



FREE WHEELING

October 2023

Photo: Anthony Van
Buiten- Mt Skene
Trip

Official Newsletter of the
Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club
Inc Registration No: A0002184F



VFWDC Meeting Details & Venue

The club meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 8.00pm with the following exceptions:

No meeting at Club Noble in January and November as held at a selected "special" location.

November meeting will be held at Camping adventure Oz more details in Magazine.

Club Noble Addresss

Upstairs Blue and Gold Room Club
Noble
46-56 Moodemere Street Noble Park
3174
Melways ref: 89 D4



This month's meeting will be held on Wednesday 4th October at 8.00pm.

Club Committee

2023 - 2024

President	Neville Van Leeuwen	president@vfwdc.com
Vice President	Steve Miller	vicepres@vfwdc.com
Secretary	Daisy Quinn	secretary@vfwdc.com
Treasurer	Ly Ho	treasurer@vfwdc.com

General Committee

Trip Coordinator	Bruce Dunlop	trips@vfwdc.com
Magazine Editor	Luke David	editor@vfwdc.com
Association Delegate	Matt Marino	delegate@vfwdc.com

Support Positions to Committee

Web Manager	Ben Whitworth	web@vfwdc.com
Training Officer	Phil Griffith	
Merchandise	Daisy Quinn	merchandise@vfwdc.com

Club Details

Registered Name	Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club
Registration Number	A002184F
Correspondence Address	PO Box 778, Dandenong, VIC 3174
Email	secretary@vfwdc.com
Website	www.vfwdc.com

The Victorian Four Wheel Club is an affiliated club of [Four Wheel Drive Victoria](#)

Hi All,

Thanks to everyone who came to our September Meeting. We had Sharyn & Andy Mc Gregor from the Huts association. Sharyn gave a great presentation; they are passionate about preserving and maintaining the approx. 200 huts across Victoria. It was a great presentation which I believe everyone enjoyed thoroughly as well as hopefully got the itch to go and find and explore some Huts.

Next month (November the 15th) we have our off-site meeting at Camping Adventures OZ in Clyde North. Check out the details further on in the magazine, or at the next meeting. Please lock this date in to your calendar.

The following weekend we also have our Christmas getaway in November, more details coming. Check this out it would be great to have a big turn out (Hopefully a bit warmer than our Christmas in July).

With the weather warming up and the tracks opening soon it will be good to get back out and do some more exploring/relaxing at our favorite locations. If you have any ideas on places you would like to go or a trip you want to run, please see Bruce Dunlop (Trips Co-ordinator). If you want any help to plan or run your first trip any of the committee would be happy to assist you.

Hope to see you all on at the next meeting.

Neville Van Leeuwen
VFWDC President

Club Calendar

October

Wednesday 4th	Club Meeting	8.00pm at Club Noble
Wednesday 18th	Committee Meeting (Virtual)	8.00pm

November

Friday 3rd	Melbourne Cup Wonnangatta Wanderings	Organised by Sally and Tristan (See Upcoming Trips)
Wednesday 15th	Offsite meeting at Camping Adventures Oz	6.00pm (See next page for further details)
Friday 17th	Club Christmas Trip	Organised by Daisy (See Upcoming Trips)

December

Wednesday 6th	Club Meeting	8.00pm
Wednesday 20th	Committee Meeting (Virtual)	8.00pm

Other Dates

8th June 2024	Bruce's Big Trip	Organised by Bruce D (see Upcoming Trips)
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November 2023 Off Site Meeting

Location: Camping Adventures OZ

Address: 26 Palladium Circuit Clyde North 3978

Date: 15/11/2023 (3rd Wednesday of the month)

Time: 6pm to 8:30pm

Please arrive at 6pm for dinner (Please bring a camp chair)

The store will have a few reps onsite to let us know about their products:

Zoleo: Global Satellite Communicator

MSA: 4X4 accessories

And perhaps some others...

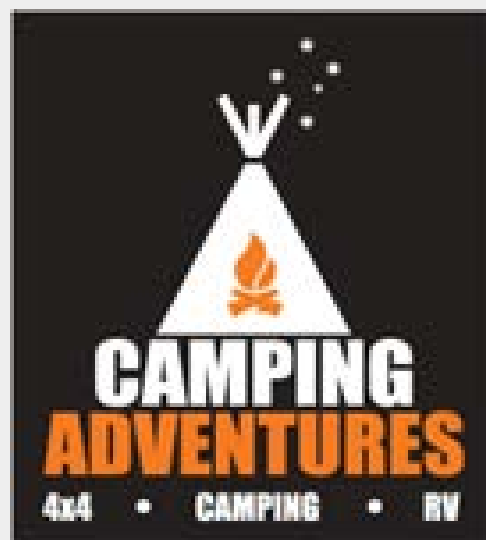
What they do: Camping adventure Oz are a supplier of Offroad campers and camping gear, they also service all makes and models of campers.

On offer: they will offer a 15% discount on floor stock, and 10% off products excluding freight on parts to be ordered in.

This discount will exclude Camp King.

For further details about this company and what they have to offer please check out there website link below.

<https://campingadventuresoz.com.au>



Meeting Minutes



General Meeting Minutes

Date: 06.09.2023

Time: 8.05 pm

Next Meeting: Wed 4th October 2023

Location: Club

Open Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome – Apologies: Jason, Slaven, Amanda, Brett, Nicki, John & Fiona, Andy L 	Neville
Minutes from previous month	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes from Last Meeting Matters arising for previous minutes? Nil Introduced new Committee – Steve - Vice President, Daisy - Secretary, Ly -Treasurer, Bruce D Trips co-ordinator, Luke - Editor, Matt Delegate Accept: Anne Second: Bruce D 	Neville
Guests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No new guests 	Neville
Correspondence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Correspondence in <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bendigo Bank Correspondence out <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nil 	Ly
Treasurer Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monthly Treasurers Report for June. Accept: Ben Second: Andrew 	Ly
Association News	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First aid course running on 14th October at Rowville at St Simons is \$125 for Applied first aid Or \$60 CPR only This has been sent out to all members 	Matt
Upcoming Trips	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Melbourne Cup Long weekend Wonnangatta with Sally and Tristan Friday to Bryce's Gorge Then into Wonnangatta Valley and Zeka Spur, heading out thorough Cynthia Range This is a recce trip – no campers or caravans – Sally and Tristan have the new Patrol but don't want to show up the Toyotas Bruce D's Trip June 2024 up to Darwin to the Tip and back down again 	Bruce D
Trip Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jacqui – Fun snow trip no snow, they had the size of a ghost from packman. Everyone drove around the small amount of snow they found so they could get out and see it and take photos. Had nice river crossing, Jacqui nose dived as she was a bit nervous (at least she kept her number plate!) They camped just out of Jamieson and had sausages and bits and pieces over the fire. Bruce – they met up at Jamo pub for dinner. Bruce at Lukes dinner, next time Luke has to order something different! Bruce's mate went with them and turned up in a Mitsubishi L300 that went more places than most 4wd's ! They had loads of snow and stopped at the top, it was cold, wet and miserable. They decided to head back to camp and sat around telling war stories. They had a new drink called Shanky's Whip which is Black Irish whiskey, Irish spirit, caramel and vanilla. Quite a few tracks including Neuman's up to Mt Terrible track and had great views. Neville – on 27th August went to Mt Terrible. On Friday night they stayed at big river at the Patonga campground Noone else was there, and they found a lard square fire pit with wood for them. Friday night they sat up until 1 am, and when they woke up Saturday morning Matt had disappeared and driven home during the night as he wasn't feeling very well. 	All
Merchandise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nearly all T-shirts given out, Will need to put in a new order 	Daisy
Magazine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rig Run down – Luke nominated Ken for the next magazine 	Luke
General Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Membership Fees – Changes and Increases from September 1st. Temp Membership fees with go from \$13 to \$25 – however, no Temp membership will be offered for the snow trip – must be a fully paid-up member. Maree suggested we push that with them joining they get training and a T-shirt. Stuart agrees as people keep coming back for temp membership instead of joining up for Snow trips. Increase in general membership will go from \$80 to \$85 for single and \$90 to \$95 for families. Silver 	All

Meeting Minutes Continued

	<p>Silver is going from \$50 to \$55</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certificates – Neville handed out to Ken. Dennis unfortunately wasn't present. • Neville presented Daisy with \$100 voucher as per last meeting for trips run, and extra effort put in for Xmas party, and Christmas in July 	
Guest Speakers –	<p>Sharon and Andy joined us for a great chat about the High-Country huts.</p> <p>Sharon and Andy are ex VFWDC members, and love coming out to talk about the high country. They are commonly referred to as Mr & Mrs Huts, the Hut Nuts or the Mad Hutters There are around 200 huts that are looked after by 12 separate regions.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. East Gippsland 2. Dargo 3. Licola 4. Baw Baw 5. Marysville 6. Mt Buller 7. Howqua 8. Barry Mountains 9. Hotham 10. Bogam 11. Dartmouth 12. Davies Plains <p>Wallace Hut is the oldest hut in the high country – built in 1889 in the Alpine National Park The Age, style and quality varies in all huts. These are all maintained by volunteers. They have working bees, maintenance weekends, care-taker groups, members and volunteers. They all go around and fill up the woodsheds before the tracks closed for winter survival.</p> <p>** Please remember to fill up the woodshed for the next visitors **</p> <p>If you come across a logged off area, this can indicate that something was there. I.e Tram line, railway line, huts etc.</p> <p>Any questions, please contact the secretary@hutsvictoria.org.au</p> <p>The Victorian High-Country Huts association is having a field day called The First 20 years This is at Mansfield Showgrounds, Ed Harris Pavilion, Mt Battery Road 28 October 2023 from 10am – 4pm Inspect displays showcasing the huts work Meet those involved about the how, the why and what the future holds Merchandise for sale Guest speakers Demonstrations using traditional tools 3D Hut scanning presentation Support the work done by the Association through becoming a member on the day, or online anytime</p> <p>Any donations will be used towards future preservation works. https://hutsvictoria.org.au/</p>	Victorian High Country Huts
Meeting Close	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raffle – great prizes, Bottle of wine, backpack and club merch <p>Meeting close 9.32pm</p>	Neville

Bringing Four Wheel Drivers Together



Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc
www.vfwdc.com



Treasurer's Report August 2023

<u>Cheque A/C</u> Opening Balance as at 01/08/2023	\$8,543.06
Add: Membership Fees	\$1,086.00
Raffle	\$105.00
Merchandise Sales	\$450.00
Less: FWDV Association Fees	-\$534.00
Meeting Catering Costs	-\$34.30
Incorporation Fees	-\$63.60
Closing Balance as at 31/08/2023	\$9,552.16
<u>Term Deposit</u> Opening Balance as at 01/08/2023	\$6,923.22
Closing Balance as at 31/08/2023	\$6,923.22
<u>Petty Cash</u> Opening Balance as at 01/08/2023	\$38.30
Closing Balance as at 31/08/2023	\$38.30
Consolidated Closing Cash Position	<u>\$16,513.68</u>

This month's meeting

Our next meeting is Wednesday 4th October at Club Noble. At this meeting we welcome all our members to come discuss our 4WD plans. Please have a read of the magazine to view changes and upcoming trips. Also in the magazine check out a members rig run down to give some ideas for new and current members. Let's get ready for some new four drive trips in near future.

Membership Fee Changes

Temporary Membership fees have increased to \$25, and these memberships will no longer be offered for snow trips. You will need to become a full member of the club to attend snow trips. General membership fees have increased to \$85 for a single and \$95 for families. Silver membership fees have increased to \$55.

Club's 50th Birthday

Just in case you weren't aware, next year is the club's 50th birthday. A working group has been formed to organise an amazing event(s) and are starting to look into options and ideas. So anyone who has any amazing ideas, please get in contact with any committee members. We are looking to make it an incredible event so all ideas, no matter how crazy are welcomed.

All and any contributions welcome

You know the score - I need trip reports, photos and any content to make the magazine an interesting read. Don't be shy, send the editor something!!

Please visit our website at VFWDC.com to view all our current membership forms and club policies.

For all new and renewal of memberships, please complete [the online form here](#)

If you are looking for a Temporary Membership, please complete the online form, [which can be found here](#).

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us via the Club Secretary on secretary@vfwdc.com

Payments:

Payment can be made via Bank Transfer. The details are as follows:

Account	Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club
Name: BSB:	Inc 633108
Account No:	111761979

Please ensure your transfer includes your name as provided on the membership application and renewal form in the reference.




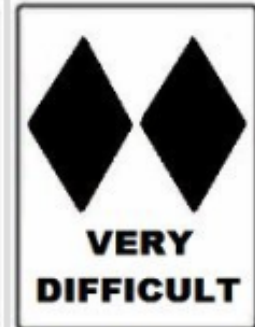
Once you have made your payment/transfer, please send your completed membership application and renewal form to treasurer@vfwdc.com or you can present it to the Treasurer at any general meeting.

Thank you for choosing the Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club

If you are interested in joining [Club Noble](#) where we hold our monthly meetings, their application form can be found [here](#).

Track Classifications

Four Wheel Drive Victoria have a track grading classification scale which has been developed to assist in advising Trip Leaders and participants on 4WD trips of the type of tracks that they can expect to encounter. On most trips participants can expect that a variety of tracks will be traversed each with an appropriate rating. Trip Leaders should advise participants of the range of track ratings expected to be encountered on the planned route. The following classifications will assist in determining an overall Trip Rating:

Considerations	Easy	Medium	Difficult	Very Difficult
Overall Description	All Wheel Drive and High Range 4WD. Novice Drivers	Mainly High range 4WD but Low range required. Some 4WD experience recommended.	Significant Low range 4WD with standard 4WD ground clearance. Should have 4WD driver training.	Low range 4WD with High ground clearance. Experienced Drivers
Advisory Sign				
Expected terrain and track conditions	Mostly unsealed roads with no obstacles and minor gradients.	Tracks with some steep and/or rocky/slippery/sandy sections. May have shallow water crossings.	Tracks with frequent steep and/or rocky/slippery/sandy sections. Possible water crossings.	Tracks with frequent very steep and/or rocky/slippery/sandy sections. May have difficult river crossings.
Vehicle suitability	All wheel Drive and High Range 4WD. Can be low clearance with single range and road tyres.	Suitable for medium clearance vehicles with dual range and all terrain or road tyres.	Suitable for medium to high clearance vehicles with dual range and all terrain tyres.	Suitable for high clearance vehicles with dual range and tyres suitable for the terrain. (Mud Terrain tyres).
Recovery equipment			Recovery equipment required.	Winch / Recovery equipment required.
Driver Training / Experience	Suitable for novice drivers.	Recommended that drivers have experience or 4WD training. Recommended to be done in groups of vehicles.	Recommended for drivers with reasonable experience or 4WD training. To be done in groups of vehicles.	Drivers with extensive experience and advanced training should only attempt as there are several technical challenges. Recommended to be done in groups of four or more vehicles.
Weather	May be difficult in wet conditions.	Will be more difficult in wet conditions.	Will be more difficult in wet conditions.	Will be more difficult in wet conditions.

Upcoming Trips

Destination	Club Christmas Trip
Leader & Contact Details	Daisy Quinn MOB: 0447 557 100
Date	17-19th November 2023
Meeting Details	TBC
Grade	Wet: Easy Hard Dry: Easy
Trip Activity Details	
Vehicle Limits	MINIMUM: N/A MAXIMUM: N/A
Approx km's meeting place to destination	
Last available fuel	PETROL: DIESEL:
Distance between supplies	
Equipment required	
Maps required	
Radio Channel CB/UHF	UHF Ch 13

Upcoming Trips

Destination	Melbourne Cup Wonnangatta Wanderings
Leader & Contact Details	Sally and Tristan Sally 0435 782 207 & Tristan 0468 958 444
Date	Friday 3rd November – Tuesday 7th November
Meeting Details	Friday 3rd – 8am BP Pakenham Bypass
Grade	Wet: Hard Dry: Medium
Trip Activity Details	<p>Friday head into Bryce's Gorge to camp and do small hike to check out some waterfalls.</p> <p>Saturday head into Wonnangatta Valley via Zeka Spur Track and set up camp.</p> <p>Sunday – Lazy Day in the valley checking out the sites.</p> <p>Monday – Leave the valley via Herne Spur and Cynthia Range track, camp at Eaglevale or surrounds.</p> <p>Tuesday – head home</p>
Vehicle Limits	MINIMUM: 3 MAXIMUM: 8
Approx km's meeting place to destination	250km
Last available fuel	PETROL: Licola DIESEL: Licola
Distance between supplies	300km
Equipment required	Self Sufficient Camping Gear, food and water for 5 days 4WD Recovery Gear
Maps required	Rooftops – Dargo – Wonnangatta Adventure Map Hema – High Country VIC SW
Radio Channel CB/UHF	UHF Channel 13

Rig Run Down - Member - Ken Kilby

What 4WDs have you have had over the years?

1994 Ford Maverick LWB



1997 Mitsubishi Pajero LWB



What 4WDs have you have had over the years?

2019 Mitsubishi Triton Twin Cab Ute



What was your favourite 4WD you owned?

Definitely the Triton Ute

What are some key features on your car that you use all the time when 4WD?

Pumped 12v, 40 Litre Water Supply

Under bonnet mounted Compressor and 12 Litre tank

Pie Warmer

Fridge/Freezer

What are some accessories you have installed on your current car giving a run down on your current vehicle?

ARB Bullbar

Warn Winch

Terrain Tamer lift kit (Parabolic Springs on rear rated 400- 700kg constant load but still give a lovely supple ride when unloaded)

ARB Single Compressor with outlets each side of engine bay plus rear of Tub

GME XRS 370 UHF, 2.2 dBi Antenna

Stedi 24"Light Bar

Kings 7"Driving Lights (cheap, but gives extra distance over the light bar and so far have no complaints)

Rola Roof rack

Roof rack mounted cornering lights

Roof rack mounted Work Light

Stedi Reversing Light Bar

ARB Awning

Boos bash Plates

I-Drive Throttle Controller

Mann & Hummel Catch Can

Silicone Intercooler Hoses (Original ones have a habit of splitting, changed as preventative maintenance)

Carry Boy Fibreglass Canopy

Rear Draw

75 Litre Kickass fridge and freezer (runs 24/7) with slide & cage

Itech 25 Amp DC-DC Charger with Solar input

Kickass 22 Amp AC Charger

Kickass 120 Amp Auxilliary Battery

Hardkorr Battery box

Rear Tub mounted power outlets

Tow Bar

Safari Snorkel (Fully sealed airbox)

Brake Controller

Tyre pressure sensors

Pie Warmer

Axe mount in Tub

Maxxis Razer AT811 All terrain Tyres

Rear Diff Breather

40 Litres of water storage with 12 V pump and swing out adjustable rose

Rig Run Down

Rig Run Down Photos - Current Triton



1 Rear 12v Panel and shower head



Rig Run Down Photos - Current Triton

Tub Interior



Rig Run Down Photos - Current Triton

External Photos



Rig Run Down Photos - Current Triton

UHF Handset and tail gate configuration



We need your help on and off the tracks



**If you have some spare time
please consider joining the committee.
Your club needs you— do it for your club!**

Contact your Committee...



Agenda for Annual General Meeting 2nd August

Date: 2.08.2023

Time: 9.10 pm

Location: Club

Open Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome• As per attendance book that didn't turn up• Apologies:	Steve
Reports from Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Steve Pitcher took control of the meeting.• President Report – From: Andre - As per magazine• Treasurer Report – From: Ly - As per magazine• Trips Report – From: Neville - As per magazine• Last AGM Minutes<ul style="list-style-type: none">• – No Matters arising• Accept: Anne• Second: Daisy <p>Steve called all positions Vacant.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nominations for<ul style="list-style-type: none">• President – 1 Nomination – Neville.• Vice Pres – No Nomination• Secretary – 1 Nomination - Daisy.• Treasurer – 1 Nomination - Ly.• Trips – Late Nomination - Bruce Dunlop –.• Editor – 1 Nomination – Luke David• Association – No Nomination.• General Committee – 1 Nomination – Luke David.• General Committee – No Nomination.	Steve Andre Ly Neville
Meeting Close Meeting Close	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meeting close 9.32 pm	Steve



**Photo: Daisy at St
Annes**