

# FREE WHEELING

September 2017



# **NOTICE BOARD**



### **VFWDC General Meeting Venue**

The club meets on the first WEDNESDAY of each month at 8:00pm. With the following exceptions; No meeting in January. November meeting is at a selected location, watch the calendar.

### **Bowling Club Rooms**

Noble Park Noble Football Club 46-56 Moodemere Street Noble Park





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

### **Aberfeldy Track**

In association with <u>Westland Gippsland Relic, Mining and Heritage Protection Inc</u>, the club maintains a section of the Aberfeldy Track with working bees throughout the year. View the club

# **COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT**

President Ben Whitworth <a href="mailto:president@vfwdc.com">president@vfwdc.com</a>
Vice President Steve Pitcher <a href="mailto:vicepres@vfwdc.com">vicepres@vfwdc.com</a>
Secretary Bruce Cremonesi <a href="mailto:secretary@vfwdc.com">secretary@vfwdc.com</a>
Treasurer Tony Barbera <a href="mailto:treasurer@vfwdc.com">treasurer@vfwdc.com</a>

### General Committee

Trip Co-Ordinator Stuart Bowker <u>trips@vfwdc.com</u>

Magazine Editor Ly Ho <u>editor@vfwdc.com</u>

Association Delegate David Bruinsma <u>delegate@vfwdc.com</u>

General Committee Ashley Martin
General Committee Callum Brown

### **Support Positions to Committee**

Web manager Ben Whitworth <u>web@vfwdc.com</u>

Training officer Phillip Griffith
Training officer Ashley Martin

Merchandise (vacant) <u>merchandise@vfwdc.com</u>

### Club Details

Registered Name Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club

Registration No A002184F

Correspondence PO Box 778 Dandenong VIC 3174

Email <u>secretary@vfwdc.com</u>

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 S	ALE			
Club Polo Shirts	\$28.00	Club Hoodie		\$54.00
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 VFWDC Free Wheeling magazine.

The AGM for this year has come and gone and we have this year's committee all sorted. Thanks to everyone who attended on the night and participated in the AGM.

Thank you also to this year's committee, it looks like this;

- Ben Whitworth as President
- Steve Pitcher returns to the committee as the Vice President
- Bruce Cremonesi returns as Secretary
- Tony Barbera returns as Treasurer
- Stuart Bowker returns as Trip Co-ordinator
- Ly Ho sticks around as Editor
- Ashley Martin also returns to the committee in a General Member capacity
- Callum Brown has joined the committee for the first time also as a General
- Phillip Griffith and Ashley Martin stay on as Training Officer
- Ben Whitworth will be continuing to take care of the Web Manager duties

Thankyou you to Carolyn Bruinsma for her efforts over the last couple of year as Merchandise Manager. And thank you to Shane Dodman for his efforts on the committee last year, here's hoping you will return in the future.

We need to fill just one more position, please have a think about helping us out with this roll.

Merchandise Manager

This year's committee has already had our first meeting. Many great ideas were shared and they will be explored in upcoming meetings.

The weather is starting to improve and we hope to see more members running some trips. Have a think about where you may like to go and have a chat to our friendly trip co-ordinator to make it happen.

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

Ben Whitworth President

## MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING

### August 2017

Meeting started 8pm

Attendees – as per book Apologies - as per book

**Minutes from July Meeting** 

Read and Accept Accepted: David B Second: Ly

**Correspondence from mins** 

Nil

**Incoming Correspondence** 

Emails from prospective members Snow Trip Permit application. Emails from 4wd Vic looking for Trainers

**Outgoing Correspondence** 

Emails to prospective members

**Treasurers Report** 

As per attachment in magazine Accept – Andre Seconded – David

4wd Vic

Meetings coming up Someone poisoned some eagles 4wd Vic site is phenomenally interesting.

General bizzo.

Ben

Reminder of November meeting – Aussie Disposals.

AGM is tonight. Need Nominations for all positions.

**4wd Vic Report** 

Nil.

**Upcoming Club Trips** (*Trip forms down the back of the meeting on the bench*)

Cassilis Mine - Brett Nuske

Driving and sightseeing

Cobaw trip - Steve Pitcher - 26-27 August.

Technical trip
Lots of low range stuff
6 cars only.

Campsite within the park for about 6 cars

Driver Training - Phil Griffith and Ashley Martin -

October 11<sup>th</sup> Theory 14/15 practical. Camping on site.

Beachport Robe trip November.

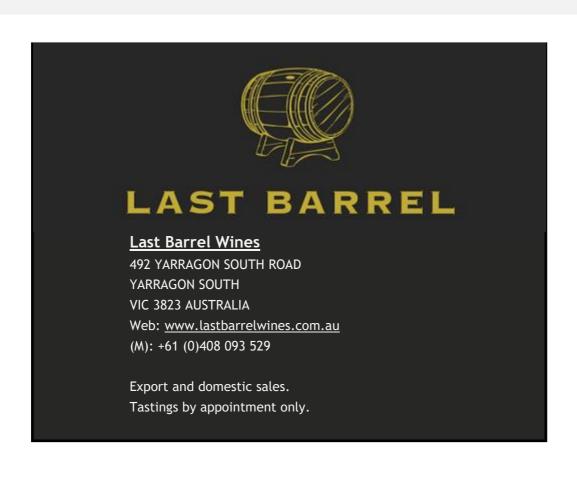
Sand driving and fun
Staying at the Southern Oceans Caravan Park.

Coffee break

**Past Club Trips** 

Due to AGM, trip reports will be presented at the September meeting

Meeting Closed 9pm



# **CLUB CALENDAR AT A GLANCE**

September 20°	17			
6th	Wed	General Meeting		
9th	Sat	Aberfeldy and surrounds	Stuart	0428 539 157
19th	Tue	Committee Meeting		
October 2017				
4th	Wed	General Meeting		
11th	Wed	Proficiency Training—Theory	Ashley Martin Phil Griffith	0428 134 399 0419 865 472
14th to 15th	Sat to Sun	Proficiency Training—Practical	Ashley Martin Phil Griffith	0428 134 399 0419 865 472
17th	Tue	Committee Meeting		
November 201	7			
1st	Wed	Aussie Disposals Dandenong South—Special Meeting		
3rd to 7th	Fri to Tues	Beachport / Robe	David	0417 747 860
January 2018				
		NO General Meeting		
7th to 21st		Fraser Island and Moreton Island	Callum	0439 972 204

# **IMPORTANT**

• If you wish to join us for dinner before the General Meeting, please book a spot at <u>Club Noble</u>. Phone 9546 0653 and ask to join "Sally's table" from the club. You must book **BEFORE** the Monday on the week of the meeting to avoid disappointment!

# **TRADING POST**

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: GU Patrol accessories

\$50, \$60

Kaymar GU Patrol wheel carrier spacer bracket:

Allows for larger diameter wheels such as 35's and incorporates a fixing for reversing light.

\$50

ARB GU Patrol dual battery tray

\$60





Ashley

0428 134 399

# FOR SALE: Cruiser parts

See below

Ken Beard

6 x Mickey Thompson MTZ tyres 285/75/16: 4 x tyres 12.5mm, 2 x tyres 10.5mm tread depth

6 x Dynamic black steel rims suit 70 series v8 cruiser

\$1200 EC

0427 333 035

5 x 100 series (IFS) OE original factory steel rims 8x16 inches

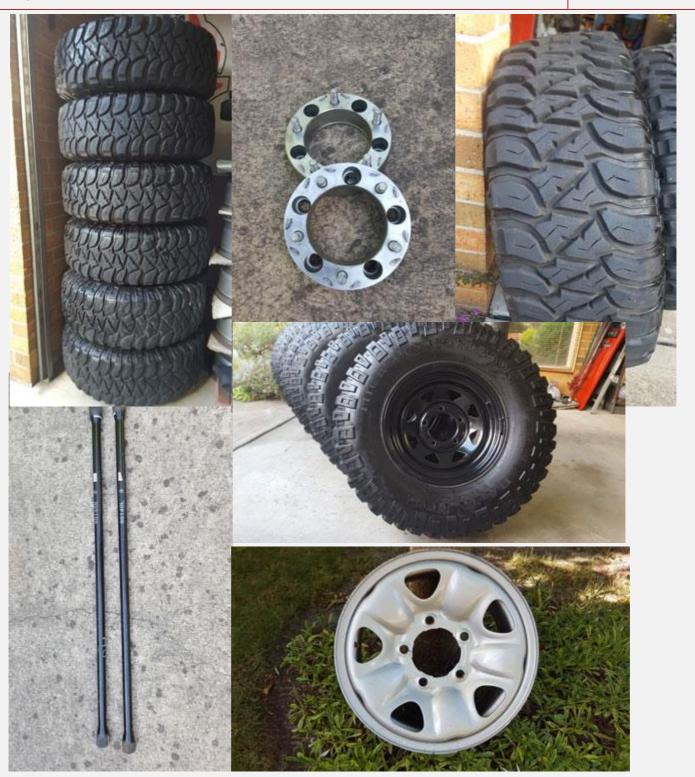
\$150 EC

2 x snake racing wheel spacers 150/5

\$80 EC

2 x OE original equipment 100 series tortion bars

\$80 EC



# FOR SALE: Esky, roof top bag, swag

See below

Sally

Rhino Roof Top Bag. \$150 About 12 months old. Hardly used, in very good condition. It works well and keeps everything dry. Measurements: 1000x1200

0412 464 129

**Esky \$100.** Measurements 720x425x515cm.













# FOR SALE: Free fire wood

FRFF

Gary

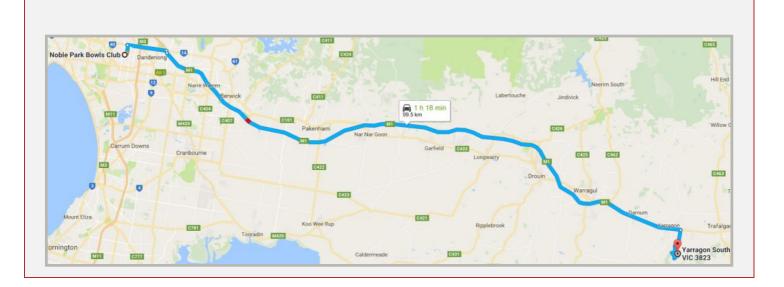
0408 093 529

Blackwood and Gum. Some dry, some are not.

Bring chainsaw and trailer.

I have trees coming down next week, and branches being trimmed also. There is wood on the ground also. Most of it needs cutting up and carting away. Current access is reasonably good.

Location: Yarragon South



## FOR SALE: Samsung CLP-415NW Colour Printer

\$50

<u>Stuart</u> 0428539157

The club's now retired colour printer. Works perfectly.

See the full specs here







Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc

# Treasurer's Report July 2017

Cheque A/C`	\$4,253.75		
Add	: Membership Renewals Raffle Ticket Sales New Membership Visitor pass for Mt Skene	\$1690.00 \$101.55 \$120.00 \$20.00	
	Total Monies In:	720.00	\$1,931.55
<u>Less</u>	Association Fees - FWDV  Petty Cash Catering for Christmas In July Visitors Pass for Mt Skene Driver Proficiency Certificates FWDV Total Monies Out:	\$1560.00 \$20.70 \$461.30 \$22.00 \$77.00 \$2,141.00	
	Closing Balance as at 30/06/2017		\$4,044.30
Term Deposit Opening Balance as at 01/06/2017 \$6,399.78			
Petty Cash	Closing Balance as at 30/06/2017 Opening Balance as at 01/06/2017 Add: Cheque Account Less: Catering	\$150.00 \$20.70 -\$20.70	\$6,399.78
	Closing Balance as at 30/06/2017  Consolidated Closing Cash Position	-	\$150.00 <b>\$10,594.08</b>

# **UPCOMING TRIPS**

**DESTINATION** Aberfeldy and surrounds

LEADER/CONTACT NO. NAME: Stuart & Maree

MOB: 0428 539 157

DATE Sat 9th September 2017

MEETING PLACE / TIME Yarragon main street outside the bakery 9:00 am for an 9:30

am departure. Bakery should be open for Breaky allow extra

Maybe dinner in Erica on the way home.

**GRADE** WET: Difficult

DRY: Medium

TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS Idea is to head up to Aberfeldy and do some four wheel driv-

Bring packed lunch and munchies for roadside stops

VEHICLE LIMITS MINIMUM: Us were going any way!

MAXIMUM: N/A

APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE 70km

TO DESTINATION

LAST AVAILABLE FUEL PETROL: Moe

DIESEL: Moe

**DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES** Approx 70kms

**EQUIPMENT REQUIRED** Own basic recovery gear, tools and any spares you may re-

quire. AT or MT tyres

MAPS REQUIRED Rooftop maps Walhalla-Licola

RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF 12

**DESTINATION** Proficiency Training

Little O'Tooles camping ground & surrounds

LEADER/CONTACT NO. Ashley Martin - 0428 134 399 Phil Griffith - 0419 865 472

DATE Theory - Wednesday October 11th, 7.30pm start

Practical - Saturday October 14th to Sunday October 15th

MEETING PLACE / TIME Theory - Noble Park Football Club, Blue & Gold Room (above

dining area)

Practical - BP Service Centre Officer (Princess Fwy) Friday 5pm

BP Service Centre Officer (Princess Fwy) Saturday 7.30am

GRADE WET: Easy/Medium

DRY: Easy/Medium

TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS The Club encourages all members to participate in a proficiency course to ensure the basic fundamentals of 4 wheel driving are gained.

> 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.

Practical we run through individual vehicles and differences, basic recovery equipment and recap some of the theory (including home work:)). 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 putt all the theory into practice.

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.

As with past participants the weekend provides confidence to safely 4WD either with the club or friends.

**VEHICLE LIMITS MINIMUM: 4** 

MAXIMUM: 8

APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE 300km's approximately TO DESTINATION

LAST AVAILABLE FUEL

PETROL, LPG, DIESEL: Moe

(please have full tank of fuel before leaving meeting place)

**DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES** 200kms

**EQUIPMENT REQUIRED** Theory - pen and concentration

Practical—you will need to be self-sufficient for camping and have your brain switched on.

MAPS REQUIRED Rooftop Walhalla / Woods Point

RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF UHF 12

**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 if Dry.

TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS

I plan to leave very early on the Friday morning from Berwick at approx. 6am to avoid the worst of the peak morning traf-

fic, setting up camp early afternoon.

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.

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.

Intending to pack up on the Tuesday morning and head back to Melbourne. Some members usually stay the whole week.

VEHICLE LIMITS MINIMUM: 1

MAXIMUM: 10 +

APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE Approx. 550km to Beachport from Melbourne CBD TO DESTINATION

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)

Sand Flag

MAPS REQUIRED Normal GPS to get to Beachport

Beach track maps are available at Beachport

RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF 12

**DESTINATION** Fraser Island and Moreton Island

LEADER/CONTACT NO. NAME: Callum Brown

MOB: 0439 972 204

DATE 7th January 2018—28th January 2018

MEETING PLACE / TIME TBA

GRADE WET: Medium

DRY: Easy

TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS The intent of this trip is to relax and have fun. We will be traveling to Fraser Island and Moreton Island. We will stay for 7 nights at Fraser Island and we will spend 3 nights at Yurru camp area and 4 nights at Sandy Cape camp area. We will then make our way to Moreton Island for 4 nights and travel the coast roads on the way home.

**VEHICLE LIMITS** MINIMUM: 1

MAXIMUM: 4

**APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE** 4000 TO DESTINATION

LAST AVAILABLE FUEL

PETROL: TBA

DIESEL: TBA

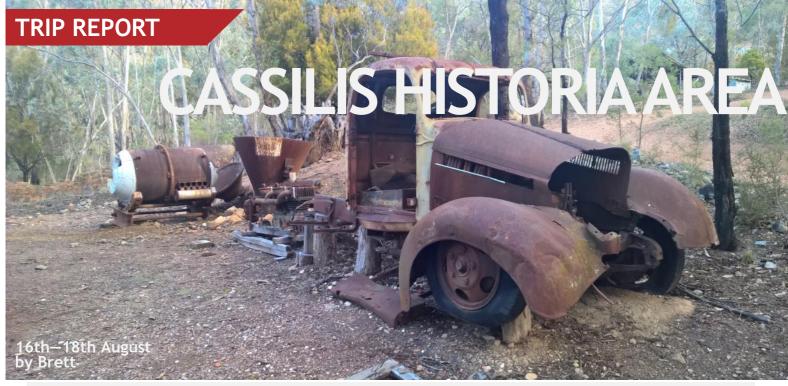
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES

**EQUIPMENT REQUIRED** Self-sufficient camping. This means we will need to bring all food and water for both Islands and considerations will need to be made for waste disposal. Basic recover gear

required.

MAPS REQUIRED Fraser Island and Moreton Island maps

RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF 12



Participants: Brett - Pajero Shane - Hilux Des - Patrol Norm - Ranger

With the forecast predicting up to 50mm of rain over 4 days in the Omeo region, the planned midweek trip between Dargo and Cassilis still went ahead. Shane was first to arrive at Italian Flat campground in Dargo on Tuesday afternoon and set up a nice fire in the rain that was effective in guiding Brett to the campsite. Much later, Des arrived after a minor navigation hiccup that had him testing out some of the 4wd tracks solo in the dark and rain.



The following morning, we awoke to blue skies and sun. Norm met up with everyone at the campground around 10am and we were ready to tackle the unknown. Given the rain from the previous day and the predicted rain for the rest of the trip, it was decided to be a bit conservative and start on some easy tracks. We travelled north along Upper Dargo Road before turning onto Jones Road. This was a pretty easy 2WD

road that provided access to Mt Steve (998m) via Mount Steve Track. We enjoyed some good views down towards Dargo and then looped back to Jones Road via Gidley Track.



Next stop was a visit to Wentworth Falls. From Jones Road, we drove north up Wild Horse Creek Track before continuing up Wentworth Falls Track. This was a short track and relatively flat but with the recent rain was a bit greasy. Everyone could feel their vehicles moving about as we travelled along. Eventually we arrived at a large bog hole that had been previously filled with large logs that were probably used to help some previous brave adventurers drive through. Brett took a muddy, rutted chicken track around to the left but Norm was unable to gain enough traction to attempt this track. He required a small reverse tow to get his vehicle unstuck and then discovered an alternative chicken track around to the right which everyone else successfully took. Arriving at the small carpark nearby the Wentworth Falls, we had some lunch and then went for a walk to locate the falls, albeit unsuccessfully.

retraced our way down Wentworth Falls Track, headed east along McDonalds Road before arriving at Mount Delusion Road via Dorothy's Cutting. This section of driving was broken up by a quick visit to McDonalds Hut which restricts access because of its very poor condition. It no longer resembles the photo on the rooftop map.



Mt Delusion Hut was not hard to locate but as with McDonalds Hut, was not safe to inhabit. It looked like it was being held together by steel strapping.



At this point it was after 2pm and we were looking to camp at (or near) Mt Delusion Hut, so

We took some photos of the hut as well as the nearby dugout before calling conducting an impromptu committee meeting to discuss alternative camping plans. Brett took a quick drive up Mt Delusion Track to the summit of Mt Delusion (1378m) and found a clearing bereft of grass that had been previously logged. While it could be described as a 'room with a view', we needed our jackhammers to break through all the rock in the ground just to get our tent pegs secured. These tent pegs proved very important and the only thing stopping us from parachuting with our tents off the mountain. The wind was incredibly strong and gusty, not to mention cold. Shane came to the rescue with his homemade fire pit which he set up under his tarp to keep everyone warm.



could have been driven in a 2WD, but a short section of this track was muddy and greasy that momentarily halted the progress of Norm and Des. Des required a few attempts on the first hill, trying a different amount throttle and gears while Norm required a small tow to clear the crest of the second hill.



Waking up in the morning to find that we hadn't taken off and landed at the base of the mountain, everyone packed up and started the drive to Cassilis. The weather was fine so the route we chose was New Rush Track, Toms Track, Saturday Morning Track, Elliot Track, McGuiness Road, Livingstone Creek Road and Parslow Track before using Mount Delusion Road and a section of bitumen to visit the King Cassilis Mine area. The drive was very pleasant through forest and farmland with Elliot Track proving to be the most difficult. If the track was dry, it

The King Cassilis Mine area was very interesting with many relics and features from the late 1800s through to the early/mid 1900s. Some examples of the relics/features include, old mine entrances, water races, buildings, car bodies and engines. We spent about 1.5 hours exploring the area and could have spent more but the heavens opened up and a campsite needed finding.





### Participants:

Bruce + all his mates - GU Patrol Andrew + Family - Prado Ly + Missus - LC 80 Series Ben + family - LC 105 Series Norm - Ranger Runnin' solo. Tony + Lisa - Ranger.

Well another year another great snow weekend up Mt Skene with great people.

Permits were obtained, cars packed, firewood for the campfire arranged, tents setup, dunno holes dug, and everyone was happening houses booked, rooms at the pub booked, table booked at pub, wine ordered, lite soy mocha latte's were had and Gucci purses were everywhere. But some good socializing was had with couple of other clubs staying there overnight, and some locals. Country people are awesome.

Next morning was a late start - around 7.30 departure as there were reports of up to 70 cars booked on the mountain for the Saturday! So the awe-inspiring TL wanted an early start so we would be first on the snow - and everyone bowed to his phenomenal years of experience.

Everyone arrived at the pub for departure, and then it started... First the women, then the women, and then the shemales... The threat of no dunny on the mountain got them all jittery and their flea sized bladders panicked and sent out smoke signals... So within 3 mins, there was a line up at TWO of the rooms at the pub to use the thrones! So 45 mins later, they were ready to depart... Thank god there was no running water out front. Most had aired down at this point.



Finally hitting the dirt, we cruised on up past

some roos in the paddocks, some cockatoos, and some more roos with a lite dusting of snow.





It was a nice easy run up to the picnic table, with very little snow, which wasn't a good sign. We had the regulation snowball fight, and built a snowman no, we didn't really do that... Norm decided to air down here.

Arriving at the summit, we called out to Sam's team who were battling savage mountainous snow drifts that would not look out of place on Mt Fuji. We weren't sure if they would be able to make it or not.. But with Sam pushing the way through, it didn't take long.





Bruce had a 'gopro' style camera he was trying out, but had no clue how to operate it proper, but says he has some decent footage for a first attempt.

Few kms into the trip past the yogi bench, at the big left hander near the lookout, we hit \*some\* snow, but we battled on.



We stopped a few times along the way to take some photos, the view was magic.



We finally all met up and it was good to meet up with the upper group, had coffee, bit of a munch and the kids had some fun with a snowperson and toboggans! It was finally snowing.

A group photo was taken and the plan was to go for a drive down to Knockwood for lunch.

Andrew found out how much there was in the trees!

(he didn't really only the leader was lucky).



The snow was falling as loaded up the cars to leave. There was some snow on the cars but we managed to get going.



We headed towards
Crows hut for a look,
but there was another club coming the
other way so we had
to wait for them,
about 20 mins. We
finally got down to
the hut and had a
look around, and
then headed onwards.

We headed on towards Barkly Track where we had some fun last time up there - and this time was no different. The track was in magic condition, with all the snow on the trees, and as you drove through, the snow loaded up the windscreen





From here the tracks became interesting down Snake Edwards towards Knockwood. We did pass a pack of flogs with no idea leading them, but we quickly passed them and made good time enjoying some great wheeling as we came down to Knockwood.

Goodbyes were had, and we headed off. Not far up the road, we turned off the road, but the track was a seasonal closure with a dirty big gate across it...

So we chucked a uey and headed back to the road to air up and then the plan was back to the pub for a good evening of story telling and drinking.

I'd like to thank all starters on the trip for making the trip fun and enjoyable for all.

Nothing will be said about this but thanks to Norm, Tony, Ben, Andrew, and the barman at the Jamo Pub



Late lunch was had, and we worked on a plan of attack. Head to Woods point, put on a skirt and head home, or head back to the summit. Summit won the election, although Ly decided he had enough of wheeling for the day and sauntered off home.



