

Bringing Four Wheel Drivers
Together



Victorian Four Wheel Drive
Club Inc.

Free wheeling



VFWDC

November 2014

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 1st Wednesday of every month at 8.00pm **(No meeting in January and November meeting at selected location)**. Members and Guests are welcome to dine at the Bistro before attending the meeting.

First WEDNESDAY of each month 8.00pm Start

Venue:

Bowling Club Rooms (Next to Car Park,
down the far end of the car park)

Noble Park Football Club

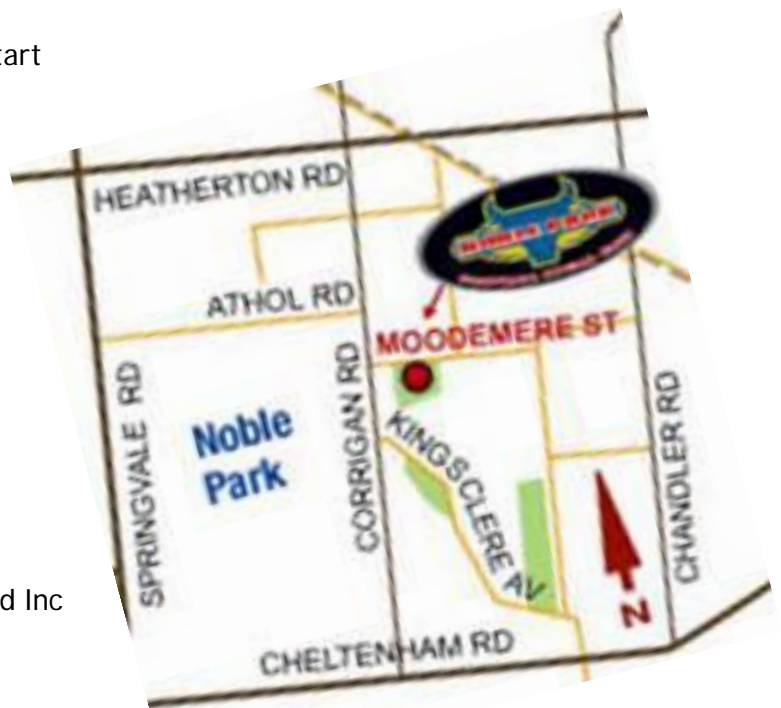
46-56 Moodemere Street

Noble Park

Melways ref: 89 D4

Aberfeldy Track managed by West Gippsland Inc

www.westgippslandinc.com.au



FREE WHEELING

Hello and welcome to the November newsletter. The boys have been working hard maintaining the Aberfeldy area. Please check out the newsletter for the new bush recipes and burns first aid.

Mandie.

editor@vfwdc.com

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT 2013-2014		
President	David Bruinsma	president@vfwdc.com
Vice President		
Treasurer	Steve Pitcher (acting)	treasurer@vfwdc.com
Secretary	Tony Barbera	secretary@vfwdc.com
GENERAL COMMITTEE		
Assistant Secretary	Lisa Barbera	assist@vfwdc.com
Trip Co-Ordinator	Stuart Bowker	trips@vfwdc.com
Newsletter Editor	Mandie Lehmann	editor@vfwdc.com
Associations Delegate	David Bruinsma	delegate@vfwdc.com
General Committee	Mick Harris	-
SUPPORT POSITIONS TO COMMITTEE		
Web manager	Ben Whitworth	web@vfwdc.com
Training officers	Phillip Griffith	training@vfwdc.com
Librarian		
Merchandise	Carolyn Bruinsma	merchandise@vfwdc.com

**VFWDC
ADVERTISING
DIRECTORY**


1B, 280 South Gippsland Highway,

Cranbourne, 3977

P: 03 59955055

E: sales@everything4wd.com.au

W: www.everything4wd.com.au

David Jackson



0408 333 313

*Anyone wishing to advertise
in the Club Directory,
Please contact the Editor at
editor@vfwdc.com*

CLUB MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

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
Club Drivers Jacket (Coat)	\$80.00 ea	VFWDC Windscreen stickers (small) \$6.00 (large) \$8.00	

We encourage all members to purchase a Club Polo Shirt.

Email your order to committee@vfwdc.com. Please ensure you advise size required.



CLUB CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

4

2014				
NOVEMBER	12th	General Meeting / Visiting TJM at Carrum Downs	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
	22nd	Rubicon Power Station	Stuart Bowker	0428539157
	31st-4th	Knockwood Reserve	MarknCat Felton	0439 345 207
	31st-4th	Otways	Sally Higgs	0418 539 157
	31st-4th	Haunted Stream	Mick Harris	0424 766 616
	31st-4th	Aberfeldy/ Little O'tools	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
DECEMBER	3rd	General Meeting (Safety Dave)	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
	13th (Date change)	Christmas Break up party	Committee	
2015				
JANUARY NO GENERAL MEETING	22nd	Committee Meeting	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
	23rd-26th	Australia Day Long Weekend- Long Beach/ Murray River	Markncat Felton	0439 345 207
FEBRUARY	4th	General Meeting/ state wide-weight of vehicles and laws	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
	17th	Committee Meeting	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
MARCH	4th	General meeting	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
	6th-9th	Labour Day/long weekend Wombat State Forest	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
	18th	Committee Meeting	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
April	1st	Committee meeting		
May	6th	Committee meeting		



News From The President

Hi all,

At the time of writing this months magazine, I'm busy preparing for the cup weekend get-away, and confirming arrangements for our next couple of club meetings. By the time you get to read this you will all be recovering from the long weekend, so I hope you've all had a great break and managed to get away somewhere.

On the 12th of November, our club meeting will be at the Carrum Downs TJM store, where the store manager Michael will let us explore his entire store, tell us about his store specials that he will have just for us on the night, and will also enlighten us about a few key products available to the 4wd consumers.

Our December meeting will have a special presentation by Safety Dave, on bush 1st aid and he will also bring along some sample 1st aid kits. By next magazine I also hope to have an order form from Safety Dave if you wish to purchase a 1st aid kit suitable for 4wd'ing and going camping, or to even top up supplies in your first aid kit.

In the past couple of weeks there has been 2 trips to Aberfeldy for track clearing work, including helping Rudi to install a roof on the sign in Aberfeldy itself. Both reports are in this magazine for you to read, including piccys.

A couple of in house matters. Our treasurer has advised that he would like to step down from the role after nearly 4 years looking after our financial affairs and Steve has been very involved in the committee during this time. For family reasons he needs to take a step back from committee work. So the committee is looking for someone from the club to step up into the role of Treasurer and the person will receive lots of help from Steve as the new person takes on this vital role in the club. The committee is also looking for a suitable person to be the Vice-President. The role of Vice President is to help me with a couple of tasks, namely to step up to run a meeting if for some reason I'm suddenly not available and to help me with organising guest speakers from time to time. It would also be good for the Vice President to help me with greeting visitors to our club on the club meeting nights - so the only qualification you need to have, is to be friendly (that describes everyone in our club right?).

For anyone who is not a member, but you have found our website on-line, I would like to extend an invitation for you to come to one of our club meetings and say giddyay to us. We are more than happy to invite you to come on one of our day trips, or even weekend get-aways so you can 'check us out'. You do not need to be a member just to come and visit with us and coming on a trip with us will help you make an informed decision if you would like to join a family friendly 4wd club.

UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	Rubicon Power Station (Park Rd track)
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Stuart & Maree Bowker MOB: Stuart 0428539157
DATE	22/11/14
MEETING PLACE / TIME	Marysville main street outside the bakery 9:00 am for a 9:30 am departure
GRADE Please adhere to new trip classifications	WET: Medium Park Rd section WET: Hard DRY: Easy DRY: Medium
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	We thought we would like to see the top of the track (Park Rd) that many have attempted behind the Rubicon power station, so we will come in from the top and drive down the track, and maybe back up if conditions are right. I have been part of the way up this track and it is rutted and rough, vehicles would need at least a 2 inch (50mm) lift to do this track. Bring packed lunch and munchies for roadside stops. This trip <u>will not</u> run if the CFA warning is Severe, Extreme or CODE RED
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 3 MAXIMUM: N/A
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	150-200 klms round trip
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Marysville credit card sales only best to fuel at Healesville DIESEL: Marysville credit card sales only best to fuel at Healesville No LPG
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	200 klms
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Own basic recovery gear, tools and any spares you may require. AT or MT tyres
MAPS REQUIRED	Rooftop maps Marysville-lake Eildon or Big river Rubicon
RADIO CHANNEL UHF	12 UHF

UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	Aberfeldy/Little O'Tooles - Melb Cup Long Weekend
LEADER	NAME: David Bruinsma + family MOB: 0417 747 860
DATE	Friday 31st October to Tuesday 4th November
MEETING TIME	TBA closer to the date
GRADE	WET: medium/hard DRY: easy/medium
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	Last year I did a sand trip - this year I'm hoping for a little bit of mud. I have chosen a location much closer to home this year and I'm intending to really enjoy a lot of camp fire socializing. People who have been on my trips before have experienced easy drives, harder drives, night drives, muddy trips and everything in-between - I'm planning pretty much all of the above, but happy hour around the camp fire where we can kick back, laugh at the fun we have had and cook some great tucker is very high on the priority list for me. Camping, camper trailers etc all welcome. I'm hoping to get in there very early on the Friday morning to secure a good spot for everyone to join when they can make it. Little O'Tooles is not hard to find. as we get closer to the date, I'll help people arrange to travel together in groups, especially for any newbies.
VEHICLE LMTS	MINIMUM: 4 MAXIMUM: 12
APPROX KMS	150kms
DISTANCE B/T SUPPLIES	Moe and last available fuel
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Usual safety gear, camping gear, recovery gear (I reckon I'll find some tracks we will need it) and a jolly good sense of humor is mandatory.
RADIO CHANNEL UHF	UHF 12

DESTINATION	The Otways Melbourne Cup weekend.
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Sally Higgs MOB: 0435782207
DATE	November 1st-4th
MEETING PLACE / TIME	TBA
GRADE	WET: medium DRY: easy
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	Leaving Saturday morning heading down the Great Ocean Road, for a weekend of exploring the Otways, some four wheel driving, sightseeing and camping. Areas to be visited Cape Otway, Triplett Falls and 12 Apostles.
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 5
APPROX KMS Meeting place to destination	500kms
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Available in towns along the GOR DIESEL: Available in towns along the GOR
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	
MAPS REQUIRED	Otway
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	UHF 11

UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	Haunted Stream
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Mick Harris MOB: 0424766616
DATE	Melbourne cup Weekend 31/10/14 to 4/11/14
MEETING PLACE / TIME	Willow park Rosedale. Going there Friday afternoon or can meet there at 9:00 am Saturday. NO CAMPER TRAILERS
GRADE	WET: Med to Hard DRY: Easy
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	Spending Friday night at Willow Park then up to Haunted Stream on Saturday then onto Dargo then onto Wonnangatta and home. This is a roving trip.
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 4 MAXIMUM: 8
APPROX KMS	TBA
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Bairnsdale, Bruthen and Dargo DIESEL: Bairnsdale, Bruthen and Dargo
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	Enough for 4 days
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Normal recovery gear
MAPS REQUIRED	Bairnsdale -Dargo –Omeo Adventure map
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	12

WANT TO PLAN A TRIP?

Find the 10 tips to planning a trip <http://vfwdc.com/pdf/10.steps.pdf>

Find the trip data form <http://vfwdc.com/pdf/Trip%20Data%20Form.doc>

Or email Stu our amazing trip coordinator to help you out trips@vfwdc.com



Registration No A0002184F



Media enquiries Contact www.depi.vic.gov.au www.parks.vic.gov.au

Media Release

Park and forest track conditions looking good for Cup weekend

Hundreds of forest and park tracks and roads across Victoria will re-open in time for the Melbourne Cup weekend - starting on Saturday 1/11/2014.

Department of Environment and Primary Industries (DEPI) Planning Manager Tony Dowler said: "Roads and tracks are closed temporarily to protect them from damage during the wetter months each year as part of DEPI and Parks Victoria's seasonal road closure program."

"These roads and tracks were closed over winter and spring for public safety and to protect track surfaces as well as water quality and the forest environment," Mr Dowler said.

"While most of the closed roads and tracks which we are re-opening are part of the regular seasonal closures, there are also some being opened following the completion of repairs to damage caused by storms and bushfire."

"Some roads may remain closed because of ongoing repair works."

Chris Rose, Parks Victoria's General Manager Regional Services said: "While we have made every effort to ensure visitors have access for the opening weekend, drivers need to be prepared to come across fallen trees and other debris in some places."

"DEPI and Parks Victoria thank the many Four Wheel Drive Victoria volunteers who put in hundreds of hours of work to assist with the maintenance and promotion of seasonal road closures for the ongoing protection of Victoria's parks and forests," Mr Rose said.

"It's great to see volunteers so committed to working in partnership for the betterment of Victoria's natural spaces."

Visitors are encouraged to obtain the most up- to-date information on access into forest and park areas before they travel.

For more information about road closures and changes of conditions go to <http://www.parkweb.vic.gov.au>

or check the Public Access Map on the DEPI website <http://www.depi.vic.gov.au/forestry-and-land-use/visiting-parks-and-forests> for any prolonged closures.

Minutes of General Meeting October 2014

The meeting was held at Noble Park Football Club and was opened at 8.00pm by Club President David Bruinsma.

Present: members present as per the Attendance book

Apologies: Members as per Apologies book

Visitors: Visitors as listed in the Visitors Book

Minutes of previous General Meeting

Accepted : Scott Lehmann

Seconded : Joe Yammouni

Matters arising:

NIL

Correspondence in

Overland Cruising

Cross Country Jeep Club

Royal Flying Doctors fund raising catalogue

Correspondence out

4WD Victoria advised new mailing address for Track Watch

Treasurer's report

Cheque A/c	Opening Balance as at 01/9/2014		\$ 2,860.64
	Deposits	\$258.00	
	Money Out	\$272.11	
	Unpresented cheque	\$52.11	
	Closing Balance		\$ 2898.64
Term Deposit	Opening Balance 01/09/2014	\$7413.42	
		\$61.66	
	Closing Balance		\$ 7475.08
Petty Cash Float	Opening Balance 01/09/2014	\$150.00	
	Add: Petty cash top up (from Chq A/C)	\$100.00	
	Less:P/Cash to Carolyn \$50 & Mandie \$50	-\$100.00	
	Closing balance as at 30/09/2014		\$ 150.00
Consolidated Closing Cash Position			\$ 10,523.72

Accepted: Ly Ho

Seconded: Milly Merrifield

Minutes of General Meeting October 2014

Association Report

Nil

Trip coordinators report

All upcoming trips advertised in the club magazine

Lilydale winery trip Sat 11th October Day trip relaxing day with no 4wding Sally Harris

Aberfeldy Area Maintenance 18th October

There is a roof to be erected for a sign, clean and clear designated areas of vegetation.

Any one attending must have all personal protective equipment. David Bruinsma

Melbourne cup weekend 2014

Melbourne cup weekend – 4 trips

Trip Leader

Aberfeldy /Little O'Tooles

David Bruinsma

Knockwood Reserve

Mark and Catherine Felton

Haunted Stream

Mick Harris

Otways

Sally Higgs

Ayre Peninsula

Expression of interest after Christmas 10 to 14 days Garry Smith

Marysville Rubicon power station 22nd November Stuart Bowker

Ladies day Sat 29th November Marysville Sally Higgs

Chainsaw Course Expressions of interest. Anyone interested need to contact 4wd Victoria direct.

Christmas Breakup 13 Dec 2014 at Cranbourne botanical gardens 10am to 2pm BYO Food Carolyn

Trip reports

Murray sunset country /Border track

Mick, Sally, John and Emily left home to meet Stuart and his imaginary friends

we all headed to Ouyen with Steve and Hans and on to the Pink Lakes to the Lake Crosbie camp ground and then headed to Ned's corner and on to halls gap.

A wonderful trip with many great moments.

Minutes of General Meeting October 2014

Raffle

BBQ Cutlery set	Amanda
Iron Man LED strip light	Carolyn
1 dozen eggs	Andre
1 dozen eggs	Sandra
I4x4 Beanie	Steve

meeting closed 9:42 pm

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 1st October 2014 at Noble Park Bowl Club

General business

November meeting will be held at TJM second week November

Safety Dave will be attending the December Meeting

David reported back about incident with mark and has been in contact with Mark.

Mark has stated that no pictures of Him or Catherine be posted on any social media.

meeting closed 10:05 pm



OXFAM AUSTRALIA ***TREE DELIVERY***



Dear Christmas tree helpers,

Last December, with the tremendous support of volunteers like you, Oxfam Australia raised over **\$200,000.00** through the delivery of Christmas trees. Our sincere thanks to everyone who has supported and helped make this a success, by donating your time and vehicle. On average, each of 190 vehicles raises about **\$750.00**.

To make this fundraiser a success, we're looking for volunteers to help us again this year. If you are able to assist with loading and unloading trucks or driving, navigating and have a vehicles which can carry 8 to 25 freshly cut trees (with or without a trailer), we'd love to hear from you.

When: Saturday 7th December

What: Delivering south and eastern suburbs of Melbourne

OR

When: Sunday 8th (from 7am to 11am)

What: Delivering northern and western suburbs of Melbourne

Drivers are generally required for 1-3 hours. Each driver is given a list of addresses, allocated within close proximity to each other. There is no selling or cash handling. All trees are prepaid.

To assist with our planning, please RSVP to katrinad@oxfam.org.au or 0407 561 073 by 10th

October, indicating your availability.

For further information, please don't hesitate to call or email me on the details below. If you would like to **order a tree**, go to www.oxfam.org.au/trees or 'phone Oxfam head office on

1800 034 034 between 9am and 4pm from 4th November.

Thank you again for your past support in helping Oxfam to continue its important work.

Kind regards,

Katrina Desfosses

Events Coordinator

Oxfam Australia

katrinad@oxfam.org.au

0407 561 073



Trip Reports

Aberfeldy track maintenance trip 27th and 28th September 2014

The trip was attended by
Stuart Bowker (trip leader)
David & Samuel Bruinsma
Steve Pitcher
Ben Whitworth
Ken Beard

The day started off outside the Yarragon bakery, most agreed the food and coffee was great, we headed off to Moe to meet Ben who had left a major part of his evening meal behind, his steak and as he had with him a brand new fire grate he really wanted to try out, he called in at the Moe supermarket to collect another steak.



We headed up to the Thompson dam to air down, there were many remarks over the UHF as to how full the dam was, so after a quick stop we headed up to Aberfeldy for a quick look around and then up to "The Eldorado" site, where the hot party pies and sauce came out for morning tea.

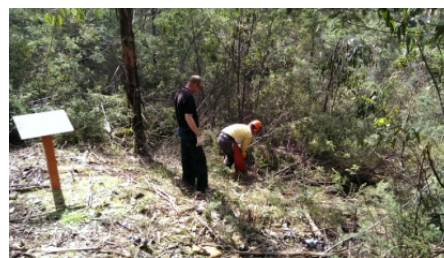
We left The Eldorado and Stuart took off up the road only to discover we had already passed the intended turn off to the planned site at Aberfeldy Crossing and after a quick look at the map he changed the route from O'Keefe track to Spud Spur track and we continued on towards Aberfeldy crossing, there was lots of trees that had come down in the forest and many tracks to navigate around them.

David made a few remarks about stopping to clear some off from the tracks but we were on a mission, to clear the fallen timber from the walking track to Aberfeldy Crossing, about another ten minutes went by and



David said "I'm going to remove this tree from the track, Ben could you stop and give me a hand please", the other three vehicles continued on about three hundred meters to Aberfeldy crossing and Stuart walked down to look at how much timber we would need to remove from the walking track. When Ben and David arrived it became apparent why David wanted to stop to clear the track, he was like a kid in a candy store, we all saw it as fallen trees to impede our progress David was looking at it all as "fire wood" and his ute was now full and he was extremely happy.

We moved on to cutting the trees across the walking track to Aberfeldy Crossing, Ken was the first to get his chain saw out to show us how it was done, cutting the biggest of the trees with ease, David was next cutting like they were butter, Stuart got his saw out only to find the new chain was not cutting like it should and over loading the saw, Steve had the hedge clippers out and was cutting the over head branches. Ben and Samuel were doing the heavy lifting and pushing the cut pieces off the track, one piece about 1.5 mts long and 700 mm in diameter rolled off the track and was heard rolling and bouncing all the way to the river below. Stuart returned with another chain and fitted it to his saw and was back in action only to find David and Ken had reached the end of the track so he had to make do with trimming some of the saplings and making the track a little wider in the narrow sections.





It was now time for a late lunch and to pack up and head off for some more four wheel driving. We headed up O'Keefe track towards the main Walhalla road expecting to hear the Navara had run out of puff with its load of wood on board, but it was not to be, the tenacity of its driver and his heavy right foot ensured it didn't even look like slowing down and once again the "MIGHTY NAVARA" proved its worth.

After arriving in Aberfeldy it was time to say goodbye to David and Samuel who were not staying the night as they had other commitments. The rest of us now four vehicles, headed down Cullen Track and onto Comet Spur Track before turning onto

Eaton Track and heading to check out our other site Hanging rock. We left hanging rock and headed back to Comet Spur track and on to Codes flat where Stuart had mentioned he wanted to buy some honey from the roadside stall, when we arrived there was only two jars of honey remaining and Stuart bought one and as Ken was next in line he bought the other, Ben had missed out on his honey and Ken was amused as he had some and Ben replied that Ken had to sleep some time and this became an ongoing joke until we parted the next day and Ken was asked "are you sure you still have your honey".

We arrived at Little O'Tooles only to find the gates locked so we headed for O'Tooles Flat to camp for the night. Ben and Stuart headed out in Bens car to collect some wood and ended up going up Flats track and could be seen high up on the hill by Steve and Ken who were getting the fire started.

After dinner and some discussions on celestial navigation and which way was north and why the Southern Cross had suddenly disappeared below the horizon (which turned out to be a hill) it was time for bed.

The next day started with breaky and off to do some four wheel driving we headed out and up White Star track up to the White Star mine Stuart lead the way and said the last 170 mts down to the boiler was very steep he had been down there before, so Ken with his trusty 76 series V8 Toyota gave Ben a lift to the bottom and did the 15 point turn and headed back up and made it look so easy.



After leaving the White Star mine we headed down Middle Star track to Donnelly Creek Road and were heading to Flats track when Steve said that he had been up "S" track and it was a little more exciting than Flats track so, we turned up "S" track which proved to be much more challenging than what we had done so far, after we reached the top and turned onto Pheasant Track and were heading down to the river Steve said I think this is the track we had

our wheels locked up last time and kept sliding it was that steep, on this day it wasn't too bad and we all arrived at the river safely, we waited for the brakes to cool before heading across the river and commencing the climb up the other side up towards the main road to the dam.

By now the wind was really blowing hard and as we drove across the Thompson Dam wall we could see the white caps out in the middle so we decided to air up at the lookout thinking it may have been a bit more protected from the wind, we aired up, had lunch and said our goodbyes and all headed for home after a job well done.



Winery tour

Saturday 11 October 2014

Participants: Mick & Sally (trip leaders), Owen & Wendy, Maree & Stuart

The picturesque Warburton Highway, in the Yarra Valley, is home to some of the most inviting wineries in the region. A great time to visit is during the Shedfest Wine Festival, held annually on the second weekend in October. Now in its 12th year, the festival was established to showcase the unique charm of some of the wineries and vineyards along the southern side of the Yarra Valley. It's an ideal weekend to relax, chat to the makers, taste local produce, be captivated by the stunning views, tap your toes to fine tunes, be entertained and watch the kids have fun, all while sipping delightful wines.

The way it works is you start and buy a glass for \$15.00 and the money raised goes to the Hillcrest CFA. There were 8 wineries open for tasting.



First thing to mention was that Mandy had to do an assignment and had to pull out of the trip so Maree generously offered to drink her tasting for her.

We made a plan first stop Whispering Hills. Bubbles for the girls, we were a bit early for this winery they were not very organised so off we head not sure how this will pan out.

Winery 2 Yarra Peaks, Marques set beside the dam including the fake crocodile and duck. The vineyard has an Italian feel, with the style of wine. Bubbles and reds all round. Food looked great. A coffee cart if that takes your fancy. Great conversations and laughs could sit here all day.

Winery 3. Seville Estate, the views, over the hills, stunning amazing, the gardens showing cool climate flowers. White cellar door, try the offering, So many great wines to choose from, Mick found the magnum of pinot noir an impressive bottle. Winery 4. Elmswood Estate. We all commented on the Seville estates view but Elmswood beat this. The glassed room overlooking the vines, we enjoyed a lunch of gourmet pies. Mick's sweet tooth got a chocolate mousse tart as well. What to do from here, sitting listening to a 3 piece band in the sun shine really doesn't get any better. Decision time go on or stay? Will it get better or have we seen the best? How much more wine can we taste?

Winery 5 Five Oaks Vineyard, Up to taste, Great wine, again, discussions go or stay? Then invasion of people a bus full of girls, descend, we decide lets go, Mick parked under the tree, oops the roof top tent is a bit tall lucky Owens a bit tall too so he held up the tree well done Owen. Driving out another bus pulling in. Great timing Mick out in just the nick of time. Winery 6 Seville Hills, busy, busy, winery, food smelt great, hard to get to the tasting table, busy, busy and more busy, Jazz music playing on the lawn.

Winery 7 is walking distance, too close to resist, Payne Rise, more great wine, band playing Eagles hits, people everywhere sitting in the sun shine.

Winery 8 Wild Cattle creek, the highlight for the boys a vintage motor bike display. More great wine. We did it! all 8 wineries visited.

The day highlighted the many great boutique wineries on offer so close to Melbourne. The reason we each had 2 glasses is that Mandy was going to join us and so we joked we would have her share.

Sally and Maree have decided that we should go next year too. So the second weekend in October 2015 a winery tour to Shedfest.



Aberfeldy Trip 18 October 2014

Purpose to clear the tracks we are responsible for.

Attended by David (trip leader), Rob, Jack, Stuart, Maree and Rudi

First things to put a roof on the sign at Aberfeldy.

This was a challenge to put the bits together. As all boys like the challenge. Let's begin Safety vests on and all signed up. Where are the ladders? Oh no having a holiday somewhere else. What to do? The think tank, use the trailer? How to get it up to the sign? More problem solving. Now for the fun, ok this goes here this goes there ok lets lift it up to see if it fits. "It's a bit out" said Jack the bolts don't line up? What is this R welded into the frame? Here's Jack supervising from a comfortable position. Dancing on the trailer for the boys to move the frame around. Oh look it fits. Now down it goes and it's sheeted with the tin. Up again this time it's a power lift by the men. Rudi laughed and said it was meant to be a 2 person job. Took 4 men great effort to lift it into place.



Woods point sign has a habit of turning in the wind confusing the travellers. So a few Tec screws later it's not going anywhere.

So off to The Eldorado, we had a look but this will have to wait as there are other things to be fixed first. Down Eaton track to hanging rock. There we installed a sign, with Rudi's help. Joe got the wiper snipper out and did a marvellous job at clearing the undergrowth. The discussions on the best way to keep this maintained a short walk from the track to the picnic table and sign.

Down Comet spur tk, past the apple orchard to Codes Flat, that's where you can purchase Aberfeldy honey. On to Codes flat cabins to enjoy lunch in the sunshine.

Goodbye to Rudi

Off up Comet spur tk to Aberfeldy then onto Aberfeldy crossing to clear more track. The noisy machines out in full force. You can see the difference many hands make light work. The giant tree across the track is mastered by Woody and Stuarts chain saws.

Up Pluto link track, steep, rocky and challenging the vehicles, a few shallow river crossings and a puddle or two just to keep the drivers on their toes.





O'Keefe track transverses the mountain, David wanted fire wood so we stopped on a incline and the boys all armed with chain saws showed their skills.. Full on noise, soon enough wood cut now the loading of the trailer. Stuart commented "I don't even work this hard at home" The mighty Navara pulled the full trailer up the final pinch of the hill and we all headed home.



A exceptional day, commendable community spirit, for an admirable achievement of the roof building and track clearing. Not to mention the installation of the sign at hanging rock.



Bush Tucker



Campfire Nachos

Serves 2 Hungry People

Ingredients:

- 1 bag Corn Chips
- 1 14oz can Refried beans
- 1 6oz can Black olives
- 1/2lb Cheddar cheese, grated
- 2 Tomatoes
- 1/2 Onion, diced
- 1 8oz jar Salsa
- 1 14oz can sweet corn
- 1 4oz can diced jalapenos

Directions:

Build a 1'x1' bed of hot coals underneath a campfire grate or in the center of stable rocks which will support the base of your cast iron pan. Place a layer of chips in the bottom of the pan, and top them with half of the: beans, olives, cheese, tomatoes, onion, salsa, corn, and jalapenos. Place a second layer of chips on top of the other ingredients, and then top these chips with the remaining ingredients, finishing with the cheese on top. Cover the top of the pan with a sheet of foil, and carefully place the pan on top of the grate or rocks. Let nachos cook, maintaining the hot coals for 10-15 minutes or until the cheese is melted. Move the pan to a heatproof location and allow nachos to cool for a few minutes.

