

FEB. 87.



# FREE WHEELING



# COMMITTEE 1986 - 1987

PRES David Heard  
16 Hardy St,  
Selby 3159  
754 8406

VICE PRES Pat Casey  
11 Patterson St  
Carnegie 3163  
570 6452

SEC Mark Templeton  
55 Martin st  
Belgrave 3160  
754 3667

TREAS Rob Ayton  
8 Minerva Cres  
Vermont St 3133  
232 0378

ASS SEC Tom Brachna  
11 Sunnyvale Crt  
Hampton Park 3976  
799 1998

SOC Gloria Templeton  
SEC 55 Martin st  
Belgrave 3160  
754 3667

COMMITTEE Steve Alder  
5 Corramar Cres  
Belgrave 3160  
754 7294

Murray Shaw  
53 Liverpool Rd  
Kilsyth 3137  
725 4037

Brian Tuck  
9 Peterfields Crt  
The Basin 3154  
762 5981

## ASSOCIATION DELEGATES

Ricky Rycken  
798 8506

Peter Pink  
763 7434

Tom Brachna  
799 1998

## TRIP CLASSIFICATIONS:

'A' Grade: Extensive use of 4 WD. Tracks may be 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, mud & snow, deep river crossing and overgrown tracks.  
Max. 6 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 4 wd. These trips include car rallies ect. Type of tyres does not matter and recovery gear still essential.  
No Max. Vehicles.

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

The Committee would like to 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.

Newsletter items to Mark Templeton by General Meetings at the latest.

MEETINGS LAST TUESDAY OF THE  
MONTH AT THE DANDENONG LIBRARY

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## PRESIDENTS REPORT

FEBRUARY 1987

Last meeting the entertainment was provided by Slick 50 and turned out to be late night. (Because the club invites resrepresentatives from different companies to demonstate their products, it does not mean we advise their use, the decision is yours after you have listened to their story and sorted out the bullshit,)

Also discussed at the meeting was the proposal that potential new members attend at least three meetings and one trip before being eligible for membership. All were in favour.

The raffle prize was a pair of driving lights, won by Murray Shaw. Vin Handley brought in a sectioned swing motor from an Engel fridge, so now we know what goes "BONK" inside every time we hit a bump.

The club calendar is looking good but we still need more trips and magazine articles. How about it, let the printing press earn it's keep.

Next meeting we would like to decide on a hall for our winter bush dance so have a look around and give us a hand.

Rumour has it there could be another navigation trial coming up.

OTWAYS?

GEMBROOK?

WOMBAT?

MURRUNDIDI?

see you at the meeting

DAVE HEARD

# Trip Report

## BUCKLAND VALLEY

ROLL CALL      JOHN SMITH  
                 PETER HANDLEY  
                 PETER ROWE, JOHN HUGHAN & BOOFF  
                 PETER, DEBBIE & SULTAN PINK  
                 ROD & LINDA VEAL  
                 TOM, LIOLA, DUSTIN, LEE & SPIKE  
                 BRUNO SANTAROSSA

The mob met at 8am at the "Hub of Coldstream". Greetings were said and off we went down the Highway to Yea where most persons required an urgent pitstop.

Back in the vehicles and continue to Winton where a number of members topped up their tanks. Another hop, step, and a jump and we were sampling wines and ports at Brown Brothers. A few stocks were purchased and we set off to Clear creek in the Buckland Valley. Which was to be our base camp for the weekend.

The spot initially selected by John was unfortunately taken, so a bit of searching up and down the creek, and a bit of timber removed, and an ideal spot was found. Everybody selected their sites but Bruno missed and fell into a giant rabbit burrow or was it a mine shaft. Anyway his rear wheel parted company with the ground and the vehicle came to a stop. Bruno looked out the window to see who had sneaked behind him and lifted his car but on being informed about his predicament he calmly backed his vehicle out and relocated it.

We made camp, cut an appropriate amount of firewood for the weekend and settled down for a well deserved rest. We spent the rest of the day having a snoop around where minners of old had worked so hard at finding gold. That evening was spent around the camp fire in normal club tradition.

The next morning we readied bbourselves for a day trip up in the hills. After breakfast we followed our trip leader up to Buggery (MT BUGGERY that is) and along a ridge with more speed humps on it than is sensible. The track was a touch slippery in spots but all made it through without much hassle. The views would have been magnificent if it wasn't for the fog and mist. After driving for a number of hours we stopped for lunch and a few light refreshments. Lunching finished we proceeded on down the track, up the track and down the track until we came to the foot of Mount Buffalo. We headed up the Mountain and down the other side where there were some quite spectacular views of the Buckland Valley. From there we made our way back to camp for tea and another bout of campfireing.

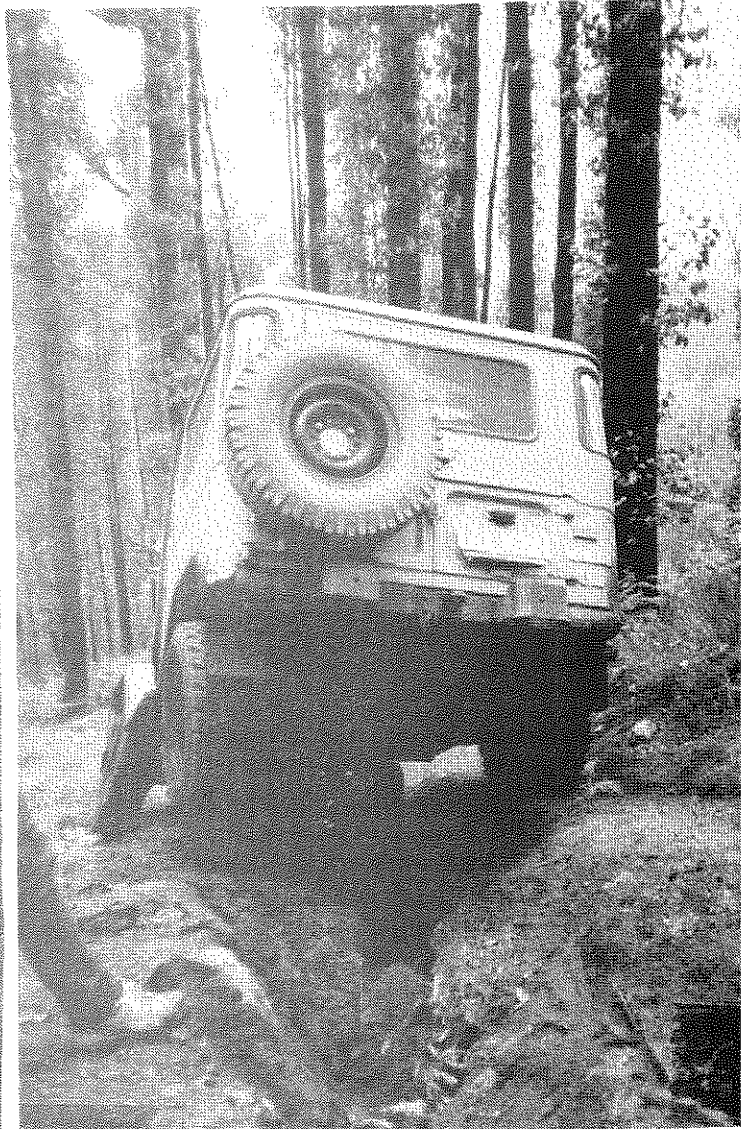
Cont....BUCKLAND VALLEY.

The next morning we arose, had breakfast and Rod and Peter decided to go for a test trip with the subaroo. One hour later Rowie and peter Handley went looking for them. Luckily they found them with smiles on their faces.. The car had scratched up a reasonable hill. They then came back to camp, packed and we headed for home. We went back up and over MT. Bufflo and came out behind Lake Buffalo.

Here we found a track nameed the Black Range Track axending off the main road so I decided to drive to the top and see where it went. I got most of the way up but decided it should be left for another day when the proper maps are purchased. Back on the main road we followed John towards Whittfield. On the way we stopped at Paradise falls where we had lunch and did some sightseeing, bushwalking and photography.

From there we all made our way home in the abundance of traffic. Thanks to John Smith for a most enjoyable trip into a new area and one to be revisited in the future.

TOM BRACHNA.



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# TRACKWATCH

NEWS & VIEWS OF THE VICTORIA ASSOCIATION OF FOUR WHEEL DRIVE CLUBS

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## 4WD ACTION EXTRAVAGANZA

AUSTRALIA'S FIRST 4WD ACTION EXTRAVAGANZA WILL BE HELD OVER THE EASTER WEEKEND OF 1987 - APRIL 17-20TH.

The event is a marvellous opportunity for the Club movement to promote itself, and for club members themselves to have a great weekend.

The 4WD Extravaganza is an endorsed event of the Australian National Four Wheel Drive Council and the Victoria Association of 4WD Clubs has accepted an invitation to take part in the operation of the event.

In the past months we have heard various proposals from delegates to raise additional funds for the Association. Per member levies have been mooted and other possible methods of raising our income. The Extravaganza is such a chance, with the VAFWDC receiving \$2,500 for its support of the event. Obviously, it is in OUR interests for the event to be a success. Who knows it may become an annual event with the Association being paid much more for its participation?

Alas, many of our Clubs' for whatever reason choose to "leave it to someone else". PARTICIPATION is REQUIRED from ALL clubs with few excuses not to as valid.

The weekend is designed to be a super interclub event, with many aspects organised around the club member and his family. The general public will be invited, and will be enthusiastic spectators to our drivers and many may even be converted to joining YOUR club?

The promotor, I.B. Exhibitions, several months ago sent information kits to ALL clubs with response forms enclosed. To date the response and lack of courtesy of clubs to respond has been pathetic. For members interested in furthering your recreation, you can have no better opportunity than through participation at this event.

- . Clubs are invited to camp for the duration of the weekend with ample room for tents and caravans;
  - . Clubs are invited to establish club displays and possibly to exhibit vehicles;
  - . The VAFWDC will have an information tent. Perhaps you could assist by manning it for a few hours over the weekend?
  - . Games and other entertainment will be available for children, as well as safe playing areas away from the vehicles;
  - . For the 4WD enthusiast there will be static displays of accessory & 4WD related products;
  - . Displays of 4WD vehicles;
  - . There will be a challenging 4WD course and bog hole for 4WD club members. There will be excellent prizes to winning participants.
- \*\* The Promotor has assured us (in writing) that public risk indemnity
-

insurance will operate during the total period of the Extravaganza.

- . Saturday night a campfire and music will be provided for a pleasant evening;
- . There will be a farewell free BBQ breakfast for club members;
- . Passes to other attractions on Phillip Island will be available to members families;
- . Nissan's 'Big One' will be a highlight of the event with demonstrations of its awesome ability.
- . Even the Easter bunny will appear on Sunday!

We need your commitment to this activity of the Victoria Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs. It promises to be a relaxing, entertaining and fun Easter 1987.

As a special incentive to clubs, Promotor, Barry Brown has announced that to the Club with the most members in attendance a 240V generator will be their reward. This is an excellent gesture and a valuable piece of equipment which any club would love to have amongst their club equipment. Will your club have a chance of winning it?

We need YOUR support to this event and urge ALL clubs to make this activity the official club trip for next Easter.

For Clubs that have mislaid their information kits and response forms further information can be obtained by writing to I.B Exhibitions, P.O. Box 229, East Melbourne 3002, Ph 03 654 6391.

Brian Tanner  
President

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### VAFWDC - FUTURE DIRECTIONS

A blueprint for the future of the VAFWDC has been prepared and circulated to member clubs. Titled "Marketing Strategy 1987-88" the strategy sets out the strategic objectives of the Association, our target audiences, how to go about communicating with these groups and finally an implementation plan to achieve these objectives. The initial plan is scheduled for two years, with many of the programs ongoing beyond this time.

No longer will Association actions necessarily be haphazard in application, but will be coordinated and implemented in an orderly and achievable manner. Progress can be monitored against performance and time-span implementation plans. The plan was written by Brian Tanner, commented on by the Executive and the final draft prepared by Brian Tanner, Neville Lester and Geoff Bingham. Copies of the Marketing Plan have been sent directly to Club presidents' with written comments requested by the 21st January.

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NEXT MEETING: The next meeting of the VAFWDC will be on the 28th January 1987.

The Executive of the Victoria Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs wish each and every member of four wheel drive clubs and their families a safe and prosperous Christmas and New Year. Happy four wheeling.

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VICTORIAN FOUR WHEEL  
DRIVE CLUB  
TRIP DATA

WHAT'S ON

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DESTINATION ; AVON RIVER	
TRIP LEADER ; TOM BRACHNA	PHONE NUMBER ; 799 1998
DEPARTURE DATE ; 21-3-87	DEPARTURE TIME ; 7.00 am.
DEPARTURE POINT ; HALLAM PUB	FUEL REQUIRED ; FULL TANK EX, HEYFIELD
LAST FUEL AVAILABLE ; MAFFRA	MAPS REQUIRED ;
GRADE ; A & B	DURATION ; SAT & SUN,
BASE CAMP ; YES	NATIONAL PARKS ; NO
ROUTE VIA ; HALLAM, HEYFIELD, AVON AND RETURN,	
ACTIVITIES ; FWDING, FISHING, SOCIALIZING,	
SPECIAL CONDITIONS ; GOOD TYRES,	TRIP LIMIT FIVE VEHICLES

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DESTINATION ; GEMBROOK AREA	TRAINING DAY TEST DRIVE
TRIP LEADER ; MARK TEMPLETON	PHONE NUMBER ; 754 3667
DEPARTURE DATE ; 22-3-87	9.00 am.
DEPARTURE POINT ; PUFFING BILLY'S BRIDGE BELGRAVE	
FUEL REQUIRED ; FULL TANK	LAST FUEL AVAILABLE ; GEMBROOK
MAPS REQUIRED ; GEMBROOK STATE FOREST	
GRADE ; B - B+	DURATION ; ONE DAY
ROUTE ; BELGRAVE - GEMBROOK RD	
ACTIVITIES ; BASIC TRAINING AND DRIVING	
SPECIAL CONDITIONS ; GOOD TYRES	

\*\*\*\*\*

DESTINATION ; MURRINDINDI AREA	
TRIP LEADER ; BRIAN TUCK	PHONE NUMBER ; 762 5981
DEPARTURE DATE ; 5-4-87	DEPARTURE TIME ; 8.00 am.
DEPARTURE POINT ; GLENBURN PUB	
FUEL REQUIRED ; FULL TANK	LAST FUEL AVAILABLE ; YARRA GLEN
MAPS REQUIRED ; TAGGETY	
GRADE ; B	DURATION ; ONE DAY

\*\*\*\*\*

VICTORIAN FOUR WHEEL  
DRIVE CLUB  
TRIP DATA

WHAT'S ON

=====

DESTINATION ; NOOJEE AREA  
TRIP LEADER ; PETER PINK  
DEPARTURE DATE ; 1-3-87  
DEPARTURE POINT ; HALLAM PUB  
LAST FUEL AVAILABLE ; WILLOW GROVE  
GRADE ; A & B  
BASE CAMP ; NO  
ROUTE VIA ; HALLAM, TRAFALGAR, BLUE ROCK DAM, BUSH,  
ACTIVITIES ; DRIVING, SIGHT SEEING,  
SPECIAL CONDITIONS ; FULL RECOVERY GEAR

PHONE NUMBER ; 763 7434  
DEPARTURE TIME ; 7,00 am,  
FUEL REQUIRED ; FULL TANK  
MAPS REQUIRED ;  
DURATION ; 1 DAY  
NATIONAL PARKS ; NO

\*\*\*\*\*

DESTINATION ; WONANGATTA STATION  
TRIP LEADER ; PETER PINK  
DEPARTURE DATE ; 7-3-87  
DEPARTURE POINT ; HULLAM PUB  
FUEL REQUIRED ; FULL TANK + HEAPS  
MAPS REQUIRED ; GEMBROOK STATE FOREST  
GRADE ; A + B  
ROUTE ; LICOLA, HOWIT, WONANGATTA  
ACTIVITIES ; DRIVING, FISHING, SOCIALIZING  
SPECIAL CONDITIONS ; FULL RECOVERY GEAR

PHONE NUMBER ; 763 7434  
DEPARTURE TIME 6,00 am,  
LAST FUEL AVAILABLE ; LICOLA  
DURATION ; THREE DAYS

\*\*\*\*\*

DESTINATION ; BLACKWOOD - LERDERBERG AREA  
TRIP LEADER ; PATRICK CASEY  
DEPARTURE DATE ; 14-3-87  
DEPARTURE POINT ; MEET AT BASE CAMP  
FUEL REQUIRED ; FULL TANK  
MAPS REQUIRED ; WOMBAT STATE FOREST  
GRADE ; B + C  
BASE CAMP ; YES  
ROUTE ; MAKE OWN WAY TO BASE CAMP SATURDAY MORNING, BASE CAMP OPPOSITE BLACKWOOD  
SWIMMING HOLE - TURN RIGHT AT HOTEL - PAST CARAVAN PARK - STRAIGHT ON AT END OF  
BITUMIN - TURN RIGHT INTO CAMP 200 YARDS UP ROAD.  
ACTIVITIES ; CHILDREN WELCOME, CREEK SWIMMING, SIGHT SEEING, RELAXING, 2X4 AND 4X4  
DRIVING THE NEWLY OPENED TRACKS IN THE LERDERBERG GORGE AREA WILL BE VISITED

PHONE NUMBER ; 578 1746  
DEPARTURE TIME ; 9,00 am,  
LAST FUEL AVAILABLE ; BLACKWOOD  
( PETROL ONLY )  
DURATION ; TWO DAYS  
NATIONAL PARKS ; NO

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# Trip Report

## WALHALA O' TOOLES FLAT.

ROLL CALL,            PETER & DEBBIE PINK            TRIP LEADERS  
                         PETER ROWE  
                         ROD & LINDA VEAL & FREINDS  
                         TOM, LIOLA, DUSTIN & LEE BRACHNA

I decided to leave early so that I could arrive with the family in daylight hours and settle in before dusk but my plans went astray because of my work's Christmas party. The time I intended arriving at O'tooles Flat was actually the time I left home and I was feeling my best after a few social drinks.

We arrived at the flat via Mormon Town track at approximately 10.31 pm. The fog was thick and with the kids on the warpath as we found a suitable camping spot with adequate room for the others.

The camp was organized and the fire going when the Pinks and Rowie arrived at about 11.30 pm. A couple more social drinks and their tents and bedding organized and it was time for bed.

The next morning saw the sun shining and Peter Pink sitting in front of the fire resting his eyes. Breakfast was had, and Peter and Debbie Pink went to meet Rod and Co. back on the main road. They all arrived and set up their respective camps and sat down around the fire for a leasurely morning of socializing and resting.

After lunch it was decided to go for a scratch so we headed off in the Toyota's for the ascent of Flats track. Pinky was in front playing with his "switches" as he climbed the slope. Rowie was next, and I must admit, the old sootie has still got it as I watched it slowly claber up the rocky outcrops and loose gravel barely spinning a wheel.

I was next in my little red wagon and on three separate occassions while climbing I lost traction and ended up sliding back down to attempt a different angle of approach.

## CONT. . . WALHALA O' TOOLES FLAT

The different line helped me get to the top unaided although the ride was a little bumpy. Once up on top we found a new bulldozed road which we crossed and headed down Merrigtons track to the large waterhole on the Aberfeldy River. We all crossed the hole and followed the precious nights footsteps back to camp. The rest of the day was spent socializing, bathing and playing football with the kids.

In the evening we had a roast dinner compliments of the Pinks and our invaluable camp ovens. The kids were put to bed and it was time for "Pinks Hot Dumper Shop" to open for the evening. Pete made everybody a delicious damper which we ate with a Port chaser and some "R" rated cassettes. Most Entertaining.

We went to bed that evening in a most contented mood and woke next morning to find we had been watered. We waited until the tents dried and packed up ready to leave. With all aboard the four vehicles headed off toward Morning star track to make our way home.

Peter Pink drove up first and had to engage his rear switch to get up. The little Subaroo had a couple of shots and made it up. Rowie showed his experience again and just choofed up the hill and I once again made an ass of myself by dropping my front wheels off the edge of the track. Once again I backed up and had another go on a different apoproach and made it up.

From there we went back to Bins road, and down Mormon Town to the Thompson Bridge where we decided to have lunch in the pouring rain. Lunch had we all headed for home after a most enjoyable trip.

Thanks to Pete and Debb for organizing the trip and to those who came along and made it the trip it was.

TOM

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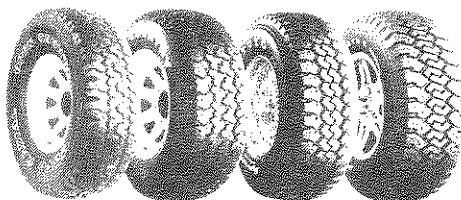


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VICTORIAN FOUR WHEEL DRIVE CLUB  
TRIP DATA.

=====

DESTINATION :

TRIP LEADER :

PHONE NUMBER :

DEPARTURE DATE :

DEPARTURE TIME:

DEPARTURE POINT:

FUEL REQUIRED :

LAST FUEL AVAILABLE:

MAPS REQUIRED :

GRADE :        A    B    C

DURATION :

BASE CAMP :    YES    NO

NATIONAL PARKS : YES    NO

ROUTE VIA :

=====

ACTIVITIES :

=====

SPECIAL CONDITIONS :

=====

PLEASE RETURN TO COMMITTEE 4 WEEKS PRIOR TO TRIP (TO ALLOW PUBLICATION)

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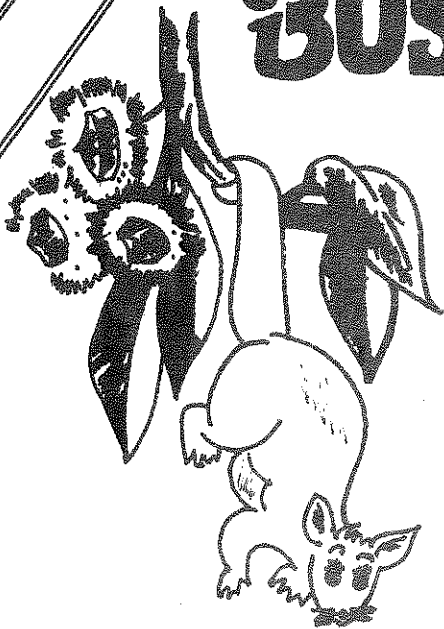
# CLUB CALENDAR 1987

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MARCH	1	NOOJEE AREA PETER PINK
MARCH	7	WONANGATTA AREA PETER PINK
MARCH	14	BLACKWOOD AREA PATRICK CASEY
MARCH	21	AVON RIVER TOM
MARCH	22	TRAINING DAY FOR NEW MEMBERS GEMBROOK AREA MARK
MARCH	28	BOWLING NIGHT
APRIL	5	MURRINDINDI AREA DAY TRIP BRIAN OR MURRAY
APRIL	17-20	4WD EXTRAVGANZA PHILLP ISLAND VAFWDC.
APRIL	17-20	EASTER TRIP CROOKED RIVER AREA TOM
JUNE - JULY		MID YEAR DO BUSH DANCE MURRINDINDI ??
AUG	16-17	SNOW TRIP
SEPT 19 - OCT	17	COUBURG PENN TRIP FULL TOM

# BUSH.B.Q.

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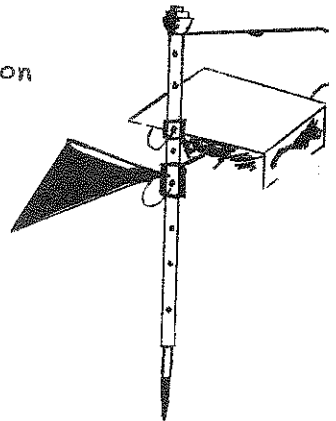
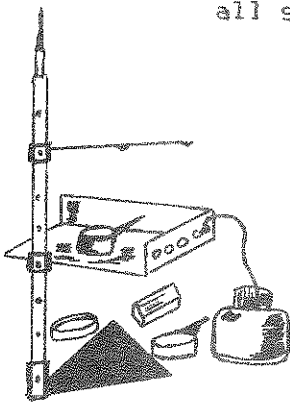
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