

SEPTEMBER 2011

Free Wheeling



Crossing Noojee Trestle Bridge - Xmas In July Party

Notice Board

VFWDC GENERAL MEETING VENUE

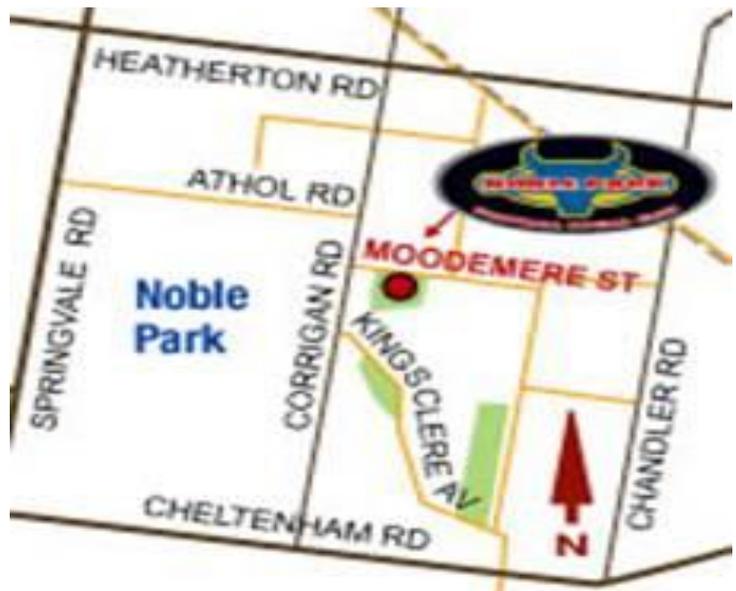
The club meets at the Bowling Club Rooms, Noble Park Football Club, 46-56 Moodemere St, Noble Park on the 1st Wednesday of every month at 8.00pm (No meeting January).
Members and Guests are welcome to dine at the Bistro before attending the meeting.

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 September newsletter. Congratulations to all club members, who are now qualified with completing their Level 2 First Aid. The Xmas in July weekend, was a great one. All members who attended were feed till they could eat no more & even had plenty of pavlova left for breakfast the next morning.

Catherine

Editor@fwdc.com



**COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT
2011-2012**

President	Bruce Cremonesi	president@vfwdc.com 0400 425 296
Vice President		vicepres@vfwdc.com
Treasurer	Jane Spence	treasurer@vfwdc.com
Secretary	David Bruinsma	secretary@vfwdc.com
GENERAL COMMITTEE		
Assistant Secretary	Andre Van Derwalt	assist@vfwdc.com
Trip Co-ordinator	John Partridge	trips@vfwdc.com
Newsletter Editor	Catherine Felton	editor@vfwdc.com
Association Delegate	Ashley Martin	
Training Officers	Ashley Martin	John Partridge
General Committee	Luke Teunissen	
Librarian	Andrew Hooper	
Merchandise	Chris Smith	
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
	The Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club is an affiliated club of the Victoria Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs Inc (VAFWDC)



**VFWDC
ADVERTISING DIRECTORY**

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

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CLUB CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

2011				
September	Wednesday 7th	General Meeting	Bruce Cremonesi	0400 425 296
	11th	Toolangi Trip	John Partridge	
	13th	Committee Meeting	Bruce Cremonesi	0400 425 296
	23rd - 25th	Grampians - Halls Gap Trip	Bruce Cremonesi	0400 425 296
October	Wednesday 5th	General Meeting	Bruce Cremonesi	0400 425 296
	8th - 9th	Possible working bee at Collins Hut		
	15th–16th	Melville Caves - Camper trailers welcome	Bruce Cremonesi	0400 425 296
	25th	Committee Meeting	Bruce Cremonesi	0400 425 296
	29th - 1st Nov	Dargo / Collins Hut	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
	29th - 1st Nov	Robe - South Australia	Johan Liebenberg	0407 563 210
November	Wednesday 2nd	General Meeting	Bruce Cremonesi	0400 425 296
	22nd	Committee Meeting	Bruce Cremonesi	0400 425 296
	27th	Christmas Party	Bruce Cremonesi	0400 425 296
December	Wednesday 7th	General Meeting	Bruce Cremonesi	0400 425 296
	Xmas/New Years Eve	Mt Isa	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
January 2012	Wednesday 7th	General Meeting	Bruce Cremonesi	0400 425 296
	17th	Committee Meeting	Bruce Cremonesi	0400 425 296

Our website has been updated, check it out at www.vfwdc.com It would be greatly appreciated if you could bring a cd of the photos from your trips to the club meeting & pass them onto Bruce, so they can be added to our website for advertising. Only if you choose to.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome to this months *Free Wheeling*.

I got voted in again – and against strong opposition! I feel privileged and will do my best to do better than last year. It could be seen as a steep learning curve for some, but for someone of my intelligence, stature and looks, it wasn't TOO hard at all!

Anyway, this year we have a new faces in the committee. After doing a fabulous job for last 2 yrs Phil has stepped down from Treasurer. The club bought new software to assist the treasurer, and without Phil's input this wouldn't have been so seamless. Jane Spence has taken the roll on and in the words of Del Trotter '*she is the lovely 'significant other'*' to the mighty Ken Beard. So we look forward to a year of Miss Jane running the money side of things.

Dan Robinson has stepped back from the Trip Coordinators position to spend more time pulling fingernails out with a pair of spring loaded pliers. Filling his massive oversized jumper his mum made and size 15's is John Partridge. It is fantastic to have John back as part of the team. His knowledge, experience, and Toyota, something are always great to have around. Even our first meeting of the new committee he was throwing suggestions around like no tomorrow! We also had Mark Kochan step aside from the Vice Presidents position, and this spot is still vacant. If you would like to come along and give a hand to run your club, please come and see me – it doesn't have to be a man either. It takes 1 night a month! We even have freshly made (by Catherine!) cake at the Committee meetings.

The last new face is Andre Van Der Walt. Andre has taken on the General Committee position to assist Dave the Secretary so thanks for his help. Staying around for another season we have: Catherine Felton as Editor. Doing a top job, why would she leave, as it keeps Mark at bay as she's so busy. Dave Bruinsma has stayed on as Secretary. Dave like others has a business to run, which can be 7 days, so giving his time is great. He is doing a stunning job I'm sure you will agree. Thanks Carol for letting him play - very appreciated. Luke Teunissen has hung around for general committee again this year, which is good cause we have the committee meetings at his place. White and one thanks Tracey. Ashley Martin has beaten all comers to take on the Delegate position again. So to Lesley - thanks mate.

Things on the trips front has been disappointingly slow, which is disappointing and even though it is winter there doesn't sound like there's been many people out playing in the mud and snow. Let's hope that John and the warmer weather can entice people out of their shells. The committee has a new challenge for Trip Leaders this year, with 2 vouchers of \$200 and the other \$100 up for grabs at the end of the year. For more info, come to the next General Meeting.

Seasonal closures for this year are all over the show, with some lasting until the end of November, so *PLEASE* check before you go driving off as you may find a gate in the way. There is good news on Collins Hut, and all those that put their hands up to help out, come along to the next meeting! We will cross live for an update on the night from Ashley at Collins Hut**.

The website is coming along, and Paul will have some new photos up on the site for you to inspect. I also have some more I need to get onto and get ready for uploading. The Club is always looking for more images for the site, and the committee would like some from some of the old members from the early days of the club. But for some reason, none have turned up. The National 4x4 Show is coming up, and I know you are all champing at the bit to rush out there for all those massive show specials that every stall never has, so I sent out the email today with the promo code on it for getting the massively price slashed tickets. All I can suggest to you all is that you know the "NORMAL" prices before you go there if you are buying.

The First Aid Course is coming along well which will be a massive bonus for our club members to know if something goes "belly up" there may well be a few trained level 2 First Aider with them. The people on the course should be proud of themselves as should all members. I've left the most exciting news of 2011 till last. I know you have all been waiting with massive anticipation for this event to occur and the committee has been putting this off until the time was right but ... the club now has a Stalkerbook Friendface Faceache PunbchintheFace Farcebook page so we can "socially network" (*whatever that means when its pants are down*) with the globe!!! Use it wisely.

Anyway that's enough from me for another month. Take it easy out there, it is still wet and slippery on the tracks.

Remember, it is your club – the more you put in the more you will get out of it

See you all at the Grampians or Melville Caves around the campfire.

***or the club.*

Regards
Bruce Cremonesi
President VFWDC



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

(The VFWDC long stickers will be available at the next club meeting. Please see David Bruinsma for these stickers).

We encourage all members to purchase a Club Polo Shirt.

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

Minutes of General Meeting August 2011

The meeting was held at the Bowling Club Rooms, Noble Park Football Club and was opened at 8.15pm by President Bruce Cremonesi

Present: There were 24 members present as per the attendance book

Apologies: There were 10 members apologies as per the apologies book

Visitors: There were 6 potential members as per the Visitors book

Minutes of previous General Meeting

Accepted : Dan
Seconded : Johan

Matters arising:
Done in General Business

Correspondence in
TCIS insurance
Track Watch
Landrover Review
Toyota Overland Cruising

Correspondence out
Club Magazines as per usual

Treasurers report

Term Deposit	\$5,465.34
Cash	\$
Petty Cash	\$50.00
Money In	\$1,430.00
Moneys Out	\$2,130.25
Balance	\$7,942.84

Accepted: Ashley
2nd: David

Trip reports

David Bruinsma gave a brief overview of the Xmas in July weekend. A special thanks to Luke T for organizing the food for the weekend

Tim's report. Ian got stuck many times, nearly rolled it on a chicken track, then also blew his front diff as well. On the way home, Shane ran up the back of a car that just stopped on the wet road (because a B-Double was coming towards them).

Minutes of General Meeting August 2011 Continued

Trip coordinators report

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

Type	When	Where	Trip Leader
Weekend	12/13/14 th Aug	Mt Skene	Sam
Weekend	23/25 Sept.	Grampians	Bruce
Cup Weekend	29 th Oct 1 st Nov	Beachport/Robe	David B

Event Coordinators Report

AGM dinner at the pavilion in Dandenong. Please bring cash, as the venue will not do split bills.

Association Report

Collins Hut: over the last 6 months it has received a lot of vandalism. FC sheets broken, all the glass broken - steps up to the toilet have been ripped out from vehicles trying to drive up their. The association will be having a meeting to decide whether or not to demolish or to fix it up.

General business

New members Kits - belated welcome to new members:

Ben Earl + Family
 Andre VanDerWalt + family
 Neville VanLeeuwen + Family
 Sam Ayoubee + Family
 Ian Rhodes + Audrey Clarke
 Adam + Melissa Howell
 Charlie Costa + family

First Aid course:

Pay up the deposit TONIGHT please

Other Business

John (Everything 4wd) is still running a special with KONI shocks through this entire month

Raffle

This month there are TWO prizes donated by John of Everything 4wd

Tickets sold by Emily

Prize	Won by:
Spot light LED light + key chain	Andrew
Smaller LED light	Andre

Meeting Closed: 9:20 pm

Next Meeting: Wednesday 8.00pm September 7th 2011 at the Bowling Club Rooms, Noble Park Football Club.



Christmas Party

Braeside park 11am to 4pm
Fully catered – Spit Roast (same
as Xmas in July) – Sadly no
wholemeal rolls.

Santa (*thanks Tim*)– bring
present along for kids,
WRAPPED And LABELED. Price
limit \$20.00

Dozens of fun events on for kids
and adults

Spin around 4 times and race to
the flag

3 legged races,

3 people with their right foot
strapped to an old ski races

Sack races (WHY ARE THEY ALL
RACES – CANT WE ALL BE
FRIENDS),

Egg and spoon races,

Something about a balloons
between your knees running
50mtrs without bursting it and
passing it to someone without us-
ing your hands

Pin the tail on the Something...

Cricket, footy, baseball, coit flying,
etc etc.

And more!!!!

Collins Hut



As mentioned at the recent general meeting our club was involved in restoring Collins Hut located on the Wonnagatta River. The club spent many weekends restoring the hut, clearing the overgrown vegetation and installing a long drop toilet. Countless hours were put in by members to keep it standing for years to come. Rosalie Hughes even managed to track down the Collins family who attended a meeting to provide a history of the hut.

Unfortunately the hut has been vandalised and DSE wish to demolish it. Through contact with 4WD Vic La Trobe 4x4 Club and our club agreed to work in conjunction to once again restore the hut. DSE don't understand why the effort but happy for us to proceed.

Latrobe 4X4 recently attended a meeting with the local DSE ranger to discuss what's required. As a result a working be is organised for October 8&9. Latrobe has organized new sheeting for the outside and paint but requires glass/perspex for the windows and timber shutters. If any member can assist with industry contacts for either item please let me know.

There was interest of assistance from a number of members at the last meeting so would hope we can gather a good group of members to assist.

We will discuss this further at the September meeting but if you're unable to attend and have questions please call me.

Ashley

For Sale

EMG Swag BRAND NEW - never been used still in the box. \$250
Meas. 108x31x31cm

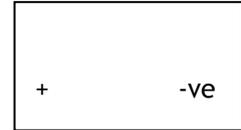
Please call Chris 0400 540 183 or

Email gxl4x4@bigpond.com

Thanks, Chris Smith

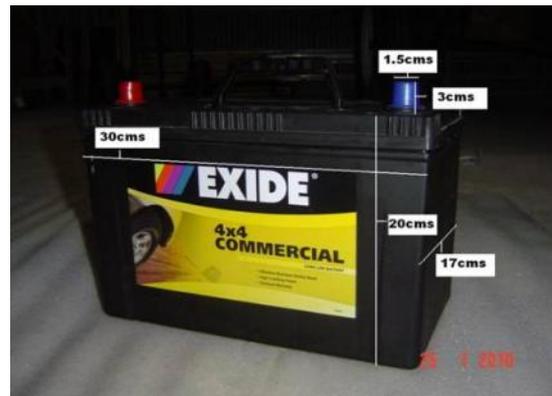
For Sale

Brand new Exide 4x4 Commercial Battery
(more than one available)
730 cca,
160RC,
N70ZZMF
Poles



Sell for \$130 ea.

If you have any questions please contact Alan Mackay on rallysport@gotalk.net.au



UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	Grampians Wine, Zoo & Relaxing Weekend
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	Bruce Cremonesi Mob: 0400425296
DATE	23/24-25 th September

TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS

Due to my daughters one and only Ballet recital for the year being on the weekend out of 52 I planned to go away I've had to change the date by 1 week. (You think that's bad, Dan's kids ballet is on November long weekend!) So this trip is now on the 23/24-25th September (When you leave is up to you, I'm going Friday 23rd). Camper trailers welcome. We will be staying at the Lake Fyans Holiday Park. www.lakefyansholidaypark.com.au If you are interested you will need to call and book yourself, and tell the lady there you are from Victorian 4wd Club. I've pencilled in for our club the non powered site area up the end of the park for us. Adults can relax, kids can ride bikes around the park, kick balls, fall over and throw rocks in the lake. At night we maybe lucky enough to have the possums come out for hand feeding in the van park. Options in the region are almost endless but we wont have time to do them all sadly, but we can come back another time and run the rest! You can do your own thing or we can go in groups it is up to you. www.visithallsgap.com.au/ Here are a few I intend to do. Hall Gap Zoo www.hallsgapzoo.com.au/ Plenty of up and personal with some animals, inc hand feeding animals with some rare animals to see. I've been told that if you go into Halls Gap at Dusk you can hand feed the Kangaroos. If your over 18 and really keen there are some Quadbike tours www.grampiansquadbikes.com.au/ For the adults, we might even take in a winery or 4 (my supplies are low). Some wineries have free Cellar tours others charge enough for a new set of tyres. Wineries close by are Best Great Western, Seppelts, Grampians Estates, Montara Wineries, Kimbarra Wines etc. For those of you that need a little bit of culturing you can go and check out the Brambuk the National Park & Cultural Centre. They do few tours and cave painting stuff if you are interested. www.brambuk.com.au For those fit enough, you can take a walk/climb/struggle/sweat up to the top of Halls Gap, the views are stunning. I did the climb 15yrs ago, and have photos from then, that's good enough for me. Blue Moon Alpacas is an option too if you have time or drop in on the way home. I have an awesome warm Alpaca wool Poncho I got there last time that's so toasty warm it aint funny! There is something for everyone except strippers. Any questions, queries, or complaints, please contact me.

EVERYTHING 4WD

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Our new website is up and running: www.e4wd.com.au

UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	BEACHPORT-ROBE-CARPENTERS ROCKS
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	Johan Liebenberg
DATE	29th October - 1st November - Melbourne Cup Weekend
MEETING PLACE / TIME	Twin Mobil Service Centre Outbound, Western Ring Rd, Ardeer early Saturday morning.
GRADE	Beach driving can be easy - or hard (Depending on tides, weather)
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	
<p>Saturday Day 1: Melb - Beachport (Southend). Sunday Day 2: Beachport - Robe Monday Day 3: Rest Day or Southend - Carpenters Rocks Tuesday Day 4: Home. If there is interest, we can do the Blue Lake in Mt Gambier on the way home.</p> <p>ACCOMMODATION: We will be base camping (tents/swag/camper/) at Southend bush camp (15km south of Beachport). It is <i>around 4 km outside town with dunnys and a water tank (rain water). Nicely laid out camping sites with fire places and shared tables (fires subject to restrictions?)</i></p> <p>There is also a newsagents that sells fuel in Beachport, but not much else.</p> <p>Honesty box at camp site. \$11 per night per vehicle</p> <p>BRING WITH YOU FOR THE WEEKEND:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Recovery gear - any questions see me at club meeting. -- Air pressure gauge, tyre inflator, tyre deflator. (<i>will be running round 15-20psi on sand</i>) -- UHF -- Tarp and Poles may be handy for socializing at nite. -- Good warm clothing and probably boots & spare dry clothes - it can be COLD. -- Camping Gear. -- Cameras - we may have a photo competition with a prize for best at next meeting! -- Sense of Humour. <p>OTHER INFO: Tides: http://www.mobilegeographics.com:81/locations/456.html?y=2011&m=11&d=29</p> <p><u>Other things to do/see:</u></p> <p>Eat seafood galore - Get some lobsters off the boat in Robe!! Crayfish cooker in the caravan park if you wish. Visit - Small lakes - Lake George Shore - Five Mile Drift. Day trip to the Wineries. Woakwine Cutting Fishing on the beach or the 772mtr long jetty! Relaxing and Bird watching Old Grain and wool store which is now the Local Museum Swimming - The Pool of Siloam <i>is unique to Beachport. With a salt concentration seven times greater than the sea, it is an ideal swimming spot creating unusual buoyancy, and has a reputation for its powerful healing properties.</i> And lots more!</p> <p>More info: http://www.wattlerange.sa.gov.au/site/page.cfm?u=318</p> <p>**<u>LAST TO ARRIVE DOES TRIP REPORT</u> **</p>	
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Basic recovery equipment / Sand Flag
RADIO UHF	12

Trip Reports

Christmas in July 29 -31 July 2011

As the last person to arrive at the Toorong Falls campground, located on the outskirts of Noojee, the 'camp committee' (of which there were many) thought it only fair that the lucky last to arrive also be the one to compile the trip report for our club's first Christmas in July trip.

The track that led to the campground was a combination of gravel and dirt road. It was easy 2WD and quite suitable for all manner of vehicles. There looked like an interesting track off to one side as I made my way towards the falls and our nominated campground but, as I was keen to get to my destination and in stones' throw of the site, I pressed on noting that fresh tyre marks had been laid. As it turned out, I missed the single lane entry point that would take passersby to the club's camp site and I soon found myself heading past camp - towards the Toorong Falls car park - as I traversed the road above. Following a quick u-turn, I soon made my way along a short track to where the club's campsite was situated. The campground itself was a rather flat but muddy area due to a combination of the inclement weather that we experienced in the days preceding, as well as the number of vehicles with campers, caravans and trailers in tow. Being the last, I arrived around 1:30 pm on the Saturday afternoon and the camp ground was quite full (there were 2 other groups camped alongside us which made for a tight fit) by that stage. It turned out that some others from within the club had only just pulled in within a short space of time before me and were still in the process of setting up when I arrived.



After a quick scout around, I quickly located a suitably flat and still grassed section of the site to pitch my small tent. Within 5-10 minutes I was done and it was time to wander down to the main fire to join the large circle of members who were already busy chatting and enjoying a bevy. Within an hour or two of arrival, one club secretary (aka David B) thought that it might be worth seeing whether anyone was up for a short stint up the 'interesting' looking side track that we all passed on our way in. It didn't take long before some interest was garnered and soon myself, with club editor Catherine and her husband Mark as passengers in tow, and Sam (with his vivid green shorty, cheese-cutting



Centipedes and David B. riding shot gun) were on our way to 'investigate' this track. It took all of about a split-second before we decided that it would be an interesting way to test our ability to read a track and to simply 'give it a go'. Sam was first to head up the track (I was brandishing the capable but less aggressive MTZs and needed to air down a tad before I would be ready) and, despite the slippery conditions, he apparently charged to the top in style. The only problem was what to do once at the top for, apparently, the track just ran to a narrow dead end and necessitated a fair bit of reversing in order to retreat to a suitable spot and turn-around. With the help of a couple of spotters (Mark and David on the hand-helds), Sam managed to about-face and was soon on his way back down. Next, it was my turn...

With the hubs locked, front and rear lockers in, tyres aired down, and low range second engaged, I preceded at a cautious but moderate pace. The suspension felt its way through the ruts and I was soon clear of the worst as well. Given the difficulty that Sam had had in turning his shorty around, we felt it best to avoid the same situation given my longer-wheel base. We found a suitable spot to turn back and, while necessitating a 3 point turn to complete it, I was also soon back down the hill. The funny thing was, going down was arguable worse than going up and I soon found myself questioning why my vehicle was even fitted with a steering wheel because it didn't matter which way you turned the wheel, the track (which its slippery clay surface) had plotted its own course for me. The only saving grace was that I left the rear locker in just to help anchor the back wheels whilst I wrestled with the front end. Shortly after returning back to camp, the skies darkened a little and it soon began to spit. This gradually turned into rain and we were soon scrambling to erect a common shelter for all to use. With many hands at the pass, the shelter was soon up and we were able to keep dry by the fire's side.

By around 6 pm, trip leader Dan and co-pilot Luke headed back towards the Noojee pub where they met up with the club's nominated caterer for the evening. They returned with a smorgasbord of foods, including various roasts, assorted salads, bread rolls, sauces and other condiments, plus everyone's favourite, dessert.

Everybody tucked in while the roast was still hot and we were all left feeling very content by day's end. After later consuming dessert, we all settled in around the large and inviting fire, playing musical chairs (not literally) as we mixed, mingled and chatted with various club members. It was a very enjoyable night and for some, that drifted into early morning...

On Sunday morning the club had organised to cook up a lovely bacon and egg breakfast for all members in

attendance. This was a great start to the day and helped to heat everyone up as we stood out in the slightly damp conditions and cool morning air.

By around mid morning, some were still waiting for the sun while most in the camp were well advanced with their packing up of gear, campers, tents and vehicles. As the day drifted on, we gradually made our respective ways back towards home.

Special thanks must go out to those that volunteered their time and effort into organising what was a very enjoyable and successful club Christmas in July.

Steve Pitcher





ITS THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN
THE MAN WITH THE RED SUIT IS WATCHING

Over the last 19 years, FWDV have encouraged club members to organize a team of vehicles to support the annual Christmas tree drive.

Your club and its members will be supporting a well recognized community event and fundraiser for Oxfam's important work,

As well as this, the goodwill and public recognition for FWDV Clubs in supporting this well organized operation, and also adds a positive image to our public profile.

You can make it a fun day out, dress up or even decorate your vehicle to get in the spirit.

For a couple of hours or even a couple of days of your time, you will help Oxfam but also promote the good work that your club and its members do, in conjunction with FWDV to assist the communities.

Supporting Oxfam with the deliveries not only helps the community but also gives you a sense of good feeling, especially seeing the children's faces when the tree arrives - Just like Santa Claus.

Please refer to the attached letter from Brian Moran from Oxfam and distribute between your members/friends etc.

It will be good to see more clubs become involved this year, including the Bellarine and Mornington Peninsula areas.

Thank you