

Bringing Four Wheel Drivers
Together



Victorian Four Wheel Drive
Club Inc.

Free Wheeling

VFWDC

April 2016

Official Newsletter of the Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc

Bindaree Falls - Huts Trip

Registration No A0002184F

Notice Board

VFWDC GENERAL MEETING VENUE

The club meets at the Bowling Club Rooms, Noble Park Football Club, 46-56 Moodemere St, Noble Park on the 1st Wednesday of every month at 8.00pm (**No meeting in January and November meeting at selected location**). Members and Guests are welcome to dine at the Bistro before attending the meeting from 6:30pm.

First **WEDNESDAY** of each month 8.00pm Start

Venue:

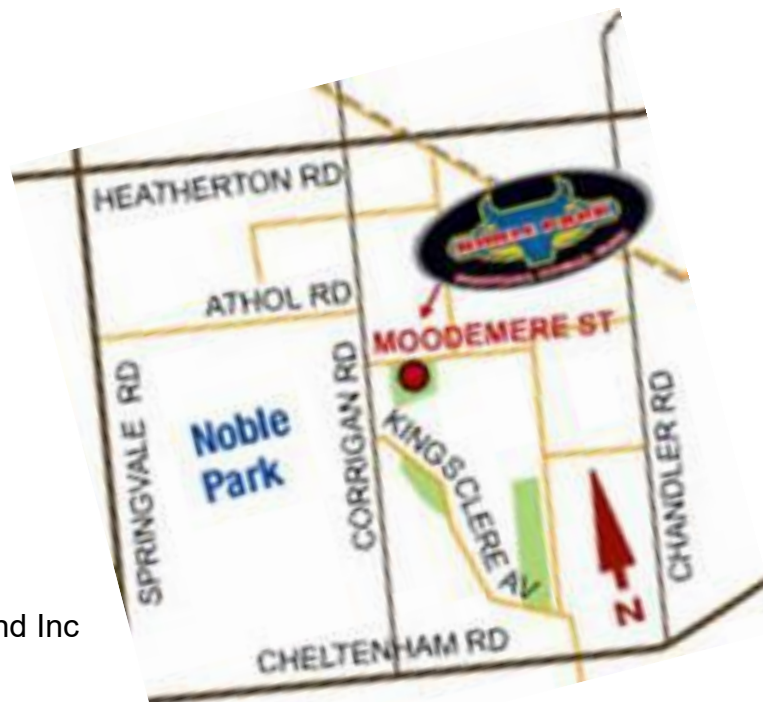
Bowling Club Rooms (Next to Car Park,
down the far end of the car park)

Noble Park Football Club

46-56 Moodemere Street

Noble Park

Melways ref: 89 D4



Aberfeldy Track managed by West Gippsland Inc

www.westgippslandinc.com.au

FREE WHEELING

editor@vfwdc.com

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT		
2015-2016		
President	David Bruinsma	president@vfwdc.com
Vice President	Sally Higgs	vicepres@vfwdc.com
Secretary	Bruce Cremonesi	secretary@vfwdc.com
Treasurer	Tony Barbera	treasurer@vfwdc.com
GENERAL COMMITTEE		
Trip Co-Ordinator	Stuart Bowker	trips@vfwdc.com
Newsletter Editor	(position vacant)	editor@vfwdc.com
Association Delegate's	President and Treasurer	
General Committee	Max Germasi	
General Committee	(position vacant)	
SUPPORT POSITIONS TO COMMITTEE		
Web manager	Ben Whitworth	web@vfwdc.com
Training officer	Phillip Griffith	Email c/- trips@vfwdc.com
Training officer	Ashley Martin	Email c/- trips@vfwdc.com
Merchandise	Carolyn Bruinsma	merchandise@vfwdc.com
Club Details		
Registered Name	Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club	
Registration No	A002184F	
Correspondence	PO Box 778 Dandenong VIC 3174	
Email	secretary@vfwdc.com	
Website	www.vfwdc.com	
The Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club is an affiliated club of Four Wheel Drive Victoria - www.fwdvictoria.org.au		

CLUB MERCHANDISE FOR SALE			
Club Polo Shirts	\$28.00 ea	Club Polar Fleece ½ Zip Jumper	\$38.00 ea
Club Polar Fleece Full Zip Jacket	\$48.00 ea	Club Sleeveless Reversible Vest	\$44.00 ea
Club Caps	\$15.00 ea	Club Bucket Hat	\$16.00 ea
Club Wide Brim Hat	\$18.00 ea	Club Beanie	\$12.00 ea
Club Drivers Jacket (Coat)	\$80.00 ea	VFWDC Windscreen stickers (small) \$6.00 (large) \$8.00	
We encourage all members to purchase a Club Polo Shirt.			
Email your order to merchandise@vfwdc.com . Please ensure you advise size required.			



News From The President

Hello and welcome for yet another issue of the VFWDC monthly magazine.

By the time everyone gets to read this magazine, most of the busy Easter trips will have been completed and everyone should be safely home.

We had a good number of people away from the club over the Easter weekend, probably the most we have had away on a single weekend for a long time. It is good to see the variety of trips which is on offer in the club magazine at the moment, and even better is seeing peoples names appearing on the trip forms at the meetings.

Our club is all about being able to find the time to get away on any variety of trips whether it is a day trip, an overnigher, a weekender or perhaps even longer type of trip away. Whether it is by yourself, a small group or even a larger group.

Over the next few months, the committee will be putting together the regular trips, social events and also training events that normally take place on a yearly or bi-annual basis.

We have booked in 2 dates for this year for the regular working bees up in the Aberfeldy area, we have booked the annual Xmas in July back at St.Annes winery, and we are looking into the First Aid refresher course for the second half of the year as well (which is now a bi-annual event). Please keep an eye in the magazine Trip Calender for when these events are to take place.

At the April meeting expect to hear a lot about the trips that have taken place over the busy March period, because we had a lot of trips run in March due to having 2 long weekends in the one month.

April is looking a bit quieter at the moment, as no-one has yet put a trip notice in for the Anzac weekend

If anyone is reading this magazine on line, and is not yet a member of a club, please feel free to come along to our monthly meeting in Noble Park and come and say giddyay to a committee member and introduce yourself, we are a friendly bunch of folks and I'm sure you will be made to feel very welcome as a guest at our meeting.

So whatever your plans are over the coming weeks and months, I hope you get a chance to go out and enjoy our great outdoors.

David Bruinsma
VFWDC Club President
www.vfwdc.com



CLUB CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

5

2016	April			
6th	Wednesday	General Meeting	President	
15th		Deadline for magazine articles	Editor	
16th	Saturday	Marysville and Surrounds	Stuart	0428 539 157
19th	Tuesday	Committee Meeting	President	
2016	May			
4th	Wednesday	General Meeting	President	
15th		Deadline for magazine articles	Editor	
14th/15th	Sat/Sun	Caz's not quite 40th Birthday week-end	David	0417 747 860
17th	Tuesday	Committee Meeting	President	
21st-22nd	Sat/Sun	Aberfeldy Working Bee	David	0417 747 860
2016	June			
1st	Wednesday	General Meeting	President	
10th-13th	Frid to Sunday	Portland Buggy Club	Bruce	0400 425 296
15th		Deadline for magazine articles	Editor	
21st	Tuesday	Committee Meeting	President	
2016	July			
6th	Wednesday	General Meeting	President	
9th/10th	Sat/Sun	Xmas in July - St. Annes Winery	David	0417 747 860
15th		Deadline for magazine articles	Editor	
19th	Tuesday	Committee Meeting	President	
2016	August			
6th	Wednesday	AGM and General Meeting	President	
15th		Deadline for magazine articles	Editor	
23rd	Tuesday	Committee Meeting	President	
2016	September			
6th	Wednesday	General Meeting	President	
9th/12th		Border Track	Mick	0417 747 860
15th		Deadline for magazine articles	Editor	
20th	Tuesday	Committee Meeting	President	
2016	October			
5th	Wednesday	General Meeting	President	
15th		Deadline for magazine articles	Editor	
15th/16th	Sat/Sun	Aberfeldy Working Bee	David	0417 747 860
18th	Tuesday	Committee Meeting	President	

Minutes of General Meeting March 2016

Meeting started 8pm

Attendees – as per book

Apologies - as per book

Minutes from Feb Meeting

Read and Accept

Accepted: Max

Second: Stuart

Incoming Correspondence

Emails from prospective members

Clean up the bush – 2nd 3rd April – weekend after Easter

Rudi – Regarding working bees at Aberfeldy

Outgoing Correspondence

Reply to Rudi

Emails to prospective members

Treasurers Report

As per attachment.

Accept– James

Seconded –Phil

Matters out of Minutes

Old sew on patches found and now on sale – 10 left. They aren't exactly the same colours as we have now but are suitable.

Carolyn talked about other items we could look at selling – bags and backpacks. Show of hands were asked for but no interest was generated.

Upcoming Club Trips (*Trip forms down the back of the meeting on the bench*)

Bruce - discussed the Huts trip – will be the best one yet.

Dave – Wonnangatta trip in over the mountain from Dargo

Max - Wiperfield trip Murray Sunset – trailers ok.

Brett – Source of Murray Trip. Drive as far as can go, then walk the remainder of the way in

Stuart discussed Micks trip - Pinch River – Barry way South of Jindabyne

Carolyns almost 40th birthday bush bash 14/15th bush escape Little O'Tooles.

Bruce – Portland Buggy Club trip coming – need to download membership form and pay 2 weeks before going.

Dave – Discussed a close arrangement with Bellarine 4wd club for future trips in each others districts

Coffee break

General Business

Editor position vacant, there was a slight mis-communication between editor and the committee with which magazine was to be the final Amanda was available to do, so Apologies from the Committee to Amanda.
Dave and Carolyn will do it until AGM.

Communications Policy V1 draft has been completed by Ben. V2 will be out for next committee meeting with some changes and updates.

New Club Brochures. Looking very professional. Great job done. These were handed out at Wandin, and put into the showbags at the 4wd Vic stand.

Association Report

President and Delegates Meeting at the Association club rooms (same Saturday as driver training). David and Tony will attend.

Wandin was good. Dave was excited. The Committee will see what happens next year if we go back and actually run our own club stand. Although rumours have it that it maybe at Lardner Park as the current site has been sold and the owners are charging much higher costs than previous years.

Club Trips Been and Gone

Wombat Trip report by Tony. (*see trip report in magazine*)
Relaxing and fun trip with a courtesy bus to take them to the Pig and Whistle pub
Did some tracks around Lerderderg
Ben n Claire had their kids camping for the first time and had a ball...
Tony got brownie points for arranging flowers for his wife whilst at the pub.

Raffle drawn

Max took the first aid kit
Sam took the drag chain
James (new member) took the Grease Gun
Charlie gets the spot/reversing light

Dave thanked everyone for the night.

Meeting Closed

9.30

Bringing Four Wheel Drivers Together

Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc
www.vfwdc.com

Treasurer's Report February 2016

<u>Cheque A/C</u>	Opening Balance as at 01/02/2016	\$3,557.26
Add:	Memberships	\$220.00
	Merchandise	\$158.00
	Raffle Dec & Jan	\$220.50
	Total Monies In:	\$598.50
<u>Less:</u>	Catering Chq 478	\$24.35
	Club Flyers Chq 479	-\$387.20
	Chq for stationary	-\$20.07
	Refund Membership overpayment	-\$400.00
	Total Monies Out:	-\$431.62
	Closing Balance as at 29/01/2016	\$3,724.14
	Plus: Un presented Cheque #469	-\$400.00
29/01/2016	Actual Balance When Cheque's Presented	\$3,324.14
<u>Term Deposit</u>	Opening Balance as at 01/02/2016	\$6,171.27
	Closing Balance as at 29/02/2016	\$6,171.27
<u>Petty Cash</u>	Opening Balance as at 01/01/2016	\$150.00
	Add: Transfer in from Cheque A/C	\$24.35
	Less: Catering Costs - Meetings	-\$24.35
	Closing Balance as at 29/02/2016	<u>\$150.00</u>
	Consolidated Closing Cash Position	<u>\$9,645.41</u>



To: All association club members.

Our association treasurer, John Farlow, has recently decided to leave the board. We would like to thank John for the great work he did in bringing the association's finances back under control and into excellent shape especially after what he was presented with when he joined the board at the start of 2014. All members should be extremely thankful of the knowledge that John brought to the position and the huge effort that he put into producing excellent financial reports, presenting these at association meetings and providing guidance to the board and office on the association's spending and budget. He also chaired the business and finance sub-committee which was focussed on the financial operation of the association.

As a result of John's departure the board is seeking applicants to fill this position. If you have experience in such a position, including a working knowledge of MYOB and financial operations in a Not For Profit organisation, we would be keen to hear from you. Qualifications such as being a current, or recent, CPA would be preferred but all reasonable applications will be considered.

Please feel free to contact myself at either of the numbers below if you are interested in applying for this position.

Thanks,

Damian Stock

President

Four Wheel Drive Victoria RSL Hall, 2 Centreway

Balwyn North VIC 3104

PO Box 1015G

North Balwyn VIC 3104

Tel: (03) 9801 9191

Mob: 0400 118 853

Fax: (03) 9857 5260

Email: president@fwdvictoria.org.au

Website: www.fwdvictoria.org.au

Facebook: www.facebook.com/4WDVictoria

UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	Marysville and surrounds
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Stuart & Maree MOB: Stuart 0428539157
DATE	Saturday 16/4/16
MEETING PLACE / TIME	Marysville main street outside the bakery 9:am for a 9:30 am departure. Bakery should be open for Breaky allow extra time
GRADE Please adhere to new trip classifications	WET: Medium DRY: Easy
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	The trip will go to Keppel hut, MacFadyen Tk Quartz Crk Rd, Bull Fight Rd, Royston Range Tk to the Rubicon Power Station and maybe stop for dinner at the Buxton Burger place if anyone is interested. Bring packed lunch and munchies for roadside stops
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 3 MAXIMUM: N/A
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	300-400 klms round trip
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Marysville credit card sales only best to fuel at Healesville DIESEL: Marysville credit card sales only best to fuel at Healesville No LPG
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	400 klms
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Own basic recovery gear, tools and any spares you may require. AT or MT tyres
MAPS REQUIRED	Rooftop maps Marysville-Lake Eildon or Big River Rubicon
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	12 UHF

UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	Almost 40th birthday bush party- Aberfeldy District
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Carolyn MOB: 0402 28 30 31
DATE	Sat 14th May / Sun 15th May
MEETING PLACE / TIME	Saturday morning 9am at Caltex in Longworry
GRADE	WET: Medium/Hard DRY: Easy/Medium
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	<p>Trip to Aberfeldy staying at little O'Tools.</p> <p>Staying for 36 hours to celebrate another year of getting older; Enjoying the company of those who arrive.</p> <p>Saturday Night will be a fun night - please plan for 'roast' cook off friendly competition, and then after dinner roasting mashmellows over the fire</p> <p>(almost 40, means she turns 39 yo)</p>
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 10
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	300 kms, depends on how much exploring we choose to do.
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Moe DIESEL: Moe
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	Less than 100 kms
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Camping gear, Recovery gear, Food, Water, Sense of fun and relaxation - Camp Ovens for Roasting Dinner
MAPS REQUIRED	
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	UHF 12

UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	Aberfeldy District—Working Bee
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: David MOB: 0417 747 860
DATE	Saturday 21st May / Sunday 22nd May
MEETING PLACE / TIME	tba
GRADE	WET: Medium/Hard DRY: Easy/Medium
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	<p>Trip to Aberfeldy staying at little O'Tools.</p> <p>Saturday as we go into Aberfeldy area, we will look at all signage and clean and repair as necessary, including trimming weeds and grass at the base of all signage. We will prepare a written report for each sign, so we can send to Rudi for record keeping, and also for our own records so we can ascertain if we need to go back for further works than originally anticipated.</p> <p>After the 'working' bee, we will enjoy some basic 4wd'ing until we reach either Little O'tools or O'tools depending on how busy the area is on the weekend.</p> <p>Happy hour from 5 to 6 (everyone to supply a plate of something)</p> <p>Sunday will be a few more tracks, depending on mood, as we head out and aim for home.</p>
VEHICLE LIMITS	<p>MINIMUM: 2</p> <p>MAXIMUM: 10</p>
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	300 to 450 kms, depends on how much exploring we choose to do.
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	<p>PETROL: Moe</p> <p>DIESEL: Moe</p>
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	Less than 100 kms
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Camping gear, Recovery gear, Food, Water, Sense of fun and relaxation. For the Saturday - need gloves, cleaning wipes, chain saws, wipper snippers (with heavy duty cord preferred)
MAPS REQUIRED	
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	UHF 12

UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	Portland Buggy Club @ Portland Victoria
LEADER/CONTACT.	Name: Bruce Cremonesi Email: secretary@vfwdc.com
DATE	June Long Weekend. 10 th to the 13 th Departing Friday June 10 th not too early.
MEETING INFO	BP Servo on Eastlink Outbound 9.30am for 9.45am departure for a leisurely cruise down there.
TRIP GRADING	DRY : Medium WET : Easy
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	<p>Heading to the 1800ha Portland Buggy club to play in the sand. Everything for the sand enthusiast and is a generally great place to relax.</p> <p>BIG hills for sand tobogganing! Bring ya own skim/body board etc. along!</p> <p>You need to apply and pay 2 weeks in advance for a permit - 4 days \$50</p> <p>Form available here at the meeting from Bruce.</p> <p>Awesome place to learn the fine art of sand driving. There are dunnys and showers on site.</p> <p>Nice grassy campsite + bonfire will be spotted from the space station. Fishing was tops in the gutters last time if that floats ya boat.</p> <p>May also be wildlife around the camp as there as last time.</p> <p>If there is interest - Seals tour www.sealsbyseatours.com.au</p>
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 6 MAXIMUM: 40
APPROX KMS	~ 400 klms to Portland. And 10klms past there.
LAST FUEL	Portland has numerous Service Stations.
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	<p>Full Recovery Gear required. It's up to you to have the correct gear.</p> <p>All vehicles must display a red flag of not less than 20cm x 30cm at the top of a pole not less than 4m from the ground. The pole must not lay horizontal at speed.</p> <p>Rated front + rear recovery points</p> <p>Snatch Strap + Rated shackles</p> <p>Gloves + Shovel</p> <p>Tyre Pressure Gauge + Compressor for reflatting tyres</p> <p>UHF Radio</p> <p>Be Self-sufficient food and sleeping wise. Camper Trailers Welcome.</p> <p>Video or Still Camera highly recommended.</p> <p>Warm Clothing</p> <p>Sense of Adventure and Humour + munchies n stuff for happy hour.</p>
UHF Channel	UHF 28

UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	Xmas in July - St Annes Winery
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: David Bruinsma MOB: 0417 747 860
DATE	Saturday 9th July to Sunday 10th July 2015 (<i>provisional date</i>)
MEETING PLACE / TIME	At St. Annes Winery from 12 mid-day onwards on the Saturday: 64 Garrards Road, Myrniong VIC 3341
GRADE	easy
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	<p>Twill be an easy relaxing weekend, camping at the winery itself. Come along, set up your camp - go to the cellar door, sample the wonderful variety of Wines and Ports and purchase your supplies for the weekend. The committee intend to supply the Saturday night dinner on our huge BBQ. The Committee will also supply a cooked breakfast on the Saturday morning. Numbers are needed prior to the weekend either by putting you names and passenger number down on the trip data form at a preceding club meeting - or by emailing me on president@vfwdc.com with your details. We need to know if you are coming for DINNER ONLY, or staying for breakfast as well.</p> <p><i>(I need someone from the club who would be interested in arranging the food and/or cooking as Marie will likely be on the trip with Stuart on the Canning Stock Route).</i></p> <p>Happy hour starts on Saturday as soon as you arrive and are set up, please bring plate(s) of goodies to share around for nibbles !!!!!There is NO 4wding intended at all for the weekend (actually no driving at all until the next day as you head home), but for those who would like to get some 4wheeling done, there will be opportunity to do so upon your departure on Sunday to head up through Wombat SF, I can certainly recommend to try the XL track which has some nice bog holes last time I drove through.</p> <p>The winery allowed us to have an awesome bon fire on last year, I expect that will have the same opportunity again this year.</p>
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 5 MAXIMUM: whole club
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Bachuss Marsh DIESEL: Bachuss Marsh
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	Bachuss Marsh
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Normal camping gear - and then relax around the camp fire.
MAPS REQUIRED	Normal GPS is sufficient to get to St. Annes
UHF	UHF 12
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> Official Newsletter of the Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc Registration No A0002184F </div>	

UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	Border track
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Mick MOB: 0424766616
DATE	Sep 9 th Sep 12 th
MEETING PLACE / TIME	TBA
GRADE Please adhere to new trip classifications	WET: Med DRY: Easy
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	We will be exploring some of the big desert and the Murray Sunset country and the border track
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 8
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Fuel is readily available DIESEL:
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	At most 300km
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	This trip could be wet or dry the area is like the high country....unpredictable so be prepared!
MAPS REQUIRED	Victoria's desert map
RADIO CHANNEL UHF	12

UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	Aberfeldy District - Working Bee
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: David MOB: 0417 747 860
DATE	Saturday 15th October / Sunday 16th October
MEETING PLACE / TIME	tba
GRADE	WET: Medium/Hard DRY: Easy/Medium
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	<p>Trip to Aberfeldy staying at little O'Tools.</p> <p>Saturday as we go into Aberfeldy area, we will look at all signage and clean and repair as necessary, including trimming weeds and grass at the base of all signage. We will prepare a written report for each sign, so we can send to Rudi for record keeping, and also for our own records so we can ascertain if we need to go back for further works than originally anticipated.</p> <p>After the 'working' bee, we will enjoy some basic 4wd'ing until we reach either Little O'tools or O'tools depending on how busy the area is on the weekend.</p> <p>Happy hour from 5 to 6 (everyone to supply a plate of something)</p> <p>Sunday will be a few more tracks, depending on mood, as we head out and aim for home.</p>
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 10
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	300 to 450 kms, depends on how much exploring we choose to do.
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Moe DIESEL: Moe
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	Less than 100 kms
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Camping gear, Recovery gear, Food, Water, Sense of fun and relaxation. For the Saturday - need gloves, cleaning wipes, chain saws, wipper snippers (with heavy duty cord preferred)
MAPS REQUIRED	
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	UHF 12

We Want Your Old Trip Notes

We are looking for old trip notes from leaders who have lead a trip in the past. This is to give other members some ideas of trips they could run. Please email our trip coordinator

trips@vfwdc.com

YOUR PHOTOS WANTED!



If you have any great trip photos please email them to Ben web@vfwdc.com to add to the website gallery.

Make Sure you let Ben know which trip the photos are from. Please make sure to blur or black out all license plates.



TRIP REPORT—HUTS TRIP

High country huts trip report

Friday 11th to Monday 14th March 2016

Participants

Maree & Stuart	Toyota Ute
Tim & Carra	X trail
Mel & Shane	Hilux
Tony & Lisa	Ranger
Sandra, Max & Nicholas	200 Toyota
Ben	Triton
Steve Z & Tim	Patrol
Jo, Peter & Chloe	Colorado
Louisa & Norm	Ranger
Andrew & Eliza	Hilux
Jack	Patrol

Friday 11th March 2016.

The group all ended up at Sheep yard flat but the funny thing was we were in different places. All finding the group on Saturday. Moral to this story is be more specific about the meeting place when the camp ground is going to be full.

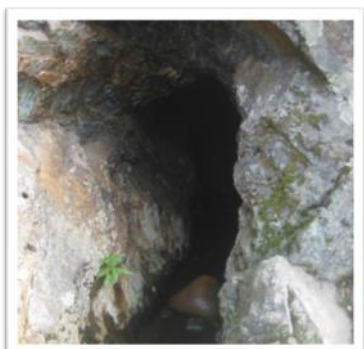


Stuart parked next to this sign. I thought it funny.

Saturday 12th March 2016.

First adventure was the walk through the rock tunnel. Eliza enjoyed the piggy back through. The spider webs deterred some, but there was a brave few who said it was worth the effort.

Next stop Upper Jamison Hut, then on to Refrigerator track, and Bluff hut. We then proceeded to Lovicks hut. This track challenged the group but we all managed it. Mt Lovick is 1684mts and the hut sits close to the top. It's a bit like you are at the top of the world. We decided to head down to Bluff hut again, and along 16 mile Jeep track and to Bindaree Hut. Everyone is travelling great so off to Fry flat for our overnight camp. A camp fire was enjoyed set in the back drop of the river and gum trees.



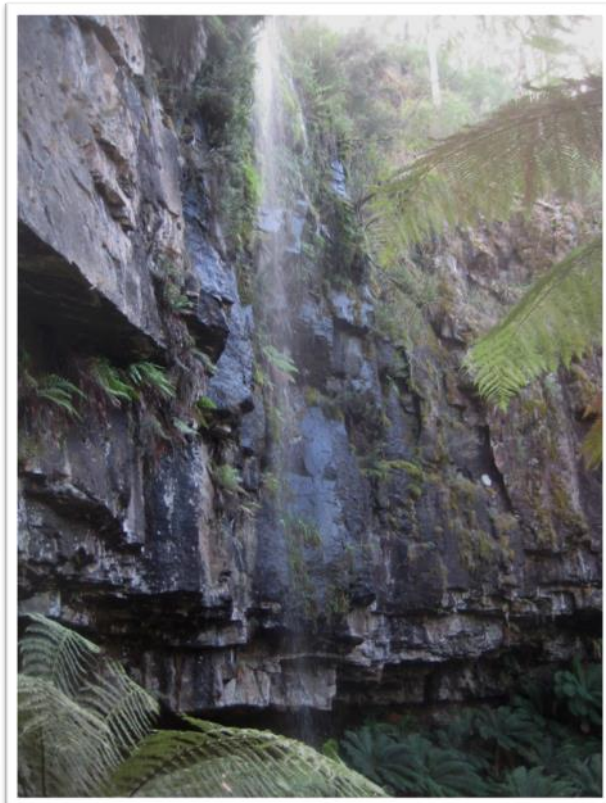


Sunday 13th March 2016.

Sunday Morning, ooopps someone has a flat battery. Nothing better than the boys discussing mechanical issues. Sometimes it's as simple as picking up a hitch hiker stick.



Maree Bowker



We took a stroll to visit Bindaree falls and it's breathtaking. This is looking up at the falls, and the following shot is standing under the rock ledge. Its moments like this I just think how special our country is.



Some great driving skills captured by An-



HUTS TRIP Day 2 Sunday 13th March 2016

Sunday started with everyone up around 7am and cooking breakfast and having our cuppa's, then packing up camp, today Tony and I being trip leaders, first on the list was to Bindaree Falls we went up sixteen mile jeep track with a river crossing with Tony helping Tim and Cara get across which they did no worries, we then continued on to Bindaree Falls where we had morning tea and walked up to the falls which was beautiful and got a club photo under the water fall.



Next we heading to Craig's Hut via Monument Track, but Tim and Cara headed around Circuit rd and meet the rest of us at Craig's Hut, Monument track was steep in sections and quite rocky and challenging (shaken but not stirred) but alot of fun with smiles at the end of it, even Norman had a big grin after losing a mud flap that Sandra and Max kindly collected for him, then arriving at Craig's Hut was nice to see some horse riders there which made for some great photo's in the spirit of The Man From Snowy River, had lunch sitting under the tree's looking out over the beautiful view's of the mountain tops, after Jack and his girlfriends at the back of Craigs Hut.



From Craig's Hut Steve and his mate Tim stayed behind to take more photo's then heading home, also Peter and Jo, Tim and Cara left us to also head home from Craig's Hut the rest of us continued on to Speculation rd to Kings Hut where we stopped to stretch our legs.

After Kings Hut we headed up cobbler Lake Track where we hit peak hour with another 4x4 club heading down the track right on the worst possible place where the track was narrow and steep, the other club had 12 cars so we had to split our group in two to allow the cars to get past us, with some quick thinking from Tony and Shane we got everyone past safely, then regrouped and continued onto Lake Cobbler where we camped for the night right on the edge of the lake.

Getting the camp fire ready which Max is up for the challenge.



Woke up Monday morning to the lovely view of Lake Cobbler, had breakfast and packed up camp again and left by 9:30am and headed back to King Hut via Little Cobbler Track which was a easy drive had our morning tea here then headed to Pineapple Flat which

had 6 river crossing, and thankfully Shane had a hanky on standby for me as I wasn't driving I heard a Ouch across the radio from Norman on one of the crossings as he bottomed out on the rocks, had a relaxed lunch at Pineapple Flats then Stuart took over the lead down the mountain where we aired up at the car-park at the start of Mt Bulla where we all said our goodbye's. We would like to Thank our assistant assistant secretary to the assistant secretary to the Treasurer Shane for guidance and maps along the way, and a BIG thank you to Bruce for putting the trip together, and lastly like to thank Stuart for being our Trip Leader mentor

TRIP REPORT—DRIVER TRAINING

Baw Baw training weekend.

The weekend started with a spectacular drive in over the Thompson Dam, which was a little low, but not as bad as we thought it would be.

There obviously hadn't been any rain recently as the dust was pretty bad on the drive in to O'Tooles. The drive in was very scenic with 3 small river crossings lots of hills and lots of little campsites popping up as you rounded bends.

Saturday's training started with some vehicle inspections and the art of driving through the brakes when on steep hills was explained to us and practiced.

We then had a break for a bite to eat and took off onto the tracks. They started off pretty steep straight away, or so we thought and the vehicles all managed to climb up and down with ease. We came to a few harder bits and the heart started pumping a bit more when we all tackled a steep rock outcrop. Once again we all made it up.

We started to head back down and stopped to gather some firewood on the way, so Phil and James got out the chainsaws.

We were then off again back down the mountain where unfortunately James did the CV in the front drivers wheel and now only had a three wheel drive.

We all made it back to camp ok and everyone welcomed a coldie or two as the temp was fairly warm.

The bush mechanics James and Kyle got to work and started to pull apart the CV on James car which they managed to get it to a safe drivable condition where they were able to continue with the trip.

We all settled in for a bit of dinner and a few drinks and I think that Jo could possibly owe Stuart a bottle or two of Maree's wine. Thanks Stewart.

David and Carolyn showed up for Saturday nights camping and to everyone's surprise, David didn't have any firewood. (we had plenty anyway)

With a good night sleep and maybe just a couple of little hangovers we got up to tackle Sunday. Homework was done cars packed up and we were off again.

It soon became obvious that Sunday was going to be a little more challenging. Ash was out in front with John behind the wheel and we would get a description from Ash every so often about a little rocky outcrop or a bit of a decline. It soon became apparent that when Ashley say's small rocky outcrop and a few ruts, it really means boulders and deep chasms ahead; we all had a good laugh.

Some of us had to readjust our lines in a couple of places and have another go, but with everyone's confidence growing by the minute, we all came through the weekend unscathed.

We finished off with a river crossing at the bottom of the dam, which every got through easily and Bruce took the opportunity to wash as much of his car as he could.

It was a wonderful experience. A lot of knowledge was gained and we met some great people.

Special thanks to Phill, Ashley, Bruce, John and Stewart for sharing some of your knowledge with us.

Definitely worth doing, Joanne Tonkin.