

**Bringing Four Wheel Drivers  
Together**



**Victorian Four Wheel Drive  
Club Inc.**

# Free Wheeling

**VFWDC**

**September 2016**

**Lake William Hovell**

Official Newsletter of the Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc

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:**

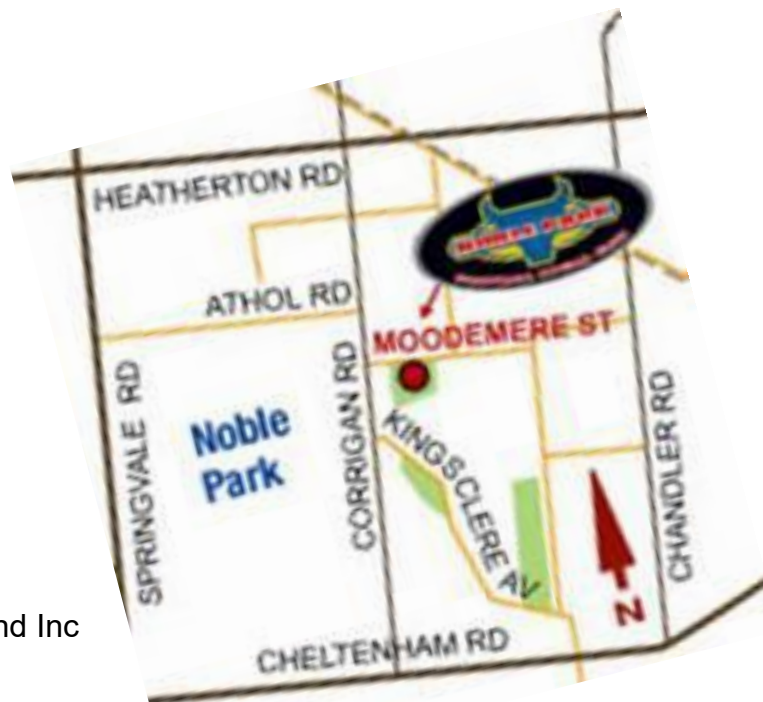
Bowling Club Rooms (Next to Car Park,  
down the far end of the car park)

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](http://www.westgippslandinc.com.au)

### **FREE WHEELING**

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

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT		
2016-2017		
President	Ben Whitworth	<a href="mailto:president@vfwdc.com">president@vfwdc.com</a>
Vice President	(position vacant)	<a href="mailto:vicepres@vfwdc.com">vicepres@vfwdc.com</a>
Secretary	Bruce Cremonesi	<a href="mailto:secretary@vfwdc.com">secretary@vfwdc.com</a>
Treasurer	Tony Barbera	<a href="mailto:treasurer@vfwdc.com">treasurer@vfwdc.com</a>
GENERAL COMMITTEE		
Trip Co-Ordinator	Stuart Bowker	<a href="mailto:trips@vfwdc.com">trips@vfwdc.com</a>
Newsletter Editor	Ly Ho	<a href="mailto:editor@vfwdc.com">editor@vfwdc.com</a>
Association Delegate	David Bruinsma	<a href="mailto:delegate@vfwdc.com">delegate@vfwdc.com</a>
General Committee	Shane Dodman	
General Committee	(position vacant)	
SUPPORT POSITIONS TO COMMITTEE		
Web manager	Ben Whitworth	<a href="mailto:web@vfwdc.com">web@vfwdc.com</a>
Training officer	Phillip Griffith	<a href="mailto:Email c/- trips@vfwdc.com">Email c/- trips@vfwdc.com</a>
Training officer	Ashley Martin	<a href="mailto:Email c/- trips@vfwdc.com">Email c/- trips@vfwdc.com</a>
Merchandise	Carolyn Bruinsma	<a href="mailto:merchandise@vfwdc.com">merchandise@vfwdc.com</a>
Club Details		
Registered Name	Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club	
Registration No	A002184F	
Correspondence	PO Box 778 Dandenong VIC 3174	
Email	<a href="mailto:secretary@vfwdc.com">secretary@vfwdc.com</a>	
Website	<a href="http://www.vfwdc.com">www.vfwdc.com</a>	
The Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club is an affiliated club of Four Wheel Drive Victoria - <a href="http://www.fwdvictoria.org.au">www.fwdvictoria.org.au</a>		

CLUB MERCHANDISE FOR SALE			
Club Polo Shirts	\$28.00 ea	Club Hoodie	\$48.00 ea
Club Polar Fleece Full Zip Jacket	\$48.00 ea	Club Sleeveless Reversible Vest	\$54.00 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 ea	
We encourage all members to purchase a Club Polo Shirt.			
Email your order to <a href="mailto:merchandise@vfwdc.com">merchandise@vfwdc.com</a> . Please ensure you advise size required.			



## News From The President

Hi all, welcome to the VFWDC Free Wheeling magazine and my first term as club president.

Firstly a big thanks to David Bruinsma for his efforts over the last 2 years as club President. And another big thank you to Sally Higgs for her time as Vice President.

The committee this year looks like this;

- Ben Whitworth as President
- Bruce Cremonesi returns as Secretary
- Tony Barbera returns as Treasurer
- Stuart Bowker returns as Trip Co-ordinator
- Ly Ho takes on the Editor position
- Shane Dodman has joined the committee for the first time
- Carolyn Bruinsma returns as our Merchandise co-ordinator
- Phillip Griffith and Ashley Martin stay on as Training Officers
- Ben Whitworth will be continuing to take care of the Web Manager duties

We still need volunteers for the following roles;

- Vice President
- Association Delegate

I would like to express my gratitude to all of our committee members and support persons who have volunteered their time and services for the next year.

Membership renewals are also due. A big thankyou to all of those members who have already renewed. There are quite a few members that have not yet renewed so please take a moment to complete a membership form, which can be found on the [vfwdc.com](http://vfwdc.com) website, and contact the treasurer to settle the fees.

With all the formalities out of the way I would like to say that I am looking forward to the upcoming year and like everyone in the club I am keen to partake in some great adventures.

The calendar for October and November is looking a little bare, so please give some thought to what trips you would like to do and have a chat to Stuart about how we can get them into the calendar.

I hope to see all our members at the next general meeting and out on the tracks.

Ben Whitworth  
President



# CLUB CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

5

2016 September				
7th	Wednesday	General Meeting	President	
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 747860
18th	Tuesday	Committee Meeting	President	
28th Oct to 1st Nov	Friday to Tuesday	Lake William Hovell / Paradise Falls	Tony Shane	0417 153424 0403 056739
2016 November				
9th	Wednesday	General Meeting - Special Event TBA	President	
15th		Deadline for magazine articles	Editor	
22nd	Tuesday	Committee Meeting	President	
2016 December				
7th	Wednesday	General Meeting	President	
10th	Saturday	Xmas Party TBA	Committee	
2017 January				
		No General Meeting		
15th		Deadline for magazine articles	Editor	
17th	Tuesday	Committee Meeting	President	
2017 February				
1st	Wednesday	General Meeting	President	
15th		Deadline for magazine articles	Editor	

## Minutes of General Meeting August 2016

**Members** as Per Book  
**Visitors** as Per Book  
**Apologies** as Per book

July Minutes accepted  
**Accepted:** Jo Tonkin  
**Seconded:** Andre VanDerWalt

**Business from Minutes:**  
 Nil

**Correspondence in:**  
 Emails from prospective members  
 Other Club Magazines.  
 We are invited to the National 4x4 Outdoors Show

**Correspondence out:**  
 Replies to prospective members.

**Treasurers:**  
 As per attached report

**Accept:** Brett  
**Second:** Jack

**General Business:**

**Trips Coming.**  
*See Magazine for more information on trips.*

14<sup>th</sup> August - Matlock/Woods Point/ Snow Trip

27-28<sup>th</sup> August – Cobaw State Forest trip

9 - 12<sup>th</sup> Sept - Border Track  
 - Trip is full, but we may break it into 2 groups if we get enough..

20<sup>th</sup> August - First Aid Course  
 - 20-25 people first aid course

14<sup>th</sup> August – Matlock, Woods Point, Mt Selma.

27<sup>th</sup> -28<sup>th</sup> August - Cobaw St Forest – Low range Min 2 – Max 6 Cars.

9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> September – Border Track

**Trips Been****Xmas in July**

Everyone had fun.

Around 30 people.

Popup tent selling nachos.

Lots stayed overnight.. Dave cooked brekky

**Snow Trip – Andre**

Apart from paperwork, Andre did nothing, he went in a jeep that had more smoke coming out the gearbox than the exhaust.

It wasn't as muddy at Skipworth than expected from recent weather, but not as clean, dry, and cold beer.

Took a while to find snow, but there was plenty...

The jeep fell apart on the way up the hill. The person that was driving with was new to driving and cooked the box.... It cooled down after a long bludge.

Met up with other group that came up from the otherside and had a communal lunch at the summit.

Bruce and Tristan had a play on Barkly and the landrover kept getting stuck.

Andrew got his winch out, but couldn't get it back in.

Everyone got home without damage

**Snow Trip – Sam**

Met at Pakenham for the drive up. Grabbed some toboggans for kids to play on

The crew stayed at Crows Hut for the night.

On their way up the mountain they had 4ft of snow - ft and cm are the same aren't they?

Everyone had a great time.

Raffle:

1<sup>st</sup> – Dave

2<sup>nd</sup> – Bruce

3<sup>rd</sup> - Maree

**Meeting Closed at 9.30pm**





# Treasurer's Report

## July 2016

<u>Cheque A/C</u>	Opening Balance as at 01/07/2016	\$3,900.39
<b>Add:</b>		
	Membership Renewals	\$1040.00
	Merchandise	\$182.00
	Raffle	\$72.40
	<b>Total Monies In:</b>	<b>\$1,294.40</b>
<b>Less:</b>		
	Christmas in July catering	\$404.07
	Catering for May and June	\$51.00
	Web Hosting (Uberglobal)	\$179.40
	<b>Total Monies Out:</b>	<b>\$634.47</b>
	Closing Balance as at 30/06/2016	\$4,560.32
	Refund Membership overpayment	-\$400.00
	Plus: Un presented Cheque #469	-\$400.00
<b>31/07/2016</b>	<b>Actual Balance When Cheque's Presented</b>	<b>\$4,160.32</b>
<u>Term Deposit</u>	Opening Balance as at 01/07/2016	\$6,250.22
	Closing Balance as at 31/07/2016	\$6,250.22
<u>Petty Cash</u>	Opening Balance as at 01/07/2016	\$150.00
	Add: Transfer in from Cheque A/C	\$51.00
	Less: Catering Costs - Meetings	-\$51.00
	Closing Balance as at 31/07/2016	<u>\$150.00</u>
	<b>Consolidated Closing Cash Position</b>	<b><u>\$10,560.54</u></b>



## UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	<b>Aberfeldy District - Working Bee</b>
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: <b>David</b>  MOB: <b>0417 747 860</b>
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

## UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	<b>Lake William Hovell/Paradise Falls</b>
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Tony Barbera/Shane Dodman MOB: 0417 153 424 / 0403 056 739
DATE	Melbourne Cup Weekend (Fri Oct 28 <sup>th</sup> – Tues Nov 1 <sup>st</sup> )
MEETING PLACE / TIME	To be advised
GRADE	WET: Difficult DRY: Medium
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	This trip will be taking in Mt Samaria area, Lake William Hovell, Paradise Falls and surrounding areas camping at different sites each night.
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 6
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	650km round trip from Melbourne
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Mansfield DIESEL: Mansfield
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	All the standard recovery equipment and decent tyre's
MAPS REQUIRED	Leaders will have maps Rooftops Bright-Mansfield Adventure Map or Hema High Country Victoria
RADIO CHANNEL      CB / 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](mailto:trips@vfwdc.com)

# YOUR PHOTOS WANTED!



If you have any great trip photos please email them to Ben [web@vfwdc.com](mailto: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

### Reconnaissance trip — Lake William Hovell

(To be run in November, keep an eye at club meetings for the trip form)

Shane and Mel Dodman

Tony and Lisa Barbera

We met up with Shane and Mel at Carters camping area on Friday night and once we had set up camp we sat around Shane's mini fire pit beneath his tarp to keep warm, it worked a treat, during the night we had a huge down pour of rain luckily all our camping gear kept us dry and warm although I expected to see my boots floating away as they were under my stretcher bed. In the morning we headed up Carters rd and then onto Buckland spur track which was muddy and a little steep and challenging in places especially the decent into Lake William Hovell where we had lunch at the picnic area in a beautiful rotunda overlooking Lake William Hovell .





## TRIP REPORT

After lunch we headed for a look at the spill way that leads into the King River it was flowing heavily .



We then headed along upper king river rd to long spur track where we encountered a raging King river that was flowing fast and had a depth that looked like it would swallow our cars so we decided to go around the long way through King valley and onto Cheshunt then back down the other side of the king river, We then headed for paradise falls. When we got to the car park



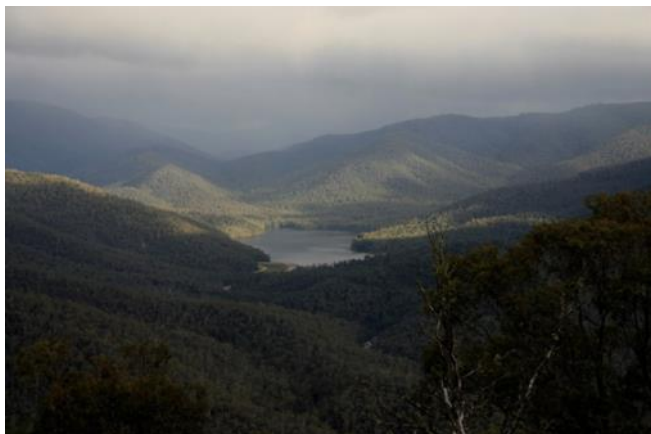
we had a relaxed 500 metre walk to the falls, what a beautiful place standing behind a waterfall like this was just spectacular and the views were amazing.





## TRIP REPORT

We then headed along paradise falls rd to Wabonga track and then onto McMillan's track where we headed for a rock outcrop that overlooked Lake William Hovell. It was quite windy and cold but the views of Lake William Hovell were fantastic.



From this lookout we then headed for camp at Ryan's hut site which was not on the map but a ripping camp site nice and quiet we set up camp and Shane sorted a long drop for us while I tried to start a fire with damp wood, Shane came to the

rescue and got the fire going which we sat around and had a great night. On Sunday we woke to a very cold and icy start to the day our water and olive oil froze but the day sky was clear and little cloud cover the start to a magnificent day.

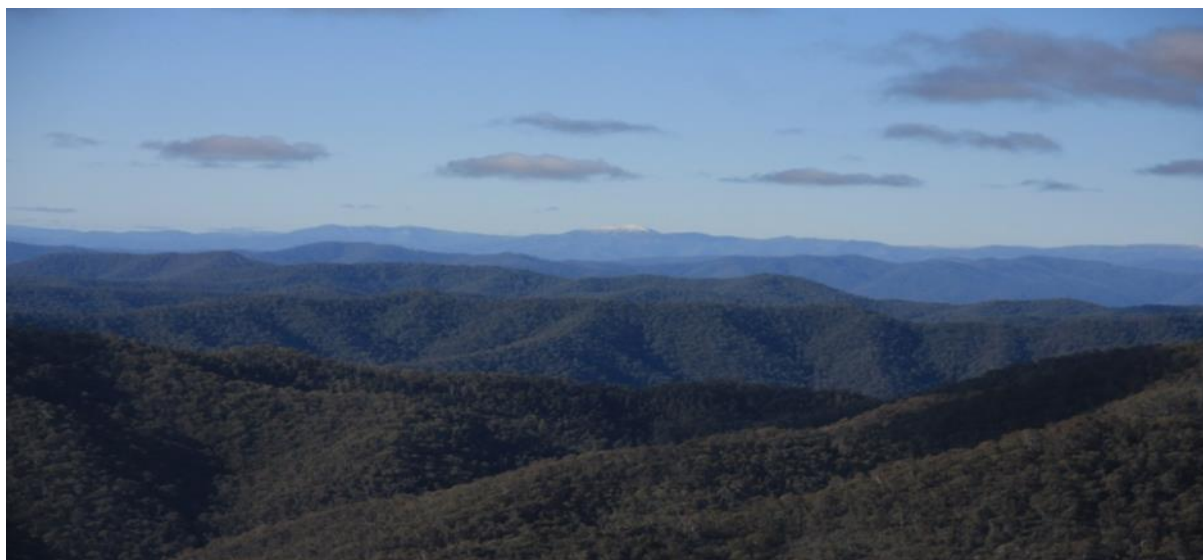


After we packed up in icy conditions we headed off and had a look at Bullocks hut site ruins then onto Basin track where we had to cross private property to get to upper Rose river rd we had a choice of two tracks we chose the one that looked like the right track and when we got to the end gates chained closed so we doubled back and took the second track and all good gate unlocked so away we go on upper rose river rd and then onto wild horse gap track which was steep climb but lots of fun and the onto burnt top track where we had lunch on the ridge opposite Mount Buller we could see a light layer of snow at the top of Mount Buller.

## TRIP REPORT



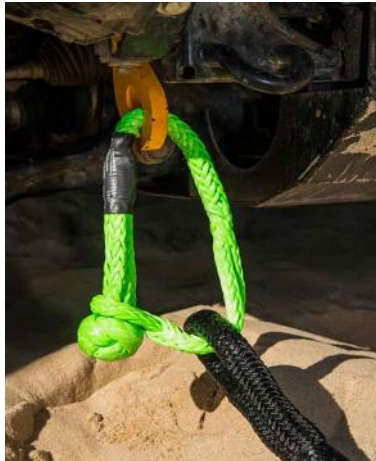
After lunch we headed up burnt top track where we had some great views of mount cobbler and the mountain ranges



From here we travelled to stockyard track and then long spur track and then the steep decent down sandy flat track into sandy flat camp site it's a wonderful campsite next to the king river where we sat around a fire for the night. On Monday we packed up and headed home via Buckland spur track and Evans rd through Tolmie and home. It was a fantastic weekend out we had challenging tracks with great views and better company, My thanks go out to Shane & Mel for organising this trip, I can't wait for Melbourne cup long weekend to do it all again.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Unsealed 4x4 magazine recently did a story on these shackles and I think they are a great idea. I haven't seen them in Australia yet but I am sure it won't be long.



These are [Gator-Jaw](#)® synthetic shackles made by a company called BubbaRope in the US and they say that they are stronger than their steel alternatives. The biggest bonus of these units is the added safety. Imagine how much less damage these would do if they let go compared to a steel shackle.

The full article can be found at <http://unsealed4x4.com.au/issue026/#211>

The BubbaRobewebsite is <http://www.bubbarope.com/tow-rope-connector>

Author: Ben