



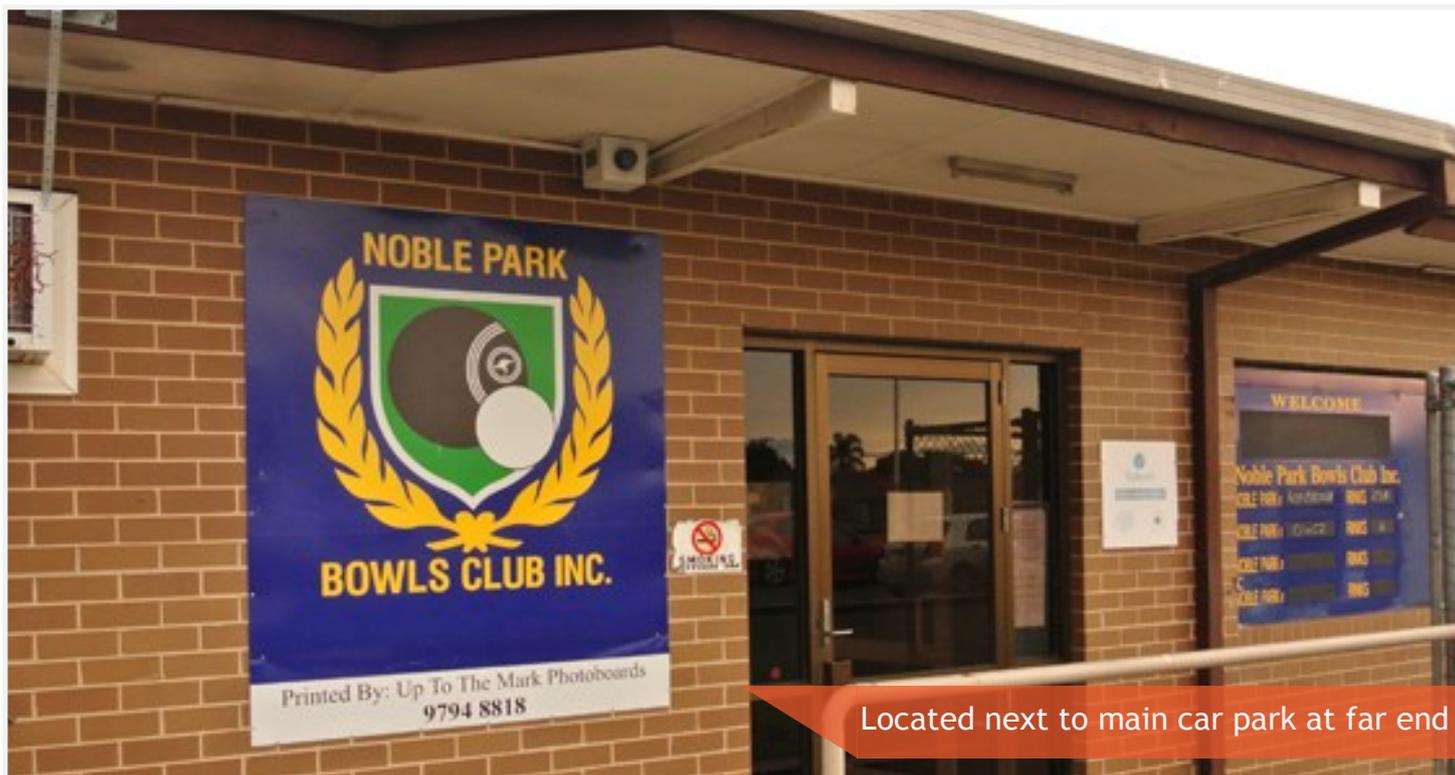
# FREE WHEELING

October 2016



Official Newsletter of the  
Victorian Four Wheel  
Drive Club Inc

Registration No  
A0002184F



## VFWDC General Meeting Venue

The club meets on first WEDNESDAY of each month 8:00pm. No meeting in January, and November at a selected location.

### Bowling Club Rooms

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



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

## Aberfeldy Track

In association with [Westland Gippsland Relic, Mining and Heritage Protection Inc](#) , the club maintains a section of the Aberfeldy Track with working bees throughout the year. View the club calendar for the next upcoming working bee.

## Christmas Party 2016 – Myuna Farm

This year's Christmas party will be held at [Myuna Farm](#) on Sunday, 4th December. More details will be announced at next month's meeting and magazine. Pencil in the date everyone!

*Myuna Farm is a public community farm in the south-east area of Melbourne. It is an excellent example of farming life with lots to do for the whole family. Come and visit us for a fun day out!*

*The farm lets everyone of all ages and abilities, experience hands on contact with a variety of animals. Alongside the Dandenong Creek, it offers a special environment of river gums, wetlands and bird life.*

*From education through to relaxation, Myuna Farm is preserving the agricultural history of Casey. All of Myuna Farm's attractions are presented in an educational and informative way.*



### Getting to Myuna Farm

Myuna Farm is located not far from Dandenong, just near the Monash Freeway.  
182 Kidds Road  
Doveton Vic 3177

<https://www.casey.vic.gov.au/arts-leisure/places-to-visit/myuna-farm/information>



# COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

## 2016-2017

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

## General Committee

Trip Co-Ordinator	Stuart Bowker	<a href="mailto:trips@vfwdc.com">trips@vfwdc.com</a>
Magazine Editor	Ly Ho	<a href="mailto:editor@vfwdc.com">editor@vfwdc.com</a>
Association Delegate	David Bruinsma	<a href="mailto:delegate@vfwdc.com">delegate@vfwdc.com</a>
General Committee	Shane Dodman	
General Committee	(position vacant)	

## Support Positions to Committee

Web manager	Ben Whitworth	<a href="mailto:web@vfwdc.com">web@vfwdc.com</a>
Training officer	Phillip Griffith	
Training officer	Ashley Martin	
Merchandise	Carolyn Bruinsma	<a href="mailto:merchandise@vfwdc.com">merchandise@vfwdc.com</a>

## Club Details

Registered Name	Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club
Registration No	A002184F
Correspondence	PO Box 778 Dandenong VIC 3174
Email	<a href="mailto:secretary@vfwdc.com">secretary@vfwdc.com</a>
Website	<a href="http://www.vfwdc.com">www.vfwdc.com</a>

The Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club is an affiliated club of [Four Wheel Drive Victoria](http://www.fwdvictoria.org.au) - [www.fwdvictoria.org.au](http://www.fwdvictoria.org.au)

## CLUB MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

Club Polo Shirts	\$28.00	Club Hoodie	\$48.00
Club Polar Fleece Full Zip Jacket	\$48.00	Club Sleeveless Reversible Vest	\$54.00
Club Caps	\$15.00	Club Bucket Hat	\$16.00
Club Wide Brim Hat	\$18.00	Club Beanie	\$12.00
Club Drivers Jacket (Coat)	\$80.00	VFWDC Windscreen stickers	
		Small	\$6.00
		Large	\$8.00

We encourage all members to purchase a Club Polo shirt.

Email your order to [merchandise@vfwdc.com](mailto:merchandise@vfwdc.com). Please ensure you advise size required.



Hi all,

Welcome to the VFWDC Free Wheeling magazine.

Spring has sprung, the weather is trying to improve every day and the days are getting longer, it's nice to be leaving the office in daylight. The seasonally closed tracks will start opening just before Cup Weekend which is early this year, the weekend is actually the last weekend in October and Cup Tuesday is on the 1<sup>st</sup> of November.

Check out the Parks Victoria website for the details on track openings. A link to the "Road Closures" page is available on the club website.

The rain has caused much drama around our home state, it has given us some on-again, off-again, on-again action with our rescheduled border track trip. The Border Track was closed due to all the water so we had to make some last minute course adjustments for the trip that would see us still visiting the Victorian Deserts just not the Border Track itself.

Stay tuned for the trip report to see how we made out.

Our November club meeting venue has been confirmed as Opposite Lock in Dandenong. Scott and the crew at OL will put on a feed, offer up some raffle prizes and have a guest presenter. More information on this event will come soon.

Christmas is coming!

Christmas is not far away so please be sure to reserve the date for the club Christmas Party. It is slotted into the Club Calendar for Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December.

The calendar for November is looking a little bare, so please give some thought to what trips you would like to do and have a chat to Stuart about how we can get them into the calendar.

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

Ben Whitworth  
President

# CLUB CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

## October

5th	Wed	General Meeting	President	
15th/16th	Sat/Sun	Aberfeldy Working Bee	David	0417 747 860
18th	Tue	Committee Meeting	President	
25th	Tue	Deadline for magazine articles	Editor	
28th Oct to	Fri to	Lake William Hovell /	Tony	0417 153 424
1st Nov	Tue	Paradise Falls	Shane	0403 056 739

## November

8th	Tue	<b>Special General Meeting— Opposite Lock Dandenong South</b>	President	
18th to 20th	Fri to Tue	Grampians	Bruce	0400 425 296
22nd	Tue	Committee Meeting	President	
25th		Deadline for magazine articles	Editor	

## December

4th	Sun	XMAS Party TBA		
7th	Wed	General Meeting	President	

## IMPORTANT



**November meeting will be held at Opposite Lock Dandenong South. Please note the new date of 8th Tuesday. Arrive before 7PM for dinner, 7:30PM commence.**

BYO chairs!

Address:

4/97 Monash Dr, Lyndhurst VIC 3975

# MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING

## September 2016

**Members as Per Book**  
**Visitors as Per Book**  
**Apologies as Per book**

**August Mins Accepted**  
**Accepted: Ken Beard**  
**Seconded: Dave**

**Business from Minutes:**  
NIL

**Correspondence in:**  
Membership email query  
Club magazine  
Bank Statement

**Correspondence out**  
Replies to prospective members

**Treasurers Report**  
As per Report in the Magazine.

**Association Minutes**  
Some bloke is not standing again so he can do more on the national level.  
And not much else.

**General Business**  
Ben thanked Dave and the other committee

members for his efforts over the last couple of years as president - all members gave him the clap

Ben went through and mentioned all names of departing and incoming committee positions.

Ben asked for volunteers for Vice Pres, anyone... anyone else... but in the end Ken Beard was accepted by the members as Vice President.

### **New members**

Callum - looking for a family club  
Rob - who is apparently a barnacle on Calums arse.

### **Trips: Stuart Bowker - Trip Coordinator**

#### **Upcoming Trips**

1. Border Track - Bruce discussed and expanded on his trip. More information to come by email
2. Aberfeldy - Dave discussed this. More information to come by email
3. Lake William Hovel - Shane and Tony Expanded on their trip. More info in the magazine
4. Andrea - Night Run TBA (CANCELLED)
5. Grampians - 18-20<sup>th</sup> - Relaxing camping weekend. More information to come by email

----- COFFEEE BREAK -----

### Trips That have Been:

Steve Pitcher Cobaw State forest.

2 cars

Steve Pitcher

Sally and Tristian.

Found some good tracks, some that were seen on Youtube but decided against trying them as they are soft.

Spent most time track clearing, while Sally kicked back and watched. She is a good leader. The grubby Landrover kept getting stuck, and was demoralizingly rescued by Steve in a Toyota.

Was a good trip, more research in to this area needs to be done.

### First Aid Course

Norm discussed the first aid course and what

they went through.

Very thorough course and well worth it.

### Canning

Mick discussed the Canning and his love of McDonalds food. Recommended it as a great way to start a trip.

Few stops on the way to get repairs, windscreens etc and they hadn't hit the fun part yet.

Onto the Tanami, and Wolf Creek Crater - the tar section was great and the dirt section was hideous.

A Diesel Toyota driver filled his car with petrol. Poor fella

A Diesel Toyota driver blew his gearbox.

It was towed and towed and towed while being surrounded by Easy going Nissans.

2 Toyotas attempted to get over a sand dune,



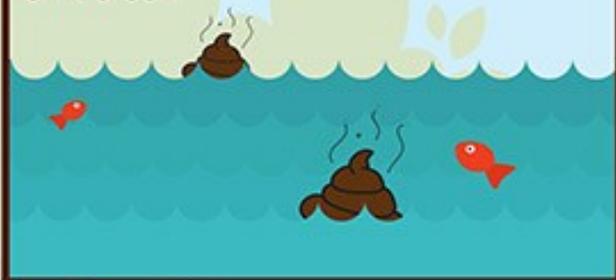
# THE BOG REPORT

## HOW TO TAKE A CRAP IN THE BUSH

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Shovel or trowel (or hands), toilet paper and lighter, zip lock bags (optional)

### 1 Find a suitable spot

Find a suitable place to make your deposit. Make sure you're away from rivers, creeks, or the high tide mark or you could turn 'em into the proverbial sh\*t creek!



### 3 Do a poo

No further comment required.



### 5 Cover it up

It's just like digging a hole but in reverse. Make sure you stomp it down good 'n' proper.



### 2 Dig a hole

Big enough to handle what's in ya – about 6" deep should be enough or bigger if you had curry for dinner.



### 4 Dispose toilet paper

This is a tough'n. If the ground is soft and moist and you're in the middle of nowhere, you may bury it. If you're in the open and there is no fire risk, burn it in the hole. Otherwise carry it out in a zip lock bag.



# TREASURER'S REPORT

Bringing Four Wheel Drivers Together



Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc  
www.vfwdc.com

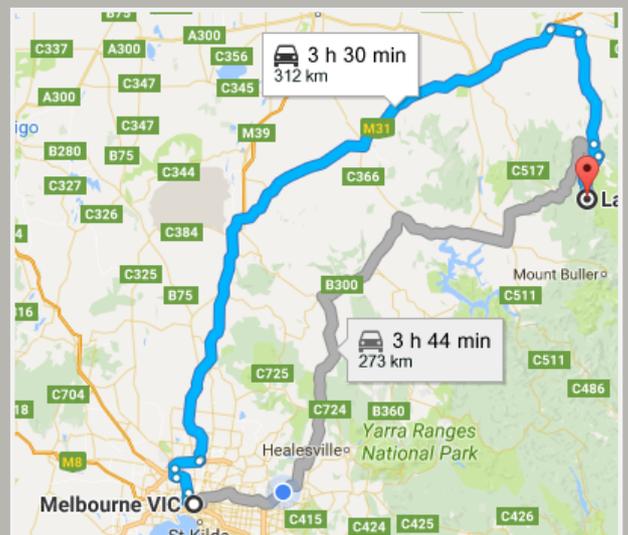
## Treasurer's Report August 2016

<u>Cheque A/C`</u> Opening Balance as at 01/08/2016		\$4,560.32
Add:		
Membership Renewals	\$640.00	
Raffle	\$75.00	
Total Monies In:		\$715.00
<u>Less:</u>		
Christmas in July catering	\$32.65	
Catering for August Meeting	\$14.50	
Prepaid Venue Hire 2016-2017	\$1,000.00	
Total Monies Out:		\$1,047.15
Closing Balance as at 31/01/2016		\$4,228.17
Refund Membership overpayment	-\$400.00	
Plus: Un presented Cheque #469		-\$400.00
31/07/2016 Actual Balance When Cheque's Presented		\$3,828.17
<u>Term Deposit</u> Opening Balance as at 01/08/2016	\$6,250.22	
Closing Balance as at 31/08/2016		\$6,250.22
<u>Petty Cash</u> Opening Balance as at 01/08/2016	\$150.00	
Add: Transfer in from Cheque A/C	\$14.50	
Less: Catering Costs - Meetings	-\$14.50	
Closing Balance as at 31/08/2016		\$150.00
<b>Consolidated Closing Cash Position</b>		<b>\$10,228.39</b>

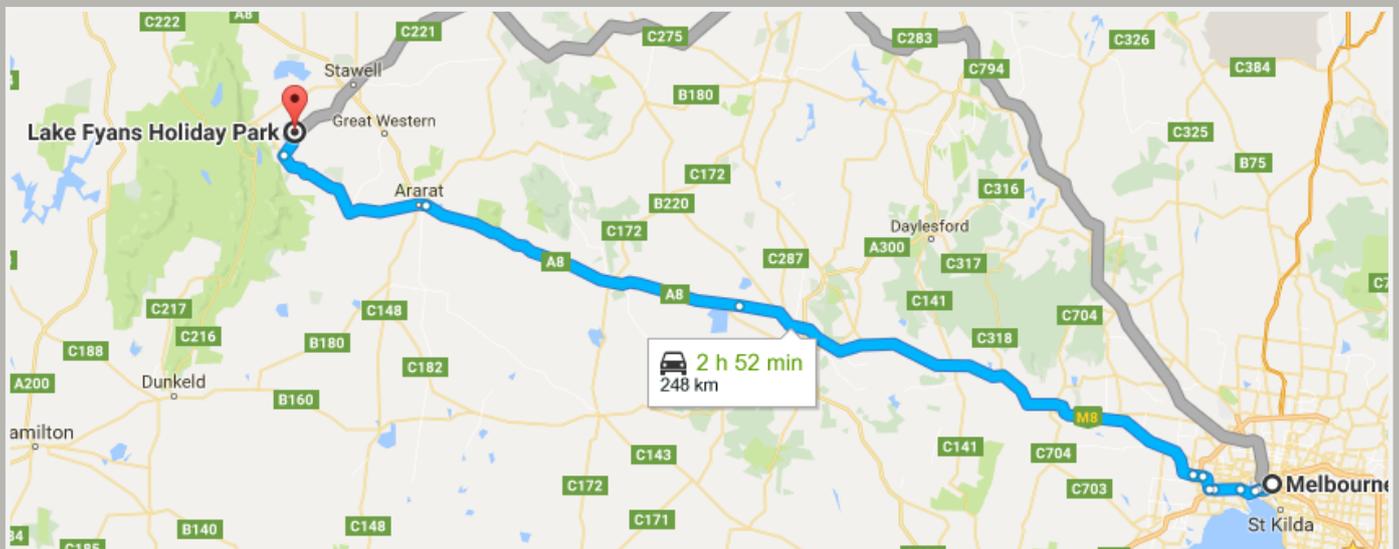
## UPCOMING TRIPS

<b>DESTINATION</b>	Aberfeldy District - Working Bee
<b>LEADER/CONTACT NO.</b>	NAME: David MOB: 0417 747 860
<b>DATE</b>	Saturday 15th October / Sunday 16th October
<b>MEETING PLACE / TIME</b>	tba
<b>GRADE</b>	WET: Medium/Hard DRY: Easy/Medium
<b>TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS</b>	<p>Trip to Aberfeldy staying at little O'Tools.</p> <p>Saturday as we go into Aberfeldy area, we will look at all signage and clean and repair as necessary, including trimming weeds and grass at the base of all signage. We will prepare a written report for each sign, so we can send to Rudi for record keeping, and also for our own records so we can ascertain if we need to go back for further works than originally anticipated.</p> <p>After the 'working' bee, we will enjoy some basic 4wd'ing until we reach either Little O'tools or O'tools depending on how busy the area is on the weekend.</p> <p>Happy hour from 5 to 6 (everyone to supply a plate of something)</p> <p>Sunday will be a few more tracks, depending on mood, as we head out and aim for home.</p>
<b>VEHICLE LIMITS</b>	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 10
<b>APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION</b>	300 to 450 kms, depends on how much exploring we choose to do.
<b>LAST AVAILABLE FUEL</b>	PETROL: Moe DIESEL: Moe
<b>DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES</b>	Less than 100 kms
<b>EQUIPMENT REQUIRED</b>	Camping gear, Recovery gear, Food, Water, Sense of fun and relaxation. For the Saturday - need gloves, cleaning wipes, chain saws, wipper snippers (with heavy duty cord preferred)
<b>MAPS REQUIRED</b>	
<b>RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF</b>	UHF 12

<b>DESTINATION</b>	Lake William Hovell/Paradise Falls
<b>LEADER/CONTACT NO.</b>	NAME: Tony Barbera/Shane Dodman MOB: 0417 153 424 / 0403 056 739
<b>DATE</b>	Melbourne Cup Weekend (Fri Oct 28 <sup>th</sup> - Tues Nov 1 <sup>st</sup> )
<b>MEETING PLACE / TIME</b>	To be advised
<b>GRADE</b>	WET: Difficult DRY: Medium
<b>TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS</b>	This trip will be taking in Mt Samaria area, Lake William Hovell, Paradise Falls and surrounding areas camping at different sites each night.
<b>VEHICLE LIMITS</b>	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 6
<b>APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION</b>	650km round trip from Melbourne
<b>LAST AVAILABLE FUEL</b>	PETROL: Mansfield DIESEL: Mansfield
<b>DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES</b>	
<b>EQUIPMENT REQUIRED</b>	All the standard recovery equipment and decent tyre's
<b>MAPS REQUIRED</b>	Leaders will have maps Rooftops Bright-Mansfield Adventure Map or Hema High Country Victoria
<b>RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF</b>	12



<b>DESTINATION</b>	Grampians
<b>LEADER/CONTACT NO.</b>	NAME: Bruce Cremonesi Mobile: 0400425296
<b>DATE</b>	18th - 20th November 2016
<b>MEETING PLACE / TIME</b>	TBA
<b>GRADE</b>	WET: Easy/Med DRY: Easy/Med
<b>TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS</b>	Sightseeing and relaxing Wine Tasting Staying at Lake Fyans Holiday Park
<b>VEHICLE LIMITS</b>	MINIMUM: MAXIMUM:
<b>APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION</b>	TBA
<b>LAST AVAILABLE FUEL</b>	PETROL: NA DIESEL: NA
<b>DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES</b>	
<b>EQUIPMENT REQUIRED</b>	Camping gear, Camper trailers welcome. Camera, sense of great adventure and trust in your leader
<b>MAPS REQUIRED</b>	Meridian Victoria's Deserts 4WD Touring Map
<b>RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF</b>	12





# THE CANNING ADVENTURE

by Stuart Bowker and Maree Bowker

The crew consisted of:

<b>Stuart</b>	Landcruiser
<b>Audrey and Ian</b>	Patrol
<b>Garry</b>	Patrol
<b>Mick and Sally</b>	Patrol
<b>Julie and Tony (visitors)</b>	Landcruiser

Aboriginal community of Bililuna

Fuel up and let the adventure begin. Diesel was \$2.60 per litre. 200 kms down the Canning and Stuart has a drama. His trusty truck has broken its transfer case. Problem solving back to the Bililuna the Aboriginal community. Can you fix it? No so then it's up to Halls creek.

The trip progressed passed the Woomera rocket range, through Coober Pedy the opal mining town. A chance for a photo or two. Alice Springs provided last minute shopping, and hot showers.

Tony and Julie joined us and we headed on to the Tanami track, up to Wolf Creek, meteorite creator. All travelling well. Heading to the



If you ever get the pleasure of getting to the far north west just be warned it's the land of nothing happens in a hurry. Everything you need has to be freighted up. So the plan is to stay in Halls creek till it's fixed.

Mick & Sally took the opportunity to head up to Kununurra, for a couple of days and enjoyed the experience of the diamond capital of the North West, the rest of the group stayed in



Halls creek to help organise Stuarts repairs.

An unseasonal amount of rain had closed the top end of the Tanami road, so plan B was hatched, to get onto the Canning via Marble bar. Once the parts arrived the group headed south exploring Tunnel Creek, Windjana Gorge and the town of Derby, Garry stayed with Stuart just in case.

Finally Stuart got his Ute fixed they headed south to rendezvous with the others in Broome, Broome was a highlight, allowing the group to enjoy the delights of the far North West. Who would expect a camel traffic hazard on the beach.

Heading down through Port Headland, looking at the large white mounds, and finding out where our salt comes from. The colours of the area are constantly changing. Sun set and sun rises a delight you need to find the time to enjoy. Heading inland to Marble Bar and joining the Canning at well 33

We all gasped at the cost of diesel \$3.40 at the Kunawarritji community. Lets be reasonable if you need it, it's better than walking.



Ian needed some spare nuts, after losing his panhard rod nut so he scavenged one off the wreck. Great to find spare parts off previous misadventures.



Then from there we made our way through the wells and on to Diebil Hills, where we camped the night being privileged to see a magnificent sunset over the hills. Enjoying





the company and a few drinks.

A welcome oasis with a fresh water source at Killagurra springs. We all got time to have a well deserved shower.

Heading south we passed Murray Rankings trolley, a gentlemen who attempted to walk the stock route. (he saw how much they charged for diesel)

We finally made it to the end and Wiluna. A great achievement. The memories are the changing landscape, the sky with the wispy white clouds or the never ending horizons.

Sally and Mick headed to Perth.

The rest of the group headed south to Leonora. Finding the pub and a great feed. Next adventure the Great Central road. A stop at Giles Meteorological station, where we found Len Beadell's grader in Lennies cat cage built by the Australian army.

Looking for the meeting of the three states, Northern Territory South Australia and Western Australia. Having to use a local Aboriginal guide to access the land we enjoyed the tales he told. We ticked this off as the first corner we did.

The Aboriginal community store of Irrunytju (wingellina) was extremely accommodating suggesting we take a local short cut up to the Olgas. This road turned out to be a lovely well maintained drive. Popping us out at the Olgas (Kata Tjuta).

Watching the sunset over Uluru provided photo opportunities not to be missed.

We bid fair well to Garry who had to head home due to time limitations.

Leaving Yulara heading to the Fink Gorge national park. We encountered wild camels who provided comic relief running from one side of the



road to the other. We felt like early explores travelling this ancient landscape.

Heading into Alice Springs the civilised oasis, watching the Gahn train heading through the gap, thinking how far from the original camel trains we have come.

Out of Alice heading to Old Andado station, the homestead opened up as a museum to the Clarke



family and other pioneers of the area. We commented on how hard life was.

## The Simpson Desert Crossing (cont)



We started at Mt Dare homestead, it has a pub, amenities and fuel, what more do you need. We explored the old ruins of Dalhousie it was built during the late 1800s, then on to Dalhousie spring where we enjoyed a swim in the artesian pool. The water is 38 to 43 deg C so it's like floating in a hot bath.

As the crow flies we are approximately 600 kms from Birdsville.

We headed on the French line then turned on to the rig road. It was surveyed and built to carry fully loaded semi trailers back in the 1970's. We encountered the Hema map patrol checking their maps. The rain that we encountered in Halls creek had obviously fallen in this area, as Stuart found out when he followed the track across a salt lake, only to get almost to the other side. After much digging and pushing the two winches were able to link up and thank you Ian for the recovery.

We headed up Knolls track. The landscape changes as we travelled past the lone gum, standing a reminder

of times passed in the area.

On to Poepel Corner, where South Australia, Northern Territory and Queensland all meet. Look we can all be in different states but still be together.

We took the QAA line and onto big red.

Next big challenge is Bid Red the highest sand dune at the end of the Simpson crossing. It stands 30 meters high. Some found it easier than others, but we all made it to the top.

On to Birdsville for a drink and a feed at the famous pub. We did it we made it to Birdsville.



## Following in the Bourke and Wills footsteps through the corners (cont)

Haddon corner, then on to the dig tree leave the desert and find the oasis of the Cooper creek.



We leave the gibber desert behind and wonder what the explorers were thinking when they travelled through this country.

On to Innamincka where we enjoyed the local hospitality of the pub, and another great feed. The dingo fence is 257 km's in length we passed through the gate.



The 4th corner is Cameron then onto Tibooburra where we said our goodbyes and declared it to be a successful trip, and all headed off in different directions.



A fantastic time thank you to all who attended and thanks for the support during my car break down, I was ready to head home but friends stayed by my side and said you're not going anywhere, we will get it fixed (that's why we belong to a great club).

We did and had a fantastic trip down the Canning and on to the Great Central road, surveyor generals corner, Poepel corner, the Simpson desert, Birdsville, Haddon corner, Cameron corner a fantastic six weeks.

THANK YOU 12,893km.

