

# LROCC NEWSLETTER

September 2010 No.31



Land Rover Owners Club of Cairns Far North Queensland Inc.

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We have just heard the sad news that whilst Dick & Gretchen were returning to Queensland they were involved in an accident on the Lasseter Highway. Dick died almost immediately whilst Gretchen survived with only minor injuries. Our hearts go out to Gretchen and all family and friends.

## September – President’s Message

By Brian Edmonds

Rover Fanatics, Greetings to you all, well here we are at the start of a “New Year” for the Club and here a couple of fresh new faces at the top table, a big welcome to both Jorge and John. [Dad’s Army is looking younger!!!!]

Well what’s new, I see Rover have named and will launch the new “Baby” Range Rover called “The Evoque” its official launch will be at the Paris Motor Show on 30 September, Gad Sir they will be making it in 2 wheel drive as well, no doubt the Chelsea, Toorak and Double Pay inhabitants will be pleased, by the look of it Steve and I wont be able to afford one let alone get in the drivers door. [Apologies Steve]

Len has offered to run a sale/swap column in the Newsletter so there is no excuse for you to clutter up your garages with all those unused Rover parts in future, Len will be circulating details to all so that they can get their bits and pieces listed. I heard a rumour that Justin and Jeff have half a hundredweight of old mufflers to get rid of just for starters. Hmm, thinks, I have that old 3 tier Bench Tool box in my shed at Mulgrave Road.

There is also the new format for trips which I hope you will all help with, any sort of trip or social outing is what we are looking for, Trevor is co coordinating this so let him have your **suggestions**.

I have done a submission over the “Bull Bar” thing but I fear its not the last we have heard of the matter. SC Parts in the UK market a beaut belt buckle with a large Union Flag and a figure of Britannia, the wording is quite large, it says, “Rule Britannia” and in smaller wording just above is “Don’t Let Europe” most appropriate to us “old codgers”.

Happy Roving and will see you on the 8<sup>th</sup>.

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*Next General Meeting is on  
Wednesday the 8th September @  
6.30pm @ Brother’s Leagues Club,  
Andersen Street*

## Dick Plummer



*The sad news that I received from Gretchen – Trevor*

Tragically we were travelling home to Queensland on the 26<sup>th</sup> August having just been to Ayers Rock. A large tourist bus passed just too close and flipped us off the road, we rolled and Dick being the beautiful bloke he is (that’s Englishmen for you) saved me and died himself. He was so horrifically injured he died almost immediately .

Gretchen

## Upcoming Trip Proposals & Leaders

*Any views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the LROCC Committee or Members*

Trip Co-ordinator – Trevor Lowmass

*For 2010-2011 the committee has nominated trip leaders for each month and then those leaders will decide on a trip destination or event. Each leader will be paired up with another member so that a greater number of members can learn 'the ropes' and that particular route. We hope we will then in the future have a greater number of members capable of leading trips. The committee has no pre-conceived ideas of the type of trip, and it is therefore hoped that a more representative type of trip of what club members want will occur.*

*The months of December, January, February and March will generally be reserved for the more social types of trips due to possible wet weather. The list below is provisional.*

| Date                        | Place   | Grading | No. of Days | Trip Leader                      |
|-----------------------------|---|---------|-------------|----------------------------------|
| 18th & 19th September 2010  | Mt. Spurgeon and McLeod River Falls – I night camping | 2       | 2 day       | Wolfgang Rauh                    |
| October 2010                |   |         |             | Steve Reeves                     |
| November 2010               |   |         |             | Martyn Roper                     |
| December 2010               | Christmas Party                                       |         | 1 day       | Brian Edmonds                    |
| January 2011                |   |         |             | John Burgess                     |
| February 2011               | Land Rover Workshop @ CLRS                            |         | 1 day       | Jeff Bromage Glen Thompson       |
| March 2011                  |   |         |             | Ian Lomas                        |
| April 2011                  | Easter Camping Palmer River                           | 4       | 4 days      | Justin Bromage<br>Trevor Lowmass |
| May 2011                    | Mt. Mulligan  |         |             | Stuart Wilson                    |
| June 2011                   |   |         |             | Gareth Smith                     |
| 25th June to 15th July 2011 | The Simpson Desert                                    | 4       | 21 days     | Trevor Lowmass<br>Justin Bromage |
| August 2011                 | LROCC 8th Birthday Trip                               |         |             | Glwyn Thompson<br>Jeff Bromage   |

## Innot Hot Springs Trip Report



Mt.Misery - Waiting for the Sunset

Everyone on the trip made their own way up to Innot Hot Springs. Just as well, I'm in the middle of a few renovations on my camper trailer and I was running very, very late on the Saturday.

I arrived around 2.00pm with my youngest son who helped me set up camp with gusto. Len & Sheila Case (Disco 2), Bill & Suzanne Chambers (Disco 3), Gareth & Christine (Range Rover) and Jorge & Michelle and their son (Defender 110) had already set up camp or booked into a cabin. Around 4.00pm Trish turned up with another son and friend followed shortly by Laurie & Grace and daughters (Defender 90).

By 5.00pm we were heading up the Silver Valley Road on our way to Mt. Misery. Nearly misled everyone at one stage but we eventually arrived at the top just before sunset. The view in all directions is just magic and a few of us walked to the very peak and watched the sun go down. I heard someone say 'why would you want to live anywhere else'.



Mt.Misery - The Sunset by Gareth Smith

As I had lead everyone up Mt. Misery I volunteered to be tail-end Charlie on the return down to Innot in the dark. Gareth and Christine lead us down. It is a very different and sometimes challenging experience off-road at night and I confess to nearly putting my rear wheel in a ditch at one point! Scary!

By 8.00pm we were all safely back in camp and tucking into a BBQ in the camp kitchen.



Snatch Strap Recovery of Trish from the creek!



Later everyone gathered at my camper trailer and successfully sorted out the world!, all the kids were either throwing sparklers or catapulting LED lit helicopters into the night sky (thanks Laurie those things were fantastic), and as the chill of night set in everyone borrowed my warm clothing!! As I shivered in my T-shirt a bottle of wine fortunately warmed me up and we all retired to bed at.....do you honestly think I can remember?

The following morning a few of us took to the hot pools before we made our own way home. Gareth and Christine and my family diverted via the old tin dredge about half an hour away. I had to use my snatch strap to rescue Trish from the creek at one point! What a great trip, thank you everyone.

Trevor Lowmass - LROCC Trip Co-ordinator

## For Sale or Wanted

Items limited to Land Rover, Camping and Recovery/Towing Items

Len Case [lensheila@bigpond.com](mailto:lensheila@bigpond.com)  
 CGear Camping Mat - 4.3mx2.4 - Used once RRP\$208 - Price \$150.  
 Tyres- Bridgestone Duler H.L. 235/70R16 106H 683- 6+mm tread. 5 tyres plus 2<sup>nd</sup> spare with legal tread - Price \$750.

Paul Walden 4058 2024 / 0405 097 157  
 Defender 110 Tdi 1996 around K370 bullbar, roof rack, Cooper tyres with spares on bonnet and back plus long range tank. Rego to 2011. Selling "as is" in Freshwater. Price \$5000.

## Parks Outdoor Recreation Forum – Cairns – 11 August 2010

John King recently attended the Parks Outdoor Recreation Forum as the representative of our club.

John will report on the forum when he is next available to attend one of our general meetings

**Dick**, you were a gentleman, we'll miss you and your passion for 'Roger the Range Rover' and your great sense of humour.

**Gretchen**, we cannot begin to understand what it's like to lose your soul mate but let's hope you'll find time in the future to continue your association with our club.

You're very welcome to come along at any time.

## The Simpson Desert 2011

The dates are 25th June to 15th July 2011. The first 2 weeks are the Queensland June school holidays.

To date the following people have expressed an interest:-

|                  |                 |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Trevor Lowmass   | - 101 FC GS     |
| Patricia Lowmass | - Defender Td5  |
| Justin Bromage   | - Defender 130  |
| Glwyn Thompson   | - Discovery Td5 |
| Len Case         | - Discovery Td5 |
| Jorge Martins    | - Defender Td5  |

It's only 9 months away, who else is interested?

I will be back from my holidays by the first week of October and will organize a meeting for all those interested. My concern at the moment is whether I can afford to go or whether we are going for long enough, what do you think?

There is much to discuss and organize.



## BIG RED DUNE –Simpson Desert – Who's Coming?

Interested in joining the Land Rover Owners Club of Cairns FNQ – LROCC

Call either: The President – Brian Edmonds – 4041 1994 The Secretary – Ian Lomas – 4054 4662