



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

ABN 61 772 482 212

February 2026

Next General Meetings:

Monday
23rd February, 2026

Monday
23rd March 2026

LandCruising Australia Wide

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Service Provider of Month

The Secretary,
PO Box 252
Kent Town SA 5071

Email:
secretary@tlccsa.asn.au

www.tlccsa.asn.au

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from your President

Hello Members

A huge thank you to Tim Welch for leading a trip of twelve vehicles to Beachport over the January long weekend. A great time playing in the sand was had by all. Another big thank you to Craig Marchant, who is currently leading a trip into the Victorian High Country.

Andrew Strain, who has had a significant career and brings extensive knowledge of insurance, spoke at the recent committee meeting. He outlined the types of insurance held by the association and the cover provided. Andrew will also speak to members at the February general meeting on the topic of the association's insurance. Members are reminded that they should always have their own appropriate and adequate health, vehicle, and property insurance.

Looking ahead, there are several events for members to engage in. Summer Brunch at the lovely setting of Sue and Brian Stone's property is coming up very soon. At the end of February, we will visit the Coorong for our Clean Up Australia event, with camping alongside the historic Cantara Homestead. There is also a day event clearing plant protectors at the Tolderol Game Reserve near Lake Alexandrina. Forward planning includes a great family trip to the Burra region over Easter. Booking details are included elsewhere in this newsletter.

Our education and training program will commence with the Theory Day in March, followed by sand driving training at Peake. These knowledge and skill sets are basic requirements when participating in moderate-difficult trips. Members are encouraged to review the Education and Training program.

No matter how well we plan our trips, the weather can always surprise us. Recent rains through the northern Flinders and outback regions have made tracks impassable. A quick search for "Arkaroola" on Facebook shows just what is happening further north. Once the rains subside, however, the flora and fauna will reveal another side of this beautiful landscape that we don't often get to see. It's also worth considering how well prepared you would be if you were isolated for a week — hence our focus on education and preparedness. Safe travelling.

Simon

Simon Critchley
TLCCSA President

Summer Brunch

Sunday February, 15th, 2026

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.

Book Now - Closing Soon

Details on Page 6



The **23rd February 2026 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/DHIWI>



Front Cover Photo:

Port Lincoln National Park
by Mike Carrington

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Next General Meeting:

23rd February 2026, 7.30pm,
West Adelaide Football Club.

Trip Reports:

Guest Speaker:

Overlanding in Southern & Eastern Africa - Edmund Morries

Newsletter Articles Deadline:

Thurs 5th March 2026

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

2025-26

Committee		Email	A/H Phone
President	Simon Critchley	pres@tlccsa.asn.au	0438 322 997
Vice President	Paul Hoskins	vpres@tlccsa.asn.au	0418 828 637
Secretary	Helen Brettig	secretary@tlccsa.asn.au	0421 114 476
Minute Secretary	Pam McDonald	minsec@tlccsa.asn.au	0409 869 796
Treasurer	Heather Combeer	treasurer@tlccsa@gmail.com	0403 955 228
Education	Peter Harper	education@tlccsa.asn.au	0410 526 317
Environment	Michael Polacek	environ@tlccsa.asn.au	0413 003 038
	Ian Frost		0466 988 801
Social	Pam Humeniuk	social@tlccsa.asn.au	0418 825 137
Trips	Pin Needham	trips@tlccsa.asn.au	0437 420 099
Advertising/Publicity	Gordon Combeer	advertise@tlccsa.asn.au	0413 838 914
Immediate Past President	Vlad Humeniuk	ipp@tlccsa.asn.au	0408 825 144
Committee	Andy Davis	ajdavis7@outlook.com	0417 805 405
Committee	Larry Coaker	larrco119@gmail.com	0419 230 036
Sub Committee Officers			
Membership	Graham Adams	memb@tlccsa.asn.au	041 7854 318
Newsletter	Brian Stone	newsletter@tlccsa.asn.au	0419 998 834
Welcoming	Vladimir Malcik	welcome@tlccsa.asn.au	0409 607 624
	Graeme Brettig		
Assistant Education	Murray McClay	edusub@tlccsa.asn.au	0419 031 046
Facebook Editor	Andrew Strain	facebook@tlccsa.asn.au	0413 804 698
	Darryl Royans		0414 307 280
Historical Vehicle	Darryl Royans	clubrego@tlccsa.asn.au	0414 307 280
Club Registration	Michael Polacek		0413 003 038
Radio/GPS	Peter Harper	radio@tlccsa.asn.au	0410 526 317
SAAFWDC Delegate	Larry Coaker	delegates@tlccsa.asn.au	0419 230 036
	Edmund Morries		0439 034 866
Technical	Peter Young	technical@tlccsa.asn.au	0418 846 544
Merchandising Officer	Carola Sanders	merchandise@tlccsa.asn.au	0412 632 658
Webmaster(s)	Monte Weeding	webmaster@tlccsa.asn.au	0408 832 771
	Craig Marchant		
Property Officer	Larry Coaker		0419 230 036
Hon. Auditor	Sophia Martucci		0403 490 143

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 2026.

- Lachlan Butterworth from Kersbrook
- Mark Symes from Thebarton
- Lloyd Gedling & Melanie Ford from Kilkenny
- Peter Duffy from Kensington
- Marc & Ashleigh Hanna from Nuriootpa
- Craig Thurgood from Hove
- Tom Bell from Enfield
- Lou & Dee Warnes from Kingswood
- Gregory Schulz from Blair Athol
- Josh & Amy Sharp from Craigmore
- Rohan & Susanne Carter from Wallaroo
- Tim Jarrett from Goolwa
- Antonio Barone from Magill
- Jed McClure from Blackwood
- Andrew Stevens from Clarence Park
- Mart Llorincz from Seacombe Heights

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

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



Daniel Munday

General Manager

Contact: M 0421 139 545
D 8179 0034

46 Belair Road
HAWTHORN SA 5062
phone (08) 82721488

club yearly calendar - 2026

February 2026

Sat 7th - Sat 14th ~ Vic High Country
Wed 11th ~ New Members Night, SCC
Sun 15th ~ Summer Brunch
Mon 23rd ~ General Meeting, WAFC
Fri 27th - 2nd March ~ Clean Up Australia, Cantara

March 2026

Sun 1st ~ 4WD Theory
Sat 7th - Sun 8th ~ Sand Training
Sun 15th ~ Tolderol Game Reserve - Clean up
Sat 21st ~ The 60Four Tribute Band
Mon 23rd ~ General Meeting, WAFC
Wed 25th - Thurs 2nd April ~ Arkaroola Cactus Cull
Sat 28th ~ Goolwa Beach & Murray Mouth Run

April 2026

Fri 3rd - 6th ~ Burra Easter Trip
Thur 9th ~ Spirit of the Coorong
Sun 19th ~ Tyre Repair
Mon 27th ~ General Meeting, WAFC

May 2026

Sat 9th ~ 55th Anniversary Celebration
Sat 16th - Sun 17th ~ Ascent / Descent Tng Morgan
Mon 25th ~ General Meeting & AGM, WAFC

June 2026

Fri 5th - Mon 8th ~ Bendleby Ranges
Sun 14th - Sat 20th ~ Moolooloo Cactus Cull
Mon 22nd ~ General Meeting, WAFC

July 2026

Fri 10th - Sun 12th ~ Christmas in July - Wilmington
Sat 25th - Sun 26th ~ Sand Training Peake
Mon 27th ~ General Meeting, WAFC

August 2026

Sun 2nd ~ 4WD Theory
Sat 15th - Sat 22nd ~ VHC Snow Trip
Mon 24th ~ General Meeting, WAFC
Mon 24th - Mon 31st ~ Gum Creek Cactus Cull

September 2026

Sat 5th - Sun 6th ~ Sand Training Peake

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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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.

How to Claim your Trip Leader Incentive and other Trip Expenses

- Go to the website: tlccsa.asn.au Log in via the Members Login (top right hand corner), which will take you to the "Members Zone." Click on the "Member Downloads" then click on Expenditure Claim Form.
- Fill out the eform for your Trip, include all receipts and forward the completed form to the Treasurer for reimbursement.
- Make sure you include your Bank account details accurately.
- Then, Hassle Pin for your bottle of wine.

events calendar

Register now via
trybooking.com

1. Victorian High Country Camping Treck - Erica to Porepunkah

Date: Sat 7 Feb - Sat 14 Feb 2026

Leader: Craig Marchant

Convoy: 5 vehicles (5 booked)

Rating: Moderate - Difficult

Comment – Scenic tour of the Vic high country. Spend 5 days off grid, camping alongside rivers and enjoying the stunning scenery of the V.H.C. Traverse the many valleys and mountain tops, with lots of river crossings and exciting ascends and descends.

Meet at Erica. Cross country via Burgoyne Track and Avon Wilderness area, then to Pinnacles, Dargo, Talbotville, Mayford and ending in Porepunkah.views.

Vehicles must have one or more traction control lockers or winch. Must have A/T's with min 50% tread. Recovery gear including 4 x traction boards if no winch and tyre repair kit.

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

--- # ---

2. Summer Brunch

Date: Sunday 15 February, 2026.

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.

Comment: 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 am 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/DHIWA>

--- # ---

3. Clean Up Australia Coorong NP & beaches

Date: Fri 27 Feb - Mon 2 March 2026

Leader: 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 accomodation 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 (27th) 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/DIBES>

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4. Tolderol Game Reserve - Clean up old tree guards

Date: Sun 15 March 2026 - 9:00 am to 3:00pm

Leader: Michael Polacek

Rating: Easy - Sandy tracks grass and lightly wooded

Convoy: Unlimited (11 booked)

Detail: Meet at Park entry at 9 am. Tree guard rubbish to be collected. BBQ sausage sizzle provided by Club to supplement lunch. On site toilet facilities. Children welcome. A great opportunity to view and photograph the birdlife in this amazing sanctuary

Equipment: Rubbish Bags, gloves, pick up sticks, first aid kit, UV protection and hat. Potential for snakes so rubber boots and long trousers recommended

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

--- # ---

5. The 60Four Band Tribute

Date: Sat 21 March 2026 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM

Location: Norwood Concert Hall, The Parade, Norwood SA (16 booked)

Detail: Something very different for a Social Event. This event is part of the Fringe so we will need to get in early to secure seats. The 60 Four band is an Adelaide based, four-piece popular tribute band that sing hits from the 1960s and 1970s. They perform music from artists such as Frankie Valli & the Four Seasons, the Beach Boys, the Beatles, Johnny O'Keefe, Elvis Presley, and The Bee Gees. The group is known for its powerhouse vocals and slick choreography. The show is an energetic Las Vegas-style production backed by a live nine-piece band. See link below for an example of their performance:

<https://the60four.com/the-show/>

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

*** NEW ***

6. Arkaroola Cactus Cull

Date: Wed 25 Mar - Thurs 2 Apr 2026

Leaders: Michael Polacek

Convoy: 25 people.

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

Comment: 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/DIYJC>

*** NEW ***

7. Goolwa Beach Run

Date: Sat 28th March 2026

Venue: Goolwa Beach

Leader: Darryl Royans / Paul Hoskins

Rating: Moderate

Convoy: 20

Comment: Meet at the Willunga Markets at the Willunga High School in the morning to browse and shop and then drive to Goolwa at 11:00am. Alternatively, meet at the Goolwa Beach car park at 11:45am. We will then drive along 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 club members. A sausage sizzle lunch will be provided on the beach.

Bring tyre gauge, pump, shovel, recovery strap and chairs. Optional - recovery boards and winch.

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

8. Burra Easter Trip

Date: Friday 3 - Mon 6 April 2026

Leader: David Burgess

Convoy: 10 vehicles (6 booked)

Rating: Easy

Comment: Visit Burra mine and local attractions on Friday then complete the Dare's Hill and World's End circuits over Saturday and Sunday

Some dirt road driving. Circuit lengths are circa 130 km each. Normal recovery gear, long handled shovel & first aid kit. Stay at Burra Caravan Park -site fees apply. The club has reserved 10 sites, please advise the park and pay your deposit when booking. (Telephone 0488 513 101)

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

*** NEW ***

9. Spirit of the Coorong

Leader: Susan Vordermaier

Date: Thur 9 April 2026

Convoy: 40 - book before March 20

Cost: \$120 per head

Detail: Explore the Coorong National Park and beyond the Murray mouth on a 3 1/2 hour cruise on the Spirit of the Coorong. Departs Goolwa at 1pm and returns at 4.30pm
Inclusions:Lunch and afternoon tea
Entertaining and informative live commentary guided boardwalk learning about cultural heritage, flora, fauna and bush food Unique wildlife viewing Learn the Pipi - Shuffle. Would love to see you there

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

— # —

10. Bendleby Ranges

Leaders: James & Lin Edwards

Date: Fri 5 - Mon 8 June 2026

Convoy: 20 vehicles (13 booked)

Rating: 200Km of various tracks ranging from Easy/Moderate to Difficult. Consisting of rough hilly terrain with steep ascents and descents giving beautiful views over surrounding areas. Must have low ratio and good clearance, and 4x4 experience with ascent/descent training.

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 \$100 for the weekend plus \$36/night per person, (\$108 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/DIBJN>

*** NEW ***

11. Moolooloo Cactus Cull

Date: Sun 14 - Sat 20 Jun 2026

Leaders: Michael Polacek

Convoy: 22 people.

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/DIZEA>

— # —

12. Vic High Country Snow Trip

Date: Sat 15 Aug - Sat 22 Aug 2026

Leader: Craig Marchant:

Rating: Difficult - Alpine forest roads and valley tracks. Moderate to steep ascents and descents on unmaintained single lane tracks. May be driving on snow covered roads

Convoy: 5 vehicles

Comment: Meet at Porepunkah on the 15th before spending up to 6 days off grid, experiencing the harsh beauty of winter in the high country. If weather permits, we will camp at altitude (>1,000m) on several occasions, possibly in snow. The trip will traverse a wide area from Bright to Dargo, Licola, Woods Point and Mansfield. If weather permits, we will navigate the back roads and tracks and you may experience driving on roads and tracks with a layer of snow on them.

There will hopefully be quite a bit of snow above 1km, which we will experience across numerous mountain tops. See full itinerary details via the TryBooking link which covers health and personal safety aspects, due to the high likelihood of experiencing sub-zero temperatures, along with vehicle and equipment requirements.and tracks.

2 X Snow Chains (legal requirement).
Minimum 2 winches in convoy of 5 vehicles. 4 X traction boards if no winch or lockers.
Recovery gear and compressor essential.

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

*** NEW ***

13 Gum Creek Cactus Cull

Date: Mon 24 – 31 August 2026

Leaders: Michael Polacek

Convoy: 24 people.

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 17 years. Join our expert team and have some fun. Some accommodation available in the shearers quarters or bring your van, camper trailer, tent, etc.

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

--- # ---

14. Adelaide 4WD and Adventure Show

Date: Wed 21 - Sun 25 Oct 2026

Venue: Royal Adelaide Showgrounds:

Organiser: Gordon Combeer

Personnel: 25 places to be filled (flexible)

Comment: An important event to make the public aware of the club; to inform them about

what the club can do for its members and explain about our various activities, inclusive of training, 4wd experiences, short and long trips away and positive environmental efforts. This is one of the main events for the recruitment of new members.

One day is allocated for setup of the stand and then Friday to Sunday are the actual event days. Packup occurs towards the end of the day and usually takes no longer than 1 hour. We encourage volunteers to arrive before or stay after the shift to see the show. Tickets will be provided and paid parking against a receipt will be paid by the club.

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 reimbursed.

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

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

That's all for now folks!

RE - REGISTER FOR BLAZE AID

Our BlazeAid assistance is to help with transporting of trailers, equipment and some caravans when it is necessary to set up a new worksite after a natural disaster, usually a fire. Registering to help is subject to your availability when the call is received.

Problems have emerged with our current trybooking software in that an inbuilt security feature deletes names after 4 years. Hence a number of the early volunteers on that list have vanished!!

The easy fix was to create a new trybooking site. If you were on the old list and want to continue, or if you are a newer club member and wish to register to help, then please add your name via

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

When BlazeAid ask for help we just do an email mail out with date, location of camp etc and if you are free that day you can opt in to assist.





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 11th Feb 2026		New Members Night	SCC			https://www.trybooking.com/DHYVJ
Sun 1st Mar 2026		Theory	SCC	\$20 per person	\$20 per person	https://www.trybooking.com/DHINY
Sat 7th Mar 2026	Sun 8th Mar 2026	Sand + Winching	Peake	\$40 per vehicle		Property access cost \$40 per car. No cost for basic training for enrolled members https://www.trybooking.com/DHINZ
Sun 19th April 2026		Tyre Repair	Ironbank	\$20 per person		Fee covers the cost of materials and refreshments https://www.trybooking.com/DHIOA
Sat 16th May 2026	Sun 17th May 2026	Ascent - Descent	Morgan	NIL	\$30 per vehicle	No cost for basic training for enrolled members. Deposit refunded on Saturday night https://www.trybooking.com/DHIOB
Sat 25th Jul 2026	Sun 26th Jul 2026	Sand + Winching	Peake	\$40 per vehicle		Property access cost \$40 per car. No cost for basic training for enrolled members. https://www.trybooking.com/DHIOC
Sun 2nd Aug 2026		Theory	SCC	\$20 per person		https://www.trybooking.com/DHIOD
Sat 5th Sep 2026	Sun 6th Sep 2026	Sand & Winching	Peake	\$40 per vehicle		Property access cost \$40 per car. No cost for basic training for enrolled members. https://www.trybooking.com/DHIOE
Sat 17th Oct 2026	Sun 18th Oct 2026	Ascent Descent	Morgan	NIL	\$30 per vehicle	No cost for basic training for enrolled members. Deposit refunded on Saturday night https://www.trybooking.com/DHIOF
Sun 25th Oct 2026		Trip Planning	TBA	\$20		https://www.trybooking.com/DHYVK
Sun 9th Nov 2026		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/DHIOH

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
 EDMUND MORRIES

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.

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OH WHAT A FEELING

SERVICE PROVIDER OF THE MONTH

West Coast Auto Electrics - Port Lincoln

On a recent trip to Eyre Peninsula hosted by Vladimir and Denise Malcik all was going welluntil it wasn't. We had just arrived in Pt. Lincoln, having packed up in Coffin Bay that morning. On hitching up the camper it was noted that the Anderson plug wasn't engaging fully and a round of tape was applied to secure it.

After pulling into the dump point on Windsor Ave for water top up and rubbish drop, to our horror, it was discovered that the plug had separated and the cable had been dragging along the bitumen for some of the journey resulting in a very mangled mess. This is not the first time it has happened I might add. So, where was the nearest auto electrician?

As luck would have it, West Coast Auto Electrics was literally just across the road. We pulled in and who should be ahead of us but Malin and Jan who were also having a repair done, and this had gathered quite a crowd. Interrupting, we asked if we could join the queue. "Sure, not a problem", was the reply and we were attended to immediately. No fuss, friendly staff, great job and good price.

In less than 30 minutes we were on our way again leaving Malin and Jan to their captive audience.

If anyone is travelling the West Coast and in need of a quality auto electrician, make a beeline for West Coast Auto Electrics 36 Windsor Ave Port Lincoln.

We can highly recommend their services.

Graeme and Helen Brettig



HOW TO SAFELY TRAVEL IN A CONVOY



These convoy procedures are largely the same with one key difference. In our radio protocol, instead of every driver acknowledging each instruction, we ask the Tail End Charlie (TEC) to repeat the Trip Leader's (TL's) message. This confirms to the TL that the entire convoy has received the instruction, removing the need for individual acknowledgements and keeping radio traffic clean and efficient. – Ed

Convoy travel, to me, is the ultimate getaway where you get to share an epic adventure with your mates and your respective rigs. Some of my favourite memories include chatting over the UHF, getting everyone's real-time reactions to campsites and tricky 4x4 tracks, assisting each other with recoveries, sharing advice and collaboratively creating an adventure.

If you've spent the better part of your 4x4 adventures as a solo traveller, you may be surprised to learn there are some challenges that come with convoy travel. It's not all fun, games and yarns over the radio. Here's what I've learnt along the way.

A Pre-Trip Brief

Although I love precision and order (you can thank having both parents in the military for that one!) a pre-trip brief isn't only for type A personalities. It also doesn't have to bring a corporate or formal vibe to the trip. This discussion assists everyone, allowing you to chat about the route, stops along the way, ideas for campsites, UHF channel, convoy order and where the first-aid kits and recovery gear is located. It eliminates confusion, allows collaboration and ensures everyone feels comfortable with what's coming up. Do it over beers the night before or a coffee the morning of!

The Order of Vehicles Matters

Some like to nominate a 'trip leader' and position them up the front to lead the pack, while others go that extra step and actually order their vehicles. When considering who goes at the front, you'd be looking at the most experienced wheeler, bonus points if they've also got the best navigation system and communication devices on board. The slowest or least experienced should never play tail-end Charlie, otherwise they may fall behind and/or may need some extra eyes on them in case they need help. A convoy typically benefits from having someone at the back who has reliable and easily accessible recovery gear, for obvious reasons.

Adjust your Distances Based on the Conditions

If you're in bulldust territory, it won't take long before the vehicle in front encompasses you in a sea of dust. Not only does this inhibit your view, but it's no good for your vehicle to be sucking all of that dust in. Once you hit the dirt, each vehicle in the convoy needs to increase their distance from the car ahead until clear vision is achieved.

It's also important when distance is increased that the convoy knows to mark corners. If you're coming up to a turn, stop and wait until you either have eyes on the rig behind you in your mirror or they radio you to say they're on your six. It lowers the chance of splitting up the convoy when someone takes a left instead of a right, which then leads to all sorts of delays and confusion. Trust

Make Sure Each Rig is Self-Sufficient

It's easy to think "the other vehicle has it", but I'd encourage you to ensure all vehicles in your convoy are self-sufficient. This means you're all carrying spares, everyone has a first-aid kit, plenty of food and water on board and of course, good quality recovery gear. Relying on others can be a recipe for disaster, especially if you find yourself split up or something goes wrong and you're down a rig. Being prepared means the whole convoy is safer and everyone knows there's enough to go

Plan Regular Stops

Even when you're not humming down the blacktop, fatigue can hit drivers quickly. Technical 4x4 tracks are also not situations where you can afford to have your attention drift. Make sure you're taking regular breaks from driving and even swapping drivers, if that's possible.

It's a good idea to include in your pre-trip brief that if anyone needs a moment to rest they should say so over the UHF. It may seem obvious, but chances are there's someone in your convoy who doesn't feel comfortable to speak up, out of fear of holding others up or looking like they can't handle it. Plus, who doesn't like to slow the trip down a touch to enjoy the adventure more? It's a win-win

UHF Etiquette

When communicating over UHF, anyone has the chance to chime in at any moment whether to ask a question or simply just yarn. However, when your trip leader calls out a hazard on the road such as "pothole ahead", it's important to reply "copy that, pothole ahead" to acknowledge you heard the message and to reiterate it.

To avoid talking over each other, I find it helpful to respond in order of vehicles. For example, if I'm sitting third in the convoy, I'll allow the second rig to reply before I do.

Travelling in convoy can be an epic journey shared amongst friends, but like all things there is a way to do it that **a)** makes more sense and **b)** allows things to run more smoothly. Avoid looking at these tips as a way to formalise a fun activity, but rather adding in some structure to ensure your adventure stays as safe as possible, stress-free and full of good memories.

Article reproduced courtesy of

Twin Diffs
Toyota LandCruiser Club of WA



Eating in the 50's

1. Pasta was not eaten
2. Curry was a surname
3. A takeaway was a mathematical problem
4. A pizza was something to do with a leaning tower
5. Crisps were plain; the only choice we had was whether to put the salt on or not.
6. Rice was only eaten as milk pudding
7. A Big Mac was what we wore when it was raining
8. Brown Bread was something only poor people ate.
9. Oil was for lubricating; fat was for cooking.
10. Tea was made in a teapot using tea leaves and never green.
11. Sugar enjoyed a good press in those days, and was regarded as white gold. Cubes sugar was regarded as posh.
12. Fish didn't have fingers.
13. Eating raw fish was called poverty, not sushi.
14. None of us had ever heard of yoghurt.
15. Healthy food consisted of anything edible.
16. People who didn't peel potatoes were regarded as lazy.
17. Indian restaurants were only found in India.
18. Cooking outside was called camping.
19. Seaweed was not a recognised food
20. "Kebab" was not even a word, never mind a food.
21. Prunes were medicinal.
22. Surprisingly, muesli was readily available, it was called cattle feed.
23. Water came out of a tap. If someone had suggested bottling it and charging more than petrol, they would have become a laughing stock!
24. And the things that we never ever had on our table in the 50's and 60's: elbows and phones.



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MORE DETAILS COMING



Vale - John Davis

Members are advised of the recent passing of John Davis; a Whyalla based member. John has been active in trips in recent times and will be known to a number of members. We extend our condolences to Karin.

RIP John



POEPPEL'S CORNER POST

The wooden post used to mark the point where the boundaries of South Australia the Northern Territory and Queensland meet.

History

Surveyor Augustus Poeppel worked for the South Australian Government as a surveyor from 1879. He placed this post where South Australia met the Northern Territory and Queensland borders in 1880. This became known as Poeppel's Corner. Unfortunately, his calculations, on the 26th parallel of latitude from the 141st to 138th meridian, were later found to be incorrect, due to an inaccuracy of one inch in the chain he had used. In 1883, he rechainned the line and reported this to the Surveyor General. Poeppel's Corner Post was relocated after the second survey.

The original Poeppel's pole was discovered by Reg Spriggs on Sept 9th 1962. It was three quarters buried in sand and insect ravaged. Reg Spriggs replaced the post with a 60mm x 50mm guyed galvanised pole with a yellow trig mounted on top. The original post was carried to Birdsville and later to Adelaide. The post was restored by Darby Van Sanden, who deloused the post, cleaned it and soaked it in epoxy resin.

On behalf of Geosurveys of Australia Ltd and Beach Petroleum, Reg presented the post to the Surveyor General who then presented it to the Art Gallery of SA and later it was transferred to the Historical Relics Collection.

Significance

Poeppel's Corner Post marks, quite literally, the formation of state and territorial borders in late nineteenth-century Australia. Suggestions for the division of the states and territories of Australia have varied widely throughout the history of colonisation and settlement, first reflecting the extent of exploration and surveying in charting the continent, and then political and economic change. Poeppel's Corner Post represents a wider history of surveying in Australia, and the inaccuracy of the initial site of the corner is revelatory of the changes in the accuracy of scientific equipment used in surveying.

Detailed Description

Dark wooden post, roughly triangular in shape. Very defined grain. Hollowed through the centre- top half cut into three straight sides, round wide belt left on two sides at centre and cut into triangle below this. Round holes through lower section at two points. Large crack with broken out section on Northern Territory side. Smaller crack on South Australia side. Chunk out of the top on Queensland side. Small rectangular wooden plate fixed to top of the South Australian side. White print reads, 'POEPPEL'S CORNER POST. A Corner Post erected in 1880 to mark the junction of South Australia, the Northern Territory and Queensland. Gift of the Surveyor-General, 1963'. Each side has the name of a state or territory cut into it. The capital letters run vertically down the post. On the South Australia side there are additional entries written horizontally beneath the arrow – 'LAT 26/ LON 138'.

Another interesting fact is that the first ever motorised crossing of the Simpson Desert was carried out by Reg Spriggs in 1962 with his wife Griselda and his two children, Margaret and Douglas. His company Geosurveys of Australia was carrying out geological, geographical and environmental studies.

Two years later Reg and his family in a single Toyota 4WD made the first ever south to north crossing of the Simpson Desert via Poonarunna to Plenty River and Jervois Station.





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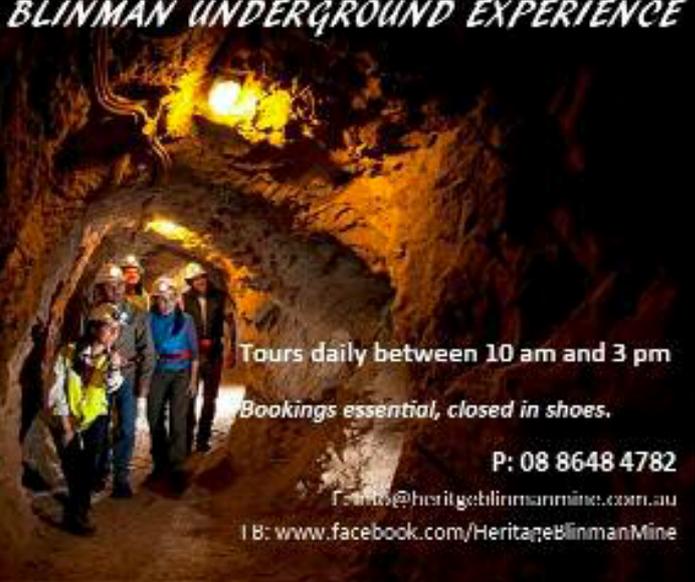
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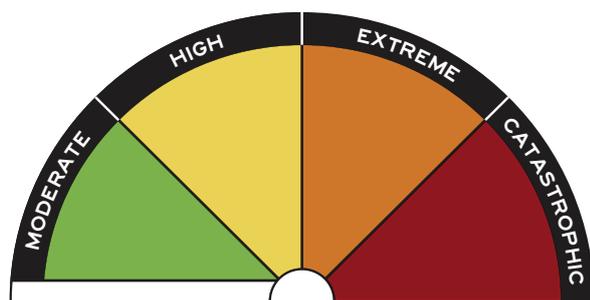
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What you need to know about the new Australian Fire Danger Rating System (AFDRS)

Live from 1 September 2022



MODERATE

Plan and prepare

HIGH

Be ready to act

EXTREME

Take action now to protect life and property

CATASTROPHIC

For your survival, leave bushfire risk areas

1

SIMPLIFIED AND ACTION-ORIENTED

Fire danger ratings describe the potential level of danger should a bushfire start. Redesigned to be simplified and action-oriented, the information provided can help you take action to protect yourselves and others from potentially dangerous effects of bushfires.

3

'NO RATING' INTRODUCED

'No rating' is also introduced for days where no proactive action is required by the community. You will still need to be bushfire ready and follow local seasonal laws and regulations, but there is less risk of a fire that starts spreading in a dangerous or life-threatening way.

2

FOUR AFDRS LEVELS

Moderate - Plan and prepare

High - Be ready to act

Extreme - Take action now to protect life and property

Catastrophic - For your survival, leave bushfire risk areas

4

IMPLEMENTED CONSISTENTLY ACROSS AUSTRALIA

Wherever you are across the country, you will be able to understand the threat posed on any given day and make appropriate decisions to keep you and your family safe.

For more information visit cfs.sa.gov.au/ratings



TLCCSA Restores McAlpine's Hut at Willow Springs

At the January General Meeting a video produced by Robyn and Peter Trezise was played showing the restoration of McAlpine Hut at Willow Springs in the Flinders Ranges.

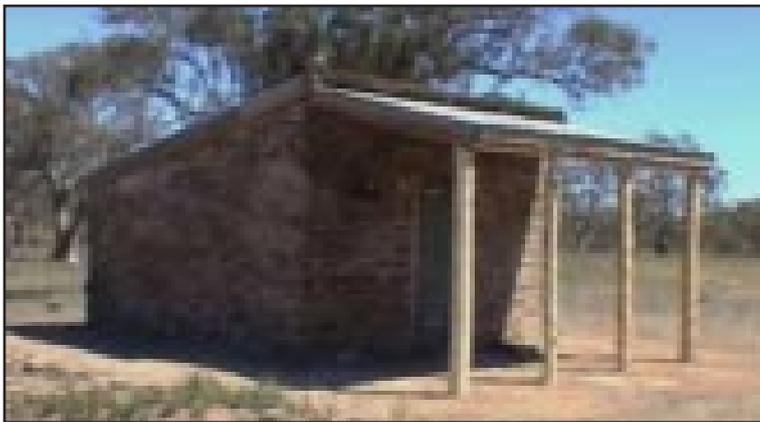
In 2013 a group of TLCCSA volunteers loaded up equipment and travelled to McAlpine Hut, which is located adjacent to the Mawson trail in the Flinders Ranges, to assist the landholders Brendan and Carmel Reynolds with restoring the "Remittance Man's" Hut. When Ray Gedritis removed soil from the hut's floor, old newspapers from 1931 were discovered lining the slate floor.



There were lots of familiar faces on show. Workers on the trip included Vince & Helen

Monterola, Peter & Robyn Trezise, TC & Terrie Coleman, Joe & Meredith Kennedy, John & Dianna Revitt, Jeff (Dec'd) & Lynne Trezise, Ray Gedritis, Ron & Ruth Hewitson and Jim Philp.

The group set up camp at the Shearer's Quarters. Soon the team was underway repointing stone work and fitting a new native pine doorframe until heavy rain, which saw significant flow to Wilpena Creek, forced a stop to work. Alternative duties during the wet spell included jobs in the workshop, installing farm relics in the camp kitchen and cups of tea at the shearers' quarters. The video showed it wasn't all hard work, with fun to be had trying to erect the toilet shelter and to start the generator, along with the traditional happy hour at the end of day's work and a delicious looking shared meal with the Reynolds family.



When work recommenced, the lime that had leached from the mortar during the rain needed to be removed from the hut walls. After a wet week's work, the volunteers returned home. The work continued at a later date with some warmer weather, when the volunteers travelled back to Willow Springs. This time the group camped right at the hut, working on the chimney, roof and replacing slates from the floor. After two weeks, the group of hard-working volunteers could be rightly proud of the restored hut.

Simon thanked Robyn and presented her with a token of appreciation and offered the services of the TLCCSA construction company, aka "The Dodgy Brothers and Sisters" to anyone looking to complete home renovations.

The video was a fascinating piece of TLCCSA history that many newer members of the club would have been unaware of.

Written by Pam McDonald

International Toyota theft syndicate busted

Some \$9 million worth of Toyota LandCruiser, Prado and RAV4 was stolen from Brisbane late last year

The News

An international car theft syndicate targeting Toyota LandCruisers, RAV4s and Prados has been busted in Brisbane and a group of foreign nationals charged with more than 300 offences. Some 60 vehicles were stolen from the Brisbane area between October 20 and December 1, many of which are thought to have been shipped to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and sold.

The Key Details

- Dozens of Toyota LandCruisers, RAV4s and Prados stolen from Brisbane late last year
- Many vehicles haven't been recovered – shipped to UAE and sold for profit
- Group of seven foreign nationals charged with more than 300 offences
- Toyota's developing new security measures for new and existing vehicles

The Finer Details

Stolen quietly and efficiently – by drilling into the side of the vehicles, accessing the wiring and programming in a new key – at all hours of the day, the vehicles were loaded into containers in Brisbane and even Melbourne, hidden behind “a facade of disassembled vehicle parts” and shipped to the UAE.

According to Queensland Police, 15 of the most recently stolen vehicles were recovered before they could leave the country, however the other 45 are missing in action.



“This was an extremely complex operation with a disciplined international syndicate allegedly targeting vehicles for personal gain,” Major and Organised Crime Squad Brisbane detective acting inspector Russell Joyce said.

Car thefts around the country have been on the rise for years now, with the LandCruiser being of particular interest to amateur and professional thieves alike, so much so it was the most commonly stolen vehicle in Queensland in 2024.



“The Queensland Police Service is sending a strong message that offences of this nature will not be tolerated, and police will be relentless in their pursuit of any alleged offender,” Joyce said.

The Road Ahead

The sting was a multi-department and agency operation involving the Major and Organised Crime Squad, Brisbane criminal investigation branches, the Brisbane Public Safety Response Team, Brisbane Dog Squad, POLAIR, Brisbane Intel, Australian Federal Police, Australian Border Force and the

Victorian Police Vehicle Crime Squad, with the investigation still ongoing.

Toyota Australia has been working with the ensemble along the way and previously announced a series of security updates for the LandCruiser 300 Series, Prado 250 Series and new-generation HiLux at a factory level.

Today Toyota Australia announced the development of security-focused genuine accessories, such as an additional immobiliser, that can be retrofitted to existing vehicles.

In the age of extended lead times for popular models, the brand is working on a new prioritisation system that'll bump car theft victims up the wait list “to help ensure” they “receive replacement vehicles as quickly as possible” – via the relevant and appropriate insurance channels.



Article by CarSales



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Sizes: Mens: S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL.
Ladies: 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18



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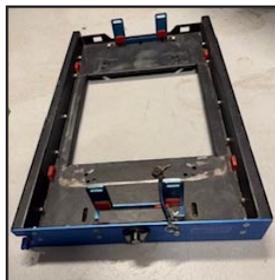
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These distinctive construction features combine to create stability in belt length, minimising stretch and reducing the load on other drive components, ultimately offering improved performance and lifespan.

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Visit terraintamer.com for more information.



Show & Tell

At the January general meeting, Larry Coaker spoke about a gizmo "The Volt Dropper" that converts 18V battery power from a cordless tool to 12v power supply to be used for a variety of accessories whilst camping. He stated that he had used this device to attach to his 18 volt drill battery to power his Waeco fridge, lasting up to 12 hours. Larry said that this simple device negates the need to have a heavy portable power pack in the car. Some members appeared interested and Larry has suggested this be advertised in our newsletter.

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1. Instructions for those paying MEMBERSHIP or TRAINING FEES by direct crediting (excluding credit cards)

- Please ensure when inputting your deposit transfer that your surname plus initials are included in the detail / reference field.
- Once receipt number is issued for the deposit please email this receipt to the TLCCSA Treasurer, treasurer@tlccsa.com (** New **)

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Account Name Toyota Landcruiser Club of Australia (SA) Inc
BSB 325 - 185 Account number 0403 8506

2. Instructions for those paying MEMBERSHIP on the TLCCSA Website by credit card or Paypal

- Go to the Club Web page www.tlccsa.asn.au and effect your membership renewal. Click on the member's login at the very top that will then take you to the "Members Zone".
- Click on membership renewal and fill in your credit card details and submit. An email confirmation will be sent to your email address.

3. Instructions for those paying for TLCCSA SOCIAL CLUB ACTIVITIES by direct crediting (excluding credit cards)

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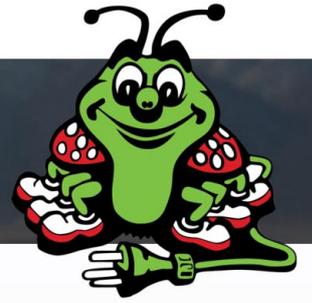
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