

High Range 4wd Club of SA Inc

<http://www.hr4wdclubsa.org.au>

MARREE CATTLE DRIVE JUNE 2007

Day 1: We traveled up to Marree via the Clare Valley with the misty Flinders Ranges on our right; the Lyndhurst pub had a power black out so no counter lunch.



Flinders Ranges

After the bone jarring last 70km into Marree, we set up the campsite in the caravan park, now time for a few reflections and beers on the days drive, before a nice counter meal at the local watering hole.



Marree camp site

Day 2: No rush in the outback, we had a cooked breakfast before heading off down the Oodnadatta track for lunch and a beer at the William Creek pub, visiting Coward Springs, Lake Eyre, and Curdimurka siding, where the B & S Outback Balls were held, ah! The memories.



Curdimurka Siding

The 450km round trip for lunch was well worth it especially for those who have never traveled the outback, we passed the Cattle Drive heading to Marree which only traveled 12km that day, before setting up their camp outside Marree on their last night.



William Creek pub

Day 3: The morning was spent out with the Cattle Drive chatting with the drovers and overseas guests, the cattle were herded into the Marree racecourse after the eight races. The night was spent in the bull pit around the campfire with all the tourists and a busload of international backpackers. A wild night if only I was younger.



The mob entering Marree

Day 4: A well deserved sleep-in to recover and the cooked breakfast helped with the recovery. After the visit to the local historic cemetery (which you do in the outback) and a photo session of

the old Afghani mosque, we headed to the Marree Gymkhana. A number of barrel races, whip cracking and open races kept the crowd entertained.

Day 5: After a leisurely breakfast, we packed up the camp and headed of to Roxby Downs and across to Andamooka and the 4WD drive to Lake Torrens. After passing lake Mary (which had not been full for over 50 years) we decided to camp for the evening on the bank.



4WD on Lake Torrens

The roast meal in the Cobb Cooker was a treat as we watched the sun set over Lake Mary, situated between Roxby and Woomera it is an unknown oasis in the desert and should not be missed.



Camping on Lake Mary

Day 6: Always the saddest day after a great trip to the outback, slowly packing up the camp - looking for an excuse to stay longer. We headed to Woomera for the mandatory photos of the space rockets and collected space junk, then on to Pt. Augusta for lunch.

Arriving back in Adelaide with a few days of leave left, I decide to head off to the River Land, Duke needs a run, but that's another story.