



Meeting Details



VFWDC General Meeting Details & Venue

The club meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 7.30 PM with the following exceptions:

No meeting at Club Noble in January.

Club Noble Address

Blue and Gold Room Club Noble 46-56 Moodemere Street Noble Park

Melways ref: 89 D4



There is NO club meeting at Noble Park on the 5th November 2025

This month's meeting will be <u>Club Offsite Meeting held on Wednesday 12th</u>

November at Adrenaline Offroad at 6pm, Pizzas being provided.

Club Committee

www.fwdvictoria.org.au

2024 - 2025		
President	Neville Van Leeuwen	president@vfwdc.com
Vice President	Ken Kilby	<u>vicepres@vfwdc.com</u>
Secretary	Steve Miller	secretary@vfwdc.com
Treasurer	Ly Ho	treasurer@vfwdc.com
General Committee		
Trip Coordinator	Ken Kilby	trips@vfwdc.com
Magazine Editor	Sushant Aggarwal	editor@vfwdc.com
Association Delegate	Dennis Alphonsus	delegate@vfwdc.com
General Committee	Andy McCarthy	
Support Positions to	Committee	
Web Manager	Alec Downs	web@vfwdc.com
Training officer	Phillip Griffith	
Merchandise	Suzy Whitford	merchandise@vfwdc.com
Club Details		
Club Details Registered Name	Victorian Four Wheel Dri	ve Club
	Victorian Four Wheel Dri A002184F	ve Club
Registered Name		
Registered Name Registration Number Correspondence	A002184F	
Registered Name Registration Number Correspondence Address	A002184F PO Box 778 Dandenong \	

President's Report

Hi All,

I'm really looking forward to the upcoming months – we have a packed calendar with plenty of trips and activities to sign up for.

First up is our off-site meeting at Adrenalin Off Road in Pakenham. We will be meeting up for pizza and then a short presentation and a look around the shop. It looks to be a great night, so if you haven't RSVP'd yet, please do. Please remember, no meeting on the first Wednesday this month!

On 15/11, FWDV have organized another "Clean Up the Bush" at Mt Disappointment. If you can attend this, please RSVP via the email that was sent out. This is a great activity to represent the 4WD community in a positive way as well as beautifying the bush.

At the end of the month, we have our Christmas break-up BBQ at Upper Yarra Reservoir. This will be a relaxing day sharing a laugh and talking about our next adventure.

There are also plenty of trips coming up, so please see the trip section for all the details and put your name down.

In the background, Alec has been hard at work revamping the website with a whole new look. We are hoping to be able to launch this around the end of the year. There may be a sneak peek coming before this, so keep an eye out for an email about it.

The new website will still have the same details (forms, magazine, club information) but will be in an updated format. The site we have now is quite outdated and no longer offers the ability to be updated.

The committee has also been busy planning some of next year's activities, and we will provide more updates soon on this.

Neville Van Leeuwen

VFWDC President

president@vfwdc.com

Date: 3 September 2025 Time: 7:30pm – 8:42pm Location: Club Noble

Topic	Discussion and Outcomes	Speaker
Open Meeting	 Welcome to the October 2025 club meeting Apologies: Alec, Sushant, Nicci, Stephen Card, Daisy, Michael Scopel 	Neville
Minutes from previous months club meeting	 Minutes from previous meeting accepted: Accepted: Andre Seconded: Bruce Matters arising from previous minutes for meeting on the 03/09/2025: Nil 	Neville
Guests	 Ian and Catherine (Guests of Bruce). Going to Cape York in 4 car convoy with family and friends. Mazda BT50 Jared, picking up a Kia Tasman next week. Craig from FWDV. 	Neville
Correspondence	Correspondence: 1. Neville picked up mail from PO	Neville Steven M
Memberships	For anyone who has not paid, these are now overdue.	Neville
Resignations	 David and Caroline Bruinsma Gary Smith James Kong 	
Treasurer's Report	 As per written report from Ly Ho – Written report will be in next issue of the club's magazine. Report for September 2025: Closing cash position \$3,039.06 Closing consolidated position \$11,909.61 No matters arising from Financial Report. Motion to accept September 2025 Treasurer 's Report:	Ly
Association News	 FWDV has 50th anniversary function Training at Toolangi training ground See email from Dennis 	Dennis

Date: 3 September 2025 Time: 7:30pm – 8:42pm Location: Club Noble

Topic
Topic Guest Speaker

Date: 3 September 2025 Time: 7:30pm – 8:42pm Location: Club Noble

Topic	Discussion and Outcomes	Speaker
Upcoming Trips	 03/10/2025 Stargazing a Briars, Mt Martha at 7:45pm. This is now fully booked out. 10-13/10/2025 Steve Card running a fishing trip to Dargo, Meeting at BP Officer. 18/10/2025 Noogee day trip by Andy and Suzy, meeting at Ampol Langwarry at 8 am 12/11/2025 Club Offsite Meeting at Adrenaline Offroad at 6pm, Pizzas being provided. (There is NO club meeting at Noble Park on the 5th November) 29/11/2025 End of year breakup proposed at Upper Yarra 12-15 December 2025 – Friday - Blue Rag, Saturday – Crooked River Sunday - Billy Goats Bluff, Monday – Head home via Licola. Difficulty - Medium to Hard Trip Co-ordinator email not working, send trip related emails to Vice President email 31/12/2025 x3 New Years Eaves at Camerons corner – Trip Leader Bruce Dunlop 2026 Cape York leaving King's birthday 2026, returning August 2026. Trip Leader: Bruce Dunlop 	Ken
Award for most trips run – Last financial year	Carried over from the last AGM,Award for most trips run – Last financial year. Neville presented this to Sally and Tristan.	Neville
Intermission	Intermission 8:10pm to 8:30pm	
Merchandise	 Usual items – Existing stock available see club magazine for details. Taking expressions of interest for new hoodie with embroidered logo. No zip. \$70 each, various colours, 400GSM. Taking orders for polo shirts with new logo. 	Suzy
General Business	No General Business	Neville

Date: 3 September 2025 Time: 7:30pm – 8:42pm Location: Club Noble

Topic	Discussion and Outcomes	Speaker
Trip Reports	06/09/2025 – Woods Point, Mt Matlock, Corn Hill, lunch at Woods Point Hotel. Day Trip. Medium difficulty. Approx 9 hrs driving. Arrived at Woods Point hotel at 3pm which was too late for lunch. See full trip report in the next edition of Free Wheeling club magazine.	Neville
Raffle	Prizes Wine and stubbie holder 1. A pair of soft shackles 2. Cap and Recipe Book 3. Glass Breaker and Stuby Holder	Neville
Next General Club Meeting	Off Site Meeting - Wednesday 12/11/2025, 6:00pm at Offroad	Neville
Meeting Close	• 8:42pm	Neville
Minutes taken by:		Steven Miller



Treasurer's Report September 2025

Cheque A/C` Opening Balance as at 01/09/2025	\$2,723.06	
Add: Raffle	\$75.00	
Membership Fees	\$659.00	
Merchandise Sales	\$180.00	
Less: Catering Costs	-\$18.00	
Bank Fees – new deposit books	-\$10.00	
Association Fees – FWDV	-\$300.00	
Closing Balance as at 30/09/2025		\$3,309.06
Term Deposit Opening Balance as at 01/09/2025	\$8,550.55	
Closing Bala <mark>n</mark> ce as <mark>at 30/09/2025</mark>		\$8,550.55
Petty Cash Opening Balance as at 01/09/2025	\$50.00	
Closing Balance as at 30/09/2025		\$50.00
Consolidated Closing Cash Position		\$11,909.61

General Notices

NEW GENERAL MEETING START TIME

Starting 2025, the general meeting's start time will commence at **7:30PM** at Club Noble.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Club membership renewals are due for the upcoming financial year. Membership prices:

Single - \$87

Family/Couple - \$97

Silver - \$57

Payment details are in the membership form below:

https://www.vfwdc.com/pdf/Membership%20Form%20[2025].pdf

NOTE: You must be a paid member to participate in the snow trips

Discount Offer: The club is offering a **discount of \$5 off your membership for each trip** you have organized and run since March 1st, 2024, up to a maximum of \$20 per couple.

Please mention any trips you have led when you reply.

MERCHANDISE

The order for hoodies/polos has been delivered, and garments will be available to those who ordered and have paid, at the offsite meeting on Wednesday 12 th November.

Thank you for supporting VFWDC.

Club Membership

Please visit our website at <u>VFWDC.com</u> 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

Payments:

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

Account Name: Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc

BSB: 633108

Account No: 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 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 <u>Club Noble</u> where we hold our monthly meetings, their application form can be found <u>here</u>.

Club Calendar

November		
Wednesday 12 th	Offsite Meeting Pizzas will be served! Please RSVP	6:00 pm Adrenalin Off-Road Centre Factory 2 / 4 Southeast Blvd Pakenham
Wednesday 19 th	Committee Meeting	
Friday 21 st	Hawkhurst Fishing Trip	Steven Card
Saturday 29 th	Dargo Camping Trip	Bruce Dunlop
Saturday 29 th	End of Year Celebrations	BBQ Hut at Upper Yarra reservoir 10:30AM Onwards
December		
Wednesday 3 rd	General Club Meeting	7:30 pm
Friday 12 th	Trip to Blue Rag and surrounds (12 – 15 Dec)	Neville
Wednesday 17 th	Committee Meeting	
Wednesday 31st	Triple New Years at Camerons corner	Bruce Dunlop

More upcoming trips:

- 1. Cape York leaving King's birthday, via Birdsville, Weipa (Next Year 2026), returning August 2026 (Bruce Dunlop)
- 2. June August 2026: Cape York Trip (Bruce)

Track Classification

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
Overall Description	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
Advisory Sign	EASY	MEDIUM	DIFFICULT	VERY DIFFICULT
Expected terrain and track conditions	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.
Vehicle suitability	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).
Recovery equipment			Recovery equipment required.	Winch / Recovery equipment required.
Driver Training / Experience	Suitable for novice drivers.	Recommended that drivers have experience or 4WD training. Recommended to be done in groups of vehicles.	drivers with	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.
Weather	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.

Trip Report

Trip Report – Day trip to Latrobe State Forest & Noojee State Forest/Lunch at Noojee Pub (Saturday, 18th October 2025)

Report by Suzy

- 1. Suzy and Andy-Mitsubishi Challenger (Trip Leaders)
- 2. Neville and Riley-Mitsubishi Triton
- 3. Marc-Mitsubishi Triton
- 4. Ken-Mitsubishi Triton
- 5. Vernon-Toyota Lexus
- 6. Niro-Toyota Prado
- 7. Steve, Francine and James-Ford Everest
- 8. Dennis-Jeep Rubicon
- 9. Bruce D-Bionic Legs

The day afforded us crisp, dry conditions, as we headed out from Longwarry Ampol just before 0830, the convoy of 8 vehicles made their way up through Neerim, and into the LaTrobe State Forest.

Andy stated that the challenge set was to guess which U Turns were "unintentional," but at one stage a few members of the convoy were picking them out before we made them!

Pit stop at Nerb's Falls (AKA Chinamans cutting) and look at the Latrobe river, found one local waiting for a cray to be caught in his nets, and Dennis eye off the river for a think about crossing it in his Jeep, only to realise that the track was only on our side of the river with no exit point in sight.







Trip Report

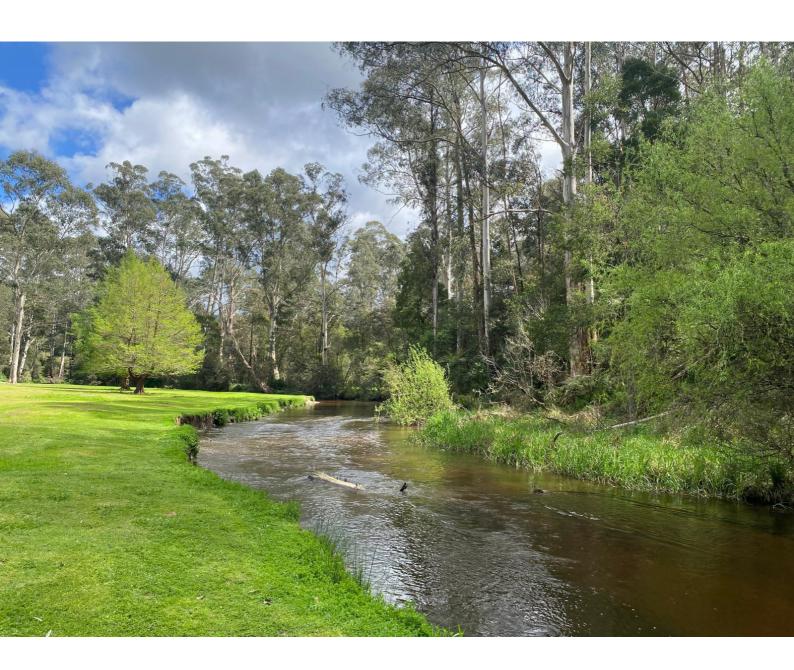
Managed to air down and get the vehicles into low gear and drive some tracks, including; Hi Tree Road, Wild Track, Duggan Track and Tolleys Track.





Trip Report

Made the 1 pm lunch booking at Noojee Pub early, and found Bruce D turn up for a chat over a cold beverage after lunch.





Niro departed, and the rest of us agreed to do a bit more exploring, on the Western side of Noojee Pub, in the Noojee State Forest. Nev and Riley were on the hunt for a camp site for the night, and departed the convoy and alas picked up a hitch hiker (leech) along their travels. Luckily the Noojee Pub was open til late for some salt to their rescue.

Vern commented that he was happy to test his vehicles' capabilities (off the bitumen!)

The Lexus gave him a smooth, stylish adventure and a grin to go with it.

All in all, everyone had an enjoyable day of leisurely four wheel driving, lunching and relaxing in each others company. A great day had by all.

Thanks to all attendees for making it a great day trip.

Trip report by Suzy.





DESTINATION	HAWKHURST (BLACK SNAKE CREEK HUT CAMPGROUND)
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Steven Card
LEADLING CONTACT NO.	TEL: - MOB: 0411202606
DATE	21/11/2025 – 24/11/2025
DATE	Can come later and leave earlier though communicate your travel plans for
	a safe trip
MEETING PLACE / TIME	BP officer outbound 3pm on Friday 10th October
GRADE	WET: Medium
Please adhere to new trip	DRY: Easy
classifications	DIVI. Eddy
	Fishing trip
	Award ceremony for best catch
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	Dargo pub
	Optional 4wd track day decided during trip Swimming
	Proper good craic
	MINIMUM: 3
VEHICLE LIMITS	MAXIMUM: 8
APPROX KMS	IVIAATIVIOIVI. 8
Meeting place to destination	300 kms
Wiceting place to destination	PETROL: Dargo
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	DIESEL: Dargo
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	
	30 minutes to Dargo
	Camping gear/fishing gear
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	If fishing you will need a VIC fishing license
	Recovery gear for the optional 4wd day
MAPS REQUIRED	
	GPS/google maps (downloading the offline maps is beneficial)
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	12
	NAME: Steven Card
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	MOB: 0411202606
	111202000

- 1. Plan your trip. In particular: meeting point destination, trip grading, trip details, fuel information, camping arrangements. If a trip is classified as Dog Friendly, it is the responsibility of the Trip Leader to ensure the trip does not enter areas that do not allow dogs.
- 2. Complete a "PROPOSED CLUB TRIP" form.
- 3. Pass the form on to the President or Events Coordinator, either in hard copy format or electronically, for approval at the next Committee Meeting. When approved, the Trip Leader will be notified, and the trip included in the Club Calendar. Also ensure copy passed to Newsletter Editor for inclusion in calendar and Forthcoming Trip Section.



DESTINATION	UPPER YARRA RESERVOIR
	NAME: Neville Van Leeuwen
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	TEL:
	MOB: 0472 680 482
DATE	29/11/25
MEETING PLACE / TIME	BBQ Hut at Upper yarra reservoir 10:30AM Onwards
GRADE Please adhere to new trip classifications	WET: EASY DRY: EASY
	Meet up at Upper Yarra Reservoir for a relaxing a relaxing day in the Park. We will have sausages and skewers and some other items for the BBQ along with some salads
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	Please bring your own eating utensils, drinks and if you want a your own steak/other items
	If you want to stay the night you will need to book a site
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 6
VEHICLE LIMITS	MAXIMUM: NA
APPROX KMS	
Meeting place to destination	
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL:
DISTANCE DETAKEEN CURRUES	DIESEL:
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Chair, Eating Utensils, drinks, sense of humor
MAPS REQUIRED	
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	12
DOG FRIENDLY? YES/NO	Yes

- 1. Plan your trip. In particular: meeting point destination, trip grading, trip details, fuel information, camping arrangements. If a trip is classified as Dog Friendly, it is the responsibility of the Trip Leader to ensure the trip does not enter areas that do not allow dogs.
- 2. Complete a "PROPOSED CLUB TRIP" form.
- 3. Pass the form on to the President or Events Coordinator, either in hard copy format or electronically, for approval at the next Committee Meeting. When approved, the Trip Leader will be notified, and the trip included in the Club Calendar. Also ensure copy passed to Newsletter Editor for inclusion in calendar and Forthcoming Trip Section.



DESTINATION	DARGO, DINNER PLAIN, DOGS GRAVE AND DROUIN.
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Bruce DUNLOP MOB: 0448 318 467
DATE	Saturday 29 Nov - Tuesday 2 Dec
MEETING PLACE / TIME	Saturday 29 Nov @ McDee's Moe 1000 for 1030
GRADE Please adhere to new trip classifications	WET: Hard DRY: Medium
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	 Starting at the Michelin rated Mac Donalds Moe, head East towards Bairnsdale. Veer left on Great Alpine Hwy. Night stop Dogs Grave, (Sat) Relax late start, local tracks, Working our way to Dargo. Night stop. (Sun) Mon morning Billy Goats is calling, Heading to Mt Hotham, best pub view for lunch, Mon night stop Omeo Caravan park. Tues up and independently head home. Full of joy and happiness of the activities conducted.
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 6
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	Approx. 500 km
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: 200 Bairnsdale, Bruthern, Omeo, Dargo DIESEL: 200 As above
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	100, give or take,
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Camping gear, full noise recovery equipment, maxtracks. BYO food for three nights
MAPS REQUIRED	High Country
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	12
DOG FRIENDLY? YES/NO	Yes

- 1. Plan your trip. In particular: meeting point destination, trip grading, trip details, fuel information, camping arrangements. If a trip is classified as Dog Friendly, it is the responsibility of the Trip Leader to ensure the trip does not enter areas that do not allow dogs.
- 2. Complete a "PROPOSED CLUB TRIP" form.
- 3. Pass the form on to the President or Events Coordinator, either in hard copy format or electronically, for approval at the next Committee Meeting. When approved, the Trip Leader will be notified, and the trip included in the Club Calendar. Also ensure copy passed to Newsletter Editor for inclusion in calendar and Forthcoming Trip Section.



DESTINATION	BLUE RAG TO CROOKED RIVER
	NAME: Neville Van Leeuwen
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	TEL:
	MOB: 0472 680 482
DATE	12 th – 15 th of Dec 25
MEETING PLACE / TIME	Longwarry Ampol Outbound 12/12/25 at 9am for 9.30am departure
GRADE	WET: Hard
Please adhere to new trip	DRY: Med
classifications	
	Plan is take Friday & Monday off work
	Leave Fri and head to Dargo – refuel, look around and have a meal at the pub. Potentially camp behind the pub or at one of the nearby campsites like
	Italian Flat
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	Saturday: Pack up and do Blue Rag Range track heading to crooked river via
	Basalt N Track Camp at Crooked River.
	Sunday: Most likely do crooked river to Billy Goat Bluff Track
	Camp at Horseyard flat track (Or closer to Licola)
	Monday: Pack up and head home via Licola
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 3
1222044446	MAXIMUM: 6
APPROX KMS	~250 KM between Dargo and Licola
Meeting place to destination	PETROL BARCO III a L'arla
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: DARGO then Licola
DISTANCE DETIMENAL CUIDDUES	DIESEL: DARGO then Licola
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	250KM
	Full trip approx. 800km
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Recovery gear & be fully self sufficient to camp at a different location each
	night
MAPS REQUIRED	
·	Dargo – Wonnangatta Adventure Map or similar
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	12
DICTANCE DETWICEN CURRING	250KM
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	Full trip approx. 800km
DOG FRIENDLY? YES/NO	Yes – there will be some long days in the car. We plan on having a meal at
DOG INICIADEI: 125/110	Dargo Pub. (People can go direct to campsite)

- 1. Plan your trip. In particular: meeting point destination, trip grading, trip details, fuel information, camping arrangements. If a trip is classified as Dog Friendly, it is the responsibility of the Trip Leader to ensure the trip does not enter areas that do not allow dogs.
- 2. Complete a "PROPOSED CLUB TRIP" form.
- 3. Pass the form on to the President or Events Coordinator, either in hard copy format or electronically, for approval at the next Committee Meeting. When approved, the Trip Leader will be notified, and the trip included in the Club Calendar. Also ensure copy passed to Newsletter Editor for inclusion in calendar and Forthcoming Trip Section.



DESTINATION	NEW YEARS EVE X 3
	NAME: Bruce DUNLOP
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	TEL:
	MOB: 0448 318 467
DATE	26 Dec 2025-4Jan 2026
MEETING PLACE / TIME	Friday 26 Dec McDee's Calder Park 1300 for 1330
GRADE Please adhere to new trip classifications	WET: Hard DRY: Medium
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	 Wedderburn. (26 DEC) Pooncare, (27DEC) Mennidee, (28 DEC) Broken Hill, (29 DEC) Tibooburra, (30 DEC) CNR time, (31 DEC) Return TBA.
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 6
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	Approx. 200 km
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Fuel listed as available at CNR store. DIESEL: As above
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	300, give or take,
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Camping gear, full noise recovery equipment, maxtracks. BYO food and supplies for 5 nights
MAPS REQUIRED	Australia Travel Atlas
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	12
DOG FRIENDLY? YES/NO	No

- 1. Plan your trip. In particular: meeting point destination, trip grading, trip details, fuel information, camping arrangements. If a trip is classified as Dog Friendly, it is the responsibility of the Trip Leader to ensure the trip does not enter areas that do not allow dogs.
- 2. Complete a "PROPOSED CLUB TRIP" form.
- 3. Pass the form on to the President or Events Coordinator, either in hard copy format or electronically, for approval at the next Committee Meeting. When approved, the Trip Leader will be notified, and the trip included in the Club Calendar. Also ensure copy passed to Newsletter Editor for inclusion in calendar and Forthcoming Trip Section.

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...

