



FREE WHEELING

November 2024

50th Anniversary Edition



Official Newsletter of the
Victorian Four Wheel
Drive Club Inc

Registration No
A0002184F

Lloyds Hut

Meeting Details



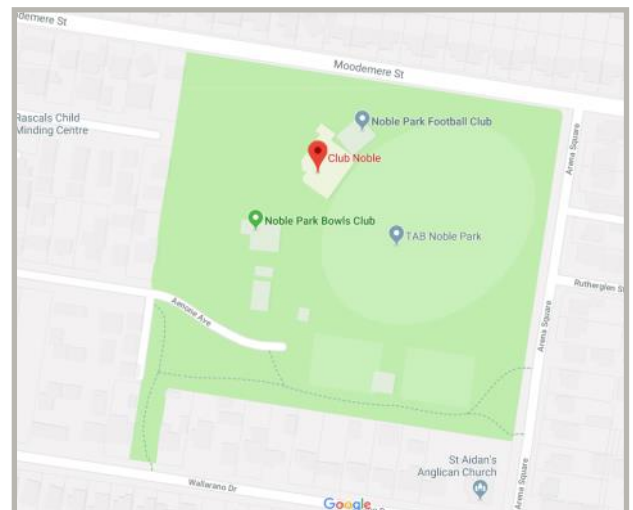
VFWDC General Meeting Details & Venue

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

No meeting at Club Noble in January.

Club Noble Address

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



This month's meeting will be held on Wednesday 6th November at 8.00pm.

Club Committee

2023-2024

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

General Committee

Trip Coordinator	Andy McCarthy	trips@vfwdc.com
Magazine Editor	Luke David	editor@vfwdc.com
Association Delegate	Dennis Alphonsus	delegate@vfwdc.com

Support Positions to Committee

Web Manager	Ben Whitworth	web@vfwdc.com
Training officer	Phillip Griffith	
Merchandise	Suzy Whitford	merchandise@vfwdc.com

Club Details

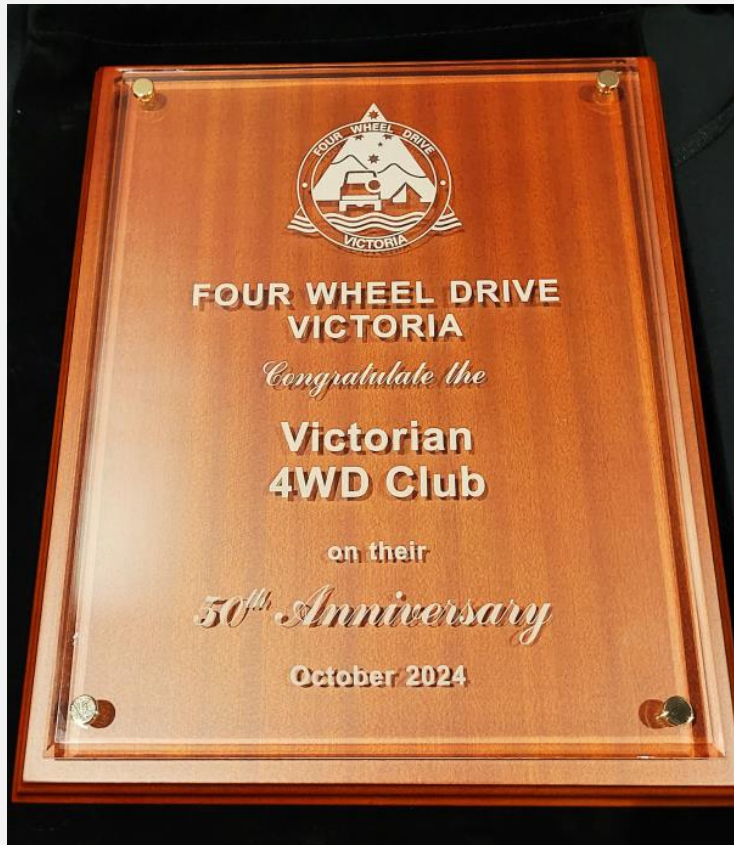
Registered Name	Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club
Registration Number	A002184F
Correspondence Address	PO Box 778 Dandenong VIC 3174
Email	secretary@vfwdc.com
Website	www.vfwdc.com

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hi All,

What a massive month it's been, we celebrated our 50th in style at the Waltzing Matilda, we had a great turnout with most members being able to join us. It was great to meet / catch up with the past members who joined us as well. We also got to meet and hear from the CEO of FWDV Craig Ryan and his implementation of a strategic plan. He also presented us with a beautiful plaque to commemorate our 50 years.



The underlying message that kept getting repeated throughout the night is the social benefit of being part of such a great group of people, as well as getting to go out and explore this great country with wonderful people. Thanks to all for making this club great!

Now that the main celebrations of our 50th have been wrapped up we are looking towards the future with a renewed excitement. We have several trips that are planned in November (see upcoming trips) thanks to Ken & Andy for putting these together.

There is a fare few more proposed trips in the pipeline for Christmas - January so make sure you are at the Nov meeting to hear more.

Unfortunately our Astronomy night was cancelled due to cloud cover, I am working on getting

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

a new date for this event. We had a lot of interest in this.

Our new addition to our Merch is the club calendar, we only have limited numbers. The calendar will be available at the Nov meeting first so get in quick!

Our end-of-year break-up will be at Jells Park on Sunday the 1st of December, the club won't be catering for this event this year so bring some food to chuck on the BBQ and a few drinks to help celebrate the big year we've had.

For our December meeting, Saber Offroad will be joining us, so please lock this date in so we have a good turnout. They will be speaking to the soft shackle recovery gear they stock as part of the presentation.

Next year we are hoping to once again have a great range of trips again as well as looking to lock in a few more guest speakers. So if you have any places you want to go or people you want to hear from reach out to me or a committee member. We can assist you to plan your next adventure.

Neville Van Leeuwen

VFWDC President

president@vfwdc.com

M: 0472 680 482

1974	Founded Rob McKay & Dennis Cousins	1984	Peter Rowe	1994	Peter Petrou	2004	John Partridge	2014	David Bruinsma
1975		1985	Dave Heard	1995	Glenn Smith	2005	David Hughes	2015	David Bruinsma
1976	John Lake	1986	Dave Heard	1996	Tom Brachna	2006	Ashley Martin	2016	Ben Whitworth
1977		1987	Dave Heard	1997	Tom Brachna	2007	Ashley Martin	2017	Ben Whitworth
1978	Geoff Mann	1988	Dave Heard	1998	Peter Pink	2008	John Partridge	2018	Steve Pitcher
1979	Geoff Mann	1989	Steve Alder	1999	Peter Pink	2009	Ashley Martin	2019	Steve Pitcher
1980	John Thom	1990	Steve Alder	2000	Peter Pink	2010	Bruce Cremonesi	2020	Sally Higgs
1981	Tom Brachna	1991	Patrick Casey	2001	David Hughes	2011	Bruce Cremonesi	2021	Callum Brown
1982	Peter Rowe	1992	Patrick Casey	2002	David Hughes	2012	Mark Felton	2022	Callum Brown
1983	Peter Rowe	1993	Peter Pink	2003	John Partridge	2013	John Partridge	2023	Neville Van Leeuwen



Current President for 2024 – Neville Van Leeuwen



50th Anniversary Dinner



On Saturday the 19 th of October we Celebrated our Clubs big 5-0 at the Waltzing Matilda.

The room looked great with themed decorations, balloons, old photos and magazines and four very large posters which displayed the cover off nearly all the magazines, a great tribute to our magazine over the years. A big thank you to Sally who put a lot of hours creating this.

People started arriving and donned a name tag, we had a lot of past members in attendance so there were a lot of people catching up with old friends as well as current and previous members.

We ended having almost 80 people in attendance, a fantastic achievement.

Everyone looked great all dressed up and many new members were sporting the new 50th club shirt.

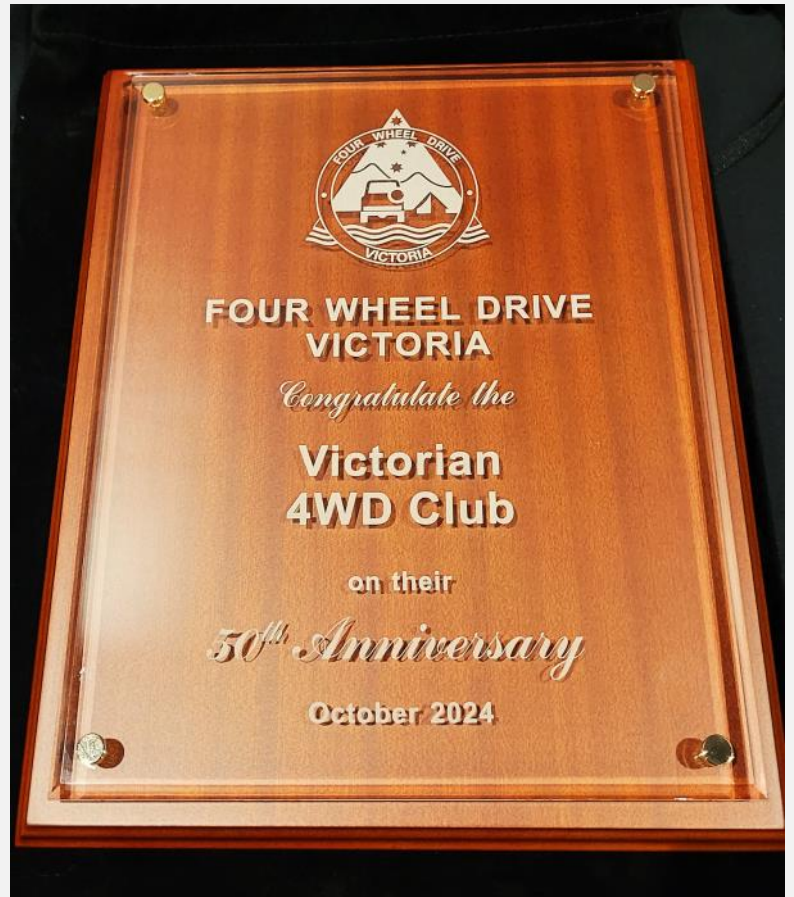
Sally our wonderful MC called us to order, and we took our seats, everyone received a gift (a travel mug with the club logo) as well as a raffle ticket with the instruction to hang on to it for the whole night. (I've got my eye on that ARB compressor)

I then gave a little speech thanking all our club presidents (we had composed a list of all the presidents over the last 50 years only missing two years records from the 70's.)

I also gave a brief history of where the club had come from, to where it is today. The earlier members certainly were the pioneers of 4WDiving.

Craig Ryan the CEO of Four Wheel Drive Victoria got up on stage and introduced himself as well as

giving a brief outline of his role. He then presented the club with a beautiful plaque commemorating our 50th.



We then had our first raffle and very appropriately Mark Kochan (our longest serving member) was called out. He took home a tasty bottle of Fortified Wine from St Annes Winery as well as a beautiful charcuterie board that Daisy hand decorated.



Dinner was served, and somehow I had managed to find a seat on the table that was last to go up. But I did not need worry as there was mountain of food to choose from all of which was delicious, I even made room for some dessert.

We then had our next raffle and Harsha and Melissa Fernando walked away with two bottles of Champagne including a bottle of Dom Perignon donated by Alykan (Sally & Tristan).



Next up we had a Panel discussion from one person from each decade the club has been around

- 70's Patrick Casey
- 80's Mark Kochan
- 90's John Partridge (he was the closest we had to the 90's joining in the very early 00's)
- 00's Steve Pitcher

- 10's Megan Whitworth
- 20's Dennis Alphonsus

Each member was asked a series of questions, and for me this was one of the highlights of the night. Listening to all the stories of when and why they joined the club. What vehicles they had, what they learned and a favourite story.



The underlining theme here and throughout the night is the close social network that is formed.

As well as going on great adventures throughout the country we really form great friendships, and this is a wonderful tribute to our club.

Next up we asked Patrick Casey to come up and draw the next raffle the ARB compressor. Steven Miller was the lucky winner.



The final segment of the night was the awards. Dave got up to present the renowned “Good On Ya” award. With three nominees called up for a bit of good hearted roasting including Sally, Andre and yours truly. Everyone gave a cheer for those they thought most deserved this coveted award and Andre was the clear winner for going camping without his tent and chairs.



The next award was “Most Trips Run” which we deferred from our usual AGM presentation Sally and Tristan took out this award. We appreciate all the trips you guys run!

Next, we had the appreciation awards that I was honoured to hand out. In organizing this event and looking into the clubs history as well all that people do for the club it really amazed me how many people contribute to this club. All the recipients were very well deserved. There are many more people that contribute in so many ways so please accept our great appreciation!

Please see the list of recipients further on.

This was the end of the formalities and people continued to watch the slide show created by Andre (Thanks Andre it was great), look through the old photos and magazines we had on the centre table as well as continue socializing.

The night was fantastic and enjoyed by all, I am privileged to be part of such a great group of people.

Neville Van Leeuwen

VFWDC President

president@vfwdc.com

Certificates of Appreciation - Presented by Neville

Ann Crocket	The quiet achiever. Always willing to help out, she has been managing the catering for our club meetings for a number of years now making sure we all have our drinks and snacks to keep us going.
Steve Pitcher	Has had a broad ranging contribution to the club across a variety of committee positions including Treasurer and President. He also steps in to run the AGM meetings when the committee steps down each year, runs a variety of trips consistently and has contributed to the organizing of this event.
Stuart and Maree Bowker	They participate in all aspects of the club and have contributed to the committee, to running a huge number and variety of trips, helping with the raffles. Encouraging others to participate in the club to get the most from it and has contributed to the organizing of this event. (Unfortunately absent on the night as they were having a lovely time in WA)
Daisy Quinn	For coordinating and hosting club run events. Making sure there is enough great food for members and that they enjoy themselves. Always keen to make sure people are having a good time and has contributed to the organizing of this event
David Heard	Being one of 3 members over 50 years who contributed by being President for 4 years from 1995 through to and including 1998 to ensure the club keeps running and enabling it to be where it is today.
John Partridge	Being one of 3 members over 50 years who have done the President Role for 4 years. Also supporting the development of our training and being Part of the Driver Training team
Peter Pink	Being one of 3 members over 50 years who contributed by being President for 4 years including 1993 and 2008 - 2010 to ensure the club keeps running and enabling it to be where it is today
Sally Higgs	For her broad ranging contribution to the club including the development of the Trip Leader training material and course to give more members the confidence to get out and run trips for the club. Running trips, participating on the committee in a number of different roles and providing support to the current committee and members to make the most out of their four wheel drives and the club. Also made a huge contribution to this event.
Ben Whitworth	Being a long serving member on the committee in his role as Web Manager since 2014. Making sure our website keeps running, the committee can get their emails, helps people set up their system so they can fulfill their committee roles. He has also been President for 2 years in this time as well. He brings a wealth of knowledge and guidance to the club that not many people get to see.
Ly Ho	Ly has been another quiet achiever and has been on the committee since 2016 where he started as the Magazine Editor for a number of years before transitioning to the treasurer. Both of these roles are quite time consuming and are key to the running of the club. He always does it with a smile.
Phil Griffith	For being an integral part of our driver training team. This course is run every year and Phil is there to do the theory night as well as the weekend course. Leaving our members better trained to get the most out of there 4WD in a safe manner.











Club Calendar

November				
Tuesday 5th		Melbourne Cup Public Holiday		
Wednesday 6th		General Meeting		8:00pm Club Noble
Friday 1st		Bindaree Hut Campground		Ken Kilby
Saturday 16th		Walhalla Day Trip		Andy McCarthy
Wednesday 20th		Committee Meeting (Virtual)		7:30pm
December				
Sunday 1st		Christmas breakup at Jells Park		Jells Park
Wednesday 4th		General Meeting–Sabre Offroad		8:00pm Club Noble
		No Committee Meeting		
Wednesday 25th		Christmas Day		
Thursday 26th		Boxing Day		
January				
		No General Meeting		
Wednesday 15th		Committee Meeting		
TBC		Woodside Fishing Trip		Steven Card

VFWDC General Meeting Minutes

Date: 02/10/2024
 Time: 8:00pm – 9:19pm
 Location: Club Noble
 Next Meeting: Wednesday 6th November 2024

Topic	Discussion and Outcomes	Speaker
Open Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome Apologies: Sally, Alec, Nicola Absent: Not noted 	Neville
Minutes from previous months club meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Matters arising from previous minutes for meeting on the 04/09/2024: Nil Minutes from previous meeting accepted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accepted: Ken Seconded: Neville 	Neville
General Announcements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nil 	Neville
Guests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dean's son – Drives a D40 Navara (Work In Progress). Looking forward to coming on more trips and doing more camping 	Neville
Correspondence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No notices from Australia Post Sabre Off Road regarding beings December 's guest speaker Astronomical; society regarding 26th Oct 	Neville
Tonight's Guest Speaker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No guest speaker this month 	
Treasurer's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per written report from Ly Ho – Written report will be in next issue of the club's magazine. Closing cash position \$11,230.48 Closing consolidated position \$13,531.66 Motion to accept this month's Treasurer 's Report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accepted: Andre Seconded: Tristan 	Neville
Association News	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on any Association news – No news this month Carried forward – Driver training 	Dennis

Upcoming Trips		Andy
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 05/10/2024 – Saturday night trip into Bunyip. Meeting at Longwarry Service Station 	Andre
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 19th Oct 2024 - Club 50th Anniversary Dinner to be held on 19th Oct 2024 at 6:00pm - \$20 for members, includes dinner and gifts. To be held at the Waltzing Matilda (Banksia Room) in Springvale. Approximately a dozen previous members also coming. Buy your own alcohol. 	Neville
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 26th October 2024 @ 7:30pm – Viewing starting at 8:30pm Astronomical Society - Saturday (Weekend immediately after 50th anniversary dinner) – May be end of year off site function. Need to know numbers early as VFWDC has to stump up a minimum payment. \$10 per head – No dinner included Packenham School (Courtesy of Andre). Kid friendly. Approx 1 telescope per 10 people. Please note that the night is weather dependant. Society will confirm by 2pm on the day if weather is suitable for the night to proceed. <p>**** Neville to advise if fee has to be prepaid ... minimum fee is \$250 ****</p>	Neville
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awaiting further information from St Annes ... Was to be late October 2024 (Before Melbourne Cup Weekend... Melbourne Cup is Tues 5th Nov 2024) - St Annes have offered their facility for another event in October/November. Further details will be provided shortly. Angus has invited VFWDC to host a camping experience. VFWDC to collect firewood and make a large bonfire. The event will be ticketed. 	Neville
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 01/11/2024 to 04/11/2024 Melbourne Cup Weekend - Bindaree Hut Trip. 4.5 hrs travel time to get there. River Crossing. Saturday travel to Bindaree Falls, Craigs Hut and a few other huts. 4 day trip, Friday to Monday. See trip data form for more information. 	Ken
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 16th Nov 2024 – Day trip starting and finishing at Wathalla, details to follow See trip data form for more information. 	Andy
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Looking for Expression of Interest for – Trip Leaders Training 	Andy
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2025 Request for Expressions of Interest – Driver Training Course. Some interest in doing refresher course for those who have previously done training. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Query from members about doing training a second time ... members indicated they are happy to pay for 2nd training trip (Refresher trip ?) 	Andy
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reminder to have an up-to-date Personal Information Form in our vehicle Reminder to submit trip forms. If a trip form is not submitted , the trip is NJOT a sanctioned trip (ie no insurance etc) 	Andy

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reminder to submit trip forms. If a trip form is not submitted , the trip is NOT a sanctioned trip (ie no insurance etc) 	
Merchandise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50th Anniversary polo shirts and jackets have arrived and will be distributed tonight after the end of the meeting. Old merchandise to be cleared. Everyone is welcome to take advantage of discounted prices. VFWDC calendar proposed for next year. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed having a club Calander to be available for start of 2025. Took an expression of interest from those present – Result was positive to proceed. Please submit photos for Calander. (Closing off on 06/10/2024) 	Suzy
Intermission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intermission – Gave out commemorative shirts and jackets 	8:40pm – 9:04pm
Trip Reports		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 14th to 15th Sept 2024 - 50th Anniversary Camping Trip at Meringtons. Went up to Mt Useful where it began snowing. Went to Mt Thelma. Found some convenient fallen trees which were cut up for fire wood. Hail storm came through. All exposed water froze. Butter chicken courtesy of Dean went down well. Trip was enjoyed by all. See trip report in club magazine “Free Wheeling”. 	Andy, Ken
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Big Trip – 72 Days leaving Kings weekend – Alcie Springs, Tanami Desert, Wolf Creek, Broome, Totalled his car in a river crossing. Now has a Ford Everest. Will redo trip in two years. See trip report in club magazine “Free Wheeling”. 	Bruce Dunlop
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impromptu trip with a face book group – example of how to not run a trip. Trip leader had a disability but had made no contingency plans and had made no preparation for trip. Most of the day was spent recovering the trip leader’s vehicle. Matt and Ken have new appreciation for VFWDC run trips. See trip report in club magazine “Free Wheeling” 	Ken
VFWDC 50th Anniversary Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Club 50th Anniversary Dinner to be held on 19th Oct 2024 at 6:00pm at the Waltzing Matilda (Banksia Room) in Springvale. - \$20 for members, includes dinner and gifts 	Neville
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Club needs nominations for “Onya Award”. Email nominations to Neville at president@vfwdc.com There will be a prize for best nomination. 	Neville

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be a prize for best nomination. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andre collecting photos to put together a slide show for the 19th Oct 2024 Anniversary Dinner 	Neville
Sponsorship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St Annes donated bottles for raffle prizes. • ARB donated an air compressor and tool bag for raffle prizes. 	Neville
Magazine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plenty of content for next issue. • Buy/Sell available in magazine • Advertise your business. 	Neville
December Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sabre Off Road to come and talk about their products ... details to be advised. 	Neville
General Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As of 1st meeting in 2025, club meetings will commence at 7:30pm for a three month trial. The committee will then review how this was received and decide if it should be a permanent feature. • November off site meeting – Proposed to have a normal meeting on the 2nd weekend of November 2024. 	General Business
Raffle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blue E88, Blue E33, Blue E73, E56 	
Next General Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday 02/11/2024, 8:00pm at Club Noble (Upper floor meeting room) 	
Meeting Close	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9:19pm 	Neville
Minutes taken by:		Steven Miller

Bringing Four Wheel Drivers Together



Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc
www.vfwdc.com



Treasurer's Report September 2024

<u>Cheque A/C`</u> Opening Balance as at 01/09/2024	\$10,664.20	
Add: Raffle	\$63.00	
Merchandise Sales	\$445.00	
50 th Anniversary Celebration	\$280.00	
Less: Catering Costs	-\$20.15	
Raffle Prizes	-\$29.99	
Venue Expense	-\$171.58	
Closing Balance as at 30/09/2024		\$11,230.48
<u>Term Deposit</u> Opening Balance as at 01/09/2024	\$6,262.88	
Closing Balance as at 30/09/2024		\$6,262.88
<u>Petty Cash</u> Opening Balance as at 01/09/2024	\$38.30	
Closing Balance as at 30/09/2024		<u>\$38.30</u>
Consolidated Closing Cash Position		<u>\$17,531.66</u>

Christmas breakup at Jells Park, Wheelers Hill

Sunday 1st December will be our club's Christmas breakup. BYO food and drinks, camp chairs, picnic rugs. There is BBQ facilities, toilets, playground, plentiful parking. TBA exact spot and time.

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/drfnibd7pu3ZR6569>



Sabre Offroad—December meeting

Sabe Offroad will be our special guests for the last meeting of the year. Don't miss out!

<https://sabroffroad.com/>



2025 Calendars for sale

Our very first club calendars will be for sale at the November meeting. \$20 each with limited stock

Discount Offer: The club is offering a discount of \$5 off your membership for each trip you have organized and run since March 1st, 2024, up to a maximum of \$20 per couple. Please mention any trips you have led when you reply.

Merchandise

We currently have a range of merchandise in stock, and the list of available items can be found on the pages below. If you are interested, please feel free to speak to one of the committee members during the general meeting or email us at committee@vfwdc.com.

Merchandise

Get in now to get your discount merchandise!

Reversible Vest

Cost - \$30.00

Sizes - S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 5XL



Drivers Jacket

Cost - \$40.00

Sizes - S, M, L, XL



Zip up Hoodie

Cost - \$20.00

Sizes - S & M



Scarf / Beanie / Cap / Stubbie

Holder

Cost - \$10.00 each



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 Name:	Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc
BSB:	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.



PROPOSED CLUB TRIP DATA FORM

DESTINATION	Bindaree Hut Campground
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Ken Kilby TEL: MOB: 0422411790
DATE	1/11/24 to 5/11/24
MEETING PLACE / TIME	KFC Lilydale 4:00pm Friday 1/11/24
GRADE	WET: medium/hard DRY: easy/medium
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	<p>Please adhere to new trip classifications</p> <p>Meet up at Lilydale Friday night to get a spot before it potentially gets crowded. Base camp at Bindaree Campground. If coming up on Saturday morning, come early as we will be leaving to go exploring by 9:30- 10:00am. Over the next 3 days, explore the area including; Bindaree Hut, Bindaree falls, Craigs Hut, Bluff Hut, Lovicks Hut, King Billy Tree, Mt Stirling, returning on Cup Day</p>
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 6
APPROX KMS	230 km
Meeting place to destination	
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Mansfield DIESEL: Mansfield
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	300 km approx. for 3 days, Mansfield to Mansfield (Note: 71 km from Mansfield to Bindaree Hut)
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	<p>All-Terrain Tyres at a minimum, no Hwy tyres. Recovery points and gear.</p> <p>Only one single drop toilet at the campsite, will be a busy weekend, consider bringing your own.</p> <p>A bag of firewood for the first night if you have room. Plenty of good wood to collect while we are out and about. There is a creek crossing with a rock ledge as you come into camp, no problem to traverse, shouldn't be a problem for an off-road camper with high clearance. Personal Information Form.</p>
MAPS REQUIRED	Mansfield/Howitt
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	12



PROPOSED CLUB TRIP DATA FORM

DESTINATION	Walhalla Day Trip
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Andy McCarthy TEL: MOB: 0414 332 322
DATE	Saturday 16th November 2024
MEETING PLACE / TIME	BP Officer Outbound 9am – depart 9:30
GRADE	WET: hard DRY: medium
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	Leave the highway at Moe, head towards Walhalla. Pass Moondarra Reservoir, cross Thomson River at Bruntons bridge. Stop for lunch at one of Walhalla's old town sites; Coopers Creek, Happy Go Lucky, Maiden Town or Mormon Town, before arriving and airing up in Walhalla.
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 6
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	160km (BP Officer Outbound to Walhalla via scenic route)
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Moe DIESEL: Moe
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	122km (Moe to Walhalla and back to Moe)
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	All-Terrain Tyres Recovery points and gear Packed lunch Personal Information Form
MAPS REQUIRED	Walhalla rooftop maps, also Hema trip #29 in
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	12

Please adhere to new trip classifications



PROPOSED CLUB TRIP DATA FORM

DESTINATION	Woodside Fishing Trip
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Steven Card TEL: MOB: 0411 202 606
DATE	Jan 2025 – date TBC
MEETING PLACE / TIME	BP Officer – Friday Afternoon
GRADE	WET: easy DRY: easy
Please adhere to new trip classifications	
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	Fishing trip north of Woodside, chasing Snapper. There may be 4x4ing, but the aim of the weekend is Camping and Fishing. Campground suitable for camper trailers but not Caravans. Exact weekend in Jan not yet decided on, so wanting expressions of interest and dates preferred. Potential dates: 3-5 Jan 10-12 Jan 17-19 Jan 24-26 Jan
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 1 MAXIMUM: 7
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	186kms
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Woodside DIESEL: Woodside
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	Yarram is 30kms from Woodside
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Fishing and Camping gear
MAPS REQUIRED	Google Maps
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	12

Trip Report: 50th Anniversary Club Trip Merringtons Campground

Date: 13th September (Friday) 2024

Trip By: David

Report: Dean



Meet at BP Officer Outbound Dean, Joy, Andy and Suzy left at approximately 2.30pm Stop for cheap fuel top up at Liberty in Moe before a quick stop at Sivertop before heading over the Thomson Dam. It was good to see the levels up nice and high. The weather was nice with some cloud, a little cool but still nice.

Right turn onto Merrington's Track, following down to the campground arriving around 3.30pm. We were the only four campers there for a while. After choosing an area at the campground that would give us a central location for meetups and community firepit we set up camp and lit the fire.

After setting up we had a break around the campfire talking and enjoying a couple of

drinks. At this point, some other campers arrived and thankfully set up on the other side of camp. This turned out to be a good thing as they felt the need to let off fireworks later in the night.

As the sun went down behind the trees up on the ridge, it very quickly took the temperature with it. After rugging up a bit it was time to think of tea. Joy and I choose to try doing mini pizzas in a camp oven with reasonable results, but more work is needed on the cook. Andy and Suzy did burgers and by all reports had more success than our experimental pizza's. At around 8.30pm we could hear and then see three cars coming down the track that turned out to be Neville, Ken and Michael.

After finding us and saying our hello's, quick talk of the trip; they set up camp and organized dinner for themselves. After a few more drinks around the campfire, the temperature got the better of me and I called it a night at 9.45pm. I am sure the others didn't overindulge and went to bed at a reasonable hour.



On Saturday morning, we woke to showers which ended up staying with us on and off all day. The first to turn up in the morning was Ben and Megan. After hellos and a look around, we were all sitting around the campfire ... when we heard it.... I asked Ben if it sounded like a poor little Navara being pushed by a two-ton trailer? Before he could answer we could see them on the track coming in and they were followed closely by Alan and Ann.

Once they found us and set up to a degree it was time to talk about the days drive. After some discussion, I put my foot in my mouth (with a little help from David) and ended up leading the trip to Mt Useful. This trip was a wonderful example of how to pivot with Melbourne's weather.

As we moved along Donnelly's Creek track, we did try and stop at a few historic sites. Between the traffic, weather and hunters shooting in the area around the trip, the track



was largely nonstop. We turned left onto Sprines Rd. We started to get snow falling at around 1007 metres. There was some entertaining debate about who's GPS was right due to varying levels being recorded.

Mt Useful Fire Tower is around 1400 metres and at this point we had snow on the ground. Absolutely no view from the lookout thanks to the clouds being on us but we got snow!

At this point we had lunch and when finished, the group split in two. Four cars continued over Mount Selma and the other four headed back to camp the way we came. Once back at camp with newly collected firewood we looked forward to dinner. I cooked butter chicken for all that wanted and others cooked bits and pieces. Not being able to cook at the fire due to weather, I used my pressure pack cooker. It struggled with the wind and cool climate but we still reached a good result according to those who risked a try at my cooking.



Trip Report: 50th Anniversary Club Trip Merringtons Campground

Date: 13th-15th September 2024

Trip By: David

Report: Ken Kilby

Participants:

1. Neville
2. Ken
3. Ben & Megan
4. Dean and Joy
5. Michael
6. Dave & Caroline
7. Anne & Allan
8. Andy & Suzy

The weather forecast for the weekend promised to be cold and wet with possible snow. Not exactly an ideal situation for a camping trip, but as it turned out the wintry weather provided more snow than the Club snow trip in August.

The trip had sixteen cars on the books to attend but it seemed like the cold weather put a few off and only half made the journey.

Dean & Joy, Andy and Suzy arrived early on Friday, Neville, Ken & Michael arrived Friday night, with Dave, Caroline, Alan, Anne, Ben and Megan arriving Saturday morning.



Saturday morning started out cold and wet with low clouds, so it was decided for safety not to do any hard tracks and just take it easy.



Dean and Joy led the way to Mt Useful taking only main tracks passing by O'Toole's campground and stopping at some of the plaques that are dotted around the area with interesting history and stories from the gold rush of the mid 1800's. Driving around the area these days, it's hard to imagine that it once bustled with people, towns and mining activities, all now reclaimed by the bush.

Along the way we also checked out an old gold mining shaft & a ramshackle hut with an interesting "Dunny" out the back. The door had "carefully" added ventilation holes in the door courtesy of a shot gun.



At 1000 meters the first snow started to fall and which continued throughout the day. There were still a few flakes falling later in the afternoon as we turned back onto Merringtons Track which is at only 700 meters.

By now, the snow was getting heavier the higher we went with everybody enjoying the show. For some it was their first experience of snow driving while it was actually snowing.

We arrived at the summit of Mt Useful in time for lunch and a hot pie hit the spot. It was all clouded in, so no views were to be had, and of course we had to get all the cars lined up for the traditional photo shoot.

For the return trip, we separated into two groups with Dean's group heading back to camp and Neville, Ken, Michael, Andy and Suzy continuing towards Mt Selma.

Passing over Mt Selma we turned towards Aberfeldy where we joined back up with the main Woods Point Road.

Along the way we stopped to collect some firewood with Neville saying, “this is the first time I’ve collected firewood in a blizzard”.



Passing through Aberfeldy was interesting as it was completely white all over and looked quite spectacular.

Heading back, we stopped at the remains of an old Horse watering station and the historic grave of Kitty Cane who was buried by the roadside in the 1860’s. A plaque at the grave site provides an interesting and funny story into why she never made it to the Aberfeldy Cemetery.



Kitty Cane's Grave c. 1860's



Former dance girl Catherine "Kitty" Cane set up a wayside Hotel near this site. The road from Walhalla to Woods Point was very busy in the 1860s. Weary travellers found numerous unlicensed shanties and rough shelters along the way. She was well known and much loved, but the business was short lived.

Kitty Cane died suddenly soon after her business opened.

Hearing the sad news local miners decided to give her a grand send off. Unfortunately excessive tavern stops along the way meant most were incapacitated by the time they arrived at her establishment.



Kitty Cane's 22 stone weight posed a problem for the packhorses that were to carry her to the Aberfeldy cemetery. It was decided she be laid to rest here, a short distance from her shanty.

Kitty Cane also had an interest in mining, owning shares in the Happy-Go-Lucky Mine.

We arrived back at camp and met up with the other group with a good supply of wood for the night.

Thanks to Dave and Caroline for putting up two gazebos next to the Fire as it kept raining on and off during the rest of the day and night. It was a case of moving back and forth for the warmth of the fire or the protection of the shelter. It hailed at one stage and the temperature dropped considerably as it passed through.



By 8:00pm water on the tents and cars had frozen and was so cold that Alan actually put some long pants on.

By 10pm everyone was looking for their warm beds with no late stayers like Friday night.

Sunday morning had blue skies but was still cold with ice on the tents.

After packing up our next stop was the Visitor car park at Thomson Dam for airing up and saying our goodbyes. Once back onto the Woods Point Road we were able to see Mt Baw Baw, which had received a really good covering of snow.

The cold weather certainly didn't dampen anyone's spirits, but as mentioned by Sally, provided the conditions that make for lasting memories.

Ken.

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER
SEPTEMBER 1976

P.O. Box 778.
DANDENONG. 3175.

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AUGUST MEETING REPORT

The August meeting was the first full meeting for the new committee. Although a number of members were away on the annual trek (this year being Fraser Island) we had a good turn up for the meeting.

Our guest speaker for the meeting was Mr. Brian Lundberg from Graviner Fire Protection Co. He showed a couple of very interesting films on fire protection followed by an equally interesting practical demonstration with B.C.F. extinguishers. Please see John Lake if you wish to purchase an extinguisher at the special price quoted at the meeting.

The name for the clubs newsletter was voted on and after a close ballot, "Free Wheeling" suggested by Daryl Napper was the winner.

A number of members who were at the meeting volunteered to help in the track survey for the F.W.D Association report. The survey will be carried out over the weekend of October 9th & 10th in the Licola, Wombat Spur, McAlister Springs area.

A meeting of those who wish to participate will be held at Geoff Mann's on Wednesday 29th September to discuss what is required from the survey teams. The committee welcomes suggestions from members for activities, trips etc. Please don't keep suggestions to yourselves, use the suggestion box or see Bluey Male or Dianne Reynolds. Remember the committee is there to serve you.

PROPOSED SEPTEMBER MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 28th September. Entertainment will be the film "Cattle Carters" and we also hope to have Theis Toyotas promotional films.

RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP

The deadline for rejoining was 31st August 1976, and membership is now open - first come first served, the limit is 80 and at this printing we have 56 paid up members.

DATES TO REMEMBER

28th September	Monthly meeting held at Dandenong library at 7.30 p.m.
29th September	Meeting at Geoff Mann's to prepare for the Track Survey.
9th - 10th October	Track Survey (in lieu of Monthly trip) to be carried out in Licola area. Contact Geoff Mann. T/N 904556.
Late October	Social Night - to be confirmed at monthly meeting
26th October	Monthly meeting at Dandenong Library 7.30. p.m.

13th November

Social Night - Hunter Lodge, Dorset Rd. Croydon.
7.00 p.m. - 12.00 p.m. Cost \$9.50 per head.
We have a booking for 30 which must be confirmed
with Hunters Lodge on 29th September. We will
therefore need a firm yes or no, plus \$2.00 deposit
per head at the September meeting on 28th Sept.

ALTERATION TO COMMITTEE LIST

Please note the following alterations to the list of committee Members and
their addresses -

1: PRESIDENT John Lake
 1 Logan St.,
 NOBLE PARK. T/N 792-2006.

2: SECRETARY Geoff Mann
 36 Mill St.,
 ASPENDALE. T/N 90 4556.

FOR SALE

For sale: one land rover, series 2A, L.W.B Hard top, fitted with warn
freewheeling hubs, new 202 holder motor, new battery, bull bar, tow bar,
pack rack, registered until January, R.W.C fair condition. Jeep service tyres,
URGENT SALE, \$2,300 or best offer. Phone Daryl Napper. 052-434378 A.H.
052-216177 Work.

For sale: or trade, one P.T.O off a 5 ton Ford. Phone Charlie Farrugia.
Phone No. 546 3919 A.H.

For sale: one cannon 518 movie camera - has power zoom and carry case.
\$130.00. Phone Rob McKay 703 1270.

For sale: Series 2L/Rover motor stripped - rebored and new pistons, best offer.

For sale: Akai Tape Deck 4100 Ex condition. \$150.00
Bolex H.S. Movie camera 100 ft capacity spools 5.5mm switar, 12.5mm
macro-switar, 150mm yuar lens \$350.00 O.N.O. John Lake 792 2066.

NARBETHONG B.B.Q.

After meeting at the Narbethong Hotel, nine vehicles moved off to the Cross Country Jeep Club grounds and set up for a B.B.Q. in fine weather. Prior to eating, it was decided to go for a short drive, and after locating a small quarry, some of the more enthusiastic attempted to climb the rather steep (and slippery) wall from the base of the quarry. All those who attempted were successful, however not without incident:

1. Geoff Mann decided on his 49th try that perhaps the problem was caused by a too lengthy exhaust pipe impeding the gas flow. He immediately remedied this with an almighty crunch while executing a high speed rear slide down the slope.
2. Steve decided that going up was too easy, so attempted a down hill run in 2 wheel drive (only because his rear wheels decided they had had enough and took the easy way down - in the air.).
3. Our illustrious president after a flying start pulling some 20,000 revs. cleared the top with wheels clawing at thin air - and then expired.
4. And the Suzuki? It walked up with a grin all over its radiator, or what ever it is those things have.

After an enjoyable lunch, three vehicles left for a further jaunt. One Nissan, one Toyota and one Landy. Probably the easiest way to describe this is by saying that a 2 hour afternoon run turned into a 4-5 hour enjoyable headache, and note some of the more interesting escapades:

Standard Nissan tyres are useless on slippery uphill runs.

Contrary to all beliefs, Toyotas do get stuck on steep slopes off the edge of the track.

Standard Nissan tyres are useless on slippery downhill runs.

Landy's with Holden motors do boil.

Standard Nissan tyres are useless in slippery bog holes.

Toyotas do require to be winched up the side of mountains.

Landy's with soft wide tyres are good for pulling Nissan's with useless tyres.

Beware of locals doing a good deed by leading a pleasant afternoon drive.

Toyotas do get stuck minutes (no, seconds) after being winched out of embarrassing situations.

Standard Nissan tyres are useless.

FRASER ISLAND REPORT

by BLUEY MALE

Four vehicles left Dandenong at 8.30 a.m. Sunday August 15th and met another at Lilydale. Two more vehicles left Monday afternoon and all met at the Warrumbungle National Park Tuesday lunch time. Much mountaineering and photogtaphy was the order of the day. And plenty of sore feet and aching muscles that evening.

The next day the convoy of seven set off for Lightening Ridge opal fields to make our fortune. But I haven't seen anybody driving new vehicles yet. After a couple of very enjoyable days at the Ridge, we set sail for the coast and Fraser Island. After comping the night at Rainbow Beach we were all up early and ready to drive the eight miles along the beach to catch the ferry across to the Island. Once on the Island we drove about twenty five miles, located a spot and set up our first camp. Spent a few days sightseeing fishing and just laying in the sun "Fabulous". A fishermans dream, bream, whiting, dart, and tailor to be caught at ones fancy.

After a few days we shifted camp another thirty miles up the beach. From here we travelled inland and inspected the various lakes and rain forests. Also travelled further north to Indian Head and Orchid Beach.

After about eight days on the Island it was time to leave so we made our way south, and across to the mainland. We stocked up with supplies and fuel etc. and drove on down the beach again until we reached Noosa Heads. All told on our trip south, we travelled 150 miles, less than thirty feet from the waters edge. Thats something that you cannot do in Victoria.

We spent a day at leisure on the Gold Coast as every one had their own ideas as to what they wanted to do. The next day we headed for home and away from 22 & 23 degrees to 10 & 11 "Brrrrr" there goes my sun tan.

Bill & Peter stayed on for another week, lucky devils. All had a very enjoyable trip, can't wait to get back there again.

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THE LANDROVER OWNERS PSALM

from Brisbane 4.W.D. Magazine.

The Landrover is my car, I shall not want another,
It maketh me to lie down in muddy places.
It tireth my soul.
It taketh me in the paths of disgrace for its name sake.

Yea! Tho' I ride through the valleys,
I walk up the hills.
I shall have no comfort whilst it is with me.

The creaks in the springs, they discomfort me.
Thou' breakest down in the presence of mine enemies.

Thou annointest my head with oil.
Thy radiator runneth over.
Surely if this thing shall follow me all the day of my life.
Then I shall dwell in the Dunny forever.

ASSOCIATION NOTES

by BRIAN REYNOLDS

GENERAL MEETING 16/9/76

1: TRACK CLOSURES

The Association has requested the Ombudsman to take up the case of track closures within the Dargo High Plains, on the basis that the closures are illegal due to varying opinions, firstly, on what constitutes a "track", and secondly, which Government department has responsibility for the tracks, Forests Commission or Soil Conservation Authority. The Ombudsman has replied, agreeing to pursue the matter.

2: OVERLANDER MAGAZINE

Overlander have suggested that the Association prepare a series of articles for publication in the magazine, covering aims and roles of 4 x 4 driving, environmental aspect etc., under the association banner. The suggestion has been accepted, and each member club has been requested to compile an article for inclusion in the series.

3: HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Delegation from the Association was received by a representative of the Health Dept. to discuss that bodies influence on the closure of the Thompson River Catchment. Despite presenting a strong argument, the Dept. refuse to veer from their policy of no access.

4: CONVOYS

Clubs were reminded of their verbal agreement to a general policy that trip convoys be limited to a maximum of 10 vehicles.

5: NEWSLETTER

Meeting being convened in the near future of all club newsletter editors to decide on the feasibility of producing a combined club newsletter once per year.

6: LEGAL FUNDS - RAFFLE

A raffle is being organised in the near future for the purpose of raising funds to meet legal costs in the fight to prevent track closures etc. Tickets will be \$1.00 each, and the prizes as follows:

- 1st: Choice of tyres to value of \$300.00
- 2nd: Gas/electric fridge
- 3rd: Gas B.B.Q.

7: "ENVIRONMENT '76" EXHIBITION

The Association is preparing a stand at the above exhibition which will be running from 8th October to 13th October at the Exhibition buildings.

9: THOMPSON RIVER CLOSURE

Delegation received by the Minister for Conservation Mr. Borthwich to discuss closure of Thompson River Catchment. The minister was particularly receptive towards our cause, agreeing that 4 x 4 drivers have a right of access to public land. Particular emphasis was placed on the fericto area due to historical value.

10: BUSHWALKING CONVENTION

Following on invitation to address the above convention, the association provided a speaker to talk on the various aspects of 4 x 4 driving.

11: LAND AVAILABLE

The association and member clubs have been offered the use of a 200 acre property at Bonnie Doon for weekend trips, driver education, Christmas parties etc. at a nominal cost.

Victorian Association of 4 Wheel Drive Clubs

Address all correspondence to :

~~XXXXXX~~
The Secretary, c/- 2 Hardy Avenue, Craigieburn. VIC. 3064.

4th. September, 1976.

URGENT!

The Secretary:

c.c. Association-Delegate:

*Victorian A.W.O. Club. - - Rob McKay.
Geoff Mann*

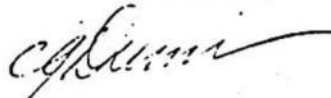
Dear Sir or Madam,

Further to our previous conversation re participation of the Association in the Environment '76 Exhibition 8th- 13th October, the general consensus of opinion is that the Association should be represented. It is now up to all clubs to make a positive contribution as time is short.

We ask that you distribute the attached information to your members as soon as possible. If your next meeting is too late to allow full club participation, we ask you to advise by phone members whom you believe willing and able to assist.

It would be of great assistance to me if you could give some rough indication by phone at an early date, of the extent of the contribution your club can make.

Yours faithfully,



Colin Dunn, Executive Officer

Victorian L.W.D.C.

TO ALL FOUR WHEEL DRIVE CLUBS

Fellow Four Wheel Drivers, as you know, this Association has been formed for just on two years now, it was born out of necessity due to an increasing amount of bad publicity which has been levelled at Four Wheel Drivers from people who believe they have a devine right to the bush and that there is no room for anybody else. It is the Association's job to make sure that the opinion of these groups does not overcloud the need and rights of others.

It has been noted after two years of hard work with various Government Departments that the thing most worrying to them is public outcry on any issue that is within their control. It is for this reason I am putting pen to paper to urge you, as Four Wheel Drivers and members of the public with rights, to support your Association with written submission. Unjustified track closure and unfair restriction is a matter that must affect each member, but for different reasons. So it is up to you to get your side of the story across, so get out the pen now, don't leave it to someone else to do it.

Finally, not all Clubs have had a delegate at each meeting of the Association which is a pity because it tends to increase the workload on those that attend, also it does not give the Clubs concerned the representation that they are entitled to. So in order that your Club will be well represented in the future, I suggest you start looking for and grooming delegates now.

If you feel that you should be allowed to use the bush just like the other bloke, then think about what you could do to help your Club or the Association win our right to freedom. Remember, the squeaky wheel gets the grease, so keep squeaking.

G. Campbell
G. CAMPBELL
PRESIDENT V.A.F.W.D.C.

H E L P !

WHAT - WHO ? Why yourself!

HOW? by being on the TEAM.

WHEN? October 8 - 13th.

WHERE? At the ENVIRONMENT '76 Exhibition
at the Exhibition Building, Melbourne.

What's that got to do with 4 W Driving and Me?

Well, ENVIRONMENT '76 is a trade and public expose of the problems that are destroying the world we live in. What is being done. What isn't being done. What must to done. The solutions. The alternatives.

On display will be equipment, products and services that enter the areas of environment protection, improvement, and solution - in all facets including: Recreational activities which contribute - not destroy, as well as fourteen other facets covering travel, camping, recycling, noise pollution, out-door activities, arts and crafts, health, landscaping, fitness, apparel, etc.

The exhibition is backed by the Ministry for Conservation and the Education Dept., with competition in schools, the best of which will be mounting displays, the business world will be there, and to finish off, our old friends, the Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs and the Victorian National Parks Association have space booked.

Here is an opportunity to present ourselves to the public, industry, and government as the responsible, bush based recreation we are, to wash away the misconception many people have about 4WD owners, and to show the public what practical conservation can achieve - no armchair rhetoric in our camp!

What specifically does the 4WD Association need to mount this display?

- 1: Floor space at Exhibition - 20 ft x 10 ft obtained.
- 2: Partitions 40ft x 8ft - already manufactured.
- 3: A display - That's up to US.
- 4: Approximately 60 willing workers to man the display, 2 at a time, 3 shifts a day would mean no one person should be there alone for more than 4 hours. And ladies, don't think it's a male concern. We hope the ladies will be in there punting for our side - the old man can mind the kids for a change. You will be expected to hand out pamphlets, sell "Keep the green scene clean" stickers, answer questions about your club, and protect the display from hordes of school kids who will be present.
- 5: A vehicle - SWB or small make , limited advertising allowed.
- 6: Photos - a. Slides for audio visual presentation. Anyone having good quality slides of works carried out by your club, or of the recreation, is requested to make them available so a good showing can be organized.
 - b. Black and whites that can be blown up - someone to blow them up - an offer has already been made, but let's share the costs around.
 - c. Maybe someone even has the ability to obtain colour blow ups.
 - d. Theme Environment.
 - e. If anyone has a suitable movie it may be of use.

HELP! cont...

- 7: Carpenter - partitions erection - display stands.
- 8: Painters, signwriters, Artists.
- 9: Large potted Eucalypt.
- 10: Display lights.
- 11: Audio Visual slide or film projector system.
- 12: Display stand - rotating box or triangle type.
- 13: Also wanted and organizer to supervise works, meetings, and roster available manpower on two weekends - before and during show - to assist Association Public Relations Officer.

Please don't be backward: the show must go on, and it won't without you. The time left to organize things is, as you can see, very limited.

All persons interested please contact Colin Dunn on 308 1485, or your own club committee, immediately so a meeting may be arranged. Possible date is Friday, 24th September - but if you have some ideas or something to contribute please let me know prior to the above date.

Mr. Colin Dunn.
(Public Relations Officer)

Victorian Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs.

FREE



WHEELING

Registered for posting as a publication

CATEGORY "B"

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - DECEMBER, 1980.

On behalf of the committee I would like to wish every member and their families a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

In the new year we have quite a few trips planned. Starting in January on the 24th two trips. one to Talbotulle led by Peter Rowe and Andy Merlo's trip to the Avon River Area Both should be very good trips. If there is a place of interest or an event you would like to go to or participate in don't hesitate in letting us know your ideas, remember we have a suggestion box at the general meeting or approach a committee member.

Finally the club has one frustrated Newsletter editor. Not enough people contributing to this mag. If you have anything for Its and Bits, articles or jokes . see Andy.

See you in the New Year.

JOHN.

SOCIAL SECRETARY REPORT.

G---day.

There's not much to say this close to Christmas but I hope everyone has enjoyed functions arranged by the club during the year and I hope you enjoyed the Christmas party at the Admiral Benbow and the kids Christmas party at Kirth Kiln.

I would like to see a few more suggestions from the floor next year and we on the committee will see if we can arrange them. We have a few things planned for early in the year but more about them next year.

I hope you all have a very merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year and most of all look after yourselves over the holiday period both on the road and in whatever else you may be doing.

Remember, you have to be around next year to tell us what you have been doing.

MERRY CHRISTMAS
HAPPY NEW YEAR
AND
GOOD LUCK IN THE FUTURE

Your social sec.

TOM.

THINGS TO COME

Christmas Trip : No Venue

AUSTRALIA DAY

Trip A : Venue : Talbotvill via Dargo.

Time : 9.00a.m. outside Dargo pub Saturday morning
(Peter Rowe will be going up on Friday Night)

Trips : Maybe into Wonnangatta and around surrounding areas.

Fuel : 2 Jerry cans - supplies 3 days

Grade : B

Trip Leader

: Peter Rowe : all members wishing to go along will have to contact Peter on 857 6422 not later than the 21st January, 1981.

Trip B : Venue : Golden Point Hut - Avon River - Maffra

Time : Depart Dandy Library 7.00a.m. Sat. morn.

Trips : Throughout surrounding area.

Fuel : 2 Jerry cans - supplies 3 days

Grade : B

Trip Leader

: Andy Merlo : please ring on 579 4119a.h. if you wish to come

CASINO NIGHT - Saturday, 14th February, 1981.

Hosts : Toyota Landcruiser Club of Victoria

Venue : North Melbourne Football Club

Cost : \$ 7.00 per head, supper served and bar facilities.

This is an annual event and is a good night, bookings have to be made by the 8th January, 1981.
More details from Brian Tuck.

NARBETHONG

The final date for numbers is now the 31st December, if your not on the list and wish to go contact Brian Tuck on 93 1484 *Paul for 2 people*

GIPPSLAND 4WD CLUB - 2nd and 3rd May, 1981

Venue : Annual "Go-Down" at Lardner Park, similar to activities at "Narby".

Cost : \$ 10.00 per head, under 16 free.

Details : Appear in later newsletter

IN THE FUTURE

TRIPS TO - WOODS POINT
- NOOGEE

- MOUNT TERIBBLE
- WATERWHEEL DONNELLYS

DAY TRIP TO WILHILMINA FALLS
- FISHING TRIP
- CANOE

- OTWAYS
- BIG RIVER (Training Tr

Also the usual rallies and navigation trials

LAST MEETING 25th November

We had 37 members and 1 visitor in attendance. Phil Alder gave a report in the Nissan Big River Weekend which sounded quite interesting and Geoff gave a report on the Dandenong Ranges Bush Dance (see story). The raffle as a 12v fluoro light which was won by Bluey Male.

NEXT MEETING - 27th January, 1981

Don Montague will show some early stages of Cape York and David Heard will show Narby 1980.

TRIP CLASSIFICATIONS:

'A' Grade: Extensive use of 4WD: Tracks maybe difficult to negotiate - chains should be carried along with towing slings and anchor points: good winter tread pattern tyres are a must. Trip leader has the right to refuse a vehicle if above points are not met. Types of conditions likely to be met include: steep climbs and descents on all surfaces - rocky, muddy etc. mud & snow, deep river crossings and overgrown tracks. Max. six vehicles.

'B' Grade: Virtually same conditions as 'A' Grade but track condition is more favourable. Good tyres are a must as well as necessary recovery gear. Max 10 vehicles.

'C' Grade: Very limited use of 4WD. These trips include car rallies etc. Type of tyres doesnot matter and recovery gear not essential.

No maximum number of vehicles.

In all above cases vehicles should be in sound mechanical condition and carry the basic spare part requirements as listed in previous Newsletters.

THE COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE EXPRESS THE FACT THAT IF IN THE OPINION OF THE TRIP LEADER A VEHICLE IS NOT SUITABLE FOR A TRIP THEN THAT VEHICLE MAY BE REFUSED PERMISSION TO PARTAKE.

CLUB RADIO's — FOR HIRE
2 sets available at \$1.00 per DAY

DANDENONG RANGERS FOUR WHEEL DRIVE CLUB BUSH DANCE

ROLL CALL : Geoff, Heather, Montague family, Phil and Debby, Peter and Debbie, Geoff and Wendy, Peter Tracy, the Hinks family, Tony and Julie and Liala and Tom.

Let me start this report by telling the people who didn't attend this dance that they missed a really good evening. Not many functions can supply all that entertainment and food for only \$ 3.50.

Mr. Terry Hinks and wife were first to arrive, about one hour early, with their main aim fulfilled. They had a table and a place to sit. Then the next six arrived armed with eskies, glasses and wives, and then Peter and Tracy arrived.

We all sat down at the table, parked our eskies and reluctantly pulled a bottle of beer out of the ice. In the eskie was also wine for later. A brisk conversation sprung up between those in attendance which is unusual when the grog comes out.

Then the rest of the mob arrived almost simultaneously at about which time the music also started. It wasn't long before everybody was out on the dance floor showing off their own personal skills. (Dancing that is)

Since the evening was warm and there was much jumping up and down, drinking, and jumping around, and drinking, and jumping up and down etc. Before we knew it, there were approximately 400 soaked armpits on the dance floor. They were attached to 200 hot happy people having a good time.

It was quite obvious after a while that the participating Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club members were having difficulties in untying their feet after some quite fancy dancing.

When each dance session was over the menfolk would disappear outside into the coolness of the night for a quick cooling session.

Later in the evening supper was provided. This brought out our VFWDC experimenting squad, who, in their dedication, were trying to see how far the human skin could stretch. After numerous assaults on the supper table and belly buttons nearly falling out it was unanimously agreed that skins stretches a long way.

After a few more dances, a few more ales, a bit more nibbling and a lot more leaking in the pits we all dribbled our way home.

I would like to congratulate the DRFWDC for the tremendous evening and recommend for more people from our club to attend next year.

Thanks for the company at our table and believe me, everyone of them is worth dancing with.

This is Tom Branchna signing off.

See you there next year.

YOU'LL BE SORRY YOU MISSED THIS ONE.

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FOR SALE

FOR SALE

FOR SALE

FOR SALE

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

Contact your Committee...

