

## Loxton's 67th Mardi Gras Parade: Float List - 24th February 2024

Float #	Float Organisation	Float Sponsor	DESCRIPTION
1	Riverland Vintage and Classic Car Club	RVCCC	Riverland Vintage and Classic Car Club - see separate notes.
2	Loxton High School Prefects	LMG	<p>Here come the prefects of Loxton High School holding the Mardi Gras's 2024 Parade banner.</p> <p>Our Head Prefects are: Reese Westbrook and Lily Meaney, Deputy Head Prefects are: Daniel Zdanowicz and Jessica Inglis.</p> <p>Prefects will have set up for the Nippy's Gift and pack up on Sunday. They will be waiting for the RSL Dinner in April as well as a number of other functions during the year.</p> <p>We are still deciding whether our major fund raiser will be the Car Wash which has been very popular the last two years. We are blessed to have a keen and enthusiastic group of 16 prefects this year.</p>
3	<b>2024 LOXTON MARDI GRAS FLAG BEARERS JOHN &amp; JAN CASS</b>	LMG	<p>John and Jan Cass, riding in a golf cart loaned by the Loxton Golf Club, are longtime volunteers in the Loxton District and farmed at Pyap West for many years before retiring to Loxton. John's interest was in breeding prime fat lambs and he was one of the pioneers in having ewes produce 3 lambs over a 2 year period. John served on the Loxton Primary School Council and attended many working bees at both the Primary and High School.</p> <p>Jan was a teacher at both Moorook and Loxton Primary Schools, marrying John in 1963. While they were raising 3 children Jan became a Councillor in 1975. She served 28 years in local government, 12 years as Deputy Mayor and 10 years as Mayor retiring in 1997. . Jan considers her most important achievements working with Margaret Evans to get the Berri Bridge built and getting a Retirement Village and Woodleigh Child Care Centre built in Loxton. Jan was awarded both Loxton &amp; Riverland Citizen of the Year in 2014, a Centenary Medal in 2001 and an Order of Australia Medal in 2005. She has also been a Justice of the Peace since 1987. We acknowledge and thank you both for your service to our Community.</p>

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<b>4</b>	<b>2024 Loxton Citizen Of The Year GENNI LEHMANN</b>	LMG	<p>Genni is being driven by Bill Ebert in his 1939 Morris 840 Tourer. Genni has won many service awards over her generous career as a volunteer and active community member.</p> <p>Highlights of her contributions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 35 years and life member with charity Novita.</li> <li>- 35 years with the Red Cross as committee member and member.</li> <li>- 24 years servicing Loxcare.</li> <li>- Mentoring Children for 54 years through the Learning Assistance Program.</li> <li>- Active member of the Catholic Church for 66 years.</li> <li>- Brown's Well Football Club Life member.</li> <li>- Probus committee member for 22 years and still going.</li> <li>- Provided support to victims of violence through Riverland Domestic Violence Action group.</li> </ul> <p>Genni continues to volunteer her time to the community, helping organisations where she can.</p>
<b>5</b>	<b>Loxton Country Health Connect</b>	Community Health Loxton	<p>We would like to introduce the Country Health Connect "SMILE and WAVE" bus. Country Health Connect is situated in the Community Health Building at the rear of the Loxton Hospital, They provide homecare to people living in their own homes. Community Health welcomes new clients. Loxton Health helps bring a SMILE to all. Today we have their Hiace small bus with some happy Country Health Connect people.</p>
<b>6</b>	<b>Riverland Respite &amp; Recreation Service - based in Berri</b>	RRSI	<p>For the RRSI Happiness Is.. Disney characters. Dress up by their clients. They have an 11 seater bus for those that can't walk the distance. Everyone has been planing and practising for months and all are so excited!</p>
<b>7</b>	<b>Riverview Lutheran Rest Home</b>	Riverview	The Riverview Toyota Bus

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8	Riverview Lutheran Rest Home	Riverview	<p>Holden Captiva Car.</p> <p>Title: Music and the pursuit of happiness! The residents of Riverview wish to share with their community the power of music and how all those nostalgic tunes can evoke the same feelings you had before. The language may feel foreign to you but the music itself will never seem too strange! Music can be an instant booster. Music brings us together. For Riverview music IS HAPPINESS!!</p>

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<b>9</b>	<b>Loxton District Childrens Centre (Woodleigh) Vehicle with trailer. Sadly WITHDRAWN - Co-Vid!</b>	LWDC	Loxton District Children's Centre, affectionately known as Woodleigh! Step into Woodleigh's world of happiness, where the timeless characters of Mr Men and Little Miss spread joy like confetti, igniting smiles from all. With a vibrant burst of colour and a sprinkle of whimsy, Woodleigh brings forth a celebration of self-expression, simplicity, and laughter that has enchanted millions of children worldwide. This float is more than just a spectacle; it's a testament to our commitment in providing quality care and education, ensuring every child and family feels cherished and valued. Woodleigh isn't just a place, it's a haven where smiles are contagious, and laughter is abundant.
<b>10</b>	<b>Loxton Primary School Vehicle with trailer</b>		Here comes the colourful Loxton Primary School team. At Loxton Primary they bring HAPPINESS into many students' lives. The annual colour fun event in October see hundreds of students from the Loxton community covered in colour and happiness on the school oval.
<b>11</b>	<b>Loxton North School</b>		Loxton North School values 'Happiness' highly in our school. We do this through our Wellbeing programs and every day checking in with students, teachers and staff. We have open communication with our school families and love to organise fun activities and events for everyone to enjoy, like Splash Day and the Harvest Festival.
<b>12</b>	<b>Loxton Lutheran School Vehicle With Trailer</b>		The Loxton Lutheran School has created a float acknowledging that everyone's happiness looks different. Their float was inspired by the Bible verse from John 8:12 "I am the light of the world. He who follows me shall not walk in darkness - but have the light of life". Much like the sun shines differently on each landscape, so too does happiness vary from person to person. Today, LLS is radiating their own personal happiness.
<b>13</b>	<b>St Albert School School Bus</b>		At St. Albert's School, we believe that happiness is a bowl of fruit. Imagine it: a colourful medley of apples, bananas, and oranges—all huddled together like old friends. Each fruit has its own story: the apple, crisp and sweet, traveled from an orchard; the banana, sunny and energetic, journeyed from a tropical land; and the orange, juicy and vibrant, arrived from a sun-kissed grove. But here's the magic: when these fruits unite, they form a joyful symphony. It's like a mini celebration—a burst of flavours and textures. Just like us, the staff and students at St. Albert's. We're a diverse bunch: some of us love maths, others adore art, and some are sporting stars. Yet, when we blend our talents and personalities, we create the perfect recipe for friendship."

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<b>14</b>	<b>Loxton Hospital &amp; Loxton Medical Practice 1</b>	Loxton Hospital	The Loxton hospital complex mini-bus with residential aged care patients and staff. Celebrating quality care and the lives of our senior citizens
<b>15</b>	<b>Loxton Hospital &amp; Loxton Medical Practice 2</b>	Loxton Hospital	Peter Hamilton is (carefully) driving The Pines' 1963 Ford Capri with special guest Flora Tonkin who is 100 years old. <b>Happiness is 100 not out!</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>Loxton Hospital &amp; Loxton Medical Practice 3</b>	Loxton Hospital	Bronnie Hamilton is driving her 1963 Austin Healy Sprite with her father Perc Voigt who is 93. Perc has won 14 gold medals in track & field events at masters Games in the last 2 years. <b>Happiness is competing (and winning)</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>Loxton Historical Village Jim West - Senior Ambassador</b>	LHV	Jim West is a senior ambassador and is sponsored by the Loxton Historical Village. For Jim, Happiness Is – cruising onboard the P.V. Avalon, a model paddle steamer built and towed by Jackson Wickham of Renmark. As one of the Village's happy volunteers, Jim, crowned King of the Village, can be seen looking after the Village fruit block, cooking sausage sizzles and much more.
<b>18</b>	<b>Loxton Historical Village 1927 Chev Truck</b>	LHV	This 1927 Chev Truck was fully restored by volunteers at the Loxton Historical Village. The Village team says that "Happiness Is" volunteering at the Loxton Historical Village. Come and join us and enjoy the comradery, creativity and sense of pride and achievement in sharing our local history. <b>Tailgate view!</b> LoxStory: the town and district archive is now open to the public every Thursday from 11am till 1pm in the old ANZ Bank building. Why not drop in and say Hello!.

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19	<b>Junior Citizen of the Year</b> <b>Zane Sheffield - sadly not able to be present. Our oldest, Howard Hendrick, is sub for one of our youngest awardees. Get well soon Zain!</b>	LMG	Zane was to be driven by Dave Kimber in his 1919 model T Ford buckboard Highlights of Zain's achievements and contributions: - Finalist in the National Shark Tank competition for entrepreneurs and winning first place. - Invited to ThinkLab to attend an Agtech industry tour of the Riverland. - Invited to Hannover, Germany to attend as an example of "The future of Agtech in Australia" at their Future Ag Expo. - Awarded an internship with the University of Adelaide ThinkLab. - CEO of Ag Tech by Design. Not only has Zane designed and marketed a retro-fit design weed sprayer, he has also found time to give back to the community by participating in the Riverland Leadership Development program and as the youngest member of the Loxton Community Futures Inc. Zane has a bright future ahead and should be commended on his achievements so far, and his self-motivation.
20	<b>Previous Year's Ambassadors from 2023</b>	LMG	Community Ambassador Makaede Ireland who was sponsored by Eternal Yoga & Wellness Charity Ambassador Moneika Parr who was sponsored by Loxton Rotary Club Junior Ambassador Mitchell Obst who was sponsored by Mindarie Halidon Races Our reigning Ambassadors are being driven by Richard Wood in his 1925 Dodge Tourer.

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21	Returning Queens and Ambassadors from the "4" years	LMG	<p>1994 Jodie Battams (nee Zimmermann)  2014 Eleisha Hamood (nee Taylor)  Other "4" year winners who could <b>not</b> be with us today were  1964 Jill Milkavic (nee Harris)  1974 Jenni Underwood (nee Hentschke)  1984 Donna Tucker (nee Hammerstein)  2004 Zeb Schulz</p> <p>The ladies are being transported by Ray Jennings with Patsy the Clydesdale pulling his newly restored 4 wheeled trade trolley.  Patsy and Ray will be providing free rides after the parade in his other wagon.</p>
22	River Rock Dance Club	RRDC	<p>Wow – check out these snazzy dudes &amp; dolls – it looks like they're happiness is going to a party!  The River Rock Dance Club is headed up by Noel &amp; Wendy Walker in their fantastic looking 1959 Chevrolet Belair. It is right hand drive and V8 powered.  A big welcome to the River Rock Dance Club - they have Rock N Roll &amp; Partner Dancing every Monday night at the Monash Hall from 7pm to 10pm with lessons from 7 to 7.30pm. Come along and enjoy great music, great dancing and a friendly atmosphere.  During the lunch break the River Rockers are going to put on a demonstration of their dancing - over by the Hockey Club rooms at 12.30 and again at 1pm – so make sure you go and check them out!</p>

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23	Loxton Dirt Kart Club Ute towing approx 10 karts	Loxton Dirt Kart Club	<p>The LDKC was formed 40 years ago when work started out at it's present site on the Karoonda road, and kart racing has been going on for 39 years after getting track and amenities sorted out in the first year. Some of the founder's names include John Manuel, Robert Manuel, Kelvin Manuel, Alan Hucks, Graham Fulton, Tiger Hammerstein to name a few.</p> <p>The club had some 1,500 spectators and 160 nominations at it's first ever meeting in 1985 and has gone from strength to strength on the back of these fantastic volunteers and hard workers.</p> <p>The LDKC has hosted several State and National titles and won the "Loxton's event of the year" in 2015.</p> <p>This coming May 3rd, 4th &amp; 5th they will take their turn in hosting the 2024 State Titles and expect 350-400 nominations from all over the country. This will bring a huge influx of visitors to our region. It will be an action packed 3 days of super competitive racing on the best dirt circuit in the state!</p> <p>The LDKC prides itself in being a Fun, Family orientated club and welcomes anyone interested in giving the sport a try out or to come out on a Sunday just to watch. You won't be disappointed - a great day's entertainment with great facilities to boot.</p>
24	Nuriootpa Town Band	Nuriootpa Town	<p>An audience favourite - The Nuriootpa Town Band, Not only do they play while marching, they will also play popular music during the lunch break at approx 1pm. Come over to the marquee and hear them play then. The Nuriootpa Town band was established in 1880, by a Shoemaker named Otto Riedel. From this humble beginning the band has continued to grow through the years until 2008, where it changed from a brass band to a concert band enabling a larger selection of musicians to join the band.</p>
25	East Terrace Trading Vehicle	East Terrace Trading	<p>East Terrace Trading, the happiest little shop in Loxton - where they have all your happiness covered! Whether it be Arts &amp; Crafts, fishing, camping, toys, storage, kitchen wares, gifts plus THE most impressive range of Billson's cordial &amp; soda within 50kms. So head on in and see the happiest staff who want nothing other than to make you happy.</p>

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<b>26</b>	<b>Ladies Probus</b>	Probus	Here comes the Loxton Ladies Probus Float,.. 1.Happiens i bout Memories ..So Queen Elizabeth II seated in the official vehicle, with Elvis Presley, Marilyn Monroe and Dame Edna 2.Happy that Con's fruit Shop Loxton is Celebrating his 1st Birthday today. 3.Happiness continues with Our new Loxton Happiness Salon 4. Happiness especially means family thanks for our great grandies coming today to be with their great grandmas.. 5. Norma Schubert delights all with Happiness in her Garden.
<b>27</b>	<b>Fishcare</b>	PIRSA	Fishcare volunteers teach fishers the rules for recreational fishing in South Australia. You can recognise us by our distinctive uniform. We attend events across the Riverland passing out information. Come over to our stall lated and talk to us.
<b>28</b>	<b>Miracle Park Stables</b>	Miracle Park Stables	Melinda Sargent of the Miracle Park Stables in Monash and some helpers are sharing their happiness which is minature ponies which they have harnessed and peacefully leading today. Come over to their display during the lunch break where you can talk to them all about their minature ponies.
<b>29</b>	<b>Mens Probus</b>	Probus	Here we have the float STAYING ALIVE. It was built up by the Mens Probus Club of Loxton. They say Happiness Is enjoying boating, fishing, yabbing, BBQing, water activities and JUST STAYING ALIVE. Come and join us.
<b>30</b>	<b>Christmas Wonderland Vehicle with trailer</b>	Loxton North Sports Club	Christmas Wonderland is all about spreading happiness. Children and adults alike can't help but smile with joy as they walk around the display. And let's not forget the thrill of finding Wally hiding amongst the displays. It's all part of the fun and wonder of Christmas Wonderland.
<b>31</b>	<b>Ronco Motors ATV and 4 mowers</b>	Ronco Motors	Ronco Motors Mario Kart', Happiness is the nostalgia we feel from the characters we loved growing up and the games we played. Seeing and sharing that with the next generation brings joy.

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<b>32</b>	<b>Lily Loxton Junior Ambassador Vehicle With trailer</b>	Fox Crash Repairs	Lily Loxton is a junior ambassador and is sponsored by Fox's crash repairs. Happiness is when Lily is down the river skiing and wakeboarding with her family and friends. Lily loves basketball and netball.
<b>33</b>	<b>Olive Arnold Junior Ambassador Vehicle and group of children walking</b>	Leach Constructions	Olive Arnold: Mardi Gras Junior Ambassador, HAPPINESS IS FROGS! Olive chose to be a junior ambassador because she thought it would be fun. Olive has enjoyed meeting the other ambassadors and has had fun along the way. Olive has a love of frogs, hence the theme of her float. Olive has two green tree frogs as pets at home. Olive's sponsor is 'Leach Constructions' owned and operated by her uncle Ray Leach. Today, she is riding in her uncle's min moke "lillypad" followed closely by an army of frogs (army is the collective noun for frogs).
<b>34</b>	<b>Noah Scholz Junior Ambassador</b>	Loxton Motorcycle Centre	Honda Happiness. Noah Scholz is a junior ambassador sponsored by Loxton Motorcycle Centre. Happiness is all about motorbikes for Noah. Whether it is a farm ride, riding on their dirt bike track or over the freestyle ramp they made at home. Noah just loves riding!
<b>35</b>	<b>Ellamae Armstrong Junior Ambassador HR truck with flatbed tray</b>	Riverland Skips & Recycling	Introducing Junior Ambassador Ellamae Minerds from Loxton High School. Her float "Riverside Radiance: A Camping Retreat by the Water" is themed around spending time with family by the River. The calming serenity and beauty our landscape holds is a point of happiness for Ellamae and her family, making her proud to call the Riverland her home. Ellamae is proudly sponsored by her family-owned business Riverland Skips and Recycling - working with locals, for locals. Now and into the future.
<b>36</b>	<b>Emma Kruschel Junior Ambassador Vehicle with trailer</b>	Autopro Loxton	HAPPINESS IS... Being Active Emma loves being active and encourages all kids to get outside and be active! From creating things, fishing, to playing sports, Emma loves to burn energy from giving everything a go. Emma's sporting interests include cricket, football and soccer, and she is currently the only girl playing U12 cricket in the Riverland. She wishes more girls would give cricket a go. Her float includes many things she likes to

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<b>37</b>	<b>Jaslyn Kernich Junior Ambassador</b>	Riverland Canvas	Happiness is Friendships Happiness is being with your friends and sharing the fun times like swimming, hanging out together, collecting things and of coarse eating chocolate. To have a good friend you have to be a good friend. Happiness is Friendships
<b>38</b>	<b>Charlotte Andriske Junior Ambassador</b>	PPHS Loxton	2024 Junior MardiGras ambassador Charlotte Andriske To Charlotte Happiness is... spending time on the water boating, fishing, kayaking and doing water sports. Charlotte loves spending her free time in the water whether that be river, sea or even the pool! Nothing makes Charlotte happier than spending time on the water doing what she loves!"
<b>39</b>	<b>Indi Thomas Junior Ambassador Vehicle with trailer</b>	MOJO Mentoring	Happiness is... 'A party with family, friends, music & lollies' Indi is riding atop a giant Pinata and having a party listening to upbeat music and surrounded by family and friends who are dancing and eating and sharing lollies.
<b>40</b>	<b>Ivy Dreschler Zeva Dreschler Junior Ambassadors (sisters)</b>	Loxton SES	Loxton SES have joined the parade with their Rescue Boat, and have two Junior Mardi Gras Ambassador's on board - Zeva and Ivy. When thinking of the theme "Happiness is", the girls agreed on three things: Dogs (especially their German Shepherds, Cinnamon and Chase), Books (because reading transports them to a magical place), and supporting their community, just like their Mum and Dad who are proud members of the Loxton SES! The girls are also sponsored by their Mum's business, supporting participants of the NDIS. The Loxton SES are always keen to hear from people who would like to volunteer, so make sure to say Hi to the people in orange today!!

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<b>41</b>	<b>Danielle Morrison Junior Ambassador Vehicle</b>	Loxton Hotel	Danielle says her float is called The Dogston Hotel! Happiness is dogs because whenever I'm with dogs I'm very happy. I love dogs so much that when I'm older I want to run & own a dog hotel or a doggy daycare!
<b>42</b>	<b>Dale Stirling Community Ambassador</b>	The Loxton Club	Dale Stirling's float is a combination of his fundraisers during the year - which have been run in conjunction with his sponsor - the Loxton Club These events included: Gin & Jazz Night, Golf Days, Pig On A Spit, AFL Day, Punt Day
<b>43</b>	<b>Julie Graetz Community Ambassador Ute with helpers walking</b>	Loxcare	Julie Graetz - Community Ambassador. Julie's float has a garden theme. Happiness is family, friends, community. Julie has a heart for the Loxton community and Loxcare is the heart of the community. Giving through Loxcare is happiness. Friends and family are like flowers in this garden of life.
<b>44</b>	<b>Chloe Oldman Community Ambassador</b>	Loxton Rotary	For Chloe the motorbike and sidecar 'float' reflects 'Happiness Is' - being out in the sunshine, enjoying cruising around and appreciating the outdoors and nature - it's all about the little things! For you bike fans out there, Chloe is being driven in an outfit belonging to Nev (Nifty) Schubert. His motorbike is a 1983 Suzuki G1100 plus sidecar - with a 4 cylinder 1,100 cc engine
<b>45</b>	<b>CFS Command Vehicle</b>		Chaffey CFS Group ICV (Incident Command Vehicle) Toyota Hilux, is set up to be used in the field as a mobile Incident Control Centre on the fire ground or at staging areas. Driven by Group Officer Adrian Wright.
<b>46</b>	<b>CFS Car 2</b>		CFS Car 2 , is a Command Vehicle used on the fire ground to gather information and coordinate fire appliances is the forerunner to the Incident Control Vehicle. Driven by Ian King Deputy Group Officer.

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<b>47</b>	<b>CFS Wunkar</b>		Wunkar 34 is a 4 wheel drive fire fighting appliance carrying 3000 litres water and covers the western side of Chaffey Group in the Mantung, Maggea, Wappilka areas. Their Captain is David Gibbs.
<b>48</b>	<b>CFS Taplan</b>		Taplan 34 is a 4 wheel drive fire fighting appliance carrying 3000 litres of water covers the area southeast of Loxton, such as Woodleigh, Bugle Hut and Sunset National Park in Victoria and Peebinga east area. Their Captain is Bevin Fielke.
<b>49</b>	<b>MFS 1</b>		Like the CFS in the rural ares, the MFS (Metropolitan Firebrigade Service stand ready to protect people, and homes and business houses and civic buildings from damage or death.
<b>50</b>	<b>MFS 2</b>		We thank the fireries for their help at critical times of community need.
<b>51</b>	<b>Loxton Ambulance</b>		We thank the local Ambulance service for their life saving care for our community!