



# FREE WHEELING

November 2017

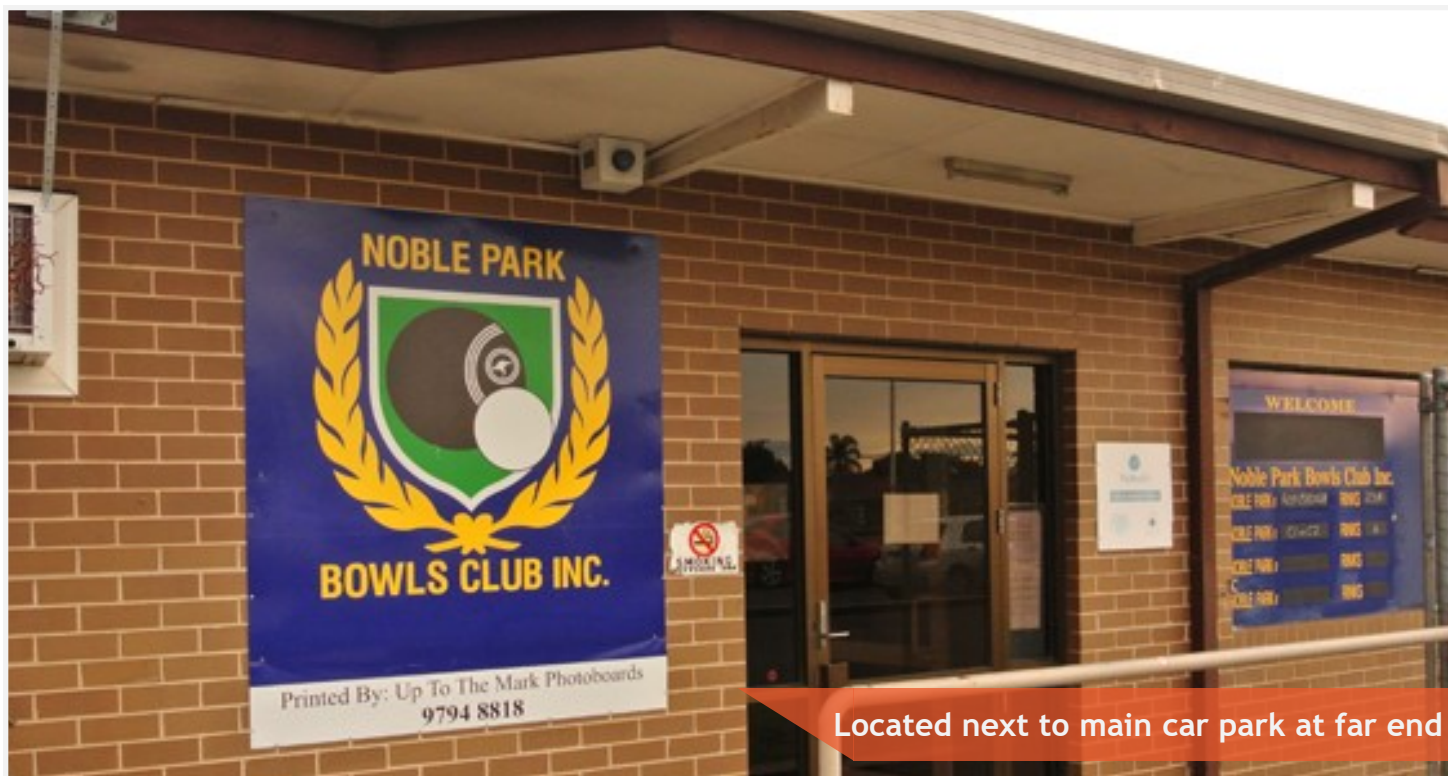


Official Newsletter of the  
Victorian Four Wheel  
Drive Club Inc

Original photo by Damion  
Lyon on August, Cobaw  
State Forest

Registration No  
A0002184F





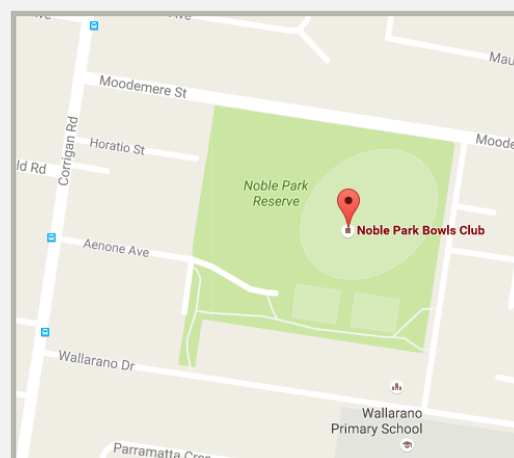
Located next to main car park at far end

## VFWDC General Meeting Venue

The club meets on the first WEDNESDAY of each month at 8:00pm. With the following exceptions; No meeting in January. November meeting is at a selected location, watch the calendar.

### Bowling Club Rooms

Noble Park Noble Football Club  
46-56 Moodemere Street  
Noble Park



Members and guests are welcome to dine at the bistro before attending the meeting from 6:30pm.



## Aberfeldy Track

In association with [Westland Gippsland Relic, Mining and Heritage Protection Inc](#) , the club maintains a section of the Aberfeldy Track with working bees throughout the year. View the club

# COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

## 2017-2018

President	Ben Whitworth	<a href="mailto:president@vfwdc.com">president@vfwdc.com</a>
Vice President	Steve Pitcher	<a href="mailto:vicepres@vfwdc.com">vicepres@vfwdc.com</a>
Secretary	Bruce Cremonesi	<a href="mailto:secretary@vfwdc.com">secretary@vfwdc.com</a>
Treasurer	Tony Barbera	<a href="mailto:treasurer@vfwdc.com">treasurer@vfwdc.com</a>

## General Committee

Trip Co-Ordinator	Stuart Bowker	<a href="mailto:trips@vfwdc.com">trips@vfwdc.com</a>
Magazine Editor	Ly Ho	<a href="mailto:editor@vfwdc.com">editor@vfwdc.com</a>
Association Delegate	David Bruinsma	<a href="mailto:delegate@vfwdc.com">delegate@vfwdc.com</a>
General Committee	Ashley Martin	
General Committee	Callum Brown	

## Support Positions to Committee

Web manager	Ben Whitworth	<a href="mailto:web@vfwdc.com">web@vfwdc.com</a>
Training officer	Phillip Griffith	
Training officer	Ashley Martin	
Merchandise	Des Whall	<a href="mailto:merchandise@vfwdc.com">merchandise@vfwdc.com</a>

## Club Details

Registered Name	Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club
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>

The Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club is an affiliated club of [Four Wheel Drive Victoria](http://www.fwdvictoria.org.au) - [www.fwdvictoria.org.au](http://www.fwdvictoria.org.au)

## CLUB MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

Club Polo Shirts	\$28.00	Club Hoodie	\$54.00
Club Polar Fleece Full Zip Jacket	\$48.00	Club Sleeveless Reversible Vest	\$54.00
Club Caps	\$15.00	Club Bucket Hat	\$16.00
Club Wide Brim Hat	\$18.00	Club Beanie	\$12.00
Club Drivers Jacket (Coat)	\$80.00	VFWDC Windscreen stickers	
		Small	\$6.00
		Large	\$8.00

We encourage all members to purchase a Club Polo shirt.

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

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Hi all,

Welcome to the VFWDC Free Wheeling magazine.

The tracks are about to open! The tracks start opening this week in time for Cup Weekend so give some thought to where you would like to go and explore and talk to our hansom Trip Co-ordinator, Stuart, about putting a trip together.

Our November meeting is on early this year, on Wednesday the 1st of November. Our friends at Aussie Disposals Dandenong are hosting us this year. A BBQ feast will start at 7pm sharp so don't be late or you will miss out on a feed.

We have an Event!  
We have a Date!  
We have a Venue!  
We have Firewood!  
We have Party Games!

Its Christmas Party time.

This year's Christmas Party is taking place on Saturday the 25th of November in Gembrook. For those who wish to, we will be camping the night. The committee will be providing a Spit Roast, Firewood and challenges with prizes. We will start the festivities at 4pm to give us plenty of time to sort the winner from the losers! And there is a Sunday Market on in Gembrook the following day which I can tell you my wife will make me attend. Check your email for the details.

There is also the Beachport trip on over Cup Weekend this month. This is a bi-annual event and is always a great trip. We don't get to do a lot of beach driving here in Victoria so this trip is your chance. If you miss out this year, don't cry about it cause you will get another chance in 2019.

That's is from me.

I hope to see all our members at the next general meeting and out on the tracks.

Ben Whitworth  
President

# CLUB CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

## November 2017

1st	Wed	Aussie Disposals Dandenong South—Special Meeting		
3rd to 7th	Fri to Tues	Beachport / Robe	David	0417 747 860
17th to 19th	Fri to Sun	Haunted Stream Track	Brett Nuske	0405 441 819
17th to 19th	Fri to Sun	Aberfeldy District	David	0417 747 860
25th to 26th	Sat to Sun	Christmas Party—Gembrook	Committee	<b>0409960478</b>

## December 2017

6th	Wed	General Meeting		
9th	Sat	Marysville and Surrounds	Stuart	0428 539 157

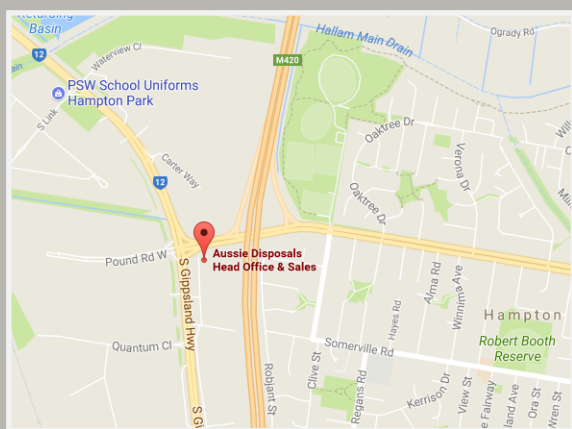
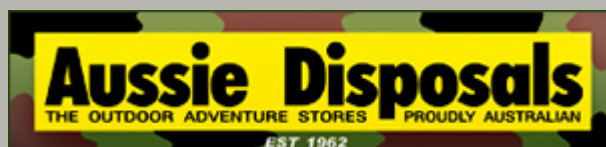
## January 2018

		NO General Meeting		
16th	Tue	Committee Meeting		
7th to 21st		Fraser Island and Moreton Island	Callum	0439 972 204
26th to 28th		Australia Day Long Weekend	Brett & Nicky	

## February 2018

7th	Wed	General Meeting		
20th	Tue	Committee Meeting		

## IMPORTANT



**November** meeting will be at Aussie Disposals Dandenong South. Please note the date is Wednesday 1st of November. A delicious BBQ dinner will be served at 7PM. Please RSVP on the trip form at the October General meeting for catering purposes or [email Stuart](#). Meeting will commence around 7:30PM

Address: [345-353 S Gippsland Hwy, Dandenong South VIC 3175](#). [Google Maps link here](#)



# MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING

**October 2017**

**Meeting Date: 04 October 2017**

The meeting was held at the Bowling Club Rooms, Noble Park Football Club and was opened at 8.07pm by Club President, Ben Whitworth.

**Present:**

Andrew Hooper  
Andre Van Der Walt  
Andrew White  
Ashley Martin  
Brett Nuske  
Callum Brown  
Damian Lyon  
David & Carolyn Bruinsma  
Des Whall  
Gary Smith  
Ian & Audrey  
Ken Beard and Jane Spence  
Lisa & Tony Barbera  
Mick & Sally Harris  
Roger Blakeman  
Shane & Melanie Dodman  
Steve Pitcher  
Stuart & Maree Bowker

**Apologies:**

Bruce Cremonesi  
Ly Ho

**Visitors:**

Andrew McGregor & Sharyn Chambers (Victorian High Country Huts Association)  
Bayani Serrano  
Caroline Jones

**Proceedings**

Club President welcomed everybody in attendance to the October 2017 General Meeting.  
Called for any apologies (as above).

**Minutes of Previous General Meeting** - no comments.

**Matters Arising** - nil

**Accepted:** David Bruinsma

**Seconded:** Andre Van Der Walt

**Secretary's Report** - nil report (Club Secretary was absent).

**Correspondence In:** Track watch

**Correspondence Out:** To be confirmed at next general meeting

### **Treasurer's Report**

Club Treasurer presented the accounts for the month of September 2017. See Treasurer's Report section

**Association Delegate's Report** - Nil report (David Bruinsma)

### **General Business**

- Reminder that advertising space is available in the Club Magazine at no cost to members.
- November 2017 General Meeting (organised by Shane Dodman) will be held at Aussie Disposals in Dandenong South on 01/11/2017. A BBQ dinner will be served from 7:00pm with the meeting to commence from 7:30pm. To assist with catering, intending attendees were requested to include their name/s on the Trip Attendance Form.
- Des Whall agreed to take over as Merchandise Manager. Special thanks to outgoing Merchandise Manager, Carolyn Bruinsma, for her support over the past few years.
- Club Christmas Party - seeking ideas from members as to a possible venue. Suggested venues included:
  - Campbelltown Railway (Ashley Martin)
  - Bush BBQ somewhere local such as Bunyip or Gembrook (Jane Spence)
- Toyota Land Cruiser Club of Victoria is hosting its annual CruiserKhana event (27-29/10/2017). There is an entrance/participation fee. Club President to email details to all members.
- Reminder that the Melbourne Leisure fest at Sandown Park Raceway is scheduled for this coming weekend (05-08/10/2017)
- TJM Dandenong will be holding a weekend-long Open Day this coming Saturday and Sunday (07-08/10/2017) with a range of deals and special offers - see their website for full details
- David Bruinsma emailed all members regarding the Aberfeldy working bee which is scheduled for 21/10/2017
- Welcome to visitors (as per list above)
- No new member packs available to hand out this month - instead they will be held over to the following month

### **Upcoming Trips - Presented by Trip Coordinator (Stuart Bowker)**

- Proficiency Driver Training Course - Ashley Martin: Theory night scheduled for 19/10/2017 in the Blue & Gold Room at Club Noble (Noble Park Football Club). Practical session scheduled for 21-22/10/2017, camping overnight at Little O'Tool's campground
- Working Bee (Aberfeldy area) 21/10/2017 - David Bruinsma: 6:45am departure from BP Pakenham Bypass. David can only stay for the day but volunteers are welcome to team up with participants from the concurrent (Driver Training) trip for a joint overnight camp at Little O'Tool's campground. Some equipment (eg. brush cutters) will be supplied for use by

Rudy of West Gippsland Relic, Mining & Heritage Protection Inc.

- Melbourne Cup Long Weekend 03-07/11/2017 (Beachport/Robe SA) - David Bruinsma: Plan is to complete both the Northern and Southern beach drives. There are 10 campsites reserved for club members at a nearby caravan park. Above group camp fires (using fire drums) are permitted, subject to weather conditions. Firewood is available for purchase at \$15 per bag. Proceeds go to a local charity.
- Haunted Stream 17-19/11/2017 - Brett Nuske: Optional camping on the Friday evening and 4WDing on Saturday. Plan is to complete all 54 river crossings (Medium-Hard, depending on weather), camping along the Tambo River on the Saturday evening.
- Fraser & Moreton Islands 7-21/01/2018 - Callum Brown: Exploring both islands at a leisurely pace. There will be plenty of time to have fun, relax and fish. Camper trailers welcome.
- Cape York (August 2018) - Mick & Sally Harris: Heading up the inland route, taking in Broken Hill, Cameron's Corner and Winton (1 week). Exploring the Cape, Weipa and Cooktown. Plan is to visit the Lion's Den on the way back. Expecting to stay on average 3 nights per location. Overall trip will take about 5 weeks to complete.

Australia Day Long Weekend - Brett & Nicky Buchanan: Visiting Mt Howitt and planning to complete New Caledonia River Track. This is a repeat of an earlier trip run in that area.

**Compressor Tutorial** - Presented by Tony Barbera

**Coffee Break** - 9:00pm - 9:35pm

**Trips Completed** - Presented by Trip Coordinator (Stuart Bowker)

- Aberfeldy Area day trip- Stuart Bowker: Conditions were very wet and slippery. Had to Stick mainly to Donnelly's Creek Track and found snow at Fiddler's Green.
- Gaffney's Creek Trip - Presented by Tony Barbera: Headed up early on the Friday. Another group of nearby campers struggled to erect their new tents - entertaining to watch. Last arrivals finally made it to camp around 12:30am on the Saturday morning. Drove to Jamieson on the Saturday for a coffee. Missed the AFL Grand Final match (no reception). Headed home on the Sunday. Relaxing weekend.

**Raffle**                      This month there were 3 raffle prizes:

Prize	Won by
4WD Gloves	Carolyn Bruinsma
Rope Shackle	Andy McGregor & Sharon Chambers
Occy Straps	Andrew White

**Meeting Closed: 9:45 pm**

Next Meeting: Wednesday 7.30pm 1<sup>st</sup> November 2017 at Aussie Disposals in Dandenong South (Preceded by a BBQ Dinner from 7:00pm).



Members can advertise any four wheel drive or camping related items they wish to sell or buy.

Just email the editor, [editor@vfwdc.com](mailto:editor@vfwdc.com), with the following:

- 1. Description of the item
- 2. Price
- 3. Contact details
- 4. Photos (highly recommended)

FOR SALE: Single Swag and mattress

\$30, \$30

Dune 4WD Self Inflating Mattress—Single.  
Only used a handful of times. No rips or anything. [More info link here](#)  
\$30

Burke & Wills Single Swag—Envelope Style  
Had an eventful life, still good. These swags design has no poles—roll out and sleep. [More info link here](#)  
\$30

Or both for \$50.

Ly  
0433 387 811  
[Ly.tri.ho@gmail.com](mailto:Ly.tri.ho@gmail.com)



## FOR SALE: GU Patrol accessories

\$50, \$60

Kaymar GU Patrol wheel carrier spacer bracket:

Allows for larger diameter wheels such as 35's and incorporates a fixing for reversing light.

\$50

ARB GU Patrol dual battery tray

\$60

Ashley

0428 134 399



FOR SALE: Esky

See below

[Sally](#)

Esky \$100. Measurements 720x425x515cm.

0412 464 129





Bringing Four Wheel Drivers Together



Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc  
www.vfwdc.com



## Treasurer's Report September 2017

<u>Cheque A/C`</u>	Opening Balance as at 01/09/2017	\$3,992.70
Add:	Membership Renewals	\$290.00
	Raffle Ticket Sales	\$88.00
	New Memberships	\$240.00
	Total Monies In:	\$618.00
<u>Less:</u>		
	FWDV Membership Fees	\$195.00
	Venue Hire Club Noble	\$1,000.00
	Petty Cash (Catering)	20.00
	Total Monies Out:	\$1,215.00
	Closing Balance as at 30/09/2017	\$3,395.70
<u>Term Deposit</u>	Opening Balance as at 01/09/2017	\$6,399.78
	Closing Balance as at 30/09/2017	\$6,399.78
<u>Petty Cash</u>	Opening Balance as at 01/09/2017	\$150.00
	Add: Cheque Account	\$20.00
	Less: Catering	-\$20.00
	Closing Balance as at 30/09/2017	\$150.00
	<b>Consolidated Closing Cash Position</b>	<b>\$9,945.48</b>

## UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	Beachport / Robe - 2017
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: David MOB: 0417 747 860
DATE	Melbourne Cup Weekend 2017 Friday 3rd to Tuesday 7th (longer if you wish)
MEETING PLACE / TIME	TBA - Depends on who is coming, and respective departure times
GRADE	WET: Medium DRY: harder if the sand if Dry.
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	<p>I plan to leave very early on the Friday morning from Berwick at approx. 6am to avoid the worst of the peak morning traffic, setting up camp early afternoon.</p> <p>Hopefully arriving to set up at the caravan park in Beachport, and then spend family time on the beach (sunning, fishing, swimming) with opportunities for group drives up the beach or for individual family activities whenever and however you want.</p> <p>BIG Sunday Roast (if we can have the camp fire). If we are lucky the fire ban doesn't start until after Cup Weekend. But we got caught out last year, so no fire.</p> <p>Intending to pack up on the Tuesday morning and head back to Melbourne. Some members usually stay the whole week.</p>
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 1 MAXIMUM: 10 +
APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION	Approx. 550km to Beachport from Melbourne CBD
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Every major town DIESEL: Every major town
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	Every major town
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	All Recover gear - Max Trax if you have them Self Sufficient for all camping gear (in a caravan park) Sand Flag
MAPS REQUIRED	Normal GPS to get to Beachport Beach track maps are available at Beachport
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	UHF 12
GOOGLE MAPS	<a href="#">See here</a>

<b>DESTINATION</b>	Haunted Stream Track
<b>LEADER/CONTACT NO.</b>	NAME: Brett Nuske MOB: 0405 441 819
<b>DATE</b>	Fri Nov 17 - Sun Nov 19 (Fri and Sun are optional with no planned activities)
<b>MEETING PLACE / TIME</b>	Tambo Crossing / 10AM
<b>GRADE</b>	WET: Hard DRY: Medium
<b>TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS</b>	Optionally arriving on Friday and camping overnight at Tambo Crossing, Saturday will involve driving the full length of Haunted Stream Track and then optionally camping at either Marthavale Hut or Italian Flat at Dargo.
<b>VEHICLE LIMITS</b>	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 7
<b>APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION</b>	200KM
<b>LAST AVAILABLE FUEL</b>	PETROL: Bruthen DIESEL: Bruthen
<b>DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES</b>	200km
<b>EQUIPMENT REQUIRED</b>	Camping gear and food/water (if staying overnight), standard recovery gear, good AT/MT tyres, snorkel would be advantageous as there are 54 river/ford crossings to negotiate.
<b>MAPS REQUIRED</b>	Bairnsdale - Dargo - Omeo Adventure Map: Rooftop Maps
<b>RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF</b>	UHF 12
<b>GOOGLE MAPS</b>	<a href="#">See here</a>



**DESTINATION**  
**LEADER/CONTACT NO.**

Aberfeldy District  
NAME: David  
MOB: 0417 747 860

**DATE**

Weekend Friday 17th to Sunday 19th November

**MEETING PLACE / TIME**

TBA - otherwise dam wall lookout on Saturday morning.  
(9:30am)

**GRADE**

WET: Medium/Hard  
DRY: Easy/Medium

**TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS**

Trip to Aberfeldy staying at O'Tools Camping Ground.

I'll be leaving after school gets out on the Friday (so approx. 4pm from Berwick), and staying at O'Tools main camping ground.

For those that wish to come in on Saturday morning, choice of coming directly to the camping ground, or I can meet you at the dam wall lookout at approx. 9:30am for a day of 4wd'ing. Will aim to be back at camp ground between 3:30 and 4:30pm

Sunday will be a sleep in and cooked breakfast before packing up to leave by late morning.

I will need to go to Fiddlers green to check out and possibly a clean up - as we did not get there for the working bee.

Track choices will be dependent on people coming to participate and vehicle setups. Recovery points on all vehicles a must.

**VEHICLE LIMITS**

MINIMUM: 1  
MAXIMUM: 10

**APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE  
TO DESTINATION**

300 to 450 kms, depends on how much exploring we choose to do.

**LAST AVAILABLE FUEL**

PETROL: Moe  
DIESEL: Moe

**DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES**

**EQUIPMENT REQUIRED**

Camping gear, Recovery gear, Food, Water, Sense of fun and relaxation.

**MAPS REQUIRED**

Local area maps required

**RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF**

UHF 12

**GOOGLE MAPS**

[See here](#)

<b>DESTINATION</b>	Marysville and surrounds
<b>LEADER/CONTACT NO.</b>	NAME: Stuart & Maree MOB: Stuart 0428539157
<b>DATE</b>	Saturday 9th December
<b>MEETING PLACE / TIME</b>	Marysville main street outside the bakery 9:am for a 9:30 am departure. Bakery should be open for Breaky allow extra time
<b>GRADE</b>	WET: Medium DRY: Easy
<b>TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS</b>	The trip will go to Keppel hut, MacFadyen Tk Quartz Crk Rd, Bull Fight Rd, Royston Range Tk to the Rubicon Power Station and maybe stop for dinner at the Buxton Burger place if anyone is interested.
<b>VEHICLE LIMITS</b>	Bring packed lunch and munchies for roadside stops MINIMUM: 3 MAXIMUM: N/A
<b>APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION</b>	300–400km round trip
<b>LAST AVAILABLE FUEL</b>	PETROL: Marysville credit card sales only best to fuel at Healesville  DIESEL: Marysville credit card sales only best to fuel at Healesville
<b>DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES</b>	No LPG 400km
<b>EQUIPMENT REQUIRED</b>	Own basic recovery gear tools and any spares you may require. AT or MT tyres
<b>MAPS REQUIRED</b>	Rooftop maps Marysville-Lake Eildon or Big River Rubicon
<b>RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF</b>	UHF 12
<b>GOOGLE MAPS</b>	<a href="#">See here</a>

<b>DESTINATION</b>	Fraser Island and Moreton Island
<b>LEADER/CONTACT NO.</b>	NAME: Callum Brown MOB: 0439 972 204
<b>DATE</b>	7th January 2018—28th January 2018
<b>MEETING PLACE / TIME</b>	TBA
<b>GRADE</b>	WET: Medium DRY: Easy
<b>TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS</b>	The intent of this trip is to relax and have fun. We will be traveling to Fraser Island and Moreton Island. We will stay for 7 nights at Fraser Island and we will spend 3 nights at Yurru camp area and 4 nights at Sandy Cape camp area. We will then make our way to Moreton Island for 4 nights and travel the coast roads on the way home.
<b>VEHICLE LIMITS</b>	MINIMUM: 1 MAXIMUM: 4
<b>APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION</b>	4000
<b>LAST AVAILABLE FUEL</b>	PETROL: TBA DIESEL: TBA
<b>DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES</b>	
<b>EQUIPMENT REQUIRED</b>	Self-sufficient camping. This means we will need to bring all food and water for both Islands and considerations will need to be made for waste disposal. Basic recover gear required.
<b>MAPS REQUIRED</b>	Fraser Island and Moreton Island maps
<b>RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF</b>	UHF 12
<b>GOOGLE MAPS</b>	<a href="#">See here</a>



<b>DESTINATION</b>	Cape Trip
<b>LEADER/CONTACT NO.</b>	NAME: Michael Harris MOB: 0424 766 616
<b>DATE</b>	August 18th 2018 to September 22nd 2018
<b>MEETING PLACE / TIME</b>	TBA
<b>GRADE</b>	WET: Med DRY: Easy
<b>TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS</b>	General touring through to the cape & back
<b>VEHICLE LIMITS</b>	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 8
<b>APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION</b>	Depends on where we go...last time we did about 13700 kms
<b>LAST AVAILABLE FUEL</b>	PETROL: TBA DIESEL: TBA
<b>DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES</b>	
<b>EQUIPMENT REQUIRED</b>	Enough surplus to last 5 weeks + all normal gear
<b>MAPS REQUIRED</b>	
<b>RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF</b>	UHF 12
<b>GOOGLE MAPS</b>	<a href="#">See here</a>



Steve & entourage	Landcruiser 105
David & Steve McQueen	Navara
Andrew	Prado 150
Ben & Damion	Landcruiser 105

Steve did say up-front this was going to be a challenging and technical trip - he wasn't wrong! We all met up at the base of Alcorn Track at around 10:30am on Saturday. Greetings, introductions, handshakes and such out of the way, it was time to tackle this track we'd heard so much about.

Steve headed up first in his 'Cruiser and a section and a half up the track delivered on its promise - he was stuck - massive ruts and steps to get hung up on, that were nice and slippery due to substantial recent rain in the area. Diff locks engaged, throttle applied, and a few minutes of good techniques utilised, but no good - out with the hydraulic winch.







David and myself then both had a crack in our vehicles respectively but met similar fates on the same spots as Steve - winches out on both occasions. I did however manage to do it in style, cracking a fairly big controlled wheel stand on the way up - I wasn't quietly completely crapping myself at the time at all!! (Woody, thanks for the well need spotting!)

With our rock sliders well leaned on, and 3 out of 4 vehicles winched up the first section to a relatively flat area (Ben choosing wisely to remain at the start, due to lack of sill protection), a scout of the rest of the track led to the decision to turn around - conditions too slippery to tackle safely. (Track added to the list to tackle in summer hey Steve? :) )

Steve then led us off to a spot to stop and grab some well-earned lunch, before leading us on to tackle what I believed he referred to as 'the loop'. This loop, made up of Pinnacle Track & Smiths Track, provided an excellent range of tricky, technical and varied terrain which we all really enjoyed working together to get through. Steve's mates were fantastic company, spotting all who asked, talking people through tough sections, and also helping with setting up winches, track building objects for someone-who-will-remain-nameless in a silver ute who may or may not have gotten stuck going downhill.



After thoroughly enjoying working our way through the 'the loop', we headed back to camp, set up and settled in for the night. Good tunes, good company, tall stories, and a few cleansing drinks!



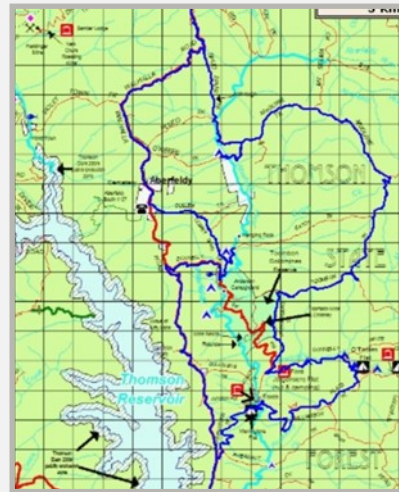
Sunday we awoke to snow (well I awoke to snow, everybody else was already packing up - opps). Being at only 500m this was a pleasant surprise. Packup complete Steve, David and friends said their goodbyes and headed home, while Ben, Damion and myself went on to tackle a few more tough tracks - but that's another story.



Massive thanks to Steve for organising and leading such an interesting and technical trip - his idea of making this an annual trip was very much well supported by the crew!!



David	Nissan (Token car)
Maree & Stuart	Toyota Landcruiser ute
Roger	Toyota Prado
Bayani	Toyota Prado
Steve	Toyota Landcruiser
Ly	Toyota Landcruiser



Working out where we are going and what our objectives are for the day are, we worked out it was a Toyota day, with a token Nissan.



First up down to Codes Flat to meet Steve who had camped the night.

Up Comet Spur to Eaton on to the Hanging Rock walking track. Our new members all enjoyed the rock climb with a 4x4 grin from ear to ear.





Team Toyota (with the token Nissan driver) worked on clearing the walking track removing over-grown vegetation, to keep easy access to this picturesque spot.

The hard working team at hanging rock picnic spot:



Next challenge find Aberfeldy crossing, we split the group to maximise tasks to be completed. Stuart, Steve and Maree headed to The Eldorado site and Water Trough to work on these areas. David, Bayani, Ly and Roger working on the Aberfeldy crossing track.





And a day would not be complete without a group discussion under someone's bonnet - Stuart got the privilege this time.



With the work we set out to do complete, David, Ly, Roger and Bayani headed back to town. Steve was camping with the training group at Little O'Tools. Stuart and Maree headed over the mountain to say hi, heading down Spud Spur, McGuire, Toombon and Jorgensen tracks.

A great day was had by all. Enjoy the pictures







Who would have believed the same crossing the photos are taken each going the other way but the depth of water is amazing. Red Toyota one taken 10<sup>th</sup> Sept, the other one 21<sup>st</sup> Oct.

