

Bringing Four Wheel Drivers
Together



Victorian Four Wheel Drive
Club Inc.

Free Wheeling

VFWDC

DECEMBER 2014

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 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

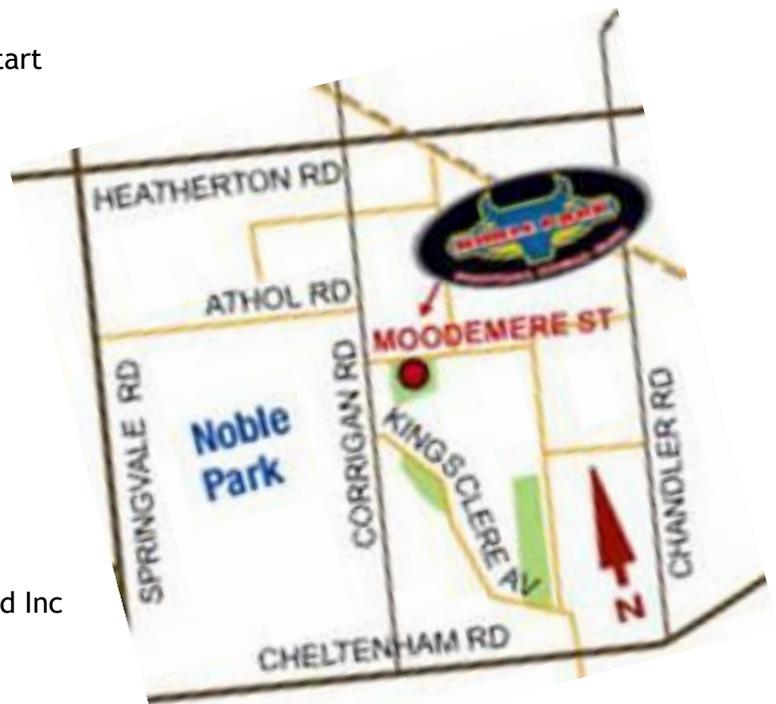
46-56 Moodemere Street

Noble Park

Melways ref: 89 D4

Aberfeldy Track managed by West Gippsland Inc

www.westgippslandinc.com.au



FREE WHEELING

Hello and welcome to the December newsletter. November saw a number of trips over Melbourne Cup Weekend. Please check out the newsletter for the new bush recipes and burns first aid.

Mandie.

editor@vfwdc.com

**VFWDC
ADVERTISING
DIRECTORY**



1B, 280 South Gippsland Highway,

Cranbourne, 3977

P: 03 59955055

E: sales@everything4wd.com.au

W: www.everything4wd.com.au

David Jackson



0408 333 313

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

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT 2013-2014		
President	David Bruinsma	president@vfwdc.com
Vice President		
Treasurer	Steve Pitcher (acting)	treasurer@vfwdc.com
Secretary	Tony Barbera	secretary@vfwdc.com
GENERAL COMMITTEE		
Assistant Secretary	Lisa Barbera	assist@vfwdc.com
Trip Co-Ordinator	Stuart Bowker	trips@vfwdc.com
Newsletter Editor	Mandie Lehmann	editor@vfwdc.com
Associations Delegate	David Bruinsma	delegate@vfwdc.com
General Committee	Mick Harris	
SUPPORT POSITIONS TO COMMITTEE		
Web manager	Ben Whitworth	web@vfwdc.com
Training officers	Phillip Griffith	
Librarian		
Merchandise	Carolyn Bruinsma	merchandise@vfwdc.com

CLUB MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

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
Club Drivers Jacket (Coat)	\$80.00 ea	VFWDC Windscreen stickers (small) \$6.00 (large) \$8.00	

We encourage all members to purchase a Club Polo Shirt.

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



CLUB CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

2014				
DECEMBER	3rd	General Meeting (Safety Dave)	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
	13th (Date change)	Christmas Break Up Party	Committee	
	14th	Tallarook day trip	Scott Lehmann	042544551
2015				
JANUARY		NO GENERAL MEETING		
	5th-9th	Tallarook camping & 4WD Trip	Scott & Mandie Lehmann	0423 544 551
	22nd	Committee Meeting	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
	23rd-26th	Australia Day Long Weekend- Long Beach/ Murray River	Markncat Felton	0439 345 207
FEBRUARY	4th	General Meeting/ state wide-weight of vehicles and laws	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
	17th	Committee Meeting	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
MARCH	4th	General meeting	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
	6th-9th	Labour Day/long weekend Wombat State Forest	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
	18th	Committee Meeting	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
APRIL	1st	General meeting	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
	17th	Committee Meeting	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
MAY	6th	General meeting	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
JUNE	3rd	General meeting	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
JULY	1st	General meeting	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
AUGUST	5th	General meeting	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860



News From The President

Hello to all Victorian Four Wheel drive members, and to all other people who access and read this publication on line.

Once again we have come to the end of yet another year, and for most I've been hearing that its been a busy one yet again. It has been very uplifting to see that many of our club trips have been well attended and no mishaps taken place on the trips apart from a few vehicles getting stuck in bog holes and a few mechanical issues along the way. Which give plenty to talk about around the camp fires at night at least.

This is the first Christmas that I can recall in my short time with the club that there has not been a specific Christmas trip over the holidays, but that's not to say that anyone can plan one at short notice and send the information through to Stuart our trip coordinator and invite members from the club to a specific location somewhere.

Another option for you to consider for an already planned trip with trip notes, maps and track by track guide where to go, I've been browsing through the associations web site and have been looking at Victoria's Iconic 4WD Adventures (www.fwdvictoria.org.au/iconic4wd/). Since I've done the Wonnangatta Drive a couple of times, I have looked through that one in particular and found the notes to be pretty good and for those that are Sat Nav ready, there are GPS coordinates ready for you to use at will for all your way points.

If you are planning to head into the bush this Christmas, please be very wary of snakes. there are reports that the snakes are abundant more so this year than previous years so please keep a careful eye out at all times. Also take the time to plan your trip and be aware of the possibility of Fire Bans that could be in place on days of extreme temperatures and high winds. So if you are planning to cook over an open fire, be ready to prepare your meals in a safe manner permitted under the rules of Fire Bans.

Please do not forget our club Christmas Party on Saturday December 13th at the Cranbourne Botanic Gardens - starting from 10am and going through to whenever. BYO picnic lunch and drinks. I'll try to get there early with the club banner to make it easier to find where we are. Apparently there is a walk involved from the carpark to the picnic areas so come prepared to carry your stuff in and back out again. It will be great to catch up with you all, even though there is no camp fire - but more importantly there will be no formalities, just a chance to sit around and have a good yak, or to go for a walk through the park when you're feeling like you need a stretch to work off a big lunch.

That's about all from me this time around and from myself and on behalf of the whole committee I would like to extend our best wishes to all of you during the Christmas holiday period and hope that you have a most enjoyable time and come back refreshed in 2015 for a great year ahead.

Kind regards
David Bruinsma

UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	Tallarook
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Scott Lehmann MOB: 0423544551
DATE	14th December 2014
MEETING PLACE / TIME	BP Service Station, Hume Fwy North bound - Wallan 8:30am.
GRADE	DRY: Med/hard WET: Hard
	Please adhere to new trip classifications
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	A 4x4 day trip of Tallarook with stops for Morning tea and lunch.
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 8
APPROX KMS	300k
Meeting place to destination	
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: BP service station, Wallan DIESEL: BP service station, Wallan
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	30km
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Recovery gear is a must. MT or good AT tyres required, minimum 2 inch lift.
MAPS REQUIRED	Rooftops Tallarook Map
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	12

UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	Tallarook
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Scott Lehmann MOB: 0423544551
DATE	5th-9th January 2015
MEETING PLACE / TIME	BP Service Station, Hume Fwy North bound - Wallan 9am
GRADE	DRY: Med/hard WET: Hard
Please adhere to new trip classifications	
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	4 night camping and 4WD Adventure, plan to do some 4WD everyday, with one or two night runs around Tallarook. Plan to base camp @ Trawool reservoir. Camper trailers should be OK, but there is limited space where we plan to camp.
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 8
APPROX KMS	300k
Meeting place to destination	
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: BP service station, Wallan DIESEL: BP service station, Wallan
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	30km
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UPCOMING TRIPS

WANT TO PLAN A TRIP?

Find the 10 tips to planning a trip <http://vfwdc.com/pdf/10.steps.pdf>

Find the trip data form <http://vfwdc.com/pdf/Trip%20Data%20Form.doc>

Personal information form <http://vfwdc.com/pdf/Personal%20Information%20Form.pdf>

Temporary member & visitor form <http://vfwdc.com/pdf/Participant.Form.pdf>

Or email Stu our amazing trip coordinator to help you out trips@vfwdc.com

YOUR PHOTOS WANTED!



If you have any great trip photos please email them to Ben web@vfwdc.com to add to the website gallery.

Make Sure you let Ben know which trip the photos are from. Please make sure to blur or black out all license plates.





VFWDC CHRISTMAS PARTY

13th December 2014.

WHERE: Royal Botanic Gardens Cranbourne. Corner of Ballarto road & Botanic Drive

Please follow the map below, follow the red line which marks the Philip Moors Drive to the car park to where you will need to walk (the yellow line) towards Woodland Picnic Area.

TIME: 11am til late afternoon

WHAT TO BRING: BYO LUNCH AND BRING NIBBLIES TO SHARE. Would be a good idea to bring camp chairs.

Unfortunately Santa is very busy this year in the north pole making presents for all the good boys and girls and he has advised our club that he will not be able to make it to our club Christmas party.





Treasurer's Report October 2014.

Cheque A/C	Opening Balance as at 01/10/2014	\$2,898.64
Less:		
Bal Due 40th Anniversary Club Shirts		-\$1,204.25
Prior Mth's Chq: Catering		-\$52.11
Total Monies Out		-\$1,256.36
Closing Balance as at 31/10/2014		\$1,642.28
Term Dep	(No Change)	\$7,475.08
Petty Cash	(No Change)	\$150.00
Consolidated Closing Cash Position		\$9,267.36

Minutes of General Meeting November 2014

Held at TJM Peninsular Store Carrun Downs

We had informative talks followed by time for heavily discounted shopping many club members making several trips to the car.



1st Prize



2nd prize



3rd prize





OXFAM AUSTRALIA

TREE DELIVERY



Dear Christmas tree helpers,

Last December, with the tremendous support of volunteers like you, Oxfam Australia raised over **\$200,000.00** through the delivery of Christmas trees. Our sincere thanks to everyone who has supported and helped make this a success, by donating your time and vehicle. On average,

each of 190 vehicles raises about **\$750.00**.

To make this fundraiser a success, we're looking for volunteers to help us again this year. If you are able to assist with loading and unloading trucks or driving, navigating and have a vehicles which can carry 8 to 25 freshly cut trees (with or without a trailer), we'd love to hear from you.

When: Saturday 7th December

What: Delivering south and eastern suburbs of Melbourne

OR

When: Sunday 8th (from 7am to 11am)

What: Delivering northern and western suburbs of Melbourne

Drivers are generally required for 1-3 hours. Each driver is given a list of addresses, allocated within close proximity to each other. There is no selling or cash handling. All trees are prepaid.

To assist with our planning, please RSVP to katrinad@oxfam.org.au or 0407 561 073 by 10th October, indicating your availability.

For further information, please don't hesitate to call or email me on the details below. If you would like to **order a tree**, go to www.oxfam.org.au/trees or 'phone Oxfam head office on

1800 034 034 between 9am and 4pm from 4th November.

Thank you again for your past support in helping Oxfam to continue its important work.

Kind regards,

Katrina Desfosses

Events Coordinator

Oxfam Australia

katrinad@oxfam.org.au

0407 561 073

THE HAUNTED STREAM TRIP



Participants :

Mick & Sally	Patrol
John	Landcruiser
Steve	Landcruiser
Stuart & Maree	Pajero

The weekend started off with a weather front. We are sure that the other trips encountered similar weather conditions. We aired down at the start of the Haunted Stream track, heading for the Alpine National park. Wondering what is in store for us?



Haunted Stream Track runs parallel to the Haunted Stream and comprises 54 river crossings, they are normally fairly shallow but the rain has come down.

The first one to get stuck is Stuart. The bank is just too steep with the ruts. Hanging his front wheel, oops out comes the winch. Stuart left his boots behind as he had to climb out and back in the window.

The track gets slippery and muddy, with all the rain around what do you expect? Some spirited driving skills and all got through. Steve was pleased with his big tyres. He was T.E.C. coming up the rear.



The day has its challenges. Camp set and then it hailed. No let's be reasonable it was snow. We are at approximately 1500 mts. Saturday night is cold Sunday morning the white stuff was still around. We got two different hail storms that night. Camping can only get better from here.

Mick and Sally had a race with a local Emu, I'd like to report Mick's rally driving won.

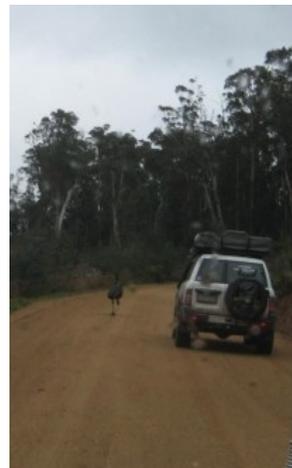
We headed along Boomerang Spur Road, on to Grassy Ridge Road, heading to Dogs grave. Man's best friend has a head stone and long drop toilets at the camping ground. Morning tea was enjoyed by all.



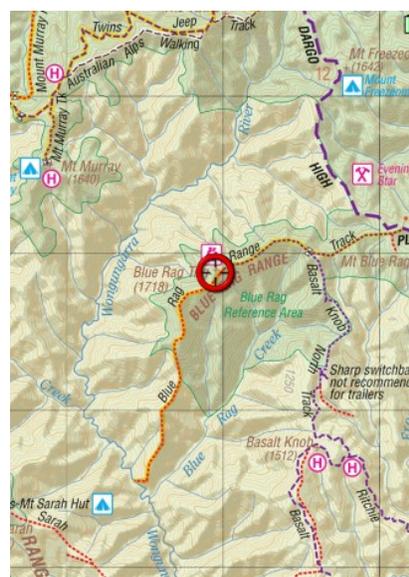
On top of the Alpine park, we head to Dinner Plain. Civilisation, a coffee shop, there is a mountain bike event on. Stuart asks why use peddle power?

Heading down past Mt Hotham. (1861 mt high). The day goes up and down as we follow the top of the Alpine ranges. Just to think about it we are at 1600 mt then down as low as 250 mts then back up to 1500mts. To our camp tonight, the weather has improved.

Sunday night has a fire and few tall stories or a tall tent if you are sally. No, we will not mention the ice on the camping gear overnight.



Monday. Stuart and Maree headed up Blue Rag track, as they had the week off, while the others headed back to Sale to get a clutch line fixed on Steve's car. As you can see the Blue Rag track just keeps going over the hills. This is a challenging place to drive. Thanks Mick & Sally it was a fantastic trip.



Marysville

22nd November 2014



Everyone at morning tea at Keppel Hut. The plan of the day to conquer Park Road behind the Rubicon Power Station. The history is that this track has been attempted by a number of people in our club with little success, this was a four o'clock track on MarknCats trip twelve months ago. So the plan is to reverse the route and to come down Park Road.

First we have to get there Andre couldn't help himself he found the puddle and decided as a community service he would remove the water for the followers. There was just enough left to get Scotty dirty too.

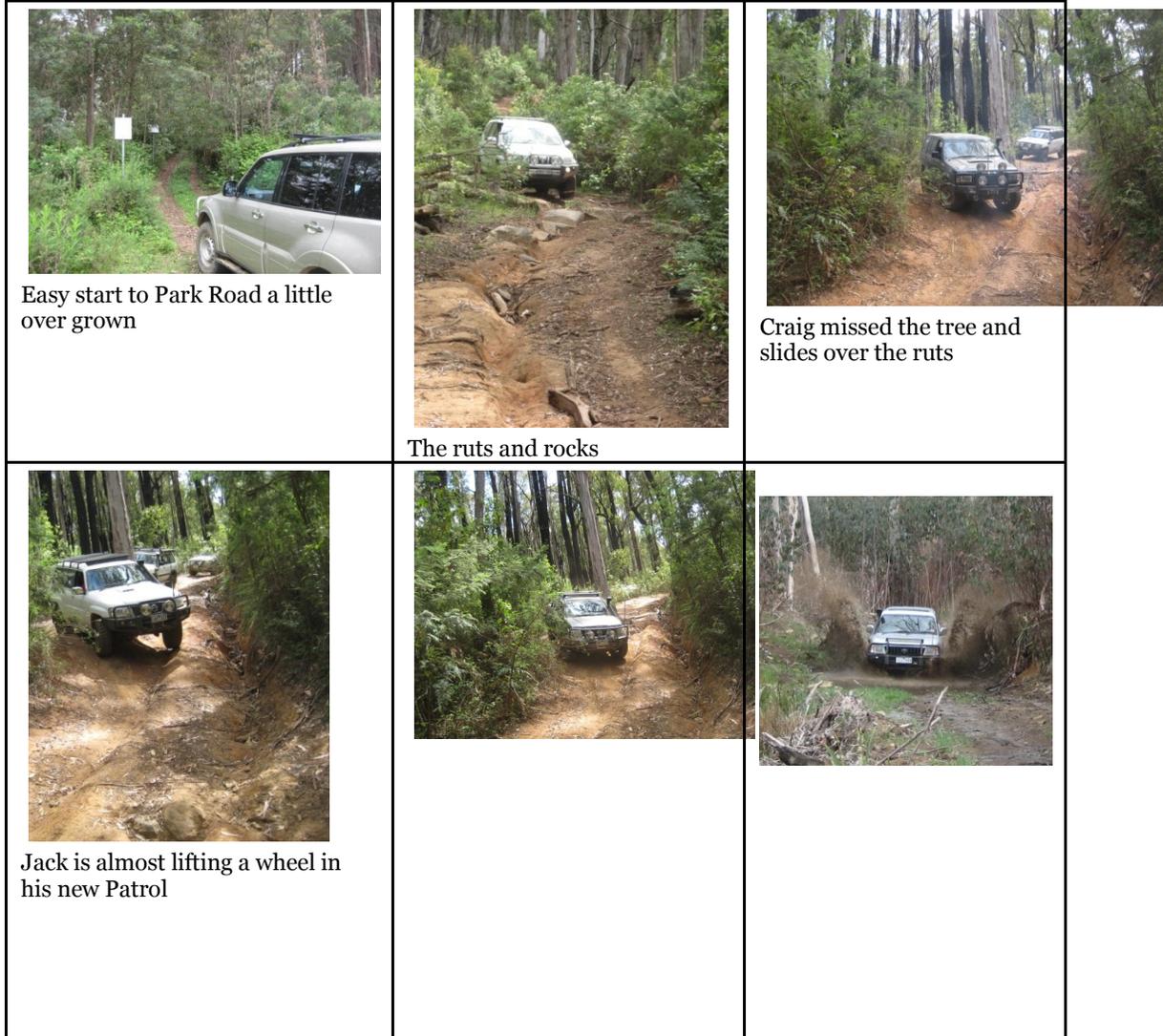


Next was some rock climbing? A short cut we think? Stuart in his Pajaro got up and then Andre followed but the rocks got their own back hooking his step. The decision was to go to plan B off to Park Road. Someone should tell Stuart that you need to keep all your wheels on the ground to keep the Pajaro happy. We had an amazing run, there was mud, rocks, slippery clay, a bit of everything to keep everyone on their toes. A constant banter on the radio kept everyone amused.

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The destination found. Looks easy, from here, how hard can it be, it's a road. Let's go.

Stuart in the lead,





Australian Brown Snake



Australian Tiger Snake

Australia has the most dangerous snakes in the world.

Snake season is back and a number of snake sightings have been reported in the last few weeks. As the weather warms up, more snakes will be seen.

As we go out in the dense bush land it is important we know what to do in case of a snake bite. We should all have a snake bite kit in our 4WD's.



Remember, never try to catch or kill the snake. Try and identify it but if you can not, please do not worry, the first aid of the person who has been bitten is the first priority, after the safety of yourself.

- As soon as possible, apply a broad pressure bandage from below the bite site, upward on the affected limb (starting at the fingers or toes, bandaging upward as far as possible).
- Leave the tips of the fingers or toes unbandaged to allow the victim's circulation to be checked.
- Do not remove pants or trousers, simply bandage over the top of the clothing.
- Bandage firmly as you would for a sprained ankle, but not so tight that circulation is restricted. Continue to bandage upward from the lower portion of the bitten limb.
- Apply the bandage as far up the limb as possible to compress the lymphatic vessels. It is also helpful to mark the site of the bite on the outside of the bandage, so the medical team can cut away a small part of the bandage for access, without needing to remove the entire bandage, which would release the compression. It is now vital to apply a splint.
- Bind a stick or suitable rigid item over the initial bandage to splint the limb. Secure the splint to the bandaged limb by using another bandage, (if another bandage is not available, use clothing strips or similar to bind). It is very important to keep the bitten limb still. Bind the splint firmly to as much of the limb as possible, to prevent muscle, limb and joint movement. This will help restrict venom movement. If you can not find a splint and the patient has been bitten on the lower limb, then use the other limb as a splint

Seek urgent medical assistance now that first aid has been attended.

Dial 000 and ask for an ambulance.

If out of mobile phone reception, call 112 for medical Assistance

For more information http://www.avru.org/files/imported/firstaid/factsheet_pib.pdf

A first aid course is highly recommended to all and can be very useful in many situations, including snake bites. First aid courses can be arranged by the club, please let us know if you interested in attending a first aid course.