



MARCH 2010

Free Wheeling



Fishing Trip 21 Nov 09

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 1st Wednesday of every month at 8.00pm (No meeting January). 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)

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



FREE WHEELING

Hello and welcome to the March newsletter. Unfortunately we have no trip reports this edition. I have received two parts of the Australia day trip to Macalister River, however, they cover only part of **the trip and without the full report, I don't want to print it.**

When you submit trip reports, please ensure that I receive a single complete submission from a single person. When it is in parts, it is often difficult to stitch together. I have not received any photographs, and so have used a fishing trip picture for the cover.

Cheers,

Shane Michelin



COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT 2009-2010

President	Ashley Martin	president@vfwdc.com 0438 600 904
Vice President	Mark Kochan	vicepres@vfwdc.com 0412 544 668
Treasurer	Phil Griffith	treasurer@vfwdc.com 0419 865 472
Secretary	Paul Ryan	secretary@vfwdc.com 0438 121 148
GENERAL COMMITTEE		
Assistant Secretary	Bruce Cremonesi	assist@vfwdc.com
Trip Co-ordinator	Daniel Robinson	trips@vfwdc.com
Newsletter Editor	Shane Michelon	editor@vfwdc.com
Association Delegate	John Partridge	
Training Officers	Ashley Martin	John Partridge
	Michael Rodger	Mark Kochan
New Member Contact	George Pledger	
Web Manager	Paul Ryan	web@vfwdc.com
Club Details		
Registered Name	Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc	
Registration No	A002184F	
Correspondence	PO Box 778 Dandenong Vic 3174	
Email	secretary@vfwdc.com	
Website	www.vfwdc.com	
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 th of each month to editor@vfwdc.com	
Front Cover		
	The Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club is an affiliated club of the Victoria Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs Inc (VAFWDC)	

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hello and welcome to this month's edition of *Free Wheeling*.

I recently attended a presidents meeting organised by FWD Victoria where many things were discussed. Rather than detail all the agenda items and the discussions that followed I thought it would be beneficial for our members to understand some of the things being undertaken.

To assist with communication between FWD Vic and clubs they will be producing a monthly brief sheet outlining the current activities and issues important to all clubs. This will be circulated on the first of each month ready for clubs to present and discuss during their monthly meetings, hopefully commencing in April. The permit system put in place last year for Jamieson Licola Road during the seasonal closure period will again be required for 2010. This will allow clubs to access Mt Skene during the snow season. No doubt we will be one club taking advantage of this system which is only available to affiliated clubs.

Soon to be available through FWD Vic's website will be an online vehicle insurance quoting service which will allow you to compare your current vehicle insurance with insurance partners Affinity. FWD Vic will not have any access to the details so privacy issues will not be a concern. Once this service is available we will advise. FWD Vic will be running a photo competition with winners to be included in a calendar. Monthly prizes will be given to the best photo with the overall winner receiving a digital camera. Keep an eye on FWD Vic's website for further details.

Don't forget E-News is available each month via the FWD Vic website. This also outlines the activities being undertaken by clubs and the Association.

As mentioned at the last meeting, Bruce has organised the Royal Flying Doctor Service as guest speaker for the March meeting. This will be a fascinating insight into the RFDS that many of us do not get to see. Proceeds of the monthly raffle will be donated to RFDS.

Also organised for an upcoming meeting will be a speaker from Victorian Huts Association. We visit many **areas with bush huts but probably don't see 70% of them.** We will confirm the exact date, but hope to **have them at the June meeting. Don't forget if you have ideas for guest speakers please contact Bruce.**

See you on the next trip - or at the next meeting.

Ashley Martin
President

Minutes of General Meeting – 2 December 2009

General Meeting February 2010

The meeting was held at the Bowling Club rooms, Noble Park Football Club and was opened at 8.00pm by President Ashley Martin.

Present: There were 28 members present as per the attendance book

Apologies: Maxine Ryan, Lesley Peters, John Wimetal, Michael Harris, Gary & Paula Johnston, Catherine Thorn, Karen Walter, John Partridge

Visitors: Lois Thorp, Adam & Julie Cooper, Geoff & Debbie Anderson, Chris Smith, Grant Renkema

Minutes of previous Meeting

Accepted : George Pledger

Seconded : Dan Robinson

Matters arising: Nil

Correspondence in

Overland Cruising - December 2009
 LROCV Newsletter - December 2009
 CCJC Newsletter - December 2009
 Coastline Summer 2009/10
 RFDS Newsletter
 Seal Lock Promo Material
 Warraweena Conservation Park
 Riding at Wood Point Xmas 09 - Ken Dwight
 Message from CERG regarding Help needed at Taggerty
 Government Thank You to all clubs for Caravan Towing
 Details of available sites at Wandin 4x4 Show
 Track Conditions Deddick Trail
 E-News Nov 09
 Association - Gibbs Access Track illegal dumping (Wombat SF)
 ARB 4x4 Action
 TLCA Vic - Cruiserkhana 2010

Correspondence out

Newsletter

Treasurers report

Term Deposit	\$ 5104.08
Cash	\$ 3036.04
Petty Cash	\$ 50.00
Money In	\$ 413.00
Moneys Out	\$ 1538.25
Balance	\$ 7064.87

Accepted: Ken Pitcher
 2nd: Anthony Van Buiten

Trip reports

Xmas / New Year (McKillop's Bridge) - Derek Hymas

Derek gave the report for Australia Day weekend at McKillops bridge - Little River Gorge. Bit of a walk down to the river but was a nice campground that the group had to themselves. Bit of a quiet trip with most in bed before midnight except NYE. Quite hot most days except last day. Most arrived Boxing Day and stayed through to NY. A day trip along the Deddick trail which had been **worked on and so wasn't as interesting as Ken had hoped.** Got to Orbost - Omeo road and did a double U turn within 300 meters much to the amusement of the locals. **Bonang was closed. Spent some time trying to fix Derek's solar panels that weren't broken. Went to Jacksons crossing on the Wednesday, another hot day and tracks weren't as challenging as hoped. Lots of swimming in the river to cool down.**

Australia Day (Touring Trip) - Mark Kochan

Mark met up with guys Saturday morning. Had a good trip. Started at Sheepyard, stopped at Fryers Hut for a look. Lots of campers there with people camped right up against the fence. Went from there along McAlister River (Butcher Country Track), first time back there for Mark since 1988. River still badly silted since floods a few years ago. Went along Butcher Country Link to Caledonia Track which was a good climb. Went down Zeka Spur Track to Wonangatta which was another first for Mark. Camped not far from river and had a bit of a swim. Monday went to Talbotville and then on to Blue Rag Range which is a beautiful drive. Cut across to Buchan River and spent the last night there.

Trip coordinators report

The various trip leaders gave a brief overview of the following upcoming trips.

Type	When	Where	Trip Leader
Evening	10/02/10	Driver Training Theory - Notting Hill	John Partridge
Weekend	13/02/10	Driver Training - Practical	John Partridge
Day	21/02/10	Vic 4WD Show - Wandin	LROCV
Long Weekend	7/03/10	Labour Day Weekend - Knockwood	Dan Robinson
Weekend	12/03/10	Advance Training	John Partridge
Weekend	19/03/10	Avoca	Paul Ryan
Long Weekend	2/04/10	Robe - Easter	Bruce Cremonesi
Day Trip	18/04/10	Marysville	Bruce Cremonesi
Day	27 Mar 10	Toolangi ?	Ashley Martin
Weekend	Late April 10	Mines Explorer - Aberfeldy	John Partridge

you).

Guest Speakers - We hope to have a guest speaker from the RFDS at the March meeting.

High Country Huts -Bruce has been in touch and trying to get them to come and talk to us about the status and whether we can help them. Lots of huts out there and secrets for them to talk to us about.

Ferret Deflators - available to club members at reduced price. This is similar to the ARB deflator. It removes the valve core and lets out about 1psi per second. Very good product and very easy to use. Details in the newsletter.

Other Business

Dan has someone's camera from Trip to Talbotville / Blue Rag if anyone wants to claim it. Definitely belongs to someone in the club.
Dan will bring it to next meeting

First Aid course -we will try and organize a club sponsored course again. Paul had reason to use first aid knowledge over the holidays and would recommend to all members to get their first aid up to scratch. Once again the life you might be saving could be a loved one or family member so please get yourself on to this when we run it.

Shane has heaps of maps that he will donate to the club because he will be moving house. If anyone is willing to store them for the club can you please contact Shane.

Event Coordinators Report

Nil

Association Report

Presidents Meeting this Saturday 6th Feb to discuss the business plan. More to report next month.

General business

Meeting Room - Apologies for being bumped to the bowling club room. We have been double booked again. We will be taking this up with NPFC asap and will notify members of any changes.

Vic 4wd show Wandin - we are not attending after all because of where they wanted to put us (amongst all other clubs) **therefore we decided it wasn't worth it.** Please note that if you intend to drive on the test track this year then you will need written permission from the club. **Letter will be available from the club stand (Secretary's Note** - we have subsequently cancelled our stand, if you want to drive the test track then please contact me on 0401 014631 and I will arrange a permission letter to be sent to

Raffle Tickets sold by Emma.

1st Prize -Ferret Deflator won by Mark Felton
2nd Prize - Eggs won by Lois
3rd Prize - Eggs won by Ashley Martin
4th Prize - Winch Damper won by Bruce Cremonesi
5th Prize - Wine won by David (Visitor)

Meeting Closed: 9.37pm

Next Meeting: Wednesday 3rd of March at Noble Park Football Club (at this stage).



CLUB MERCHANDISE For Sale

(Revised Price List)

Club Polo Shirts	\$28.00 ea
Club Polar Fleece ½ Zip Jumper	\$38.00 ea
Club Polar Fleece Full Zip Jacket	\$48.00 ea
Club Sleeveless Reversible Vest	\$44.00 ea
Club Caps	\$15.00 ea
Club Bucket Hat	\$16.00 ea
Club Wide Brim Hat	\$18.00 ea
Club Beanie	\$12.00 ea
VFWDC Sticker (long)	\$ 6.00 ea

We encourage all members to purchase a Club Polo Shirt.

Email your order to committee@vfwdc.com.
Please ensure you advise size required.



VFWDC ADVERTISING DIRECTORY

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Anyone wishing to advertise in the Club Directory,
contact the Editor at editor@vfwdc.com



CLUB CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

2010				
March	Wednesday 3rd	General Meeting	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904
	5 th –8 th	Labour Day Knockwood	Dan Robinson	0407 334 169
	12 th - 14 th	Advanced Driver Training	John Partridge	0428 331 211
	19 th –21 st	Avoca/St Arnaud	Paul Ryan	0438 121148
	23 rd	Day Trip Toolangi	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904
April	Wednesday 7 th	General Meeting	Ashley Martin	0438 600 904
	1 st to 5 th	Beachport & Robe	Dan Robinson / Bruce Cremonisi	0407 334 169
	1 st - 5 th	Easter Camping Hatta	Bob McKerrow	04 3001 4001 9800 1335
	16 th –18 th	Licola High Country Trip	Shane Michelin	0417784599 or 9800 1105
	18 th	Day Trip Marysville / Rubicon	Bruce Cremonesi	
June	29 th	Trip—North Simpson Desert - Madigan Line	Ken Beard & Jane Spence	5971 4683

ROBE LONG WEEKEND

Spots for the weekend are nearly full!

The weekend will be a mixture of driving and relaxing. Bring your cameras along, there is plenty of sand that poses well for starters - then theres Woakwine Cutting, lighthouses, boats, and we even came across a Seal on the beach one year, he posed for us for hours!

There will be easter egg hunt for kids that are coming (SO LET US KNOW IF YOURS ARE COMING SO WE CAN PLAN), games, and lots more to keep them entertained!

There's the option to go to the pub for dinner if you like too - its walking distance from the C'Park, or be social with all of us :)~

Those that wish to try their hand at Fishing, please bring ya gear along there is the longest Jetty in the country down there! Im sure there could be a few fish wanting to donate their lives to dinner. Or if thats not your idea of fun and you like wine, you can take a drive for some tasting instead... if you like both, then... dunno!

ALL Punters on the trip will need SAND FLAGS! Yes, those lovely long poles with a flag on top. This is purely for safety. Any questions, please ask Trip Coordinator at meeting, or Via Email

Take care
Bruce and Dan

UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	Woods Point Surrounds (Knockwood)
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Dan Robinson TEL: 0407 334 169 MOB: 0407 334 169
DATE	5 th to 8 th March 2010 (Come on the 6 th if you cant get the 5 th off)
MEETING PLACE / TIME	8:30am Lilydale Service Lane Opposite Maccas OR at Knockwood Reserve, Mansfield-Woods Point Road (About 10k's past Kevington)
GRADE	WET: Easy/Medium + DRY: Easy
<p>TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS</p> <p>This trip is an all in trip & there is no limit on numbers, there will be Day drives, ½ day drives & if we get participants maybe even a night drive. This is a fantastic opportunity for new trip leaders & new members to join in on a trip. If the new trip leaders are confident we can set them up or a trip to run with assistance & full trip details. Camping is at the Knockwood campground, which backs onto Gaphneys creek. There are loads of tracks & things to see, including old mining equipment, mines & fantastic tracks. We hope to get multiple trips per day to different destinations. So the more the merrier. There will be plenty of kids activities & places for the to run/ride around.</p> <p>Friday: For those that have the day off we will be setting up camp at knockwood.</p> <p>Saturday: 1:00pm Half Day trips leave camp. 4:30pm Wine & cheese tasting (BYO to share)</p> <p>Sunday: 8:30am Full & Half Day trips leave camp. 1:00pm Half Day trip. 4:30pm Happy hour & Kids treasure Hunt, (treasure supplied) 8:00pm Night Drive. Easy-Medium trip in the Dark. A great new perspective on tracks & 4wding.</p> <p>Monday: Break camp an your leisure.</p> <p>Trips that will be run are: Half Day Trips: 1. Easy - Leaving Camp head up moonlight Spur & onto Mt Terrible with some great views. Returning via Kevington Hotel & Tunnel Bend. 2. Easy - Med - Travel to Woods Point via German Spur & Old Coach road. Walk around the town, take in the history & visit the museum. If time permits returning the way you came is much more fun than the road. 3. Either Trip 1 or 2 in Reverse if sufficient numbers</p> <p>Full Day Trips: Either of these 2 trips will be run providing sufficient numbers, of not it will be the favoured trip. 1. Easy - Med - Travel through Jamieson to Running Creek & up to the Slate mine with great views & plenty of slate. Then descend a fun track into Mitchells for a walk in the Gorge followed by Lunch & then return to camp. 2. Medium+ - Travel from camp up Lazarini Spur toward Mount Skene for some fantastic views, then back via some challenging tracks through the Goulburn River to camp.</p> <p>No need to book in on trips now, I will have forms to fillout at Knockwood ready for attendance.</p>	
VEHICLE LIMITS	Unlimited as long as we can find people who are willing to lead a trip.
APPROX KMS	170kms
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	Mansfield/Jamieson Mansfield/Jamieson
EQUIPMENT	Basic Recovery Equipment
MAPS REQUIRED	
RADIO	12

DESTINATION	Advanced Driver Training— Walhalla
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	John Partridge 0428 331 211
DATE	Friday 12th March 2010 Sunday 14th March 2010
MEETING PLACE / TIME	Longwarry service center 6.30pm
GRADE Please adhere to new trip classifications	WET: Medium - Hard DRY: Medium-Hard
<p>TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS</p> <p>Want to take the next step from the proficiency training and learn more on how to tackle the harder tracks and vehicle recovery. Well this is your opportunity to learn in a safe environment.</p> <p>We will be focusing on full vehicle recovery using winch recovery equipment and the associated techniques along with how to tackle those harder tracks. We will walk the tracks, talk about what to look out for and the best lines to take followed by driving them using several different scenarios.</p> <p>For those who may have been attended a previous advanced training course and want to brush up on your skills are also welcome along.</p> <p>Participants will be assessed to determine sufficient experience and vehicle capability for this trip.</p>	
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 3 MAXIMUM: 10
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	150
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Moe DIESEL: Moe
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	N/A
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Full Recovery Equipment
MAPS REQUIRED	N/A
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	12

DESTINATION	Beachport & the beaches of Robe SA
LEADER/ CONTACT NO.	NAME: Dan Robinson/Bruce Cremonesi TEL: 0407 334 169 MOB: 0407 334 169
DATE	Thursday 1st to 5 th April 2010
MEETING PLACE / TIME	Mc Donalds Western Ring Rd, Sunshine West
GRADE	WET: Easy DRY: Easy/Medium
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	Caravan park in Beachport. Touring
VEHICLE LIMITS	2–8
APPROX KMS	500kms
LAST FUEL	Robe
SUPPLIES	Beachport has all needed.
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Basic Recovery Equipment, especially a snatch strap.
RADIO	12

DESTINATION	Avoca
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Paul Ryan TEL: 0401 014631 MOB: 0401 014631
DATE	19 th to 21 th March 2010
MEETING PLACE / TIME	6.00pm Friday 5 th Feb, Todd Road Services, Westgate Freeway
GRADE	Easy
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	
<p>This is going to primarily be a camping trip staying at the old Glenpatrick footy oval which we have used before. This is a nice campground with a shelter and flushing toilets. We will probably go for a drive on Saturday around the Pyrenees State Forest although many of the tracks in this area had been dozed last time we were there. As a result we may look further afield and see what St Arnaud / Redbank SF has to offer.</p>	
VEHICLE LIMITS	2–8
APPROX KMS	170kms
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	Avoca
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Basic Recovery Equipment
MAPS REQUIRED	VICMAPS 208_Amphitheatre, 209_Barkly
RADIO CHANNEL UHF	12

Destination	Easter Camping trip to Hatta
Trip Leader	Bob McKerrow
Contact No	04 3001 4001, 9800 1335
Date	1st to 5th April
Meeting Time/ Place	Calder Outbound 10am Thursday 1/4/2010 or find your own way there.
Vehicle Limits	8 Vehicles
Grade	WET/DRY: Easy
Approx Kms	Lats—Near Mildura
Fuel	Hatta
Distance Be- tween Supplies	.
Equipment Re- quired	
Radio Channel	12
<p>Trip Activity Details:</p> <p>Bob plans on camping in Hattah, & will be working on Relax, relax, swim, fish, relax, eat, drink, be merry, relax.</p> <p>Camping site directions Calder Highway past HATTAH, past NOWINGI, turn right to BOONONAR RD to the end. Turn Right. Past RAAK TRACK then turn left towards BRITT BEND (I think). Location has been a closely guarded secret available to only a very few.</p> <p>Divulging of the location has had extreme responses but I am willing to suffer so a few can prosper. 2-15 Camper Trailers, tents, caravans, 2WD accessible This is a National Park and unfortunately NO PETS. Bob intend to travel up on Thursday the 1st and I will place BLUE reflective arrows at the turns or PSA's (proceed straight ahead) for the late comers. This is a trip that others have run in the past and has been extremely popular.</p> <p>Please book early or space can become an issue. A great weekend for all and especially the kids. Water is beautiful but vigilance still needed from all for all. Great time to socialise and practice that Camp Fire Cooking, swap tips, tell tales, tall and true, relax, relax, relax.</p>	

Destination	North Simpson Desert - Madigan Line
Trip Leader	Ken Beard & Jane Spence
Contact No	5971 4683
Date	Tuesday, 29/06/10 (depart Copley, SA) to Birdsville, QLD (Approx 10-14 days later)
Meeting Time/ Place	Copley Caravan Park, S.A.
Vehicle Limits	MIN: 2, MAX: 4 (Diesel Only)
Grade	WET/DRY: Difficult
Approx Kms	Approx 800kms, Mt Dare to Birdsville.
Last Available Fuel	PETROL: N/A DIESEL: Mt Dare
Distance Be- tween Supplies	260 litres diesel required for 6 cylinder. Detours/Deviations may be required.
Equipment Re- quired	Desert experience necessary. Vehicle must be in A1 condition. 2x spare tyres/4 tubes. Other specified equipment in detail later on.
Radio Channel	12
<p>Trip Activity Details:</p> <p>Following Dr Cecil Madigan's 1939 track from Old Andado to Birdsville. THIS IS VERY REMOTE & ISOLATED COUNTRY, MUST BE PREPARED FOR ISOLATION AND IN THE EVENT OF BREAKDOWN VEHICLE RECOVERY MAY BE AN ISSUE DOLLAR WISE Commitment by Feb 2010 - Permits required</p>	