also seen as a “trade” for allowing us to spend time in community. The aboriginals feel a great sense of responsibility for anyone spending time on their country, hence the need for the formalities with significant people. There are a lot of sensitivities that you need to be aware of so we were led by Deb and Greg in this regard. The next part of the day was spent fixing a slow leak in one of Greg’s tyres. We made life hard for ourselves but got there in the end with a lunch break in-between with some lovely home-made bread. After this we had a tour of the school and surrounds with Deb and it was very interesting to see what is being taught in a remote Aboriginal community like Mapuru. Paula then had a lovely experience of buying a handmade, woven pandanis basket from one of the more renowned weavers in the community. It was a lovely encounter that Paula will remember for a long time. I wasn’t allowed to see this as it was considered “women’s business”. Late afternoon we went the whole 10mins. from the community to Deb and Greg’s little getaway camp. It is just a spot they found which is part of the communities buffalo hunting ground, the community find it quite funny that Greg and Deb like to go camping in the buffalo hunting area. The landscape was very different to anywhere I’ve camped before, a huge grassland with trees everywhere, and was beautiful and peaceful. The night was spent around the campfire chatting and enjoying casserole cooked in the camp oven.



Day 28: Mapuru – Mainoru Store

After a lovely cool night sleeping, it was a casual morning packing-up slowly getting ready for the 5.5hr drive to Mainoru. We would have ideally gotten away earlier but it was nice enjoying other people’s company, so we made the most of this. We left camp at 9:45am and made our way back down the access track. We had a face-off with a buffalo who wasn’t in a hurry to move, so we just had to wait until he was ready to move on. We made good time back to the turn-off where we grabbed some firewood and hit the Central Arnhem Road again.



Trip Report

It was then 3.5hrs to camp so we just cruised along, had snacks on the go and pulled into Mainoru just after 3pm, which we were very happy with. We had decided to stay for 2 x nights so we could have a housekeeping day tomorrow. This meant a full set-up, so once done we lit the fire to get some coals ready for whole coral trout and nanagy to be cooked in alfoil on the fire. This was lovely and after dinner it was just sitting by the fire relaxing. We were both tired so ended up going to bed just before 8:30am.

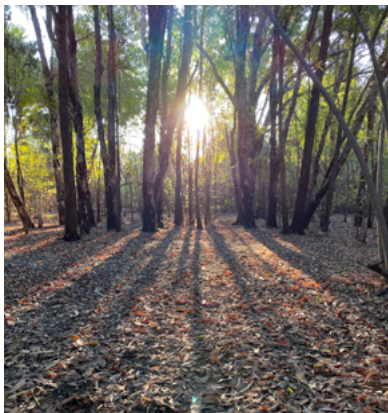
Day 29: Mainoru Store

After a lovely cool night for sleeping it was a sleep in morning as we weren't going anywhere. It was up at 7am for coffee and breakfast before a few housekeeping duties were taken care of. It was then time to sit down and relax and enjoy this lovely spot by ourselves as all the other campers had moved on by 9am. After finding a lovely big tree to sit under with heaps of shade it was lunchtime. After lunch some people starting coming in so it was time for a swim in the billabong followed by a few dirty jobs before showers. The rest of the day was spent relaxing, prepping dinner (coral trout cooked on the fire and salad), having a beer at the bar and sitting around the fire. It has been the perfect day to get a few things done and sit back and reflect on our time in Arnhem Land instead of just worrying about our next destination... speaking of which we are off to Bitter Springs in the morning.



Day 30: Mainoru Store - Bitter Springs

After a good night's sleep for me, unfortunately Paula was still suffering from midgee bites all night, it was a pack up and departure by 8.30am. We went the last 200kms of dirt on the Central Arnhem Road before we hit the bitumen at Beswick. Once back on the Stuart Highway we made the 100km round trip detour to Katherine to re-stock and do some campsite booking while we had some service. From there it was off to Bitter Springs for a swim in the thermal springs, but not before having to think hard about the "1 item, per person, per day" limit on alcohol. The water in the spring was crystal clear and you just floated along with the current. After a swim it was shower time and then we had a lovely chat to our neighbours from Victoria. They were a lovely couple that took the time to come over and have a chat, the park here is very nice. Down the back in the un-powered section it is very quiet and shady and peaceful. Not what you normally expect from a caravan park, oh well back into the dusty bush tomorrow as we head for Limmen National Park.



Trip Report

Day 31: Bitter Springs – Towns River Campground

After being woken up to a symphony of bird songs in the Bitter Springs Caravan Park, it was pack-up time, top up the water, grab some milk and head for Limmen National Park. The turn-off to the Roper Highway was just out of Mataranka and the first 133kms on bitumen took us through some lovely country and was a very enjoyable drive. Once the dirt started the road wasn't in the best condition but we just bounced along until we reached Roper Bar Store hoping to get some fuel. Unfortunately it was closed despite another traveller there, who rang a couple of weeks ago and said it is all good. We both had a chat and decided to take the 32km detour into Nkurrur to put a little bit of fuel in. It was then back to the Limmen National Park turn-off and the road was the worst we have come across on the trip so far, a combination of bulldust holes, potholes, corrugations, stones and rocks made for a rough drive in. We tried sitting in the gutter of the road where possible to avoid the worst of the corrugations and this worked well when we could do it. We pulled into camp just after 2pm and had a scout around. We decided on the overflow camp down by the river despite it being hot, windy and exposed. We setup, had some lunch and chased the shade around the camper for the afternoon. We spoke to some lovely people also camped here and once the sun went down and the wind died down it was a very calming spot, we set-up our fire in a natural firepit set amongst the rocks on the rivers edge and cooked the last of our coral trout for dinner, it was delicious. It was a perfect way to end the day and not quite what we were expecting when we first got here.



Day 32: Towns River Campground – Southern Lost City Campground

Today was a momentous day in the context of our trip... after 4.5 weeks on the road Paula finally had a good sleep. After a lovely morning with a nice coffee in front of the campfire overlooking the river it was an easy pack-up. We said goodbye to the other friendly campers and left camp at 9am. It was an easy 110kms today and initially the road was better than yesterday. We stopped in to Butterfly Falls for a look, the actual waterhole was very pretty and I had a quick swim which was very nice and refreshing. From there it was onto The Southern Lost City campground, we were



Trip Report

here by 11.30am. It was pretty hot and windy so we set up as best we could and put up the car awning for some shade and made some lunch. After lunch we did the walk around the rock formations which were very impressive. The walk took about an hour and was reasonably hot, but well worth it. The afternoon was spent trying to keep cool and just sitting around camp. Dinner was BBQ on the fire before we heated up some water on the fire, had a wash and went to bed. It was still reasonably warm so plugged in the fan and went to sleep, well one of us did anyway.



Day 33: Southern Lost City – Barkly Homestead

Up early and packed-up before it was too hot, we had a reasonably long day so were on the road by 8am. It was harder to read the road at this time of the day but we just took it easy and bumped along as best we could. After 120kms of dirt we finally hit the bitumen for the long run home. We topped up at the Heartbreak Hotel and hit the Tablelands Highway heading south, initially the drive was quite nice through pretty country. I would use the term “highway” loosely as I think the pothole maintenance crew are a bit behind on their schedule as



the road, although sealed, was pretty rough. After lunch the landscape opened up to huge cattle station country which was great expanses of nothing and quite uninspiring. We pulled in at 2pm and asked about room availability and luckily there was one available despite being told a couple of days ago there was nothing available. The cabin was very nice and we appreciated the facilities and made the most of it by cleaning ourselves, the car and the camper. We went over for happy hour, had a couple of drinks, bought some souvenirs and ordered dinner. Dinner was nice and the whole place has a really good vibe about it and we really enjoyed our time here.

Day 34: Barkly Homestead – Stuarts Well Roadhouse

With a long 810kms to cover today it was up early after a great night sleep in the cabin. No pack-up meant we were ready to go by 7.30am, unfortunately we ran out of gas this morning which meant no coffee, but luckily we could get one from the homestead as we left. Today was all about ticking off the kms, we made really good time and stopped at Ti-Tree for lunch and some fuel just after midday. We then made it to Alice Springs by 2.30pm and the plan was to grab some fuel, a few supplies and get the gas bottle re-filled. Getting a small 4.5kg gas bottle filled on a Saturday afternoon in Alice Springs proved quite the task and in the end, despite numerous attempts all across town, we had to accept defeat

Trip Report

and move on. The hope was there would be a camp kitchen at the roadhouse to cook dinner. We pulled in just after 3.30pm and unfortunately the camp kitchen is not functioning so we had to end up eating in the roadhouse, my steak sandwich was delicious and Paula's home made nachos were good, so there was a silver lining after all. Unfortunately this is the least desirable place we have stayed on our whole trip, and it has been eye-opening and interesting to see a true "truckies" roadhouse. We have been spoilt with exceptional camping throughout our trip and this was always just a stopover on the way home.



Day 35: Stuarts Well Roadhouse – Coober Pedy

After being awoken to a very different symphony to Day 31, this time it was air brakes, truck engines rumbling and general roadhouse activity at 5.30am. We decided we may as well get up and hit the road as there wasn't any more sleep happening this morning. After a quick bowl of cereal, no coffee as still no gas and a quick pack-up we were moving by just after 6.30am. We only had about 600kms to cover today so we just cruised along and it was nice seeing the sun come up as we drove through some pretty country. We tried Erldunda Roadhouse for a gas re-fill but had no luck, luckily Kulgera Pub/Roadhouse did do refills, so once re-filled it was coffee time... this made for a happy Lloyd & Paula. We crossed the border just after 9.30am and kept heading south and it was lovely to see lots of different wildflowers out, especially some nice purple ones that were blanketing the landscape everywhere. Lunch was wraps and iced coffee with a heap of very friendly flies. We got to Coober Pedy just after 1.30pm which was great, after filling up we found a car wash and gave everything a pressure wash to get rid of most of the dust. It was then time to check-in to The Mud Hut Hotel for the night. We went for a wander down the street which was good to stretch the legs, then it was time for showers and getting things in order for an early start tomorrow. Dinner for our last night was at the Outback Bar & Grill which was yummy, we had it on our first night so decided to end on the same note. All in all a great holiday that we have both thoroughly enjoyed. Tomorrow is 870kms to home so just a long day in the car with not much to report so this is Lloyd and Paula signing off.



December Meeting

EVIL
SANTA
IS
BACK!



**Christmas is just around the corner and that means
Evil Santa is back for another year!**

As has become the tradition, our December club meeting will again be taken over by Evil Santa and the drawing of the Xmas Raffle.

Come along with a plate to share, a gift to give and a wicked sense of humour to enjoy a hilarious twist on 'Kris Kringle'.

To play, each person should spend \$10-\$15 on an anonymous gift to place on the gift table. You may, if you wish, bring more than one gift.

For each gift you will receive 1 ticket.

When your ticket is drawn, you will get your chance to choose a gift from the table, or perhaps you've been overtaken by the spirit of Evil Santa?

More detail on the rules will be provided on the night.

Please give a little thought to what you give.

Give something of the calibre that you would like to receive.

Or maybe you can find something topical or humorous.



**Don't forget, cheap bubbles
available on the night!**



January Meeting

MLR ANNUAL SHOW 'N SHINE

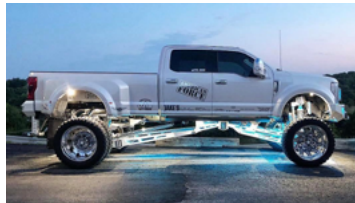
MONDAY 15TH JANUARY

Get the wax out and start polishing!


Our January meeting is always a bit of fun with a “tounge-in-cheek” Show ‘n’ Shine event.

You never know what part of your rig the judges are going to award a prize for, so either cover all bases or just hope they don’t check the fuel cap or open the bonnet!

Come along for a fun social night and have a look around at everyone’s different set ups, you never know where that next brilliant idea for your own set-up might come from.



ICE Forms



ICE

EMERGENCY MEDICAL INFORMATION FORM

*This **CONFIDENTIAL** medical information form will be used **only** in the case of a medical emergency. Please keep one for each traveller in your vehicle glove box.*

Name:			
Date of Birth:			
EMERGENCY CONTACT DETAILS			
In a medical emergency, please notify: Emergency Contact Person #1			
Name:		Home Phone:	
Relationship:		Mobile Phone:	
In a medical emergency, please notify Emergency Contact Person #2			
Name:		Home Phone:	
Relationship:		Mobile Phone:	
KNOWN ALLERGIES? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <i>If yes, please list, including any medication or special needs:</i>			
PRE-EXISTING MEDICAL CONDITIONS? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <i>If yes, please list, including any medication or special needs:</i>			
Medicare No.:		Ambulance Cover: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
I give my permission, in the case of a medical emergency, to provide the above information to attending medical or first response personnel.			
Signature:		Date:	
Guardian (if person under 18 years of age) Name:			
Signature		Date:	

Please remember that it is recommended that all attendees on any club trips/events should fill out and ICE form and keep it in their glovebox.

Forms can be downloaded from the below link:

[ICE FORMS DOWNLOAD](#)

If you have any questions or concerns please speak to the Trips Co-ordinator, Gary Light

Club Trip

Beachport 2024

Friday 26th - Sunday 28th January

Hurry!
Only 9
sites left in
section D

As is the tradition, Mount Lofty 4WD Club will again be heading to Beachport for the Australia Day long weekend, staying at the Southern Ocean Tourist Park.

The Park has set aside sites in Section D, powered and unpowered, for MLR, however, it's a very busy park at that time of the year, so I urge you to book your site as soon as possible, to ensure you are located close to the rest of our club. Many of us try to book a day either side of the weekend to make an extra long weekend, avoid some of the traffic and to really chill out.

Various trips will take place each day, in and around Beachport, from sand and beach driving, to winery and ice cream shop visits with the club gathering near the Section D camp kitchen each afternoon for happy hour and to share any stories from the days adventures.



**Book and pay by contacting the
Southern Ocean Tourist Park on
08 8735 8153, or via the website.**



Committee Positions

**WE STILL HAVE SOME POSITIONS
VACANT ON THE COMMITTEE SO PLEASE
SEE ANY COMMITTEE MEMBERS IF YOU WISH
TO FILL ONE OF THE VACANT ROLES.**



CURRENT VACANCIES:

• VICE PRESIDENT • MERCHANDISE OFFICER

Club equipment

The Club has a variety of tools and items available for loan at no charge to members, items can be used on club trips/events and any other relevant club activities.

Items available include:

- Grate mates
- Uniden UHF handheld radios
- Tyre repair kit (large & small)
- Bead breaker
- Gazebo 3m x 3m
- Hot water urn and kettle
- 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)

Note: All club equipment is securely stored within the club trailer at Lonsdale

For further information on any loan equipment, please email Property Officer: property@mountloftyanglers.com.au or speak to him at any club meetings.

Birthday Drinks



**PLEASE SEE KYLIE AT
THE CLUB MEETING FOR
YOUR COMPLIMENTARY
BIRTHDAY DRINK**

Links Page



The Links & Files page on our website has heaps of useful information and downloads.

With everything from weather to road conditions and club documents to trip documents, it's a great resource for lots of things in one convenient place... check it out:

<https://mountloftyrangers.com.au/links/>

Sponsors



Global pub grub served in a relaxed yet stylish venue with outdoor tables & a play area for kids.

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- DEN & GAMING • FUNCTIONS •

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Ph: 08 8278 8777 www.belairhotel.com.au

Club Trips Info

Planning a Club Trip/Event?



Once your trip has committee approval, just send me as much detail as you can and I will put together something to go into the magazine leading up to your trip/event.

Cheers, Lloyd

magazine@mountloftyrangers.com.au

Sponsors



Here at Tyrepower Blackwood we are your one-stop shop for tyres, aftermarket wheels, brakes, suspension upgrades, vehicle servicing and of course wheel alignments.

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Merchandise

Look sharp in our new range of Club Merchandise



Mount Lofty Rangers
4WD Club Mens Sub Polo

\$60



Mount Lofty Rangers
4WD Club Womens Sub Polo

\$60



Mount Lofty Rangers 4WD Club
Mens Long Sleeve Sub Polo

\$70



Mount Lofty Rangers 4WD Club
Womens Long Sleeve Sub Polo

\$70



Mount Lofty Rangers
4WD Club Mens Polo

\$35



Mount Lofty Rangers
4WD Club Softshell Jacket

\$60



Mount Lofty Rangers
4WD Club Vest

\$55



Mount Lofty Rangers
4WD Club Hooded Jacket

\$50



Mount Lofty Rangers
4WD Club Rugby Top 1

\$50

Merchandise



Mount Lofty Rangers
4WD Club Rugby Top 1

\$50



Mount Lofty Rangers
4WD Club Beanie

\$20



Mount Lofty Rangers
4WD Club Cap

\$20



Mount Lofty Rangers
4WD Club Bucket Hat

\$20

Available in all sizes with no minimum orders!

Click on the link below to place your order:
[https://www.sportscentre.com.au/product-category/
clubs/racing/mount-lofty-rangers-4wd-club/](https://www.sportscentre.com.au/product-category/clubs/racing/mount-lofty-rangers-4wd-club/)

Should you have any questions please contact Tom Doody
merchandise@mountloftyrangers.com.au

Trips Registration

Don't forget that all current members can register for any club trips/events via the website, simply log-in and register your details.

<https://mountloftyrangers.com.au/trips/>

The screenshot shows a web browser displaying the Mount Lofty Rangers website. The page features a yellow header with the club's logo and navigation links: Welcome, Membership, Awareness Instruction, Trips, Rangers' Review, and Links & Files. A banner image of a kangaroo is visible. The main content area is titled 'Loftyfest Reccey' for Saturday, May 14. It includes a green button stating 'You must login to register online.' and a link to 'Add to Google Calendar'. The 'Venue' section shows a map of Argadellis in South Australia. The 'Organiser' is Gary Light, with email goleudyus@gmail.com. A sidebar on the right contains 'Rangers' Review', 'Our Latest Magazine (May 2022)', 'Events Calendar (List)', 'Support Our Sponsors' (with a logo for 'a windows'), and 'Upcoming Events...' listing May 14 (Loftyfest Reccey), May 17 (Club Night at The Dirt, Mt Barker), and May 21 (Peake Sand Driving & Recovery).

mountloftyrangers.com.au

Welcome Membership Awareness Instruction Trips Rangers' Review Links & Files

Next Club Meeting: 20th Jun @ 7:30pm

All Events

Loftyfest Reccey

Saturday, May 14

Day trip to Argadellis. Only for people who want to lead trips or run activities during Loftyfest.

You must login to register online.

+ Add to Google Calendar

Details

Date: Saturday, May 14
Event Category: Trip

Venue

Argadellis
Quorn, South Australia
Australia + Google Map
View Venue Website

Organiser

Gary Light
Email: goleudyus@gmail.com

Rangers' Review

Our Latest Magazine (May 2022)
Events Calendar (List)

Support Our Sponsors

a windows

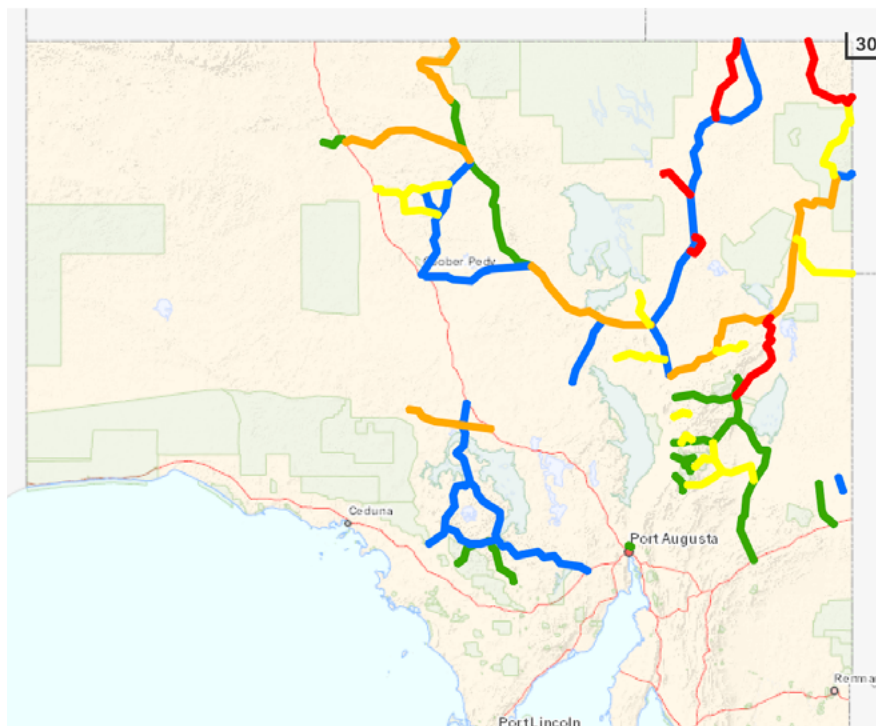
Upcoming Events...

May 14 All day Loftyfest Reccey
May 17 All day Club Night at The Dirt, Mt Barker.
May 21 Saturday, May 21 - Sunday, May 22 Peake Sand Driving & Recovery

Annual General meeting Club Night at The Dirt, Mt Barker.

Road Conditions

Planning a trip in outback South Australia?
Be sure to get the current road conditions at
<https://www.dit.sa.gov.au/OutbackRoads>



Legend

OPEN

Open to all vehicles

OPEN with warnings

Open to all vehicles, with caution

4WD / HV

Open to 4WD and Heavy Vehicles

4WD

Open to 4WD vehicles under 3 tonne only (no towing)

CLOSED

Closed to all vehicles

Historic Car Registry

A 90 day conditional registration scheme For Historic, Left Hand Drive and Street Rod vehicles.

Members of Mount Lofty Rangers 4WD Club are eligible for Club Registration of Historic, Left Hand Drive and Street Rod vehicles through the club.

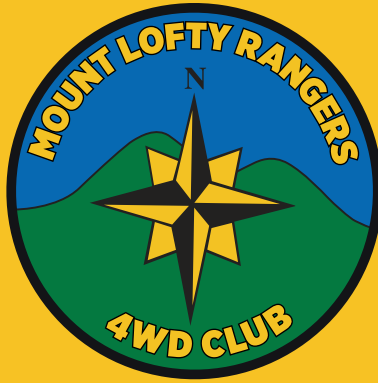
1. Inspect vehicle and make sure it meets the criteria for Club Registration. If previously registered bring current registration information including current permits for modified vehicles.
2. Complete MR334 form and original to owner and copy retained by Mount Lofty Rangers 4WD Club
3. Log book supplied to vehicle owner and explanation of the use.
4. Record and retain a copy of MR334, Certificate of Exemption and Statutory Declaration if needed.
5. Record the Log book Serial Number on the Certificate of Registration along with the date of issue, the Club Stamp and sign the certificate. Retain Copy of Registration papers as proof car was registered at log book issue.

IF YOU HAVE CLUB REGO PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOUR BOOK IS STAMPED

If you require more information or would like to proceed with a Club Registration check our website:

<https://mountlofyrangers.com.au/membership/club-registration/>
or contact Chris Gear secretary@mountlofyrangers.com.au





NEXT CLUB MEETING:

MONDAY 11th DECEMBER - 7.30pm

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING:

MONDAY 27th NOVEMBER - 7.00pm

