



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

ABN 61 772 482 212

March 2026

Next General Meetings:

Monday  
23rd March, 2026

Monday  
27th April 2026

# LandCruising Australia Wide

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## Reports -

Canning Stock Route - 40 Year  
Reunion  
Beachport Trip  
Victorian High Country

## Features

Service Provider of Month



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# Cornes Toyota

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The Secretary,  
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Kent Town SA 5071

Email:  
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# from your President

Hello Members

Special thanks this month to Ray Gedritis for organising the Cleanup Australia weekend on the Coorong, Jeff Thompson as convoy leader over the sand dunes which didn't happen due to the imminent severe weather and Sue Thompson for catering.

Thanks to Edmund Morries, Jason Sabeeney and Murray McClay for running the driver training theory day. To Murray McClay, Jason Sabeeney and Geoff Green for organising the sand driving training weekend at Peake along with Andrew McDonald and Darryl Marden doing their driver trainer training. Thanks to Pam Humeniuk for coordinating Let's Do Lunch at the Coopers Brewery.

Come along and join with friends, past and present, to celebrate 55 years of TLCCSA with an entertaining dinner and more at the Highway Hotel on Saturday, 9 May. Details are in the newsletter.

Next time you are looking at purchasing a new Toyota, even if you haven't visited Cornes Toyota, our Club sponsor yet, then please give them a courtesy visit. Let them know you are a Toyota LandCruiser Club member and allow them to provide you with a competitive price. You may be pleasantly surprised by their offer and the Club also receives a spotter's fee. If you've recently had your vehicle serviced at Cornes Toyota and had either a great experience or something that didn't quite meet expectations, please discuss this with Gordon Combeer, our Publicity Officer. Daniel Munday, Dealer Principal at Cornes Toyota, is keen to receive feedback as he strongly believes in continuous improvement in service and work quality.

The Club's annual general meeting (AGM) is in May and a new committee for 2026/27 will be elected. Please consider a committee position, talk to current committee members, complete a nomination form which is to be given to the Secretary, Helen Brettig at any general meeting or prior to the AGM.

*Simon*

**Simon Critchley**  
TLCCSA President

## Annual General Meeting & Dinner - Monday 25th May

**Consider nominating for a position on the Committee or Sub Committee Now!!**

A dinner is to be held at the West Adelaide Football Clubrooms prior to the General Meeting and Annual General Meeting, commencing a 5:30 pm. Dinner is optional. A modified menu will be available to allow prompt service. Meeting starts at 7:30pm

See Page 7 for booking details



The **23rd March 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/DHIWK>



### Front Cover Photo:

Victorian High County by Craig Marchant

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### Next General Meeting:

23rd March 2026, 7.30pm,  
**West Adelaide Football Club.**

### Trip Reports:

Daniel Martucci - Beachport

### Guest Speaker:

Anthony Chan - Managing Director  
Electric Bug

### Newsletter Articles Deadline:

**Friday 3rd April 2026**

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

**[newsletter@tlccsa.asn.au](mailto: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
<b>Sub Committee Officers</b>			
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 March 2026.

- Geoff Crouch from Riverton
- Adam Carter from Burnside
- Lachlan Butterworth from Kersbrook

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

# Cornes Toyota

Driving excellence in everything we do



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



**Daniel Munday**

Dealer Principal

Contact: M 0421 139 545  
D 8179 0034

46 Belair Road  
HAWTHORN SA 5062  
phone (08) 82721488

# club yearly calendar - 2026

## 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

Wed 22nd - Fri 24th ~ Border Track for Young Ones

Sun 19th ~ Tyre Repair

Mon 27th ~ General Meeting, WAFC

## May 2026

Sat 9th ~ 55th Anniversary Celebration

Sat 16th - Sun 17th ~ Ascent / Descent Training Morgan

Tue 19th - Sun 24th ~ Ghost Mushrooms, Country Races

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

Mon 28th ~ General Meeting, WAFC

## October 2026

Sat 3rd - Mon 5th ~ Argadells

Sat 17th - Sun 18th ~ Ascent / Descent Tng Morgan

Wed 21st - Sun 25th ~ 4WD & Adventure Show

Mon 26th ~ 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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T 08 8272 1488  
cornestoyota.com.au

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## Special Offer for TLCCSA Members



## trips

### Pin Needham

Trips Officer

Telephone: 0437 420 099

Email: [trips@tlccsa.asn.au](mailto:trips@tlccsa.asn.au)



## social

### Pam Humeniuk

Social Officer

Telephone: 0418 825 137

Email: [social@tlccsa.asn.au](mailto: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](http://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](http://trybooking.com)

### 1. 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 (16 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>

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### 2. The 60Four Tribute Band

**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>

--- # ---

### 3. Arkaroola Cactus Cull

**Date:** Wed 25 Mar - Thurs 2 Apr 2026

**Leaders:** Michael Polacek

**Convoy:** 25 people. (8 booked)

**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>

--- # ---

### 4. Goolwa Beach Run

**Date:** Sat 28 March 2026

**Venue:** Goolwa Beach

**Leader:** Darryl Royans / Paul Hoskins

**Rating:** Moderate

**Convoy:** 20 (8 booked)

**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>

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### 5. Burra Easter Trip

**Date:** Friday 3 - Mon 6 April 2026

**Leader:** David Burgess

**Convoy:** 10 vehicles (14 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>

## 6. Spirit of the Coorong

**Leader:** Susan Vordermaier

**Date:** Thur 9 April 2026

**Convoy:** 40 - book before March 20  
(11 booked)

**Cost:** \$120 per head

**Detail:** Explore the Coorong National Park and beyond the Murray mouth on a 31/2 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>

\*\*\*NEW\*\*\*

## 7. Border track for the young ones (intended for Primary school age kids)

**Leaders:** Darryl Royans and Daniel Martucci

**Date:** Wed 22-Fri 24 April (school holidays)

**Convoy:** 6 vehicles

**Rating:** Moderate - sandy tracks, some low range may be required with clay sections that may be difficult if its wet.

**Detail:** Start Pine Hut Soak Ngarkat Wednesday 22nd travel south to Red Bluff campground (Vic) Thursday 23rd and exit Friday early afternoon before return to Adelaide.

Equipment - pump, tyre gauge, shovel, recovery strap, optional extras - recovery boards winch etc.

National Park entry for Ngarkat required and camping permit for Pine Hut Soak. Red Bluff campground is in Vic so no fees apply.

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

\*\*\*NEW\*\*\*

## 8. Ghost Mushrooms, Country Races & More

**Date:** Tue 19 - Sun 24 May 2026

**Leaders:** Pam & Vlad Humeniuk

**Convoy:** 8 cars – but if overbooked we will split into two and accommodate all who wish to attend.

**Detail:** This tour will hopefully see the Ghost Mushrooms outside of Mt. Gambier. There is no guarantee as we are early in the season. Trip will include the Naracoorte caves, Bool Lagoon, Cockatoo Lake, wineries, food, and hopefully a country race meeting. Actual itinerary will be finalised in consultation with those attending. If booked out we will split the trip into two. All venues have cabins if that is your preference. You will do your own bookings with the caravan parks. A list will be provided with dates etc.

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

\*\*\*NEW\*\*\*

## 9. General Meeting & AGM & Dinner

**Date:** Monday 25 May 2026

**Venue:** West Adelaide Football Club

**Detail:** A dinner is to be held at the West Adelaide Football Club prior to the general meeting and AGM, commencing a 5:30 pm. Dinner is optional. A modified menu will be available to allow prompt service. Meeting starts at 7:30pm

Bookings must be made on trybookings

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

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## 10. Bendleby Ranges

**Leaders:** James & Lin Edwards

**Date:** Fri 5 - Mon 8 June 2026

**Convoy:** 20 vehicles (23 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>

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## 11. Moolooloo Cactus Cull

**Date:** Sun 14 - Sat 20 Jun 2026

**Leaders:** Michael Polacek

**Convoy:** 22 people. (6 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/DIZEA>

\*\*\* NEW \*\*\*

## 12. Xmas in July - Wilmington

**Date:** Fri 10 - Sun 12 July 2026

**Leader:** Pam Humeniuk

**Rating:** Scenic / Easy

**Convoy:** Unlimited

**Location:** Stony Creek Bush Camp & Caravan Park Wilmington SA

Cost: TBA

Comment: Powered and non powered sites available. Ensuite rooms and bunkhouse rooms (could take up to 4 people, bunks etc.) available.

Please ring & book your own site. Say that you are part of TLCCSA booking. Ph: 0488 156 850 – 1st in best dressed

Stony Creek Bush Camp is a private bush camp located 2.5kms outside the town of Wilmington in the Southern Flinders Ranges, about 3.5 hours drive north from Adelaide.

Friday - pizza night \$15 per head. (pay on the night)

Saturday -The Big Cook Up. The Social committee organise the meat for our “Christmas dinner” and the trimmings, gravy, etc. plus sweets. You bring the veg.

Camp Cooking Competition to make your vegetables into a parcel to be cooked on the open fire. Think a swan, or a Toyota car! It's up to you. Mulled wine supplied, bring your own port if that's your fancy.

BYO every thing else. Chairs, small tables, cutlery, crockery etc.

There will be a fun Kris Kringle. Uni-sex gift, bring it along wrapped up.

Exploring opportunities on Saturday & Sunday

[Trybooking code not yet available](#)

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## 13. 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 (5 booked)

**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>

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## 14 Gum Creek Cactus Cull

**Date:** Mon 24 – 31 August 2026

**Leaders:** Michael Polacek

**Convoy:** 24 people. (3 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 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/DIZFG>

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## 15. 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.

Wednesday and Thursday are allocated for setup of the stand and then Friday to Sunday are the actual event days. Pickup occurs towards the end of Sunday 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](mailto: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.

## 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](mailto:education@tlccsa.asn.au)



**Murray McClay**  
 Assistant Education Officer  
 Telephone : 0419 031 046  
 email : [edusub@tlccsa.asn.au](mailto:edusub@tlccsa.asn.au)

FROM	TO	ACTIVITY	WHERE	FEES	DEPOSIT	INFORMATION
Wed 11th Feb 2026		New Members Night	SCC			<a href="https://www.trybooking.com/DHYVJ">https://www.trybooking.com/DHYVJ</a>
Sun 1st Mar 2026		Theory	SCC	\$20 per person	\$20 per person	<a href="https://www.trybooking.com/DHINY">https://www.trybooking.com/DHINY</a>
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 <a href="https://www.trybooking.com/DHINZ">https://www.trybooking.com/DHINZ</a>
Sun 19th April 2026		Tyre Repair	Ironbank	\$20 per person		Fee covers the cost of materials and refreshments <a href="https://www.trybooking.com/DHIOA">https://www.trybooking.com/DHIOA</a>
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 <a href="https://www.trybooking.com/DHIOB">https://www.trybooking.com/DHIOB</a>
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. <a href="https://www.trybooking.com/DHIOC">https://www.trybooking.com/DHIOC</a>
Sun 2nd Aug 2026		Theory	SCC	\$20 per person		<a href="https://www.trybooking.com/DHIOD">https://www.trybooking.com/DHIOD</a>
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. <a href="https://www.trybooking.com/DHIOE">https://www.trybooking.com/DHIOE</a>
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## 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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I don't know about other members, but I saved \$240 on car services and some extra work on the brakes recently carried out at Cornes Toyota. This was all due to the Members club discount and for Heather and I was a great result.

**Gordon Combeer**

## SERVICE PROVIDER OF THE MONTH

### ALLTRAC "Does it Again"

I'd like to nominate Alltrac 4WD as Service Provider of the Month. As an owner of an older 4WD (Prado 90 Series) that is driven pretty hard offroad, I have had several occasions where advice was needed over the phone, or a quick repair job completed. Brad Young's diagnosis and advice has always proven reliable, explaining my options and likely costs to get the job done and keep me on the tracks.

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For TLCCSA members, particularly those with older vehicles - I'm pleased to recommend Alltrac 4WD.

Written by **Andy Davis**





# CELEBRATION OF 55 YEARS OF TLCCSA

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FRIENDS OLD AND  
NEW



# CANNING STOCK ROUTE (CSR) 40 YEAR REUNION

On a sunny, pleasant afternoon in late September 2025 a few members gathered over lunch to reminisce about being a participant in the first Club trip on the CSR. This was a trip that was two years in the planning and was in an era in which the more adventurous 'urban cowboys' in the Toyota LandCruiser Club of SA had ticked off the Simpson Desert, the Great Victoria Desert, every Len Beadell track, Gove, and Cape York.



Fuel was the biggest problem, but the diesel Landcruiser 60 series loaded to the hilt made it more feasible. Also, there was the possibility that a 200 L drum of fuel could be delivered from the Capricorn Roadhouse outside of Newman to near Well 24 on the CSR. The enterprising roadhouse owner, for a very, very good price and when a full load of fuel was bought and paid for, would load his truck and travel along the Talawana Track and leave the marked drums for the CSR traveller at the designated spot near Well 24. This organisation had to be done by expensive interstate phone calls and cheques in the mail well before we left the comforts of home. A pay and pray situation.

I advertised the trip in the Club newsletter which was posted (yes mailed) out to members, and it was full by the time I got home from work. There were several criteria for those who were going to

partake of this adventure. All vehicles had to be the same make, Series 60 LCs, and diesel. I also wanted someone with mechanical knowledge of the 60 series, a medical doctor, and somebody skilled in handling compass and paper maps.

Who did I get? Glenn (air traffic control) and Judy Marsland who were co-trip leaders, Trevor Evans (mechanic) and Dr Graham West (medico), David Spackman and two mates (entertainment officers and navigators), Dr Pin (a Vet but could certainly stitch us up if needed and who would also be carrying some 'heavy' medicine) and Leslie Needham. Later that night I had a phone call from Peter Trezsie, who owned a petrol 60 Series. I had done many trips with Peter and Robyn and knew that his engineering skills would be most valuable on this arduous but exciting, challenging and dangerous trip. He assured me that he could carry enough fuel and be independent of the black smoking diesels. So how could I refuse? We would also be getting a skilled photographer (Robyn) who would record this historic trip. I said yes. It was a good call because I had not considered the logistics of decanting a 200 L drum of fuel. Peter had, and what could have been a very arduous and messy task was made relatively easy by Peter's ingenious design. (Search past TLCC Magazines). He was also a wiz with the welding equipment which we would be carrying.

We had several pre-trip meetings pouring over paper maps planning the trip and working out what spares and equipment we would and should carry between us. This was way before GPS navigators, mobile phones, email, digital cameras, and Starlink! I think we had enough to rebuild a vehicle if need be. The group between us would be carrying all the usual spares, HF radios, a spare main front leaf spring, clutch plates, and oxy equipment. The welding gear came out several times for exhaust systems but other than a few broken springs nothing serious happened. At the last meeting Dr West asked us to roll up our sleeves and we were given a Tetanus booster.

The trip started in the wild west town of Wiluna. Leave and medical appointments meant some travelled the more leisurely way and others the fast way across the sealed Nullarbor. Our first night together turned out to be a wild affair with the local constabulary patrolling the caravan park all night. There were high jinks at the end of the trip as well in Halls Creek, but I considered the funniest night the one in which we had a Kangaroo court. We surely could entertain ourselves after a hard day in the office. And there were many hard days. The normally aspirated 60 Series did not have the power and torque of the modern LCs and some of those sandhills required several attempts.

All vehicles successfully travelled the 2,000 Km and 900 sand dunes to Halls Creek with only very minor maintenance required. The fuel from Newman with our names on the drums, were at the designated site and had not be tampered with but unfortunately the petrol drum for the Trezise's had a small leak so Peter and Robyn had to be very frugal with their use of the engine to the extent that they would switch the engine off when they had crested a dune and free wheel down the other side. Peter estimated that they got into Halls Creek with 4 L of petrol in the tank!

In the planning stages we knew that several of the wells were some distance off the present vehicle track and consequently we had no expectation of seeing every Well. Then about a third of the way along the route, we met a group of young adventurers in what were essentially modified sand buggies. The lead vehicle of this group had a chair strapped to the roof so a spotter could make the call on which was the best way to go. (There she blows!) They informed us they had found every Well and bashed tracks through the Spinifex into those that were not on the main track. Hence, we would and could make the claim that we visited every Well. Indeed, we had rest days in areas where permits are no longer issued. Some Wells took several hours of 'walking' the LC in low range over humps of spinifex to get to.

Each Well was logged, a water sample taken, and its quality assessed. If suitable, and if it was camp setup time, Spacky's team would erect a makeshift shower, heat some water over the campfire and we would all have a hot shower. Never been so clean in a desert crossing before.

Those celebrating this historic trip were Leslie and Pin Needham, David Spackman, Robyn and Peter Trezise, and Graham West. Also present but who were not a trip participants were Wendy Spackman and Linda Rothenberg who was our host for the day.

The lunch started with canapé outside in the shaded garden, mains were taken in the Wine room with a slide show put together by Pin Needham and sweets were devoured in the lounge as we viewed Robyn's movie of the trip which had recently been upgraded from 8 mm to digital. Pin's slide show on PowerPoint was also a work of art. He must have spent hours converting his million 35 mm slides into digital pictures.

Sadly, not all that joined the trip and experienced the thrill of travelling along this very remote, challenging, and beautiful stock route, which is part of Australian history, are with us today. Some we knew had passed away and some we could not contact. After a toast to absent friends, we started to chat about our shared experiences on that trip and many before and many after. There were many highlights experienced on the trip and much to reminisce over. There were many smiles, chuckles, and some sad moments as we chatted like we did every night around the campfire 40 years ago. Yes, it was a mutual admiration society but some of us had travelled many thousands of kilometres with each other, served many hours on TLCC committee, and learnt from each other a lot of bush craft and much mechanical knowledge.



The day concluded with the sharing of Pin's slideshow, the promise that Robyn would share her digital copy of the movie when a few glitches had been sorted, and the undertaking by David Spackman to give Graham West's very comprehensive log to the Club for others to read. Graham had shared it with me many years before and I highly commend it to anybody who has travelled the CSR or is intending to tackle it as a really good read. Yes, the track is different today and is littered with evidence of ill-prepared and unfortunate circumstance travellers, but it is still a challenge and traverses some magnificent desert.

To those who have ticked this one off and are looking for the next adventurous challenge I suggest you should enjoy the Munja Track and then the one that I must admit my aged body will not cope with, if it ever becomes available again, is the Carson River Track

Go well and leave no trace.

**Cliff Rothenberg, Past President, Life Member**

### **NGARKAT CONSERVATION PARK INTERCLUB WORKING BEE 28th & 29th March 2026 - Volunteers Needed**

**WHAT:** Each year a group of volunteers from FWDSA affiliated clubs meet at the Ngarkat CP to undertake a number of tasks that have been developed in conjunction with the Senior Ranger, Natural Resources (SA Murray-Darling Basin, DEW) from Lameroo. These tasks assist DEWNR in maintaining, sustaining, and enhancing the Ngarkat CP for all park visitors.

This year the work to be undertaken is again generally on or near the one-way and two-way section of the Ngarkat CP Border Track and includes trail marking & clearing, fencing (repair, replacement or installation), fireplace & rubbish clean-up, track maintenance, signage, vegetation trimming and painting. DEW will be providing materials and specialist tools needed for the work and the volunteers will need to provide all the basic hand tools and labour.

**WHEN:** Weekend of 28th & 29th March 2026. Work starts at 9am on the Saturday, but you may setup camp on the afternoon or evening of the preceding Friday.

**WHERE:** Meet at the Ngarkat CP Pine Hut Soak campground (S35° 25' 24.7" E140° 52' 46.2").

Overflow, if necessary, to the nearby Nanam Well and Cox's Windmill campgrounds. Naturally, as this is an official working bee, you do not need to pay for camping nor the park entry fee.

Please use using this link to register: <https://www.trybooking.com/DJGVD>

**CONTACT:** Peter Harper - email [peter\\_harper@bigpond.com](mailto:peter_harper@bigpond.com), ph 0410 526 317

# BEACHPORT TRIP REPORT

Friday 23- Monday 26 January 2026 (Australia Day long weekend)

## Participants:

Tim Welch (Trip Leader) + daughter Hannah (4)	200 Series LandCruiser	Craig Marchant	200 Series LandCruiser
Grant & Louisa Selleck	150 Series Prado	Bob Ellis	76 Series LandCruiser
Steve & Pip Weston	200 Series LandCruiser.	Dave Hemsworth	250 Series Prado
Shane Saxby & Meaghan Wotton + daughter Imogen	GU Patrol wagon.	Geoff Green and passenger	300 Series LandCruiser
Peter and Deb Young	79 Series LandCruiser	Rob Zadow	200 Series LandCruiser
Daniel & Sophia Martucci + kids Lara (8) & George (7)	79 Series LandCruiser	Greg and Trea (Shane's tradie guests)	Isuzu DMax or Ford Ranger dual-cabs

BLISTERING days of Adelaide heat was avoided – or so we thought – as our group retreated to the more civilised southeast on Friday 23 January 2026. This was the Club's 'annual' pilgrimage to this lovely area of coast, offering what many consider to be among the top-three beach-runs in our country. Most arrived by the 6pm Happy Hour and found each other within part of Beachport's Southern Ocean Tourist Park for this little shindig. Accommodation deployed for the three nights involved ranged from at least one swag and a campertrailer to caravans and cabins.

**Saturday 24 January 8:30am:** the briefing for our two days of 4WDing to come, courtesy of new Trip Leader Tim 'O' Welch – who had courageously put his hand up for the job, for the first time, after his first trip there last year, despite also even having to fly solo with his four-year-old daughter in tow. A sterling effort to get as far as that! Tim advised that tides – always a worry on these beaches – dictated a reversal of the original plan, with us now intending to go south to Carpenter Rocks on Saturday, and north to Robe on Sunday.

By 9:45am we had been briefed, paperworked, assembled, moved, aired-down and flagged-up ready for a tight convoy photo halfway down the beach from Beachport to Southend. That was like a highway, and one of the convoy pulled out just before the navigation got harder south of Southend. In the midst of this, many UHF's overheated, but many a mid-convoy U-turn was executed with aplomb.

Unfortunately we couldn't have a peek at any of the beaches until negotiating about 20km of inland tracks south of Southend, with the temperature steadily rising. By 12:30pm it was 42 degrees, and Tim



tried a beach access track – valiantly getting onto that beach, but immediately getting bogged on it too. Things were that awful combination of 'steep plus narrow', in this case with the added spice of 'heat' plus 'a misleading set of tracks' – which Tim reflected must have actually been from motorbikes riding very parallel. To recover Tim, Daniel got close enough to mark this occasion with the first use in anger of his winch, with advice from trained-wincherman Bob. Oh well, it was time for lunch anyway, with some of the kids preferring a paddle instead of watching the action.

We were off again by 1:20pm, by which time a front appeared with overcast and even a few drops of rain, with temperature dropping to the mid-twenties. The temperature of torque converters in the 200s was another story, with Tim reporting his rig's preference for low range when

tootling around these inland tracks. Fortunately no transmissions called it a day, but some others in the convoy did, turning back for an early finish.

Another 12km south on Canunda NP's inland tracks got us to the Number Two Rocks headland by 3pm, for what ended up being smoko. 11km further south and by 5pm, things wound up at the Cape Banks Lighthouse, just north of Carpenter's Rocks, with Tim kindly issuing icecreams from the club as we then aired-up. Just north of this, Admella Beach unfortunately also had to be bypassed – this being named after the nearby 1859 wreck of the ship by that name. This was one of Australia's worst maritime disasters, where only 24 out of 113 on board survived after clinging to the wreck on a reef 1km offshore for a week. By 7pm most were back in Beachport, ahead of the 7:30pm dinner at the Beachport Hotel. This was a nice group function and included celebrating Sophia's birthday that day. The evening got chilly – a huge contrast to the day.

**Sunday 25 January 8:30am:** mini-briefing to recap on the mission to Robe, with Tim's navigation to be assisted by Daniel and his custom-made map developed from his many earlier trips in this section. Ahead of this, poor Tim was busy with the consequences of two park-wide black-outs earlier in the morning – transferring meat planned for the next day's BBQ out his cabin's fridge and into his car fridge, just in case... By 9:30am we were formed-up and threading our way through along Beachport's Scenic Drive, on the way to airing-down on the track behind the sometimes-infamous Pigeon Cove Beach – where Daniel got bogged horribly enough to still shudder about it 22 years later. The universe must have remembered though, because the nearby beach behind Three Mile Rocks – our first for the day – then claimed Geoff, apparently thanks to misleading traction aids and some disagreement between his front and rear diffs.

***continued on page 17.***



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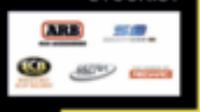
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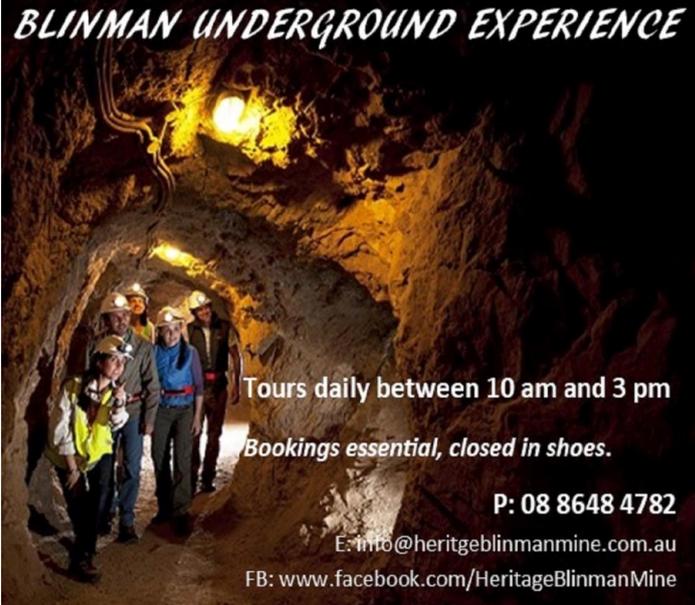
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Impromptu smoko was had by many but by about 10:45am, we were underway again, and steady progress was made without either incident or geographical embarrassment. We got to the old bowl-shaped area and hillclimb behind Five Mile Rocks' headland by 11:20am, seeing that it's now almost completely filled by mobile sand, so no challenges there any more, and the old car chassis buried in the beach just north of it was nowhere to be seen. The beach south of Euro Point was fine, and the long one north of it, in front of the Millicent Dune Buggy Club, was very "zen".

The Bluff and the four-way intersection behind it was reached before midday and caused a bit of confusion (turn left? Or hard left?), but the crowning achievement was getting the convoy through to the other side of The Cutting. This long, narrow, winding and challenging one-way headland bypass always has a potential for a train-wreck of congestion,



confusion and delays thanks to encountering oncoming convoys in it – and this time also had a sideways sand drift over part of it, producing a less-than-comfortable side slope, though it looked worse than it ended up being. But all made it through by about 12:15pm without a single hiccup; bravo team. It was actually a good time to reflect on how we had been pretty lucky with other convoys, with there just not being as many around as in previous years, even on this long weekend – presumably partly due to the dune closures about 2.5 years ago. There was some other traffic north of here, though – including two clowns racing through the surf for laughs, and for future rust...

By about 12:20pm we were past Lurline Point and on the bypass track put



in about three years ago. This cuts straight across to the main coast-parallel dirt road, thus avoiding Stinky Bay, the private shack-village of Nora Creina and, unfortunately, the lovely Nora Creina Bay – a great lunch stop in previous trips. A nearby replacement was found further up the dirt road at the Old Man Lake camping area, directly inland from Little Dip Beach. Somehow we all fitted, and somehow Tim issued more icecreams from the club.

By the time we left lunch it was getting onto 2pm, and this helped put paid to the idea of looping back a bit to try the challenging Little Dip Beach. This has three coves, with the middle one being steep, narrow and awkwardly hidden from either end – a combination that can result in a domino effect if just one vehicle gets in to trouble in that area, then others encounter it but can't get past, and themselves come a cropper. Great fun, so a sad loss. We instead pushed on from the next beach north, then Long Gully Beach, Bishops Pate headland, Domaschensch Beach, various unnamed beaches and the bigger proportion in this area of often rocky inland bypass tracks – all until getting to the northern end of Back Beach at about 3:30pm, whose exit was "interesting". It never seemed so in earlier trips, but was now steep, long and needing momentum to get past big diagonally-opposed holes at the very top – but complicated by a big oblique bump at the bottom which destroyed run-ups and pushed you offline when reversing for another go. The ominous sign of a new wreck was also at the bottom, an unfortunate SWB GQ Patrol which seemed to have been flooded. A full hour was spent getting the convoy up this exit, partly because it also got more dug-up as time went on. But great for the sake of science, with much experimentation with traction aids and tyre pressures. Rob's eventual victory over it, after overcoming many earlier issues with bulk commitment, was especially good to see.



After all that, doing the one remaining beach before Robe seemed ambitious, so an early exit was taken up Stony Rise Track. The convoy aired-up then headed back to Beachport independently, with people doing their own thing that night.

**Monday 26 January: Australia Day**, with many choosing to attend the local community BBQ and ceremony. Some people left for the return journey after that, and others stayed on for another BBQ, this time by Tim on the beach.

All in all a great trip to this very special area of our state!

**Trip Report by Daniel Martucci**

# Victorian High Country

TLCCSA Members ~ Craig Marchant (Trip Leader) Jeff and Cathie Vincent, Corey Edwards, Rob and Andy Davis, Peter and Sue Bradley.

## Day 1 – Saturday 7th Feb – Erica Caravan Park and a Pub Dinner

We all arrived within an hour of each other so with a few of the crew camping, and others enjoying the comfort of a cabin, we were setup and having beer o'clock by 4pm.

The usual pre departure admin meeting was held, reminding people on the standard radio and convoy procedures and etiquette, as well as the plans for tomorrow. It was a very warm and tropical late afternoon, so we used this as an excuse to book dinner at the Erica pub, across the road from the caravan park.

It's a great pub, very busy and full of the locals so it was a good thing we'd booked a table. Sitting outside on the patio, enjoying a drink and some nice pub food while we re-acquainted with each other, was a great way to start the trip.

## Day 2 – Sunday 8th – Thomson Dam Some Steep Tracks and a High Country Hut

We woke to a perfect Sunday morning. Still and clear and quite warm for the high country. The crew were keen to get going, so we were on the road by 9am, heading north for 35km to the Thomson Dam.

A nice drive through winding roads and thick forests and with large signs about Icey Roads and carrying chains in the winter time, it was a good reminder about how cold it gets even at lower altitudes once the seasons change.

It is quite an impressive sight when you see the size of the retaining walls and view the dam from the observation point. The Thomson Dam supplies about 60% of Melbourne's drinking water, and is part of a network of dams supplying the now 5.3 million residents.

It was then time to get the 4x4's off road so we continued a little further north before turning onto the Walhalla Road and airing down. Fultons Creek Track is one of the more popular tracks in the area, and does have a reputation for being a bit challenging. Today though it was fine, as it had been graded in the last 6 – 12 months. Still steep in sections so you had to be a bit careful, but with a smooth surface it was easy going as you descended into picturesque valleys and then up to the hill tops.

Continuing on Army Track took us to our lunch spot at Store Point Hut. A refurbished hut in great condition, it would certainly make a nice spot for an overnight camp. Particularly in the winter time, as it does have a fireplace inside the hut, with room for several swags.

It was pretty warm in the sun, so we didn't spend too long standing around chatting the afternoon away. Next up was another steep track : ) Burgoyne West Track. This takes you down to the Macalister River and in the past has been a rather challenging track. As will become the norm though, this too had been recently graded, making the descent easy going.

All except for a couple of hairpins that is. These are currently particularly tight, so you had to be careful not to cut the corner too sharp. One of the crew found out the hard way what happens if you do! Trying to reverse back up a hill when you are off camber will just have you spinning wheels. And trying to go forward results in you under steering towards the edge of a very steep and high cliff edge. Petering on the edge, calm heads were required and our TLCCSA training kicked in. Lowering tyre pressures, deploying a couple of max tracs and gently performing a correctly executed reverse hill start was enough to get the car slowly crawling backwards, and out of trouble.

A favourite spot for campers is Morning Glory hut, on the banks of the Macalister River. It is not sign posted though, so you need to know where the side track is, to take you down to it. Craig got a nice scare as he walked over to the hut while the others were driving down, almost stepping on a goanna, before it scuttled away and up the tree in front of the hut (can you see it in the photo?).



With a warm and humid after, we wasted no time jumping in the river to cool off.

There wasn't much firewood around, so Peter headed back up the track to chop up some fallen timber, while the rest of us prepped the fire area and collected up kindly. It was then time for our customary beer o'clock, which we enjoyed under the veranda, while gazing at the hills on the other side of the river.



The high country weather then did what it loves to do. Change in an instant. 1 minute it was nice and clear and swimming weather, the next it started to pour down. Amazing how quickly it can change, and we watched as torrents of water started flowing down the hillside, and flooding some of our campsites. It was almost enough to put our fire out, but the flip side was that most of our cars got a good clean, and were once again pearly white :)

As quickly as it arrived it stopped, so the boys jumped into action to rescue the fire, as we had planned to cook on it a little later on.

As late afternoon eased into early evening, the sky cleared and the temperate remained warm and balmy, so we sat around the fire, enjoying our dinner and chatting the night away.



### Day 3 – Monday 9th Feb – Mattress Drama's and more Great Countryside

We all enjoyed lying in bed, listening the morning chorus, which started around 6am. No need for an alarm clock, the Kookaburra's do a perfectly good job of telling you when it is time to get up.

A latish start was planned today so folks cooked up Bacon and Eggs and sat around, listening to the river and the sounds of the bush. It was then that the overnight dramas started to emerge. One couple thought it would be a good idea to bring along an inflatable double airbed along the size of a small Bouncing Castle! All well and good until it deflates and has you bouncing off the hard ground by midnight.

Inspecting the Bouncing Castle led us to believe it must be slowly leaking out of the inlet, as there were no visible punctures and it was a very slow leak. Unfortunately, there was nothing we could do about that. This was a real spanner in the works. Another 6 nights lying on hard ground was not an option. Luckily the route had us crossing the Licola Rd (Bitumen) mid-morning, and then continuing east, ending up not too far from Bairnsdale. This gave us the option of a safe exit and re-entry point at Huggetts Crossing campground.

Therefore, we continued on with the original itinerary. Leaving at 9:30am, the 1st potential challenge of the day was the crossing of the Macalister River. Having researched the route, the trip leader knew there were 2 boulders on the drive line that are invisible once the water has risen, and can stop a vehicle in its tracks. Not great in fast flowing and deep water, which can occur after not a lot of rain due to how narrow the crossing is. Today though it was easy, with the river level being as low as you are likely to see it, we were able to idle across.



It wasn't long until we had ascended to the helipad, where you get great views of the Licola valley and Avon Wilderness area. From here you can pick up phone reception from the Licola tower, and a quick search showed there was a BCF at Bairnsdale. After another review of the maps, it was decided it would be straight forward for Peter and Sue to continue on to Bairnsdale, get a couple of mattresses (self-inflating this time!), and then rejoin the group later that afternoon.

*continued on page 22*



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Continuing east after you cross the Licola Road, takes you onto Burgoyne East Tk. This was meant to be a bit more of a challenging track, with some decent rock steps and rough sections. But once again, it had been recently graded. Grrrr. The amount of bulldozer work that had been done to smooth out the rocky section was quite impressive. Huge amounts of rock had been moved and crushed, widening the track at the same time. Result was a nice easy climb, and still enjoyable with more great views of the high country.

It was then onto Mt Margaret Tk. This is one of the longest tracks in the high county and had also been bulldozed and widened for we assume a fire break. It is an easy track to drive, and remains at elevation for extended periods of time following ridge lines, giving you 360-degree views of the countryside.

Once we turned onto Hickey Creek Tk and continued eastwards, you started to get the sense you were getting quite remote. Now into our 2nd day, we had not seen another vehicle since leaving the Thomson Dam. This is one of the more remote and less travelled areas of the high country.



As you descend towards Ben Cruachan Creek and the Avon River, deep in the heart of the Avon Wilderness Area, the flora changes to thick forest with big ancient ferns. There are quite a few river crossings you need to contend with when traversing this area, and is definitely not a route you'd take after heavy rain. It's obvious how deep, wide and fast flowing some of the crossing can be. Luckily for us, we had Rob and Andy with us who at 6ft4', could walk the crossings without getting their nether regions too wet and cold.

It's a stunning drive through this part of the Avon Wilderness Area, you follow the valley and river for quite a few kilometres, as you continue eastwards towards Huggetts Crossing. Once

we were within a couple of kilometres of our campsite, a UHF call went out to Peter and Sue and as coincidence would have it, had us all arriving at Huggetts literally at the same time. Must have been destiny.

After stopping to collect firewood, we continued onto the campsite, did the usual setup and then went for a swim. It's quite a big campground, and with flat ground, a drop toilet and decent swimming, makes for a nice spot to stay. The evening was spent around the campfire chatting the night away, before everyone was ready for bed. Particularly Peter and Sue, who with their brand new stretcher beds, couldn't wait to test them out!

#### **Day 4 – Tuesday 10th Feb – More Great Tracks, Perfect Weather and a Great Swimming Spot**

The weather and travel gods continued to shine on us. After the customary Kookaburra wake up call at 6am, we rose to another perfect morning. Clear, calm and cool. Bacon and Eggs were the order of the morning. After cleaning up the packing away our swags and tents, we were on the road by 9am, heading south towards Huggetts Lookout. With a bit of cloud and mist blowing in, it made for quite a scenic view.



The original itinerary had us continuing eastwards towards the Pinnacles and Dargo, but with the extensive fires throughout January, this was as far east as you could get. The main roads / tracks and areas north and east of Huggetts Crossing, remained shut. Therefore, we looped back around and headed north west back towards Licola.

The southern section of Mt Margaret Tk is an enjoyable and easy drive, with more fantastic views of the countryside, as the track follows the ridge line off into the distance.

We stopped at MacMillians Lookout for lunch. An easy spot to miss as it is not sign posted. You can stop here and walk out onto a rock ledge, where you look north towards Licola and westwards, where you can glimpse the main road, and several of the tracks in the area.



**To Be Continued**

**Written by Craig Marchant**

# TLCCSA - Paying by Direct Debit or Credit Card

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- 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](mailto:treasurer@tlccsa.com) (\*\* New \*\*)

Bank Beyond Bank, Modbury  
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](http://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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Account Name Toyota Landcruiser Club of Australia (SA) Inc Social Club  
BSB 325 - 185 Account number 0403 9446



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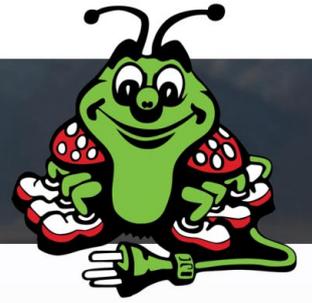
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