

APR 1981



FREE WHEELING



COVER: PETER ROWE SAND DUNE BETWEEN DALHOUSIE - BIRDSVILLE OCTOBER 1980

Registered for posting as a publication

CATEGORY "B"

VICTORIAN FOUR WHEEL DRIVE CLUB



COMMITTEE 1980-81

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
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MEETINGS LAST TUESDAY
OF THE MONTH AT DANDENONG
LIBRARY

CORRESPONDENCE
P.O. BOX 778,
DANDENONG



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Congratulations to the victorious Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Cricket Team. We went into the match underdogs (being well beaten by the Nissan Club the previous season) but did the Club proud. Above average poor fielding, excellent bowling (only thirty odd wides), put us in the box seat to win the match. Batting second, our number one and three batsmen backed up by the all rounders, gave us a fine five wicket victory. Well done Team!

Highlight of the match was a superb, on the run, one handed catch by a Nissan Club player. Look out W.B.C.

Thanks to Terry for letting us have the use of the oval again. Terry prepared an excellent batting pitch with a little variation in it for the bowlers.

Wedding bells are ringing again. Julie and Lindsay are to be married on the 29th March. On behalf of the Club, I would like to wish them both all the best on the day and happiness in their future lives together. (Hope they send the Club a honeymoon Trip report.)

Speaking of newly weds, there's a rumour going around that Phil and Debbie have finally left on their round Oz Trip.

Don't forget, Jeff McAmara will be present at this month's meeting to speak about locking Diff's as fitted to Land Rovers. Shortly, he hopes to have one to suit Toyota Land Cruisers.

Well that's it for now - short and sweet again.

JOHN

p.s. Please note my phone number on the committee page is incorrect - it should be 754 3932.

ALL CLUBS PLEASE NOTE:

FOREST COMMISSION TRACK CLOSURES IN THE OTWAYS

1. Painkalac Dam access road from Bambra-Aireys Inlet Road through to the Gentle Annie Track.
2. Allen Dam access road from the Cora Lynn Creek crossing.
3. Cora Lynn Track
4. Henderson track.

These roads have been closed initially until 31/12/1981 to prevent pollution of the town water supplies to Lorne and Aireys Inlet.

The Forest Commission has extended the road closures on the following roads and tracks until 31/12/1981

1. Ironbark Spur and eastern link roads
2. Garvey Track to coast link
3. Cumberland Track (lower section)
4. Jamieson Track
5. Kennett-Wye Tracks

These roads and tracks have been closed to prevent further soil erosion and to allow them to stabilize.

All these closed roads and tracks are closed to ALL vehicular traffic including trail bikes. "Road Closed" barriers have been placed at the entrances to all the roads.

signed: RJ Stone,
District Forester,
Eastern Otways.

THINGS TO COME

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

SATURDAY - SUNDAY 9th, 10th May.

Venue : Mt. Terrible - Gaffenys Creek.
Time : 6.00a.m. - Outside ~~Food Factory~~, ~~Warrumbungle~~.
Fuel : Full Tank and 40 litres. ^ WOODSPOINT PUB
Grade : 'A'
Trip Leader : David Heard

Saturday - Sunday 9th - 10th May

Venue : Trip to Bluff Hut
Time : 8.00 a.m. Mansfield Pub
Fuel : Full tank and 20 litres
Grade : 'B'
Trip
Leader: P. Howden

Sunday 24th May

Venue : Day trip around Powelltown area
Depart : Dandenong Library 8.00 a.m.
Fuel : Full tank
Lunch : $\frac{1}{2}$ hour lunch stop
Grade : 'B'
Trip
Leader : A. Merlo

SUNDAY 21st June.

Venue : Wilhilmina Falls.
Trip Leader : John Thom - more details later.

IN THE FUTURE

| | | |
|-------------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| TRIPS TO | - WOODS POINT | - MOUNT TERIBBLE |
| | - NOOGEE | - WATERWHEEL DONNELLYS |
| DAY TRIP TO | WILHILMINA FALLS | - OTWAYS |
| | - FISHING TRIP | - BIG RIVER (Training Trip) |
| | - CANOE | |

Also the usual rallies and navigation trials.

MEETING - 24TH FEBRUARY

Trip report on Narby was given, then the raffle which was a set of glasses was drawn and won by Andrew Guiney - John Lake did the honors by being ticket seller. After the break Peter Rowe showed us his slides of Central Australia when on a R.A.C.V. trip.

LAST MEETING - 31ST MARCH

Jack Mac Narmara gave a talk on his business as a differential specialist.

TECHNICAL HINTS

One of the most annoying things to happen in four wheel driving is to have some thing come loose, start rattling, an intermittent fault due to a loose wire or a blown fuse. You know if will only take a couple of minutes to fix but your tool box is half an hour away under all the other items in the back.

It is here where the "Mini Toolkit" comes into its own. Kept under the dirvers seat or in the glove box in a "Tool Roll" (as found in most European cars) it can be located instantly as soon as you stop at the next Tinny Break and that annoying fault rectified before anyone has had a chance to beat you to a Ring Thing.

A typical mini toolkit would contain:-

- Tyre Pressure Guage
- Spanner O/E 7/16 x 1/2" A/F 12mm x 13mm (Metric)
- Spanner 9/16 x 5/8" A/F 14mm x 17mm
- Spanner Adjustable 6"
- Screwdriver 2"
- Screwdriver 6"
- Screwdriver 6" Philips
- Screwdriver Stubby
- Pliers 6"
- Adhesive Tape 1 Roll
- Fuses Mixed selection



Social Section Connection

GOOD DAY MEMBERS;

A few functions have been organized for the coming months.

These include -

- 1) Bowling knight at Mentone Bowl on the 13th June, Saturday at 7 p.m. Two lanes have been booked for two games each per lane. This will cost \$1.35 per game plus 30 ¢ for shoes. Hope you can come.
- 2) The Naughty Ninety's Adults Christmas Party has been booked for Saturday the 21st of November. Cost per head is \$17.50 which includes food and entertainment. Drinks can be bought on the premises. We have booked for 50 so please come along.
- 3) The Admiral Benbow knight is still on the 4th of July.
- 4) A tentative day trip for the family at Tarago Falls. This would entail B.Y.O. everything for B.B.Q. etc. and a walk up to the falls.
- 5) A tentative weekend wine tasting trip to the Rutherglen area travelling by coach. More about this later.

see you at the meeting

Tom

FOR SALE

FOR SALE

FOR SALE

FOR SALE

FOR SALE

Half finished pack rack \$5.00 See Peter Wall 547 3991

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Lift up camper roof suit any vehicle with roof rack \$250.00 O.N.O.

Contact: Paul Taylor (547 3353) or Peter Wall (547 3991)

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5 Nissan Patrol Rims \$15.00 each P. Rowe 857 6422

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Pack rack to suit Toyota Landcruiser - factory made - used once - \$100.00

Bull bar suit Toyota - \$30.00 Phone 791 6425

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Hayman Reese Tow Bar (square section) R492 to suit Toyota S.W.B. \$60.00

Mobelec "Magnum" Electronic ignition to suit Toyota 2F Motor as new \$50.00

V. Handley 798 2151

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T. Magrath. 783 5362

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CONTACT. A. BRUCE 546 6024

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(News and views of the Victorian Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs).

THE V.A.F.W.D.C. AND THE C.C.V?

The V.A.F.W.D.C. has been a member of the Conservation Council of Victoria for several years now. The C.C.V. being made up of interested groups and generously financed by Government grants.

In many respects the ideologies on conservation and use of the bush environment of our 2 groups are similar. It has been this concern and interest in the environment that prompted our original membership.

However, along with these similarities, there is often bias shown against our Association. We have often been recorded in their meeting minutes as the "four wheel drive clubs", or our presence not acknowledged at all.

Our delegates have diligently attended their meetings and been constantly frustrated in forwarding constructive ideas.

The C.C.V. is made up of a splattering of genuine interest recreation/conservation groups and numerous 'odd bod' radical groups, hell-bent on pursuing selfish, irrational aims. These groups, along with the vocal 'armchair experts' appear to have infiltrated the executive to the stage that conservation is no longer a rational assessment of land use, or alternatives, or compromise, but is now a case of opposing everything with no room for compromise, or recognition of needs and requirements of genuine member groups.

As a result of questions asked at a conference entitled "Understanding the Alps", held last March, the C.C.V. approached the Association to prepare a policy on 4WD touring. This policy was duly written and presented to the Council who then re-wrote and substantially altered the meaning of several of the points stated in our policy. One instance being that the introduction to the policy was removed in whole because it stated that "4WD touring is a legitimate recreational activity". This was unacceptable to the C.C.V!

The deletion of this paragraph substantiates the fact that as a member Association of the C.C.V. we are in fact not recognised as being representative of a legitimate recreation.

This approach makes a mockery of the C.C.V.'s policy that it recognises the mass of information and expertise held by its member organisations.

The Association submitted several amendments to the C.C.V. regarding this policy to make it more acceptable, but again due to our lack of support the doctored version remains their policy.

Following reports to the Association of the disgraceful condition that bushwalkers have left Lake Tarli Karng over the past few years (remembering that it has been closed to vehicular access for some years now), a motion was submitted to the Council stating that, "the V.A.F.W.D.C. proposes that the C.C.V. through its member organisations, supports and initiates a major clean up of the Lake Tarli Karng area".

'The Association would offer its resources to assist the C.C.V. in such a clean up by the Federation of Walking Clubs and the Victorian Orienteering Association. As the access is, and has been closed to vehicular traffic for several years, we would like to assist in cleaning up the area by removing all garbage which could be carried out by the above and other interested groups to the nearest road access point'.

This proposal was not acceptable to the C.C.V. who insisted that the motion be amended. Their amendment removed all reference to the V.A.F.W.D.C. The amended motion was passed, but despite our lack of recognition, the Association has been asked by the C.C.V. to co-ordinate the activity, but not to receive any credit for the operation.

The Association intends to play its part in initiating this clean up, by sticking to our original proviso, and we ask that member clubs be prepared to assist by attending on the day with trailers for any rubbish that will be carried out.

We will be ensuring that publicity and credit is given to the correct organisation.

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 doesn't 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.

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