



JUNE 2011

# Free Wheeling



## Easter Trip Buckland River 2011

# Notice Board

## VFWDC GENERAL MEETING VENUE

The club meets at the Bowling Club Rooms, Noble Park Football Club, 46-56 Moodemere St, Noble Park on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of every month at 8.00pm (No meeting January). Members and Guests are welcome to dine at the Bistro before attending the club meeting.

First **WEDNESDAY** of each month 8.00PM Start

### **Venue:**

Bowling Club Rooms (Next to Car Park)

Noble Park Football Club  
46-56 Moodemere Street  
Noble Park  
Melways ref: 89 D4



## **FREE WHEELING**

Hello and welcome to the June newsletter. The Queens birthday weekend is our last chance to get away and enjoy the seasonal tracks, take the opportunity to get out there and enjoy them before they are closed for the next few months.

Catherine

Editor@fwdc.com



## COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT 2010-2011

President	Bruce Cremonesi	president@vfwdc.com 0400 425 296
Vice President	Mark Kochan	vicepres@vfwdc.com 0412 544 668
Treasurer	Phil Griffith	treasurer@vfwdc.com 0419 865 472
Secretary	David Bruinsma	secretary@vfwdc.com
<b>GENERAL COMMITTEE</b>		
Assistant Secretary		assist@vfwdc.com
Trip Co-ordinator	Daniel Robinson	trips@vfwdc.com
Newsletter Editor	Catherine Felton	editor@vfwdc.com
Association Delegate	Ashley Martin	
Training Officers	Ashley Martin	John Partridge
General Committee	Luke Teunissen	
Web Manager	Paul Ryan	web@vfwdc.com

Club Details	
Registered Name	Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc
Registration No	A002184F
Correspondence	PO Box 778 Dandenong Vic 3174
Email	<a href="mailto:secretary@vfwdc.com">secretary@vfwdc.com</a>
Website	<a href="http://www.vfwdc.com">www.vfwdc.com</a>
Meetings	Held 8pm, first Wednesday of each month, excluding January (no meeting).
Location	Noble Park Football Club (Bowling club near car park) 46-56 Moodemere Street Noble Park Melways ref: 89 D4
Newsletter	All articles and photographs to be submitted prior to 20 <sup>th</sup> of each month to <a href="mailto:editor@vfwdc.com">editor@vfwdc.com</a>
	The Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club is an affiliated club of the Victoria Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs Inc (VAFWDC)



## VFWDC ADVERTISING DIRECTORY

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## CLUB CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

2011				
June	Wednesday 1st	General Meeting	Bruce Cremonesi	0400 425 296
	11th - 13th	Queens Birthday Weekend		
	11th - 13th	Howica Hills, Upper Jamison	Johan	
	11th - 13th	Licola Area	Bruce	
	21st	Committee Meeting		
July	Wednesday 6th	General Meeting	Bruce Cremonesi	0400 425 296
	19th	Committee Meeting		
	30th–31st	Xmas In July	Dan Robinson	0407 334 169
August	Wednesday 3rd	General Meeting	Bruce Cremonesi	0400 425 296
	20th	First Aid Course		
	23rd	Committee Meeting		
	27th	First Aid Course		
September	Wednesday 3rd	General Meeting	Bruce Cremonesi	0400 425 296
	Melbourne Cup Wend	Expression's Of Interest—Robe South Australia	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860

Our website has been updated, check it out at [www.vfwdc.com](http://www.vfwdc.com) It would be greatly appreciated if you could bring a cd of the photos of your trips to the club meeting & pass them onto Bruce, so they can be added to our website for advertising. Only if you choose to.

### Notice for Club August AGM

If your interested please think about taking on a position on the committee or help in voting for someone else in a committee position.

Please see our website [www.vfwdc.com](http://www.vfwdc.com) for downloading an election nomination form, if your interested.

Also the Annual AGM Dinner is also coming up in August, look out for some more details in the next newsletter.





## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Well another month has past & the wind, rain & cold weather is here - & unexpected loads of SNOW! Part 2 of the Marysville Trip had a stack of snow so maybe this season will be a beauty for the snow driving/camping trip – Who wants to run an Igloo trip up Mt Skene?!

The July meeting we have some suspension specialists coming to the club to give us a talk on how to setup our trucks, the different types of suspension, & how to order the correct gear for your truck for the first time. Several members have used them in the past & their service & knowledge is second to none.

There have already been some memorable trips this year already & we aren't at the ½ way mark yet, so well done to those Trip Leaders out there.

This year's annual Robe trip in November is being run by David Bruinsma, so hit up Dave at the next meeting for info. This is a mighty good weekend of wheeling and socialising.

One thing we would like is for trip leaders to start doing is giving more notice to members of their trips. Some people need to get "parole" to go on the trips, to plan ahead with kids sport & 2 weeks notice isn't really enough to be fair to all members. We would like from now on to have at least 2 magazines & meetings notice to give everyone a fair chance & to get up enough brownie points with the missus to let them out J. This will benefit all members TL's & others.

Next year there is a new competition being run for Trip leaders with a quite large prize at the end of the 12 months for 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> place for the most points, but more on that at the next club meeting.

We have had a few issues with the club meeting rooms down at Noble Park, being swapped around the last 2 months, but that should be sorted out by now – but the good thing is that both meeting rooms are very good, clean & **warm**! The 2 for 1 meal's are back as well which is a bonus for us if you get there early, come and join us (get some points with the wife take her out to dinner!)

Xmas in July is in full swing & is looking good, so we hope to see all members there for a huge weekend. Check the magazine elsewhere for more information.

Chainsaw course is now completed & everyone passed with flying colours & everyone came away with more knowledge than they went in with. The course was very well worth the money and congratulations to all those that attended.

The First Aid course is now booked in & applications will be out ASAP. We will use the same routine as chainsaw course, for selecting the successful applicants.

Anyway, let us have a good winter season with some good snow trips happening & support to those trip leaders running their trips. Be safe out there, most of the tracks are still not all in "tip top condition" due to weather over last 12 months.

Regards  
Bruce Cremonesi  
President VFWDC.

# For Sale

1. EMG Swag BRAND NEW - never been used still in the box. \$300  
Meas. 108x31x31cm

2. Flairs for 80 series Landcruiser - 1990-1992 in good cond. \$200

Please call Chris 0400 540 183 or

Email [smithy1963@optusnet.com.au](mailto:smithy1963@optusnet.com.au)

Thanks, Chris Smith



## CLUB MERCHANDISE For Sale

### (Revised Price List)

Club Polo Shirts	\$28.00 ea
Club Polar Fleece ½ Zip Jumper	\$38.00 ea
Club Polar Fleece Full Zip Jacket	\$48.00 ea
Club Sleeveless Reversible Vest	\$44.00 ea
Club Caps	\$15.00 ea
Club Bucket Hat	\$16.00 ea
Club Wide Brim Hat	\$18.00 ea
Club Beanie	\$12.00 ea
VFWDC Sticker (long)	\$ 6.00 ea

(The VFWDC long stickers will be available at the next club meeting. Please see David Bruinsma for these stickers).

We encourage all members to purchase a Club Polo Shirt.

Email your order to [committee@vfwdc.com](mailto:committee@vfwdc.com).  
Please ensure you advise size required.

## Minutes of General Meeting May 2011

### General Meeting Month Year

The meeting was held at the upstairs meeting room, Noble Park Football Club and was opened at 8.05pm by President Bruce Cremonesi.

**Present:** There were 27 members present as per the attendance book

**Apologies:** There were 8 members absent as per the apologies book

**Visitors:** Michael Torpy, Mark Edwards.

### Minutes of previous General Meeting

**Accepted:** Anthony  
**Seconded:** Mark

**Matters arising:**  
NIL

**Correspondence in**  
Noble Park - refund cheque  
REVIEW magazine  
Overland Cruising - magazine

**Correspondence out**  
Our Club Magazines

### Treasurers report

Term Deposit	\$	5465.34
Cash	\$	
Petty Cash	\$	50.00
Money In	\$	
Moneys Out	\$	
Balance	\$	10497.75

**Accepted:** Johan  
**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Ashley

### Trip reports

Jane (and family) still did the border track over the Easter weekend. The track was totally chewed up, but still drivable.

Anthony and extended crew - Hattah trip ended up becoming the Buckland river Road Trip. Anthony and family

## Minutes of General Meeting May 2011 Continued

went up early (Tuesday), Brian, Derek and Jane showed up Wednesday. The rest of the people showed up on Thursday. Big 200km drive on the Friday. Saturday, Tim and David (with families) went into Beechworth for the regular festival. Easter egg hunt on the Sunday Morning - Kids were really happy. Sunday was roast day, and it was held at about 2pm as a late lunch, followed by an extended happy hour - the whole camp called it a night at only 9:30pm. Monday was a trip up to a Dan Dongervale hut that Anthony had heard about - so the crew went up to find it, and found the concrete slab that it had been built on - the hut had been burnt down, a bit of a letdown in the end. David and Maggie left on the Monday, everyone else pretty well left on the Tuesday.

Bob did a trip to Knockwood. Catherine reported. Bob managed to seize his brakes on the way up. When they got there, the camp area was full - one nice camper moved their tent just so the crew could move in. The lookout had campers up there - in the gravel, in the fog, couldn't see your hand in front of you. Chris joined the group on the Sunday on the way up to Mount Terrible. Almost every track had been graded - and according to the local ranger, who's only concern was fire access to the tracks.

Chain Saw Course - progress report. (by Ashley) We have already had the first 2 nights of theory. The trainer really knows his stuff, his family has been in the timber industry for more than 100 years. Monday we ran through the safety of it all, the apparel and does and don't of handling a chain saw. Tuesday night we started by going through the chain saw's pulling them apart and put them back together again. This coming weekend we have the first 2 day training down at Moorooduc - pairing up and just cutting trees all weekend.

### Trip coordinators report

The various trip leaders gave a brief overview of the following upcoming trips.

Type	When	Where	Trip Leader
Day trip	15 <sup>th</sup> may	Marysville trip	Phil (apparently)
Base camp	June long w/e	Licola area	Bruce
Weekend	June long w/e	Howica Hills, Upper Jamison	Johan
Xmas in July	30 <sup>th</sup> /31 <sup>st</sup> July	Club will be paying for the full meal on the Saturday night, & b/fast on Sun morning	Bruce
Snow Trip	August		Sam
Long w/end	November	Robe	David

Still looking for more Day Trips, if anyone is interested, talk to any of the regular trip leaders for tips and tricks for running a trip.

### Association Report

Fees has gone up - and will go up each year according to CPI, and is due for renewal.

### General business

- Our New website is up & running - we desperately need more photo's to put up there to show what we have done.
- July - looking at having Top Performance come in to talk about suspension (Koni people)
- Affiliation fees have gone up for next financial year. With the balance of funding after we have done the chain saw course, we are looking at a First Aid Course - August 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> 2011 through fwdvic, cost \$160 per person - upto 20 people. With the club looking to fully fund the course and have the course exclusive to our club. We are supposed to have a qualified first aid person on each of the club trips. Probably have the same or similar criteria as per the chain saw course.

### Raffle

This month there is TWO prizes, Tickets sold by Emily

Prize	Won by:
Cake	John
Tyre deflators	Sam

**Meeting Closed: 9:30 pm**

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday 8.00pm 1<sup>st</sup> June 2011 at the Bowling Club Rooms, Noble Park Football Club.



## Trip Reports

### Easter Trip Buckland River 2011

#### Participants

Anthony, Aline, Riley and Connor  
Derek and Jan  
Brian  
David, Carolyn and Samuel  
Tim, Donna, Travis and Charlotte  
Maggie  
Peter and Janine  
Ashley and Lesley



#### Tuesday

We had a late start on Tuesday after taking care of a few loose ends, so we did not arrive at the Buckland River until after 3pm. We spent a bit of time checking out each campsite as we drove along the Buckland River until we found a site that could accommodate all of our expected club members. This meant that by the time we set up camp it was already on dusk. We gathered a bit of firewood from around the campsite but it was too damp to start a fire with. So it was an early night after dinner as it was too cold to sit around an empty fireplace.

#### Wednesday

It rained quite heavily overnight and the kids got a little bit of water in their swags which made their sleeping bags wet. We had breakfast and then went for a drive into Bright so we could use the dryer at the Laundromat. I also sent out an SMS to the rest of the group giving them directions to our camp location, "Head Race Flat". We bought a bag of kindling and dry firewood to supplement the damp timber we had at camp. We decided to head back to camp for a late lunch and to await the arrival of Brian and Derek and Jan. They arrived late afternoon and began setting up, trying to spread out and claim as much space as possible. There were a lot of people looking for places to camp all along the river. Another group of people set up camp a respectable distance away from us, and later another group did the same at the other end of the campground. We used the kindling and dry wood we purchased in Bright to get the fire going and then the wood we had already collected. The fire was adequate that night but still not as warm as we are accustomed to.

#### Anthony

#### Thursday

Although we'd all had an early night the night before, most of enjoyed the luxury of a late start on Thursday. All except Aline, who had gone off for a run. 3.2km there and 3.2km back we were reliably informed on her return. We had a slow morning, cutting more firewood and watching other campers set up at each end of the campground. At least it was not raining and the sun began to shine through from time to time to dry out the ground. David, Caroline and Samuel arrived just after 4.00pm and as they set up, the rain came down again. Peter and Janine arrived soon after and we all sheltered under Anthony and Aline's gazebo to watch David and Caroline setting up. When the rain eased, Peter and Janine set up as we sat around the fire watching them. Although Anthony and Aline had lit the fire at lunchtime, it had only just got going because the wood was so damp. It had been such an exciting day, and it wasn't over yet. By now it was dark and the first to arrive under the cover of darkness were Tim, Donna, Travis and Charlotte soon followed by Maggie. Of course, as soon as they started to set up, the rain began to fall again. We built the fire up high and people went off to cook dinner. We gathered around the fire after dinner for the usual chat and laughter. Eventually, Ashley and Lesley arrived and set up in the last remaining place available in the circle around the fire. It took nearly all the wood we had cut to build a decent fire and we sat around for a bit longer before people began to drift off to bed. Apart from the rain that fell every time someone tried to set up their camp, the only really noteworthy events were the problems that a couple of the guys had with their poles. Anthony had brought all the parts of his Bush-B-Q with him except the pole, which he had carefully arranged to leave at home. Not to be outdone, David had brought his BBQ spit with him but without the key component of the slender pointed pole on which to impale his meat.





## Trip Reports Continued

### Friday

We were greeted with a cloudy morning and some light rain. The camp ground became more and more crowded and we were pleased to see a large group forming right next to us complete with generators, trail bikes, packs of dogs and loud music. However, the last of these turned out to be less of a problem after Ashley and someone from the group of campers at the far end of the campground had a word with the principal offender.

The bloke at the other end of the campground made several fast and mysterious trips out and back in with what as far as we could see was an empty trailer. He rattled along the track next to our vehicles seemingly unaware that there might be children playing in the area.

Mid-morning, some of us went out for a drive to do some shopping and have look around the area. With Janet and Derek in the lead, Maggie, Brian, David & Caroline, Tim & Donna, and Anthony and Aline following we first stopped at Boynton's Winery and Micro-Brewery just north of Bright. There was a roaring open fire and it was difficult to persuade people to leave.

On the way into Bright, we stopped at the old Tobacco Sheds for a look around the antiques and collectables. In Bright, some of us did some shopping and we had lunch.

The next stop was to enjoy the view at Towonga Gap lookout. As we were getting back into the cars, Aline demonstrated a stunning karate kick to the throat of a Huntsman trying to get into the car in front of her. Needless to say, the Huntsman didn't make it.

We were looking for an olive grove in the Kiewa Valley. The directions were a bit vague and after a stop at the Ceccanti Winery, where Tim managed to get himself bogged while parking at the roadside, we had our one and only turn-around of the day. We'd seen what everyone agreed looked like an olive grove on a hillside as we drove along the Kiewa Valley Highway. We asked the guy at Ceccanti for directions and he was also a bit vague and pointed us in the opposite direction. We decided to have a look at the olive grove we had seen, but it turned out to be one that was not open to the public. So around we went and with GPS confirmation of directions from Anthony and David, we managed to avoid another reversal and drove on through Happy Valley where another olive grove was advertised.

It was getting quite late so we decided to skip the grove and stopped at the Happy Valley Pub in Ovens, which was a quaint little place with old fashioned dining rooms and a nice beer garden shaded by a big vine out the back. Bit too cold on the day, but it would be nice in summer. David, Tim, Anthony and Derek stopped to collect firewood on the way back into camp.

When we got there, the fire was roaring courtesy of those who had stayed in camp and cut some drier wood. The sky had cleared and it was much colder than the previous night. After dinner, we built the fire up and enjoyed its warmth. Anthony, Ashley and Derek sat around a bit longer than the others who drifted off one by one. Anthony was the first of the three to go to bed. It was difficult to persuade Ashley not to keep implementing one of the Club's mottos: "We cut it, we burn it." Yes, it was cold. Yes, we did cut it. But eighteen bits of wood between midnight and 12.30am? Ashley went to bed first and Janet advised us later that Derek finally made it at 1.45, much to her relief as she had been frozen ever since going to bed earlier.

### **Derek Hymas**

### Saturday

The Bruinsma family decided to head for the nearest open hardware store to find a "Spit Pole"(they have one but left it at home)!then meet up with the Axtell mob in Beechworth.

David and family were up and away from camp early, we managed to leave by about Half Past, with a short drive to Beechworth found a parking spot and awaited the pending arrival of Bruinsma family.

They arrived about Half Past and we all wandered up to the Main street, found the nearest Latte stand ordered the Coffees and Hot Chocolates, then wandered up through the market stalls selling the local wines ,mustards and all sorts of odd things, by this time it was about Half Past so we decided to find a spot in the sun to watch the Parade. With some Kinder floats, school floats and local businesses as well all throwing Easter eggs the kids were well fed and happy. At about Half Past the parade had finished David and family decided to collect their wine purchase and head back to camp (NO such luck for me).



## Trip Reports Continued

Donna decided we all needed to go for a look at the TRASH( and treasure) stalls up past the prison, so off we all go. Donna now having satisfied her bargain hunting urge we were allowed to move on to the kiddies fair, after a few turns on the rides it was starting to get late in the afternoon about Half Past ,time to head back to camp, via the ice-cream shop! Yummy !!. Arrived back at camp just in time for Happy hour and dinner. Thanks again to Donna for Googling for the day's activities.

**Tim**

### BEAUTIFUL BRIGHT – AUTUMN COLOURS

#### EASTER SUNDAY 2011

**What a lovely day it was on Easter Sunday don't know whether it was because it was so dark or so very cold in the morning but all the children slept in very late for Easter Sunday. Everyone slowly arose and it wasn't long before we heard the beautiful sounds of squeals of delight and excited chatter when eggs were discovered.**

**Slowly everyone appeared out of their respective abodes. After breakfast, it was time for the Easter egg hunt. The kids had great fun finding the eggs, closely watched by the adults as there were a lot of dogs camping in the area and great care had to be taken to make sure all eggs were collected.**

After a discussion the day before it was decided that we would have our campfire roast at lunchtime. I think this was a great idea, as we were able to cook and eat in the daylight. We planned to eat at 2:00 ish and I think we all sat down to our yummy meals at around 2:30 so that wasn't too bad, every one timed it just right.

Tummies full we all sat around relaxing with lot of chatter and laughter, around dinnertime we had the usual before dinner drinks and nibbles instead of an evening meal. The evening wound up with more drinks and of course the usual port around a lovely warm campfire.

**Janine**

A picture says a thousand words





## Trip Reports Continued

### Monday

We planned to take the main road out through Myrtleford and then come back via a few tracks after crossing the Buffalo River. We stopped at Myrtleford for a coffee and morning tea before gathering everyone up again and heading towards Lake Buffalo. We crossed the dam wall and, after finding our turn off from the River Rd, pulled over to air down the tyres. It was a nice solid climb up to the track and to my relief the gate was open. It is an early closure track (closed from 1st May) and after driving on it I can understand why.

It is extremely steep which, in the dry offers plenty of grip. Trying to climb it in the wet would almost be impossible without winching. We arrived at the site of Dandongadale Hut but could not see the hut initially. Then we found the remains of the concrete base. The hut had burnt down at some stage. We had lunch at the hut site and then started our journey back to camp. When we got back to Buffalo River Rd I gave everyone the option to keep following the 4wd tracks back to camp, or head back the same way we had come in through Myrtleford.

This would mean we save about an hour in travel time. Everyone chose to head back on the bitumen through Myrtleford. Some of us stopped at Coles to replenish supplies and we also stopped along the way to collect some more firewood. It was a big day of driving and it was good to relax around the campfire after all the domestic duties were completed.

***Ian (AKA - That bloke in front of Tim)***

### Tuesday

Most of the camp was heading home today, with the exception of Brian, Derek and Jan, and ourselves. It was a subdued morning, slowing packing up while waiting for the dew to dry on the canvas. By about 11am everyone who was leaving today had started their journey home. It was a small and cosy campfire this evening with only 5 adults left.

### Wednesday

Today was a repeat of yesterday, waiting for the dew to dry on the canvas before packing up and heading home.

***Anthony***







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#### Discounts available for all 4WD club members





## Trip Reports Continued

### Easter Trip Knockwood Reserve 2011

#### Participants

Bob, Kathleen McKerrow & Jacob  
 John & Maryanne  
 Scott & Hayley  
 Mark & Catherine Felton

#### Friday

This was a once in a few years opportunity & won't come around for another 27 years. It was an extra long weekend of 5 days off from work, woohoo. Our original plan was to head to on Bruce's trip, but Bruce pulled out. So we reevaluated our plans & decided to attend Bob's trip to Knockwood.

Bob was only arriving into Melbourne around 6am on Good Friday morning (Bob had driving down from Sydney) & so it was decided to meet at 9am at Macca's on Canterbury Road. Bob & his family soon arrived; we then headed to Warburton, where we met up with John, Maryanne & Tammy. We travelled via Woods point, which was a dirt road & three quarters of the way there Bob started having problems with his brakes. This stretched out our travelling time, which wasn't bad as we were in no rush.

We came across plenty of people that were camping along the river & basically whenever they could fit really. We had Bob talking over the UHF when he let out an "oh my goshhh", they were quite a few people already camping at Knockwood; it was like a tiny tent & caravan city. We were lucky enough to find a bit of ground that wasn't taken & looked like it could fit us. There was another couple (Daniel, Caroline & Milo, they were to come associated members of the club & Tammy had a playmate for the weekend, although by the end of it, she had enough of Milo), who had just finished setting up there campsite & we asked them if we could squeeze in besides them. They ended up moving their tent, so we could have more room. They were ok with it, we felt intrusive. Bob's brakes were fixed; we invited Daniel to join us in collecting some fire wood with us & also invited them to join us in sharing a campfire together. Some of us headed up German Spur track to collect some fire wood & then the boys decided to take the long way home. We arrived back after 2.5hrs had gone by & when we returned, we were met with happiness as some were getting worried about us. Daniels fridge wire had been damaged with some of the firewood in his tray, which John fixed up upon returning to the campsite. Dinner was made & consumed. We sat around the campfire chatting away with our new 'associated members', we invited them to come four wheeling driving with us, Daniel informed us he was going to give fishing a go (as he had plenty of attempts in the past & wasn't very successful to date), Caroline was going to relax, but they were interested in joining us on Sunday for the day. The fog rolled in, Bob finally headed to bed after 36hrs of being awake & everyone soon followed shortly afterwards.

#### Saturday

The game of yeah, na, na, yeah had started off yesterday on purpose, but today was been thrown around willy nilly, with people not realising they were using it. We headed off at a reasonable hour & headed up to Mt Skene, via Snake-Edwards Divide Track, up along Jamieson-Licola Road, which takes you up to the top of Mt Skene. Mt Skene is the clubs choice of mountains for the annual snow trip. Today there was no snow up there, however it was still very chilly & I was glad to have taken my warm jacket. We came down Lazarini Spur Track (which to some peoples dismay, had recently been graded), it was voted to return to camp early & get an early start on the campfire for the "grand campfire roast dinner". We travelled via Black River Road to get home. We stopped & collected some more firewood & returned to the campsite. We returned to Daniel trying to do some fishing & Caroline was asleep with Milo at the campfire who were awoken upon on our return. The fire was stoked & was continuously attended too; Daniel & Caroline learnt a thing or two about campfire cooking & also joined us for dinner. A selection of meats was added to the camp ovens. There was a choice of beef, lamb, pork & chicken. Happy hour was started & enjoyed by all; even our associated members got involved by sharing their home made Italian salami, yummy. Vegetables & gravy were also prepared, at the same time our lamb was checked & ashe was split over it & our associated member's vegetables. The meat was washed off & served up, with plenty of apologies & the vegetables were beyond rescue, lucky enough there were plenty of vegetables to go around from some of the other club members. Everyone was satisfied & had a relaxing time around the campfire, some headed to bed & some stayed up until the early hours of the morning.

#### Sunday

Happy Easter everyone, Jacob was wondering if the Easter bunny was still going to visit him, while in a different country, a different time zone & out in the middle of nowhere. He was reassured as there were plenty of other kids out here camping at the same campsite with us. Upon returning to his bed, he found some chocolates that were left by the



## Trip Reports Continued

Easter bunny, which Jacob showed to everyone there. We had waited until 10am for Chris to arrive, but he was a no-show, so we headed off up Moonlight Spur Track where at the top of the mountain we stopped as we only just received Chris on the UHF. We were joined by Chris & his kids, Milo had proven himself to Daniel by finding some animal fur, yeah Milo. We then went down via Matlock Track to Enoch Point, where there were more people camping, but you wouldn't have wanted to camp there as it was very muddy & not alot of sun reached down there. We turned around & headed up Donald's Track to Mt Terrible Track, which took us to the top of Mt Terrible Hut, we had a good look out to Lake Eildon & the surrounding area.

We took Polletti Track down to Kevington Hotel, where it was very busy; we almost couldn't get a car park there. Milo & Tammy were left to guard the cars, where the rest of us went in for some drinks and lunch. The restaurant was ok, but some of us had to wait quite a few hours for our meal, while some of us finished & had a few drinks out the back with a guy singing songs. The meals were really good in the end & not too badly priced either. Chris & his kids headed off, as they had just moved house the day before. Daniel, Caroline, John, Maryanne, Scott and Hayley all headed back to the campsite. We spoke to the motorbike police out the front of Kevington & found out about the motorbike rider who had come off his bike & had to be airlifted, as we had heard the air ambulance the night before.

Bob, Kathleen, Jacob, Mark & I decided to come back via Flourbag Track, which took us over through the mountain, instead of around like the others would have left earlier. I had a go at driving & was disappointed when the track was only a short leg, before we knew it we were back at camp. Because our lunch was so late, we skipped happy hour, it was suggested that now (around dusk) was a really good time to try fishing so Jacob, Mark & Daniel headed down to the river & shortly after a loud hooray was heard coming from the river direction.

They returned with Daniel beaming from ear to ear, he had finally got his first fish. Photos were taken, (for proof for Daniels family), Bob taught Daniel how to gut a fish, which Jacob watching & listening intently, there was plenty of "caviar" in this fish, which was returned to the river & the rest of the fish was seasoned, wrapped in foil & added to the campfire. We finally had something to eat, for dinner, tried our hands at the fish, which was very good. Everyone sat around for more stories & laughs, till late when everyone headed off to bed.

### Monday

It was quite wet, this morning, but the sky was clear. We woke up, had brekkie, packed the car, said good bye to everyone, where we headed home the long way home via Shepparton. The others were waiting for the sun to come up a bit further to dry out the camper trailers, & then head home via Warburton, the way we came up. Thanks to Bob who ran the trip, it was a great trip, plenty of memories, thanks to all who came & participated & thanks to Daniel & Caroline our new associated members.





## Xmas in July



Currently targeted for the last weekend in July (30th - 31st). This will be funded by the club excluding Alcohol and drinks & location of Torongo Falls Camping Ground, Noojee.

Saturday night will be a roast meal with salads & deserts, breakfast will also provided on Sunday. All other meals will be have to be self catered by attendees.

Please put your name down on the trip data form at the April meeting, if your interested in attending.

Final numbers required for July club meeting, after this date numbers will not be accepted.

For any further information, please get in contact with Dan Robinson, trip co-ordinator. [trips@vfwdc.com](mailto:trips@vfwdc.com) or 0407 334 169

