



# **FREE WHEELING**

September 2023



Photo: Ann Crockett  
Mt Skene Trip

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



### VFWDC Meeting Details & Venue

The club meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 8.00pm with the following exceptions:

No meeting at Club Noble in January and November as held at a selected "special" location.

#### Club Noble Addresss

Upstairs Blue and Gold Room Club  
Noble  
46-56 Moodemere Street Noble Park  
3174  
Melways ref: 89 D4



**This month's meeting will be held on Wednesday 6th September at 8.00pm.**



## Club Committee

### 2023 - 2024

President	Neville Van Leeuwen	<a href="mailto:president@vfwdc.com">president@vfwdc.com</a>
Vice President	Steve Miller	<a href="mailto:vicepres@vfwdc.com">vicepres@vfwdc.com</a>
Secretary	Daisy Quinn	<a href="mailto:secretary@vfwdc.com">secretary@vfwdc.com</a>
Treasurer	Ly Ho	<a href="mailto:treasurer@vfwdc.com">treasurer@vfwdc.com</a>

### General Committee

Trip Coordinator	Bruce Dunlop	<a href="mailto:trips@vfwdc.com">trips@vfwdc.com</a>
Magazine Editor	Luke David	<a href="mailto:editor@vfwdc.com">editor@vfwdc.com</a>
Association Delegate	Matt Marino	<a href="mailto:delegate@vfwdc.com">delegate@vfwdc.com</a>

### Support Positions to Committee

Web Manager	Ben Whitworth	<a href="mailto:web@vfwdc.com">web@vfwdc.com</a>
Training Officer	Phil Griffith	
Merchandise	Daisy Quinn	<a href="mailto:merchandise@vfwdc.com">merchandise@vfwdc.com</a>

### Club Details

Registered Name	Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club
Registration Number	A002184F
Correspondence Address	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 Club is an affiliated club of [Four Wheel Drive Victoria](#)

## President's Report

Hi All,

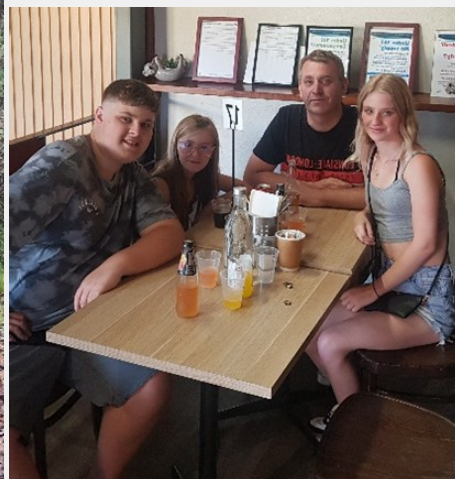
In last month's AGM I was privileged to become the new president, along with a few other new faces in the committee we are excited for the year ahead.

A special thank you to all who took on new roles as well as those who have been able to step back after serving for several years, in particular Andre, Bruce and Rory.

We are planning on getting a few guest speakers throughout the next year so keep an eye out for when these are coming up, so you don't miss out on these club meetings.



I am a father of three, who is passionate about getting out and exploring new areas in this beautiful country of ours. There is nothing better than sitting around a nice campsite next to a roaring fire listening to a nearby river while dinner is cooking. Enjoyed all the more with a great group of people.



I am looking forward to a lot of trips getting planned and run, so please see the trip coordinator if you want to join or run, we are here to help you plan your next adventure so just reach out.

We have also finalised the members list for the 50th committee as shown below.

Andre  
Daisy  
David  
Steve P

Well that's all for me for now, I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting and out on the tracks.

Neville  
President VFWDC

# Club Calendar

## September

Wednesday 6th	Club Meeting	8.00pm at Club Noble
Wednesday 20th	Committee Meeting (Virtual)	8.00pm

## October

Wednesday 4th	Club Meeting	8.00pm at Club Noble
Wednesday 18th	Committee Meeting (Virtual)	8.00pm

## November

Wednesday 1st	Club Meeting	8.00pm
Wednesday 15th	Committee Meeting (Virtual)	8.00pm

## Other Dates

8th June 2024	Bruce’s Big Trip	Organised by Bruce D (see Upcoming Trips)
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## Agenda for General Meeting 8<sup>th</sup> August

**Date:** 2.08.2023

**Time:** 8.04 pm

**Next Meeting:** Sept 8<sup>th</sup> 2023

**Location:** Noble Park Footy Club

Open Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcome</li> <li>Apologies: Steve Jason</li> </ul>	Andre
Minutes from previous month	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes from Last Meeting</li> <li>Matters arising for previous minutes? Nil</li> <li>Accept: Anne</li> <li>Second: Neville</li> </ul>	Andre
Guests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Few Guests – We welcomed the guests to meeting</li> </ul>	Andre
Correspondence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Correspondence in                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emails from Prospective members</li> <li>Emails from Aussie Post</li> <li>Magazine stuff</li> <li>Emails 4wd Vic</li> </ul> </li> <li>Correspondence out                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Replies to emails.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Bruce
Treasurer Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monthly Treasurers Report as per in the magazine.</li> <li>Accept: Dave B</li> <li>Second: Sally</li> </ul>	Ly
Driver Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Certificates signed off and handed out by Phil to all starters of last course</li> </ul>	Phil
Upcoming Trips	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2x Snow Trips Forms on back table. Bruce Dunlop or Anthony Van B</li> </ul>	Neville
Trip Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Steve's Snow Trip                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6 Vehicles. Camping at Snake Edwards</li> <li>Early Start and not much snow until 1400 meters.</li> <li>Everyone had fun</li> <li>More info in trip report in magazine</li> </ul> </li> <li>Daisy's <del>Snow</del> Dirt trip                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No real snow to talk bout</li> <li>Tristan found a patch</li> <li>Daisy fell in the ditch</li> <li>Tristan tried a hill on the way and didn't make it, then toboggan ride down backwards</li> <li>Everyone had a good time,</li> <li>Daisy thanked Sally/Tristan for running the trip</li> <li>More info in trip report in magazine</li> </ul> </li> <li>Xmas in July                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fun and food was had by all with some of Tristan's Finger included for flavor.</li> <li>More info in trip report in magazine</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	All
Magazine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rig Rundown</li> <li>Trip reports due for magazine</li> </ul>	Rory
General Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Raffle run and won</li> <li>50<sup>th</sup> Celebration</li> </ul>	All
Meeting Close	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting close 9.30pm</li> </ul>	Andre

Bringing Four Wheel Drivers Together



Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc  
www.vfwdc.com



## Treasurer's Report July 2023

<u>Cheque A/C</u> Opening Balance as at 01/07/2023	\$8,719.01
Add: Membership Fees	\$1,926.00
Raffle	\$40.00
Less: FWDV Association Fees	-\$1,542.00
Meeting / Xmas-In-July Catering Costs	-\$599.95
Closing Balance as at 31/07/2023	\$8,543.06
<u>Term Deposit</u> Opening Balance as at 01/07/2023	\$6,923.22
Closing Balance as at 31/07/2023	\$6,923.22
<u>Petty Cash</u> Opening Balance as at 01/07/2023	\$38.30
Closing Balance as at 31/07/2023	\$38.30
<b>Consolidated Closing Cash Position</b>	<b><u>\$15,504.58</u></b>

### **This month's meeting**

Our next meeting is Wednesday 6th September at Club Noble. At this meeting we welcome our new committee members who have been formally handed over their new positions. Please have a read of the magazine to view the changes within the committee. Come say hello to your new committee members and let's get ready for some new four drive trips in near future.

### **Membership renewals**

You should have seen an email in your inbox about membership renewal from the Treasurer, and we ask that you get on the case as soon as possible. As a gentle reminder, you need to be a fully paid up member in order to join any of the trips. If you are unsure how to renew, check out the membership page within the magazine itself or contact Ly as the Treasurer for help.

### **Club's 50th Birthday**

Just in case you weren't aware, next year is the club's 50th birthday. A working group has been formed to organise an amazing event(s) and are starting to look into options and ideas. So anyone who has any amazing ideas, please get in contact with any committee members. We are looking to make it an incredible event so all ideas, no matter how crazy are welcomed.

### **All and any contributions welcome**

You know the score - I need trip reports, photos and any content to make the magazine an interesting read. Don't be shy, send the editor something!!



Please visit our website at [VFWDC.com](http://VFWDC.com) to view all our current membership forms and club policies.

For all new and renewal of memberships, please complete [the online form here](#)

If you are looking for a Temporary Membership, please complete the online form, [which can be found here](#).

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us via the Club Secretary on [secretary@vfwdc.com](mailto:secretary@vfwdc.com)

### **Payments:**

Payment can be made via Bank Transfer. The details are as follows:

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<b>Account</b>	Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club
<b>Name: BSB:</b>	Inc 633108
<b>Account No:</b>	111761979

Please ensure your transfer includes your name as provided on the membership application and renewal form in the reference.

Once you have made your payment/transfer, please send your completed membership application and renewal form to [treasurer@vfwdc.com](mailto:treasurer@vfwdc.com) or you can present it to the Treasurer at any general meeting.

**Thank you for choosing the Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club**

If you are interested in joining [Club Noble](#) where we hold our monthly meetings, their application form can be found [here](#).

## Meet the Member

I thought this be a good way to introduce myself using my own meet the member. My name is Luke, and I am new editor for this club from which I am taking over from the lovely Rory who will be greatly missed. I would just like to thank Rory again for all his efforts and commitments to club. Everything you need to know about is below go on have a read.



**Full name and any nicknames?**

Luke David

**When did you join the club?**

March 2021

**What's your vehicle?**

2007 Mitsubishi Pajero 3.2L Turbo Diesel (Manual)

**Favourite camp food?**

Making a Hungarian Goulash using a goulash pot over the campfire. That with some fresh bread sitting around the camp fire can never go wrong.

**Top tip to any beginners?**

I would say Bunyip again as some nice fun tracks to get you started and build up the confidence and driving ability with your own vehicle. Very easy to plan and not too far away so can do a day trip as well

**Best piece of camping gear you are never without?**

It may sound silly but i have a battery pack that can jump start car batteries multiple times in one charge. Also used as a torch and other functions. It has saved my bacon a few times when i forgot to turn off lights on the roof rack or devices left plugged in. I dont leave without it as i may not get home without it if something happens.

**Dumbest thing you ever did in a car?**

Thinking that a short cut track would save time and turned out to be an extremely difficult track on a very steep hill, with no where to turn around. Took 4 hours to only travel 2kms and had to cut down dead trees to make the track somewhat drivable since some of the ruts were taller than a person. Also had no phone signal and the other car couldn't get back up to assist so i was on my own.

**Best book you have ever read?**

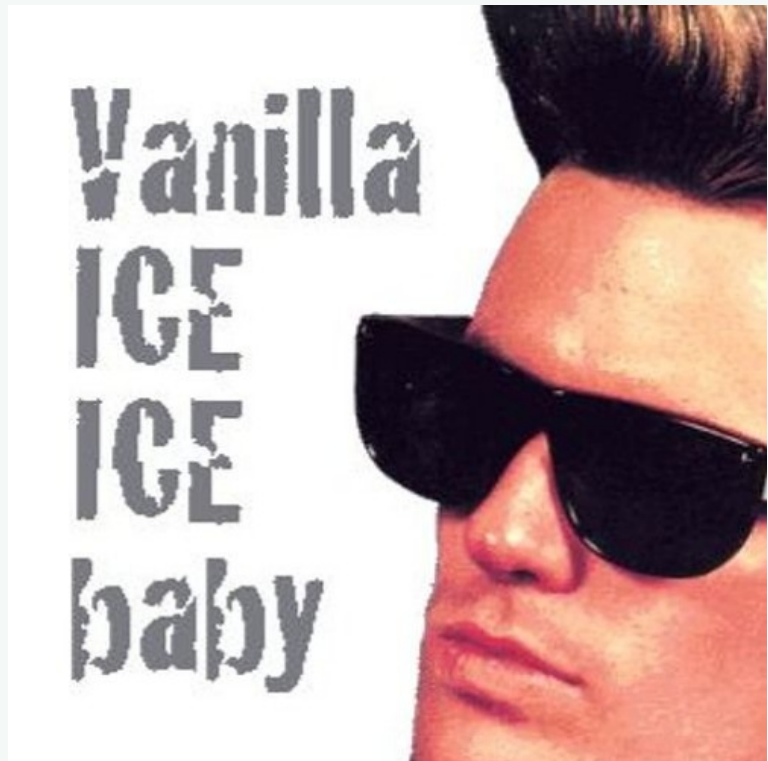
Tough one - I love reading about mythology - one of my favourites if you are into that, is called The Odyssey.

**Most remote place you have ever been to?**

I went out to the High Country with a group of friends down a track that was not on the maps. We were completely isolated with no one around.

What is your go to karaoke song?

Ice Ice Baby



Footie, football or rugby?

I will say footie but my main sport is NHL Hockey.

Dream vehicle and set up if you could afford it?

My dream 4WD would be a Mercedes-AMG G63 and would kit it out like it's been done for the Australian Military in the past. So lifted, bigger tyres, bull bars, under body protection, front and rear winches, recovery points all over, lifted with air bags for additional support and an engine tune to produce nearly 400kw and of course a nearly 200L petrol tank. Final touch would be to wrap it in camouflage.



What is your favourite tippie?

Whiskey - Jack Daniels Gentleman Jack

Dream track or trip at the top of your bucket list?

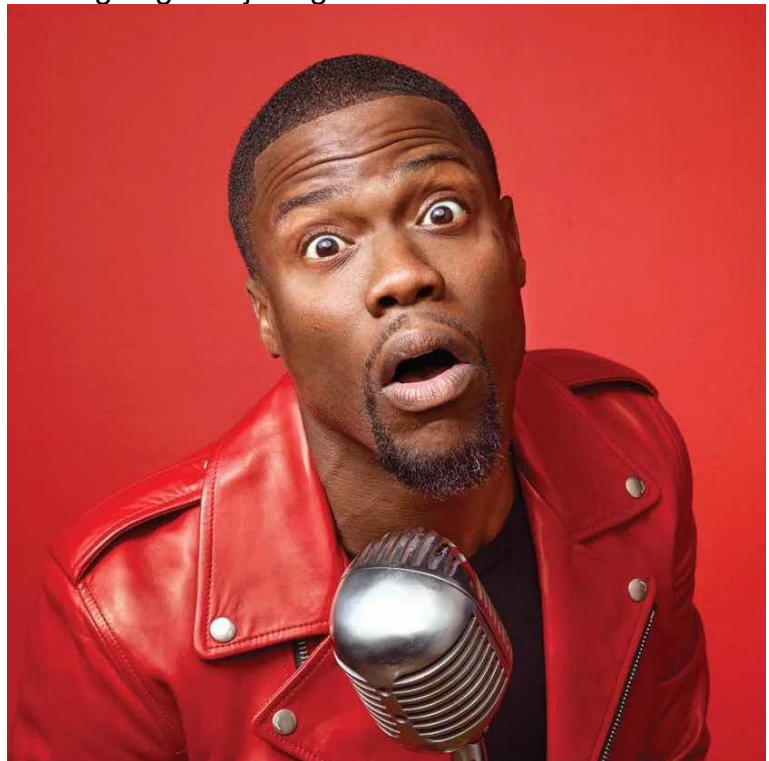
I didn't get a chance to go on the Blue Rag trip due to urgent car repairs I had to do. So would love to go on Blue Rag Range Track sometime soon as top of my bucket list.



<b>Craziest haircut you ever had?</b>	I once decided to put blue hair gel in my hair to change things up a bit. It just came out terrible and i immediately went home and washed it out!
<b>Best mod you ever did to a car?</b>	Installing a new suspension kit so new shocks and springs made all the difference for my approach and departure angles. I can now tackle more tracks without risking damaging the underneath of the car.
<b>What snacks are we most likely to find in your cab?</b>	Plenty of waters, cuppa soups, pot noodles, chips and probably some apples. Of course some instant coffee too!!
<b>Any wildlife encounters on any of your trips?</b>	I had a kangaroo jump in front of my car and swerved to miss it which led to me going into the ditch!!
<b>First car you ever owned?</b>	Blue Ford Falcon AU Series 3
<b>Best overseas trip/ location?</b>	I have always enjoyed travelling to Canada as it has beautiful outdoors and some awesome places to camp or 4wd. The people are always so friendly and I find they are very similar on how we view 4wd and the outdoors.
<b>Favourite subject at school?</b>	Computer Science
<b>Worst job you ever had?</b>	Working for a company that required 24-7 on call IT support. So going out to parties or events was always very difficult. My sleep routine was terrible for a long time as well as after that job.
<b>Roughest night's sleep?</b>	Didnt realise that we had set up camp in a previous dam with a bunch of friends. The weather turned for the worse and the camp site was literally sinking including the cars. To add to it we had winds up to 80km/h so I was up all night holding down the gazebos and making sure the tents did not flood.
<b>Can you play a musical instrument?</b>	I can play the drums as i started playing on a drum kit in primary school its something i have always enjoyed doing.
<b>What is your go to joke?</b>	Could be worse, could have bought a Ford!
<b>What motivates &amp; inspires you?</b>	Putting in the hard work and getting the results over time as this keeps you pushing forward. Not everything can be achieved straight away but with hard work and commitment you can achieve anything.

**You're driving from Melbourne to Perth, anyone in the world, dead or alive, can be your co-driver, who would it be?**

I would say Kevin Hart because at least we would be laughing and joking the entire ride there.



**Where in the world would you most like to visit?**

I would like to visit either Japan or Greece as they have all been on top of my bucket list of places to visit.

**What are currently watching on Netflix etc?**

I am a big Star Wars fan so have been watching all the latest Star Wars TV series on Disney Plus.

**Worst upgrade or kit purchase?**

I purchased a King's awning and i used tie downs to secure it even more during a big wind event that just randomly came through. It bent the entire aluminium frame and where all the poles connect so its now not usable. I should have invested in something with better quality.

**What kept you sane during lockdowns?**

Raising a 6 week old border collie - I was very very busy!!!

**Best trip/track/park you have done?**

I have always enjoyed doing the Bunyip Anderson and Little Bunyip Tracks. As they range in difficulty, so you have a mixture of everything there to suit what type of 4WD you like to do. Just always ends up being a fun day or night drive even.




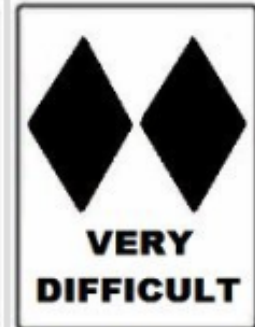






# Track Classifications

Four Wheel Drive Victoria have a track grading classification scale which has been developed to assist in advising Trip Leaders and participants on 4WD trips of the type of tracks that they can expect to encounter. On most trips participants can expect that a variety of tracks will be traversed each with an appropriate rating. Trip Leaders should advise participants of the range of track ratings expected to be encountered on the planned route. The following classifications will assist in determining an overall Trip Rating:

Considerations	Easy	Medium	Difficult	Very Difficult
<b>Overall Description</b>	All Wheel Drive and High Range 4WD. Novice Drivers	Mainly High range 4WD but Low range required. Some 4WD experience recommended.	Significant Low range 4WD with standard 4WD ground clearance. Should have 4WD driver training.	Low range 4WD with High ground clearance. Experienced Drivers
<b>Advisory Sign</b>				
<b>Expected terrain and track conditions</b>	Mostly unsealed roads with no obstacles and minor gradients.	Tracks with some steep and/or rocky/slippery/sandy sections. May have shallow water crossings.	Tracks with frequent steep and/or rocky/slippery/sandy sections. Possible water crossings.	Tracks with frequent very steep and/or rocky/slippery/sandy sections. May have difficult river crossings.
<b>Vehicle suitability</b>	All wheel Drive and High Range 4WD. Can be low clearance with single range and road tyres.	Suitable for medium clearance vehicles with dual range and all terrain or road tyres.	Suitable for medium to high clearance vehicles with dual range and all terrain tyres.	Suitable for high clearance vehicles with dual range and tyres suitable for the terrain. (Mud Terrain tyres).
<b>Recovery equipment</b>			Recovery equipment required.	Winch / Recovery equipment required.
<b>Driver Training / Experience</b>	Suitable for novice drivers.	Recommended that drivers have experience or 4WD training. Recommended to be done in groups of vehicles.	Recommended for drivers with reasonable experience or 4WD training. To be done in groups of vehicles.	Drivers with extensive experience and advanced training should only attempt as there are several technical challenges. Recommended to be done in groups of four or more vehicles.
<b>Weather</b>	May be difficult in wet conditions.	Will be more difficult in wet conditions.	Will be more difficult in wet conditions.	Will be more difficult in wet conditions.

## Upcoming Trips

Destination	<b>Club Christmas Trip</b>	
Leader & Contact Details	NAME: Daisy Quinn MOB: 0447 557 100	
Date	17-19th November 2023	
Meeting Details	TBA	
Grade	Wet: Easy Hard Dry: Easy	
Trip Activity Details	Christmas getaway, more details TBA	
Vehicle Limits	MINIMUM:	MAXIMUM:
Approx km's meeting place to destination		
Last available fuel		
Distance between supplies		
Equipment required		
Maps required		
Radio Channel CB/UHF	UHF Ch 12	

## St Annes Winery Xmas in July - 07th – 09th of July - Daisy

### Attendees

Daisy  
Jason  
Sally  
Tristan  
Andre  
Ansa  
Neville  
David  
Caroline  
Slaven & Amanda  
Ben  
Megan  
Joel  
Dean  
Joy  
Brett  
Nicky

Daisy, Jason, Sally, Tristan, Andre, Ansa, all headed up Friday afternoon to St Annes winery.

Neville and the kids David, Caroline, Slaven & Amanda, Ben, Megan, Joel, Dean, Joy, Brett, Nicky, and some of David's friends from work all joined us on Saturday. There were hundreds on kangaroos passing by in the neighbouring paddock for us to watch as the day started. We were made aware we were in Melbourne being treated to 4 seasons in 1 day! We had rain, sun, winds, rain, sun, rain, rain, sun, more rain, and some lovely clear weather to have our meal.



## Trip Report

Once everyone had been over and paid everyone's wages for the next 6 months at the cellar door - Jason and Tristan cooked up the most incredible spit roast of lamb and chicken! Massive kudos to our chefs - they're are invited / demanded to come again! With help from Sally cooking the food around the fire we had baked Potato's. Peas, corn on the cob, cauliflower in cheese sauce, coleslaw, fresh bread and Pita breads, fresh home-made tzatziki Fresh souvlakis in the making!!



Dessert was a bit stuffed up due to Daisy's cheap Kmart can openers.

We had tinned fruit, custard, and some of Tristan's skin - whoops.



## Trip Report

Camping was great, everyone has a great night around the fire - thanks woody for not bringing your chainsaw! Doh

Luckily, we got 1 working thanks to Ben, Tristan and Jason and managed to cut a week's worth of firewood. Megan was a complete fire bug and had the fire roaring all night - it just kept getting bigger and bigger!



Definitely a fun time had by all.



## Snow Trip up Mt Skene 28th – 30th of July - Daisy

### Attendees

Daisy – Prado  
Andre ,Ansa & Family – Amarock  
Neville & Family – Triton  
Niro & Family – Prado  
Sally & Tristan - Land rover  
Ken & Lucy – Triton  
Dennis – Jeep  
Jason – Colorado  
Thys & Dad – Triton  
Steve Card – Pajero

The trip started with everyone making their own way to Jamieson throughout the Friday, most of us stayed at the Caravan Park to stay in either camper trailers or on site cabins/ caravans, a few people chose alternative accommodation at the Pub or local bed & breakfast.



## Trip Report

Friday night we all met up at the Jamieson Hotel, and while most of us enjoyed our meal the ambience (a rather unpleasant smell) made for a less than ideal dining experience. After our meal was done, we headed back to the caravan park where we had a very large drum that we had a great fire in.



We sat around having a few drinks guessing how much snow we would face the following day.

The following morning, we all headed up to the bakery to fuel up on Coffee and Egg and Bacon rolls, the store was quite empty as it was the last day for the owners before handing over to new owners.

While munching on our rolls we met a rather large group (15 I think) from the Hilux club who were also heading up the Mountain. We let them go ahead and waited for Andre and Thys who were making a day trip of it.

On the way out of town we pulled up to get in formation and make sure all cars had suitable recovery points etc. a lady approached Daisy from the Mansfield Courier and did an impromptu interview on our club.

Once this was done Tristan & Sally led us off on our journey, we made our way up Jamieson-Licola Road, the conditions were quite easy as we pulled up to the renowned bathtub. As you can see from photos in next page.

This bathtub has been set up on the side of the road complete with water to fill and a place to light a fire underneath if you so wished, we pulled up for a few photos and a quick bath for a few keen participants.



Trip Report





## Trip Report

As we traveled further up the troops became a little restless (well the ones in my car anyway). Where was the snow??? At last, we heard Sally's cry come out over the CB radio "We've got snow!" (Much to our relief). We soon saw the snow, patchy at first on the sides then becoming a snow trenched path for the last 100 meters or so, as we were getting into the thicker snow one of the other groups made their way back down and while we negotiated our way past Daisy got a little stuck and needed to be gently retrieved.





Sally helping the Triton up the hill!



Once we were all up the top we all got out and the Kids (and a few adults) raced off to play in the snow. Niro had been clever enough to bring a toboggan and all the kids had a few turns racing down a nicely snow packed hill.

## Trip Report

We got down a bit and Tristan and Sally headed up Sappers Link Track which was going to take us back onto Jamieson Lookout track. The hill quickly showed itself to be extremely slippery and the decision was made that this would not be suitable for today's adventures. The reverse back down was rather interesting and left a tell-tale sign of how slippery it was. The decision was made to head back to Camp. We parted ways with Andre and Thys who headed home.

Saturday night we headed to Jamieson Brewery and Grill, we all enjoyed our meals and the ambience was a lot better than the previous nights. Once again we returned back for another fire before retiring for the night.

For those who had done previous trips, we experienced a lot less snow than usual but still a great weekend for all and for me and a few other first timers looking forward to next year.

In the morning we all packed up and headed our own way home.

All in all was great weekend with fantastic people.









## Snow Trip up Mt Skene 25th – 27th of August - Anthony

### Attendees

Anthony (Trip Leader) - Ranger  
Phil - Everest  
Clinton - Colorado  
John - Patrol  
Ashley - Ranger  
Jacq – 80 Series  
Simon - Prado  
Riley & Jasmine - Patrol  
Tim - Patrol

### Day 1:

I managed to get an early start on the Friday morning so got in to camp around 11:30am to secure a spot. There was no one else there so I set up on the flattest part of the campground and put up a decoy gazebo to give us plenty of room. Then I made myself some lunch and set to the task of relaxing while waiting for the rest of the group to arrive.



Tim, John and Ashley arrived early afternoon and Ashley and Tim went for a short drive to collect some firewood.

Everyone else trickled in with Jacq being the latest just before 8pm.

Some of us cooked our meals around the fire and then stoked it up to keep nice and warm before a reasonably early night.

## Day 2:

With the unseasonably warm weather we had experienced during the week, the chance of encountering snow was going to be small. Because of this we decided to explore some tracks on the way to Mt Skene. From camp we followed Sappers Track and then Ferguson Saddle Track before turning right on to Heyfield Jamieson Road. These tracks were in good condition with some nice climbs in sections but there was plenty of grip so we didn't have any issues. We traveled along heading to the summit with Phil keeping a keen eye out for any glimpse of snow. It was only when we were just upon the summit when we saw some sorry patches of snow that hadn't yet melted.



John led us to the old hut site where we got out and explored for a bit. It was still fairly early so we decided to head back down to the lookout picnic site to have lunch.

Over lunch we came up with a plan to take an alternative route back to camp. We took a left onto Snake Edwards Divide Track. This was fairly easy going and we did not encounter any problems. We then turned on to Holylands Link Track after a brief stop to collect a bit more firewood for the evening. This track had some very steep downhill sections. With plenty of grip we managed to make it down to a flat section that was heavily rutted with water filling most of the ruts making it difficult to gauge the depth. This section needed to be approached with a bit of commitment and the bumpiness of the track had a few vehicles bouncing around on their suspension.

A few muddy bog holes soon got everyone smiling.

We then headed towards the river crossing which had a very steep drop off just before you enter the river. This needed to be taken slowly to prevent damage to any rear bars. The Goulburn River was flowing reasonably fast but the crossing was short and didn't look to be too deep. I headed across first and it was just over the bonnet. The ground got a little bit soft just before the exit and you could feel the tyres scrabbling for grip. The exit was a little bit interesting but proved to be no challenge.



## Trip Report





## Day 2 Continued

I parked my car and then went back to watch and guide the rest of the convoy through. Unfortunately, I forgot to take my phone with me to take photos. Everyone got through unscathed with Clinton giving us a demonstration of how not to attempt a river crossing much to everyone else's first shock, and then amusement. He hit the water too fast and sent a splash of water over his bonnet and windscreen rather than creating a gentle bow wave in front of the car.

It was a fun crossing that got everyone's adrenaline going and big smiles on their faces.

From here most of us elected to drive one more track and a few went back to camp with Phil heading home. There was a tiny little river crossing at the start of the track but after that it was a little monotonous and provided no challenge.

We called in to the Kevington Pub on the way back but they still don't have any beer on tap so decided to head back to camp and have a beer there instead.

We aired up the tyres, Riley carried out some maintenance on the Patrol and then spent the rest of the evening preparing our meals and socialising around the campfire.





# Trip Report

## Day 3:

We had a bit of a lazy morning and after breakfast people headed home when they were ready with the last of us leaving just after 9am.

Although there was no snow it was still an enjoyable weekend with some good company. Unfortunately, nobody got themselves stuck so I find myself writing my own trip report. Next time I'll have to try harder ;-)





### Trip up Mt Terrible 28th – 29th of August - Ken Kilby

#### Attendees

Matt Marino – Original Trip Leader- Toyota Hilux

Neville van Leeuwin- Mitsubishi Triton

Ken Kilby- Mitsubishi Triton

With only three participants, the meetup at Lilydale Macca's on Friday night didn't take long and after grabbing a "healthy" dinner we set off around 5:30pm. The first night's camp was going to be Bulldog Flat on the Eildon Jamieson Road and after a pleasant drive through the Black Spur, we arrived at the camp site around 7:30pm.

After clearing a fallen tree off the track we decided that Toponga campground, which we had checked out earlier, would be a better option. By 8:30 we were all set up and settled in for a nice night around the campfire and surprisingly, we all managed to kick on till 1:30 am.



Neville and I awoke next morning to find no trace of Matt. Car and swag were gone without a trace. I had fallen asleep as soon as my head hit the pillow and had never heard a sound. Neville and I were wondering what could have happened when we noticed an envelope under the windscreen wiper. It was a note from Matt saying he had become quite crook during the night and had decided to go home.



So now it was just the two of us as we set off at 10 am Saturday morning. First up was Newman's track which took us up to Mt Terrible track not far from the summit. With a bit of patience, we managed to get some photos of the vehicles at the Mt Terrible sign after waiting for some cars to depart. It was also good to have phone reception again with both of us making the most of it.





## Trip Report





## Trip Report

The weather was quite mild & the tracks were quite dry for the most part with traction never a problem during the whole trip.

Leaving the hut, we headed south following the Mt Terrible track, Ryan Spur track eventually reaching Moonlight Spur track for the descent into Knockwood where we stopped for Lunch. The last creek crossing at the bottom of Moonlight Spur was deceptively deep with the water coming almost over the Bonnet.





## Trip Report

We then set off down the main Mansfield -Woods Point Road, heading back towards Jamieson passing the many popular campsites along the Goulburn River, back to the start of Poletti track. Being dry, Poletti track posed no problems and we climbed back up to Mt Terrible track before turning right and then a short distance later swung left onto Fryers Creek Road. While not a difficult track, it appears to get little traffic and was quite narrow with the bush closed in.

It was lucky that the track was slow going as I nearly had a head-on with a trail bike rider who clearly was not expecting anyone else to be on the track and he had to take emergency action to avoid head butting my Bullbar. Neville was behind me and spoke briefly to the rider, who Neville thought appeared somewhat shaken up.

Now back to the main Eildon – Jamieson Road, and it was only a short distance back the camp arriving at 4:00 pm. All up, a great day's driving covering a distance of 95km.





## Trip Report

Dinner for Saturday was Curried Snags which had been organized by Matt. Neville brought the snags but Matt had the Curry ingredients. Luckily, Neville had the foresight to bring a couple of packets of curry powder mix so all was not lost. My part of the deal was to make some camp bread. It didn't rise as much as I think it should have, so will try 2 packets of yeast next time, but with some Butter & Raspberry jam it was still delicious.





## Trip Report



After going to bed a bit earlier this time, we set off after a breakfast of bacon and eggs, taking the Big River Road. Turning off at Enochs point, we found a Historic Cemetery which had an interesting story. Apparently, miners had started digging under the graves looking for Gold, so 5 acres were set aside and in 1896 was became an official Cemetery. Dotted all around the graves are remnants of those mines with some shafts fenced off due to the danger. The last grave was filled in 1908.





Moving on, the Big River “road” turned into a rocky 4wd track for quite some distance with a couple of shallow creek crossings as well.

We arrived at Stockman’s Reward campground for a short lunch stop for before heading up Morris Road which takes you up to the Woods Point-Marysville Road. Normally, this road is not difficult but has been chopped up in a few places and has a steep section now with very deep ruts. Being dry, we were able to straddle the ruts without risk of sliding in, as we would have bottomed out for sure.

Arriving at the Woods point road we turned right to head back past Cumberland Junction to go to onto Cambarville the home of the Big tree. Cambarville was once a logging community which closed after the mill was destroyed by fire in 1971. A short walk takes you to the Elephant tree and then the “Big tree”.



It was once believed to be Australia’s tallest tree; the top of the tree was broken off in a storm in 1959 and now has a height of just under 88 metres.



The trip back to Warburton via the Reefton Spur had claimed some more victims. Police were in attendance as two cars were towed away. It appeared that one of the cars had cut the corner. It always pays to be careful on this stretch of road as it is well used by motorcyclists and driving enthusiasts and accidents are common, especially among motorcycle riders.

A fantastic weekend was had with no rain, terrific weather, tracks in good condition for this time of the year, and some great four-wheel driving. You couldn't ask for more.

Ken Kilby.



# **We need your help on and off the tracks**



**If you have some spare time  
please consider joining the committee.  
Your club needs you— do it for your club!**

**Contact your Committee...**



## Agenda for Annual General Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> August

**Date:** 2.08.2023

**Time:** 9.10 pm

**Location:** Club

Open Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Welcome</li><li>• As per attendance book that didn't turn up</li><li>• Apologies:</li></ul>	Steve
Reports from Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Steve Pitcher took control of the meeting.</li><li>• President Report – From: Andre - As per magazine</li><li>• Treasurer Report – From: Ly - As per magazine</li><li>• Trips Report – From: Neville - As per magazine</li><li>• Last AGM Minutes<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• – No Matters arising</li></ul></li><li>• Accept: Anne</li><li>• Second: Daisy</li></ul> <p><b>Steve called all positions Vacant.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nominations for<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• President – 1 Nomination – Neville.</li><li>• Vice Pres – No Nomination</li><li>• Secretary – 1 Nomination - Daisy.</li><li>• Treasurer – 1 Nomination - Ly.</li><li>• Trips – Late Nomination - Bruce Dunlop –.</li><li>• Editor – 1 Nomination – Luke David</li><li>• Association – No Nomination.</li><li>• General Committee – 1 Nomination – Luke David.</li><li>• General Committee – No Nomination.</li></ul></li></ul>	Steve Andre Ly Neville
Meeting Close Meeting Close	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Meeting close 9.32 pm</li></ul>	Steve





**Photo: Daisy at Mt  
Skene**