



**Proposal to Host the  
2016 World Rogaining Championships  
in Central Australia**  
by the  
**Australian Rogaining Association Inc.**







## TABLE OF CONTENTS

|     |   |    |
|-----|---|----|
| 1.  | Executive Summary .....                                     | 1  |
| 2.  | Details of Proponent.....                                   | 2  |
| 3.  | Proposed Date of the Event.....                             | 2  |
| 4.  | Event Location.....   | 3  |
| 5.  | ARA Experience in Event Management.....                     | 4  |
| 6.  | Associated and Future Events.....                           | 4  |
| 7.  | Terrain and Map Description .....                           | 4  |
| 8.  | Punching System and Event Management Software .....         | 6  |
| 9.  | Expected Climatic Conditions.....                           | 7  |
| 10. | Sun and Moon Timings.....                                   | 7  |
| 11. | Hash House.....   | 8  |
| 12. | Accommodation and Transport .....                           | 8  |
| 13. | Key Organisers .....  | 9  |
| 14. | Technical Standards .....                                   | 14 |
| 15. | Competitor Numbers and Entry Criteria .....                 | 14 |
| 16. | Government Support .....                                    | 15 |
| 17. | Other Attractions .....                                     | 15 |
| 18. | Why Australia?.....   | 16 |
|     | Appendix A - Letter of Support from the NT Government ..... | 18 |

|    |  |  |
|----|--|--|
| 61 |  |  |
| 66 |  |  |
| 67 |  |  |
| 75 |  |  |
| 76 |  |  |
| 82 |  |  |
| 45 |  |  |
| W6 |  |  |





Australian Rogaining Association Proposal  
To Conduct the  
2016 World Rogaining Championships

2016  
WRC

## 1. Executive Summary

The Australian Rogaining Association (ARA) is very pleased to submit this proposal to conduct the 2016 World Rogaining Championships (2016 WRC) on Ross River Station in the East MacDonnell Ranges of the Northern Territory of Australia on 23 and 24 July 2016.

The terrain to be used for this event is not only stunningly spectacular from a scenic perspective, it also offers an absolutely world class rogaining challenge with; intricate contour detail, complex features and fast travel with very few tracks. The map for the event will be prepared by Australia's foremost orienteering and rogaining mapping talent.



*Overview of Part of the Proposed 2016 WRC Event Area*

The ARA, through our State rogaining Associations, has a wealth of rogaine organisation experience and expertise. We have assembled a truly world class team to manage this event. The proposed key personnel have collectively participated in over 500 rogaines including over 100 Championship rogaines and collectively organised/set/vet over 50 rogaines including at least 20 Championships. More critically, the ARA has many more people of similar experience available to support these individuals.

The Hash House site and nearby Alice Springs (less than one hour away) have accommodation options to suit all tastes and budgets and has capacity to accommodate far more people than the 700+ places available in the event. The area is also very well serviced by commercial airlines and buses will be provided for participants between Alice Springs and the event site.

The Central Australia area, where the event is proposed, is a world ranked tourist destination, particularly for people keen on outdoor activities, and the proposed July date offers the ideal weather for visiting the region.



Australian Rogaining Association Proposal  
To Conduct the  
2016 World Rogaining Championships

2016  
WRC



*Classic Rock Formation on the Proposed 2016 WRC Event Area*

Finally, we have an absolute commitment from the Northern Territory Government to support the event and provide whatever assistance they can to ensure that it is successful and enjoyable for all concerned.

The ARA looks forward to being given an opportunity to showcase Central Australia and Australian rogaining terrain and organisation to the world in 2016.

## 2. Details of Proponent

The organising entity for proposed 2016 WRC in Australia is the Australian Rogaining Association Inc. (ARA). The ARA is the National Rogaining Association for Australia and was the world's first National Peak Rogaining Body having been established in 1979. Further information regarding the ARA and rogaining in Australia may be found on the ARA's website [www.rogaine.asn.au](http://www.rogaine.asn.au)

The ARA consists of eight State (Provincial) rogaining associations. Normally rogaining events in Australia are organised by these State associations. However, in the case of the proposed 2016 WRC the event will be organised by the ARA and will thus be able to draw on the resources of all the affiliated State rogaining associations. These associations have a combined membership of around 6,500 rogainers and combined cash reserves in excess of US\$500,000-. The proposed 2016 WRC will be financially underwritten by the ARA.

## 3. Proposed Date of the Event

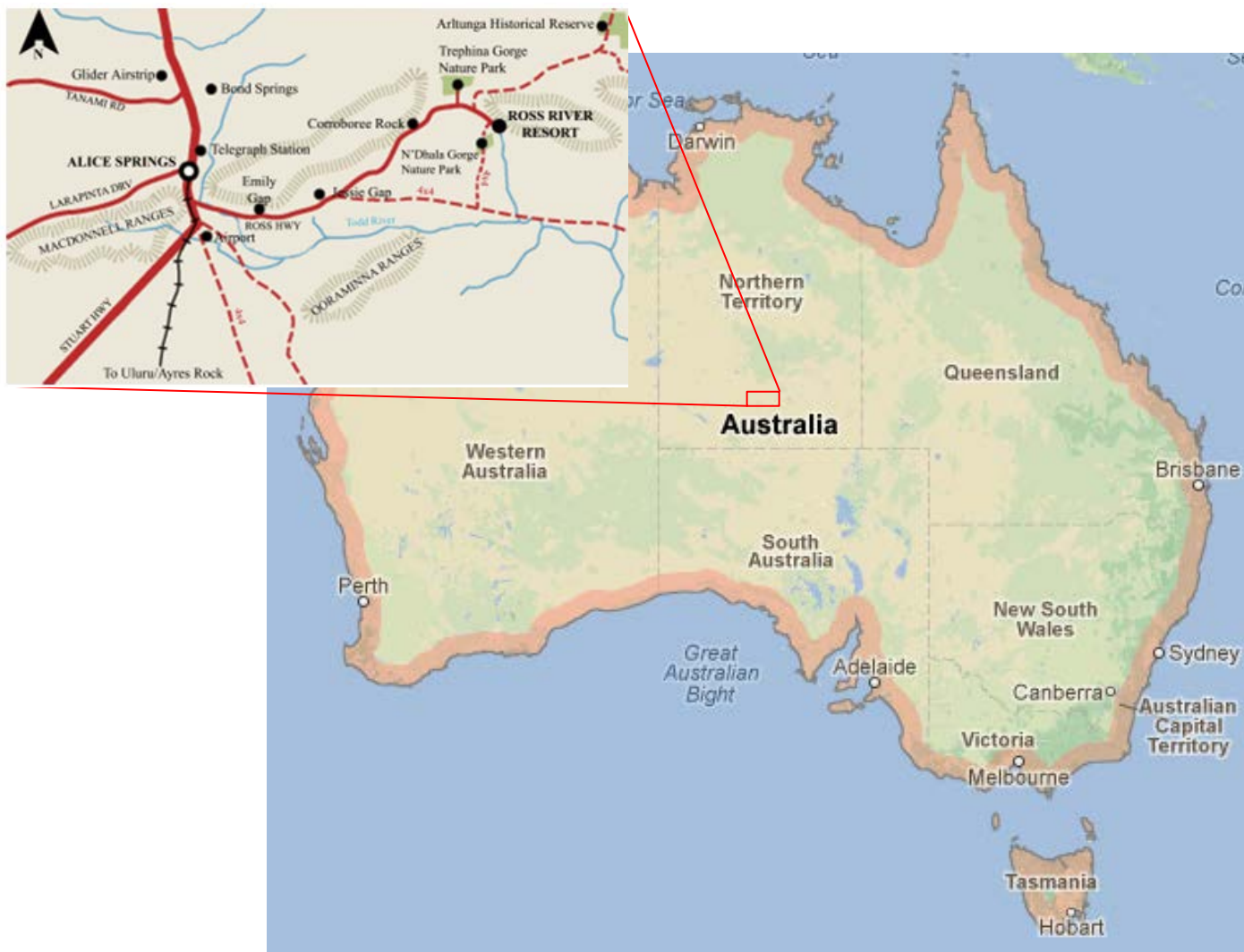
It is proposed that the event be held on **Saturday/Sunday, 23/24 July 2016**. This timing coincides with a waning gibbous three days after the full moon. It also has ideal rogaining weather at the proposed event location. The event will commence and conclude at 12 Noon local time.



#### 4. Event Location

The proposed event site is centred on the Ross River Resort ([www.rossriverresort.com.au](http://www.rossriverresort.com.au)) approximately 90km east of Alice Springs in the Northern Territory of Australia. A high quality sealed road connects the event site with Alice Springs. The normal driving time is less than one hour. Alice Springs is close to the geographical centre of Australia and is the only large town in the region, a region recognised as one of Australia's premier tourist destinations

The map below shows the general location of the event.



Map Showing Proposed 2016 WRC Event Location

The Ross River Resort, its associated cattle grazing property and neighbouring *Loves Creek Station* were used for the highly successful 2007 Australian Rogaining Championships. Part of the area used for that event is proposed to be used for the 2016 WRC. The proposed 2016 WRC will use the south-eastern portion of the 2007 ARC area and extend further to the east and south onto adjoining cattle grazing properties, *Undoolya* and *The Gardens Stations*. This terrain is considered to be absolutely ideal for rogaining. A detailed description of the terrain is set out in Section 7.



The owners of Ross River Resort, *Loves Creek*, *Undoolya* and *The Gardens* Stations are all extremely keen to see the WRC conducted on their properties as they want to opportunity to show off the stunning natural beauty of the area to the world. Ross River Resort is also currently investing several million dollars in upgrading their facilities and replacing some minor outbuildings that were destroyed by a wildfire in 2012. This work is planned for completion in 2013.

## 5. ARA Experience in Event Management

The ARA affiliated State rogaining associations collectively organise between 60 and 80 rogaining events each calendar year. These range from training days through mini-rogaines and up to 24-Hour events, of which there are up to ten Championship (24-Hour) rogaines organised in Australia annually. Events each attract between 50 and 800 competitors with average participant numbers generally 200-300.

As such the ARA has very large rogaining participant base, around 6,500 people with modest but steady growth in participant numbers, and a wealth of organisational capacity and experience in running major rogaines. The Australian Rogaining Championships have been held annually since 1979 and these are organised in turn by each of the eight State rogaining associations thus ensuring that the capability and experience in the organisation of Championship rogaines is spread right across the country.

The specific experience of the organising team nominated for this event is set out in Section 13 below.

## 6. Associated and Future Events

Given that the proposed 2016 WRC is over three years away we are not currently able to nominate specific events that will be scheduled in the period leading up to and just after this event. However, if selected to host the 2016 WRC the ARA will work with all of our affiliated State rogaining associations and the Orienteering Australia affiliated State orienteering associations to ensure that there are variety of suitable events available around the country during those periods. This will include orienteering events in the Alice Springs area during the week leading up to the 2016 WRC as was done with the 2007 ARC.

We will ensure that all potential associated events are advertised on the 2016 WRC website with the appropriate links to the event specific websites.

Beyond 2016 WRC the number of rogaining events and rogainers in Australia is likely to continue to grow at the same steady rate as we have seen over the past ten years.

## 7. Terrain and Map Description

The area is in a semi-arid region with a mean annual rainfall of 267mm. The area is characterised by; spectacular rock formations, wide sandy dry watercourse beds and intricate spur/gully systems. There are generally low levels of vegetation which provide for good visibility and fast travel. There are some areas of thicker vegetation but these are generally easily avoided. Indeed, the wildfire





Australian Rogaining Association Proposal  
To Conduct the  
2016 World Rogaining Championships

2016  
WRC

that went through the area in late 2012 has removed most of the areas of thicker vegetation and the low rainfall and poor soils of the area mean that these are unlikely to reappear ahead of the event in July 2016.

The underfoot conditions consist of a mixture of sandy and clay soils with some surface rock and again offer very fast going for competitors.



*Typical Waterhole on Proposed Event Area*

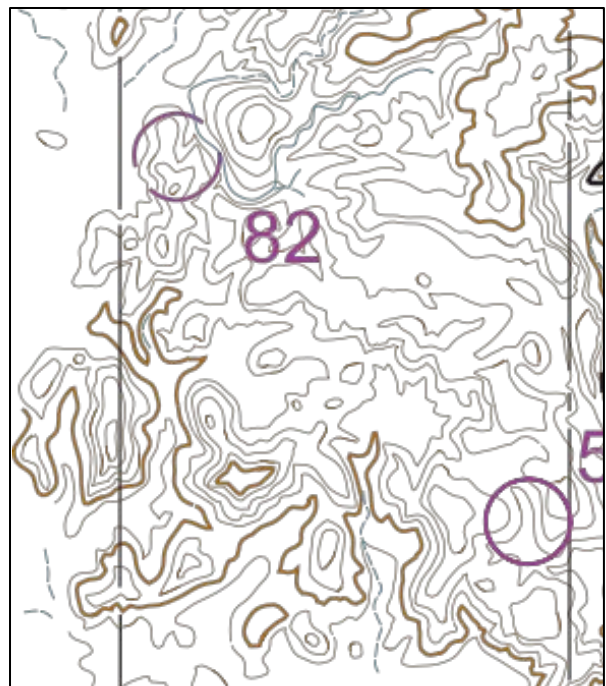
This area is absolutely ideal for rogaining. It is a very technically challenging area with complex contour detail and very few tracks. As such the terrain places a premium on the core rogaining skills of; planning, concentration, navigation and endurance. This, combined with the incredible scenic beauty of the area makes it an absolutely world class rogaining location and a “must visit” event for anyone who wishes to take on a true rogaining challenge surrounded by stunning scenery.

2007 Australian Rogaining Championships  
<http://rogaine.asn.au/images/pdf/arc2007map.pdf>

A copy of the map used for the can be found at:

The central, southern and eastern areas of this map will be reused. The competition area will also be extended considerably to the east and southeast of the area used in 2007. These areas are similar in nature to the adjoining areas of the 2007 ARC event area which were considered by the competitors in that event to be absolutely world class rogaining terrain from a perspective of; navigational challenge, runability and scenic beauty.

The new section of the map will use photogrammetry commissioned for 2016 WRC from Chris Wilmot who has provided the photogrammetry for virtually every significant orienteering map produced in Australia in the past 35 years. Cartography will be by Eric Andrews, Australia’s pre-eminent orienteering



*Typical Map Section*



mapper for the past two decades. Chris and Eric provided the photogrammetry and cartography respectively for the 2007 ARC map. An area in excess of 200 sq km will be used. The elevation of the area ranges from 500 metres at the Hash House and along the major watercourses to a little



*Typical Minor Watercourse on Proposed Area*

over 700 metres on the highest ridges.

Whilst the area contains isolated areas of steep slopes and cliff lines these can be easily avoided and the course will be set so that there is no requirement for, nor competitive advantage to be gained from, competitors traversing or crossing such areas.

In order to ensure that there is no perception of advantage to

rogainers who competed in the 2007 ARC, a copy of the map from that event, plus an extensive series of photographs of the area, will be made available on the event website. In addition a model event will be offered on the day immediately before the WRC, Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July, on a section of the 2007 ARC event area west of the proposed 2016 WRC event area.

The area also contains abundant wildlife. Participants may encounter a wide variety of fauna including: Red Kangaroos, Euros, Rock Wallabies (three different species), Marsupial Desert Hopping Mice, Dingos, Emus, Camels (feral), at least three different species of raptors (Wedgetail Eagles, Whistling Kites and Black Kites), large lizards such as Horned Dragons and Perente Goannas, Budgerigars (classic Australian colourful desert bird) and an almost endless variety of Parrots such as Sulphur-Crested Cockatoos and other birds including Desert Wrens and Butcher Birds. Poisonous snakes, often considered a concern by visitors to Australia, will not be active due to the cold overnight temperatures. However, if the day is warm and sunny, competitors may be lucky enough to spot a (totally harmless) Black Headed Python sunning itself on a rock.

## **8. Punching System and Event Management Software**

The event will use the well proven NavLight CP recording and event management system. NavLight was developed in New Zealand by well-known roganier and electronics engineer Pete Squires and was used successfully at both the 2006 and 2010 WRCs. In addition, NavLight has been used at all but one Australian Rogaining Championship since 2005 and at every New Zealand Rogaining Championship since that time.

NavLight is now used as the standard CP recording and event management system by all except one of the ARA affiliated State roganier associations. As such, there is a very large pool of both equipment and expertise within the ARA to support the use of NavLight.





One of the key bottlenecks at some recent WRCs has been the downloading of the “punching” records from finishers during the peak period in the last 30-45 minutes before the event finishing time. For the 2016 WRC the ARA will source multiple download stations and computer operators by tapping into the extensive resources of the State rogaining associations to avoid the long queues and waiting times of recent events.

Effective administrative processes beyond the CP recording and event management system are also fundamental to the success of a rogaine. Again, the ARA affiliated State rogaining associations have extensive experience in running rogaines with very large numbers of competitors and have well developed and fully proven systems and processes for managing these events smoothly. These systems, and personnel experienced in using them, will be used for this event.

## 9. Expected Climatic Conditions

July offers ideal weather conditions for rogaining at the proposed event site. The weather at that time of generally characterised by; mild, clear, sunny days and cool nights. The weather statistics for the area, based on over 100 years of recorded data, are set out in the table below:

| Temperature Data               |          | Rainfall & Cloud Data              |           |
|--------------------------------|----------|------------------------------------|-----------|
| Mean July Maximum              | 20°C     | Mean July Rainfall                 | 15mm      |
| Highest Ever July Maximum      | 32°C     | Mean No of July days >1mm rainfall | 1.8 days  |
| Mean July Days/Year Above 30°C | 0.1 days | Mean July daily hours of sunshine  | 9.1 hours |
| Mean July Minimum              | 4°C      | Mean No of Clear Days in July      | 21 days   |
| Lowest July Minimum            | -7°C     | Mean No of Cloudy Days in July     | 4.3 days  |
| Mean July Days/Year Below 2°C  | 8.6 days |                                    |           |
| Mean July Days/Year Below 0°C  | 4.3 days |                                    |           |

## 10. Sun and Moon Timings

The sun and moon times for the event are as set out below.

| Saturday 23 July 2016 |         |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Sunset                | 6:08 pm |
| End Civil Twilight    | 7:46 pm |
| Moonrise              | 9:47 pm |
| Sunday 24 July 2016   |         |
| Begin Civil Twilight  | 5:36 am |
| Sunrise               | 7:13 am |
| Moonset               | 8:55 am |



This timing provides for a classic traditional rogaine with approximately 50% of the event in the daylight and 50% in the dark giving a true test of rogaining skills.

## 11. Hash House

The Hash House site will be at the Ross River Resort campground. This campground is within a short walk of the remainder of accommodation and facilities at the resort. The Hash House site has permanent buildings sufficient to house all required event administration infrastructure and personnel as well as reticulated power and an undercover area suitable for 200 people. There are also permanent ablution facilities at the site which will be supplemented by temporary facilities to ensure that all competitors are adequately catered for in this regard.

The 2016 WRC will have exclusive use of the Ross River Resort facilities for the duration of the event and the permanent undercover area will be supplemented by temporary marquees as required to provide shelter for competitors.



*Overview of the Hash House Site for the Proposed 2016 WRC*

A key element of any rogaine is the Hash House atmosphere and catering. The ARA affiliated State rogaining associations are well used to running catering operations for major rogaines and quickly and efficiently providing the type of food that rogainers enjoy during and after an event. The experience available within the ARA for setting up and running Hash Houses will ensure all event participants are well fed and have an enjoyable Hash House experience.

## 12. Accommodation and Transport

Alice Springs is very well serviced with a major airport capable of handling Boeing 767 or equivalent aircraft and a large quantity and variety of accommodation options from camping through backpackers and budget hotels to five-star resorts.

There are currently eight scheduled passenger jet flights into Alice Springs daily plus a further three flights into Uluru (Ayres Rock) approximately 500km to the southwest and one flight each way per day between the Alice Springs and Uluru. These flights originate from most of the Australian State Capital Cities, which are also the key international entry points into Australia. This makes it very





easy for WRC competitors to reach the event area either directly from an arriving international flight or after spending some time in other areas of the country.

There are 29 air-conditioned en-suite cabins which can accommodate up to 92 people at the Resort plus a 48-bed bunkhouse (backpacker) accommodation block and camping sites, powered and unpowered, for up to 1,200 people. The Resort also has restaurant and bar facilities. In addition, with Alice Springs less than one hour's drive away and having commercial accommodation for many thousands of people, availability of suitable accommodation will not be a limiting factor for the event. All accommodation bookings for Ross River Resort will be via the event website to make the process as simple as practical for the competitors.

Bus transport will be provided for WRC competitors between Alice Springs airport and the event site as well as to and from accommodation within Alice Springs for those that choose that option. Bus transport will also be provided between Alice Springs and the Hash House on the morning of the event with return following the post-event presentations. All bus transport will be able to be booked via the event website.

### 13. Key Organisers

The ARA has assembled a superbly skilled and experienced team to fill the key organisational and technical roles for this event. Between them this team has participated in over 500 rogaines including over 100 Championship rogaines. They have also collectively organised/set/vet over 50 rogaines including over 20 Championships.

In addition, the ARA has within its membership many more individuals with at least as much experience and capability in rogaing organisation and course setting/vetting as the people listed below. This great depth of talent ensures that injury or illness to a key team member would not adversely impact the event and allows the many other roles that will be fundamental to the success of the event to be filled with highly experienced rogaing organisers.

#### **Event Director – Jon Potter**

Jon Potter has been involved with rogaing as a; competitor, administrator and event organiser/course setter since 1999 when the first ever rogaing was held in the Northern Territory. Over that time he has participated in over 50 rogaines more than half of which have been 24-hour events. He has also participated in regularly in orienteering events.

#### ***As a Competitor in Championship Rogaines***

Jon has been a competitor in over 20 Championship Rogaines including:

- One World Rogaining Championships – 2010
- Eight Australian Rogaining Championships – The first in 2004
- 12 Australian State Rogaining Championships

Whilst Jon is not often at the top end of the results list he has always been a strong and committed competitor and has had top three finishes in his age/gender category in Australian Championships.



Australian Rogaining Association Proposal  
To Conduct the  
2016 World Rogaining Championships

2016  
WRC

***As an Administrator***

Jon has been a member the committee of the Northern Territory Rogaining Association (NTRA) since it was formed in 1999. He has been NTRA President, and thus a member of the ARA Council, since 2003 and continues to hold that position.

In addition to his other responsibilities Jon has been responsible for arranging all sponsorship for NTRA events since 1999, an area in which he has been very successful.

***As an Event Organiser/Course Setter***

Jon has been the principal organiser/course setter for over 30 rogaines, including seven Championship events, since 2002. He was the event organiser and course setter for the 2007 Australian Rogaining Championships and has also organised and set many orienteering events.

There is no-one in Australia, or probably anywhere in the world, who has been the principal organiser of more rogaines in the past 12 years than Jon Potter. In addition, as a well-known and well-connected local Territorian Jon is uniquely placed to ensure strong local community and government support for the event.

**Course Setter – David Baldwin**

David Baldwin started orienteering in the 1970s and competed in his first rogaïne in 1996. Since then he has completed over 100 rogaines as a competitor or organiser/course setter including in excess of 40 24-Hour rogaines. He also has competed in numerous adventure races and trail ultra-marathons and has twice represented Australia in the World MTBO Championships.

***As a Competitor in Championship Rogaines***

David has been a competitor in over 40 Championship Rogaines including:

- Eight World Rogaining Championships – All since 1998
- 15 Australian Rogaining Championships – All since 1997
- Numerous Australian State Rogaining Championships in four different States

David has been very successful as a competitor in these events having won XO and XV in different WRCs, five ARC outright titles and numerous State titles.

***As an Administrator***

David has been a member of the Australian Capital Territory Rogaining Association (ACTRA) management committee since 1998.

He has been a member of the Australian Rogaining Association (ARA) Council since 2001 and Chair of the ARA Technical Subcommittee since 2004. He has been an IRF Councillor since the ARA joined the IRF in 2011 and was an IRF Observer for Australia prior to that. He has also been instrumental in the ongoing development and maintenance of websites for; ACTRA, ARA and IRF.

***As an Event Organiser/Course Setter***

David has been the course setter and/or event organiser for over a dozen rogaines, including three Championship events. He was the event organiser and course setter for the 2010 Australian Rogaining Championships and the ACT Championships in 2001 and 2006.





Australian Rogaining Association Proposal  
To Conduct the  
2016 World Rogaining Championships

2016  
WRC

David is one of the most technically competent and experienced rogainers in the world today and is still competing at an elite level. He would bring a wealth of experience and capability to the course setting for the event.

**Event Vetter – Richard Robinson**

Richard Robinson has been involved with navigation sports since 1987 and rogaining since 1992 as a competitor, administrator and event organiser/course setter. Over that time he has participated in 125 rogaines, including about 50 24-hour events, as either a competitor or as part of the organising team. He has also participated in dozens of Adventure Races plus many hundreds of foot orienteering and MTBO events.

***As a Competitor in Championship Rogaines***

Richard has been a competitor in 45 Championship Rogaines including:

- Nine World Rogaining Championships – All WRCs since 1996
- 15 Australian Rogaining Championships – The first in 1994
- Five New Zealand Rogaining Championships – The first in 2006
- 16 Australian State (Queensland & Northern Territory) Rogaining Championships

In these events he has enjoyed significant competitive success in outright and age/gender categories including an XV win in the 2006 WRC and 12 age/gender category wins in ARCs.

***As an Administrator***

Richard was the inaugural Vice-President of the Queensland Rogaine Association (QRA). He has also served three 2-year terms as QRA President, one 2-year term as Treasurer and has been a member of the QRA Management Committee since inception in 1994.

He has been a member of the Australian Rogaining Association (ARA) Council since 1998 serving in the following roles:

- Technical Subcommittee Chair 1998 to 2001 – During this period he oversaw the most comprehensive ever rewrite of the Rules and Technical Regulations for Rogaining including development and publication of the first ever IRF Rules and Technical Regulations
- Treasurer 2002 to 2010
- President 2008 to 2013

***As an Event Organiser/Course Setter***

Richard has been the principal organiser/course setter for ten rogaines, including two Championship events, and has been part of the organising team for a further six events. He has also course set and organised many foot orienteering and MTBO events including a number of Australian national ranking events. He was the vetter for the 2005 Australian Rogaining Championships and has vetted a number of other non-championship rogaines

Richard has over 20 years of course setting and event organisation experience together with a wealth of rogaining technical knowledge



Australian Rogaining Association Proposal  
To Conduct the  
2016 World Rogaining Championships

2016  
WRC

**Checker – Julie Quinn**

Julie Quinn came to rogaining from an endurance multisport and hiking background and competed in her first rogaine in 1998. Since then she has completed nearly 100 rogaines as a competitor or organiser/course setter including over 35 24-Hour rogaines. She also has competed in numerous adventure races and trail ultra-marathons and has twice represented Australia in the World MTBO Championships.

***As a Competitor in Championship Rogaines***

Julie has been a competitor in over 35 Championship Rogaines including:

- Six World Rogaining Championships – All since 2002
- 13 Australian Rogaining Championships – All since 2000
- Numerous Australian State Rogaining Championships in four different States

Julie has enjoyed considerable competitive success in these events having won WO (twice), XO and XV titles in different WRCs. She is one of only two women to have claimed the ARC outright title (as part of an XO team), a feat she has achieved four times. She has also claimed numerous State outright titles.

***As an Administrator***

Julie has been a member of the Australian Capital Territory Rogaining Association (ACTRA) management committee, and the ARA Council, since 2010 and President of ACTRA since 2011.

***As an Event Organiser/Course Setter***

Julie has been the assistant course setter and/or checker for around a dozen rogaines, including three Championship events. She was checker for the 2010 Australian Rogaining Championships and the ACT Championships in 2001 and 2006.

**Checker – Tamsin Barnes**

Tamsin Barnes came to rogaining from an ultra-running and hiking background and competed in her first rogaine in 2005. Since then she has completed over 30 rogaines as a competitor or checker including 14 24-Hour rogaines. She also has competed in numerous adventure races, trail ultra-marathons, foot orienteering and MTBO events.

***As a Competitor in Championship Rogaines***

Tamsin has been a competitor in 14 Championship Rogaines including:

- Three World Rogaining Championships – The first in 2006
- Five Australian Rogaining Championships – The first in 2008
- One New Zealand Rogaining Championship - 2012
- Five Queensland Rogaining Championships – The first in 2006

Tamsin has enjoyed some competitive success in these events having placed in the top three in WV in the past two WRCs. She is also won WO, WV and XV classes at the ARC and won the Queensland Championships outright as part of a mixed team.





Australian Rogaining Association Proposal  
To Conduct the  
2016 World Rogaining Championships

2016  
WRC

***As an Administrator***

Tamsin has been a member of the Queensland Rogaine Association (QRA) management committee since 2009 and served one 2-year term as Treasurer.

***As an Event Organiser/Course Setter***

Tamsin has been the checker for a number of rogaining and orienteering events over the past five years.

**Checker – Peter Tuft**

Peter Tuft has been rogaining and organising/setting rogaines since well before the sport was known by that name. He has involved in off-track hiking since 1972 and rogaining since 1973, including setting, organising and vetting events as well as competing. For a period during the 1980s and 1990s was also active in orienteering.

***As a Competitor***

Peter's first rogaine was the 1973 "Intersarsity Orienteering" at Yea in Victoria (same format as modern rogaines although the word "rogaine" was not then coined). Other intersarsity events followed. When rogaining started to move outside university circles he competed in most NSW events until family obligations interfered. Since then he has continued intermittently and he has competed in 13 Championship rogaines as well as many shorter events over the past four decades. As a competitor Peter is rarely in the front ranks, but also rarely has serious difficulty with the navigational side of the sport.

***As an Organiser and Course Setter***

Peter was a key member of the team organising the 1974 intersarsity event acting as course setter. Again in 1978 he had the lead role in organising the intersarsity at Wollombi in NSW and took the initiative of opening the event to the general public in the hope that the sport would commence to grow in NSW. Only a few non-university teams participated but the next year most of the same course was re-used in a more heavily promoted event which attracted significant involvement from hiking clubs and orienteers. Others who took up the baton of organising events in 1981 and 1983 acknowledged Wollombi in 1979 as the first "official" NSW rogaine. In 1984 much of the same team, again largely lead by Peter, organised the Australian Championships and again Peter took the principal role in course setting.

For several years from 1986 Peter was also heavily involved in the Paddy Pallin event, which introduced competitive navigation to NSW hikers from 1964. Until the mid-1980s the event was called the "Paddy Pallin Orienteering" and was organised by Paddy Pallin (hiking gear manufacturer and retailer) and his family and friends. It was originally a rogaine-style event of 3½ hours. Through the NSW Rogaining Association Peter and others supported the Pallin family in setting the course and changing the format to a 6 hour rogaine, and this event continues to be a fixture on the NSW rogaining calendar. Peter was also vetter for the Australian Rogaining Championships in 1987.



Australian Rogaining Association Proposal  
To Conduct the  
2016 World Rogaining Championships

2016  
WRC

**Checker – Robyn Tuft**

Robyn Tuft commenced rogaining in 1975 and has been involved in around 50 rogaines since as either a competitor or as part of the organising team, half of them Championship events.

***As a Competitor***

Like husband Peter, Robyn commenced rogaining in the intervarsity 24 hour championships in the 1970's and competed in seven of these events. Other Championship rogaines that Robyn has competed in include:

- Two World Rogaining Championships;
- Eight Australian Rogaining Championships and;
- Eight Australian State Rogaining Championships

She has also competed in many shorter events.

Robyn has enjoyed competitive success during her rogaining career, particularly when competing in women's teams. But like Peter, with whom she competes regularly, Robyn does not generally rogain to achieve competitive success but rather for the enjoyment of being in the bush with a map and the navigational challenge.

***As an Organiser and Course Setter***

Robyn has been involved with the organising and course setting of a number of the events organised and/or set by Peter including setting one Australian Championship and vetting another.

## **14. Technical Standards**

The event will be conducted in accordance with the IRF Rules of Rogaining and/or successor Technical Regulations prevailing as at July 2016.

## **15. Competitor Numbers and Entry Criteria**

The ARA has not yet determined the maximum number of competitor places that will be available at this event. The event area itself has the capacity to cater for significant numbers as the nature of the ground conditions are such that "elephant tracks" will not form and the complexity and intricacy of the terrain will "absorb" a large number of teams without difficulty. The key constraint will be the capability of the supporting infrastructure. The ARA will work closely with the owners of the Ross River Resort and other key local infrastructure (buses, ablutions, water tankers, marquees etc) suppliers to agree an appropriate limit. This limit will not be less than 700 individual competitors.

The IRF's generic WRC Entry Criteria will be used for the event and the ARA will work with the IRF's WRC Manager at the appropriate time to adjust these specifically for the 2016 WRC in Australia.





## 16. Government Support

The Government of the Northern Territory is extremely supportive of bringing the 2016 WRC to Australia and particularly the Territory as demonstrated by the letter contained in Appendix A. Tourism focused on outdoor activities is a principal industry of the Territory and the Government recognises the value of bringing a large number of outdoor pursuit oriented people to visit. As such the ARA knows that we can rely on the; administrative, moral and material support of the Territory Government for the conduct of the 2016 WRC at Ross River.

Jon Potter, the proposed Event Director, is a lifetime Territorian who has strong, positive personal relationships with many senior political and administrative figures in the Northern Territory Government. The Territory is a place where “things get done” and the ARA knows that if this proposal is successful the Government will support us to ensure that it is a fantastic event for everyone.

## 17. Other Attractions

Australia is well known as a popular tourism destination - refer to <http://www.australia.com/> but the Alice Springs area itself is also an absolutely world class destination for visitors, particularly those with an interest in the outdoors such as rogainers.

Details of the attractions in the area can be found at <http://www.travelnt.com/alice-springs-and-surrounds.aspx>. Some of the key ones include:

- The Larapinta Trail – A world renowned 223 km multiday walk through the stunning West MacDonnell Ranges that can be done in whole or in part
- Uluru (Ayers Rock) and Kata Tjuta (The Olgas) – Spectacular monolithic rock formations rising out of the flat desert floor
- Standley Chasm – Just one of the spectacular gorges in the West MacDonnell Ranges not far from Alice Springs
- Kings Canyon – The classic gorge of Central Australia hewn out of brick-red sandstone
- Palm Valley – An isolated remnant of prehistoric vegetation from the age of dinosaurs
- East MacDonnell Ranges, location of the proposed 2016 WRC, contains many outstanding sites very close to the proposed event site including:
  - Ruby Gorge – Extensive red garnet outcrops;
  - Trepina Gorge;
  - Hayes Rockhole;
  - N'Dhala Gorge:
  - Arltunga historic gold mining settlement and
  - Old Ambalindum Homestead which also provides accommodation

Participants could very easily spend a month just in Central Australia and not run out of fantastic things to do.



## 18. Why Australia?



*Typical Terrain at the Proposed 2016 WRC Site*

The ARA is extremely well resourced to manage a WRC and have assembled a top class team to organise this event. These people are all very keen to commit to 2016 WRC because they believe that they can deliver a; top-tier, highly enjoyable and very memorable rogaining challenge for the world's best rogainers.

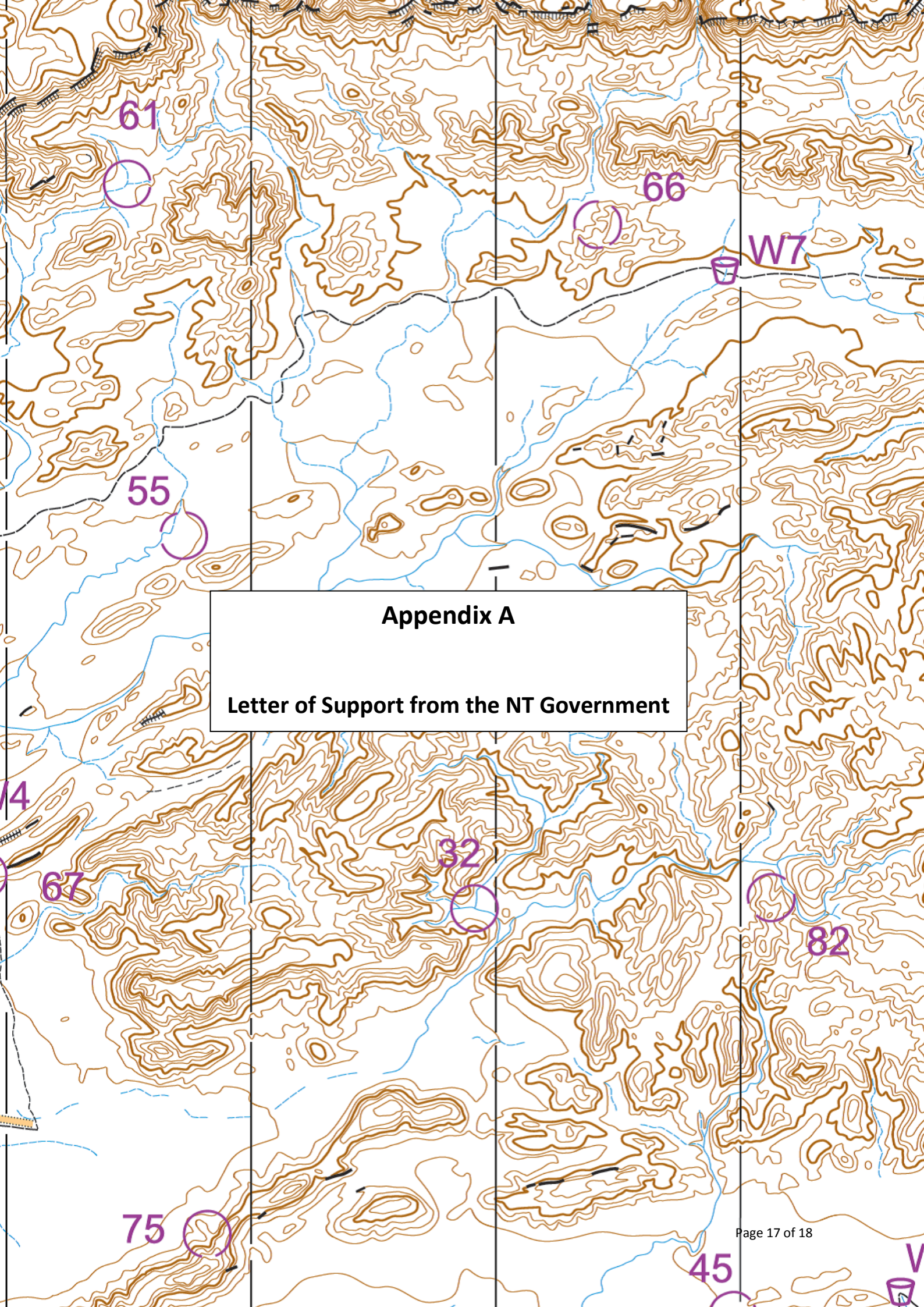
We have available an area for the event that ranks amongst the best in the world in terms of; technical challenge, scenic beauty and available facilities with a superb map prepared by world class mapping personnel.

In addition, we have proposed an area that offers a range of activities attractive to rogainers and have an incredibly supportive government backing the proposal.

By 2016 it will be ten years since the last WRC in Australia and six years since the last WRC in the Australasian region. There will have been at least two WRCs in Europe and one in North America in those six years. The Australasian region remains home to over 8,000 rogainers and it is appropriate that the WRC return to the region after this six-year absence to provide these rogainers with the same opportunities that their European and North American counterparts have enjoyed during that period as well as provide rogainers from across the world with a rogaining challenge quite different from other recent WRCs.

The ARA looks forward to welcoming the world's best rogainers to Central Australia in July 2016.





**Appendix A**  
**Letter of Support from the NT Government**





CHIEF MINISTER

Parliament House  
State Square  
Darwin NT 0800  
chief.minister@nt.gov.au

GPO Box 3146  
Darwin NT 0801  
Telephone: 08 8928 6500  
Facsimile: 08 8928 6577

The Council  
International Rogaining Federation Inc  
PO Box 2046  
Toowong DC QLD 4066

Dear IRF Councillors

**Support for Australian Rogaining Association's Bid for the 2016 World Rogaining Championships**

I am very pleased to advise that my Government strongly supports and endorses the proposal by the Australian Rogaining Association (ARA) to host the 2016 World Rogaining Championships (WRC) in the area around Ross River Station east of Alice Springs in the Northern Territory.

In the Territory we know that we have one of the world's greatest tourist destinations, particularly for people who enjoy the outdoors, and are extremely keen to have an opportunity to showcase this to the world's leading rogainers. I am also assured that the area proposed for the event is absolutely world class rogaining country offering the classic combination of technical challenge and open vegetation. It is also an area of outstanding scenic beauty.

The Northern Territory Rogaining Association hosted the very successful 2007 Australian Rogaining Championships in a similar area and I understand that this event was very well attended and highly praised by teams from all across Australasia.

The Territory and our people are very welcoming of visitors and I am confident that everyone who attends the WRC here will have a very enjoyable time in our unique environment.

Finally let me say that should the ARA's bid for the 2016 WRC be successful the Government of the Northern Territory will do everything we reasonably can to support the organisation and conduct of the event.

I commend the ARA's bid to you.

Yours sincerely

TERRY MILLS

