

# **NOTICE BOARD**



## **VFWDC General Meeting Venue**

The club meets on first WEDNESDAY of each month 8:00pm. No meeting in January, and November is 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 <u>Westland Gippsland Relic, Mining and Heritage Protection Inc</u>, 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.

# **COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT**

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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 web@vfwdc.com

Training officer Phillip Griffith
Training officer Ashley Martin

Merchandise Carolyn Bruinsma <u>merchandise@vfwdc.com</u>

#### **Club Details**

Registered Name Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club

Registration No A002184F

Correspondence PO Box 778 Dandenong VIC 3174

Email <u>secretary@vfwdc.com</u>

Website www.vfwdc.com

The Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club is an affiliated club of Four Wheel Drive Victoria -

www.fwdvictoria.org.au

CLUB	<b>MERCHA</b>	NDISE E	OR SALE
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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. Please ensure you advise size required.

#### PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Hi all,

Welcome to the VFWDC Free Wheeling magazine.

We have a number of overnight or longer trips coming up but no day trips. Members have been enquiring about them so if you have the time and the experience please step up and chat to Stuart about running a trip or two.

We need members to run some trips!

Training! Training!

For new members that have not yet done a driver training course I strongly encourage you to come to this month's general meeting and sign up for next months training course. You will be shown the capabilities of your vehicle and yourself and by the end of the practical weekend you will gain confidence in how to 4wd safely. Thank you to our trainers for committing their time.

At this months weeks meeting we have guest speaker CEO Wayne Hevey from Four Wheel Drive Victoria. Wayne will be accompanied by a couple of committee members and will let us

know what is happening within the association.

According to the Four Wheel Drive Victoria web site, the Autumn Firewood Collection season for 2017 starts this month, 1st of March, and runs until 30th of June. Refer to the following page for information:

http://4wdvictoria.org.au/index.php/122-firewood- collection-season-starts-next-week

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**

March				
11/12th to 13th	Fri/Sat to Sun	Huts Trip	Shane	0403 056 739
30th	Thursday 7:30PM	Proficiency Training —Theory	Ashley Phil	0428 134 399 0419 865 472
31st to 2nd April	Fri to Sun	Proficiency Training —Practical	Ashley Phil	0428 134 399 0419 865 472
April				
14th to 29th	Fri to Sat	Flinders Ranges	Tony	0417 153 424
May				
5th to 7th	Fri to Sun	Aberfeldy Working Bee	Stuart	0428 539 157
July				
TBC		Christmas in July at St Annes Winery	David	0417 747 860
November				
3rd to 7th	Fri to Tues	Beachport / Robe	David	0417 747 860

# **IMPORTANT**

- New members are highly encouraged to under go the 'Proficient Training' scheduled in March. This training is ran by our certified members Ashley and Phil, who have ran it the past.
- If you wish to join us for dinner before the General Meeting, please book a spot at <u>Club Noble</u>. Phone 9546 0653 and ask to join "Sally's table" from the club.

# MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING

## February 2017

Members as Per Sheet Visitors as Per Sheet Apologies as Per Sheet

**December General Mins Accepted** 

Accepted: Stuart Seconded: Lv

**Business from Minutes** 

Nil

Correspondence in

Emails from prospective members Other Club Magazines.

VKS737 Newsletter

Snail mail about Wandin

Correspondence out

Replies to prospective members.

**Treasurers Report:** 

As per attached report in Magazine—November

Accept: Dave Second: Mick

As per attached report in Magazine-December

Accept: Andre Second: John

4wd Vic Report

Wayne Heavey to come to one of our meetings

and possibly bring a parks bloke along.

Wandin show

Ly, Dave B, Bruce put hands up

General Business:

Ben

Wandin Show

19th Feb

We will be on the 4wd Vic stand

Ben Asked for volunteers

Ben discussed magazine Advertising and how it

works, and costs

Ben asked for volunteers to run trips, everyone

was deafened by the crickets chirping.

Ben asked who would members like to come to

the club to give us presentations

Ben asked who would members like to come to

the club to give us presentations:

CFA/SES

Winch and Tyre repair course

Eddi from AllSat

Tyre Expert - discussion on Highway Tyres

**ARB Tour** Ozi Explorer Hema Maps

**New Members** 

4 new member packs required for next meeting

**Trips Coming Up:** 

Tony - Overnight Trip.

Firth Park. 4 odd hours of driving

Get the pub to pick up and take to pub

Camping overnight.

Proficiency Training - Phil Griffith

Discussed the driver training

Theory 30th March

Practical 1st and 2nd

Gembrook and Bunyip - Steve Pitcher

Day trip around Gembrook, heading to and

visiting Kirth Kiln

Huts Trip - Shane

Discussed which way to go

Bruce gave a run down on what the plan is.

**Coffee Break** 

Trips: - Gone
Stuart - Aberfeldy Trip
4 Rangers and a Patrol
Great time was had

Tony - Piked it to report next month.

David Bruinsma - Murray River . 17 odd people.

Dave got lost getting in

Dave burnt his foot

Caroline didn't play nurse

Dave got better

Many drinks were had.

Brett - Dargo,
Pub for photo.
7 cars took off for a drive and had fun.



# **TRADING POST**

Members can advertise any four wheel drive or camping related items they wish to sell or buy.

Just email the editor, editor@vfwdc.com, with the following:

- 1. Description of the item
- 2. Price
- 3. Contact details
- 4. Photos (highly recommended)

### FOR SALE: 2010 Jayco Starcraft

\$20,000

Immaculately kept 14ft Jayco Starcraft, only ever used a handful of times.

Always kept undercover in a shed.

Comes with New TV/DVD combo, Convection oven (never been used), microwave, Double bed with quality inner sprung mattress, Fridge and amply cupboards and curtains

Full external annex and floor (used once), TV Aerial, electric brakes, gas bottles plus much more.

We just don't get away enough, so have decided to sell this much loved van.

Inspection will not disappoint, first to see will buy.

More details and photos here

STARCRAFT



Pete

0432828342

# FOR SALE: Tent, Esky, Sleeping Bags x 2

See below for prices

Sally

Tent used \$40. Esky \$100. 2 Sleeping bags, \$20 for both

0412 464 129















#### FOR SALE: Free fire wood

Blackwood and Gum. Some dry, some are not.

Bring chainsaw and trailer.

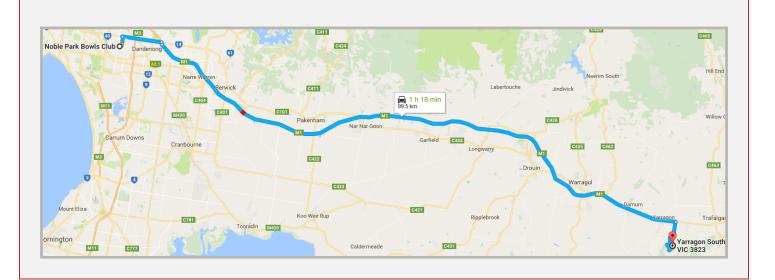
**FREE** 

I have trees coming down next week, and branches being trimmed also. There is wood on the ground also. Most of it needs cutting up and carting away. Current access is reasonably good.

Location: Yarragon South

Gary

0408 093 529



# FOR SALE: Boab Portable pop up kitchen

\$50 <u>Daniel</u>

Boab Portable pop up kitchen only used a few times. Has wind guard as well as carry bag. Good condition except one side table having water swelling.

0438 397 404



# FOR SALE: Samsung CLP-415NW Colour Printer

\$50

The club's now retired colour printer. Works perfectly.

See the <u>full specs here</u>





Stuart

0428539157

# FOR SALE: Gas lantern extension pole

FREE (or a drink)

Wild Country gas lantern extension pole. I believe it has a 3/8 connection

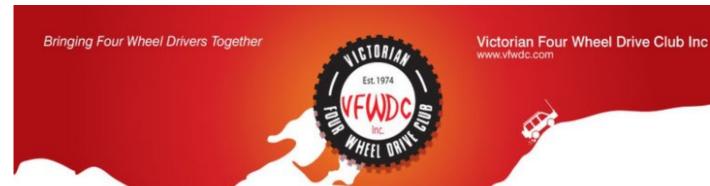
Ly

0433 387 811





# TREASURER'S REPORT



# Treasurer's Report January 2017

Cheque A/C` Opening Balance as at 01/01/2017

\$3,653.48

Add:

Total Monies In: \$0.00

Less:

Total Monies Out: \$0.00

Closing Balance as at 31/01/2017 \$3,653.48

Refund Membership overpayment -\$320.00

Plus: Un presented Cheque #498 -\$320.00

30/11/2016 Actual Balance When Cheque's Presented \$3,333.48

Term Deposit Opening Balance as at 01/01/2017 \$6,328.59

Closing Balance as at 31/01/2017 \$6,328.59

Petty Cash Opening Balance as at 01/01/2017 \$150.00

Add: \$0.00

Less: \$0.00

Closing Balance as at 31/01/2017 \$150.00

Consolidated Closing Cash Position \$9,812.07

# **UPCOMING TRIPS**

**DESTINATION** New Members Trip - High Country

LEADER/CONTACT NO. NAME: Shane

PHONE: 0403 056 739

DATE 11-12-13 March 2017. Friday night not compulsory but very

social!

MEETING PLACE / TIME TBA next magazine

**GRADE** WET: Medium

DRY: Easy

TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS

Driving around taking in around 10 huts, 2 waterfalls, 1 long tunnel, heaps of mountains, and sheet loads of scenery.

**VEHICLE LIMITS** 

MINIMUM: 4

MAXIMUM: 8 including trip leader due to size of camps

APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION 40klms max on dirt.

~170klm from Lilydale to Howqua track Turnoff

LAST AVAILABLE FUEL

LPG, Petrol and Diesel: Mansfield

DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES

**EQUIPMENT REQUIRED** 

- A 4wd.
- Recovery gear (snatch strap, 2x shackles etc)
- Compressor and Tyre Gauge.
- UHF radio and handheld if you have one.
- Good warm clothing and boots
- Camping Gear (tent, sleeping bags, pillows, tent, bog roll etc).
- Cooking stuff, Drinks and Food.
- Cheese, Dip, Bikkies, Bottle of Wine for Happy Hour.
- Cameras, there is tons to photograph up there for those that haven't been before.
- Sense of Adventure and Humour.

There are dunnys at some of the huts along the way, and at Sheepyard, and at Binderee Hut.

No camper trailers

MAPS REQUIRED

- Rooftop Maps "Bush Huts Around Mansfield"
- (usually available at BP Mansfield where we will stop)

RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF

UHF Ch 12

**DESTINATION** Proficiency Training

Little O'Tooles camping ground & surrounds

LEADER/CONTACT NO. Ashley - 0428 134 399

Phil - 0419 865 472

**DATE** Theory - Thursday March 30, 7.30pm start

Practical - Friday March 31 to Sunday April 2

MEETING PLACE / TIME

Theory - Noble Park Football Club, Blue & Gold Room

(above dining area)

Practical - Service Centre Officer (Princess Hwy) Fri 5pm

Service Centre Officer (Princess Hwy) Sat 7.30am

GRADE WET: Easy/Hard

DRY: Easy/Medium

TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS

The Club encourages all members to participate in a proficiency course to ensure the basic fundamentals of 4 wheel driving are gained.

Theory provides an overview of the tread lightly principals, vehicles dynamics and functions, tackling various terrains along with other subjects.

This provides the back ground for the practical weekend.

Practical we run through individual vehicles and differences, basic recovery equipment and recap some of the theory (including homework:). We then begin the practical side running through several techniques to ensure safe vehicle recovery when in difficult situations. Once all participants are confident with these we hit the tracks to put all the theory into practice.

Sunday will be a leisurely start then we traverse a number of tracks which allow you to become familiar with your vehicles capabilities and gain further confidence. We should be finished by 2 o'clock arriving back to Melbourne around 4.

As with past participants the weekend provides confidence to safely 4WD either with the club or friends.

**VEHICLE LIMITS** MINIMUM: 4

MAXIMUM: 8

APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION

180kms + 4wding and return

LAST AVAILABLE FUEL

PETROL, LPG, DIESEL: Moe

(please have full tank of fuel before leaving meeting place)

DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES

200 kms

**EQUIPMENT REQUIRED** 

Theory - pen and concentration

Practical - you will need to be self-sufficient for camping,

food and drinks and have your brain switched on.

MAPS REQUIRED Rooftop Walhalla / Woods Point

RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF

**DESTINATION** Flinders Ranges

LEADER/CONTACT NO. NAME: Tony

MOB: 0417 153 424

DATE 14th April to 29th April

MEETING PLACE / TIME 7-11 Road house on Western Ring Rd, Derrimut at 6am

GRADE WET: Difficult

DRY: Easy

TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS

Leaving good Friday the plan is to take 1.5 days to get to

camp.

Starting at Alpana station for 4 nights. Then moving onto Beltana station for 5 nights and then moving the Arkaroola

and staying there for 4 nights.

We will be touring each area and seeing as much as possible, we will be trying visit Wilpena pound, Parachilna, Brachina gorge, Blinman pools, Sliding rock copper mine, Parachilna

Gorge, Liegh Creek, Skytrak and Arkaroola.

This is a camper trailer/caravan friendly trip.

Camping fees for non-powered sites are \$20.00 per night for

two at ALpana and Beltana stations.

\$25.00 per night at Arkaroola.

Self drive permits at each station is \$50.00 per Vehicle.

**VEHICLE LIMITS** MINIMUM: 3

MAXIMUM: 10

APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE Approximately 3,500 km TO DESTINATION

LAST AVAILABLE FUEL

PFTROI: 400km DIESEL: 400km

**DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES** Approx 200 kms

**EQUIPMENT REQUIRED** All the standard recovery equipment

MAPS REQUIRED Flinders Ranges

RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF 12

DESTINATION Aberfeldy area Club WORKING BEE

LEADER/CONTACT NO. NAME: Stuart

MOB: 0428 539 157

DATE Friday 5th - 7th May 2017

MEETING PLACE / TIME McDonalds on the Packenham bypass departing 6:30 PM Friday night or meet us at Aberfeldy township Saturday Morning

for a 9:00 am Departure

GRADE WET: Medium to difficult

DRY: Easy

Idea is to head up past Aberfeldy to start cleaning and clearing of TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS some of the summer grass from the base of the signs together with any fallen trees over the walking tracks our club is looking after.

Then to camp at Little O'Tools for the night and do some four wheel driving Sunday before heading home Sunday afternoon.

Bring packed lunch and munchies for roadside stops

**VEHICLE LIMITS** MINIMUM: 3

MAXIMUM: N/A

APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE 300-400 km round trip

TO DESTINATION

LAST AVAILABLE FUEL PETROL: Moe

> LPG: Moe DIESEL: Moe

400 km DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES

Own basic recovery gear, tools and any spares you may re-**EQUIPMENT REQUIRED** 

quire. AT or MT tyres

Self sufficient camping and food for the weekend.

If you have one please bring a chain saw, chain oil and fuel Note: Personal Protective Equipment is mandatory for chain saw operators eg; earmuffs, safety visor, chaps, work gloves

and sturdy boots.

Lawn mower, whiper snipper or brushcutter if you got one.

MAPS REQUIRED Rooftop maps Walhalla-Licola

RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF 12

**DESTINATION** Beachport / Robe - 2017

LEADER/CONTACT NO. NAME: David

MOB: 0417 747 860

DATE Melbourne Cup Weekend 2017

Friday 3rd to Tuesday 7th (longer if you wish)

**MEETING PLACE / TIME** TBA - Depends on who is coming, and respective departure

times

GRADE WET: Medium

DRY: harder if the sand if Dry.

I plan to leave very early on the Friday morning from Berwick at TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS approx. 6am to avoid the worst of the peak morning traffic, set-

ting up camp early afternoon.

Hopefully arriving to set up at the caravan park in Beachport, and then spend family time on the beach (sunning, fishing, swimming) with opportunities for group drives up the beach or for individual family activities whenever and however you want.

BIG Sunday Roast (if we can have the camp fire). If we are lucky the fire ban doesn't start until after Cup Weekend. But we got caught out last year, so no fire.

Intending to pack up on the Tuesday morning and head back to Melbourne. Some members usually the whole week.

VEHICLE LIMITS MINIMUM: 1

MAXIMUM: 10?

APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE Approx. 550km to Beachport from Melbourne CBD

LAST AVAILABLE FUEL PETROL: Every major town

DIESEL: Every major town

DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES Every major town

TO DESTINATION

All Recover hear - Max TraX if you have them EQUIPMENT REQUIRED

Self Sufficient for all camping gear (in a caravan park)

Normal GPS to get to Beachport MAPS REOUIRED

Beach track maps are available at Beachport

RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF UHF 12





Written by Andrew through the eyes of travel accomplice and daughter, seven year old Eliza

# Thursday 26th January

We met at Pakenham McDonalds bright and early Thursday morning. Stuart, Marie, Joe, Josh, Brett (AKA 'Bread' that's what I thought it sounded like over the radio) Nikki, Lou, Norm, Michael and Eric.

After some filling hot cakes we headed off and picked up Ian and Audrey. From here we headed to Sale (listening to lots of Spice Girls) for some last minute supplies before moving on to Dargo.

Heading around the hills to Dargo I had an accident and became reacquainted with some carrots I had eaten earlier.

I really like looking at the stubby holders on the roof in the Dargo Pub. We sat under a beautiful tree and enjoyed a picnic in Dargo.



From here we let the air out of our tyres and had an ice cream, before heading to the campground. This is where we met Shane and Mel who had stayed the night before. Whilst the others went for a two hour drive (Matheson Spur Track), dad and I went for a swim in the river and played cards.

# Friday 27th

We started the day with me counting how many river crossings we could do. Heading up Mt. Ewen Spur Track and then Murdering Spur track. The group had a big discussion on whether dry creek beds counted as river crossings (we decided they only counted as a half). We then headed to Dogs Grave which was cool.

I tried to find a snake because dad said he would give me \$10 if I saw one. The only one I found was the lollies on the front seat. We then headed to Black Salle camp site which we had all to ourselves. Some of us went in the lake as it was really hot (I went on dads' back as I didn't like all the reeds). It was a really good camp site but no toilet!!!!!

#### Saturday 28th

Michael woke up early to cook me yummy pancakes! We then headed to Dinner Plain on Dinner Plain Track with some great views along the way.



At Dinner Plain we stopped and had a look around (and went to a flushing toilet). Unfortunately Lou stood in a hidden hole and hurt herself.

We then went to Mt. Hotham where it was very windy. We said good bye to Lou and Norm who reluctantly decided to go home as her arm was not up to rough tracks.

From here we went to Blue Rag Track which was really busy and we had to keep stopping to let people through.

When we got to the top we loved the views as there were clear skies and no clouds. From here we headed down to our camp site along Basalt Knob track north and south. We arrived quite late as the spot where we were going to camp was very full (and had cows in it)!

The camp site was awesome with a big swinging bridge and a beautiful river that was really warm. That night was so warm we didn't bother with a fire. We sat around talking and Shane told me The Man From Snowy River, Clancy Of The Overflow and Mulga Bills Bicycle poems off by heart. We then looked at the stars and went to bed.

#### Sunday 29th

We woke up early and dad had to drive me to the toilet as it was so far from the camp site! This became the departure point for everyone who had the same idea.

Along with most of the campsite, we headed to attempt Billy Goats Track. I wasn't really sure if I wanted to do it as Stuart said it went straight up and it sounded a bit scary.

We decided to try, and I'm glad we did as it wasn't as bad as we thought (the 80 series with the wheel missing at the bottom had dad slightly unsure).



When we got to the top we decided to go to the pinnacle as the weather was so good. The view was awesome with clear skies.

From here we headed down to Briagalong via Horse Yard Flat for lunch and an air up. Dad and I saw a sign for the Blue Pool and decided to check it out as it was very hot.

It was an awesome pool with a rope swing and people jumping of rocks.









Stuart, Maree and Ly met up at firth park on Friday night and set up camp.

We enjoyed a relaxing night by the fire.

In the morning Brett, Meily, Hannah and Oscar joined us and we set off at 9am. Maree had to leave us to attend a birthday party and would return later in the day.

We headed south to Ratcliffe track which is a fairly easy track to start us off. Then headed to Nuggety track which was an interesting track - steep in places and very rocky but a lot of fun.

At the end of Nuggety track we headed further south to the quarry and had a bite to eat. I had heated up some chocolate scrolls in the Travel Buddy. When young Oscar asked me where my bedroom was in Tiny I said "what?". He replied "well your car has an oven, so where is the bedroom?" I had a laugh.

Stuart and I had a little play on a short steep track. From the quarry we then headed north on Bluegum track and onto O'Briens Rd towards O'Briens Crossing.

We then turned onto XL track and followed it all the way back to Firth Park. We arrived back at camp at about 1pm so we sat around and relaxed and waited for the bus to pick us up from camp. Maree returned to camp at about 3:30pm. Ly had to head home so he left early. At 5:45pm the bus arrived at camp and we all jumped on the fun bus. Hannah and Oscar thought it was a treat to have a bus take us to dinner. We had a wonderful meal at the Pig & Whistle.

Daniel turned up just as we were about to leave so I stayed at the pub with Daniel and the others headed back to camp. Brett, Meily and family headed home.

A short time later Daniel and I headed back to camp and Daniel set up his swag. We sat around and relaxed in the morning. Stuart and Maree headed home.

Daniel and I headed to XL track, then Ratcliffe track. Then Nuggety track and we finished up at the quarry where we headed into Bacchus Marsh and home.

This was a fun relaxing weekend and I would like to thank all that attended.









# **Editor's Notes**

Hi all,

Ly the Magazine Editor here, just want to share random bits and bob with the readers in the future (if there is something to mention)

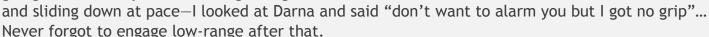
#### Who's the editor?

I've been part of the club since mid 2013. It was the same year I bought my old '91 Landcruiser (4.0L petrol-very thirsty ouch). I stumbled upon this club when googling around the local area and

wanted to learn how to use the capabilities of this vehicle.

First trip I went was Emily's "Easy trip (first time)" in September 2013. I remember being shown how to engage low -range for the first time and slowly crawling up a very steep hill with ease. Next was going over whoopy-doo at a faster pace then I should have!

My girlfriend Darna and I had big fits of laughter. Then I remember the dread of going down a rocky hill still in high-range





I haven't been on many trips as I liked over the years, but ever since joining the club committee I've increased my trip-participation output! Have a great upcoming Labor Day weekend.

#### **Notes**

- The Australia Day trip report was a highlight to read as Eliza and Andrew brought great perspective and humour. Big smile on my face while putting it together
- Thanks everyone who added items in the 'For Sale' section.

## How to replace the battery in the Hema HN6 GPS?

Steve recently had a decision to fork out a few hundred dollars on a new GPS navigator, or spend \$20 to fix his current Hema HN6. No brainer - Steve chose the latter.

He followed this comprehensive guide and sourced a higher-capacity replacement battery from Core Electronics.

