



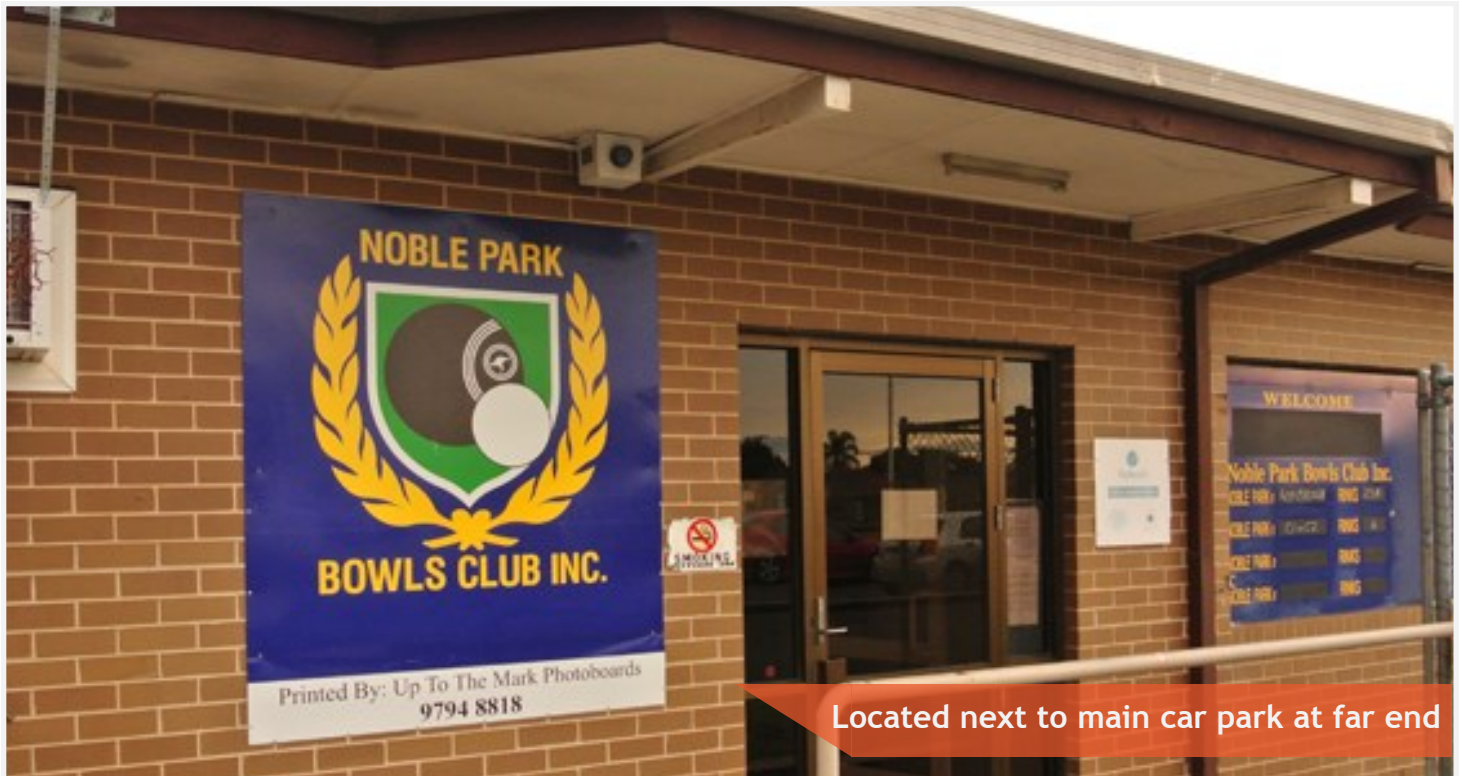
FREE WHEELING

February 2017



Official Newsletter of the
Victorian Four Wheel
Drive Club Inc

Registration No
A0002184F



Located next to main car park at far end

VFWDC General Meeting Venue

The club meets on first WEDNESDAY of each month 8:00pm. No meeting in January, and November is at a selected location.

Bowling Club Rooms

Noble Park Noble Football Club
46-56 Moodemere Street
Noble Park
Melways ref: 89 D4



Members and guests are welcome to dine at the bistro before attending the meeting from 6:30pm.

Aberfeldy Track

In association with [Westland Gippsland Relic, Mining and Heritage Protection Inc](#) , the club maintains a section of the Aberfeldy Track with working bees throughout the year. View the club calendar for the next upcoming working bee.

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

2016-2017

President	Ben Whitworth	president@vfwdc.com
Vice President	Ken Beard	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
Magazine Editor	Ly Ho	editor@vfwdc.com
Association Delegate	David Bruinsma	delegate@vfwdc.com
General Committee	Shane Dodman	
General Committee	(position vacant)	

Support Positions to Committee

Web manager	Ben Whitworth	web@vfwdc.com
Training officer	Phillip Griffith	
Training officer	Ashley Martin	
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	Club Hoodie	\$48.00
Club Polar Fleece Full Zip Jacket	\$48.00	Club Sleeveless Reversible Vest	\$54.00
Club Caps	\$15.00	Club Bucket Hat	\$16.00
Club Wide Brim Hat	\$18.00	Club Beanie	\$12.00
Club Drivers Jacket (Coat)	\$80.00	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.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Hi all,

Welcome to the VFWD Free Wheeling magazine.

Happy 2017!

After a very quiet Christmas - New Year period for the club it is time to get things up and moving.

The committee has had its first meeting for the year and we have some plans for the upcoming year.

- The bi-annual trip to Beachport SA is on again this year! Beach and sand driving at its best.
- Our Christmas in July event at St. Anne's is back after great success in past years. For those who have not attended this event before I highly recommend it for the whole family.
- We have some great ideas for guest speakers this year.

To kick off the year we have had three trips run over the Australia Day Weekend. Not a bad start.

1. Murray Sunset with Tony
2. Murray River with David
3. Blue Rag with Stuart

Check out the event calendar later in the magazine to see what else is already scheduled.

We have a number of overnight or longer trips coming up but no day trips. Members have been enquiring about

them so if you have the time and the experience please step up and chat to Stuart about running a trip or two.

We need members to run some trips!

I myself have been having some overheating problems in the Cruiser that I seem to have been chasing for a long while. I am narrowing it down and I am sure I will get it sorted in time to come along on some of our amazing club trips. I have fitted an aftermarket temperature sensor that does not require any cuts in the cooling system. The unit I used is the TM4 Twin from [Engine Watchdog](#).

It comes with two sensors -one for the engine and one for the transmission. These sensors are actually bolted to the engine and transmission directly, I have my engine sensor bolted to the head on the intake side and the readings are very surprising.

For example, I have always known that the factory temp gauge has a buffer built in, in other words it stays in the same place across a range to give the illusion of normal operation, but the range is a surprise.

I have found that by 40 degrees the factory gauge is already up at its "normal" position and it doesn't move again until 100+ degrees!!! That's a huge range. Anyway my investigation continues.

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

February

1st	Wed	General Meeting		
3rd/4th to 5th	Fri/Sat to Sun	Wombat State Park / Firth Park	Tony	0417 153 424
18th to 19th	Sat to Sun	Bunyip State Park / Kurth Kiln (Gembrook)	Steve P	0421 205 529 or 9766 9447
19th	Sunday	Wandin Victorian 4WD Show		
21st	Tue	Committee Meeting		

March

11/12th to 13th	Fri/Sat to Sun	Huts Trip	Shane Dodman	0403 056 739
30th	Thursday 7:30PM	Proficiency Training –Theory	Ashley Martin	0428 134 399
			Phil Griffith	0419 865 472
31st to 2nd April	Fri to Sun	Proficiency Training –Practical	Ashley Martin	0428 134 399
			Phil Griffith	0419 865 472

April

Easter TBC	TBC	Flinders Ranges	Tony	0417 153 424
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May

TBC		Aberfeldy Working Bee	David	0417 747 860
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July

TBC		Christmas in July at St Annes Winery	David	0417 747 860
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November

3rd to 7th	Fri to Tues	Beachport / Robe	David	0417 747 860
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IMPORTANT

- Come and join us for dinner at Club Noble bistro at 6:30pm before the meeting. Have some food and drinks and mingle with the members and guests—everyone welcome!

The table is booked for 12 people, if we don’t reach the numbers then our advance-reserved bookings will be cancelled by the bistro. Please come!
- Few club members are volunteering and helping out the Four Wheel Drive Victoria stand at the Victorian 4WD Show. If you wish to assist at the stand for a few hours then contact David at 0417 747 860. There’s *free food for your time and effort...!
- New members are highly encouraged to under go the ‘Proficient Training’ scheduled in March. This training is ran by our certified members Ashley and Phil, who have ran it the past.

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING

December 2016

Members as Per Book

Visitors as Per Book

Apologies: Secretary (Bruce) and as Per book

December General Mins Accepted

Accepted: Stuart B

Seconded: ?

Business from Minutes

Nil

Correspondence in

Nil as secretary absent

Correspondence out

Nil as secretary absent

Treasurers Report:

October and November

Accept: Mick

Second: ?

Association AGM

Nothing to report from our club representative as David was absent

Real eye opener for Ben—"Point of order". New president elected and more committee members

November at Opposite Lock

Julian from Harrop invited the club to their shop in the northern suburbs.

Next year meeting or outing (special event?)

Prizes were great. Read out winners

Xmas Party at Myuna Farm

Families turned out

Very warm weather

No January general meeting

Visitors introduction

- Bruce 2015 Ford Everest
- Roy Grand Cherokee Jeep
- Michael 2013 Triton
- Marko 2016 Triton
- Barry 2007 Prado

Ideas

- Mick — bring in an vehicle insurance broker to talk about legalities
- Grampians
- Tony — Wombat State Park
- Steve, Tristian or himself will do another Cowbell State Forest trip
- Ben—Committee ideas read out
- Stuart—Victoria Police for vehicle legalities based off Mick's idea
- Callum: A descendant of Ned Kelly will be glad to talk about the famous bushranger. Maybe a trip to Stringy Bark Creek?
- Stuart—Driver Proficiency course next year. Norm, who did the course in 2016 vouched for it

Trips Coming Up

- Stuart — Aberfeldy. Australia Day weekend trip
- Tony — Suggested February first week trip - Lerderderg State Park at Pig & Whistle. Last year the pub picked the club at campsite by minibus

Raffle

Tony— Brand new colour printer

Ly - Car wash gel

Callum - Opposite Lock Tyre Repair Kit

COFFEE BREAK

October Trips Done

Aberfeldy Working Bee

November Trips Done

- Murray Sunset - ran by Sally & Tristian (not present). Their Dico's tailshaft broke
- Lake William Hovell & Paradise Falls - Shane
- Stuart - Woodspoint Recon
- Tony - Grampians Trip. Highlights
 - Food
 - zoo
 - Caravan park
 - pool
 - lookouts

December Trips Done

Ben - Xmas Party at Myuna Farm

Members can advertise any four wheel drive or camping related items they wish to sell or buy.

Just email the editor, editor@vfwdc.com, with the following:

- 1. Description of the item
- 2. Price
- 3. Contact details
- 4. Photos (highly recommended)

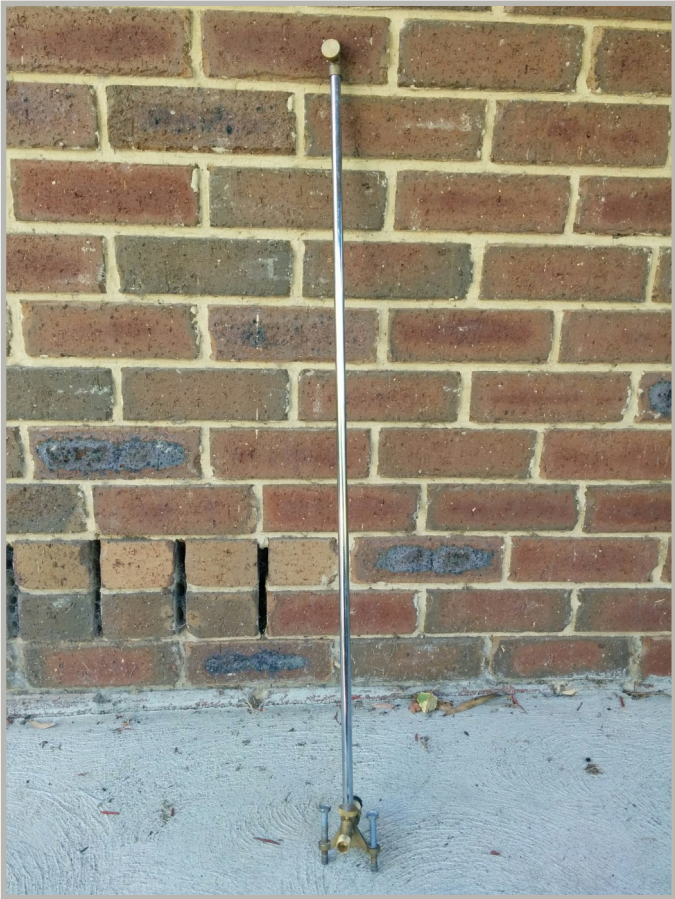
FOR SALE: Samsung CLP-415NW Colour Printer

\$50	Stuart
The club's now retired colour printer. Works perfectly. See the full specs here	0428539157



FOR SALE: Gas lantern extension pole

FREE (or a drink)	Ly
Wild Country gas lantern extension pole. I believe it has a 3/8 connection	0433 387 811



Bringing Four Wheel Drivers Together



Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc
www.vfwdc.com



Treasurer's Report November 2016

Cheque A/C Opening Balance as at 01/11/2016 \$3,272.48

Add:

Raffle \$305.00

Total Monies In: \$305.00

Less:

Deposit Book \$5.00

Total Monies Out: \$5.00

Closing Balance as at 30/11/2016 \$3,572.48

Refund Membership overpayment -\$320.00

Plus: Un presented Cheque #498 -\$320.00

30/11/2016 Actual Balance When Cheque's Presented \$3,252.48

Term Deposit Opening Balance as at 01/11/2016 \$6,250.22

Closing Balance as at 30/11/2016 \$6,289.50

Petty Cash Opening Balance as at 01/11/2016 \$150.00

Add: Transfer in from Monies in

Less: Catering Costs - Meetings

Closing Balance as at 30/11/2016 \$150.00

Consolidated Closing Cash Position \$9,691.98



Treasurer's Report

December 2016

Cheque A/C` Opening Balance as at 01/12/2016 \$3,572.48

Add:

Raffle	\$50.65	
Memberships	\$200.00	
Total Monies In:		250.65

Less:

Raffle Prizes from Ben	\$100.00	
Tickets for Christmas Break Up	\$49.00	
Transfer to Petty Cash	\$20.65	
Total Monies Out:		\$169.65
Closing Balance as at 31/12/2016		\$3,653.48
Refund Membership overpayment	-\$320.00	
Plus: Un presented Cheque #498		-\$320.00

30/11/2016 Actual Balance When Cheque's Presented \$3,333.48

Term Deposit Opening Balance as at 01/12/2016 \$6,289.50

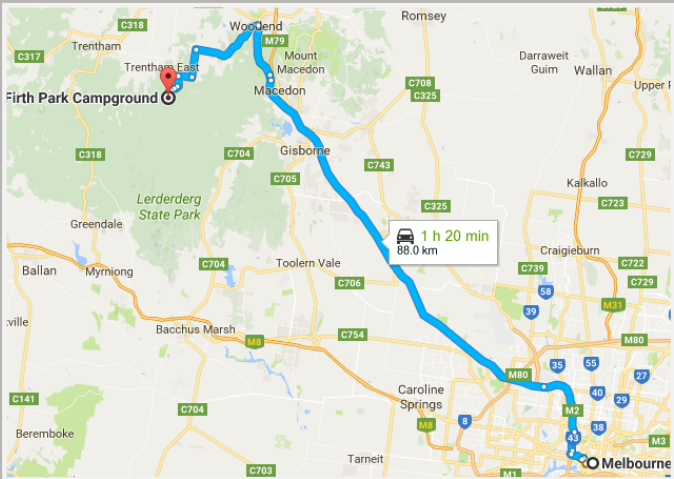
Interest Paid	\$39.09	
Closing Balance as at 31/12/2016		\$6,328.59

Petty Cash Opening Balance as at 01/12/2016 \$150.00

Add: Transfer in from Monies in	\$20.65	
Less: Catering Costs - Meetings	\$14.00	
Stationary	\$6.28	
Total Petty cash Expenses	\$20.65	
Closing Balance as at 31/12/2016		\$150.00
Consolidated Closing Cash Position		\$9,812.07

UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	Wombat State Forest
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Tony Barbera MOB: 0417 153 424
DATE	Friday 3rd or Saturday 4th Feb, to Sunday 5th Feb
MEETING PLACE / TIME	Friday Night or Saturday morning by 9:30am at Firth Park in the Wombat state forest come in via Gisborne or Wood End
GRADE	WET: Medium to difficult DRY: Easy
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	<p>Last year’s trip was so much fun with the highlight being picked up from our campground by their courtesy bus to visit the Pig & Whistle for dinner.</p> <p>We will be driving some tracks in the area for most of the day I intent to reach firth park camp ground around 2pm to set up camp and get ready for dinner. For those interested I have booked the courtesy bus for 5:45pm the pub is family friendly. If not you can stay at camp and cook there.</p> <p>Please let me Know if anyone is interested ASAP so I can confirm the bus booking</p>
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 3 MAXIMUM: 8
APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION	200 km round trip
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Gisborne DIESEL: Gisborne
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	150km
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Own basic recovery gear, tools and any spares you may require. AT or MT tyres
MAPS REQUIRED	Meridian map: Wombat State Forest
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	12 UHF



DESTINATION	Bunyip State Park / Kurth Kiln (Gembrook)
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Steve P PHONE: 0421 205 529 or 9766 9447
DATE	Saturday 18th February to Sunday 19th February (can be limited to a day trip only for those cannot or do not wish to say staying overnight)
MEETING PLACE / TIME	BP Service Station (Outbound side), Officer South, Pakenham Bypass
GRADE	WET: Hard DRY: Medium
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	<p>This trip is intended to welcome/introduce some of the newer or less experienced members into the club, although more experienced drivers/members are of course welcome.</p> <p>The intention is to drive some of the tracks around Bunyip State Park (main area of driving/exploring) - which can be done as a day trip for those who prefer not to stay overnight - before moving on to Kurth Kiln (camp site for those who cannot or do not wish to stay overnight).</p> <p>Combination of medium and (small sections only) technical driving - nothing too extreme. Trip will be varied to deal with weather conditions and driver skills/experience of participants. Nothing overly difficult/extreme planned (subject to weather conditions).</p> <p>Stock vehicles should do OK although reasonable ground clearance is recommended (some tracks are rutted), min standard AT tyres with rated recovery points front and rear, plus basic recovery gear required.</p>
VEHICLE LIMITS	<p>MINIMUM: 3-4</p> <p>MAXIMUM: 6 (excludes anyone not planning to camp overnight)</p>
APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION	60 kms
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	<p>PETROL: BP Upper Pakenham (Army Rd) - not open 24 Hrs</p> <p>DIESEL: BP Upper Pakenham (Army Rd) - not open 24 Hrs</p>
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	25 kms max (Gembrook)
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	<p>Standard Recovery Gear - rated recovery points (front and rear) are essential.</p> <p>If wet, some sections of clay dramatically affect traction.</p>
MAPS REQUIRED	<p>Rooftops Bunyip State Park (trip leader has a copy). Also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free map of Bunyip State Park • If Staying/Camping overnight (site number 18, subject to availability)
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	27 MHz Ch 12 (AM Band) / UHF Ch 12
Google Maps	See here

DESTINATION	New Members Trip - High Country
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Shane Dodman PHONE:
DATE	11-12-13 March 2017. Friday night not compulsory but very social!
MEETING PLACE / TIME	TBA next magazine
GRADE	WET: Medium DRY: Easy
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	Driving around taking in around 10 huts, 2 waterfalls, 1 long tunnel, heaps of mountains, and sheet loads of scenery.
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 4 MAXIMUM: 8 including trip leader due to size of camps
APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION	~170klm from Lilydale to Howqua track Turnoff 40klms max on dirt.
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	LPG, Petrol and Diesel: Mansfield
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 4wd. • Recovery gear (snatch strap, 2x shackles etc) • Compressor and Tyre Gauge. • UHF radio and handheld if you have one. • Good warm clothing and boots • Camping Gear (tent, sleeping bags, pillows, tent, bog roll etc). • Cooking stuff, Drinks and Food. • Cheese, Dip, Bikkies, Bottle of Wine for Happy Hour. • Cameras, there is tons to photograph up there for those that haven't been before. • Sense of Adventure and Humour. <p>There are dunnys at some of the huts along the way, and at Sheepyard, and at Binderee Hut.</p> <p>No camper trailers</p>
MAPS REQUIRED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rooftop Maps "Bush Huts Around Mansfield" • (usually available at BP Mansfield where we will stop)
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	UHF Ch 12
Google Maps	See here

DESTINATION	Proficiency Training Little O'Tooles camping ground & surrounds
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	Ashley Martin - 0428 134 399 Phil Griffith - 0419 865 472
DATE	Theory - Thursday March 30, 7.30pm start Practical - Friday March 31 to Sunday April 2
MEETING PLACE / TIME	Theory - Noble Park Football Club, Blue & Gold Room (above dining area) Practical - Service Centre Officer (Princess Hwy) Fri 5pm Service Centre Officer (Princess Hwy) Sat 7.30am
GRADE	WET: Easy/Hard DRY: Easy/Medium
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	<p>The Club encourages all members to participate in a proficiency course to ensure the basic fundamentals of 4 wheel driving are gained.</p> <p>Theory provides an overview of the tread lightly principals, vehicles dynamics and functions, tackling various terrains along with other subjects. This provides the back ground for the practical weekend.</p> <p>Practical we run through individual vehicles and differences, basic recovery equipment and recap some of the theory (including homework :). We then begin the practical side running through several techniques to ensure safe vehicle recovery when in difficult situations. Once all participants are confident with these we hit the tracks to put all the theory into practice.</p> <p>Sunday will be a leisurely start then we traverse a number of tracks which allow you to become familiar with your vehicles capabilities and gain further confidence. We should be finished by 2 o'clock arriving back to Melbourne around 4.</p> <p>As with past participants the weekend provides confidence to safely 4WD either with the club or friends.</p>
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 4 MAXIMUM: 8
APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION	180kms + 4wding and return
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL, LPG, DIESEL: Moe (please have full tank of fuel before leaving meeting place)
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	200 kms
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Theory - pen and concentration Practical - you will need to be self-sufficient for camping, food and drinks and have your brain switched on.
MAPS REQUIRED	Rooftop Walhalla / Woods Point
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	12
Google Maps	See here

DESTINATION	Beachport / Robe - 2017
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: David MOB: 0417 747 860
DATE	Melbourne Cup Weekend 2017 Friday 3rd to Tuesday 7th (longer if you wish)
MEETING PLACE / TIME	TBA - Depends on who is coming, and respective departure times
GRADE	WET: Medium DRY: harder if the sand is Dry.
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	<p>I plan to leave very early on the Friday morning from Berwick at approx. 6am to avoid the worst of the peak morning traffic, setting up camp early afternoon.</p> <p>Hopefully arriving to set up at the caravan park in Beachport, and then spend family time on the beach (sunning, fishing, swimming) with opportunities for group drives up the beach or for individual family activities whenever and however you want.</p> <p>BIG Sunday Roast (if we can have the camp fire). If we are lucky the fire ban doesn't start until after Cup Weekend. But we got caught out last year, so no fire.</p> <p>Intending to pack up on the Tuesday morning and head back to Melbourne. Some members usually the whole week.</p>
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 1 MAXIMUM: 10 ?
APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION	Approx. 550km to Beachport from Melbourne CBD
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Every major town DIESEL: Every major town
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	Every major town
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	All Recover gear - Max TraX if you have them Self Sufficient for all camping gear (in a caravan park)
MAPS REQUIRED	Normal GPS to get to Beachport Beach track maps are available at Beachport
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	UHF 12
Google Maps	See here



RANGER DAY

ABERFELDY AND SURROUNDS

10th December
by Tim Bowker

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Stuart and Tim | - “Land Ranger” |
| Norman and Luisa | - Ranger |
| Daniel and Karen | - Ranger |
| Callum and Winston | - Ranger |

Early start for some, and an earlier start for others, we met up at Yarragon bakery for an 8:30 departure towards the Thompson Dam for a day on the tracks.

Airing down at the Silvertop Picnic Area just shy of the Thompson dam wall we began our search for some challenging terrain by turning right on Walhalla Rd with the intention of taking Fultons Creek Track to Army Mid track and then onto Williamsons Spur track.



However, the drop off to Fultons Creek track was quite steep and with some new members in tow it was decided that a better plan was to ease into the terrain by taking Merringtons track into Williamsons Spur Track instead.

We stopped at the Merringtons Campground for morning tea in the brilliant sunshine and



then continued onto Williamsons Spur Track to Army N Track which was the first real challenge of the day.

Everyone tackled the downhill run with gusto and we had no issues apart from some traffic at the intersection with Donnellys Creek Road. We found a small turnoff to eat lunch in by the creek near store point.



After lunch, we completed White Star Track and then into O'Tools camping area for an afternoon tea stop.

From O'Tools, we took Junction Track past Joregensens Flat Hut and then back past the Merrington campground to Walhalla road and out, airing up back at the Silvertop Picnic Area.



A good day was had by all on some moderately difficult tracks, we did multiple river crossings and both a mix of steep uphill and downhill sections. All that was missing was mud.

Congratulations to Callum on his first day out, his enthusiasm and willingness to jump into the sport was admirable.

