

**VICTORIAN FOUR
WHEEL DRIVE CLUB INC.**

FREE



WHEELING

**MARCH
1988**



COMMITTEE 1987 - 1988

PRES.	David Heard 16 Hardy St, Selby 3159 754 8406	VICE PRES.	Steve Alder 10 Mayfair Crt, Keysborough 3174 798 7229	SEC	Mark Templeton 55 Martin St, Belgrave 3160 754 3667
TREAS.	Rob Ayton 8 Minerva Cres, Vermont Stn, 3133 232 0378	ASS SEC.	Gloria Templeton 55 Martin St, Belgrave 3160 754 3667	SOC	Michelle Heard SEC. 16 Hardy St, Selby 3159 754 8406
COMM.	Tom Brachna 11 Sunnyvale Crt, Hampton Park 3976 799 1998		John Smith 21 Bellby St, Bayswater 3153 720 2959		Brian Tuck 9 Peterfields Crt, Borona 3155 762 5981
ASSOCIATION DELEGATES					
	Ricky Rycken 704 9535		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, snow, deep river crossings 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. Also all drivers must be licenced and shall remain below 0.05 while on club trips.

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

MEETINGS THE LAST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH
AT THE DANDENONG LIBRARY TIME 8.00 pm

ALL CORRESPONDENCE
P.O. BOX 778
DANDENONG VIC 3175

PLEASE TRY TO SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS AS THEY ARE SUPPORTING US !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

PRESIDENTS REPORT MARCH 88

The calender is filling up nicely at the moment, with the Bush Dance just passing (more about that later), Peter Pink's Labour Day trip to either Caledonia or Donnelly's and Pat Casey will be leading a trip to the Otways with a base camp on his property at Torquay.

Pete's trip is "A" grade, so don't forget recovery gear and make sure the vehicle qualifies for the trip. Don't make someone else turn their vehicle inside-out trying to find equipment then drag it up the hill because you left yours at home or you haven't bought one because someone else will have that!!

Don't get me wrong....I'm not saying you have to go out and spend almost as much as you paid for the car on recovery gear, but a good snatch strap and a couple of shackles will probably set you back as much as those seat covers, and I know which would be of more use when you're bogged to the 'go faster stripes'. The trip to Mayford demonstrated this when Steve Alder's vehicle had diff trouble, we simply hooked up the 'A'bar and the partially disabled vehicle was up the top in no time with little effort and most important, safely.

Now we can get back to the Bush Dance. Once again those who came had a rip-roaring evening with Bobsy Die turning on a great performance and what's more it didn't rain. The salad bar worked well and I'd like to thank those who contributed the salads and special thanks to those who lent equipment and their service. It hasn't gone unnoticed. And what's more this was not our first unprofitable Bush Dance! Thanks to all those who turned up because that's what makes the evening.

See you at the next meeting

DAVE HEARD.



PORT PUZZLER No. 8

There was an extremely poor response to last month's puzzler. More participation from members is needed for this segment of our magazine to continue. Nobody submitted an entry with 10 correct answers. However, Kenneth J. Beith and Terry & Chris Moore had 9 correct answers. As usual, the Akubra was needed to determine a winner, this being Ken Beith. A Bottle of Skipping Girl Vinegar is his for the taking at the next club meeting.

The correct answers were:

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| 1 Woolloomooloo | 6 West Point |
| 2 Bendigo | 7 Bundaberg |
| 3 Sir John Monash | 8 Myxamatosis |
| 4 Sleeveless shirt | 9 \$50 Note |
| 5 Dame Nellie Melba | 10 Wombat |

Now for this month's puzzler:

The following letters are the initial letters of well-known quotations, phrases and adages. Here are three examples:

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 I C I S I C | I came I saw I conquered. |
| 2 C M H A H T D | Cross my heart and hope to die. |
| 3 P I A S | Play it again Sam. |

As usual we don't expect anyone to find all the answers, however, send in what you can. They may just be enough!

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| ✓1 P I G H S T S | 2 ✓ D M T N T |
| ✓3 D D A I D D A I S | 4 ? G T E M S |
| ✓5 I H A D I H A D A D R E A M | 6 ✓ I W T B A |
| ✓7 I A F F B T I D | 8 ✓ R R W A |
| ✓9 I N U C O S M | 10 ✓ A S I T S N |
| ✓11 E T B E A R T Y T O B E D. | 12 B T I O M |
| ✓13 W U D | 14 T A F M Y G U I |
| ✓15 D C Y C B T H | 16 F H N W F L |
| ? 17 O M M I A M | 18 L W M T B E |
| ✓19 A P F Y | 20 P C B A F |
| 21 B O G B G | 22 ✓ A T W W L B |
| ✓23 E D H I D | 24 ✓ I I T P D O T R O Y L |
- EVERY DOG HAS HIS DAY
- DEAD MEN TELL NO TALES
- GO TO BED MUM SAYS.
- IT WAS TO BE ALWAYS.
- ROMEO WOULD NOT TALK
- IN TIME SAVED NINE
- DO NOT COUNT YOUR CHICKS BEFORE THEY HATCH.
- IS ANOTHER NAME FOR A PENNY FOR YOUR THOUGHTS
- TODAY IS THE 1ST DAY OF THE REST OF YOUR LIFE

All entries to be sent to:

PORT PUZZLER
21 BEILBY STREET
BAYSWATER, VIC, 3153

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES
11th MARCH 1988

BASICALLY BEEF

Old Time and Bush Dance Restaurant

Wake up your taste buds!

Put on your dancing shoes!

Saturday 26th March
7 P.M.

2 Francis Crt. Ferntree Gully
74 A 1

Final numbers for this great night out
to Michelle Heard by March 18th. - 754-8406

\$22⁰⁰ PER HEAD

B.Y.O. (B.Y.O FRIENDS)
TOO!

PINKY'S BUSH RECIPES

FOR THE

CULINARY ARTISTS



EGG & BACON JAFFLES

INGREDIENTS:

Egg's 1 per jaffle.
Bacon 1 rash per jaffle
Cheese slices 1 per jaffle
Butter or Margarine
Salt & Pepper
Bread to your choice

METHOD:

- Step 1 Butter bread 2 slices per jaffle
- Step 2 Preheat the jaffle iron
- Step 3 Cook bacon in the iron to your liking then put it aside
- Step 4 Add a dob of butter to the iron & then crack in the egg
- Step 5 Cook the egg to your liking
- Step 6 When the egg is cooked add 1 slice of bread butter out
- Step 7 Turn the iron over the egg should drop the egg should drop onto the bread.
- Step 8 Add the bacon & cheese slice
- Step 9 Place the bread over the lot butter out
- Step 10 Now toast or cremate the jaffle depending on the amount of charcoal you can stomach

A pleasant way to eat your bacon & eggs and not have hoard's of flys stuck in the egg yolk.

VICTORIAN FOUR WHEEL DRIVE CLUB
TRIP DATA
WHAT'S ON

Destination; Otways-Torquay

Contact; Pat Casey Ph 570 6452
Departure Date; 5 March Departure Time;
Departure Point; Make own way to Torquay Friday night or
Saturday morning
Fuel Required; Full Tank
Last Fuel Available: Torquay
Maps Required: Otways, Forest Commission
Grade; B Duration; Weekend
Base Camp: Yes National Parks: No
Route Via: To be advised of meeting place at Torquay
Aim to be at Torquay 9.30-10.00am Saturday
Activities: Four Wheel Driving
Special Conditions: Good tyres & full recovery gear.
Especially if wet

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WANTED WANTED WANTED WANTED

Parts, manual or info ect.
Suit 1976 Series 3 Landrover S.W.B. Diesel Ute
Gus Pearl 762 4013
1419 Mountain Highway
The Basin 3154

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NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE LADIES DAY
WILL NOT BE HELD ON THE 13th
MARCH DUE TO THE LONG WEEKEND
BUT A NEW DATE WILL BE SET VERY
SOON

=====

TRACKWATCH

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

PRESIDENTS COMMENTS

The V.A.F.W.D.C. is well placed to face the challenges of 1988. Over the Christmas and New Year period, I'm sure Members have reflected on the more important issues affecting the four wheel drive movement. The V.A.F.W.D.C. is fortunate to have some very dedicated and hard-working Members who have borne the brunt of the Association's work load. I am particularly thinking of Committee and Sub-Committee Members, who have assisted in ensuring that the V.A.F.W.D.C. goes from strength to strength by promoting unity and achievement of the V.A.F.W.D.C.'s goals.

The following are some important matters of interest to Members.

MEETING WITH THE 16 C.F. & L. REGIONAL MANAGERS

Third time lucky. I have tried three times to speak collectively with the Managers of the sixteen C.F. & L. Regions. The first attempt to arrange a meeting was flawed by incompatible meeting dates. A second meeting was arranged then cancelled because of industrial action taken by C.F. & L. staff in the regions. The successful meeting was arranged for Friday, 11th December, by Joan Kirner and Don Saunders.

On the day, I spoke to the Director General for C.F. & L., Mr. Len Foster, on the need for consultation and consistent management practices across the Regions - particularly in regard to 4WD access. At the meeting, chaired by Mr. Peter Langley, Director of Regional Management, I made the following points:

- the need for consistent management practices in and across the 16 C.F. & L. regions.
- the need to establish a process that will enable the V.A.F.W.D.C. and C.F. & L. to discuss issues of concern to either party.
- the role of the V.A.F.W.D.C. as the peak (umbrella) body representing 4WD clubs. I pointed out the V.A.F.W.D.C. is primarily a co-ordinating body representing the interests of 4WD clubs.
- the type (vehicle - locality) and size of clubs and how the V.A.F.W.D.C. is structured and operates - particularly without any government funds/grants. I pointed out the Minister was considering sponsoring the costs of producing the V.A.F.W.D.C. "4WD Touring and Environment" brochure. I distributed copies of both V.A.F.W.D.C. brochures at the meeting; - many Managers had not seen either of the brochures.

TRACKWATCH No. 75

JANUARY 1988

Trackwatch is Edited and Published by Colin Pritchard for and on behalf of the Victoria Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs Inc.

GPO BOX 401C MELBOURNE VICTORIA 3001

KEY DATES

FEBRUARY 1988

- Monday 8th - V.A.F.W.D.C. Committee Meeting - St. Faiths Hall.
Wednesday 10th) - Off Road 4 W.D. Recreation Show 1988.
to)
Sunday 14th) - Royal Exhibition Building.
Wednesday 24th - V.A.F.W.D.C. General Meeting -
St. Faiths Hall, Charles Street, Burwood.
Guest Speaker - Mrs. Tehan M.P., Shadow Minister for
Conservation Forests and Lands.

MARCH 1988

- Monday 7th - V.A.F.W.D.C. Committee Meeting - St. Faiths Hall.
Wednesday 23rd - V.A.F.W.D.C. General Meeting -
St. Faiths Hall, Charles Street, Burwood.

APRIL 1988

- Monday 11th - V.A.F.W.D.C. Committee Meeting - St. Faiths Hall.
Wednesday 27th - V.A.F.W.D.C. General Meeting -
St. Faiths Hall, Charles Street, Burwood.
Friday 29th) - GIPPSLAND FOUR WHEEL DRIVE CLUB.
Saturday 30th) - "GO-DOWN".
Sunday 1st May) - Labertouche Victoria.

MAY 1988

- Monday 9th - V.A.F.W.D.C. Committee Meeting - St. Faiths Hall.
Wednesday 25th - V.A.F.W.D.C. General Meeting -
St. Faiths Hall, Charles Street, Burwood.

JUNE 1988

- Monday 13th - V.A.F.W.D.C. Committee Meeting - St. Faiths Hall.
Wednesday - V.A.F.W.D.C. General Meeting -
St. Faiths Hall, Charles Street, Burwood.

SUB COMMITTEE NOTICE BOARD

Dave Hocking, Chairman Displays and Publicity Sub-Committee is asking members for suggestions for Promotion Venues for 1988.

The Sub-Committee is already considering Venues such as:

- Royal Melbourne Show.
- Caravan Camping & 4x4 Show.
- L.R.O.C. Field Day.
- Dandenong and Lilydale Shows.
- And Other Rural Shows.

Members who have new, unusual or novel Promotional ideas for our Display Unit should contact Dave Hocking, Ph. 583 1987.

Remember, if you have an idea you believe will succeed, even if you are not sure how to make it work, contact Dave and the Sub-Committee.

- the primary concern of the V.A.F.W.D.C. was track closures, and how we want to be consulted on track related matters that in any way limit access to the bush. I pointed out that the V.A.F.W.D.C. supported seasonal track closures to protect tracks affected by severe weather conditions and ensuring the safety of the 4W Drivers.
- the V.A.F.W.D.C.'s role is a "sweeper service" for tracks and its various support services, i.e. Area cleanups, adopt-a-track and strikeforce - all designed to keep the bush tracks in good condition.

Following questions from the Regional Managers and a general discussion on the points I raised, it was agreed that a Joint Working Party comprising of representatives of C.F. & L. and the V.A.F.W.D.C. be established.

The Joint Working Party would have membership as follows:

- o Director of Regional Management Peter Langley
- o C.F. & L. Regional Managers (probably Frank Noble and Gus Geary)
- o President, V.A.F.W.D.C. Neville Lester.
- o V.A.F.W.D.C. representatives (2)

The Prime objective of the Working Party is to determine an appropriate consultative process with clear guidelines and procedures where both parties can discuss issues affecting either party.

SEMINAR ON "OUR FORESTS FOR THE FUTURE"

The V.A.F.W.D.C. was invited to participate in a Seminar titled "Our Forests for the Future" and I was pleased that V.A.F.W.D.C. members were well represented at the Seminar.

Gerry Heuzinkveld, President of the Dandenong Ranges 4WD Club has prepared a report on the Seminar, printed in this issue of Trackwatch.

I would like to encourage all four wheel drivers to participate in these public forums, as it is in these arenas that a course for 4WD touring is promoted.

AVON WILDERNESS PROCLAIMED

The Avon Wilderness was proclaimed in November, 1987, and steps are in train to close off the tracks in that area. From discussions with the Minister, it was agreed that the V.A.F.W.D.C. would be advised in writing of the closure date. I expect that the Avon Wilderness Area will be closed after the Labor Day weekend in March. A C.F. & L. pamphlet on the Avon Wilderness Area is printed in this issue of Trackwatch for your information.

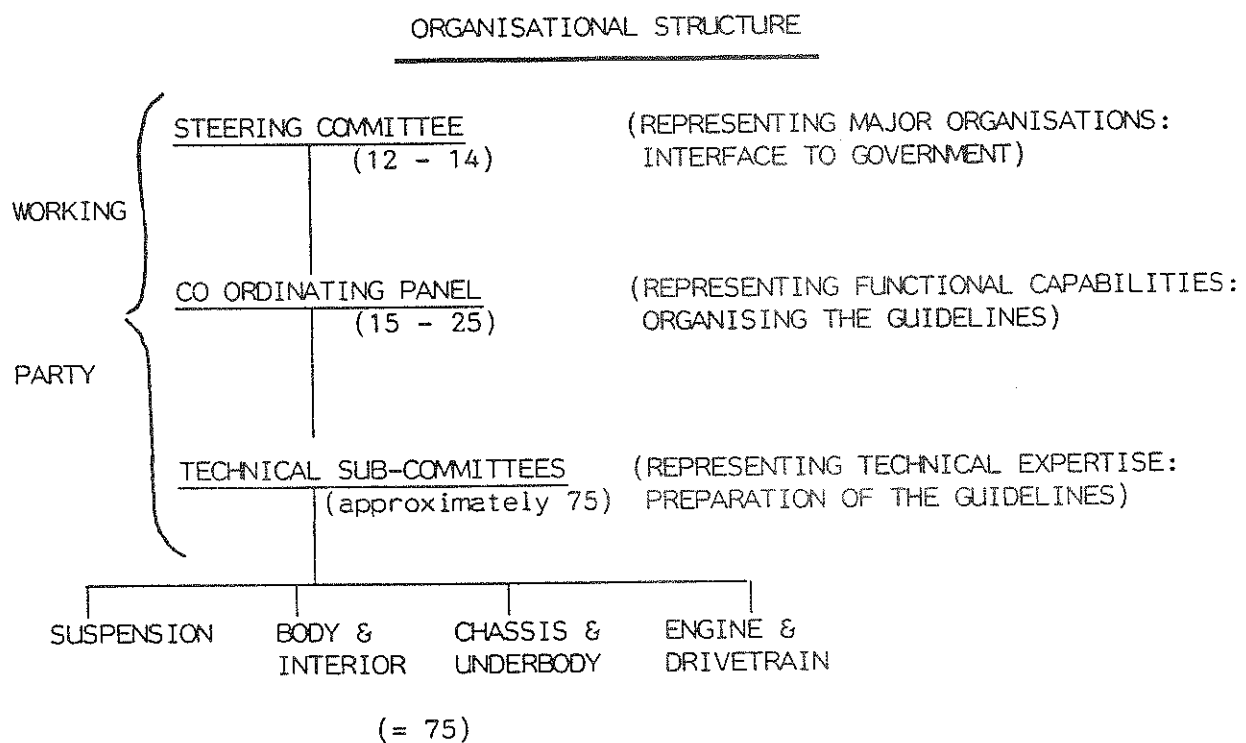
OTWAYS MANAGEMENT PROPOSALS

Brian Tanner offered to prepare the V.A.F.W.D.C. response to the Management proposals for the Otway Ranges. Submissions closed at Christmas and I trust the V.A.F.W.D.C.'s news will be seriously considered.

LIGHT VEHICLE MODIFICATIONS WORKING PARTY

I am pleased that the V.A.F.W.D.C. had a number of Club Members prepared to join the technical sub-committees of the Light Vehicle Modifications Working Party. I must express my thanks to Kathy Grant (Dandenong Ranges 4WD Club) and Jim Payton (Pajero 4WD) for their efforts in promoting the importance of this group to the Four Wheel Drive Movement.. Kathy has prepared a separate report contained elsewhere in this issue of Trackwatch.

The Working Party is in a three-tiered structure where the work of the Technical Sub-Committees is co-ordinated by the Co-ordinating Panel, who report to the Steering Committee. As President of the V.A.F.W.D.C. I am a member of the Steering Committee and will have an opportunity to consider the recommendations from the Co-ordinating Panel. The structure of the Working Party is as follows:



THE CO-ORDINATING PANEL NEEDS:-

1. CO-ORDINATOR AND DEPUTY FROM EACH TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.
2. PERSONS TO WORK OUT DEFINITIONS.
3. PERSONS TO DEFINE AND LIST NEEDED GUIDELINES.
4. PERSONS TO SCHEDULE TASKS.
5. PERSONS TO ASSIGN GUIDELINE DEVELOPMENT (AS TASKS)
6. PERSONS TO REVIEW DRAFT GUIDELINES (AS TO ADVISORY CONTENTS, TECHNICAL DETAILS AND FORMAT OF EVIDENCE).
7. PERSONS TO PREPARE PUBLICITY (DRAFT RELEASE).
8. PERSONS TO ARRANGE PRODUCTION (TYPING, COPYING ETC.).

MEETING WITH THE MINISTER FOR
CONSERVATION, FORESTS AND LANDS

- JOAN KIRNER M.L.C.

Our last meeting for 1987 with the Minister for Conservation, Forests and Lands was held on Monday, 30th November.

The V.A.F.W.D.C. Government Liaison sub-committee comprising of Club President, John Hughes, V.A.F.W.D.C. Secretary, and myself, were generally pleased with the outcome of the meeting. A separate report prepared by John is in this issue of Trackwatch.

In my meetings with the Minister, Joan Kirner, I have found her to be an attentive listener, friendly, and fair and reasonable on the issues raised. I feel the V.A.F.W.D.C. has a good working relationship with the Minister, and through her, C.F. & L. management.

The Minister is considering sponsoring the production costs of our V.A.F.W.D.C. "Environment" brochure.

NEW ISSUE OF C.F. & L. MAPS

Phillip Larkin of Bowyangs, has advised me that C.F. & L. have released 11 revised 1": 1 mile series (black and white) maps. These are the old faithfuls - covering the mountain areas presented in the new folded format. The maps are:

Cobberas	Dargo	Deddick	Howitt
Jamieson	Matlock	Omeo	Taggerty
Walhalla	Wellington	Wonnangatta	

C.F. & L. have also released an updated colour map 1:25,000 for the Lerderderg Gorge area. It is a much improved production and has been produced in co-operation of the Federation of Victoria Walking Clubs. It will prove very useful for four wheel drivers.

V.A.F.W.D.C. BROCHURES

- 4WD TOURING AND THE ENVIRONMENT
- JOIN A 4WD CLUB.

David Handburg (Range Rover Club), who is a member of the Publicity Committee, has prepared the drafts for the re-run of the V.A.F.W.D.C. brochures on "4WD Touring and the Environment", and "Join a 4WD Club". They will be available in a cardboard box/stand which will contain 50 copies of the brochure. It is expected that they will be available in early February so that they can be distributed widely, i.e. C.F. & L. offices, 4WD Dealers, 4WD Clubs, etc.

OFF ROAD FOUR WHEEL DRIVE RECREATION SHOW - 1988

The Nissan 4WD Club, through Graeme and Julie Coss, are organizing the V.A.F.W.D.C. stand at the Off Road Four Wheel Drive Recreation Show at the Royal Exhibition Buildings. If you can assist by manning the stand, in the period 10th to 14th February, please contact Graeme Coss, or Dave Hocking. This is the 5th year of this Show organized by the I.B. Exhibition Pty.Ltd.

MALLEE AREA - LAND CONSERVATION COUNCIL REPORT

The Land Conservation Council has released its report on the "Mallee Area Review". The Land Conservation Council was established under the Land Conservation Act 1970. The function of the Council is to carry out investigations and make recommendations to the Minister with respect to the use of public land in order to provide for the balanced use of public land in Victoria.

This report provides a factual basis for the preparation of submissions to the Council, by describing and assessing the natural, economic, and cultural resources and characteristics of public land in the Mallee area. Its purpose is to ensure that all those persons and bodies who have an interest in the future use of this public land can obtain and study the basic information that the Council itself will study, and so make informed and constructive suggestions to the Council for its consideration.

Demands for land for various purposes are many and varied. Some are compatible and some conflicting or competitive. It is therefore important that the decisions made are based on the best information available.

Submissions are invited and should be forwarded to the Secretary of the Land Conservation Council. The Council will make its recommendations on the use of public land in the Mallee area only after due consideration of all submissions.

The Bendigo 4WD Club, through its Secretary, Irene Chettle, has agreed to prepare the V.A.F.W.D.C. response to this important report. Other Clubs, and indeed club members, are also invited to comment on the Report. Submissions close on February 5th, 1988.

REVIEW AND AMENDMENTS TO V.A.F.W.D.C. INCORPORATION DOCUMENT

I invite clubs to review the current V.A.F.W.D.C. Incorporation Document and prepare amendments that can be put at the July Annual General Meeting. Please forward your amendments to the Secretary by the April V.A.F.W.D.C. General Meeting, so all proposed amendments from all clubs can be circulated to all members for discussion. Given this timeline, I hope rational discussion on the issues can take place at the club level, and between clubs.

Please bear in mind that the V.A.F.W.D.C. has a sub-committee preparing a set of V.A.F.W.D.C. By-Laws, and that some of the proposals may be more appropriate in the By-Laws.

I would like to thank Geoff Bingham (Westernport and District 4WD Club), Keith Hocking (Goulburn Valley 4WD Club) and Bernard Parfrey (Phoenix 4WD Club) for preparing the drafts on the By-Laws.

REVIEW OF V.A.F.W.D.C. POLICY ON

"FOUR WHEEL DRIVE TOURING ON PUBLIC LAND"

Ken Campbell, Chairman of the Cross Country Jeep Club, is reviewing the V.A.F.W.D.C.'s policy on "Four Wheel Drive Touring on Public Land". If you have any suggestions for improvement on the current policy please contact Ken. The thrust of the policy remains the same, but what has become apparent while discussing our policy with Politicians and C.F. & L. representatives, is that some clauses need clarification. It is hoped the review will produce a policy document that is simpler and clearer to understand by people outside the 4WD movement, particularly Politicians and Government Officers.

NEVILLE LESTER
President, V.A.F.W.D.C.

LIGHT VEHICLE MODIFICATIONS WORKING PARTY

On Tuesday 8th December, 1987, at the Road Traffic Authority (R.T.A.) Headquarters in Carlton, the Light Vehicle Modifications Working Party (L.V.M.W.P.) held a Public Meeting, with the purpose of forming four Technical Sub-Committees.

1. Suspension.
2. Body & Interior.
3. Chassis & Underbody.
4. Engine & Drivetrain.

As previously reported in November 1987 Trackwatch, the Working Party consists of representatives from RTA, EPA, Australian Street Rod Federation, Victorian Automotive Engineering Signatories, Component Manufacturers, Vic. Police, GVL Insurances, and also V.A.F.W.D.C. (namely Neville Lester).

The objectives and scope of the Working Party are:

OBJECTIVES:

- ° To establish/review guidelines relating to the modification or individual construction of vehicles.
- ° To promote vehicle safety and compliance with regulatory technical requirements (ie: to assist in the safe construction of the vehicle and aid its registration or change of description).
- ° To produce a format for the presentation of information to the Road Traffic Authority and Environment Protection Authority in order to make identification, assessment and registration easier.

SCOPE:

The guidelines will be confined to kit and partial kit cars, 'homemades' and all kinds of modifications to passenger cars and derivatives, multi-purpose cars (eg: 4 wheel drive) and other vehicles under 4.5 tonnes GVM.

The Meeting began with an introduction from the Chairman (John Trainor - Manager - Vehicle Certification and Roadworthiness - R.T.A.), followed by an explanation of the 'Objectives' by the Convenor (Paul Heisler - Principal Engineer - Vehicle Certification, R.T.A.).

Following these addresses, the Sub-Committees were formed. Each group elected their own Co-ordinating Deputy.

The Agenda then called for the formation of the Co-ordinating Panel. The latter consists of both Working Party members and Sub-Committee representatives.

V.A.F.W.D.C. members present at the Meeting included President, Neville Lester, Carl Reidy (TLC), Vic Taeger (LROC), Tim Kennedy and Ted Smith (R/Rover), Jim Payton (Pajero), and Alan Kilgour, Russell Genat, Alan Grant and Kathy Grant (all of Dandenong Ranges 4WD).

On our representation (i.e. V.A.F.W.D.C.), we can boast at least four members committed to involvement on the Sub-committees. Some are engaged on the Engine & Drivetrain Committee, with one fine soul involved in all 4.

Many of the 200 or so present are on more than one committee, with the reaction from the R.T.A. dignatories being one of 'surprise' from the numbers represented at this Meeting. (P.S. - Supper was great!).

Each Sub-committee has a membership of about 30, with the content ranging from colleagues of those represented by the Working Party (e.g. Vehicle Component & Accessory Manufacturers, Media_Reps. & Street Rodders), through to motor mechanics, vehicle manufacturers' engineers and your plain, everyday, interested USER - i.e. you and me!

Although we may not have the letters behind our names to show we have engineering credits, the R.T.A. still feel that as 'those with particular interest in vehicle modifications' we still have a contribution to make towards the 'Objectives' as previously noted.

This invitation to be 'involved' in formation of policies may well be unprecedented by Government Department terms and is a golden opportunity for both the V.A.F.W.D.C. and the R.T.A. (for us to be heard and the R.T.A. - think of the wages they'll save!).

Our concern on the night was that if a commitment wasn't made by representatives of the V.A.F.W.D.C. to join the Sub-committee immediately, that the door would be closed. Fortunately, Greg Howarth of the E.P.A. dispelled this concern. More people may join the Committees in the New Year, but involvement by the end of February would be preferable.

The Technical Sub-committees have approximately 6 months to make their recommendations to the Steering Committee, via the Co-ordinating Panel, but as most won't meet until February I think more time will be required.

It is anticipated that each Committee will meet 'when they wish to' - I would assume they would meet Fortnightly - but information from the R.T.A. to the V.A.F.W.D.C. that is forthcoming, will no doubt be more accurate.

So, we hereby appeal to you - our fellow 4WDers. to join our members already committed, to avail yourselves of a mere few hours a month. - The more areas of Government (and/or their Departments) take note of our representation, the more likely we are to have some effect on decisions being made.

If not directly concerning Track Closures - the reason the V.A.F.W.D.C. was initially formed - but with programmes such as this, that will involve "how" and "why" we can modify our vehicles to suit our recreation. Surely there is some area you have of concern, when you make some alteration to protective bar work on your vehicle, that makes your vehicle (in some cases) unroadworthy? Also, the E.P.A. are stepping up their campaign and now have more co-operation from Vic. Police and the R.T.A. regarding stringent emission controls - and the old faithfuls - pollution pipework that smother to-day's engines.

Even if you have no real expertise in any area explored by the Sub-committees, I'm sure we shall learn 'plenty' about the legalities of the current vehicles we drive!

For further information on the Light Vehicle Modification Working Party contact either the V.A.F.W.D.C. or the R.T.A. (P.O. Box 119, Carlton South, Vic. 3053).

KATHY GRANT

Dandenong Ranges 4WD Club.

MEETING WITH THE MINISTER

On Monday 30th November, 1987, at 5.30 p.m., representatives of the V.A.F.W.D.C. met with the Minister for Conservation, Forests and Lands, Joan Kirner, and the Director of National Parks, Don Saunders. The V.A.F.W.D.C. was represented by:

Neville Lester (President, V.A.F.W.D.C.)
John Hughes (Secretary, V.A.F.W.D.C.)
Ken Campbell (Chairman, Cross Country Jeep Club)
Peter Prentice (President, Nissan F.W.D.C.)
Graeme Walsh (President, Pajero F.W.D.C.)

The following issues were discussed at the Meeting.

1. CONSULTATIVE PROCESSES

- 1.1 Meeting with C.F. & L. Regional Managers:
V.A.F.W.D.C. expressed desire to meet with C.F. & L. Regional Managers at the earliest possible opportunity. Don Saunders agreed to arrange attendance directly with N. Lester.
- 1.2 Bush Code:
V.A.F.W.D.C. will be consulted about the contents of the Code and representatives of the Dept. of Conservation, Forests and Lands will consult V.A.F.W.D.C. prior to release of the Code.
- 1.3 Government Grants:
The Minister explained that V.A.F.W.D.C. may apply for a grant for a conservation related project. The Submission must be in by the 18th December. The V.A.F.W.D.C. undertook to submit a proposal for conservation project.

The Minister advised that funding for general V.A.F.W.D.C. projects should be directed to the Department of Sports and Recreation.
- 1.4 V.A.F.W.D.C. Policy 4WD Touring:
A copy of the official V.A.F.W.D.C. policy was handed to the Minister for information.

2. TRACK CLOSURES:

- 2.1 Extended Closures:
The V.A.F.W.D.C. had consulted with C.F. & L. on closures of Zeka Creek, Zeka Spur and Mt. Wellington tracks, and informed its members of the reasons for the closures.
- 2.2 Consultation on Track Closures:
The Minister acknowledged that a meeting between N. Lester and C.F. & L. Regional Managers would improve understanding on track closures. The closure in the Alexandra Region of 13 tracks, had damaged the image of the V.A.F.W.D.C. consultative procedures with the C.F. & L., as V.A.F.W.D.C. were not warned of the closures.

The Minister agreed to arrange for N. Lester to address the 16 C.F. & L. Regional Managers at their December Meeting.

The Minister undertook to write and direct Regional Managers that V.A.F.W.D.C. should be consulted prior to deciding to evoke extraordinary closures. Except in emergencies, e.g. fires, etc.

3. ADVISORY COMMITTEES:

3.1 Whipstick Advisory Committee:

Minister advised that upon further review, it was decided not to include a V.A.F.W.D.C. representative on the Whipstick Review Committee as it was not a prime four wheel drive area. The Minister would consider more appropriate reviews in the future. Due to a misunderstanding, the V.A.F.W.D.C. was only informed informally about the final membership of the Advisory Committee.

3.2 Alpine Advisory Committee:

As 10 committee members have been appointed, V.A.F.W.D.C. could not be included. The Minister would welcome V.A.F.W.D.C. input and felt that this would be best achieved by advising and developing a relationship with Ron Moon (Recreation Representative).

The Minister will request through the Alpine Advisory Committee that Ron Moon have discussions with V.A.F.W.D.C. re its input to review.

Action: Don Saunders will advise the V.A.F.W.D.C. of dates that it may attend committee meetings as an observer.

4. 4WD TRAINING/EDUCATION:

4.1 Brochures:

N. Lester presented the Association's brochures "Join A Club" and "Four Wheel Driving and the Environment". Discussion followed re possible Government support for printing and distribution of the "Environment" brochure. The brochure to include addresses of C.F. & L. Regional Offices, etc., and contents to be approved by the Department of C.F. & L. The V.A.F.W.D.C. will submit a proposal to the Minister for financial assistance in printing of the brochure. The brochures will be available for the February 4WD Motor Show.

4.2 Training/Education:

N. Lester advised that legal impediments and insurance costs currently threaten Club Driver Education Schemes. Minister explained that this issue is a broader issue and needs to be addressed collectively with various Government Departments.

5. OTHER:

5.1 Avon Wilderness Area:

The Avon Wilderness Area has been proclaimed. Don Saunders expressed the opinion that track closures would take place in the coming weeks/months. V.A.F.W.D.C. requested that closures be delayed until the next winter seasonal closures and then tracks need not be re-opened at end of winter. Minister will consider timing of closures. Don Saunders/Minister will write to the V.A.F.W.D.C. and clarify tracks affected and probable closure dates.

5.2 North West:

The Minister encouraged the V.A.F.W.D.C. to obtain a copy of the draft review and make its response.

5.3 Storm Damage Cleanup:

N. Lester reported that V.A.F.W.D.C. club members had assisted C.F. & L. staff in cleaning up storm damaged tracks in the Alps. The Minister acknowledged the valuable role of club members in keeping tracks clear of debris.

"OUR FORESTS FOR THE FUTURE" SEMINAR

On Tuesday the 1st of December, 1987, about 15 people from the V.A.F.W.D.C. attended Melbourne University for a Seminar on our forests. We were addressed by the following speakers:

- The Hon. Barry Pullen, M.L.C.
- The Hon. Joan Kirner, M.L.C.
Minister for Conservation, Forests & Lands.
- Mr. David Scott,
Chairman, Land Conservation Council.
- Dr. Bob Smith,
Director, Lands and Forests Division of C.F. & L.
- Mr. Bill Hare,
Dep. Director, Australia Conservation Foundation.
- Mr. Neville Smith,
Chairman, Neville Smith Group Pty. Ltd.
- Mr. Bob Richardson,
Industrial Officer, A.C.T.U.
- Mr. Charles McCubbin,
Naturalist.

The speakers had many and varied points of view on the preservation of our forests. We listened to the points of view of the speakers and waited for question time where we put the question of 4WD access to the high country to the speakers. The Chairman of the meeting told us in no uncertain terms that the Seminar was not on access, but on the future of the forests, but we continued on and made our point of view anyway. We got our point across in such a way that it was considered that there may be a future Seminar held on access to the high country.

The Seminar was quite successful for those who attended from the V.A.F.W.D.C. as we spoke to Joan Kirner during the tea break for about half an hour, letting her know of our misgivings about our future in the alps.

We also had the opportunity of making those people who attended the Seminar aware that we do in fact exist and that four wheel drivers have a strong point of view to put across regarding access to the high country.

It would be rather encouraging if more people from other clubs in the V.A.F.W.D.C. might become interested enough in their recreation to attend these meetings in future, and not leave it to one or two clubs to carry the rest on their shoulders.

GERRY HEUZINKVELD

President, Dandenong Ranges 4WD Club.

ALPINE WALKING TRACK

Pindari Publications have produced a revised edition of John Siseman's popular guide the "Alpine Walking Track - Walhalla to Canberra". This book, fully re-walked by John Siseman, describes the entire route starting from the old Gippsland gold mining town of Walhalla and finishing on the outskirts of Canberra. The 750 km alpine walking tract (AWT) passes through six major National Parks and climbs over the highest mountains in Victoria, New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory.

The book is well illustrated with maps, photographs, and contains comprehensive details of access, distance and facilities. Of particular interest to the four wheel driver is the access points by vehicular trucks. The notes are divided into 13 sections covered by 21 plan:metric maps at the scale of 1:100,000.

For the aspiring alpine track walker, all necessary information for adequate planning is provided in the track notes.

The book outlines the route from Walhalla to Canberra in considerable detail and bypasses the previous terminus of the old Victorian alpine walking track at TOM GROGIN. It proceeds to COWOMBAT FLAT and on through KOSCIUSKO via the Main Range and Jagungal wilderness to Namadgi National Parks to Canberra.

The location of the AWT in Eastern and North Eastern Victoria, particularly in the Cowombat Flat area is raised in the Alpine Area Planning Proposals.

John Siseman is a leading authority on walking in Victoria's alpine area and this revised edition will prove interesting to many lovers of the bush - including four wheel drivers.

The book has a recommended retail price of \$19.95, and is available from BOWYANGS, High Street, Kew.

NEVILLE LESTER

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT 1987-88

HOME TELEPHONE NUMBERS FOR CONTACT WITH COMMITTEE MEMBERS

PRESIDENT	Neville Lester	736 2660
VICE PRESIDENT	Colin Pritchard	850 1778
SECRETARY	John Hughes	589 2457
TREASURER	Alan Hawkes	877 5725
COMMITTEE MEMBERS	Geoff Bingham	(059) 712 760
	John Cribbes	299 2827
	David Hocking	583 1987
	David Horne	850 2294

AVON WILDERNESS



The Avon Wilderness, located in Central Gippsland and covering 40,000 ha, is the first Wilderness to be declared in eastern Victoria and the second in the State, after the Big Desert Wilderness adjacent to the South Australian border.

The area takes in the upper Avon, Dolodrook and Turton Rivers and Ben Cruachan Creek. The highest areas of the Wilderness are usually snow-covered in winter, and the lower sections are hot and dry in summer.

Environments range from sub-alpine woodlands and snow grass plains to dense, tall regrowth forests of mountain ash and shining gum, to stunted dry foothill forests. The highest point is Mt Wellington at 1600 metres; in the valley of the Avon River the elevation is only 200 metres. Cliffs and rocky escarpments line the edge of part of the area.

Location and access

The Wilderness is about 70 km north of Traralgon. From Licola on the Heyfield-Jamieson Road, the Bennison Plains Road and Moroka Road provide access to near the northern boundary of the Wilderness. Four-wheel drive tracks provide access to the edge of the Wilderness in several other locations.

Management of the Wilderness

Motorised vehicles are not permitted in the Wilderness. Tracks on or near the boundary of the Wilderness will be maintained and available for public vehicular access. Some internal vehicular access will be maintained for essential Department of Conservation, Forests and Lands management purposes, particularly for fire protection and weed control. Other tracks in the Wilderness which are not essential for management will be closed permanently.

Because of the rugged terrain and likelihood of fires caused by lightning, the Department will maintain some helipads in the Wilderness. Strategies for the management and control of fire in the Wilderness will be detailed in the Central Gippsland Regional Fire Protection Plan.

The area is reserved under the National Parks Act and the Park Regulations under that Act apply.

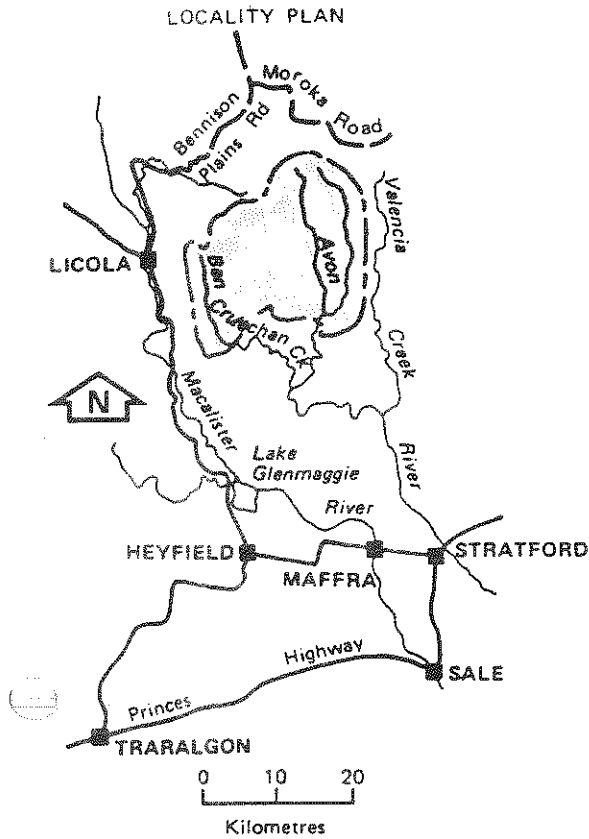
Activities

Activities compatible with the Wilderness include bushwalking, rock climbing, fishing, dispersed camping and nature studies. Timber production and mining will not be permitted, and the small amount of grazing currently permitted will be phased out in 1991, in line with Government decisions already made about the activity. Hunting and the use of firearms are not permitted. The issue of whether or not horse riding will be permitted will be resolved in the planning process for the Alpine Area. In the meantime, horse riders should contact the office at either Heyfield or Maffra prior to visiting the area.

Wilderness recreation

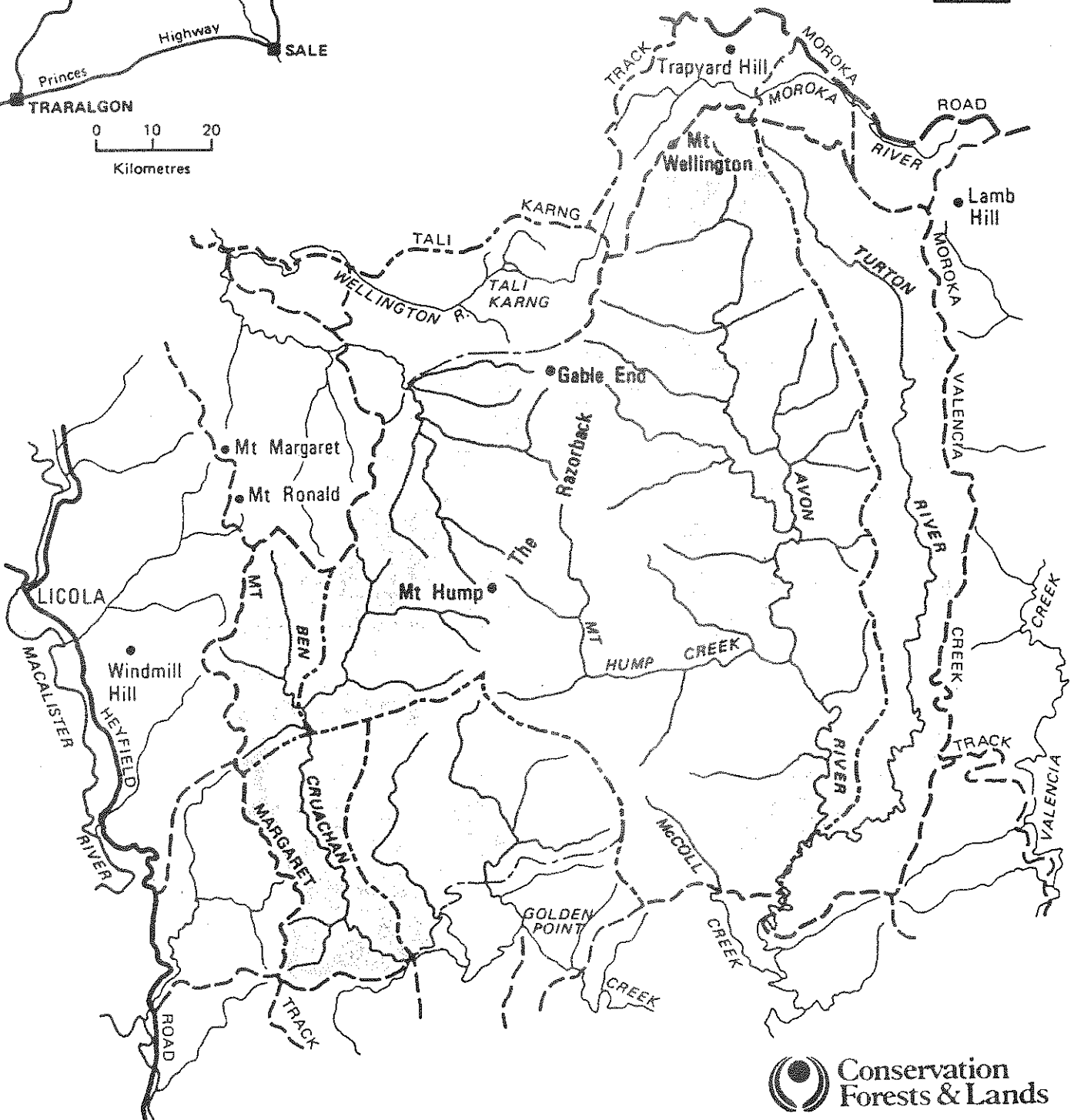
The Avon Wilderness is rugged and those using it must be prepared to accept it on its own terms. Visitors should be properly equipped for self-contained travel and skilled in bushcraft and navigation. The safe minimum number for a party visiting the area is four. Full details of any expedition in the area should be left with a responsible person who should be advised of the party's return.

AVON WILDERNESS



G/5628

- MAJOR ROAD
- MINOR ROAD
- TRACK 4 WD
- TRACK (Management Vehicles Only)



Walk softly in the Wilderness:

- * Portable fuel stoves are preferred to wood-burning campfires, to ensure minimal impact on the natural environment. Remember, no fires or fuel stoves may be lit on Total Fire Ban days.
- * Carry out what you carry in - leave no rubbish behind.
- * Dogs, cats and firearms are not permitted.
- * Native plants and animals are protected by law; do not disturb or remove them.

Declaring and planning the Wilderness

Declaration of the Avon Wilderness is the outcome of a lengthy process of consultation and decision making. The LCC recommended creation of part of the Avon Wilderness in 1979 with an extension to the south in 1983, and endorsed those final recommendations in the 1983 Alpine Area Special Investigation. Legislation providing for the reservation of the Avon Wilderness under the National Parks Act was passed in 1986.

The Avon Wilderness is part of the Alpine Area. A proposed plan for the Wonnangatta-Moroka unit (one of five in the Alpine Area), which includes the Avon Wilderness, will be released for public comment in 1988.

Further information

Please contact one of the following CFL offices:

* Central Gippsland Region

Pearson Street
HEYFIELD 3858
Telephone: (051) 48 2355

52 McLean Street
MAFFRA 3860
Telephone: (051) 47 1291

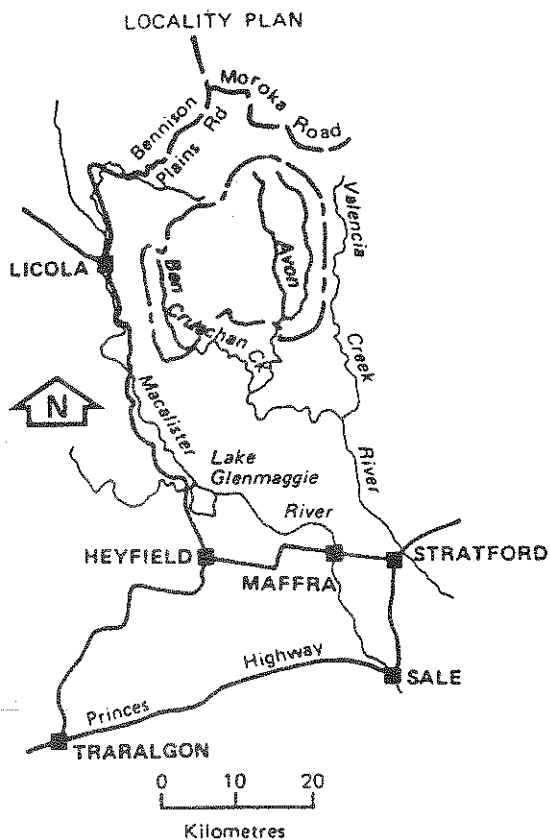
71 Hotham Street
TRARALGON 3844
Telephone: (051) 74 6166

* Melbourne

Information Centre
240 Victoria Parade
EAST MELBOURNE 3002
Telephone: (03) 651 4795

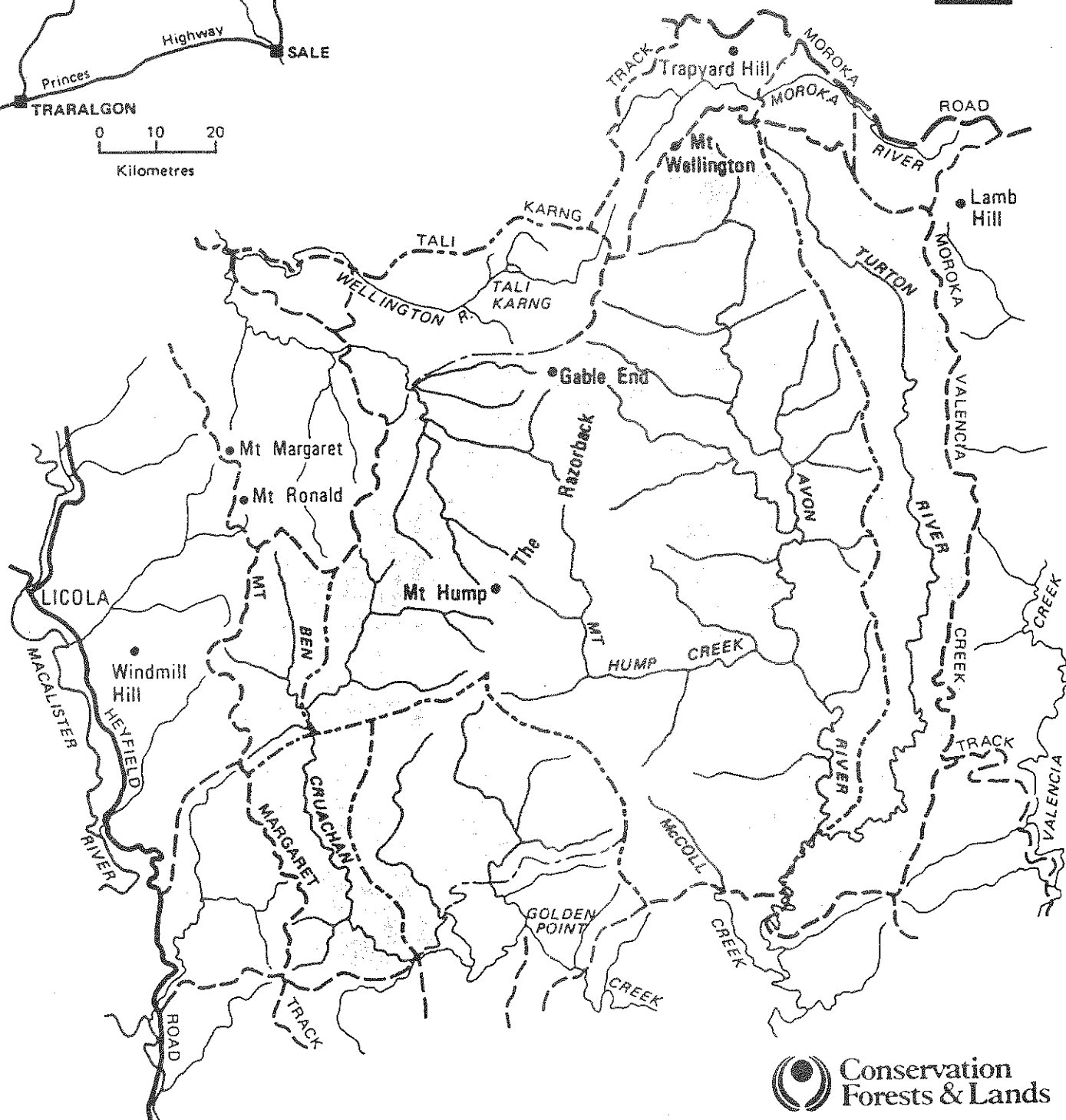
November 1987

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G/5628

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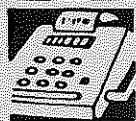
Pearson Street
HEYFIELD 3858
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52 McLean Street
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71 Hotham Street
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DEPARTURE TIME:

DEPARTURE POINT:

FUEL REQUIRED :

LAST FUEL AVAILABLE:

MAPS REQUIRED :

GRADE : A B C

DURATION :

BASE CAMP : YES NO

NATIONAL PARKS : YES NO

ROUTE VIA :

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ACTIVITIES :

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SPECIAL CONDITIONS :

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

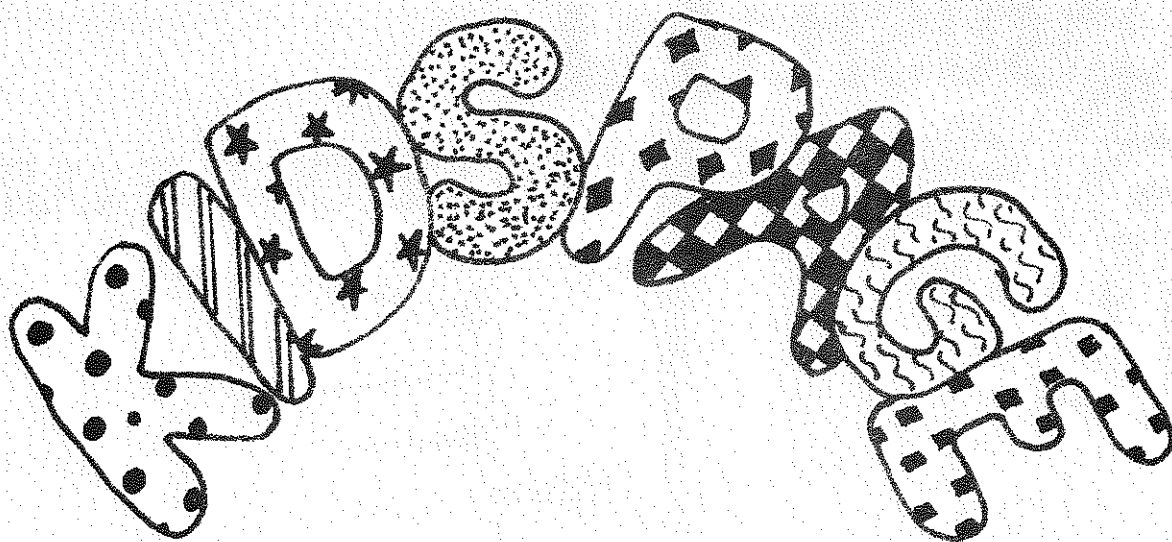
CLUB CALENDAR 1988

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MARCH 5	OTWAYS P. CASEY
MARCH 12-14	LABOUR DAY WEEKEND P. PINK
MARCH 26	BASICALLY BEEF RESTAURANT NIGHT
APRIL ??	LADIES DAY
APR 29-30	G. F. W. D. C. GO-DOWN LABERTOUCHE INTERCLUB
OCT 29	BUSH DANCE
OUTBACK TRIP	2WD WITH 4X4 BACK UP PETER ROWE 4 WEEKS
OUTBACK TRIP	7 WEEKS TOM KIMBERLEYS

=====





We would like you to draw us a picture of anything you might find in the bush. Please make the drawing the same size as the box around this writing. If your picture is chosen as the best drawing received for this month, we will use it in the next magazine for our colouring competition.

We are also giving prizes for the best colouring entry and the best drawing entry.

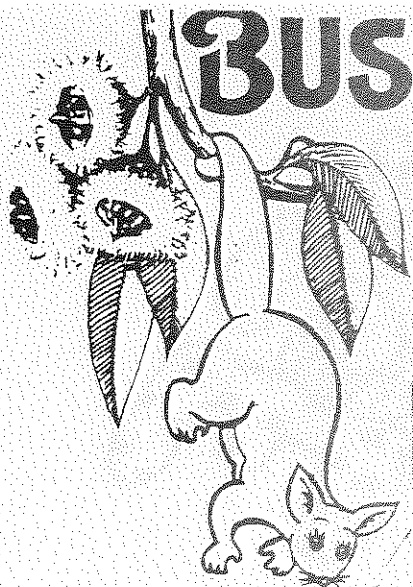
- Every entry will receive one prize token.
- The best colouring entry will receive three prize tokens.
- The best drawing entry will receive five prize tokens.

* When you have collected 15 prize tokens, send them to us and we will send you \$5.00. *

Please send entries to: "KIDS PAGE"
9-16 Hardy St.
Selby 3159

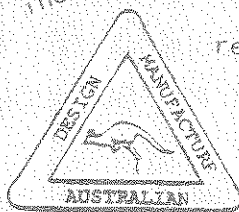
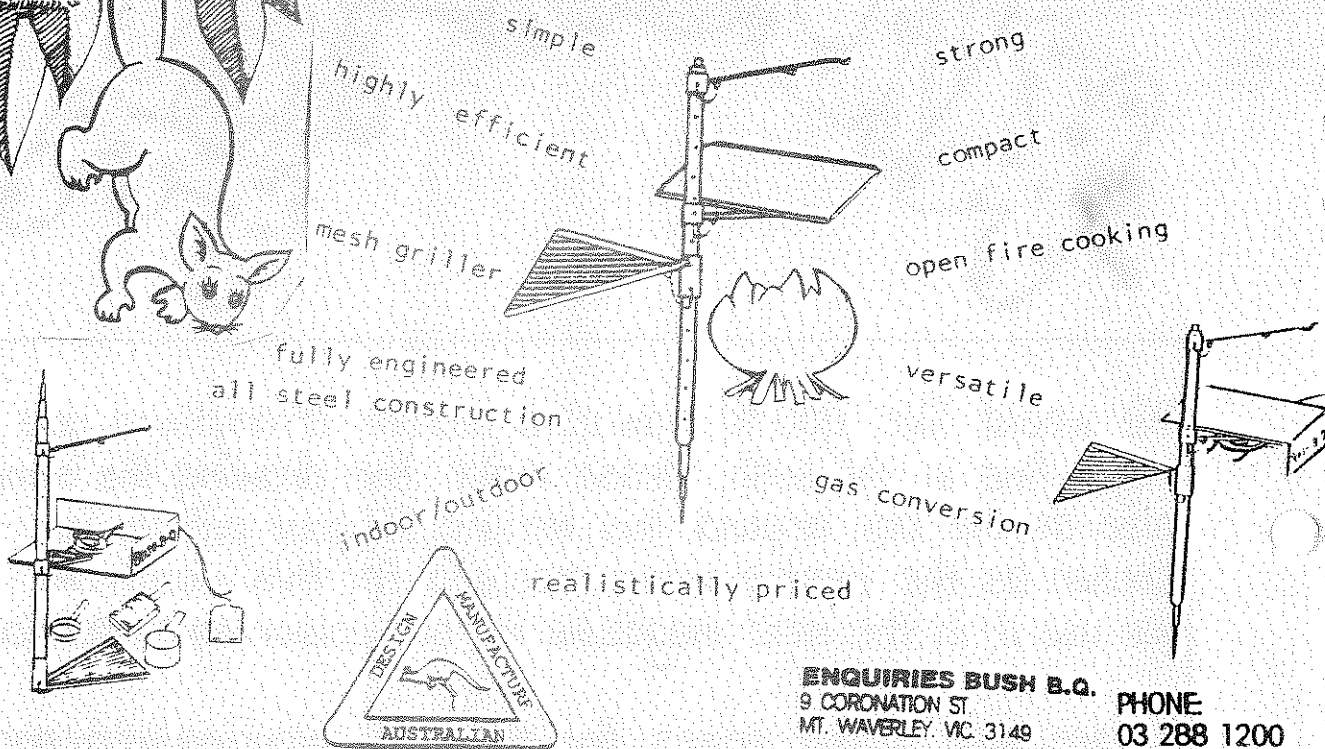
and clearly mark each entry with your name, age and address.

ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY 12TH NEXT MONTH.



BUSH.B.Q.

THE BARBEQUE OF THE OUTBACK

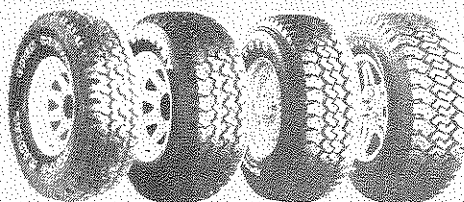


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03 288 1200

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