

OCTOBER 2013

# Free Wheeling



## Shepparton Trip - Kidstown

# Notice Board

## VFWDC GENERAL MEETING VENUE

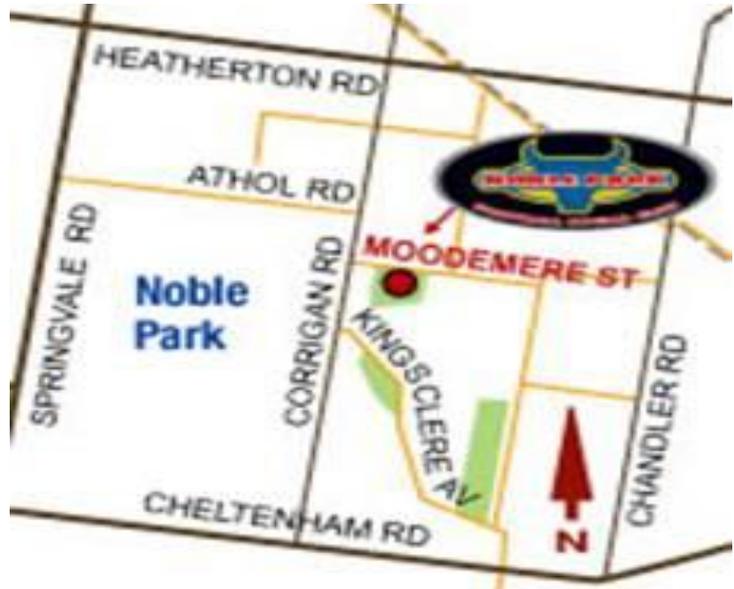
The club meets at the Bowling Club Rooms, Noble Park Football Club, 46-56 Moodemere St, Noble Park on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of every month at 8.00pm (No meeting in January and November meeting at selected location). Members and Guests are welcome to dine at the Bistro before attending the meeting.

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



## **FREE WHEELING**

Hello and welcome to the October newsletter. Daylight savings is finally here, hello to the return of longer days and October see's us one month closer to the seasonal gates being re-opened, yeah. Remember, there's a table for the VFWDC at the Noble Park Football Club from 6:30pm onwards if you want to join us and have a meal before the meeting, also the meals are two for one on Wednesday nights, come along and socialise with other club members.

Catherine

Editor@fwdc.com



**COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT  
2013-2014**

President	John Partridge	president@vfwdc.com
Vice President	Sally Higgs	vicepres@vfwdc.com
Treasurer	Steve Pitcher	treasurer@vfwdc.com
Secretary	Andre Van Derwalt	secretary@vfwdc.com
GENERAL COMMITTEE		
Assistant Secretary		assist@vfwdc.com
Trip Co-ordinator	Tristan Higgs	trips@vfwdc.com
Newsletter Editor	Catherine Felton	editor@vfwdc.com
Web Manager	Ben Whitworth	web@vfwdc.com
Training Officers	Phillip Griffith	
Association Delegate	David Bruinsma	
Librarian	Andrew	
Merchandise	Mark Felton	
General Committee		

Club Details	
Registered Name	Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc
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>
Meetings	Held 8pm, first Wednesday of each month, excluding January (no meeting).
Location	Noble Park Football Club (Bowling club near car park) 46-56 Moodemere Street, Noble Park Melways ref: 89 D4
Newsletter	All articles and photographs to be submitted prior to 20 <sup>th</sup> of each month to <a href="mailto:editor@vfwdc.com">editor@vfwdc.com</a>
	The Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club is an affiliated club of the Victoria Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs Inc (VAFWDC)



# VFWDC ADVERTISING DIRECTORY

## BUSH-B-Q

Manufacturer of the Barbeque of the Outback  
**Don & Thelma Montague**  
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 Web: [www.theldon.com.au](http://www.theldon.com.au)

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*Anyone wishing to advertise in the  
 Club Directory, please  
 contact the Editor at [editor@vfwdc.com](mailto:editor@vfwdc.com)*



# CLUB CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

2013				
November	<b>Wednesday 13th</b>	<b>General Meeting</b>		
	1st - 5th	Melbourne Cup Weekend - Knockwood Reserve	Markncat Felton	0439 345 207
	1st - 5th	Melbourne Cup Weekend - Beachport/Robe SA	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
	21st	Committee Meeting		
December	<b>Wednesday 4th</b>	<b>General Meeting</b>		
	7th	Club Christmas Party Break Up Party		
		Christmas - New Year trip		
January 2014		<b>NO GENERAL MEETING</b>		
	24th - 27th	<b>Murray River Trip - Long Beach (Ulupna Island)</b>	Markncat Felton	0439 345 207
	22nd	Committee Meeting		
February	<b>5th</b>	<b>General Meeting</b>		
	22nd	Committee Meeting		
March	<b>5th</b>	<b>General Meeting</b>		
	7th - 10th	Labour Day Weekend		
	19th	Committee Meeting		
April	<b>2nd</b>	<b>General Meeting</b>		
	19th - 21st	Easter Long Weekend—McKillops Bridge	Markncat Felton	0439 345 207
	25th	ANZAC Day		
	30th	Committee Meeting		
May	<b>7th</b>	<b>General Meeting</b>		
	22nd	Committee Meeting		
June	<b>4th</b>	<b>General Meeting</b>		
	19th	Committee Meeting		
July	<b>2nd</b>	<b>General Meeting</b>		
	22nd	Committee Meeting		

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome to this month's edition of the Free Wheeling Newsletter.

Recently Four Wheel Drive Victoria put out a media release announcing new funding from the Victorian government for a very substantial \$220,000.00. The funding is to help support FWDVic in keeping 4Wd tracks open to the public, running education programs at major 4WD shows and events, promoting low impact four wheel driving and promotion and marketing of Victoria's Iconic 4WD Adventures. Further to this, the Environment and Climate Change minister, Mr Ryan Smith, stated that the Victorian Government was committed to supporting initiatives that promote sustainable recreational use of Victoria's public land which deliver economic benefit to regional Victoria.

We have arranged to have a representative of FWDVic to come and speak at one of our club meetings to discuss current issues and some of the initiatives that FWDVic are currently working on. At this stage we have them pencilled in for the December meeting, but we might move it to early next year. This will be confirmed shortly.

There are a number of 4WD tracks that are still seasonally closed until the Cup Weekend as many of you know, but there are a few areas still closed from the bush fires.

Specifically the areas around Walhalla and Aberfeldy are still closed. It would be best if any club members are planning to run a trip, to call the local rangers office to check not only closures in the area but also to obtain local track knowledge and conditions of the camping grounds if you plan to stay overnight. Other good sources of information are the Parks Victoria website: [www.http://parkweb.vic.gov.au](http://parkweb.vic.gov.au) , DEPI (Department of Environment and Primary Industries, formally the DSE, formally NRE and often know as department of name change): <http://www.depi.vic.gov.au> and of course Four Wheel Drive Victorias website: <http://www.fwdvictoria.org.au>

At the last meeting we had a discussion about vehicles GVM (Gross Vehicle Mass - the maximum your vehicle can carry including accessories). There has been an increase in insurance companies examining the loads been carried when assessing claims and there are many reports of claims been denied due to being over the manufacturers stated GVM. This also applied to your caravans and camper trailers and also the load being exerted onto your vehicle through the tow ball. We are looking at having a day out at a weighbridge where members can weight there vehicles so you know where you stand weight wise and whether your vehicle needs to go on a diet or if your within the limits. We want to do this on a weekend and Ashley is looking into places that are happy to work in with us on this. Once we have it sorted out we'll put up a trip form and advertise it in the newsletter.

I'm sorry that the Newsletter is late getting out this month, it's mostly my fault for not getting this Presidents report in early enough (and technical issues with emails).

Until we meet at the meeting, keep it safe,  
John Partridge  
President, VFWDC Inc.

## UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	<b>Beyond Woods Point overnight drive</b>
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Mick Harris MOB: 0424 766 616 NAME: David Bruinsma MOB: 0417 747 860
DATE	Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> and Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2013
MEETING PLACE / TIME	7:00pm at Caltex Longworry
GRADE Please adhere to new trip classifications	WET: medium/hard DRY: easy/medium
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	<p>This trip is intended to almost an A grade trip.</p> <p>There will be a lot of driving on reasonable roads and graded tracks for the early part of the evening, until we get to the good stuff.</p> <p>Due to the distance we intend to travel, we will be camping overnight at a nice little grassy area we found on a recent reccy trip, near Gaffneys Ck.</p> <p>There will be an opportunity for a camp fire before we eventually hit the sack.</p> <p>After a byo B+E breakfast, we will drive back the same way we came in, previous trips like this it has been very interesting to actually 'see' where you drove the night before.</p> <p>Recommend that each vehicle also has a co-driver for the trip, for your own safety!</p>
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 6
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	Expect a 250km round trip from/to the Caltex.
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Caltex at Longworry DIESEL: Caltex at Longworry
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	All recover gear. Camping gear. Food. Drinks. Chain saw and fuel.
MAPS REQUIRED	Rooftops Big River – Rubicon – Woods Point Forrest Activities Map.
RADIO CHANNEL      CB / UHF	UHF 12

## UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	<b>Melbourne Cup Weekend - Knockwood Reserve</b>
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Markncat Felton MOB: 0439 345 207
DATE	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> and Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2013
MEETING PLACE / TIME	<b>7:00pm at Macca's back carpark Lilydale</b>
GRADE Please adhere to new trip classifications	WET: easy/medium DRY: easy/medium
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	<p><b>This trip is the first one for the year, it's that time when the seasonal tracks reopen. Your welcome to come and go at any time over the weekend, whatever suits you.</b></p> <p>Were having a base camp at Knockwood Reserve, all are welcome as there is two wheel drive access to this reserve, so bring your tents, camper trailers, caravans whatever takes your fancy.</p> <p><b>We'll take a easy tour around the local area of Mt Skene, do a few easy tracks. Have lunch at the Kevington Pub on one of the days, which is a great little pub located along the Jamieson River.</b></p> <p>Also we can take advantage of having a stay in camp by cooking a lovely pot roast meal. This will be a nice and relaxing weekend for every one.</p>
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: No Max
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	600km round trip from/to home.
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: BP at Mansfield DIESEL: BP at Mansfield
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Self sufficient, camping gear, <b>chain saw and fuel, don't forget the camp oven.</b>
MAPS REQUIRED	Rooftops – Jamieson – Mt Skene Activities Map.
RADIO CHANNEL      CB / UHF	UHF 12

## UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	<b>Beachport / Robe (SA)</b>
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: David Bruinsma MOB: 0417 747 860
DATE	Melbourne Cup Weekend Friday November 1 <sup>st</sup> to Tuesday November 5 <sup>th</sup> (2013)
MEETING PLACE / TIME	TBA – depends on who is coming, and respective departure times (due to people obtaining Leave)
GRADE <i>Please adhere to new trip classifications</i>	WET: Medium DRY: Easy
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	<p>I plan to leave very early on the Friday morning, setting up camp early afternoon.</p> <p>Planning to camp at the caravan park at Beachport, and then spend family time on the beach (sunning, fishing, swimming) with opportunity for group drive up the beach or for individual family activities whenever and however you want.</p> <p>Planning to pack up on the Tuesday morning and head back to Melbourne</p> <p><u>Further Info</u></p> <p>I have made a pencil booking for 4 adjoining camp sites, and have been informed that on the 1st weekend of November they are not busy.</p> <p>Cost for unpowered site \$26 p/n for 2 people Cost for powered site \$28 p/n for 2 people \$7 p/p per night extra for more than 2 per site.</p> <p>We can have an elevated fire pit. I will be bringing a 44gal drum that I have put in a frame with adjustable legs, and some fire wood.</p> <p>Feel free to bring a good surf rod or 2, and join me in catching some fish off the beach and/or nearby jetty. (That is when the wife has had enough of me and kicks me out of the camp site for a couple of hours....)</p>
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 1 MAXIMUM: 4
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	About 550km to Beachport from Melbourne
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 (anyone able to loan me a set of Max Trax?)
MAPS REQUIRED	<b>Have no idea ... I'll be using my GPS to get to BeachPort.</b>
RADIO CHANNEL      CB / UHF	UHF 12

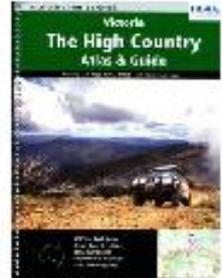
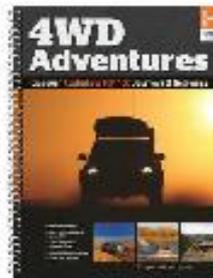
# EVERYTHING 4WD

Shop 1B, 280 South Gippsland Hwy,  
Cranbourne, 3977  
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F: 03 59955199  
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## Minutes of General Meeting September 2013

The meeting was held in the Bowls club, Noble Park Football Club and was opened at 8.15pm by Club President John Partridge.

**Present:** members present as per the attendance book

**Apologies:** members present as per the Apologies book

**Visitors:** There was 4 person listed in the Visitors Book

### Minutes of previous General Meeting

**Accepted :** Sam Ayoubee  
**Seconded :** Scotty

**Matters arising:**  
NIL

**Correspondence in**  
Land rover Review  
CCJC  
Overland Cruiser  
Membership renewals

**Correspondence out**  
September news letter  
Club rules to Consumer Affairs

### Treasurer's report

Term Deposit	\$ 7150.63
Cheque A/C opening	\$ 3753.53
Money In	\$ 655.00
Moneys Out	\$ 251.90
Cheque A/C	
Closing balance	\$ 4156.63
Petty Cash	\$ 150
Consolidation balance	\$ 11,457.26

**Accepted:** David Bruinsma  
Johan Liebenberg

**Association Report**  
Delegate brief sheets have been provided. Leisure fest stall, Oxfam tree delivery volunteers.

### Trip coordinators report

Type	When	Where	Trip Leader
Week long	20 Sept	Murray Sunset to Echuca	Max and Sandra
Easy trip (first time)	Saturday 21 September	Woods point (planned)	Emily
Easy trip (A/T suitable)	First weekend August	Mt Useful	Johan
Night run	Friday night 10 August	Toolangi (Marginal road)	Dean
Medium driving	A Sunday in Oct	Tallarook	John
Sand driving	Melbourne-cup weekend	Robe	David
Family camping	Melbourne-cup	Licola	Sam
Camping	Melbourne-cup weekend	Knockwood reserve	Mark 'n' Cat

## Trip reports

Dean's August night run. Went up Rocky Track, no problems. Tried the same track as Andre, Ben and Mark got stuck on a previous. Spent 30 min winching up, no solution. Some more winching for 3 hours... No problems, no damage to trucks and no injuries so a good night was had by all!

Mark's Shepparton trip. Didn't go on the Friday, but stayed at Parklane Caravan Park. Went to SPC, Kids town and Motorcar museum. Easy and great visit.

### Events Report

NIL

## General business

4wd Victoria got a grant from the Government. Parks lost a lot of personnel. Communicate track closures that are not on the Park website or tracks that are badly damaged.

Make sure about your vehicle weight is legal. Load it up and put it on a weigh bridge. Make sure it is within GVM.

Driver training certificates. No further action from 4WD Victoria.

Phil is a sanctioned driver trainer.

Merchandise: Prices are in the Magazine

### Other Business

Nil

### Raffle

Winner	Item
Johan	Dual battery
Ley	2 <sup>nd</sup> Battery
Mark	Soap
Joe	Map
Michael	Reco Laptop
Sally	Candle and Soap
Cat	Lamp
David	Candle and Coasters
Amanda	Cups, tea towels

Meeting Closed: 9:40 pm

Next Meeting: Wednesday 8.00pm 4 September at the Bowling Club Rooms, Noble Park Football Club.

## Trip Reports



### Trip to Shepparton

This trip was going to be a return to Mark's home town, but this time Mark was going to be 'the tour guide'. Our original plan was to head to Shepparton Friday night, so we were packed and so we headed off, but only got as far as Fountain Gate as the wind was blowing a gale and move our car into the next lane. The decision was made to return home and get going first thing in the morning.

We arose early, but not as early as we wanted too. We arrived in Seymour and got in contact with Andy and he advised that he was only leaving Melbourne now, so we stopped and walked around the Seymour market that was going on at the cricket ground. I managed to find a book that I had been searching for years to buy, I was very happy that we had stopped.

We continued along to Shepparton, where we had time to stop for a cuppa at Marks parents then we got a message that Andy and family had arrived at the caravan park. We arrived and paid our fees and greeted Andy, Glenys and Alex, we set up tents and took a look at the big jumping pillow and some of the play equipment. Everyone had hungry tummies so we headed into town and stopped at a good little bakery and then took lunch over to Kidstown where we consumed lunch and Alex got to run around and burn off some energy.



It got late into the day so we headed back to the caravan park and organised happy hour munchies. The caravan park had newly refurbished BBQ area, so we headed over and sat around and enjoyed happy hour and enjoyed a few good laughs. It eventually got late and dark so we got ready to head out to a pub for dinner. We tried the Peppermill hotel and that one was fully booked, we contacted our friends who parents own the Pine Lodge pub, but we found out that they had sold it and were no longer there. So we headed into town and found a spare booking at the GV hotel. The place was getting very busy

and so they managed to get Mark's dinner order incorrect and so we had to wait a little bit longer to enjoy our meals, but we all managed to walk out of there very satisfied.

We returned to the Caravan park, the little one headed to bed and the adults attempted to put the shelter back up, as it had fallen down and was started to rain. We sat around and had dessert of chocolate, cuppa teas, coffees and hot chocolates. The decision was made to head to bed early as it was raining and getting cold, so we said good nights and headed to bed warm and dry.



Sunday

We woke up to a clear blue sky and the sun shining, wow what a difference. We packed up camp and consumed a warm breakfast, we ended up being a bit late to check out but they didn't mind. We returned our keys and then headed off to do a spot of 'bulk shopping' at the SPC factory outlet. Andy and family couldn't believe the deals and bargains that were there. Mark and I restrained ourselves this time and spent less than \$100's, last time we were there we spent \$300's and had two trolleys full.



We took Andy and his family on a tour around Shepparton and then made our way to the car museum and took a wander through there and found a huge array of vintage and classic cars. We took a look at the antique shop as well, Alex got to purchase some cars to add to his collection at home.

We went to the chocolate shop and had a bite to eat for lunch, Glenys wanted to have a look at the Scout park we would have been camping at, so we took them for a drive around the park and it would have been a very good spot along the GV river, maybe next time when it's warmer.

We all arrived home safe and well, it was a very good weekend, something different while the tracks were closed at the moment. Thanks to Andy and family who came along and attended.

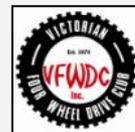
Cat Felton



[A joke on behalf of one of our youngest members, Samuel Bruinsma.](#)

**What do you call a group of Rabbits hopping backwards?**

*(Answer to be published in the next month's magazine, look out for the answer)*



**CLUB MERCHANDISE For Sale  
(Revised Price List)**

Club Polo Shirts	\$28.00 ea
Club Polar Fleece ½ Zip Jumper	\$38.00 ea
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