

Bringing Four Wheel Drivers  
Together



Victorian Four Wheel Drive  
Club Inc.

# Free Wheeling



**VFWDC**

**April 2015**

# 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

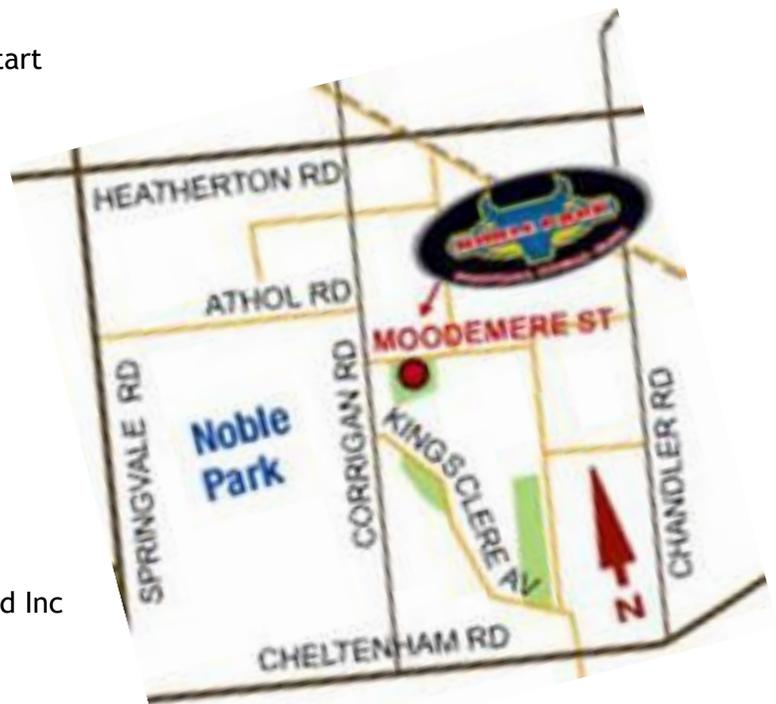
46-56 Moodemere Street

Noble Park

Melways ref: 89 D4

Aberfeldy Track managed by West Gippsland Inc

[www.westgippslandinc.com.au](http://www.westgippslandinc.com.au)



## ***FREE WHEELING***

Hello and welcome to the April Magazine. This magazine is a big issue with many upcoming trips. Please remember to email me your trip report, along with any photos (portrait photos are best) no later than the 20th of each month

Thanks, Mandie

[editor@vfwdc.com](mailto:editor@vfwdc.com)

**VFWDC  
ADVERTISING  
DIRECTORY**



1B, 280 South Gippsland Highway,

Cranbourne, 3977

P: 03 59955055

E: [sales@everything4wd.com.au](mailto:sales@everything4wd.com.au)

W: [www.everything4wd.com.au](http://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](mailto:editor@vfwdc.com)*

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

**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](mailto:committee@vfwdc.com). Please ensure you advise size required.



# CLUB CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

<b>2015</b>				
APRIL	1st	General meeting	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
	2nd-5th	McKillop's bridge	Mick and Sally Harris	0424 766 616
	2nd-6th	Border Track - Big Desert	John Partridge	0428331211
	3rd-6th	Beachport, Robe	Bruce Cremonesi	0400 425 296
	17th-19th	Proficiency Training	Phil Griffith, Ashley Martin, John Partridge	0419 865 472 0428 134 399 0428 331 211
	22nd	Committee Meeting	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
May	6th	General meeting	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
	8th	Toolangi night run	Scott and Mandie Lehmann	0423 544 551
	16th	Winch practice and tyre changing/repair demo	Stuart Bowker	0428 539 157
	22nd	Committee Meeting	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
	23rd-24th	Dargo High Country, Blue Rag and Billy Goat Bluff	Stuart Bowker	0428 539 157
June	3rd	General meeting	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
	5th-8th	Queens Birthday - Aberfeldy District	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
	24th	Committee Meeting	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
July	1st	General meeting	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
	11th-12th	Xmas in July St Annes Winery	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
	22nd	Committee meeting	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
August	5th	General meeting	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
	15th-2nd October	Cape York	Mick Harris	0424 766 616
		Committee meeting	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
Official Newsletter of the Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc			Registration No A0002184F	



## News From The President

Hello and welcome to the April issue of our Club Magazine

It was very encouraging to see so many people now regularly attending our monthly general meetings, both members and also guests alike. I had the privilege to greet many guests to our club at our last meeting and I continue to look forward to greet more in the coming months. There have been at least two club trips during this past month, and also a recy trip for an upcoming Easter trip - and there are a variety of upcoming trips to wet your 4wd and camping appetites for the remainder of the year, with trip forms being submitted to our trip coordinator frequently.

As a committee we had a great chat last week about the upcoming events and we have started to plan our annual Xmas in July. This year we have stumbled upon a venue that is willing to host us for free, and will make available to us their toilet facilities. The venue is St. Annes Winery. The Winery is situated just on the other side of Bacchus Marsh and is very easy to get to via the main highway. It is proposed to come along from saturday midday until sunday midday - or any part of that time that you have available. The Club is looking at providing the meat for saturday night dinner, and probably bacon and egg wraps on the sunday morning breakfast as well. If you are not able to stay over night for the camping aspect, you are most welcome to attend for the saturday afternoon and the dinner prior to heading the short distance back to home. More information will be made available through the Trip data form and through announcements at club meetings and emails to the membership leading upto July.

At the general meeting we had available the latest issues of the Trackwatch magazine from our Association. There are many good articles in the magazine and it is a great way to keep in touch with what the Association is doing on behalf of all the affiliated 4wd clubs. If you did not take a copy of the magazine with you, it is available on line at the Association Web site, including the back issues:

<http://www.fwdvictoria.org.au/upload/trackwatch/trackwatch.asp>

In particular is the 'clean up the bush program' that we have mentioned a couple of times at our meetings. If possible can we keep the 2nd of May available to help with volunteering to this program. I know it's not exactly a pleasant task to get our hands dirty cleaning up some other peoples thoughtless actions of illegal dumping, but it is the bush and nature that we enjoy going to and I'm sure we would all like to our bush respected.

In April there is Bruce's trip to Beachport/Robe for those who would like the 'sand' driving experience over the Easter break and there is Mick and Sally's trip to McKillips bridge for those who want the bush experience, and a trip by John Partridge doing the Border Track. So between those three very different trips I am hopefully that many people will find something that is of interest to do over the Easter weekend. Following that is the Proficiency Training that is run by Phil Griffith, together with Ashley Martin and John Partridge - names are appearing on the trip form so places are filling up which is very encouraging for the trainers who put a lot of effort into this training program.

In May there will be a return of the 'night runs', the first being led by Scott in his Navara and later in the month there will be a change to get your hands dirty and practise using the winch's on our vehicles and to also watch and learn how to remove and reinstall a tyre on a rim by the side of the road - this event will be led by Stuart who has had plenty of practise over the years with tyres.

Looking forward to seeing you at our meetings, or on a trip.

David Bruinsma

President

Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club inc.



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WEBSITE: [WWW.STATEWIDE4X4.COM.AU](http://WWW.STATEWIDE4X4.COM.AU)  
ABN: 14 217 809 822

## Minutes of General Meeting March 2015

**The meeting was held at Noble Park Football Club and was opened at 8.00pm by Club President David Bruinsma.**

**Present:** Members present as per the Attendance book

**Apologies:** Members as per Apologies book

**Visitors:** Visitors as listed in the Visitors Book

**Matters Arising: nil.**

### **Minutes of December General Meeting**

Accepted: Sally Harris

Second: Stuart Bowker

### **Minutes of February General Meeting**

Accepted: Sally Higgs

Second: Tony Feltham

40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Shirts are still available there are large and extra large shirts available

The club has agreed to place an ad in our magazine for safety Dave and State wide 4X4 provided that the information arrives from the businesses in time for publishing in this month's magazine .

Paul From state wide 4X4 will arrange a date for the club to use his weight scales to check vehicle's weight. This will be mid year and we will advise everyone as soon as we find out a date and time.

Anyone that needs it done earlier you can contact Paul at state wide 4X4 and book in a date direct with them and I believe it will cost \$15.00. State Wide 4x4 Phone # 03 9484 7838.

There web site has a lot of information regarding GVM so look up [www.statewide4x4.com.au](http://www.statewide4x4.com.au)

### **Correspondence in**

Landrover Review

Overland Cruising

Cross Country Jeep Club

DEPI have been emailing club almost daily about fuel reduction burns across the state on the day so it is difficult for us to forward the emails on a daily basis so we are advising everyone to check the DEPI web site before venturing out.

Getting a lot of interest in the club from emails

Club has received an invitation to Rudy's house for a committee meeting, RE: Historic maintenance with the 4wd clubs

### **Correspondence out**

David Bruinsma has sent Emails of thanks to Safety Dave and State wide 4x4 for their donating their time attending our meetings in December and February.

**Accepted:** Brett Buchanan

**Seconded:** Stuart Bowker

### **Association Report**

Full report in track watch about what the association is doing

RTO are auditing 4wd Vic

Clean up the bush report

Dob in a hoon need to be improved its up to us to assist by reporting incidents when we see them with clear photos and a written report.

### **Upcoming trips**

### **Trip leaders**

9/3/2015	Labour Day St Anne's Winery	David Bruinsma
9/3/2015	Labour Day Grampians	Sally Higgs
3/4/2015	Easter Beachport/Robe	Bruce Cremonesi
3/4/2015	Easter McKillops Bridge	Mick Harris
17/4/2015	Proficiency training Course held on the weekend and the theory will be held on the 14/04/2015 location to be advised	Paul Griffiths
08/05/2015	Night Run Toolangi forest	Scott & Amanda
09/05/2015	Winch and tyre change. Bunyip forest	Stuart Bowker
15/07/2015	Cape York Fraser Island	Mick & Sally

Visitors are welcome on any club run trips, visitors need to complete a visitors form found on our web site. The only trips that you must be a club member is the snow trip to Mt Skene and Driver training as these cost the club money to run that goes to 4wd Victoria

Trip Report Sally Higgs

### **Australia Day Weekend Long Beach on the Murray River**

The weekend was spent Camping & Spending hrs in the water.

Went on a trip on a Paddle Steamer up the Murray river Tristan hadn't had enough mud and found a lovely mud hole, Drove though it and realised it wasn't quite a mud hole but a cow Poo liquid hole so the disco was covered in cow poo which Tristan had to hand wash, There was also a house Boat with a band of buskers on it that went past,

It was a great relaxing Camping weekend to start the year.

Brett Buchanan

### **Australia Day Weekend The high Country**

Stuart led the trip through Licola and on to the panicles then onto billy goats bluff for those that don't know billy goats bluff is the longest steepest track its 7km long dropping 1400 metres following a ridgeline. Then onto Italian Flat campgrounds went for a swim to wash of the dust

Then on the next day headed in to Talbotville an counted 60 campers with 1 toilets for all the campers. Went on to Wonnangatta Valley and Zeta Spur Track then camped at Howitt High Planes.

The next day headed for Butcher Country track then on to Barkly Bridge campground and home. It was a great trip

Thanks Stuart & Maree.

Sam Ayoubee

### **Walhalla**

8 vehicles attended got there late at night camped near hut

Stuart had brake issues and did a running repair. Went up army track

Then deep creek track # 4 it was extreme. And onto deep creek #1 then went to Aberfeldy river for a swim. After the swim they headed back to camp and prepared to eat Ben had set up a camp bbq plate Sam asked if they could use the plate Ben gave the OK and by the time he got back Milton had loaded up the bbq with marinated meat Ben couldn't believe there was no room for him to cook his meal and he had to wait for the others before he could cook his meal. Ben had to clean the plate prior to cooking his meal as he doesn't eat with spices. The tracks we very difficult and challenging we had a great time.

Stuart Bowker

### **Aberfeldy**

We did some more clearing of the track

Had a swim in the river

Started to rain Tony and Craig went o to play in the mud

Had a great day

## General Business

The committee is trying to encourage more trips

With a lot of variety Night drives wineries etc

David Bruinsma indicated that we should always have personal information forms filled out in the glove box.

He also wants ladies trips to help the girls learn how to handle a 4wd for emergency situations.

Sally Higgs is interested in running a trip.

David Bruinsma had a situation on the weekend where Carolyn had to drive the Navara fully loaded with trailer, and David drove another couples car with caravan back because the man had become ill. David considers it important for the ladies to be familiar with their 4wd's and trailers 'just in case' needed to drive out if someone becomes ill or hurt.

4wd Victoria have asked for Facebook profile

Steve has to stand down as treasurer at the end of this term in office, and will no longer be able to continue so we need someone to assist the club (been in role for over 4 years already). If anyone is interested please contact David.

Up Coming Meeting talks expected from: Tool Quip, Moly Lube, LPG gas conversions

There is a 4wd store keen for us to attend in November

If anyone has any ideas or topics they want perused please let any committee member know.

Tony looking at what is required for club plates

Open Questions:

Andre: Accredited Driver training 4wd Vic Nothing has been decided yet. Te get experience attend more trips with experienced drivers.

## Raffle

First Aid Kit (from Safety Dave)	Andrew Holman
Natural Honey (donated by club member)	Sally Harris
Work Gloves (donated by club member)	Ian Rhodes
Steak Knives (donated by club member)	Adam Howell
Eggs and Cucumber (donated by club member)	Andre Van Der Walt
Eggs and Cucumber (donated by club member)	Kevin Frederickson

10:05 pm meeting closed

<u>Cheque A/C</u>	Opening Balance as at 01/02/2015		\$3,579.71
	Add:		
	Raffle Proceeds (February 2015 Meeting)	\$132.00	
	Merchandise Sales	\$44.00	
	Total Monies In:		\$176.00
	Less:		
	Catering Costs	-\$26.04	
	Printing, Postage & Stationary	-\$84.67	
	Total Monies Out:		-\$110.71
	Plus:		
	Unpresented Chq #454		\$84.67
	Closing Balance as at 28/02/2015		\$3,729.67
<u>Term Deposit</u>	(No Change)		\$6,000.00
<u>Petty Cash</u>	(No Change)		\$150.00

**Consolidated Closing Cash Position**

**\$9,879.67**

Also, on the up-coming Treasurer's vacancy, please find attached a description of what's involved in case you want to include in the magazine.

### **Key Duties and Accountabilities – Treasurer**

- Banking of all cash receipts within 5 working days;
- Coordination of all 3<sup>rd</sup> party payments to suppliers and service providers (eg. insurance premiums, association affiliation fees, venue hire costs, PO Box hire, website hosting fees, etc);
- Custodian of club cheque book and deposit book;
- Lodgement of Annual Reports (via Club Secretary) to Consumer Affairs
- Maintenance of bank accounts, records and statements;
- Maintenance of the club's books, journals and other financial records;
- Making recommendations and maintaining appropriate levels of cash investments, petty cash holdings and funds held at call;
- Preparation and presentation of Annual Reports (including engagement with independent reviewers, external accountants or auditors, etc) – Annual Reports must be retained for at least the past 7 years;
- Preparation and presentation of monthly Treasurer's Reports;
- Processing electronic payments and maintaining oversight of any electronic security tokens in use; and
- Regular attendance at Club & Committee meetings.

Finally, we agreed at the most recent Committee meeting that it would be timely to include a reminder in the club magazine (from April onwards) that membership renewals are due by the end of June and to provide a link to the renewal form on the club's website.

Kind regards,

**Steve Pitcher**

## Recall on Single Burner Gas Canister Stoves.

It has recently been brought to the attention of Four Wheel Drive Victoria regarding a number of incidents involving single burner butane cartridge stoves around the country. These problems appear to be across most brands and involve both the stove and the canister. The faults appear to stem from the mating between the stove and the canister and faulty sealing and also from a propensity to overheat causing the cartridge to rupture. The resultant flash/explosion/fire can cause severe injuries or death from shrapnel and/or burns. As a consequence of this, the NSW Department of Fair Trading has issued an immediate "Stop Sale" on these appliances, which requires the immediate withdrawal of all said stoves from shelves and a prohibition on their sale within New South Wales. Note that at the time of this being written, this does not apply anywhere else in the country. A sample of burners purchased off the shelf found an 84% failure rate on the shut-off valve/seal also called the over-pressure safety device. Due to this, approval of these stoves was withdrawn by AGA and SAI Global (the regulatory authorities). It is prohibited to sell any gas device in Australia which does not have AGA/SAI Global approval. For those who have one of these stoves, and continue to use it, the following recommendations are made: do **NOT** use oversize pots and pans on the stove, as this may lead to overheating and failure; **DO** carefully inspect the cartridge valve assembly and the mating face of the stove and do **NOT** use if there is any damage; **DO** keep the mating points of the stove and cartridge free of dirt and debris to ensure a good seal; **DO** always ensure adequate airflow around the stove to reduce the likelihood of overheating; do **NOT** use on very hot days; and do **NOT** use the stove if you have any doubts about its safety or reliability. Fair Trading NSW urges that you do not use these stoves and advises that under Australian consumer law, you may be entitled to a refund if you can show proof of purchase. For further information, go to

[http://www.fairtrading.nsw.gov.au/ftw/Consumers/Product\\_and\\_service\\_safety/Lunchbox\\_cookers.page](http://www.fairtrading.nsw.gov.au/ftw/Consumers/Product_and_service_safety/Lunchbox_cookers.page)

Please also note that while the above information applies to single burner stoves, a number of dual burner stoves are also on the market, and all fittings and parts relating to these faults are identical. Although no incidents have yet been reported involving dual burner stoves, the same warnings still apply.

## Here is some Association News extracts from the recent Trackwatch magazine that we have permission to re-print in our club magazine from Four Wheel Drive Victoria.

### **From the Editorial:**

This month sees our Association celebrate 40 years of representing the interests of Victorian four wheel drive drivers to preserve and promote responsible access to existing track networks on public lands.

The Victoria Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs held its inaugural meeting on 20th February, 1975. It was formed by seven clubs that saw the benefits of a united 4WD body. In a paper presented to the Institute of Foresters by Secretary Douglas Gardiner in 1978, he reported that by the 20th January, 1977 the individual member count was 842, which had grown to 1,785 by May 1978.

Today our membership both in Clubs and members has multiplied tenfold. It is impossible to even begin listing substantial projects, access fights and numerous activities that ensued over the last 40 years. Suffice to say - that like today - Victorian four wheel drivers have a wonderfully dedicated group of enthusiasts and volunteers to thank for

actively supporting and moving our Association on in a changing political and social environment, resulting in many wins for our recreation.

Accordingly, we are celebrating this auspicious occasion as only four wheelers can. Everyone loves a party, and this year we invite all four wheel drive clubs affiliated with FWD Victoria to spend the Queen's Birthday weekend in June together in Mansfield.

Celebrations will be centred at the Mansfield showgrounds where there are limited powered and unpowered campsites. Mansfield also has two commercial caravan parks, and a good variety of other accommodation options.

**Brian Tanner**

Editor

[editor@fwdvictoria.org.au](mailto:editor@fwdvictoria.org.au)

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Hi Tony,

Could you please pass this on for Dave? I think he wanted it for the meeting or the magazine.

We found VFWDC after looking through websites for different clubs, and really liked the family friendly look. We've been on two day trips in three weeks and I think we're hooked. Stewart said the first one would be an easy drive for a beginner, which is fine when you don't know what double black diamond means until afterwards!!! Ben really got to put the Triton through its paces amongst experienced 4WD'ers, so we felt safe and looked after, and learned heaps. Plus the kids loved it!

The second trip with Dave was actually more sedate, and we were very impressed with the choice of St Anne's and the Plough for amazing local food and wine. Ben loved the bog holes, which everyone navigated successfully. Unlike one of the 4WDs in front of us, which got flooded. It's been wonderful to see so many new places with such lovely people, we look forward to many more trips.

See you again soon xx

Clare and Ben.



**1975 - 2015**

*This Year Four Wheel Drive Victoria Celebrates it's 40th anniversary  
To celebrate we are staging a weekend of celebration, fun and Friendship*

***Where:*** Mansfield in Victoria High Country.

***When:*** Queens birthday weekend- Friday 5th -Monday 8th June 2015  
Members are invited to arrive Friday night, or Saturday Morning for  
Registration.

***Accommodation:*** Limited camp sites are available at Mansfield showgrounds  
Powered sites \$25 per night, unpowered sites \$20 per night. Sites are rapidly  
going with numerous booking received. Fire drum will be available.  
Book early to avoid disappointment.

***Activities:*** Four wheel driving of all standards are organised for members to  
Participate on the weekend.

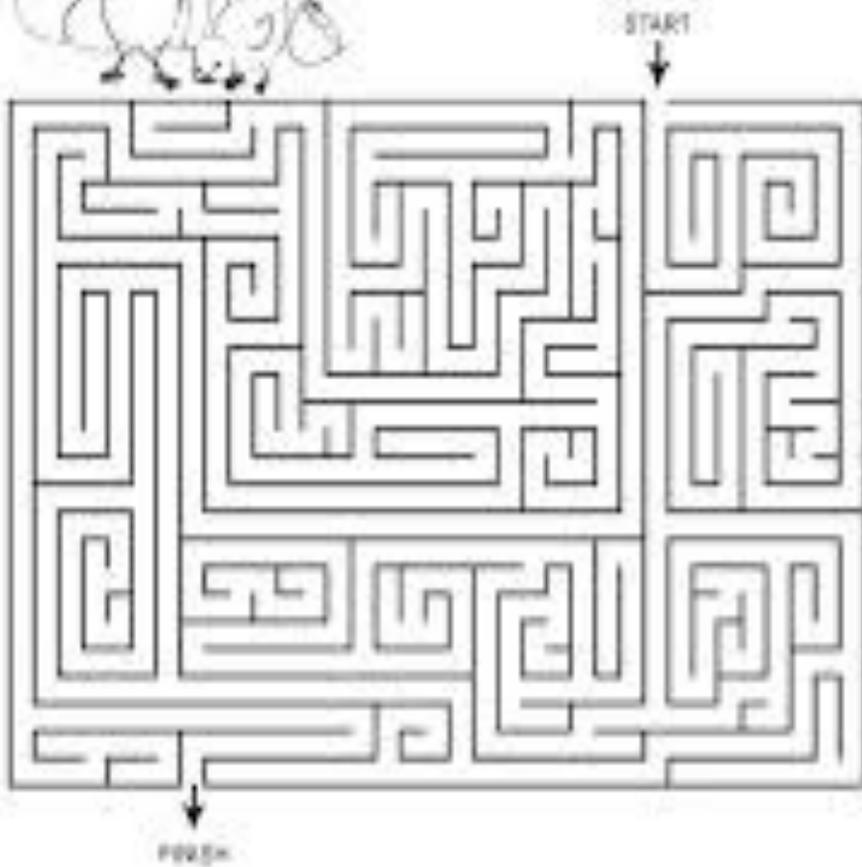
***Anniversary Dinner:*** Saturday night a dinner will be held in the hall at the  
Showgrounds. Maximum seating available for the first 200. Cost of dinner is  
\$40 per adult, \$20 per child under 12. A DJ will provide entertainment into  
the early hours. A communal BYO happy hour will precede the dinner.  
Sunday evening BYO Happy hour will again be held at the showgrounds.

***Monster Raffle:*** Over \$7000 of quality prizes available

***Bookings:*** Are now being taken for camping and the dinner. (Book early).

To book email: [40th@fwdvictoria.org.au](mailto:40th@fwdvictoria.org.au) or phone Sandra on: 0352661609  
Bookings close May 15th, 2015.

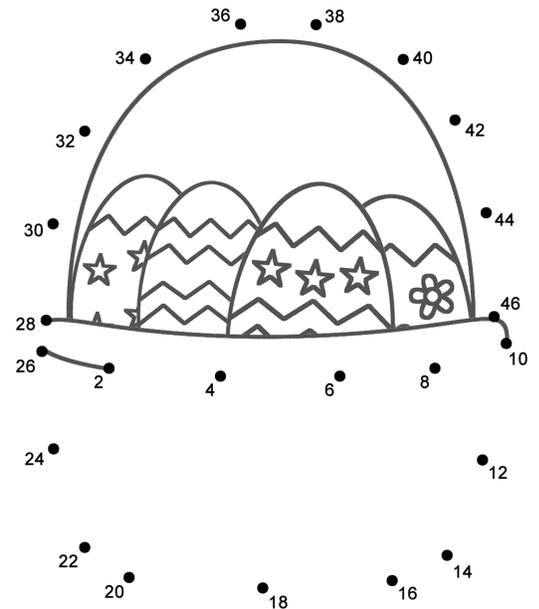
Kids fun page



EASTER  
BUNNY  
RABBIT  
CHOCOLATE

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CHICKS  
EGGS  
BONNET  
EGG HUNT



## UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	<b>McKillops Bridge</b>
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Mick Harris MOB: 0424766616
DATE	2/4/15 to 7/4/15
MEETING PLACE / TIME	TBA
GRADE	WET: Mild DRY: Easy
<span style="color: red;">Please adhere to new trip classifications</span>	
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	Some four wheel driving including Deddick Tk, Bowen Tk, MT Tingariney
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: NA
APPROX KMS	
Meeting place to destination	
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Buchan DIESEL: Buchan
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	Some fuel should be carried for those without long range tanks.
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Std recovery gear
MAPS REQUIRED	Rooftop McKillops Bridge
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	12

## UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	<b>Border Track - Big Desert</b>
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: John Partridge TEL: MOB: 0428 331 211
DATE	02-04-2015 - 06-04-2015 (Easter)
MEETING PLACE / TIME	TBA
GRADE	WET: Medium DRY: Medium
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	The plan is to tour through the Big Desert areas and travel along the Vic/SA border. There will be numerous decent sand dunes to tackle and plenty of fun to be had. If there are areas participants would like to see we will have plenty of time to adjust the route. This will suit any 4WD
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 6
APPROX KMS	TBA
Meeting place to destination	
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Ouyen DIESEL: Ouyen
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	NA - note: Gas is hard to get up around here
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	All recovery gear. TREDs or Maxtrax or similar would be beneficial. Be fully self-sufficient and bring own water supplies.
MAPS REQUIRED	
RADIO CHANNEL      CB / UHF	12

## UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	<b>Beach Driving -Beachport, Robe, or Narracoorte Caves or Carpenters Rocks</b>
LEADER	NAME: Bruce Cremonesi
CONTACT NO.	MOB: 0400 425 296 <b>** if we get numbers I'LL NEED A SECOND TL</b>  <b>This is perfect to run your first trip as 99% is done for you **</b>
DATES	Easter 3 <sup>rd</sup> to 6 <sup>th</sup> April
MEETING PLACE	Servo on East Link heading south... 7.15am Departure from the servo..
TIME	
TRIP GRADE	MED – HARD - Conditions will vary – BE PREPARED FOR THE WORST.
TRIP ACTIVITY DE- TAILS	3 <sup>rd</sup> Day 1 To Beachport Caravan Park Via Mt Gambier Caves + the Blue Lake. 4 <sup>th</sup> Day 2 to Beach and dunes to Robe, Woakwine Cutting back to Beachport 5 <sup>th</sup> Day 3 to Rest Day, or Carpenters Rocks or Naracoorte Caves (117km from Beachport). 6 <sup>th</sup> Day 4 Head Home.  There's also plenty of wineries, and the longest fishing jetty in southern hemisphere.  On the 4 <sup>th</sup> the tides are  The first high tide will be at 1:20am and the next at 1:45 pm. The first low tide will be at 7:30 am and the next at 7:40 pm.
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 4  MAXIMUM: 8 - But we can run up to 16 (2 groups of 8 if I get another Leader)
APPROX KMS	From meeting place to Beachport around 550kms
LAST FUEL	PETROL and DIESEL: Beachport, Robe
EQUIPMENT RE- QUIRED	<b>FULL RECOVERY GEAR – Straps, Rated shackles, dampers etcFRONT AND REAR RATED RECOVERY POINTS ,Sand Flag</b>
MAPS REQUIRED	Available at Beachport Visitors Center Or -> <a href="http://robe.com.au/?page_id=59">http://robe.com.au/?page_id=59</a>
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	UHF 14
BRING WITH YOU:	-- Tyre pressure gauge, tyre inflator, tyre deflator. -- UHF -- Good warm clothing and probably boots & spare dry clothes - it can be COLD. -- Camping Gear. -- Cameras
ACCOMMODATION:	We will be base camping at Southern Ocean Tourist Park. It's a good park with top facilities the last 7 times we have stayed there. Walking distance to the pub for dinner if you don't wish to cook but you must book ahead Also walking distance of the beach if you want to try your hand at surf/beach fishing

## UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	<b>Toolangi Night run</b>
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Scott Lehmann  TEL:  MOB: 0423544551
DATE	8th May 2015
MEETING PLACE / TIME	Lilydale Macca's - 7:00pm for 7:30pm departure
GRADE	WET: medium to hard  DRY: medium
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	Haven't had a night run for a while, thought it was time to blow the dust of the light bar and spotties! Might also be a good chance for our new members or visitors to see what our club is about! The difficulty of the tracks we do will vary depending on the vehicle and driver capabilities of those who come along.
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 2  MAXIMUM: 8
APPROX KMS	100km round trip
Meeting place to destination	
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Lilydale  DIESEL: Lilydale
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Torches! Basic recovery gear. MT or good AT tyres. Minimum 2inch lift.
MAPS REQUIRED	Rooftops Toolangi-Macedon adventure map
RADIO CHANNEL      CB / UHF	UHF ch12

## UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	<b>Dargo High Country, Blue Rag and Billy Goat Bluff</b>
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Stuart Bowker MOB: 0428539157
DATE	23 <sup>rd</sup> – 24 <sup>th</sup> May 2015
MEETING PLACE / TIME	Pakenham Bypass BP/McDonalds Eastbound 7:30 am for 8:00 am departure
GRADE	WET: Very Difficult DRY: Difficult
	<b>Please adhere to new trip classifications</b>
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	Travel to Dargo and do the Blue Rag Range tk, then travel down to Talbotville and the Crooked river tk and up Billy Goats Bluff Tk
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 8
APPROX KMS	400 k
Meeting place to destination	
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Dargo DIESEL: Dargo
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	200k
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Recovery gear, Camping gear and food for the weekend
MAPS REQUIRED	Rooftop Dargo – Wonangatta Adventure Map
RADIO CHANNEL	UHF 12

## UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	<b>Queens Birthday - Aberfeldy District</b>
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: David Bruinsma MOB: 0417 747 860
DATE	Friday June 5th to Monday June 8th - 2015
MEETING PLACE / TIME	tba
GRADE	WET: Medium DRY: Easy
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	<p>Please adhere to new trip classifications</p> <p>Trip to Aberfeldy to do maintenance work in our district on the Saturday - other than that, I plan for the weekend to be a fairly quiet time based around the camp site at Little O'Tools camp ground.</p> <p>There will be other clubs in the area for the weekend doing their working bees as well, we might be able to catch up with the other clubs and do some interclub socializing as well.</p> <p>Whilst I intend to spend a lot of time around the camp fire and relax, I will break up my sitting around doing not much, by exploring some of the local tracks that has been very popular and some part technically challenging. This will be done in consultation with those hanging around the camp fire and I will try to do tracks that will be of interest to the majority.</p>
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 10
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	300 to 450 kms, depends on how much exploring we choose to do.
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Moe DIESEL: Moe
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	Less than 100 kms
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Camping gear, Recovery gear, Food, Water, Sense of fun and relaxation. For the Saturday - need gloves, chain saws, wipper snippers (with blade if possible) Garden Rake.
MAPS REQUIRED	
Official Newsletter of the Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc	Registration No A0002184F
RADIO CHANNEL      CB / UHF	UHF 12

## UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	<b>Xmas in July - St Annes Winery</b>
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: David Bruinsma MOB: 0417 747 860
DATE	Saturday 11th July to Sunday 12th July 2015
MEETING PLACE / TIME	At St. Annes Winery from 12 mid-day onwards on the Saturday: 64 Garrards Road, Myrning VIC 3341
GRADE	easy
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	<p>Twill be an easy relaxing weekend, camping at the winery itself. Come along, set up your camp - go to the cellar door, sample the wonderful variety of Wines and Ports and purchase your supplies for the weekend.</p> <p>The committee intend to supply the meat for the Saturday night dinner, with campers to supply the shared salads for the dinner. The Committee will also supply bacon and egg wraps cooked over the camp fire on the Saturday morning.</p> <p>There is NO 4wding intended at all for the weekend, but for those who would like to get some 4wheeling done, there will be opportunity to do so upon your departure on Sunday morning to head up through Wombat SF, I can certainly recommend to try the XL track which has some nice bog holes at the moment.</p> <p>If there is interest, we can conclude the weekend away by making a booking for lunch at the nearby pub 'The Plow' which provided us an awesome dining experience at my recent St. Annes day trip in March. Lunch to be paid by each person - and a group booking will be need to made in advance so I need to know numbers for lunch well before the</p>
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 5 MAXIMUM: 50
APPROX KMS	0 kms
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Bachuss Marsh DIESEL: Bachuss Marsh
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	Bachuss Marsh
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Normal camping gear - and then relax around the camp fire.
MAPS REQUIRED	Normal GPS is sufficient to get to St. Annes
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	UHF 12

## UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	<b>Cape York and Fraser Island</b>
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Mick Harris MOB: 0424766616
DATE	August 15 <sup>th</sup> to October 2 <sup>nd</sup> 2015
MEETING PLACE / TIME	TBA
GRADE	WET: Mild DRY: Easy
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	TBA
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 8
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: TBA DIESEL: TBA
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Std recovery
MAPS REQUIRED	Hema Cape York
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	12

## UPCOMING TRIPS

# WANT TO PLAN A TRIP?

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

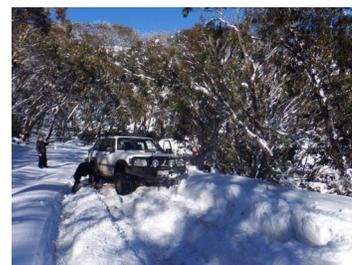
Find the trip data form <http://vfwdc.com/pdf/Trip%20Data%20Form.doc>

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](mailto:trips@vfwdc.com)

# YOUR PHOTOS WANTED!



If you have any great trip photos please email them to Ben [web@vfwdc.com](mailto: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.



## Trip Reports

### Day trip to St Annes

Left home at 7:20. Met up with Tiny and Lisa and Craig, Milly and Kevin near the Westgate freeway. Saw hot air balloons over Melbourne and a blimp over Bacchus Marsh - very unique.

Met up with Joe, Dianne and their boys and Ben and Claire (guests on the trip) at our meeting point; bought our coffees, and sweets from a cafe. Left Bacchus Marsh at 9 and headed to the Brisbane Ranges for a look around to check it out. Found lots of M.V.O's on side tracks but soon discovered the area to be more so for bush walkers rather than 4wders.

Stopped just after 10am for morning tea at Stoney Point picnic area at the bottom end of the Ranges for a coffee break.

While we would have liked to have crossed the hwy to check out the other side of the Ranges, we needed to continue to the main road (sealed hwy) and onto St. Annes winery as we had a booking for 11/11:30am. We had a fabulous time at the winery; reminiscing about last years visit and tasting much. David and Carolyn had brought along a dip/cracker platter to partake of while we sampled the ports and wines. At the time of our departure from the winery we had chatted to Alan, the owner of the winery; he has offered us the use of his 20 acre property to

camp on and we can use his toilet block too! - top bloke, thanks Alan! He can also clean and restore port barrels if we bring them next time.

After we'd all bought and tucked our goodies away safely we headed to The Plough for lunch at the pub and was directed to a secluded back room and given 100% quality service and a fantastic meal. A free drink and entree platters on arrival and a base price of only \$29pp - it pays to ring ahead and be super organised!





We left The Plough at 2:30pm to explore the Lerderberg national park. Tiny (Tony) lead this part of the trip as he had a bit more recent knowledge of the area. We dropped our tyre pressures as we would be on dirt road for the next while.

Went to O'briens crossings and didn't stay long as it was as busy as burke street. Then found a side steep track that looked a bit too challenging but the motor bikes made it up after a couple of failed attempts, and David decided to half way up on one side ... that challenge was then followed by a big mud puddle that a 4wd in f

Front of our group had flooded themselves in. Assuming it looked deep and nasty we prepared well, took a slightly different line, and ended up a bit of an anticlimax as Woody did the first successful attempt, as it was not that deep or bad on the other side of the hole!! It always pay to be prepared. With David (woody) being successful, both Joe and Craig had a go and succeeded too. Tony had driven around initially to be the good bloke to be the recovery vehicle if needed. So TINY stayed clean a bit longer.

We found two more awesome mud puddles for all the boys to play in, one which the boys did play in, the next one common sense prevailed and everyone drove around it, much to Davids dismay.

We then continued to Firth Park camping ground stopped for a quick look and pit stop, again it was extremely busy. By now the end of our day had come; we aired up on James rd (beginning of the sealed rd) and headed home.

Thanks to all for a super awesome day! Can't wait till next time, Carolyn Bruinsma

