



# Free Wheeling

**Official Newsletter of the Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club**

Registration No A0002184F

JUNE 2007



The Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc is an affiliated club of the  
Victoria Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs Inc (VAFWDC)  
[www.vafwdc.org.au](http://www.vafwdc.org.au)



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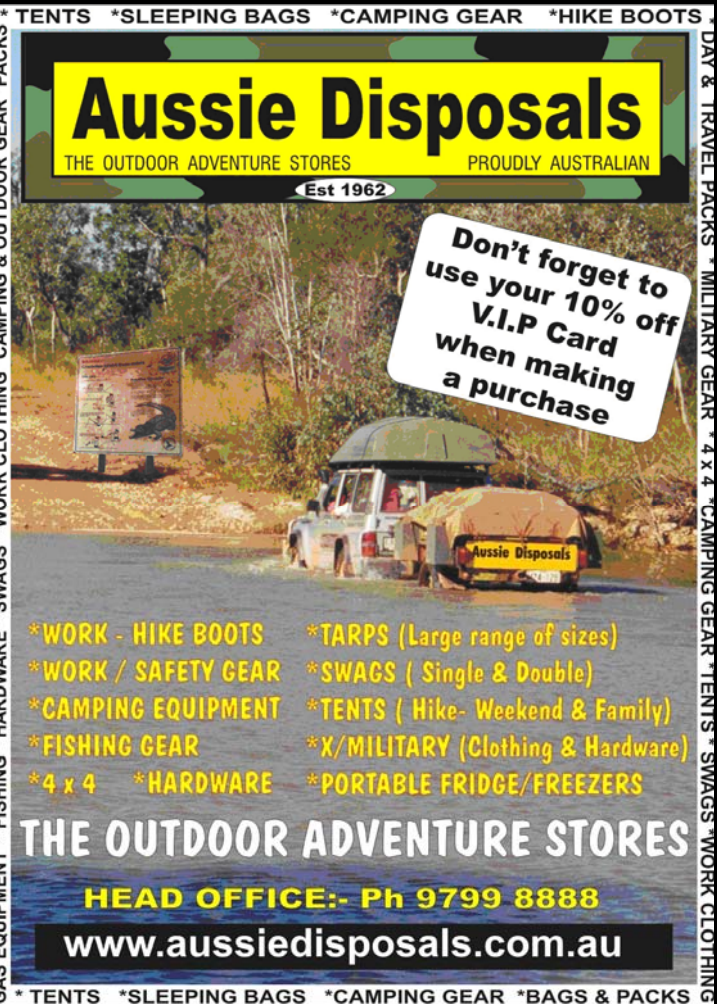
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## COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT 2006-2007

President	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904
Vice President	John Partridge	0428 331 211
Treasurer	Craig Major	0432 876 699
Secretary	Paul Ryan	0438 121 148

## GENERAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Assistant Secretary	Derek Hymas	0438 259 605
Trip Coordinator	John Partridge	0428 331 211
Events Coordinator		
Training Coordinator	Michael Rodger	0412 530 666
Newsletter Editor	Julie Capper	0411 530 464
Association Delegate	John Partridge	0428 331 211
Training Officers	Mark Kochan	0412 544 668
	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904
	John Partridge	0428 331 211
	Michael Rodger	0412 530 666
New Member Contact	Mark Capper	0411 530 484
Web Manager	Anthony Van Buiten	0413 784 074
Librarian		

Forward Articles & Photos for the Newsletter to:-

**[editor@vfwdc.com](mailto:editor@vfwdc.com)**

**Please forward all contributions prior to the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month**

## CLUB DETAILS

Registered Name:	Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc
Registration No:	A002184F
All Correspondence:	The Secretary VFWDC Inc PO Box 778 Dandenong Vic 3173
Web Site:	<a href="http://www.vfwdc.com">www.vfwdc.com</a>
Meetings:	Held first Tuesday of each month excluding January (no meeting). The November meeting is held on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month due to Melbourne Cup public holiday.
Location:	Dandenong Library Stuart Street, Dandenong 3175

*The opinions given herein are those of the individual contributors and are not necessarily those of the Editor, the Committee of Management, or the Member body of the VFWDC Inc*

## President's Report

Hello and welcome to another month of *Free Wheeling*.

As you are aware the VFDWC is holding an extra ordinary AGM meeting to finalise the minutes and financial statement for the period of 05/06. This will be short meeting held at the conclusion of the general meeting and should not take any longer that 10 minutes. This has to be completed to enable the club to submit the appropriate documents to the Incorporations Act.

I know you might be surprised, but it's leading up to the Clubs favorite time. Yes, Club elections are not that far away and we would like to inject some new faces and ideas into the running of the VFWDC. There continues to be a reliance on a handful of people to keep the Club together and this needs to be addressed if the Club is going to survive in the future. If you believe you would be able to contribute in any way, please fell free to contact me with any questions regarding any of the positions. Remember **all** positions are up for election.

Regarding the Club's future, we need an influx of new members to ensure we keep going in the right direction. With most clubs, new members are a crucial part of their overall function, whether it be trips, the committee, or other roles, this is an important factor. While we have a great membership, new members are required to ensure the club's successful future. As an example when you see the trip attendances during the past year a lot of faces are people who have joined over the past few years. This needs to continue.

We have another good guest speaker for the June Meeting (see notice in newsletter). Trevor Buck from RFI will be doing a short presentation on their UHF aerials and solar panels. This is a great opportunity to learn more about those products and answer your questions or even solve a related problem you may have. John Partridge has secured a tour of the ARB facilities at their Kilsyth head office. This will be conducted for the November meeting (second Tuesday) and further information will be published closer to the date. Remember, if you have any ideas of guest speakers or products that would be beneficial to members please let one of the committee know.

There is a great array of trips coming up so please support the efforts of the trip leaders by attending. It was disappointing to see the lack of attendance for Craig Major's first trip. Craig put a lot of effort into this trip but was let down by the attendance of only two other members (thanks to both for joining Craig). Tim Axtel is running his first club trip and has also put time to reccy the area to ensure the trip has a great variety of tracks. Please support Tim's effort by attending this trip.

The AGM dinner has been confirmed and the date is set for August 18<sup>th</sup>. The venue is Ellinis Greek Restaurant in Oakleigh which has great food and entertainment for those that fancy themselves as a Greek dancer. For further information please see the flyer in the newsletter.

See you on the next trip – or at the next meeting.

Ashley Martin  
President

## Minutes of the General Meeting – 1 May 2007

The meeting was held at Dandenong Library and opened by President Ashley Martin who welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### Present:

There were 18 members present as per the attendance book.

### Apologies:

Lesley Peters  
Maxine Ryan  
David & Rosalie Hughes  
Barry & Yvonne Hempston  
Brian Martin  
Anne Pettigrew  
Roger Baird  
Ian Warburton & Liz Beaton  
Jill Boyle

### Visitors:

Linda & Warren Coutts  
Steven Varty

### Minutes of the February meeting:

Accepted: Leigh Pettigrew  
Seconded: Ian Webber

### Matters Arising:

Nil

### Correspondence in:

ARB 4x4 Action  
Overland Cruising  
Otway Four Wheeler  
LROCV Newsletter  
Cross Country Jeep Club  
Pajero Club  
Association – High Country Reopening Assistance  
Association – Queen's Birthday Weekend – 4WD Camp Hosts  
Association – Notification of Bendigo General Meeting  
Association – Implementation of Competency Based Training  
Association – Eflare Price List  
Hahn Eezy Wheel Lift  
Bush Telegraph  
Eureka Echo  
Network News

### Correspondence Out:

Letter of thanks to Steve Abbott of Brown & Watson  
International  
Club Newsletter

### Treasurer's Report:

Not available this month.

### Tea duties:

James Holden & Verrille Rodger.  
Thank you ☺

### Guest Speakers

Ashley welcomed Les and John from Eco-Shot who went on to deliver a presentation about the Eco-Shot Dieselgas injection system. The presentation was very interesting and we would like to thank Les. and John for taking the time to come and talk to us.

### Trip Coordinators Report

- Noojee – Day trip has been changed to 3/6. Trip is suitable for experienced members and vehicles must be well equipped.
- Lerderderg – Craig's first trip as leader and we want as many members there as possible. The trip will be easy/medium and will be a great day out.
- Queens Birthday – The original destination to Waterford Caravan Park has been cancelled due to high fees being charged. Paul will advise the new destination. The trip will be a relaxing one with at least 1 drive through the area we are camping at.
- Larbertouche – Tim Axtel will be leading his first trip in this area with the date to be published in the next newsletter. The trip will be of medium standard and hopefully take in some of the sights as he goes.
- Mt Dissappointment/Tallarook – John advised this trip will be run over a weekend starting at Mt Dissappointment. Camping Saturday will most likely be at Mt Dissa and traveling to Tallarook on the Sunday. The trip will take in some good tracks around both areas.
- Strathbogies – Ashley will be leading a trip here in July to explore the tracks further. A final date will be published in the June newsletter
- John is finalizing the trip leaders guidelines and these will be published in a forthcoming newsletter.

### Events Coordinators Report

- Ashley advised the AGM dinner is nearly finalized. All details will be in the June Newsletter.

### Trips Reports:

- Easter – Michael gave a brief report on the Easter trip to Hattah Kulkyne. John lead a trip on the Murray Sunset NP taking in the Pink Lakes. Sunday John and a few others drove around the Kulkyne area to take in the sights It was a relaxing weekend with great weather and plenty of swimming.
- Track Survey – The track survey around the Moroka area was a good day although long. It was great to assist in such a program that assist all 4 wheel drivers.
- Tallarook – Tim advised it was a good day out with not too many difficult tracks. The area was dryer than anticipated and fun was had by all.

### Association Report:

John has been in contact with Parks Vic's Noel Lees from Parkers Corner. The majority of tracks have been opened in the area and dozers have cleared them resulting in thick bull dust. The Aberfeldy Bridge is burnt out therefore the road leading to and from Walhalla is closed. Due to the lack of water in the Thompson dam, there are batteries and other gold mining relics visible, John will find out if these areas can be accessed by foot.

### General Business:

- Ashley requested those who have been nominated to do the trip reports please ensure they are emailed to the newsletter editor within 1-2 weeks after the trip. It is becoming very frustrating for Julie with the lack of assistance in this department.
- Ian Webber advised an article in the Weekly Times thanks the Nissan and Toyota clubs for their assistance with bush relief program.
- Philip Griffith was presented with his new member's kit. Welcome to the Club.
- Raffle tickets were sold by Time Axtell. Raffle prizes were won by  
Gary Smith – Car Laptop power adaptor  
Ron Camm – Jumper Leads

### Other Business:

#### Meeting Closed:

9.45 pm

#### Next Meeting:

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2007 at 8.00pm at Dandenong Library

## VFWDC MERHCANDISE

### For Sale

New Club Polo Shirts	\$25.00 ea
Polar Fleece ½ Zip Jumper	\$36.00 ea
Polar Fleece Full Zip Jumper	\$48.00 ea
Sleeveless Reversible Vest	\$42.00 ea
New Club Caps	\$15.00 ea
30 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Travel Mugs	\$15.00 ea
Flags	\$15.00 ea
VFWDC Stickers (long)	\$ 6.00 ea
Stubbie Holders	\$ 6.00 ea

Sign yourself up as a Yahoo User at

<http://groups.yahoo.com>

(There is no charge for this service)



Then go to

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To keep non members out of the group,  
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*Anyone wishing to advertise in the Club Directory,  
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## **Trading Post**



### **Jayco Dove Outback**

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## Wanted

### Newsletter Editor

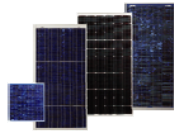


If you are interested in taking on the role of Newsletter Editor, please contact

Ashley Martin ([president@vfwdc.com](mailto:president@vfwdc.com))  
or Julie Capper ([editor@vfwdc.com](mailto:editor@vfwdc.com))

Full assistance will be given during the hand over.

## June Meeting Guest Speaker



At this month's meeting we have a great guest speaker from RFI – manufacturer/distributor of wireless antennas and accessories, 2-way ISM and specialist wireless telecommunications.

With a great range of UHF aerials and solar panels, Trevor Buck will explain the features and benefits of these products.

We all use UHF radios so this is a subject that should appeal to everyone.

Solar panels are becoming more popular and what better way to learn more about them than direct from the distributor.

As usual, Club business will be attended to first then Trevor will speak.

Tea break will be held after this, giving you the opportunity to enquire about your specific requirements.



Bayswater Business Park  
Lot 3, 423 Dorset Road, Bayswater, 3153  
Ph: +61 3 9761 6244  
Fax: +61 3 9761 6288  
[www.rfindistries.com.au](http://www.rfindistries.com.au)

## Notice of Extraordinary Annual General Meeting June 2007

An Extraordinary Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc will be held on Tuesday 5th June 2007 at the Dandenong Library Meeting Room and will take place once the ordinary business of the General Meeting has been concluded.

The purpose of this meeting is to conclude business not completed at the AGM of August 2006.

The ordinary business of the Extraordinary AGM will be:

- to confirm the minutes of the last preceding Annual General Meeting not available at the time of the last AGM
- to receive the Committee reports on the transactions of the club during the preceding financial year
- appoint an auditor

If anyone has any questions regarding this matter then please do not hesitate to contact me at either of the phone numbers given below.

Paul Ryan  
Secretary VFWDC  
Email: [secretary@vfwdc.com](mailto:secretary@vfwdc.com)  
Phone: 9807 5193  
Mobile: 0438 121 148



## CLUB CALENDER AT A GLANCE

### JUNE

Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Noojee Day Trip (Hard)	John Patridge	0428 331 211
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Club Meeting	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> to Monday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Paradise Valley	Paul Ryan	0438 121 148
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> to Monday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Murray River between Cobram & Rutherglen (Proposed Trip)	Leigh Pettigrew	0419 306 539
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Committee Meeting	Paul Ryan	0438 121 148
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Labertouche	Tim Axtell	0414 848 753
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> to Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Mt Disappointment to Tallarook	John Partridge	0428 331 211

### JULY

Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Club Meeting	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	OziExplorer, Laptop & GPS Setup (Proposed)	Paul Ryan	0438 121 148
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Toolangi Day Trip	Craig Major	0432 876 699
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Committee Meeting	Michael Rodger	0412 530 666
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> to Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Strathbogies	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904

### AUGUST

Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Club Meeting	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904
Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup>	AGM Dinner	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> – Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Annual Snow Trip – Licola & beyond	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Committee Meeting	TBA	TBA

### SEPTEMBER

Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Club Meeting	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Committee Meeting	TBA	TBA



# The Cooks Corner



## Italian Beef

- 1/2 to 4 pounds beef roast, sirloin tip or rump roast
- 12 ounces (jar) Italian Giardiniera, drained, less if you want it less spicy
- 12 ounces (jar) pepperoncini peppers
- 1 envelope Italian salad dressing (zesty Italian)
- 10 ounce can condensed beef broth

### PREPARATION:

Place beef roast in a 3 1/2 to 5-quart slow cooker. Combine Giardiniera, pepperoncini peppers, dry salad dressing mix, and condensed beef broth.

Add all mixture to crockpot. Cover and cook on LOW for 12 to 14 hours, until meat is very tender.

## NOTICE

### Club Library

It has come to notice that we are missing books and DVDs from the Club's Library. Most of the items have been gratefully donated by members, companies or purchased by the Club. These items are there for the benefit of all members, but because they have not been returned, members are missing out.

Could you therefore please search for any items you may have in your possession and return them ASAP. If you do have any library items and are unable to make it to a meeting, please contact one of the committee members and we will arrange for them to be collected.

Thanks you for your co-operation

Ashley Martin



## Forthcoming Trips

### Destination Noojee Day Trip (Hard)

**Trip Leader** John Partridge  
**Contact No** 0428 331 211  
**Date** Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> June  
**Meeting Place** Pakenham McDonalds  
**Time** 8.00am  
**Grade** WET: Very Hard  
 DRY: Very Hard

#### Trip Activity Details

This is not a trip for the faint hearted. We will be tackling some of the most difficult tracks you can find in Australia. One track in particular is steeper than any other we have previously done. If wet, there may be some tracks we can't do.

**Vehicle Limits** MINIMUM: 3  
 MAXIMUM: 6  
**Approximate Km's** 70  
**Late Fuel Available** PETROL: Pakenham  
 DIESEL: Pakenham  
**Equipment Required** Every bit of recovery gear you have! Be ready for anything.  
 May be wet, bring wet weather gear.  
**Maps Required** N/A  
**Radio Channel CB/UHF** 12

### Destination Queens Birthday Weekend Paradise Valley

**Trip Leader** Paul Ryan  
**Contact No** 0438 121 148  
**Date** Friday 8<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June  
**Meeting Place** Paradise Valley  
**Time** TBA  
**Grade** WET: Scenic  
 DRY: Scenic

#### Trip Activity Details

We are going to camp at Paradise Valley over the Queen's Birthday weekend. Cost is \$7.00 per adult per night and \$4.00 per child per night.  
 We'll probably take a trip up into the hills at some point over the weekend, most likely on Sunday, although this is unlikely to be too challenging.

**Vehicle Limits** MINIMUM: N/A  
 MAXIMUM: N/A  
**Approximate Km's** 200  
**Late Fuel Available** Heyfield  
**Equipment Required** Yourself, basic recovery gear  
**Maps Required** Nil  
**Radio Channel CB/UHF** 12

### Destination Queens Birthday Weekend Murray River (Proposed Trip)

**Trip Leader** Leigh Pettigrew  
**Contact No** 0419 306 539  
**Date** Friday 8<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June  
**Meeting Place** TBA  
**Time** TBA  
**Grade** WET: Easy  
 DRY: Easy

#### Trip Activity Details

Standing Camp suitable for GOF's, Winery's, Relaxing, Swimming, Sightseeing

**Vehicle Limits** MINIMUM: 2  
 MAXIMUM: 6  
**Approximate Km's** 327  
**Late Fuel Available** N/A  
**Equipment Required** Bush Camping BYO  
 Suitable for Car Camping /  
 Motorhomes/ Caravans /  
 Trailers  
**Maps Required** N/A  
**Radio Channel CB/UHF** 12

### Destination Labertouche

**Trip Leader** Tim Axtell  
**Contact No** 0414 848 753  
**Date** Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> June  
**Meeting Place** Pakenham McDonalds  
**Time** 8.30am  
**Grade** WET: Medium  
 DRY: Easy/Medium

#### Trip Activity Details

We will be driving some of the Medium tracks in the Southern part of the Tarago state forest with a mixture of rocks and mud. Should be a good challenging Medium grade trip. A good set of All terrain tyres is required. Please come and join me on my first trip.

**Vehicle Limits** MINIMUM: 3  
 MAXIMUM: 10  
**Approximate Km's** 70  
**Late Fuel Available** PETROL: Pakenham  
 DIESEL: Pakenham  
**Equipment Required** Basic recovery equipment  
**Maps Required** N/A  
**Radio Channel CB/UHF** 12

Destination	Mt Disappointment to Tallarook
<b>Trip Leader</b>	John Partridge
<b>Contact No</b>	0428 331 211
<b>Date</b>	Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> June to Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> July
<b>Meeting Place</b>	Shell Service Station – Westgate Bridge
<b>Time</b>	5.00pm Friday
<b>Grade</b>	WET: Medium DRY: Medium/Hard options
<b>Trip Activity Details</b>	We will be exploring the 2 parks that are virtually joined together. There is a great range of tracks that some will find challenging but not too daunting. Great trip for those that have completed their Proficiency Driving Training and want to gain further experience.
<b>Vehicle Limits</b>	MINIMUM: 3 MAXIMUM: 10
<b>Approximate Km's</b>	70
<b>Late Fuel Available</b>	PETROL: Westgate Bridge DIESEL: Westgate Bridge
<b>Equipment Required</b>	All camping gear, wet weather gear and bring your own water. Basic recovery gear
<b>Maps Required</b>	Rooftops Mt Disappointment Forest Activities Map & Rooftops Tallarook Forest Activities Map
<b>Radio Channel CB/UHF</b>	12

Destination	OziExplorer, Laptop & GPS Setup (Proposed)
<b>Trip Leader</b>	Paul Ryan
<b>Contact No</b>	0438 121 148
<b>Date</b>	Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> July
<b>Meeting Place</b>	Valcor, Notting Hill
<b>Time</b>	TBA
<b>Grade</b>	WET: N/A DRY: N/A
<b>Trip Activity Details</b>	Hopefully we can run through individual setups, getting the whole thing to work with moving maps and a few tips on how to use the basics in OziExplorer. You'll need to bring your own laptop, GPS, means of connecting the two together and whatever other stuff you may have. You may also need a notebook and pen.
<b>Vehicle Limits</b>	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 8
<b>Approximate Km's</b>	N/A
<b>Late Fuel Available</b>	PETROL: N/A DIESEL: N/A
<b>Equipment Required</b>	Laptop running Windows 95 or greater with CD / DVD ROM, GPS with necessary cable connection, <b>patience</b>
<b>Maps Required</b>	N/A
<b>Radio Channel CB/UHF</b>	N/A

Destination	Toolangi
<b>Trip Leader</b>	Craig Major
<b>Contact No</b>	0432 876 699
<b>Date</b>	Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> July
<b>Meeting Place</b>	TBA
<b>Time</b>	TBA
<b>Grade</b>	WET: TBA DRY: TBA
<b>Trip Activity Details</b>	TBA
<b>Vehicle Limits</b>	MINIMUM: TBA MAXIMUM: TBA
<b>Approximate Km's</b>	TBA
<b>Late Fuel Available</b>	TBA
<b>Equipment Required</b>	TBA
<b>Maps Required</b>	TBA
<b>Radio Channel CB/UHF</b>	12

Destination	Strathbogies
<b>Trip Leader</b>	Ashley Martin
<b>Contact No</b>	0438 600 904
<b>Date</b>	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> - Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> July
<b>Meeting Place</b>	Lilydale McDonalds
<b>Time</b>	6.30pm Friday
<b>Grade</b>	WET: Medium DRY: Easy/Medium
<b>Trip Activity Details</b>	As it will no doubt be a cold weekend this will be one for the brave hearts. We did some exploring of the area over the Labor Day Weekend but did not cover it all. The plan is to drive and reccey as many of the tracks as possible. I am not sure what we will come across but there will no doubt be an array of different terrain to cover. Camping will be at James Camping Reserve which is an easy 45 minutes from Bonnie Doon.
<b>Vehicle Limits</b>	MINIMUM: 3 MAXIMUM: 10
<b>Approximate Km's</b>	150
<b>Late Fuel Available</b>	PETROL: Bonnie Doon DIESEL: Bonnie Doon
<b>Equipment Required</b>	Basic recover equipment
<b>Maps Required</b>	N/A
<b>Radio Channel CB/UHF</b>	12

DestinationAnnual Snow Trip – Licola & beyond

Trip LeaderAshley Martin

Contact No0438 600 904

DateFriday 24<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 26<sup>th</sup>  
August

Meeting PlaceOfficer Weight Bridge

TimeTBA

GradeWET: Medium  
DRY: Easy

Trip Activity Details

With a disappointing snow season last year we will be hoping for a bumper this year. The early falls of snow is an encouraging sign and hopefully this will continue through winter.

I am not sure if the usual camping at site 14 will be accessible. When we visited the site after the fires we could not exit the river due to tack damage. All camping details will be finalised as the weekend gets closer.

Saturday we will drive up to Arbuckle Junction and beyond in search for snow. Lunch will be along the way and this will give us time to get out and enjoy the fluffy stuff. If time permits a drive around the area in the afternoon and then back to camp to warm up around the fire. Bring the kids along.

Sunday will be a leisurely pack up and then back to Melbourne

Vehicle Limits

MINIMUM: N/A

MAXIMUM: N/A

Approximate Km's150

Late Fuel Available

PETROL: Licola

DIESEL:

Equipment Required

Basic recover equipment.

Warm clothes essential

Maps Required

N/A

Radio Channel CB/UHF

12




Trip Clarification

Clarification was sought regarding the level of Approval required before a trip could be considered a “Club” trip.

The following clarifications were settled upon:

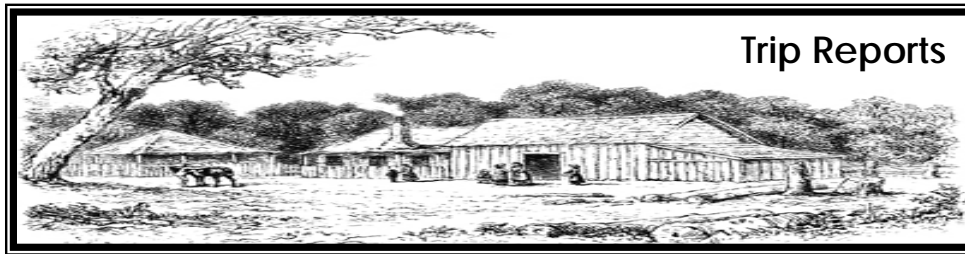
- Trips do not need to be approved by the trip coordinator but he must be notified in order for the trip to be considered a “Club” trip.
- Trips may be submitted either via Trip Data Form, Yahoo Group or informally however see above to be considered a “Club Trip”
- Trips should be reviewed where necessary at committee level to ensure that the trip was within capabilities of the trip leader.
- If absolutely necessary approval for a trip may be withdrawn if the committee feel that the trip may in anyway expose the participants to an unacceptable level of risk e.g. trip being lead into a high/extreme fire risk area.



Trip Coordinator  
John Partridge







## Talarook Day Trip Sunday 22 April

### Participants

Joe Spicuzza  
Craig Major  
Tim Axtel  
Derek Hymas & his son

Having met at the Lilydale Maccers (just) we headed off for the days driving. After a quick stop at Stoney Creek we doubled back and turned off the main road and headed into the forest on Horans track, with beautiful views into the valley. Having been raining most of the way in John decided we would start off with some of the easier tracks so crisscrossing Horans down Brandy Creek and up Tehans no 3 with no problems. We moved onto some a little more challenging Tehans no5 with a nice little cross angle drop off all made it down safely having cocked a couple off left rears in the process. We were now faced with the steepest track of the day so far Tehans no5 fortunately even though it had rained most of the way in the tracks so far had a good level of grip. Having all negotiated our way up we crisscrossed Horans a couple more time, then came the Unnamed track steep and rutted Joe managed to get a little bit crossed up 3/4 way up but with John giving guidance on the uhf he made it all way up. Craig (with happy button in) was the only one who made it all the way on his first attempt. Lunch Time at Freemans Picnic area could have been more pleasant if the two mini bikes being ridden around were not chocking us with fumes. Having put the Hunger Monster away we loaded ourselves back into vehicles and headed on Wheelers towards West Falls road and then onto Reservoir Trek where Craig came stuck in the bog hole. Happy button in (diff locker) managed to scrabble out. Then we slowly wandered to Strath Ck aired up had an ice cream hit the blacktop and headed home. Once again thank you to John for a most enjoyable days driving.

Tim Axtell

## Wombat/Lerderderg Saturday 12th May

### Participants:

Craig & Marijke	Suzuki
Gary	GU Patrol
Tim, Donna and family	Land Cruiser

In very un-Victorian 4x4 club fashion I have decided to write the report for the trip that I myself led. This is one for the books as usually, the person who a) gets stuck and needs assistance, b) Arrives late to the meeting point, or c) does something silly during the trip gets bestowed with the honour. But here we go.....

The small group arrived at the Todd road servo at the leisurely time of 9.30 for a day of light 4 wheel driving and some walking. After a short trip towards Bacchus Marsh the group headed for Lerderderg Gorge to see what the drought had done to the water way. The Lerderderg River was 100% dry. After a quick walk we set off for Nuggety track, an easy track with only one section requiring low range. During Nuggety track and for the rest of the day we were to be plagued by radio cross chatter. We started on channel 12 until the language became offensive to Tim's delicate ears (HAHA), and so we changed to channel 14 where Tim and I picked up cross chatter in what we believe was Chinese. Today's technology is amazing who would have thought that a 40 channel UHF could pick up Beijing. So it was back to channel 12 for updates on the swearing removalist men. The next track for the day was Ractcliffe. This was the only tough track of the day with a shallow mud/water crossing though submerged rocks followed by a steep ascent into a hill. This task didn't pose a real problem and everyone successfully completed the track. We then travelled to Firth park for lunch which, apart from the pee-wee motor bikes was a fantastic location with grass, a mud/water feature and pick-nick area.



The last tracks for the day were Amberley lane and Upper Chadwick track. The tracks were not difficult but provided a real dilemma in terms of gear choice. The tracks were steep but not too steep and rocky but not too rocky. At the top of Chadwick Tim asked what gear everyone was in, which as it happens was fortunate as I was wondering myself and didn't want to ask. Gary was in low 3rd, I was in 2nd high and Tim, well Tim was still in 2wd much to Donna's distress. On the way out we stopped at O'Briens crossing where we engaged in the ye- old game of water stone skipping. By the end of 20 minutes the results were as follows: Tim was the master, Travis was not far behind his dad and may one-day rival his skill, Gary was a skilful stone skipper, Craig after being egged on by a 3 year old to try and skip a boulder was out injured, Donna decided to abstain and Marijke will never make the Olympic stone skipping team. We all jumped back into the trucks and headed for the tarmac. Leading a trip now doesn't seem as daunting as it did at the start and with a Reccy (thanks Anthony, Aline and boys) and the appropriate preparation making it enjoyable, to the point that I think I may lead another.

**Craig**



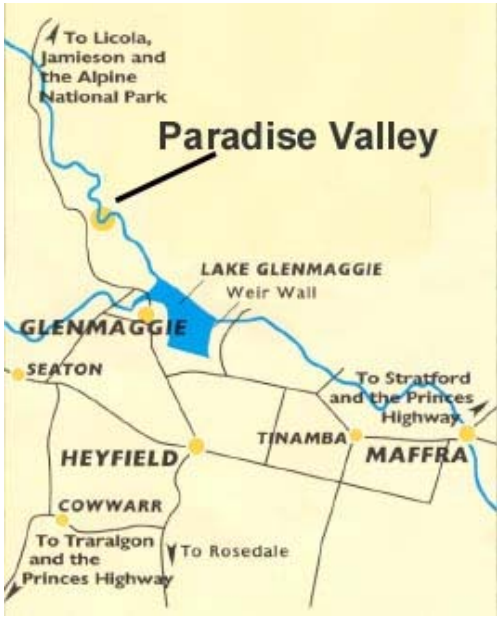


## *CLUB TRIP DATA FORM*

DESTINATION		Noojee – “A Grade” day trip
LEADER/CONTACT NO.		John Partridge 0428 331 211
DATE		3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2007
DEPARTURE		8.00 AM
RETURN		5.30 PM
MEETING PLACE		Packenham Mac Donald's
GRADE	WET DRY	Very Hard Very Hard
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS		This is not a trip for the faint hearted. We will be tackling some of the most difficult tracks you can find in Australia. One track in particular is steeper than any other we have previously done. If wet, there may be some tracks we can't do. This is only for the very well set up vehicles and with the drivers experience to match.
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM MAXIMUM	3 6
APPROX KMS (Meeting place to destination)		70Kms
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL DIESEL	Pakenham Pakenham
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES		Full tank of fuel from meeting place will be sufficient
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED		Every bit of recovery gear you have! Be ready for anything. May be wet, bring wet weather gear.
MAPS REQUIRED		Rooftops Yarra Valley – West Gippsland Adventure Map
RADIO CHANNEL	CB / UHF	12
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION		There may be some spare passenger seats available. If your interested in coming as a passenger please add your name to the Trip Participant List and clearly mark that your interested as a passenger.



## CLUB TRIP DATA FORM

DESTINATION	<b><i>Paradise Valley – Glenmaggie North</i></b>
LEADER CONTACT NO.	NAME: Paul Ryan TEL: 9807 5193 MOB: 0438 121148
DATE	Queen's Birthday Weekend Fri 8 <sup>th</sup> – Mon 11 <sup>th</sup> June
MEETING PLACE / TIME	Paradise Valley
GRADE <b>Please adhere to new trip classifications</b>	WET: Scenic DRY: Scenic
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	<p>We are going to camp at Paradise Valley over the Queen's Birthday weekend. Cost is \$7.00 per adult per night and \$4.00 per child per night.</p> <p>We'll probably take a trip up into the hills at some point over the weekend, most likely on Sunday, although this is unlikely to be too challenging.</p> <p>WE NEED TO CONFIRM NUMBERS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE SO PLEASE RING OR EMAIL (<a href="mailto:paryan02@optusnet.com.au">paryan02@optusnet.com.au</a>) ME TO LET ME KNOW IF YOUR COMING WITH A ROUGH GUIDE TO NUMBERS. THANKS.</p> <p>Directions to Paradise Valley are shown below.</p>
	
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: N/A MAXIMUM: N/A
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	200kms
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Heyfield DIESEL: Heyfield
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Yourselves, basic recovery gear
MAPS REQUIRED	Nil
RADIO CHANNEL      CB / UHF	12





## PROPOSED CLUB TRIP DATA FORM

DESTINATION	<b><i>Murray River between Cobram and Rutherglen Bundalong ( Possibly)</i></b>
LEADER CONTACT NO.	NAME: Leigh Pettigrew MOB: 0419 306 539
DATE	8 <sup>th</sup> June – 11 <sup>th</sup> June 2007
MEETING PLACE / TIME	TBA
GRADE <b>Please adhere to new trip classifications</b>	WET: Easy DRY: Easy
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	Standing Camp suitable for GOF's, Winery's, Relaxing, Swimming & Sightseeing
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 6
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	327 kms
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: NA DIESEL: NA
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	NA
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Bush Camping. BYO - Suitable for Car Camping/ Motorhomes/Caravans/Trailers
MAPS REQUIRED	N/A
RADIO CHANNEL      CB / UHF	12



## CLUB TRIP DATA FORM

### LABERTOUCHE DAY TRIP

DESTINATION	<b>Labertouche</b>
LEADER CONTACT NO.	Tim Axtell 0414848753
DATE	Sunday 24 June 2007
MEETING PLACE / TIME	Pakenham MacDonald's 8.30 am
GRADE <b>Please adhere to new trip classifications</b>	WET: Medium DRY: Easy - Medium
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	We will be driving some of the Medium tracks in the Southern part of the Tarago state forest with a mixture of rocks and mud. Should be a good challenging Medium grade trip. A good set of All terrain tyres is required. Please come and join me on my first trip.
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 3 MAXIMUM: 10
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	70
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Pakenham DIESEL: Pakenham
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	N/A
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Basic recovery equipment
MAPS REQUIRED	N/A
RADIO CHANNEL      CB / UHF	12



## CLUB TRIP DATA FORM

DESTINATION	Mt Disappointment to Tallarook touring weekend	
LEADER	John Partridge	
CONTACT NO.	0428 331 211	
DATE	29 <sup>th</sup> June – 1 <sup>st</sup> July	
DEPARTURE	Friday night 5.00 PM	
RETURN	Sunday 5.30 PM	
MEETING PLACE	Shell service station – Westgate Bridge	
GRADE	WET DRY	Medium Medium with some harder options dependant on participants
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	We will be exploring the two parks that are virtually joined together. There is a great range of medium tracks that some will find challenging but not too daunting. Great trip for those that have completed their Proficiency Driver Training and want to gain further experience.	
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM MAXIMUM	3 10
APPROX KMS (Meeting place to destination)	70 Kms	
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL DIESEL	Westgate Bridge Westgate Bridge
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	N/A	
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	All camping gear. Wet weather gear. Bring your own water. Basic recovery gear.	
MAPS REQUIRED	Rooftops Mt. Disappointment Forest Activities Map & Rooftops Tallarook Forest Activities Map	
RADIO CHANNEL	CB / UHF	12



## PROPOSED CLUB TRIP DATA FORM

DESTINATION	<b><i>OziExplorer, Laptop &amp; GPS Setup</i></b>
LEADER CONTACT NO.	NAME: Paul Ryan TEL: 9807 5193 MOB: 0438 121148
DATE	Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> July 2007
MEETING PLACE TIME	Ashley's Work, Valcor, Notting Hill
GRADE <b>Please adhere to new trip classifications</b>	WET: N/A DRY: N/A
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	<p>I understand there's a few people out there who could use some help setting up there Laptop's, PDA's or whatever to work with their GPS and OziExplorer.</p> <p>Hopefully we can run through individual setups, getting the whole thing to work with moving maps and a few tips on how to use the basics in OziExplorer.</p> <p>You'll need to bring your own laptop, GPS, means of connecting the two together and whatever other stuff you may have. You may also need a notebook and pen.</p>
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 8
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	N/A
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: N/A DIESEL: N/A
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	N/A
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Laptop running Windows 95 or greater with CD / DVD ROM, GPS with necessary cable connection, <b>patience</b>
MAPS REQUIRED	N/A
RADIO CHANNEL      CB / UHF	N/A





## CLUB TRIP DATA FORM

### Strathbogie's Exploration

DESTINATION	Srathbogie's
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	Ashley Martin
DATE	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> July Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> July
MEETING PLACE DEPARTURE TIME	Lilydale McDonalds 6.30pm (Friday)
GRADE Please adhere to new trip classifications	WET: Medium DRY: Easy – Medium
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	<p>As it will no doubt be a cold weekend this will be one for the brave hearts.</p> <p>We did some exploring of the area over the Labor Day Weekend but did not cover it all. The plan is to drive and reccy as many of the tracks as possible. I am not sure what we will come across but there will no doubt be an array of different terrain to cover. Camping will be at James Camping Reserve which is an easy 45 minutes from Bonnie Doon.</p>
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 3 MAXIMUM: 10
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	150
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Bonnie Doon DIESEL: Bonnie Doon
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	N/A
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Basic recovery equipment
MAPS REQUIRED	N/A
RADIO CHANNEL      CB / UHF	12



# CLUB TRIP DATA FORM

## ANNUAL SNOW TRIP 2007

DESTINATION	<b>Licola and beyond</b>
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	Ashley Martin Mob: 0438 600 904
DATE	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> August Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> August
MEETING PLACE / TIME	Officer Weigh Bridge TBA
GRADE <b>Please adhere to new trip classifications</b>	WET: Medium DRY: Easy
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	<p>With a disappointing snow season last year we will be hoping for a bumper this year. The early falls of snow is an encouraging sign and hopefully this will continue through winter.</p> <p>I am not sure if the usual camping at site 14 will be accessible. When we visited the site after the fires we could not exit the river due to tack damage. All camping details will be finalised as the weekend gets closer.</p> <p>Saturday we will drive up to Arbuckle Junction and beyond in search for snow. Lunch will be along the way and this will give us time to get out and enjoy the fluffy stuff. If time permits a drive around the area in the afternoon and then back to camp to warm up around the fire. Bring the kids along.</p> <p>Sunday will be a leisurely pack up and then back to Melbourne.</p>
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: N/A MAXIMUM: N/A
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	150
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Licola DIESEL:
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	N/A
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Basic recovery equipment Warm clothes essential
MAPS REQUIRED	N/A
RADIO CHANNEL      CB / UHF	12



# Annual AGM Dinner

Venue

## Ellinis Greek Taverna

66 Portman Street, Oakleigh

Date

7.30 pm, Saturday 18 August

Cost

\$40.00 Per Head



This year it's time to put on your traditional Greek costume and join us for a great night of food, wine, and dancing. The menu consists of 6 courses ranging from dips, seafood, meat and dessert. The added bonus is all wine and beer is BYO.



For further information please contact  
Ashley Martin on 0438 600 904