

BORDER RUN & OFF-CENTRE RALLY

TRIP LOG

August 2004

DATE August 2004 DAY #	ROUTE SECTOR #PRINCIPAL ROAD	BLACK TOP (km)	DIRT (km)	COMMENTS
Thursday 5 Day 1	Nedlands to Hyden	343	0	Meet Lang Lefroy in Brookton. *Refuel at Hyden.
	Hyden to McDermott Rock #Hyden – Norseman Rd	7	184	:Camp at McDermott Rock on the N side of the road. 6Meet up with Mike & Isabelle Henderson, also to camp at McDermott Rock. Isabelle will have the 50 th birthday cake complements of the BMW Motorcycle Club of Western Australia. Luckily for the cake they will be in a 4x4 and not on a motorbike. 3Look out for other riders headed to the border.
Friday 6 Day 2	McDermott Rock to Norseman #Hyden – Norseman Rd	0	120	*Refuel at Norseman. ,BP Australia, Eyre Highway/Esperance Highway +61 (8) 9039 1010
	Norseman to Balladonia Hotel Motel #A1 Eyre Highway	188	0	*Refuel at Balladonia on arrival. ,Balladonia Hotel Motel +61 (8) 9039 3453 :Camp 1m to north of Balladonia Roadhouse on S side of road. If the weather is bad then head E about 10km to the corrugated iron shelter – N side of road.
Saturday 7 Day 3	Balladonia Hotel Motel to Cocklebiddy #A1 Eyre Highway	243	0	*Refuel at Cocklebiddy. ,BP Australia Cocklebiddy +61 (8) 9039 3462
	Cocklebiddy to Border Village #A1 Eyre Highway	284	0	3Turnoff to Red Rocks Point is about 50km E of Madura – at the two fridges! Red Rocks Point, on the Hampton Roe Plain and along the coast, is about 35km S of the highway. Dave Ward will be staying here on Friday night. <input type="checkbox"/> Cross WA / SA border 200m west of Border Village Roadhouse. *Refuel at Border Village Roadhouse on arrival. ≡Check into Border Village Motel. ,Border Village Motel +61 (8) 9039 3474 vBike Check. BORDER BASH and 50th birthday party!
Sunday 8 Day 4	Border Village to Nullarbor Motel #A1 Eyre Highway	145	0	<input type="checkbox"/> Bunda Cliffs! Look out for whales, pods of dolphins and salmon! *Refuel at Nullarbor Motel. Nullarbor Plain (southern extremity)
	Nullarbor Motel to Wirrulla #A1 Eyre Highway	386	0	ΨLook out for dingos in the vicinity of Nullarbor Motel. *Refuel at Ceduna.

				<p>,Highway One Roadhouse, Eyre Highway +61 (8) 8625 2208 ≡Check into the Wirrulla Hotel before the 6:00PM close – booking made. ,Wirrulla Hotel +61 (8) 8626 8019 *Lang to top up tank at Wirrulla. Ceduna to Glendambo is 394km.</p>
Monday 9 Day 5	Wirrulla to Glendambo #desert track	23	279	<p>3Look out for wombats holes – they are prolific along this stretch of track at night! Gawler Ranges. Lake Gairdner National Park. ΨKingoonya - check out the Great Danes and give the store some business! *Refuel at Glendambo on the Stuart Highway.</p>
	Glendambo to Roxby Downs #A87 Stuart Highway #B97	196	0	<p>*Refuel at Roxby Downs. ,BP Australia, Olympic Way, Roxby Downs +61 (8) 8671 0646 Head 9km N towards the mine and turn right onto the dirt - the Borefield Road. :Camp off the Borefield Road.</p>
Tuesday 10 Day 6	Roxby Downs to Marree #D97 Borefield Rd #D95 Oodnadatta Track	9	182	<p> Lake Eyre South to the N of the Oodnadatta Track. ΣThe Old Ghan Railway parallels the Oodnadatta Track.</p>
	Marree to Clayton Springs #D83 Birdsville Track	0	53	<p>:Spend night at Clayton Creek geothermal spring. μRelax in open-air hot tub!</p>
Wednesday 11 Day 7	Clayton Springs to Lyndhurst #D83 Birdsville Track #D47	0	132	<p>*Refuel at Lyndhurst. ,Lyndhurst Roadhouse, Main Road +61 (8) 8675 7782 Lang will need to carry extra fuel on next leg!</p>
	Lyndhurst to Merty Merty #D96 Strzelecki Track	0	330	<p> Strzelecki Desert. :Spend night at Strzelecki Creek near Merty Merty. If rain then head N through Moomba.</p>
Thursday 12 Day 8	Merty Merty to Cameron's Corner # via Bollard's Lagoon	0	109	<p>□SA / QLD border *Refuel at Cameron's Corner. 6Cameron's Corner Store □Corner QLD / NSW / SA border! +61 (8) 8091 3872</p>
Friday 13 Day 9	Cameron's Corner to Innamincka #Bore Track via Burke – Dullingarri oil & gas field	0	192	<p>□QLD / SA border Strzelecki Desert □SA / QLD border *Refuel at Innamincka :OFF-CENTRE RALLY SITE! A few beers to wash down the dirt...</p>
	<i>Merty Merty to Innaminka via Moomba</i> #D96 Strzelecki Track	0	155	<p><i>USE ALTERNATE ROUTE THROUGH LINDHURST & MOONTA IF TRACK IS WET – 485KM –BYPASS MERTY MERTY AND CAMERON'S CORNER.</i></p>
Saturday 14 Day 10	Day off the bike!	0	0	<p>vBike check. Relax and shoot-the-breeze!</p>
Sunday 15	Innamincka to	0	417	<p> Strzelecki Desert.</p>

Day 11	Birdsville #Cordillo Downs Road #14 Birdsville Developmental Road			<input type="checkbox"/> SA / QLD border crossing. Sturt Stony Desert. *Refuel on arrival to Birdsville. ,BP Australia, Adelaide Street, Birdsville +61 (7) 4656 3236 :Camp at the Birdsville Caravan Park. ,Birdsville Caravan Park +61 (7) 4656 3214 6Dinner at the hippie tea house / curry spot...
Monday 16 Day 12	Birdsville to Glenormiston #83 Eyre Developmental Road #83 Diamantina Developmental Road (Channel Country Byway) #12 Donohue Highway	8	499	Channel Country. <input type="checkbox"/> Tropic of Capricorn S of Boulia. *Refuel at Boulia. ,BP Australia, Herbert Street, Boulia +61 (7) 4746 3135 :Camp on the Georgina River.
Tuesday 17 Day 13	Glenormiston to Jervois #12 Donohue Highway #12 Plenty Highway	0	349	<input type="checkbox"/> QLD / NT border 2km E of Tobermorey. *Lang to refuel at Tobermorey. Atnetye (North Simpson Desert). *µRefuel and take a hot shower at Jervois. :Camp at or just E of Jervois.
Wednesday 18 Day 14	Jervois to Alice Springs #12 Plenty Highway #87 Stuart Highway	172	167	MacDonnell Ranges. *Refuel in the Alice. vBike check. vDesert Edge Motorcycles 31 North Stuart Highway, Alice Springs +61(8) 8953 7711. Fit Metzler Karoo's – sent by freight to Alice Springs. 6Meet Steve & Debbie Ashley for a coffee. NOTE: Trip distance to Alice Springs: BLACK TOP: 2,004km DIRT: 3,168km TOTAL: 5,172km
		2,004	3,168	
	Alice Springs to Glen Helen Gorge #2 Namatjira Drive	132	0	:Camp near Glen Helen Gorge? ,Glen Helen Resort +61 (8) 8956 7489
Thursday 19 Day 15	Glen Helen Gorge to King's Canyon #2 Namatjira Drive #Mereenie Loop Road	0	226	Watarrka National Park. *Refuel at King's Canyon on arrival. ,King's Canyon Resort, Watarrka National Park +61 (8) 8956 7442
	King's Canyon to Yulara #Ernest Giles Road #Luritja Road #4 Lasseter Highway	138	170	Ularu – Kata Tjuta National Park *Refuel at Yulara on arrival. vThorough bike check... <input type="checkbox"/> Sunset at Ayres Rock. :Stay at Yulara camping ground. Take on fresh supplies...
Friday 20 Day 16	Yulara to Warakurna (Giles) #Tjukururu Road #Great Central Road	71	305	Ularu – Kata Tjuta National Park. Morning around the (Ayres) rock. Check out the Olgas (Kata Tjuta). Petermann Ranges. By-pass Docker River.

				<input type="checkbox"/> NT / WA border about 8km W of Docker River. Schwerin Mural Crescent (to the N of track). *Refuel with avgas on arrival at Warakurna. ,Warakurna Roadhouse +61 (8) 8956 7344 !Visit the Giles weather station / get information on balloon release for next morning. 6Say g'day to "Ken of the desert". ≡Stay at the shearer's quarters at Warakurna.
Saturday 21	Warakurna to Warburton	0	230	!Watch balloon release at Giles – early morning. Rawlinson Ranges (to N of track). *Refuel with avgas at Warburton.
Day 17	#Great Central Road			
	Warburton to Tjukayiria Roadhouse	0	249	Great Victoria Desert. *Refuel at Tjukayiria – back to ULP. ,Tjukayiria Roadhouse +61 (8) 9037 1108 :Camp at or near Tjukayiria.
	#Great Central Road			
Sunday 20	Tjukayiria Roadhouse to Leonora	135	306	By-pass Cosmo Newberry. *Lang to refuel at Laverton. Yilgarn Shield. *Fuel at Leonora (PULP). 3Wildflowers in the desert – enjoy the scenery!
Day 18	#Great Central Road #Leonora – Laverton Road			
	Leonora to Riverina	105	48	Yilgarn Shield. *Refuel at Menzies. ∇Camp in the mulga amongst the wildflowers.
	#49 Goldfields Highway #Evanston-Menzies Road			
Monday 21	Riverina to Nedlands	368	300	*Refuel at Bullfinch or next stop (Dowering?). Drop Lang off at Toodyay. <input type="checkbox"/> Descend from the Yilgarn Shield onto the Perth Plain. Home to a hot shower!
Day 19	#various dirt tracks and minor black top roads			
			5,002	
	Total km (BLACK TOP)	2,953		
	Total km (DIRT)		4,847	
	TOTAL KM	7,800		

ROYAL FLYING DOCTOR SERVICE

NSW	8Medical & Emergency (Broken Hill)	+61 (8) 8088 1188
NT	8Alice Springs	+61 (8) 8952 1033
NT	8Yulara	+61 (8) 8956 2286
QLD	8Medical & Emergency (Charleville)	+61 (7) 4654 1443
SA	8Medical & Emergency	+61 (8) 8642 2044
WA	8Medical & Emergency	+61 (8) 9417 6364

ROAD CONDITIONS

Western Australia	1 800 013 314
South Australia	1 300 361 033
New South Wales	+61 (8) 8082 6660
Queensland	1 300 130 595
Northern Territory	1 800 246 199

Western Australia (Great Central Road)
 Laverton Shire +61 (8) 9031 1202

Laverton Police +61 (8) 9031 1000

PERMITS

Permits are required to traverse aboriginal lands. Permits can be acquired on-line (WA) and by FAX (NT).

Department of Indigenous Affairs, Western Australia:

<http://www.dia.wa.gov.au/>

Department of Indigenous Affairs: +61 (8) 9235 8000

Ngaanyatjarra Council: +61 (8) 8950 1711

Central Land Council, Northern Territory

<http://www.clc.org.au/default.asp>

CLC permits section: +61 (8) 8951 6320

MAPS

The Map Pack and CD produced by HEMA provide accurate and detailed information for the central Australian desert tracks.

Australia's Great Desert Tracks, 6-Map and Guide pack

HEMA Maps Pty Ltd

PO Box 4365

Eight Mile Plains, Queensland 4113

Phone: +61 (7) 3340 0000

www.hemamaps.com

THE BIKES

Robin Morrirt will be on an (almost) standard 2003 model twin-spark

BMW R1150 GS Adventure with the following modifications:

- windshield removed
- fog lamps removed
- rubber foot peg inserts removed
- 25mm lift on the handlebars
- friction throttle installed
- large aluminium plate fixed to the side stand foot
- breather hose from the rear hub to under the tank
- accessory electric socket (on side of gearbox) changed from 5 amp to 30 amp (with a direct connection to the battery) to accommodate the 25 amp electric air pump.
- standard Adventure pannier racks modified to take soft luggage

Lang Lefroy will be on a (slightly modified) 2000 model single-spark

BMW R1150 GS with the following modifications:

- after-market suspension
- after-market exhaust
- after-market crash bars
- after-market spotlights
- rubber foot peg inserts removed
- home-made pannier racks to take soft luggage

The most important differences between these bikes are in their fuel capacities (30 litres for the Adventure and 23 litres for the standard GS) and in their gearboxes (the Adventure has lower 1st and 6th gears). This reflects in their respective ranges – surprisingly little difference despite the fuel advantage to the Adventure.

Both bikes will run Continental Twinduro block tread tyres (front and rear) from Perth to Alice Springs. The tyres will then be changed to Michelin Karoo's (front and rear) for the trip west across the Great Central Road. The Twinduro's are a known quantity to Morrith and will cover the approximately 5,000km from Perth to Alice Springs without difficulty. The Karoo's are an unknown quantity in respect of tyre life but with a bit of luck they will at least make it back to Perth (less than 3,000km) before needing to be replaced. The Karoo's have a more aggressive tread pattern than the Twinduro's. It is anticipated that they will perform well on the dirt across the Great Victoria Desert! Morrith used the Twinduro tyres for his March 2004 trip to Yulara and back along the Great Central Road but could not procure two additional sets of Twinduro's for this trip.

Robin Morrith
August 2004