



NOVEMBER 2012

# Free Wheeling



Basic Driver Training - September 2012



# Notice Board

## VFWDC GENERAL MEETING VENUE

### Notice to all club members

The November club meeting will be held at Everything Four Wheel Drive in Cranbourne and is on Wednesday 14th of November. A BBQ will be offered to members who wish to attend, starting around 7pm. A short meeting will be held, then John might have a guest speaker, TBC and shop specials available to members on the night. It would be a good opportunity to check out John's new shop, as he has relocated to the following address. 1b/280 South Gippsland Highway, Cranbourne, VIC 3977.

### **FREE WHEELING**

Hello and welcome to the November newsletter. Last month day light savings started, seeing the days getting longer and the start of the warm weather, finally. The high country is finally accessible after the seasonal tracks are going to be reopen this month. Get out there and enjoy it; check out the calendar for upcoming trips.

Catherine

Editor@fwdc.com



## COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT 2012-2013

President	Mark Felton	president@vfwdc.com
Vice President		vicepres@vfwdc.com
Treasurer	Steve Pitcher	treasurer@vfwdc.com
Secretary	Andre Van Derwalt	secretary@vfwdc.com
<b>GENERAL COMMITTEE</b>		
Assistant Secretary		assist@vfwdc.com
Trip Co-ordinator	David Bruinsma	trips@vfwdc.com
Newsletter Editor	Catherine Felton	editor@vfwdc.com
Web Manager	Bruce Cremonesi	web@vfwdc.com
Training Officers	Ashley Martin	John Partridge
Association Delegate		
Librarian		
Merchandise		
General Committee		

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

## BUSH-B-Q

Manufacturer of the Barbeque of the Outback

**Don & Thelma Montague**

Ph: 9808 1200 Mob: 0414 355 488

Email: [info@theldon.com.au](mailto:info@theldon.com.au)

Web: [www.theldon.com.au](http://www.theldon.com.au)

## FRANKLAND ELECTRICS PTY L TD

Electric Motor Sales, Service, Repairs & Modifications

Power Tool Service & Repairs

**Peter & Janine Frankland**

Mob: 0417 85 6634 Ph: 03 9772 4062

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

## METALAIR INDUSTRIES

4x4 Camper Trailers, Accessories &

Camping Equipment

**David Hughes**

Ph: 9798 1492 Fax: 9798 2593

Email: [metalair@tenex.com.au](mailto:metalair@tenex.com.au)

## R & D BROWN PAINTING SERVICES

Quality Workmanship at the Right Price

**Ray & Dawn Brown**

Ph: 5967 1437 Fax: 5967 1439 Mob: 0411 799054



## Tayka Trip Trailer Hire

Off Road Camper Trailer Hire

**Bill Harwood**

Ph: 9707 2144 Mob: 0414 477 503

Anyone wishing to advertise in the  
Club Directory, please  
contact the Editor at [editor@vfwdc.com](mailto:editor@vfwdc.com)



## CLUB CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

<b>2012</b>				
November	<b>Wednesday 14th</b>	<b>At Everything Four Wheel Drive</b>	<b>Mark Felton</b>	<b>0439 345 207</b>
	3rd - 6th	Base camping - Walhalla	Andre Van Derwalt	0404 191 949
	9th - 11th	Mystery Pub to Pub	David Hughes	0427 865 592
	16th - 18th	Revisit Lone Graves - Thompson Dam	Markncat Felton	0439 345 207
	21st	Committee Meeting	Mark Felton	0439 345 207
	25th Day Trip	Mt Terrible	Dave Jackson	
December	<b>Wednesday 5th</b>	<b>General Meeting</b>	<b>Mark Felton</b>	<b>0439 345 207</b>
	1st	Christmas Party - Gumbuya Park	Mark Felton	0439 345 207
	8th - 9th	Oxfam Christmas Tree Delivery	Mark Felton	0439 345 207
	26th Dec - 1st January13	Wonnangatta Station	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
January 2013	<b>NO GENERAL MEETING</b>	<b>NO GENERAL MEETING</b>	<b>NO GENERAL</b>	<b>MEETING</b>
	23rd	Committee Meeting	Mark Felton	0439 345 207
	25th - 28th	Australia Day - Otway's Trip	Markncat Felton	0439 345 207
February	<b>Wednesday 6th</b>	<b>General Meeting</b>	<b>Mark Felton</b>	<b>0439 345 207</b>
	21st	Committee Meeting	Mark Felton	0439 345 207

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome to this month's of free wheeling.

As you may or may not be aware most of you should be by now that the next club meeting is at Everything four wheel drive on the South Gippsland Highway at Cranbourne on the 14th of November, which is the second Wednesday of the month due to public holiday the week before.

I would also like to point out that its not far away from being able to play in the high country again, yes its nearly here so hopefully some more trips will be coming up for everyone including one for the A grade guys, also the mystery pub to pub is on again and for those who want to go please put your names down as its an enjoyable weekend of fun and relaxation, it's not a hard weekend just good company and good times to be had.

One last thing we need final numbers for the OxFam Christmas tree deliveries as we don't want to miss out like last year, so many people volunteer that we were put on the stand-by list; it's one of the best mornings I've ever had and it's for a great cause. Please help volunteer.

Hope to see you on the tracks  
Mark Felton  
President VFWDC



# EVERYTHING 4WD

Shop 1B, 280 South Gippsland Hwy,  
Cranbourne, 3977  
P: 03 59955055  
F: 03 59955199  
E: sales@e4wd.com.au  
W: www.e4wd.com.au

*For all your 4x4 needs*

**We have move to a new larger shop and workshop on the highway.**  
**Opening special – 15% off stock for the month of September** (club members only)



## STRONGER BY DESIGN

### New Ironman Bash Plates

- 3mm pressed & folded steel
- 13 models to choose from
- Enhanced off-road protection from rocks mud and debris
- Easy bolt on installation



**NEW!**

# TRED

TOTAL RECOVERY & EXTRACTION DEVICE

AVAILABLE IN 800MM & 1100MM

Now available in store from just **\$199.00** – Perfect for mud, snow & sand



### Everything 4WD is the largest South Eastern Suburb dealer in Tough Dog suspension

- Patrol GQ/GU kits from \$1120.00
- Landcruiser 80/100 kits from \$1120.00
- Prado 120/150 kits from \$1200.00
- 05+ Hilux kits from \$1485.00
- \*\*Less club discount\*\***

## UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	<b>Various – Toolangi State Forrest</b> (during track closures), <b>Bunyip State Forrest</b> (after Tracks re-open) <i>Other destinations can be included if requested.</i>
LEADER/ CONTACT #	NAME: David Bruinsma MOB: 0417 747 860
DATES	7 <sup>th</sup> September 2012, 5 <sup>th</sup> October 2012 (no November run), 7 <sup>th</sup> December 2012 18 <sup>th</sup> January 2013 <i>Other dates can be included upon request.</i>
MEETING PLACE & TIME	TBA - Driving from Dusk to probably just before midnight. Aiming to be aired up by midnight for those driving home.
GRADE	WET: Medium DRY: Easy/Medium
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	<b>MONTHLY NIGHT RUNS</b> (GENERALLY ON A FRIDAY NIGHT) Meet at a suitable location based on selected night run destination (perhaps at a local McDonalds for a dinner whilst waiting for dark). Drive to destination area and find tracks to explore using all the lights our 4x4's have mounted – the more lights you have installed, the more fun you can have in using them. <cheesy grin> Note: you do need to take more care when driving at night, there is greater risk involved in all aspects – especially with recoveries if/when required. I don't intend to try to drive home each time we go out at night, sometimes it might be wiser to throw a swag in the 4x4 and we stay overnight and leave for home in the day light. This would be for your and my safety instead of driving home tired after a few hours playing in the bush.
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 8
APPROX KMS	Varies.
EQUIP- MENT REQUIRED	Basic Recovery Equipment. Winch recovery Equipment advisable.
MAPS REQUIRED	Rooftops – Toolangi Black Range Rooftops – Bunyip
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	12

DESTINATION	<b>Mystery Pub to Pub to Pub</b>
LEADER/ CONTACT NO.	David Hughes WK: 9798 1492 HM: 9706 2966 MOB: 0427 865 592
DATE	9 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , and 11 <sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2012
MEETING PLACE / TIME	To be advised
GRADE  Please adhere to new trip classifications	C or B
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	Traveling anywhere to an unknown destination.  Just a fun weekend with a few surprises along the way.  Morning Tea and Afternoon tea provided
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 4 MAXIMUM: 12
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	Unknown at this stage
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: ??? DIESEL: ???
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	N/A
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Sense of Humour, Basic recovery gear and a Stubby Holder
MAPS REQUIRED	N/A
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	12

## UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	<b>Revisit Lone Graves—Thompson Dam</b>
LEADER/ CONTACT #	NAME: Markncat Felton MOB: 0439 345 207
DATES	16th—18th November 2012
MEETING PLACE & TIME	Longwarry BP service station—7pm
GRADE	WET: Medium DRY: Easy
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	<p>The club carried out some volunteering in marking out some graves, just after the fires swept through the area. We are going to revisit the area &amp; see how they are going and to show new club members of our volunteering efforts.</p> <p>We will be travelling around the local area of Aberfedly - Toombon. We'll be checking out the historical area &amp; relics. Also we'll be travelling along Donnelly Creek.</p> <p>It will be a good opportunity to check out Thompson dam, to being near full. Last time we were there, it was very low.</p> <p>Please put your details down on the trip data form at the next club general meeting.</p>
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 6
APPROX KMS	600 - 800 km's approx
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Basic Recovery Equipment. Self sufficient, water, food & supplies
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	12



### 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

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.

# For Sale

For sale Codan 9323.HF Radio.

Unit is complete & includes the following, Remote Head, Auto Tune Antenna with Stainless Steel Whip, Speaker, All cables & Manuals. This radio has preset VKS-737 & RFDS stations. . \$1550.00 ONO

Contact Bill Harwood  
Mob 0414 477 503

Email [billh10@westnet.com.au](mailto:billh10@westnet.com.au)

Thanks  
Bill Harwood

# Minutes of General Meeting October 2012

## General Meeting 3rd October 2012

The meeting was held at the Bowling Club Rooms, Noble Park Football Club and was opened at 8.10pm by President Mark Felton

**Present:** There were 18 members present as per the attendance book

**Apologies:** There were 2 members present as per the Apologies book

**Visitors:** There were 4 people listed in the Visitors Book

## Minutes of previous General Meeting

Accepted : Joe  
Seconded : Brett

### Correspondence in

RFDS- Lunch invite and request for donation  
CCJ  
Eureka Eho  
Overland Cruising  
Land Rovering Review

### Correspondence out

Club Magazines as per usual

### Treasurers report

Term Deposit	\$	5905.04
Cash	\$	
Petty Cash	\$	50.00
Money In	\$	800.00
Moneys Out	\$	0
Balance	\$	5719.26

Accepted: Ian  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Johan

## Trip reports

Night Run - led by David Bruinsma  
Driver Training - led by John Partridge  
Max and Sandra's short notice trip to

### Trip coordinators report

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

Type	When	Trip Leader
Night Drive		
Murray River		
Walhalla		
Lone Graves		
Mt terrible	Nov 25 <sup>th</sup> Sun	David Jackson

### Event Coordinators Report

Oxfam tree delivery  
Xmas Party

### Association Report

n/-

## General business

Welcome to New members - with hand over of new members packs.  
Brett Buchannan  
Joe Yammouni  
Chris Dessiniotis

### Other Business

n/-

### Raffle

This month there are 5 Prizes, donated by Everything 4wd and  
Sold By Cass Jackson

Prize	Won by:
Tyre Deflator	Visitor
LED head light torch	Chris
i4WD mug	Mark Felton
i4WD mug	Visitor
i4WD mug	Visitor

Meeting Closed: 10 pm

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday 8.00pm at Everything 4wd in Cranbourne.



# Notice to all club members

## Positions Vacant

Currently there are existing vacancies and 'acting' roles available with the club committee pending more permanent appointments to these vacant roles. More information will be provided at the next club meeting.

## Important Legislative Changes that will affect VFWDC

As anticipated, Consumer Affairs Victoria ("CAV") has published preliminary details regarding the proposed changes to the legislation that will apply to clubs and associations that are incorporated in Victoria, effective from **26 November 2012**. There is a 12 month transitional period but I'm not precisely sure as to what exactly the transitional period covers (eg. just the changes to financial reporting or the whole of the legislation).

As such, it is incumbent on all of us to ensure that we have a reasonable understanding of what the proposed changes entail and, to the extent that we may feel a need to provide any feedback, ensure that any submission is finalised and lodged before the closing date.

For more information and key links and documents include:

New legislation affecting Victorian incorporated associations;

Changes affecting incorporated associations from November 2012 - Legislation update;

Information about the Associations Incorporation

Reform Regulations 2012 Regulatory Impact Statement;

Associations incorporation Reform Regulations 2012 Regulatory Impact Statement; and

Associations Incorporation Reform Regulations 2012.

CAV is running a series of information sessions (see Calendar of Events on the Associations Website) to familiarise interested parties with these new changes.

A session is planned to be held in Dandenong but this is not until **22 November 2012**.

## Please note:

For any club trips that are planned through the club, you need to have a trip data form filled in & return it to the trip co-ordinator & committee, as stipulated on the bottom of the trip data form.

This is for official documentation for the club and insurance purposes.

Please also make sure you follow through with your trip of reporting it at the next months club meeting and providing a trip report and if possible, provide photos to the editor, to help as promotion for the club to prospective members or if your not going to go ahead with the trip, please notify club members, through all channels of communication.



### Saturday

The group gathered at a well-known meeting place at the BP fuel stop at Officer on Saturday morning. The sunny weather looked promising for a good day of training. Once we filled up with fuel, coffee and Macca's we piled into our vehicles and formed our Club convoy, taking over the freeway, with Ian and Audrey joining the convoy soon after. We were nine vehicles in total. Our route took us via Thompson Dam, Merringtons Tk and Donnoleys Creek Tk and we arrived at O'Tooles campground at approximately 11ish in the morning. The campground was pretty deserted apart from a father and son camped out in one corner of the ground. We formed a large group at the top of the site, taking full advantage of the sun.

After setting up camp, we all sat down to face the truth and nothing but the truth.....will we remember our theory and not embarrass ourselves in front of our club mates? John, Ash and Phil took us through the theory, recovery techniques, recovery equipment and we took a look at our vehicles to discuss different types of recovery ideas, angles of approach and departure and other hints/tips. Tip of the day – don't forget your



sunscreen! The first sun of the year was out in full force and of course it took us by surprise. Thanks to Steve for remembering to pack the sunscreen. After lunch, we jumped into our vehicles and headed towards Flats Tk to learn our stop/start uphill/reverse technique. Upon understanding exactly what the training involved which was stopping mid-way up a STEEP hill to reverse back down a STEEP hill using this technique, Sandra yelled out an expletive to the tune of "Oh S..." – you get the picture. We all took turns learning this technique with our very brave trainers and it turned out to be one of the best and most useful techniques learnt. It really taught you the skill of how to safely be in control of your moving vehicle. We then headed up Flats Tk to Williamson Spur which was a challenging steep run but everyone was handling the task pretty well. On the way up, John took up the challenge of testing if his FJ could conquer a very steep section of the track. After a few attempts and using a different approach line he made it up the hill with a big smile on his face and a little sweat on his brow. Well it was a hot day. Brad, the mechanic, had a go also but something went wrong with his steering arm and he had to give it up but he did fix his steering problem promptly by himself soon after. We had to avoid a number of fallen trees along the track and we hit a large trunk on S Tk which forced us to retract our steps and turn back. On the way back up the track Audrey put into action her newly learnt stall recovery technique and she handled it really well. We spent all afternoon driving around and practicing the technique. We collected some firewood and headed back to camp via Flats Tk. We returned to find some rowdy newcomers at the campsite and after some discussion a very intimidating committee was formed (Ash, Ian, Max, John) and armed with beer, cider and a box of Shapes they took off to have a stern discussion with the rowdy mob. It was a sight that would make

anyone tremble. They returned unscathed and actually go the job done – the box of Shapes must have done the trick. We spent the night sitting around the campfire talking, drinking, laughing and enjoying good company. We looked forward to the next day to practice our new techniques again. Thanks to Ash, John



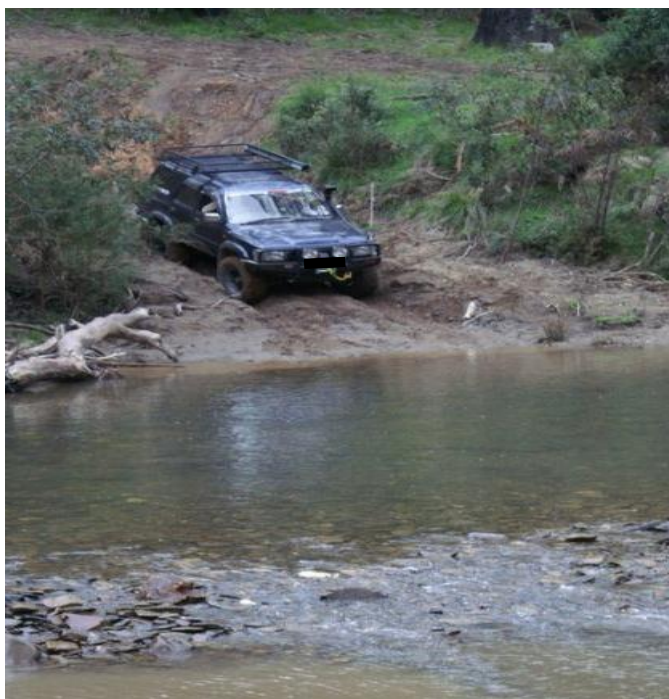


and Phil for a marvelous day of practical learning. Sandra

### Sunday

Sunday morning we woke to a relaxed morning, with a departure time of 10.00am. We loaded our cars and headed back up flats track, which did not seem nearly as daunting as the day before.

We headed along Williamsons Spur to Pheasant track where we practiced our hill starts on our own this time



(almost as scary as writing this trip report). However everything John and Ashley had taught us had sunk in and everyone did a great job.

From here we made our way to our next creek crossing down Dream Creek track which threw in the extra twist of having to slide into some existing ruts to

make the creek entry. Under the watchful eye of John everyone one did a perfect job entering the creek. However Ian's three bow waves may have made John move a little quicker than he would have liked for a Sunday morning.

From this point we continued up to North East track really feeling much more confident in our selves and our cars abilities. With one more trip down Flats track I was even feeling confident enough to take in some of the awesome views from the steep decent. It was now back to O'Tooles camp ground for a late lunch and quick pack up before heading back to the Thompson Dam wall. We encountered a lady in a sedan trying to find Melbourne, right direction but her GPS might have a lot to answer too!! From here we air up and said our good byes taking in the beauty of



the Dam and the steep decent of the wall on the other side.

A huge Thank you to John, Ashley, Phil and Steve for their time and patience and for giving up their weekend, for a really great trip. We all came out of it with a lot more confidence and experience.

Andrew







## Trip to Menindee Lakes, Broken Hill, Silverton and...

Well for once the whole group was at the meeting place at the end of my driveway on time. So the convoy got off to an early start. Leaving home at something am, we headed for Bendigo for brekkie stopping in at Beechworth Bakery for a pie and a few coffees. Luckily parking was ample at that stage for our convoy. Lovely Jubbly.

From there it was on through Wychepoof, Ouyen, Red Cliffs, and finally into Mildura by early afternoon. The number of grey *"its-my-right-to-do-30-under-the-speed-limit-screw-you"* nomads to those willing to do the speed limit was 10:1 must to the infuriation of the truck drivers long the route.

Anyway, fuelling up at Mildura, we continued on heading for Pooncarie where the instructions to finding our camp began. Along the road to this un-named shit hole, we did come across something different from Roos/Emus/snakes/lizards in wildlife!

This young Echidna fella was in no hurry but not



happy to see us really. We later found out its breeding season, and they are usually seen in choo-choo formation playing tag team. So this bloke must have either missed out, or was running late! The dust behind me was choking, and looking in the mirror it was nuts! Lucky the trailer only leaks dust in kg amounts.

Anyway it was getting on by this stage so a few photos, leg stretch, and a whiz we moved on. Looking around the weather wasn't looking wet thankfully!!

Arriving at the Homestead by around 5pm, we signed in, then headed out to the nice grassy paddocks they advertised, that ended up being bindy ridden lumpy rubbish fields. Then they said that we could go anywhere apart from the "grassy" part due to some Police Bash event booked in the second night, so happily we found a nice grassy part and gave them the finger.



Quick setup of camp, we had dinner and kicked back and crashed out early that night.

We were camped right next to a large water channel, that was probably 60-80ft deep, and at the bottom of it was this green soupy looking substance.



Later this proved to be the river as the owner headed to the pub in his tinny for the night.

Next morning we did some exploring on foot and Bek on her bike, and then we decided to head into Menindee. Following the instructions again, we headed out towards town. Along the way, it was very dusty, and hate to have been behind me, but that's the advantage of leading the convoy and



what's best, nobody complained!

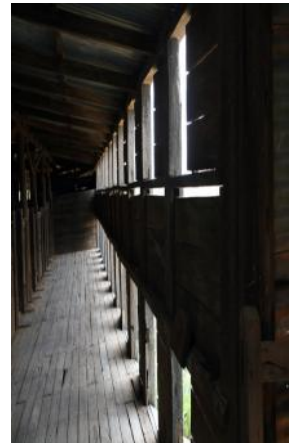


We stopped in at the Historic Kinchega Woolshed for a look see. They were men of stainless steel back then. What a hot dry middle of nowhere kind of place this is! We spent a good 45 minutes to an hour here, there was plenty to see, and there is even a Nat Parks office there! God what a place to work!

This old steam traction engine was actually WALKED up from Melbourne! It was to be used to dig the earth tanks for water storage, but it ended up quicker to do it with bullocks and blokes. The engine was used until the 1920's as a model for modern Toyotas. The 76 Series suspension on Kens was a direct swap from this engine.



This mangle was apparently owned by Aunty Mable who had an tragic accident with it.



The shearing shed would have been busy and hot for all concerned unless there was a decent breeze around.

No Black and Dicker back then, this was what you had to work with. Nothing wrong with a bit o' hard work I say!



Wool Bailing machine, what a huge cumbersome machine it would have been to run – This is only 1 part of about 5 sections to the process.

We set off from there, into Menindee township, but again got sidetracked. Just on the outskirts of town we came across the cemetery. There's some \*OLD\* graves here with Henry John Tomlinson 1828 was the oldest we saw.



It was hot and dry, and finally we got into Menindee, went into the shop for an ice cream, cool drink and had a look around town. That took around 10 mins! But we saw the caravan park that we \*SHOULD\* have stayed at. Copi Hollow Caravan

Park, which is right on the lake. When I say on the lake, it really is in a top spot.

Bek instantly made some friends with the Copi campers, and went for a swim in the Pea n Ham soup coloured water, while I sat around in the shade and relaxed for a hour or so.

So far so good and the weather has been brilliant! I actually went into the van park to see if they had any room for a night, but were booked solid L

Next stop was the servo to top up. Asked the bloke there where was the goods for going for a fish and swim. He said the weir on the outskirts of town is the place for fishing and some dodgy joint up some side road which sounded like a scene from The Blair Witch Project for the swim, so gave that a miss.

Judging by the amount of Shags, and Pelicans at the weir he wasn't wrong on the fishing! There were people everywhere fishing. None caught anything but they were fishing, and paying their licenses fees, and our gear was in the trailer at this stage. Everyone agreed that the lakes really are stunning and worth the trip.



Anyway time was against us, so back to camp, for dinner and to see the billions that were coming in according to owners. Well when we got back, there was room everywhere, and nobody within 100mtrs of us!



Next morning packed up and moved on back towards Menindee, to head towards Broken Hill.



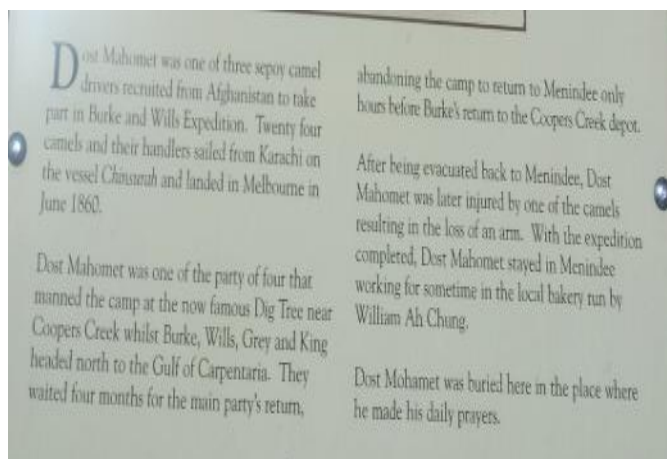
On the way out of the Lakes - another unplanned surprise, we went past the grave of Dost Mahomet.



Who the hell is he you may ask? He was a camel driver from Melbourne's Yellow Cabs on the Burke and Wills Expedition.

They made them of different material back then. Here's a bit of the Dost story inc after he lost his arm.





Some of the camel drivers getting ready to bail on the Expedition.



He was 1 of 4 that manned the camp at the now famous "Dig tree" near Coopers Creek while others headed north to the Gulf of Carpentaria. They waited 4 months for the parties return abandoning the camp hours before the party returned.



We got into Broken Hill early afternoon, and Bek's radar was right on and found Hungry Jacks within 5 seconds of hitting town, so that was lunch! From there we went to the visitors centre and looked into accommodation. The bloke recommended Penrose Park in Silverton - 20klms outside of BH. TOP PLACE with great caretakers. Booked in for 3 days, and found a patch of grass.



The place is full of these ultra friendly birds, which I have no idea what they are, but they don't poo everywhere so they were welcome.



Bek decided to go for a bike ride, so she set off, and got 4ft before she got 2x flat tyres. So, I patched them up, and away she went again, getting a whole 10ft this time, before ANOTHER pair of flat tyres!

So sod it, a vote was taken by the group, and it was decided we all head into Silverton for a quick look around so we know what to do tomorrow. First port of call was the pub which was very interesting. Plenty of stuff on the walls, and hanging from the roof.... Note in the photo - nice try there girly girl.





Those that haven't been to Silverton, you could walk round the whole town in an hour. Taking in stops, it is a day. Next to the pub, is Silverton Souvenirs, and they like to let you know that the region was where Mad Max 2 was made, there is even a museum.

They don't only paint on canvas in Silverton!



This is outside 2 of the Art Galleries. It is probably the result of a fire on this Jeep, but I'd have a word to the panel beater about the finish.

There's a few Art Galleries, with some amazing paintings in them – I see it as a waste these blokes staying there, they could do great things in the big smoke. For \$1500 you could have the "family reunion" Emu painting below...



More to come...



## Christmas Tree Project

51 Belmont Rd. IVANHOE 3079  
Ph 94973227 Fax 94994759



Dear Secretary

Over the last 20 years member clubs of the Four Wheel Drive Victoria have supported Oxfam Australia in their annual delivery of Christmas Trees. This has become a very successful fund raising activity selling and delivering fresh green Christmas trees to homes in metropolitan Melbourne and Geelong. This letter is to inform those clubs who have not previously been involved how the operation works and to remind those clubs who have helped in recent years that the deliver dates this year are **Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th December**. Volunteers carry out the whole operation. Last year nearly \$139,000 was raised, that's an average of over \$750 per delivery vehicle going towards alleviating poverty and social injustice within Australia and overseas. **That's a total of over \$88,000 raised by members of Victorian Four Wheel Drive Clubs.**

We ask for drivers, navigators and vehicles that can carry 8 to 25 freshly cut trees, with or without a trailer. Many 4WD clubs have found this an enjoyable activity that makes a considerable contribution to the larger community in which we live. We meet at the **Scout Hall, Pakenham St., Blackburn (Melway Map 47 H 12) on Saturday 8 December**, or **Princes Hill Primary School, Wilson St., Nth Carlton (Melway 29 J 11) on Sunday 9 December**. On Saturday we deliver to the south and eastern side of Melbourne and on the Sunday the north and western side. You pick the area you would like to deliver the trees, and the day and time (between 5.30 am and 11am on Saturday and 7-10am on Sunday) you arrive at the depot. We give you a very well organized list of addresses with Melway grid references, all in close proximity to each other. All you do is drop off the tree that has already been paid for. The smiles you receive from the younger recipients would be second only to that of them greeting Santa Claus. It will take each team 1 to 3 hours, and we encourage you to meet for a BBQ or social get together before or afterwards. **If your club can help I would appreciate a phone call with the approximate number of vehicles by late October and I would immediately forward you a form (or use the blank Excel Spread**

**Sheet that should be attached with this document) so the details of each driver can be filled in and returned to us by the end of November.** For further information about the delivery or the type of self help projects that the money raised will support please contact me on **9497 3227** (home or work) or write to: **email: briangum@tpg.com.au** Last year the following 4WD clubs generously donated their services: **Idlers, CFA, Dandenong Rangers, Central Highlands, Nissan, LROCV, Melb. Jeep Owners, Pajero, Range Rover, Subaru, Getabout, Toyota Landcruiser, Wanderin' 4 Wheelers, City West, Toyota and Yarra Valley, a total of 16 clubs and about 113 club vehicles** (plus 70 vehicles from Oxfam's other supporters). Also **Four Wheel Drive Victoria** threw their weight behind the event and in past years we managed to attract Channel 7, 9 and ABC television news coverage and were able to mention the great work being done by club volunteers. Each of the above groups seemed impressed with the nature of the cause and our organization and indicated a desire to be involved again. For those club members who may like to purchase a delivered Christmas tree or mention the Christmas Tree Drive in your newsletter, our web site for online orders is: [www.oxfam.org.au/trees](http://www.oxfam.org.au/trees), or our free call phone number 1800 034 034. Both these will be effective after 1st November 2011. Each year I do the rounds of the media to promote tree sales and always mention the great support given by 4WD clubs. Last year an interview with John Faine on Radio 774 netted an extra 425 orders. Our feedback is that listeners are so keen to support a good cause when they know that everyone involved is a volunteer and no middle person profits. In past years I was fortunate enough to have the opportunity on Macca's 'Australia All Over' to give all involved a mention and let the listeners know this tremendous fundraiser could not happen with generous support by volunteer 4WD club members. Finally I'd like to thank once again all those clubs and members who have so generously supported this vital community fundraising activity over past years. Thanking you in anticipation for your support this year. **Brian Moran, Volunteer Coordinator Oxfam Australia Christmas Tree Project Phone 94973227 Fax 94410661 Email: briangum@tpg.com.au**