



Voice of the Toyota LandCruiser Club of Australia (SA) Inc

February 2025

Next General Meetings:

Monday
24th February, 2025

Monday
24th March 2025

LandCruising Australia Wide

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Bufell Grass Threat

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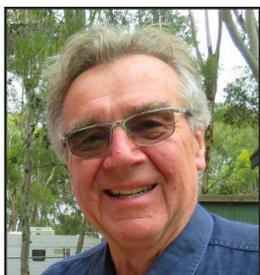


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416 Payenham Rd
Glynde SA 5074



from your President

Hello Members,

Welcome all to 2025. It looks as though we are due for a great time ahead – just look at our Trips, Training and Social schedules. Our first trip was to Beachport and currently there is a trip to the Victorian high country. The trips for Environment services to the Coorong and Flinders Ranges (Gum Creek, Arkaroola and Moolooloo) are there, waiting for you log-in with TryBooking. Be quick as these fill fast.

Members are reminded that the Committee now expects a feed-back from participants at our events. This will help us to improve the event and control any issues that might have arisen. Trip Leaders and Event organisers will give Members a Feed-Back form which should be filled out (good or bad) whilst the memory is fresh, and returned to the Leader. Feed-back forms are also available on the web page. If you have guest to our event, please get and fill out the Temporary Membership Form also available on the net. You will find it on the "Joining" page.

Our new web page is making good progress, with the first (of many) test runs performed last week. There is still a lot of checking and enhancements needed before it can go live to members and public. These improvements will enhance members services considerably more than our current system.

I also congratulate our Environment Champions, Michael Polacek and Ian Frost, on getting a grant from the Friends of Parks and Nature Grants Program DEW to support TLCCSA's efforts with Cactus and Pest Weed in the Flinders and Coorong. This money will allow TLCCSA to equip itself instead of relying on borrowed gear. A great deal of effort went into achieving this grant and will now continue with the management of the monies.

Safe Travels,

Vlad Humeniuk
TLCCSA President

Summer Brunch



Sunday February, 16th, 2025

Come along and start the year with a Social Brunch at Sue and Brian Stones' home. A yummy brunch will be cooked by the Social Committee, and includes welcoming bubbles and orange juice.

Details on Page 6



The **24th February 2025 General Meeting** will be held at ~ **West Adelaide Football Club**
57 Milner Rd, Richmond.

Open at 6.45pm. It is important that you book your spot - use booking code. <https://www.trybooking.com/CWXDL>



Front Cover Photo:

Installing Old Ghan Heritage signs at Quorn

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Next General Meeting:

24th February 2025, 7.30pm,
West Adelaide Football Club.

Trip Reports:

Guest Speaker:

Paul Moody
Life in Afghanistan

Newsletter Articles Deadline: Friday 4th March 2025

Please ensure submissions are lodged prior to the deadline to support the newsletter timelines. Please send articles and separate original photos to:

newsletter@tlccsa.asn.au

and remember to **include the names** of members when submitting photos.

club contacts

2024-25

Committee		Email	A/H Phone
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	Michael Polacek		0413 003 038
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Property Officer	Larry Coaker		0419 230 036
Hon. Auditor	Steve Miller		0419 808 798
Conservation SA Delegate	Ricard Trevena	rhtrevena@gmail.com	0417 864 577
	Edmund Morries		

DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS

As part of the disclosure requirements for our Public/Directors & Officer Liability insurance, please contact a committee member with relevant information if you are or become aware that:

- There has been or there is now pending any claim against any Director or Officer in their capacity as either Director or Officer of this club or any other organization.
- Any Director or Officer has ever been subject to disciplinary action, been fined or penalised or been subject to an enquiry in their capacity as a Director or Officer of the club or any other association.
- You have any knowledge or information of any incident, act, error or omission that may give rise to a claim of the type as would be covered by the policy,

Welcome!

The club would like to extend a warm welcome to the following new members for the month of February 2025.

- Leon Gebauer from Elizabeth North
- Darryl Mayger from Marlestone
- Daniel Miller from Teringie
- Jacqui Kohler from Bridgewater
- Charlie Kprianou from Greenwith
- Graeme Newcombe & Catriona Angas from Prospect
- Ben Woodhouse & Jo Hardenburg from Moana

May your membership to the club be a long and memorable one.

Cornes Toyota



If you are in the market for a new or used car please contact:



Ben Coleman
General Manager

Contact: 0411 426 008

46 Belair Road
HAWTHORN SA 5062
phone (08) 82721488

club yearly calendar - 2025

February 2025

- Sat 8th - Sat 15th** ~ Victorian High Country Scenic
Wed 12th ~ New Members Night
Sun 16th ~ Summer Breakfast - Kenton Valley
Sun 23rd ~ Tyre Repair - Ironbank
Mon 24th ~ General Meeting, WAFC

March 2025

- Sat 1st - Sun 2nd** ~ 4WD Theory
Sat 8th - Sun 9th ~ Peake Sand Driving
Tue 11th ~ Royal Flying Doctor Tour
Fri 14th - Mon 17th ~ Clean Up Australia - Coorong
Sat 22nd - Sun 23rd ~ Caravan Safety Awareness
Sun 23rd ~ Goolwa Beach Run
Mon 24th ~ General Meeting, WAFC
Sun 30th - Sat 5th Apr ~ National Gathering 2025

April 2025

- Mon 28th** ~ General Meeting, WAFC

May 2025

- Sun 4th** ~ Magical Mystery Tour
Thur 8th - Fri 16th ~ Arkaroola Cactus Cull

- Fri 16th - Sun 18th** ~ Advisor Course - Morgan
Sat 17th - Sun 18th ~ Ascent / Descent - Morgan
Mon 26th ~ General Meeting & AGM, WAFC

June 2025

- Fri 6th - Mon 9th** ~ Bendleby Ranges
Thurs 12th - Tue 8th July ~ Canning Stock Route
Mon 23rd ~ General Meeting, WAFC
Sat 28th - Sun 29th ~ Peake Sand Driving

July 2025

- Mon 21st - Sun 27th** ~ Gum Creek Cactus Culling
Sun 27th - Sat 2nd Aug ~ Moolooloo Cactus Culling
Mon 28th ~ General Meeting, WAFC

August 2025

- Sun 10th - Sun 24th** ~ 4WD Tinnie Trip - Warburton River
Mon 28th ~ General Meeting, WAFC
Sat 30th - Sun 31st ~ 4WD Theory

September 2025

- Sat 6th - Sun 7th** ~ Peake Sand Driving
Mon 22nd ~ General Meeting, WAFC

More Trips ? - "You can help" Know of a place you'd like to visit & would like to share it with us? Think about it and let us know. If you're not able to be the trip leader for your suggestion, then the Committee will seek some one who may be willing to do so. So have a think about it and let us know about a weekend or long weekend trip.

Talk to our Trips Officer - Pin Needham (trips@tlccsa.asn.au)



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Special Offer for TLCCSA Members



trips

Pin Needham

Trips Officer

Telephone: 0437 420 099

Email: trips@tlccsa.asn.au



social

Pam Humeniuk

Social Officer

Telephone: 0418 825 137

Email: social@tlccsa.asn.au

trip ratings

SCENIC: Bitumen & dirt roads, limited 4wding, lookouts, flora and fauna of the local area, other points of interest.

EASY: Mainly off bitumen on formed tracks, some 4wding, no steep inclines or declines.

MODERATE: Bush terrain, beach terrain, some inclines or side slopes, soft sand or mud areas, easy creek crossings.

HARD: Rough terrain, steep inclines, steep side slopes, rough creek crossings, possible towing and/or snatching.

DIFFICULT: Very rough terrain, very steep inclines, steep side slopes, slippery conditions, difficult creek crossings, some towing, snatching and or winching.

NEW MEMBERS NIGHT

This evening is set for February 12th at the Sporting Car Club, 51 King William Rd, Unley at 7:00pm. It is an ideal opportunity for new members to gain some insights into the club, how it operates and the opportunities available through trips, training and social activities. As a **new member** to the club you're encouraged to attend this meeting

See Page 9 for details on how to register

events calendar

Register now via
trybooking.com

1. Summer Brunch

Date: Sunday February, 16th, 2025.

Where: Home of Sue and Brian Stone, "The Birches" - 653 Kenton Valley Road, Kenton Valley SA 5233

What: Very Social

Numbers: unlimited (59 booked)

Cost: \$10 per head.

Detail: Come along and start the year with a Social Brunch at members, Sue and Brian Stones' home. A yummy brunch will be cooked by the Social Committee, and includes welcoming bubbles and orange juice.

10.00 a.m. Start. Bring your own picnic table, chairs, tablecloth, cutlery, crockery, glasses and decorations. Prizes for fanciful decorations. Meet old friends, make new friends. Everyone welcome. Please note this event will be cancelled if the day is declared "Extreme or Catastrophic Fire Danger."

<https://www.trybooking.com/CXGMC>

*** NEW ***

2. Royal Flying Doctor Facility

Where: 1 Tower Rd, Adelaide Airport.

Date: 11th March, 2025 11.00 am.

Leader Pam Humeniuk

Maximum number 30

Detail: No parking at the RFDS base. Must park in Harbour Town parking lot and walk in. \$10 donation (cash) to the RFDS to be collected on the day. You can donate more if you wish.

A very rare opportunity to view this facility, which is in fact a working hospital.

Our group will be divided up into smaller groups as not to disrupt the workings of this base.

Lunch afterwards at a venue still to be organised.

<https://www.trybooking.com/CYZMQ>

— # —

3. Clean Up Australia Coorong NP & beaches

Date: Fri 14 - Mon 17 March 2025

Leaders: Michael Polacek

Rating: Moderate - sand driving.

Convoy: Unlimited (19 booked)

Comment: The Coorong is about 200km from Adelaide. Based at the Cantara Homestead there's plenty of camping area, or limited accommodation in the homestead, all with access to toilets and showers on site. CUA activity involves cleaning up the Coorong beaches and campsites. A well supported activity. Members usually arrive on the Friday beforehand (14th) to set up camp. Work is then carried out on the following day followed by a Club provided BBQ tea on the Saturday night. Possible clean up on the Sunday or a day of relaxation. Leave on Monday. Bring recovery gear, shovels, good gloves - footwear and sun protection.

Required - 2 trailers, markers, bags, good gloves for collecting rubbish. Recovery equipment and compressor essential.

<https://www.trybooking.com/CXKIG>

*** NEW ***

4. Goolwa Beach Run

Date: Sun 23rd March 2025

Venue: Goolwa Beach

Leader: Darryl Royans

Rating: Moderate

Convoy: 20

Comment: Meet at the Goolwa Surf Life Saving Club at 11:00 am. Drive the Goolwa Beach to the Murray River mouth and return. This event is for new and prospective members to see the benefits the club has to offer and for the enjoyment of all members.

<https://www.trybooking.com/CYZFN>

— # —

5. Toyota LandCruiser Clubs National Gathering 2025

Date: 30 March to 5 April 2025

Location: Mansfield Showgrounds
Victoria

Leader: Vlad Humeniuk

Convoy: 20 **(26 booked)**

Comment: The Toyota LandCruiser Club of Victoria is planning an epic event to welcome you to discover the best of the Victorian Alps. Days filled with adventure and evenings around a campfire; an opportunity to share stories.

- Victorian High Country
- Discover Mansfield
- Drive the tracks
- Discover their unique property at Yarck
- Discover Bush Huts & Wineries

<https://www.trybooking.com/CMHBR>

***** NEW *****

6. Magical Mystery Tour

Date: Sun 4th May 2025

Detail: Following the great success of last year's tour, we are pleased to announce that this year the tour is going ahead again.

Full details to follow next month.

— # —

7. Arkaroola Cactus Cull

Date: 8 May - 16 May 2025

Leaders: Michael Polacek

Convoy: 25 people. **(22 booked)**

Rating: Scenic and moderate. Tracks accessing cactus areas and the trip on the rest day will be moderate.

Arkaroola Station is 140 km east of Copley. This working bee is for 1 week of culling, identifying and recording jumping cholla cactus eradication efforts.

There are some quarters with toilets and showers. Caravan, camper vans and tents can be easily accommodated as there is plenty of room.

The station has some fantastic drives and a history to be explored.

<https://www.trybooking.com/CXPAV>

— # —

8. Bendleby Ranges

Leaders: James & Lin Edwards

Date: Fri 6 - Mon 9 June 2025

Convoy: 20 vehicles **(14 booked)**

Rating: There are 200 km of tracks on

the property with varying degrees of difficulty from easy to difficult in rough hilly country with some steep ascents & descents and great views of the surrounding area.

Detail: Camp will be at one of the remote bush sites, suitable for vans, trailers & tents. Camp sites have toilets and please bring your own firewood. You will need to be self sufficient for food & water. Fees are \$90 for the weekend plus \$27.50/night per person, (\$82.50 pp for 3 nights). Please bring evidence of Basic 4WD experience especially ascent & descent training at either Morgan or equivalent. Rated recovery points & equipment are required.

<https://www.trybooking.com/CXKKP>

***** NEW *****

9. Canning Stock Route, North to South, 2025

Date: Thur 12 June - Tue 8 July 2025

Location: Canning Stock Route, Billiluna WA 6770

Leaders: Steve Miller / Phil Custance

Convoy: 6 vehicles **(Booked Out)**

Comment: The Canning Stock Route is a track that runs from Halls Creek in the Kimberley region of Western Australia to Wiluna in the mid-west region. With a total distance of around 1,850 km, it is claimed to be the longest historic stock route in the world. We will start at Billiluna (WA), heading south on CSR finishing at Wiluna (WA).

Terrain: rocky dirt roads, corrugations, sandhills. Fuel for 1100 km plus contingency, self sufficient food & water for 21 days. No Towing, tents only. Permits needed: 1. CSR \$295, wells 5 to 51, 2. Parku IPA permits, Lake Gregory, Lake Stretch, Sturt Creek, camping at \$30/night. 3. Gunbarrel-Shire of Ngaanyatjarraku Website \$nil - 3 Day transit to get to NT Border, (4) Permit to travel through Aboriginal Land \$ nil - WA Gov, (5) all above to be confirmed.

<https://www.trybooking.com/CYPVU>

— # —

10. Gum Creek Cactus Cull

Date: 21 – 27 July 2025

Leaders: Michael Polacek

Convoy: 24 people. **(14 booked)**

Rating: Scenic and moderate.

Moderate tracks accessing cactus areas and rest day trip is usually moderate. This working bee is for one week of culling, identifying and recording wheel cactus eradication efforts.

Come and join us on Gum Creek Station in the Flinders Ranges. We have been doing this for 16 years. Join our expert team and have some fun. Some accommodation available in the shearers quarters or bring your van, camper trailer, tent, etc.

Persons attending Gum Creek Station are most welcome to then continue down the track to Moolooloo after completion on 27 July.

<https://www.trybooking.com/CXKIP>

— # —

11. Moolooloo Cactus Cull

Date: 27 July - 2 August 2025

Leaders: Michael Polacek

Convoy: 22 people. **(21 booked)**

Rating: Scenic and moderate. Tracks accessing cactus areas and the trip on the rest day will be moderate.

Moolooloo Station is 25 km north of Blinman. This working bee is for 1 week of culling, identifying and recording wheel cactus eradication efforts.

There are fabulous shearers quarters with toilets and showers. Vans and camper vans can be accommodated as there is plenty of room.

The station has some fantastic drives and a history to be explored.

<https://www.trybooking.com/CXKKC>

***** NEW *****

12. Tinnie Trip to the Warburton 2025

Date: Sun 10 - Sun 24th August 2025

Location: Kalamurina Station SA 5734

Leaders: Michael Polacek / Peter Young

Convoy: min of 3 tinnies plus Support crew.

Comment: Warburton Creek forms downstream from the confluence of the Diamantina and Georgina rivers in Goyder Lagoon, and flows in a south-westerly direction for about 150 km before discharging into Lake Eyre. Starting at Stoney Crossing on

Kalamurina Station, we launch the Tinnies & travel 60km to Wetlands camp to refuel before continuing to the Warburton Groove (140km) then retrace our track (about 400km round trip). Each participant must be completely self resourced, Tinnie(11-12 foot), . 15 hp motopr ability to take 220 litres of fuel, camping equipment, radios, food & water for at least 7 days on water. Zodiac to be towed on water with fuel for part of the journey. Starting with a 2 day drive from Adelaide. Support vehicles, towing fuel trailers will be needed as well to act as backup for the Tinnie troupe.

<https://www.trybooking.com/CYPIJ>

— # —

13. Fraser Island (K'gari) Scenic 2025 EOI

Date: Saturday 30 August 2025 5:00 PM - Sunday 7 September 2025 10:00 AM

Leaders: Craig Marchant

Convoy: 22 people. (6 booked)

Rating: Scenic and moderate

Comment: Your opportunity to visit the world's largest sand island. The main way around the island is via the beach, which is generally easy to drive on, with a 80kph speed limit. The inland tracks can be rough due to the volume of traffic. More remote tracks have the potential to be softer and rutted out, again simply due to traffic and not being maintained.

Start at Rainbow Beach at 5:00pm on August 30, staying overnight at Rainbow Beach Caravan Park, 308 Carlo Road, Rainbow Beach Qld 4581 before taking the ferry at Inskip Point to K'Gari on the 31st. Bush camping with facilities except for 1 night. Be aware of the Dingos. Contact Trip Leader for detailed itinerary and more information. No Caravans or Trailers.

Essential gear- Long handle shovel, basic recovery gear, compressor, Tyre deflater. Desirable - Traction Boards. Permits are required for vehicles driving on K'gari as well as separate camping permits at designated sites

and dates. There is a Ferry charge of \$140 return. Contact the Trip Leader for more details.

Also remember that Rainbow Beach is approximately 2200 Km from Adelaide, allow 2-3 days each way for this journey.

<https://www.trybooking.com/CXKLA>

— # —

14. Ralph Abbott Argadells 2025

Dates: Fri 3 - Mon 6 Oct 2025

Leader: James & Linley Edwards

Convoy: Unlimited (4 booked)

Rating: Moderate to Hard

Comment: Rocky ascents and descents with some steep sections. Beautiful views across the surrounding landscape to Port Augusta, Lake Torrens.

Argadells Station 2641 Ardenvale Rd, 28km North of Quorn. A working sheep property of 32 square Km's approx 360km North of Adelaide.

Various tracks ranging from Moderate to Hard. Must have low ratio and good clearance with 4x4 experience in ascent/descent.

Trip Details: Travel to Argadells on Friday 4 Oct. BYO everything. Camping will be at one of the property's bush sites (Wint's) so will necessitate being completely self sufficient. Suitable for semi offroad/offroad caravans, camper trailers & tents.

For those who wish to bring an onroad van, there is a Caravan park available at \$35/night (2 people) approx 5km from the bush camp.

Property access is \$50 per vehicle plus camping fee of \$15/adult/night.

We will order some firewood from the property (\$100 to be shared between the attendees once we have final numbers) but please bring a bag along to supplement this.

For more information see their website.

<https://www.argadells.com.au/>

<https://www.trybooking.com/CXKLJ>

GENERAL

LET'S DO LUNCH CLUB

An ad hoc group who occasionally lunch (or it could be dinner) together to keep in touch and make new friends.

REGISTER VIA TRY BOOKING to indicate your interest. When an event is organised the organiser contacts all those registered and if you are free and the restaurant/venue appeals, you book in. No pre-paying – no permanent commitment.

Restaurant organisation is to be shared amongst those registered, with an emphasis on trying new and varied menus.

<https://www.trybooking.com/CHTKR>

SHOW & TELL

Tell us about your favourite gadget or item that is very useful in the home or whilst on safari.

Each month, a member can demonstrate the item in order to share innovation and knowledge. Send an email to Pam Humeniuk social@tlccsa.asn.au for further details. She would love to hear from you.

Blaze Aid + Habitat for Humanity ~ Volunteer List

Requests from these organisations can occur at short notice so it's great to have a updated members list that we can call on.

Using TryBookings will give us an up-to-date list to of members to call on at short notice.

Putting your name on this list does not mean you are committed every time to go, it depends on your availability at the time.

Volunteers are often required to assist with towing trailers & materials, clearing rubbish and debris, etc. Fuel costs are generally re-imbursed.

If you would like to help as requests arise, please register via the link below.

<https://www.trybooking.com/BOEYF>

That's all for now folks!



Peter Harper
 Education Officer
 Telephone : 0410 526 317
 email : education@tlccsa.asn.au



Murray McClay
 Assistant Education Officer
 Telephone : 0419 031 046
 email : edusub@tlccsa.asn.au

FROM	TO	ACTIVITY	WHERE	FEES	DEPOSIT	INFORMATION
Wed 12th Feb 2025		New Members Night	SCC	Nil		https://www.trybooking.com/CXKJL
Sun 23rd Feb 2025		Tyre Repair	Ironbank	\$10 per person	\$10 per person	Fee covers the cost of materials and refreshments https://www.trybooking.com/CXKJM
Sat 1st Mar 2025	Sun 2nd Mar 2025	Theory	TBA	\$20 per person	\$20 per person	https://www.trybooking.com/CXKJN
Sat 8th Mar 2025	Sun 9th Mar 2025	Sand + Winching	Peake	\$40 per vehicle	\$40 per vehicle	Property access cost \$40 per car. No cost for basic training for enrolled members https://www.trybooking.com/CXKJO
Sat 22nd Mar 2025	Sun 23rd Mar 2025	Caravan Safety Awareness	Barossa Valley	\$120 per couple		https://www.trybooking.com/CXPUF
Sat 17th May 2025	Sun 18th May 2025	Ascent - Descent	Morgan	NIL	\$30 per vehicle	No cost for basic training for enrolled members. Deposit refunded on Saturday night https://www.trybooking.com/CXKJP
Sat 28th Jun 2025	Sun 29th Jun 2025	Sand + Winching	Peake	\$40 per vehicle	\$40 per vehicle	Property access cost \$40 per car. No cost for basic training for enrolled members. https://www.trybooking.com/CXKJQ
Sat 30th Aug 2025	Sun 31st Aug 2025	Theory	SCC	\$20 per person	\$20 per person	https://www.trybooking.com/CXKJR
Sat 6th Sep 2025	Sun 7th Sep 2025	Sand & Winching	Peake	\$40 per vehicle	\$40 per vehicle	Property access cost \$40 per car. No cost for basic training for enrolled members. https://www.trybooking.com/CXKJS
Sun 28th Sep 2025		GPS (Theory & Practical)	SCC	\$20 per person	\$20 per person	Fee covers cost of refreshments. https://www.trybooking.com/CXKJT
Sat 18th Oct 2025	Sun 19th Oct 2025	Ascent Descent	Morgan	NIL	\$30 per vehicle	No cost for basic training for enrolled members. Deposit refunded on Saturday night https://www.trybooking.com/CXKJU
Sun 26th Oct 2025		Trip Planning	TBA	\$20 per person	\$20 per person	Fee covers cost of refreshments. https://www.trybooking.com/CXKJW
Sun 9th Nov 2025		Basic Wheel Change and Pre-departure	Ironbank	\$10 per person	\$10 per person	Anyone enrolled in the training program who has not completed these two elements. https://www.trybooking.com/CXKJX

TLCCSA training team

TRAINERS:
 STEVE MILLER

ASSESSORS:
 ALLAN McINTYRE
 DAVID ELLIS

GARY CHRISTIAN
 GEOFF GREEN
 GEOFF THOMPSON

JASON SABEENEY
 MURRAY McCLAY
 PETER HARPER

SHANE SAXBY
 TONY VAN WYK

TRAINERS: Conduct driver training

ASSESSORS: Conduct driver training & assessment

NOTE: All training sessions are subject to the availability of Trainers, Assessors and the number of member nominations. Small cost for advanced training and non enrolled members.

Cornes Toyota



Special service offer for Landcruiser Club Members

Service includes:

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OH WHAT A FEELING

SERVICE PROVIDER OF THE MONTH

Chris's Mechanical - Hawker

The 1992 80 series Sahara was sold with Alloy Wheels. While returning to Wilpena from an Easter Club Trip, the LHS front wheel departed. It jumped the fence & travelled hundreds of meters across barren ground then disappeared over the bank of a dam. Fortunately the dam was empty.

The spare wheel was attached to the vehicle using the two remaining studs and we limped to Hawker and reported to Chris's RAA Garage. Chris's Dad was left in charge as Chris was 'up north' doing a RAA rescue. Chris's Dad said that he had plenty of wheel studs & if we wanted to do the work ourselves in their Garage, (using their tools & equipment), we could save the expense of staying the night in Hawker and having to wait for Chris to schedule the work on Tuesday. The offer was gladly accepted! He then stated, "the corrugations cause the wheel nuts to come loose on aluminium rims & must be checked regularly if travelling on corrugated roads".

On completing the work about three hours later we asked what the cost would be. Obviously Chris's Dad had noticed the Toyota Club Sticker on the vehicle & answered, " a couple of bucks for each stud will do as Chris always gives preference to you Toyota guys because of the work you do at Wilpena, planting trees & repairing things". Wow!, a quick handshake, many thanks & we were on our way. Needless to say those who were with us at the time, always now buy fuel & tyres (at very competitive prices) at Chris's Garage at Hawker.

Robyn & Peter Trezise.





SANTA COMES TO TOWN



Our recent Club's Christmas party was held at Port Elliot, the first time the club had ventured that far south. So, what of the early history of the Club celebrating Christmas, say the first 15 years ?

Some very old records show that the very first party was held in 1971, our foundation year, at the home of members Cynthia and Gavin Sharp who lived at Tennyson. In those early years member numbers would have been low as the Club was embarking on a growth spurt. The Sharp's in fact continued to host the annual event through to 1974.

1975 saw a move to Kurralta Park Scout Hall. Now that must have been a hoot!! That continued to be the venue for 5 years through to 1979 (Club meeting's might have been at that venue then)

1980 saw a move to Colin and Jean Brown's residence at Grange where it seems 96 adults and 51 children attended. Colin is one of our current life members and at a guess he has a rather large backyard! Having not had enough in 1980 they backed up again in 1981 with 100 adults and 50 kids attending but let's assume that was a guestimate!!

1982 and we are off to SA Postal Institute and 1983 The Savings Bank Oval in the South Parklands. 1984 saw a move to Lockleys Reserve and again in 1985 when it is reported there were 120 adults and 45 children.

Life was far simpler then it seems with nowhere near the myriad of things complicating our lives today!

Anonymous



Fifty people enjoyed the fun and frovility at the 2024 Christmas Party weekend held at the Port Elliot Showgrounds. Most people arrived on Friday 29th November and were treated to pre-dinner drinks followed by a great meal at the Royal Family Hotel in Port Elliot. Attendees were left to a free morning on Saturday to enjoy the coastal delights and the local tourist sites.

Then the party started after lunch, with drinks, nibbles and a giant game of snakes

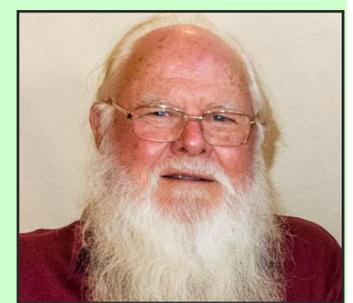
and ladders organised by James and Linley Edwards. Then a visit from the jolly old man himself - Santa, handing out presents to everyone. As evening approached the delicious roast pork and lamb and vegetables were served along with an assortment of cakes . The night got rocking with a terrific band that



played music that we all recognised and we danced the night away. The next morning featured a recovery breakfast with good ol' eggs, bacon,sausages tomatoes and hash browns - just thing to get the stomach juices flowing again.

Congratulations to Pam Humeniuk and the entire social committe for a wonderful well organised and enjoyable weekend.

Editor



Photos courtesy of Louisa Sellek

Signs of the Times along the Old Ghan Railway Heritage Trail

The Outback Communities Authority (OCA) commissioned the Toyota Landcruiser Club of SA to replace the interpretive signs at selected places along the Old Ghan Railway Heritage Trail from Port Augusta to Pedirka 900 km to the north. The OCA had already replaced the Port Augusta sign at the Wadlata Centre.

We started at Port Augusta where we loaded the signs from the OCA compound. Group 1 of 6 vehicle began a day ahead of Group 2 who had 7 vehicles towing caravans. We expected that, after some 20 years in this harsh environment, there would be some rust problems with the signs. So, Group 1 in pairs were assigned to apply rust penetration spray to the bolts of each sign enroute to Copley to assist Group 2 with their chores. The plan was for Group 1 to deal with the signs from Lyndhurst to Pedirka with each pair of vehicles allotted sign that permitted leap frogging in order to save time over the 700 km journey. The Group 2 vehicles were to replace the signs from Quorn to Copley and Farina.



QUORN 2 Signs

The rail trolleys and signs stood out the front and to the right of the Flinders Ranges Visitor Information Centre at Quorn. The 2 picture signage boards, whilst faded, were still easily legible. The surrounding channel iron frames at the top of each sign were reasonable. This was not the case for the bottom iron frames as they were well rusted with flaking and in a number of places completely rusted through at the very bottom. Rust had progressed halfway up the sides of the frames. Two teams of 4 commenced on the "replacement tasks". The top frames were removed reasonably easily & quickly. Paint scrapers were used to "free up" the rust from within the side frames to shimmy the sign up & out of the frames. Extreme care had to be taken with this task to save from breaking the bottom frames, being rusted through along the length.

With the signs removed, a considerable amount of time was then taken to clean out frame cavities on the trolley. Dust blowers, tiny paint brushes & a couple of fine screwdrivers were the tools of trade to loosen the coagulated dirt/mud & iron pieces. It should be noted that the dust blower, due to the fragile state of the frames, became an indispensable tool to "clean out" the fine debris once loosened. Each of the new replacement signs, were then slowly threaded back into the cleaned frames and affixed with bolts/nuts on the top frame. The small TLCCSA plaque was then attached to the crossbar of the trolley.

Leah Andison

Hawker Sign

This sign was faded and in many parts, unreadable. The frame was stable, showing some signs of rusting considering its age. The removal of the top bars was relatively straightforward and easy given that the four bolts had been sprayed with lubricant on the previous day. Removal of the signs was very difficult as there was a rust buildup in each of the vertical frame mounts that wedged the sign in very tightly. Four 10 mm holes were drilled in the bottom bars under each vertical mount to allow for future water drainage and to dislodge and scrape away the rust buildup. A combination of repeated scouring inside the mounts with various probing tools and using a blower eventually cleared the three sides of the frame of debris so the old sign could be removed. The grooves in the frame were cleaned using a wire brush and metal scrapers and widened where necessary to receive the new sign easily. The new sign was slotted and tapped lightly into position, the top bar replaced and bolted into position. The TLCCSA plaque was affixed.



Simon Critchley

Parachilna Sign

Following a great morning tea at the Flinders Café in Hawker, a party, consisting of Brenton & Denise Manuel, Andrew Strain, Leah Andison and Brian & Sue Stone travelled up the road heading north to Parachilna. We soon found the unreadable sign in a prominent position opposite the Prairie Hotel. We all thought this is good, a quick fix and off to the pub for a drink as the day as getting warmer, Not to be,—firstly to find the right size Allen keys for the bolts as they were not the hexagonal heads as we had thought. These bolts were well rusted into position, but one by one, using leverage, Brenton was able to crack and slowly loosen each bolt until the frames were dismantled. Another bit of heaving, saw the old signs being removed and then to clean up the frame. The rust was so significant in places, a hand could be passed through the RHS tube. Eventually, the frames were cleaned up as best we could, and the new signage positioned to fit nicely along with the TLCCSA plaque. Two hours later and proud of our achievement, we headed to the Prairie Hotel for that well-earned drink!

Brian Stone

continued on page 14.

Beltana Sign (at the Railway Station)

On arrival, approximately 11am, it was observed that the framework of the sign had been maintained & was in quite good condition. The signs were very severely affected by the harsh weather conditions, as would be expected over so many years. The removal of the bolts holding the top bar of the frame was straight forward, in comparison to many of the previous signs that we had replaced. The old signs were removed & the framework was given a good clean-out with the blower to remove many years of rust and dirt build-up. Once the frame clean-out was completed it was a simple task to insert the new signs, replace the top bar of the frame & the bolts holding the frames together. Simon & Harrison Critchley, Brenton & Denise Manuel, Andrew Strain & Leah Andison, Brian & Sue Stone, John, Sue & Joe Birchall, Steve Garland and Ian Frost were involved in this restoration processes – many hands make light work! The new signage positioned to fit & the TLCCSA plaque was installed. This was all completed in less than an hour.

Denise Manuel



Copley

As we approached the sign just outside the Copley Caravan Park, it was clear that the local community had taken great care in maintaining both the sign and its surroundings. The metal mounting frame was in excellent condition, and the two bolts at the top came off easily, thanks to their thorough lubrication. We slid the new sign into place and secured it, adding a plaque to recognise the efforts of TLCCSA. The entire task was completed in about 30 minutes. On our way back to the park, two tourists stopped to take photos, giving us a satisfying sense of instant gratification.

Sue Birchall

Lyndhurst

This was the first sign encountered by Group 1. We had been warned that we might have to screw the new sign over the original one. Ray & Heather with some assistance from Kim were surprised when they could actually remove the bolts holding the frame. However, their hopes were soon dashed as they tried to remove the rusted signs from the frame. It was necessary to use a combination of drilling through the old sign and the use of vice grips to leverage the the sign from the frame. Once the old signs were removed and the rusty frames thoroughly de-rusted and cleaned, the new signs were soon installed, and we headed off towards Marree.

Kim Needham

Farina

After a leisurely start to the morning, a 60 km drive to Farina and a search party to find where the sign was located.



The task would begin. The frame around this sign was in better condition than others that we had changed, but getting the signs out was more of a challenge and took some time. We had to punch a couple of holes through the old sign with a screwdriver to get some leverage to get them to be loosened and finally move and remove them.

Then came the task of cleaning the two frames out; again, this was a challenge considering how good a condition these frames were, and to get the rust and dirt that had built up over the years. Several 12mm holes were drilled in the bottom rail in each corner, and after a lot of scraping and blowing all was cleaned and ready for the new signs to be installed. Replacing the top rails was not as simple considering there were only two bolts to hold down the four corners. Some ingenuity was required here, two pieces of steel were found on the rail trolley and were bent to form a right angle, then one side drilled which allowed

this to be screwed to the frame and hold the top rail in place. The TLCCSA sign was attached. Another job well done by all helpers, photographers, note takers and supervisors.

Stephen Garland

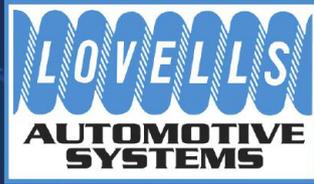
Marree

After leaving Copley, Richard, Andy, Win, Andrew and Pam stopped very briefly at Lyndhurst to unload the sign required there and to get a quick insight into the job ahead of us. Feeling a little more confident about the process, we were soon on the road to Marree. The first challenge was to work out what technique had been used to secure the old signs. It seemed that no two signs had been secured by the same method. Then it became a relatively straightforward job, after much trial and error to find the correct Allen key to undo the frame. Soon the rest of Group one had arrived, as this was the spot where we all needed to air down before hitting the dirt of the Oodnadatta track, and expert opinion was given on this important task.

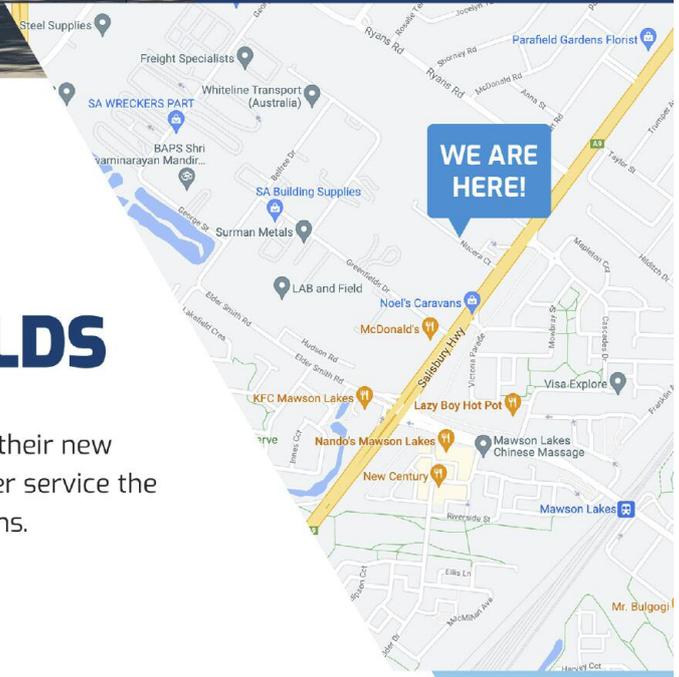
Pam & Andrew McDonald

Curdimurka

continued on page 17.



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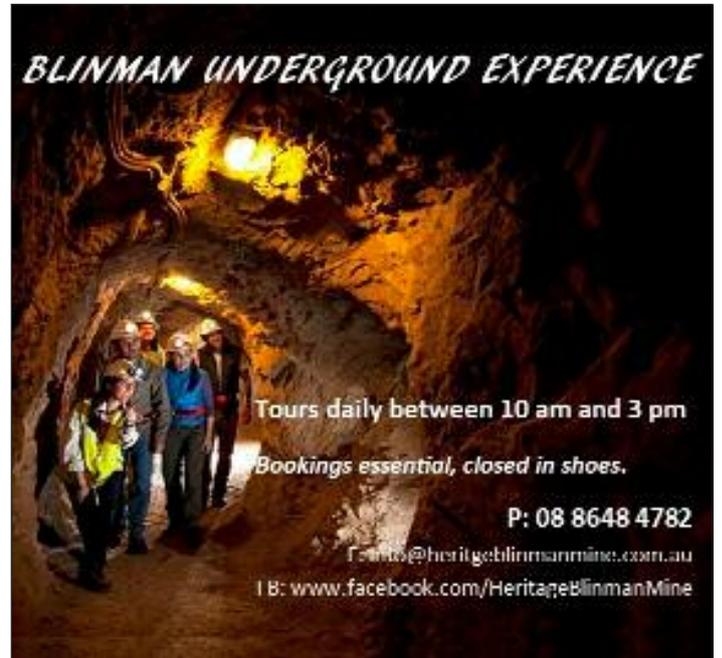
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VALE - Shirley Wigglesworth

Members are advised of the recent passing of Shirley, a Club Life Member. We extend our sincere condolences to Kevin and family. Shirley and Kevin joined the Club in 1988 and even in recent times Kevin would still attend regular meetings. Shirley was our 'social queen' as she was 17 years in that role starting in 1989. We have club records of trips from 2001 which show Shirley organised 50 activities. It is of course highly likely there were a lot more before 2001. Shirley ran the role solo for many years but would assemble 'the ladies team' whenever necessary. Early Christmas functions were far removed from what we do today. Mid-afternoon Shirley would assemble the ladies and the vegetable peeling would begin. One of Shirley's specialities was to buy everyone an ice cream to conclude a social activity.

Shirley has made a wonderful contribution to the life of our Club.

Shirley will be remembered in a private family service.



Richard T, Burgo and his guest Dave Stoneman did the Curdimurka signs. We had thought the band and crowd of onlookers would be awaiting to applaud our engineering skills - but alas just a squadron (each) of over-friendly flies ! The job was reasonably straightforward-and, after leaving the old signs at the gate for later collection - we were soon heading north again into (what blind dopey critics call) The GAFA....The Great Australian F All....unless you know of the MANY things to see and experience in our great outback!

Burgo

Coward Springs

When we arrived at Coward Springs, the owner was not prepared for our visit. After some negotiations, he showed us where the sign was located. Kim & Pin started work on the sign as Pam & Andrew arrived to assist. We had some difficulty extracting the signs from the rusted frames until we used the vice grips to hold these signs while we juggled them clear of the frames. Once the signs were removed, we diligently cleaned the frames before installing the new signs. We took the final photos and went back to the Coward Springs Caravan Park kiosk and swapped one of the old signs for coffee and date ice creams.

Pin Needham

William Creek

The Old Ghan Rail trolley at William Creek was conveniently located in the park opposite the famous William Creek Hotel, which was amply convenient for thirst quenching. This trolley proved a tricky restoration with setscrews well and truly seized into the frame necessitating their grinding off. After extracting the many years of bulldust that had accumulated in the frame, the new panels were easily located into the frames. The issue of re-attaching the top rails was solved using Richard's arc welder plugged into the generous William Creek Hotel's power outlet. The frames were then bolted to the trolley and the TLCCSA plaque affixed on our return journey. This was duly completed with the presentation of the old Algebuckina Bridge sign to the pub for services rendered.

Ray Oermann & Richard Trevena

Algebuckina Bridge

On Sunday, 13 October 2024 the highly talented and skilled team consisting of Andrew, Pam, Richard, Win and myself were tasked with replacing the tourist information board frame as well as replacing the old signs with new signs at the Algebuckina Bridge site. The team approached the task vigorously and met and overcame a few challenges, including trying to remove the rusted and rounded off bolts holding the frame onto the trolley and, while attempting to fit the new frame found that the bolts supplied were the incorrect ones! Fortunately, I had a grinder which I used to cut the old bolt heads off and for the fixing of the new frame, Andrew had some new bolts in his kit that helped with overcoming the issue with the incorrectly supplied new bolts for attaching the frame onto the trolley. The team worked well together each contributing willingly while achieving a very 'professional' job by 'amateurs' and once completed, were immediately appreciated by visitors soon after completion of the team's efforts.

Andy Robb

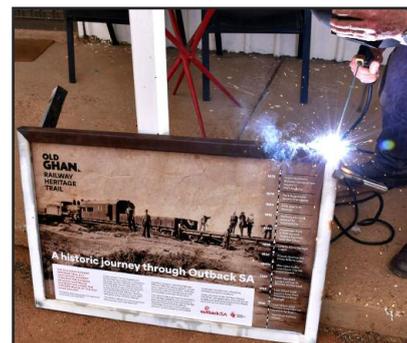
Algebuckina Bridge

Unlike the other signs provided as replacement signage, the ones for the Algebuckina Bridge were to be replaced complete with its own infrastructure holding the signs in place. This whole piece of equipment had been collected from the Outback Communities Authority (OCA) Office at Port Augusta on our way to Copley to start our section of the installation work. It was transported to the site in the back of Richard's Hilux. On the morning of the day, we were to replace the sign, the group, consisting of Win, Andy, Pam and Richard drove back from Oodnadatta to the Bridge. An uneventful trip and we arrived full of enthusiasm. We then had to carry the new signs in their sturdy galvanised mounting up the steep embankment at the approach to the huge bridge. The stairs cut into the side of the embankment certainly needed some maintenance. The redundant signs were unbolted, disassembled and loaded into Andrew's car. The new signs were lifted into position on the trolley, but the bolts provided by the OCA had shanks with insufficient thread on them. New bolts were found amongst the crew's vehicles and the sign was secured. One of the old signs, with bullet holes, was later donated to the William Creek Hotel on our return journey.

Richard Trevena

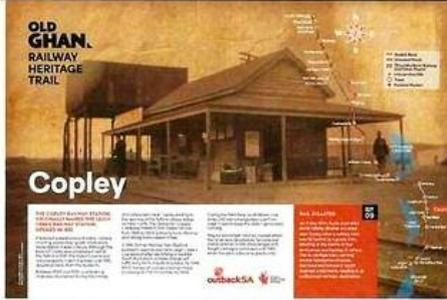
Oodnadatta

After installing the Algebuckina Bridge Sign, Richard, Andrew & Pam with Andy & Win headed for Oodnadatta where they started work on the Oodnadatta sign on the hottest day of the trip. Andrew erected his car awning over the worksite to assist the job, but it was still over 37C in the shade. The extremely faded face of the sign was testament to the frequent heat experienced in this area. The frame was corroded and required dismantling for the removal of the old sign. Unfortunately, the extreme heat became overwhelming for one member of the group, and we needed to down tools and make use of the fabulous medical centre and its wonderful staff to treat the heat exhaustion that occurred. Meanwhile, Richard packed up all the sign stuff & the McDonald's car was returned to camp. Next morning, at 0730





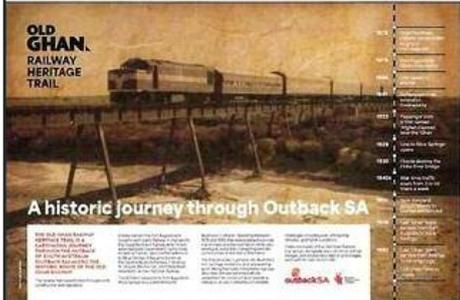
Copley



Coward Springs



Curdimurka



hours we returned to the sign site and completed the installation with Richard, Kim & Burgo. Then we all headed south along the Track towards William Creek.
Report compiled by Team effort.

Pedirka

Pedirka was the northernmost Old Ghan Railway sidings that had its information panels replaced, this trip. Pin & Kim with Burgo & Dave were joined by Heather & Ray at Pedirka on a hot morning with a strong northerly wind. Like many other sidings, the trolleys used to hold the frames and panels had become a storage place for all forms of metallic relics found on site. Pedirka was not only unique due to its remoteness and the desolation of the old buildings, but it was the only siding where a person or persons unknown had removed a panel. Fortunately, the souvenir hunters had left behind the top frame which, following the usual blowing out of significant amounts of rust & bull dust, enabled the new interpretive information panels to be installed. Having completed the job we were all pleased to get back into our airconditioned vehicles for the drive back to Oodnadatta after having lunch in a shady anabranch of the Neales River.

Ray & Heather Oermann



Fleurieu Peninsula Day Trip 2024 - Lions Club of Yankalilla

On Saturday October 12th, the Club conducted its annual Fleurieu Peninsula Day Trip in conjunction with the Lions Club of Yankalilla. This event is organised each year by the Lions Club as a fundraiser, the proceeds of which are invested in local community projects.

The day trip travels mainly along the very scenic coastal areas of the Fleurieu Peninsula and traverses private farming properties and tracks that are not normally accessible to the public. This privileged access to private property provides stunning coastal views, drives through beautiful valleys, across green pastures, and through some heavily native-forested areas, all along some fun dirt tracks to drive. Each convoy is led by a member of the Lions Club, who is generally the owner of one of the private properties traversed, and who provides an interesting commentary about the local area, the farming activities, the local history, and any other questions that arise over the UHF radio.

After an early briefing by the Lions Club organisers and the opportunity to air-down our tyres, about 16 vehicles departed from Yankalilla Oval in several convoys from around 9:00am, including some guest vehicles from the Mount Lofty Rangers 4WD Club. Initially we headed South along the bitumen, but it wasn't long before we were on the dirt. Initially we drove through residential areas and back roads to Dairy Flat where we passed a number of dairy farms.



Then heading west back towards the coast, the tracks took us to a high point overlooking Yankalilla Bay, where we stopped for a morning tea break and to admire the coastal views back towards Normanville.

The next stage took us along the coastal cliffs and adjacent farmlands, passing many of the 'local



resident' cattle who must have wondered what we were all about. The odd kangaroo was also observed. We passed nearby to Wirrina Cove Resort with views of the adjacent Wirrina Reservoir. Shortly after, we stopped to explore

the ruins of an old sandstone structure next to a creek that was associated with an old gold mine that operated briefly back in the late 1800's. The track then climbed steeply upwards and past the opening of the gold mine, where we reflected on the back-breaking effort of those days of manually getting the gold diggings down to the creek for sluicing to find the gold. Apparently, the venture didn't last long.



We then headed into Second Valley where all stopped to prepare and enjoy lunch and use the toilet facilities (there may have been the odd ice cream purchased as well.)

After lunch, the afternoon took us along tracks near Rapid Bay, and Delamere. We were privileged to drive through the Starfish Hill Wind Farm, which is normally locked and inaccessible to the public.

Although (due to safety reasons) we weren't allowed to stop and get out of our vehicles, we were still able to marvel at the rows of these graceful giant wind turbines.



The final leg took us along some fun dirt tracks, including one very steep descent, and eventually down into Cape Jervis. We ended the drive at around 3:30pm at the Cape Jervis Lookout, overlooking the Ferry Terminal and with a great view across to Kangaroo Island. We all aired-up our tyres to road pressures, swapped very positive impressions of a great day, and said our farewells before heading back home. A most enjoyable and unique day highly recommended to all.

Trip Leader – Andy Davis



club merchandise

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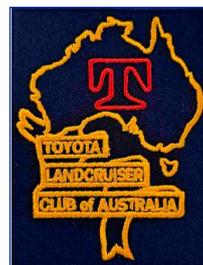
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OUR CLUB TRIPS RECORDS HELP NEEDED

The club has some wonderful trips records for the period 1971 through to 1987. It also has extensive records from 2001 through to today. However we do have a gap in the period from 1987 to 2001. Now there are a few member still in the Club today who held the Trip Committee position in that period. What might you have for us hidden in a bottom drawer ?

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Turning the tables on buffel

Ministers meet to beat buffel threat

In a groundbreaking move for weed control in South Australia, the Deputy Premier and four other cabinet ministers convened in Adelaide in November for a ministerial roundtable on buffel grass. This historic meeting brought together senior executives and key stakeholders, and was initiated by the **Hon. Dr Susan Close MP, the Deputy Premier and Minister for Climate, Environment and Water**, following her visit to the Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board's March meeting.

During that session, AW General Manager Kim Krebs and Mark Anderson from the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) delivered a joint presentation, highlighting the substantial resources required to tackle the buffel grass threat and emphasising

the importance of collaboration between AW, NPWS, the Far West Coast Aboriginal Corporation, and the Eyre Peninsula Landscape Board.

The Deputy Premier also took time to listen to the board's concerns and pledged to bring together senior ministers and bureaucrats for a high-level discussion to address the issue effectively. "Buffel Grass is widely regarded as one of the greatest threats to biodiversity in South Australia's arid and semi-arid rangelands," Dr. Close said. "It also poses significant fire hazards and can degrade landscapes, destroying vital habitats for native flora and fauna. At the roundtable, I was heartened to witness such a wide coalition of stakeholders working together to confront this pressing challenge to both people and our environment." This roundtable marked a significant departure from the traditional approach to policy development, which typically involves considerable preparatory work by departmental staff before ministers are engaged.

"This flips the script," said Kim Krebs. "It's inspiring to see the level of commitment from the Deputy Premier and her cabinet colleagues. It's clear that combating a transformative weed like buffel grass demands a coordinated effort from multiple agencies, landholders, and stakeholders. To start from the top and build a unified statewide strategy is truly exciting." The Deputy Premier was joined by the **Hon. Tom Koutsantonis MP, Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, and Energy and Mining; the Hon. Clare Scriven MLC, Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development; the Hon. Joe Szakacs MP, Minister for Local Government; and the Hon. Nick Champion MP, Minister for Planning**. Senior executives from each department attended, alongside representatives from various stakeholder groups, including the Local Government Association, Primary Producers SA, Country Fire Service, Outback Communities Authority, Livestock SA and the Nature Alliance.



In the first hour of the meeting, the ministers were given an in-depth introduction to buffel grass management, including detailed explanations of the weed's economic, ecological, social, and cultural impacts. Kim Krebs provided an overview of the issue and the current management efforts, followed by a thorough presentation from buffel grass ecologist Ellen Ryan-Colton. Drawing on her years of research, Ms Ryan-Colton highlighted the severe ecological damage caused by buffel grass, including its disruptive effects on plant and animal communities, as well as its impact on fire regimes.

Department for Energy and Mining (DEM) outlined some of the potential future risks, along with options for policy and strategy. Tim Hall from NPWS spoke from the heart about his personal regrets about not addressing the growing buffel problem many years ago in a previous role in the Northern Territory, telling the assembled guests there was an opportunity now to prevent further disaster in the rangelands.

Georgie Cornish from the CFS delivered a compelling presentation, highlighting how buffel grass is already placing an increasing strain on CFS volunteers. She warned that further spread of the weed, particularly as it moves south, could have disastrous consequences for a growing number of communities. A key theme that emerged throughout the presentations was that roads and rail are the primary vectors for the spread of buffel grass. By the end of the session, everyone in the room had a heightened awareness of the significantly increased fire risk the state faces if the weed continues to spread unchecked.

With a clearer understanding of the scale of the buffel grass crisis, the ministers left the roundtable, allowing delegates to work together on potential solutions. In groups, the delegates explored possible policy changes, strategic partnerships, and the funding needed to address the threat. For over an hour, the groups engaged in lively discussions, exchanging ideas and perspectives, and developing solutions that will be analysed and refined into a formal proposal to be presented to the Deputy Premier.

Extract from **Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board Publication Payla**

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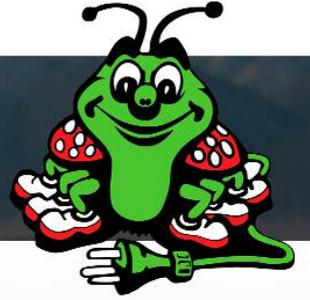
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