Bringing Four Wheel Drivers Together



Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc www.vfwdc.com

Free Wheeling

Official Newsletter of the Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Registration No A0002184F

FEBRUARY 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



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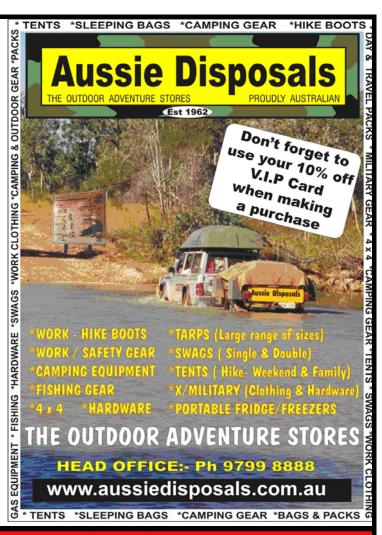


Contact Information

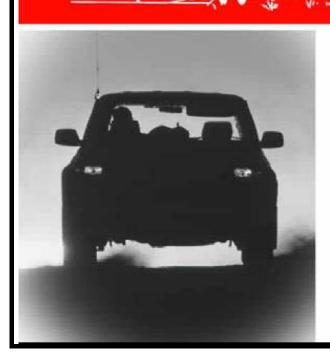
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President's Report

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT 2006-2007

COMMITTEE OF MAR		
President	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904
Vice President	Mark Capper	0411 530 484
Treasurer	Craig Major	0432 876 699
Secretary	Paul Ryan	0438 121 148
GENERAL COMMITT	EE MEMBERS	
Assistant Secretary	Derek Hymas	0438 259 605
Trip Coordinator	John Partridge	0428 331 211
Events Coordinator	James Holden	0448 317 528
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
Training Officers	Mark Kochan Ashley Martin	0412 544 668 0438 600 904
Training Officers		
Training Officers	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904
Training Officers New Member Contact	Ashley Martin John Partridge	0438 600 904 0428 331 211
U	Ashley Martin John Partridge Michael Rodger	0438 600 904 0428 331 211 0412 530 666
New Member Contact	Ashley Martin John Partridge Michael Rodger Mark Capper	0438 600 904 0428 331 211 0412 530 666 0411 530 484

Forward Articles & Photos for the Newsletter to:-

editor@vfwdc.com

Please forward all contributions prior to the 20th 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:	www.vfwdc.com
Meetings:	Held first Tuesday of each month excluding January (no meeting). The November meeting is held on the 2 nd Tuesday of the month due to Melbourne Cup public holiday.
Location:	Dandenong Library Stuart Street, Dandenong 3175
	those of the individual contributors and are not the Committee of Management, or the Member

Hello and welcome to another month of Free Wheeling.

I hope everyone had a fantastic break. By now you have probably returned to work and wondering "What holidays?" Don't worry there is plenty planned to help keep the holiday sensation there. The year is shaping up to be a great one for the club.

Regrettably, with the fire situation in the high country it has limited our access into many areas we frequent. For this reason, planned trips over the Christmas period had to be cancelled and we have had to seek out alternative areas to visit. So, many of the proposed trips are to areas not normally visited by the club which gives us the opportunity to experience other parts of the state. A few members took the opportunity over the break to check out certain areas to establish suitability for future trips. You will see some of these in the calendar.

The calendar is looking very healthy for this year (don't show Lesley though) so many thanks to all the trip leaders. There are still opportunities for additional trips, so please speak to John if you have anything in mind, particularly any ideas for the Easter break. Please support the trip leaders who make the effort to run the trips by attending at least some of them.

There will be a trip leader's course held in March and we encourage all members to attend to gain an understanding of all aspects of trip planning and preparation. This will be held during the week and is expected to take approximately 2 hours. Once completed we then encourage you to plan and run a trip. To assist you we will assign an experienced member to help with planning, reconnoiter, and running of the trip.

The family day has been finalised and will be held at the Yarrolyn Holiday Park at Taggerty. This venue has been chosen for two reasons:

- It is close enough to Melbourne for a day trip, has great facilities for the kids and there is a great BBQ area consisting of a fridge, sink, and of course BBQ's.
- 2. There is a wide range of accommodation available if you decide to stay overnight. You may choose to camp with or without power or even upgrade to a cabin.

To make it trouble-free for everyone, food will not be provided by the club. Therefore you will need to bring food for the lunch BBQ. Drinks and ice creams will be available for the kids which the club will provide. We do need to know numbers quickly, especially for the cabins, because booking is essential. For further details 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 - 5 December 2006

The meeting was held at Dandenong Library and oper President Ashley Martin who welcomed everyone to th meeting.

Present:

There were 28 members present as per the attendance book.

Apologies:

Peter & Janine Frankland Derek & Jan Hymas Ian Warburton Paula Johnston **Yvonne Hempston** Maxine Ryan Verylle Rodger Ken Pitcher Nicole & Steve Pitcher

Visitors:

Nil

Minutes of the October meeting:

Accepted: Dawn Brown Seconded: Tim Axtell

Matters Arising:

Nil

Correspondence in:

ARB 4x4 Action **Overland Cruising** Otway Four Wheeler **LROCV** Newsletter Cross Country Jeep Club VIC 4WD Show 18 Feb 2007 flyer Rays Direct Rays Outdoors 26.5% Off Sale Anaconda Quorn Soft Adventure Group Ballarat 4wd Club - 2007 Outdoor Expo

Correspondence Out:

Club Newsletter Letter of Appreciation to Dandenong CFA

Treasurer's Report:

Nil this month as books still with auditors. Craig gave brief details of incomings and outgoings.

Tea duties:

Gary & Liz. Thank you ©

ned by	Raffle:
e	1st Prize:Solar Shower won by Gary.2nd Prize:Basket of goodies won by Pat.3rd Prize:Chocolate and a Cheese Platter won byRon.
	Trips: John Partridge reported on the upcoming trips which include:
	Sat 9 th & Sun 10 th December - Oxfam Christmas Tree Delivery
	27 th December 2006 to 6 th January 2007 – High Country Trip - Cancelled due to Bush fires.
	2 nd to 5 th January 2007 – Ashley's Hard trip - Cancelled due to Bush Fires.
	Australia Day Long Weekend 2007 – Dando's, Otways. This will be an opportunity for people to camp and suit themselves i.e. sightseeing, day trips or just sit and relax.
	A Grade Ttrip – 9 th – 11 th February 2007. Probably heading into Big River - Woods Point.
	Day Trip 18 th February 2007 – probably into either Brisbane Ranges or Tallarook.
	Family Weekend 24 th – 25 th March 2007. This will be a social day for all the family.
	Cathedral Ranges – dates TBA
	Easter Big Desert Trip – John & Michael are hoping to lead a trip into this area over Easter.
	Trip Leaders Course – TBA probably early 2007.
	Trip Reports:
	Running Creek Fishing Trip – James gave the report on the fishing trip. The majority of participants travelled up on the Friday night. Not much water around although Richard managed to catch a couple of Trout. There appeared to be a lot of sitting in the river but not much evidence of fishing going on. Sunday was spent in much the same manner with various people packing up at different times and making their own ways home. James did manage to catch a couple of trout in the Jamieson on the way home.
	Gilwell Park Christmas Party – Michael gave the report on the Christmas party. Fortunately the weather was very good this year. Peter Petrou and James Holden were already there and had things well in hand before the majority arrived. Once again the meat was fantastic and very nice meal was had by all. Santa arrived around 5-ish with presents for the kids. People gradually filtered home as the evening progressed with the exception of Don and Thelma who put in an all nighter in the new trailer.

Association Report:

Nil.

General Business:

Dandenong CFA - Mark Capper spoke about the previous General Meeting at Dandenong CFA. It was a very interesting and informative night and thoroughly enjoyed by all.

High Country Bush Fires - Ashley read notes from the association regarding the bush fires. At present the bush fires cover huge areas so please check with the relevant authorities before planning any trips into the bush this summer and above all be safe.

First Aid Course – the long awaited first aid course is tentatively scheduled for March /April 2007. It will be a 2 day affair hopefully at a site close to Melbourne, possibly a Scout Park with bunk style accommodation. Cost will likely be approximately \$125.00 per head. This will result in recognised First Aid qualification.

Other Business:

Glenmount Automotive Services – John gave a plug to Kent Phillips of Glenmount Automotive Services, Ricketts Road, Mount Waverley. Kent has a number of regulars who are from the club and will give club members a good deal on mechanical work and servicing. If looking for a recommendation ask Ashley, Paul, Michael or Anthony.

Meeting Closed:

9.15 pm

Next Meeting:

Tuesday 6th February 2007 at 8.00pm at Dandenong Library



Four Wheel Drive Radio Show "Talking Four Wheel Drive" Saturdays at 10.00m

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
30th 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

http://autos.groups.yahoo.com/group/vfwdc

Click on "Join this group". To keep non members out of the group, your membership will need to be approved.

Any problems email: <u>alfantz@optusnet.com.au</u>



BUSH - B-Q Manufacturer of the Barbeque of the Outback Don & Thelma Montague Ph: 9808 1200 Mob: 0414 355488 Email: info@theldon.com.au Web: www.theldon.com.au

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Anyone wishing to advertise in the Club Directory, Contact the Editor at editor@vfwdc.com



CONDOLENCE

It is with great sadness we announce the passing of

Mary Wade

Mary passed away peacefully on 23 January 2007 after a long battle with ill health.

Mary was the widow of the late Alan Wade. She and Alan had been loyal members of the Victorian Four Wheel Club for approximately 25 years.

Mary was a strong and courageous woman with a great sense of humour. She will be sadly missed by those who knew her well

On behalf of the Committee and Members of the VFWDC our sincere condolences are extended to Mary's family and friends.

4x4 Swap Meet and 4x4 Show and Shine



Sunday, 4th March 2007 8.00am-2.00pm Yarra Glen Showgrounds, Melba Hwy, Yarra Glen , www.drfwdc.org.au

PRE-LOVED 4WD PARTS bull bars

- wheels and tyres
- fuel tanks
- engines
- recovery gear
- seats
- suspensions
- shop soiled items
- discontinued lines
- damaged goods
- and much more!

Camping gear and tents Meals available

ADMISSION

Buyers: \$3 (under 12 free). Sellers: Standard sites are \$20 prebooked or \$25 on the day. Undercover sites \$30. Car/ tent sites are \$15 prebooked or \$20 on the day. No dogs allowed.

DON'T MISS THIS ONCE-A-YEAR OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE/SAVE MONEY

Trade your unwanted parts and accessories for cash, or just come along to pick up a bargain.

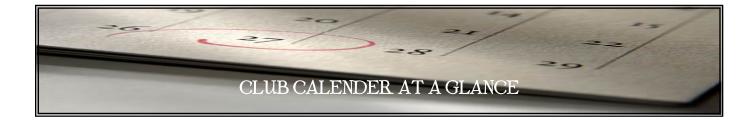
WHEN

8.00am-2.00pm (Strictly no buyer access prior to 8.00am. Sellers . 6.00am entry).

SELLING YOUR 4WD? It's cheaper than the newspapers.

SAME DAY AS YARRA GLEN MARKET

15th Annual Swap Meet organised by the Dandy Ranges 4WD Club.



	FEBRUARY		
Tuesday 6 th	Club Meeting – Extraordinary AGM	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904
Friday 9 th to Sunday 11 th	A-Grade Trip - Big River to Woods Point	John Partridge	0428 331 211
Sunday 18 th February	Day Trip – Lal Lal	Michael Rodger	0412 530 666
Tuesday 20 th	Committee Meeting	John Partridge	0428 331 211
Friday 23 rd to Sunday 25 th	Аvoca	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904
	MARCH		
Tuesday 6th	Club Meeting	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904
Sunday 18 th	Day Trip – Wombat/Lerderderg	Derek	0438 259 605
Tuesday 20 th	Committee Meeting	James Holden	0448 317 528
Saturday 24 th to Sunday 25 th	Family Day/Weekend	James Holden	0448 317 528
Tuesday 27 th	Trip Leader's Course	Michael Rodger	0412 530 666
	APRIL		
Tuesday 3 rd	Club Meeting	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904
ТВА	Cathedral Ranges	Michael Rodger	0412 530 666
Friday 6 th to Monday 9 th	Big Desert Explorer	John Partridge	0428 331 211
Tuesday 17 th	Committee Meeting	Michael Rodger	0412 530 666
	МАҮ		
Tuesday 1 st	Club Meeting	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904
Tuesday 15 th	Committee Meeting	Julie Capper	0411 530 464
ТВА	First Aid Course	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904
	JUNE		
Tuesday	Club Meeting	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904
Tuesday	Committee Meeting	ТВА	

Trading Post



BF Goodrich – Mud Terrain Tyres 33 x 12.5 x 15 (x5)

Good for 2nd Tyres/Road Use \$75.00 each

Toyota Pre-Cleaner (Factory) For 75 Series Troop Carrier Snorkel (new) \$190.00

Industrial Trolley Jack 1500kg capacity \$180.00

Heavy Duty Vehicle Jack-Stands 5000kg Capacity each (x2) \$130.00 pair

Contact Mark Kochan on 0412 544 668

Oztent

Ashley has a contact at work who has an Oztent RV for sale. This is the pre RV2 model and is in very good condition. The Vendor is looking for an offer of approx. \$500.00. If anyone is interested can they please contact Ashley. Email: <u>ashleymartin@valcor.com.au</u>

Camping Equipment

Gasmate 2 Burner Cooker with carry case, stand, 4kg gas bottle & steel hotplate with handles. \$60.00

Fold up laminated table 600mm x 800mm \$15.00

Lantern, Rechargeable 3 in 1 light, remote control, night light, 2 x 9W U tubes, weather proof, AC/DC adaptor, car plug & stand \$65.00

4 person Wild Country Tent with awning, complete with all pegs, poles & guy ropes. \$100.00



Contact Mark Capper on 0411 530484

98 Holden Rodeo

LS space cab Manual, 152000 klms, new tyres, tinted windows Registered until January 2007 RWC EC \$12800 ono

Phone Warren on 9890 3801





Australian Damper



- Self-rising flour
- Beer or Milk

Mix the flour & beer or milk to make a soft dough. Knead lightly on floured board until smooth.

Shape into round loaf, brush with milk, and bake at in preheated camp over for approximately 30 to 40 minutes, or until the loaf makes a hollow sound when tapped.



To All Members

My family and I are enthusiastic four wheel drivers and share common interests as yourselves, which has taken us the length and breadth of our great country. We should never forget how privileged we are, able to enjoy such diverse landscapes of our bush.

Unfortunately, part of our touring equipment, a unique, purpose built camp trailer was stolen by someone who has no appreciation of what the trailer means to us, which enabled our family to enjoy camping in the great outdoors.





Hopefully the photos may create some interest and hopefully jog some memories. If in your travels the trailer is spotted, please take the registration number of the tow vehicle and pass it on to us on 5748 4278 or to the Yarrawonga Police on 5744 3641.

A substantial reward is offered for information leading to the return of our trailer.

See you in the bush

Steve & Louise Woodhead

Forthcoming Trips

Destination	A-Grade Trip Big River to Woods Point
_	
Trip Leader	John Partridge
Contact No	0428 331 211
Date	9 th February to 11 February
Meeting Place	Healesville Pub for dinner
Time Grade	7.00pm WET: Hard
Glade	
Trip Activity Details	DRY: Very Hard
This is a trip for the boys and t	hoir tous. We will be tackling
the hardest tracks in the area	
experience and vehicles suita	5
allowed. You will need to have	•
Training.	
Vehicle Limits	MINIMUM: 2
	MAXIMUM: 6
Approximate Km's	200
Late Fuel Available	PETROL: Healesville
	DIESEL: Healesville
Equipment Required	A full recovery kit is
	mandatory, as are mud terrain
	type tyres. Diff locks would be
	an advantage
Maps Required	TBA
Radio Channel CB/UHF	12
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Destination	Avoca
Trip Leader Contact No Date Meeting Place Time Grade	Ashley Martin 0438 600 904 23 rd February to 25 th February Westgate Shell Service Centre TBA WET: Medium/Hard DRY: Medium
Trip Activity Details	

This trip will involve a good selection of medium to hard tracks. We will be driving the medium tracks and looking at the harder sections, there maybe some willing to attempt the harder section but there are alternative routes around them. The trip will be run along the lines of an advanced training trip so we are encouraging those who have completed the proficiency training to attend and further improve their driving skills. Vehicles do not have to be heavily modified, a good set of all terrains and recovery equipment will be required though.

The camping area is situated 10 minutes out of Elmhurst and has a shelter in case of any rain. I will have directions at them general meeting.

MINIMUM:

Vehicle Limits

Approximate Km's Late Fuel Available

Equipment Required Maps Required **Radio Channel CB/UHF** MAXIMUM: 10 150 PETROL: Avoca DIESEL: Avoca Basic recovery equipment N/A 12

3

Destination

Family Weekend - TBA

Trip Leader	James Holden
Contact No	0448 317 528
Date	Saturday 24 th March 2007
	Sunday 25 th March 2007
Meeting Place	TBA
Time	TBA
Grade	WET: Easy
	DRY: Easy

Trip Activity Details

With the enjoyment had by all at the 30th Anniversary party we have decided to run a similar family weekend. Games for the kids during the day followed by a BBQ for dinner and adult time at night. The destination will be close to Melbourne which will allow both day visitors and overnight camping, this should suit all members. The activities organized for the kids will include sack race, plank race and many more along with face art by Verylle. The games will be held in the afternoon and will involve not only kids but adults as well.

Dinner in the evening will be a BBQ. To eliminate any major cost to members each family can provide their own BBQ favorite food. All the cooking items will be provided including BBQs.

Keep an eye out in the December newsletter for more information. Vehicle Limits MINIMUM N/A

N/A

	MAXIMUM:
Approximate Km's	200kms
Late Fuel Available	N/A
Equipment Required	TBA
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.





Robe SA 26th to 28th January

John Partridge	Nissan Patrol
Leanne Young	Toyota Hilux
Maggie Melcher	Toyota Prado

Thursday 28 December

We had an unexpected cold night and woke up to a clear day. Too much wind for my liking, but no flies nor mossies. After breakfast we decided to inspect the surrounding area and make firm plans for the coming days. Beachport was our first port of call. A small, slow coastal town known for its, Leanne and John would say donuts hoops... known for the crayfish industry. The pier, some 700 m long was like a suburb in itself. Fishing boats coming and going. We watched one boat filling up its 3,000 L diesel tank and the poor guys paid \$1.50 pl. Then there were all the guys fishing from the pier and many of us tourists.

From there we drove to Robe. On the way we could see the impressive sand dunes. Robe was a little tourist Mecca, lots of shops, lots of people, all surrounded by water and waterways. The township has some lovely old bluestone buildings from the 19th century, and plenty of trendy shops. Had our lunch in a small park, stocked up on some necessities like fuel and beer.

On our way back we found site worth inspecting. A long drain was carved out to irrigate the area. In the early 19 hundreds the drain was dug out by two men only with machinery similar to old mining equipment. It was quite impressive to see the long deep channel cut through deep, narrow limestone rocks leading towards the sea. On the plains there was fertile land due to the created channels. Forgot the name of the site.

We had a quick stop on the beach and got terribly excited, vast, white, empty sandy beaches, ready for our tyres to dig in.

Back at camp, the wind had done alterations to John's cooking quarters. No drama, he just changed it around. We had our dinner and sat together for a meal, drink and a yarn.





Saturday 30 December

The wind was slowing down and it was getting warmer, decided to go slow after our great day in the Canunda NP. Slept in, walked along the beach, John and Leanne cycled along the beach, then another cuppa, a \$3-shower, and more sitting around. The sun was getting stronger and would not do us any good, therefore John decided to go to Coonawarra, good idea. We all hopped into John's car and wineries we're coming, chauffeured all they way. Drove through dry areas and ended up at the Riddoch Highway which is going straight through the Coonawarra. The area is known for its red wines. The red soil and limestone structure is quite unique. It is a small region only, but all major brands have secured their precious piece of land. Went to Wynn's, had a quick bite to eat and then went onto Zema's, Buller, Marjella, Leconfield and Patrick. We gently s(I)ipped into a very good mood and poor John could only look on. Some buying was done in the process. One the way from Coonawarra to Beachport (via Naracoorte), we checked out 2 possible campgrounds for future reference which were disappointing. One was in a wetland area – which was sadly completely dried up and looked dismal. No-one camped there and all the information about the project looked more like a joke. We went to Beachport for one reason - for I wanted fish n' chips – small but good compensation for not buying cray fish. We all loved it, but poor John got sick in the middle of the night. By the time we got home and had our night cap we were ready for bed.

I want to say thank you to Leanne and John for being such good company. Because there were only the three of us, we formed a bond which I appreciated very much – though I am sure we did miss the rest of the gang at times!

A happy, healthy New Year to all.

Maggie



Saturday 24 March 2006



www.yarrolynholidaypark.com.au

Taggerty, Victoria

From 10.30am to 4.00pm

(or overnight if you wish)

11.00 - 12.30: 12.30 - 2.00: 2.00 - 4.00: Activities Lunch More Activities

This is a day we encourage all members and their families to come along and enjoy some good family fun.

Activities will include: © Face Painting © Plank Race © Tug o' War © Egg & Spoon Race © 3 Legged Race © Sack Race © Sprints (kids and adults) © Gumboot Throwing



You will need to provide lunch and all utensils, tables and chairs. BBQ and fridge available on site.

Drinks and ice creams for the kids will be provided by the Club.

Accommodation is available for those who wish to stay overnight.

Non powered site - \$22-24 Powered site - \$24-26 Cabins - \$65-100

For further details, contact Ashley Martin 0438 600 904.



CLUB TRIP DATA FORM

Avoca

DESTINATION	AVOCA
LEADER	Ashley Martin
CONTACT NO.	0438 600 904
DATE	Friday 23 rd February 2007
	Sunday 25 th February 2007
MEETING PLACE	Westgate Shell Service Centre
TIME	ТВА
GRADE	WET: Medium - Hard
Please adhere to new trip classifications	DRY: Medium
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	This trip will involve a good selection of medium to hard tracks. We will be driving the medium tracks and looking at the harder sections, there maybe some willing to attempt the harder section but there are alternative routes around them. The trip will be run along the lines of an advanced training trip so we are encouraging those who have completed the proficiency training to attend and further improve their driving skills. Vehicles do not have to be heavily modified, a good set of all terrains and recovery equipment will be required though. The camping area is situated 10 minutes out of Elmhurst and has a shelter in case of any rain. I will have directions at them general meeting.
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 3
	MAXIMUM: 10
APPROX KMS	150
Meeting place to destination	
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Avoca
	DIESEL: Avoca
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	N/A
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Basic recovery equipment
MAPS REQUIRED	N/A
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	12