



# FREE WHEELING

June 2020

TIME TO START PLANNING YOUR NEXT 4X4 ADVENTURE



Official Newsletter of the  
Victorian Four Wheel  
Drive Club Inc

Registration No  
A0002184F

Photos from VFWDC Gallery



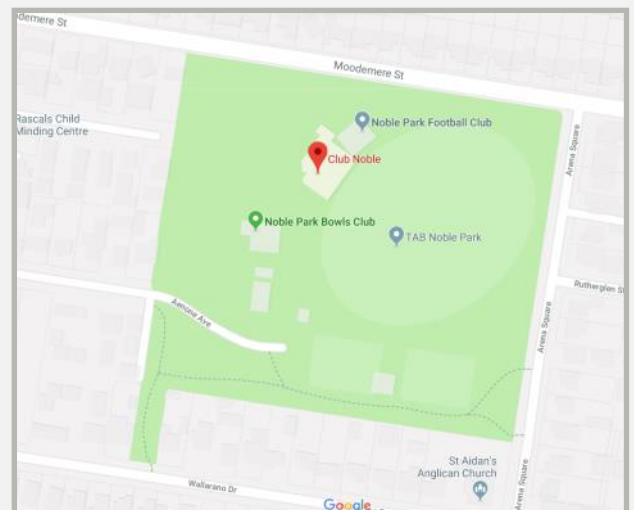


### VFWDC General Meeting Venue

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.

#### Blue and Gold Room

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



**The General Meeting will be held online on Wednesday 3rd June 2020 at 8.00pm due to the current restrictions in place.**

**Please check your emails for further information.**

### 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 calendar for the next upcoming working bee.

# COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

## 2019-2020

President	Steve Pitcher	<a href="mailto:president@vfwdc.com">president@vfwdc.com</a>
Vice President	David Bruinsma	<a href="mailto:vicepres@vfwdc.com">vicepres@vfwdc.com</a>
Secretary	Sally Higgs	<a href="mailto:secretary@vfwdc.com">secretary@vfwdc.com</a>
Treasurer	Ly Ho	<a href="mailto:treasurer@vfwdc.com">treasurer@vfwdc.com</a>

## General Committee

Trip Coordinator	Des Whall	<a href="mailto:trips@vfwdc.com">trips@vfwdc.com</a>
Magazine Editor	Mary Griffiths	<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	Callum Brown Jeff Griffiths	

## 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>
Catering	Ann Crockett	

## 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 <a href="http://www.fwdvictoria.org.au">Four Wheel Drive Victoria</a> - <a href="http://www.fwdvictoria.org.au">www.fwdvictoria.org.au</a>	

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Hi everyone,

I hope that you enjoy reading this month's edition of *Free Wheeling* magazine.

I would like to thank all of you for your continued patience and support as we navigate our way through the gradual easing of restrictions around travel and group gatherings. Last month we held our first ever virtual general meeting. I expect that virtual general meetings may continue to feature in the period ahead due to social distancing considerations. If anyone is unable to participate in the virtual general meetings due to poor internet reception or limited data plans, the option remains available to dial in using a telephone.

Our Club Secretary recently announced the resumption of day trips in groups of up to 10 people. I am pleased to confirm that the Victorian State Premier has since announced a further easing of restrictions, effective from 01 June 2020. The more relevant changes to our club activities includes:

- Outdoor gatherings of up to 20 people will now be permitted;
- Overnight bush camping will also be permitted in most Victorian State and National Parks; and
- Overnight accommodation stays will now be permitted in circumstances where there is no use of communal facilities such as kitchens or bathrooms.

I am sure that you will all agree that this is very welcome news as it enables our club to recommence overnight trips in groups of up to 20 individuals provided all other guidance principles are followed. Importantly, all trip leaders and trip participants must practice social distancing measures, not engage in physical contact with other people from outside of their household and take individual responsibility for their own personal health and hygiene if participating in a club trip.

Four Wheel Drive Victoria has most recently advised that the permit system for snow trips remains unapproved by Mansfield Shire for the up-coming snow season. Please bear this in mind for trip planning purposes.

Finally, I would like to remind everyone that a number of seasonal track closures will come into effect from the month of June 2020. Please check with Parks Victoria for full details if intending to travel through any seasonally closed areas.

Take care, tread lightly and remember to keep safe.

Steve Pitcher

President



CLUB MERCHANDISE



PRICING

Club Polo Shirt	\$28.00	Club Hoodie	\$50.00
Club Singlet and T-Shirt	\$15.00	Club Sleeveless Reversible Vest	\$50.00
Club Polar Fleece Full Zip Jacket	\$45.00	Club Bucket Hat	\$16.00
Club Caps	\$10.00	Club Beanie	\$10.00
Club Wide Brim Hat	\$18.00	VFWDC Windscreen stickers	
Club Drivers Jacket (Coat)	\$70.00		Small \$6.00
			Large \$8.00
Club Cloth Badges 120mm	\$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.

# CLUB CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

June				
3rd	Wed	General Meeting	Online - Zoom	
6th—8th	Sat-Mon	King River Valley	Sally Higgs	0435 782 207
15th	Mon	Committee Meeting		
July				
1st	Wed	General Meeting	To be advised	
20th	Mon	Committee Meeting		
August				
5th	Wed	General Meeting	To be advised	
17th	Mon	Committee Meeting		

Something goofy happened to someone on a trip? Nominate them for the next “Good on ya” trophy! Send a quick summary to [trips@vfwdc.com](mailto:trips@vfwdc.com)

## IMPORTANT

### To All Club Members

- **The General Meeting will be held ONLINE on Wednesday 3rd June 2020 at 8.00pm. Please check your emails for further information.**

#### **Trips**

- Outdoor gatherings are now permitted. Maximum of 20 people.
- Bush camping is permitted in most Victorian State & National Parks; and
- Overnight accommodation stays are now permitted in circumstances where there is no use of communal facilities such as kitchens or bathrooms.
- Please check Parks Victoria for seasonally closed areas if you are going into State or National Parks.
- Ensure appropriate physical distancing on all trips.
- Practise good hygiene (would suggest keeping hand sanitiser in your vehicle at all times).
- Stay at home if you have any cold or flu like symptoms. Seek medical advice and get tested for COVID-19.

Membership renewals are due 30 June 2020.

Renew now and receive a \$20.00 discount. Offer ends 30th September 2020.

- **2020 Membership has been reduced by \$20.00 in response to COVID-19.**
- Download a Membership Application and Renewal Form from the [VFWDC](http://vfwdc.com) website today.
- If you would like to join the committee you need to be a financial member as at the date of the AGM.

# MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING

6th May 2020

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

## Attendees

Ben W, David B, Callum, Steve P, Carolyn B, Joe, Stu and Maree, Steve Z, Andrew, Sally, Barney, Ly, Daryl, Sally and Tristan, Brett, Owen

## Apologies

None notified

## Minutes from Last Meeting

March Minutes:

Accepted by Stuart

Seconded by David B

## Matters arising from Last Meeting

- Nil

## Correspondence In/ Out:

Emails In and out:

- FWDV - Rural Response Group Request
- FWDV - Mt Skene Permits
- FWDV - Instructor Lists
- FWDV - Reminder on Aberfeldy Maintenance
- Updated member email
- FWDV Renewals and Fees
- Mallacoota Pony Club Donation
- BlazeAid Donation
- Membership request
- FWDV Covid-19 Position

## Mail

- Tried to clear the mailbox but a key is stuck in the lock. Sally will follow up with Australia Post to get access.

## Treasurer's Report

- As per treasurer's report for March 2020  
Accepted by David B  
Seconded by Ben W

April Report had some errors so will need to be presented at the next meeting.

## Association Delegate Report

- New Driver Training Operations Manual released - club instructors reviewing same
- Bush Fire Relief - call out for assistance once COVID-19 restrictions are lifted
- Mt Skene permits - FWDV will not be accepting applications until Mansfield Shire and VicPol confirm that the permit system is/will be operational for 2020 Winter.
- Email from Rudi regarding maintenance in Aberfeldy.
- Trackwatch Magazine is now online
- Information on recovery work on tracks from Forest Fire Management
- Parks Victoria statement - contractors going in to conduct deer control.
- Closed Parks for Easter

## COVID-19

- Virtual meetings until further notice
- Membership Renewal Fees - 3 month extension to 30/09 to cater for any circumstances that members may be facing due to COVID-19.
- If you want to be on the committee you need to be a financial member as at the date of the AGM.
- \$20 discount for all membership categories until 30/09/2020, this has been passed on from a reduction that Four Wheel Drive Victoria will be providing for members for the first half of the new financial year.
- Volume and type of communication from the club was discussed. Club is aligning with Premier and Health information and requirements.

## New Members/Guests and Prospective Members

- Visitors - Daryl Lynch was welcomed to the club



## **General Business**

- Club Magazine - lockdown with no trips requested information for future magazines to help with content. Will be putting in copies from past magazines.
- Shared feedback and thanks from BlazeAid and Mallacoota Pony Club.
- Coordinating trips when we are able to go - start preparing for them now.
- Maree thanked everyone for engaging on the Facebook page - 2000 posts in the last month.
- Andrew Hooper raised a Land Cruiser 100 Series for sale. Information is on the Facebook Page - Can post for sale in the club magazine via sending information to [editor@vfwdc.com](mailto:editor@vfwdc.com)

## **Upcoming Trips**

Trips completed since last general meeting:

- Stay at home Easter - discussed the virtual camping night, used messenger to chat across the night, Steve Dixon camped out on his front lawn for the night.

Meeting Closed: 21:01 Hours

Next meeting: 3rd June 2020


# TREASURER'S REPORT

An error was identified in the March Treasurer's Report listed in April's edition of the magazine. Below is the amended report.

Bringing Four Wheel Drivers Together



Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc  
www.vfwdc.com



# Treasurer's Report

## March 2020

<u>Cheque A/C`</u>	Opening Balance as at 01/03/2020		\$5,207.89
Add:	Raffle	\$155.40	
	Merchandise	\$16.00	
	Membership	\$300.00	
	Total Monies In:		\$471.40
Less:	Catering	\$16.00	
	Mallacoota Pony Club Inc Donation	\$500.00	
	BlazeAid Inc Donation	\$500.00	
	World's Greatest Shave Donation	\$155.40	
	Closing Balance as at 31/03/2020		\$4,507.89
<u>Term Deposit</u>	Opening Balance as at 01/03/2020	\$6,753.63	
	Closing Balance as at 31/03/2020		\$6,753.63
<u>Petty Cash</u>	Opening Balance as at 01/03/2020	\$50.00	
Less:	Catering	\$0.15	
	Closing Balance as at 31/03/2020		\$49.85
	<b>Consolidated Closing Cash Position</b>		<b><u>\$11,311.37</u></b>



Bringing Four Wheel Drivers Together



Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc  
www.vfwdc.com



## Treasurer's Report April 2020

<u>Cheque A/C`</u>	Opening Balance as at 01/04/2020		\$4,507.89
	Less:		
	FWDV Affiliation Fee	\$39.00	
	Closing Balance as at 30/04/2020		\$4,468.89
<u>Term Deposit</u>	Opening Balance as at 01/04/2020	\$6,753.63	
	Closing Balance as at 30/04/2020		\$6,753.63
<u>Petty Cash</u>	Opening Balance as at 01/04/2020	\$49.85	
	Closing Balance as at 30/04/2020		\$49.85
	<b>Consolidated Closing Cash Position</b>		<b><u>\$11,272.37</u></b>

## UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	King River Valley
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: Sally Higgs MOB: 0435782207
DATE	Queen's Birthday Weekend Saturday 6th June - Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> June
MEETING PLACE / TIME	TBC - Saturday Morning
GRADE	WET: Medium DRY: Medium
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	<p>We are heading out to go bush camping in the King River Valley. We are getting away from people and the idea is to do full bush camp with absolutely no facilities. We will base camp so we can relax and go for a little bit of driving as well.</p> <p>Head up on Saturday to take a leisurely drive and find camp and get that set up for the weekend.</p> <p>On Sunday we will go out for a look around the area and go and visit Bindaree Falls and potentially Craigs Hut as well although that might be busy.</p> <p>Heading home Monday on a track yet to be determined.</p> <p>Overall it is just a weekend away out in the bush before all the tracks close for the winter.</p> <p>Note that things may change and we will flex with that. It will be an adventure one way or another!</p>
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 6  Maximum number of people for trip is 20 as per Government Requirements.
APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION	600 kms
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Mansfield DIESEL: Mansfield
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	80 Kms
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* Fully Self Contained - must bring own toilet facilities for bush camping</li><li>* Recovery gear</li><li>* Camping Equipment</li><li>* Food and drinks for weekend - bring out your gourmet cooking as we will have the time to do it.</li></ul>
MAPS REQUIRED	Bright-Mansfield Adventure Map - Roof Top Maps Trip Leader will have every map including paper and Hema explorer.
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	Channel 11
GOOGLE MAPS	



## Facebook ABC Challenge

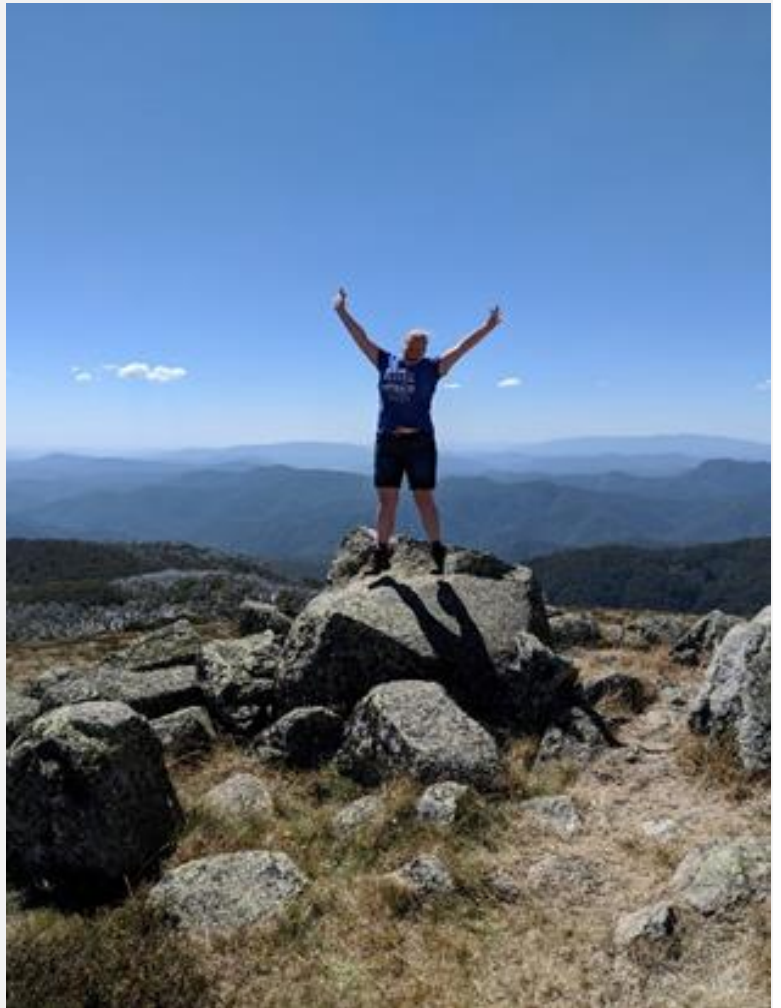
### Part 2

### Sharing Memories

The aim was to get through the Alphabet with pictures of our travels on the first half we got to H so lets look at the highlights going forward. Here is Sally jumping for joy and this is what we all will be doing when we get the OK to go back camping.

We looked at part of Australia with Kalbarri Kalgoorlie, Kata Tjuta and Kangaroo Island not to mention our favorite fauna the kangaroos koalas and kookaburras all providing visual relief from the long day of not getting out camping.

The Facebook site was going great guns with the L and lighthouse and lookouts provided spectacular views over the countryside. There was a few sneakily added Land Cruisers and Land Rovers to be mentioned some being a bit stuck.



We loved the quick wit of different people explaining their choice of pictures, I think Phil D nailed it when he said the V is for variety of vegetation and vistas from vertical vantage points.

We traveled on with the letters and the memories flooded in of the places we have been and the different people we have camped with.

## ONLINE CHALLENGE CONT'D

So, thanks to all the contributors it was fun to see where we have been and what we have done in the past few years. We managed to complete the Alphabet challenge and there was so many great pictures to remember. We managed 1799 posts for the month so please pat yourself on the back if you were part of it.

Thanks for everyone who took part and hopefully we will see you out camping soon.

Maree and Stuart



Steve Z beautiful waterfall



**HERE IS A BLAST FROM  
THE PAST!**

**Take a step back in time to April**

**1989**

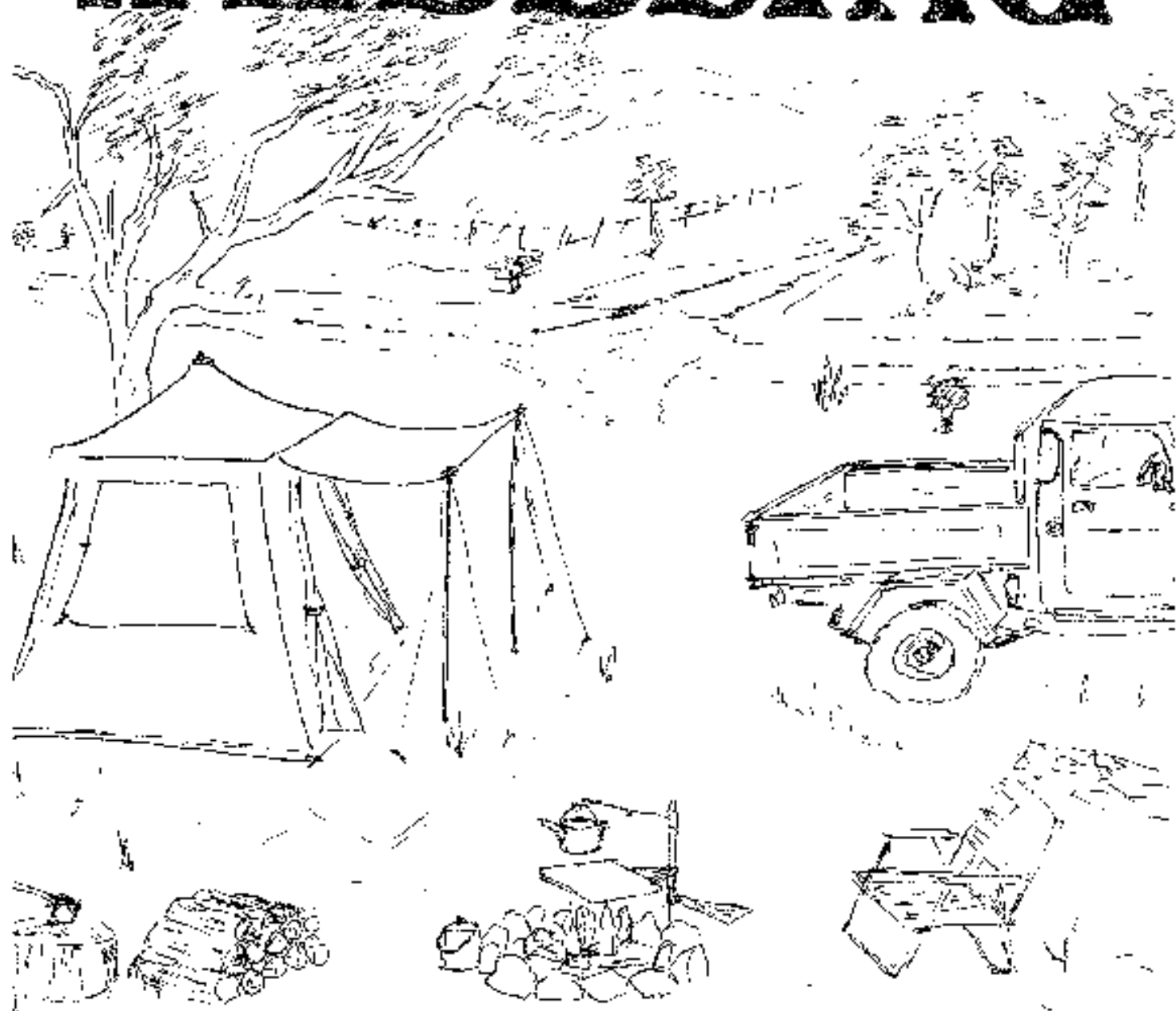
**VFWDC Free Wheeling edition of the magazine.**

**IT'S A RIPPA!**

APRIL 1989



# FREE WHEELING



REGISTERED BY AUSTRALIA POST



## VICTORIAN FOUR WHEEL DRIVE CLUB INC. COMMITTEE 1988-89

PRES. Dave Heard 16 Hardy St. Selby. 3159 PH. 754-8406	VICE PRES. Steve Alder 10 Mayfair Crt. Keysborough 3174 PH. 798-2432	SEC. Terry Moore 409 Princess H/Way Narree Warren 3805 PH. 704-6736
TREAS. Rob Ayton 8 Minerva Cres Vermont Sth 3133 PH. 232-0378	ASS. SEC. Rick Rycken 5 Slater Crt. Narree Warren 3805 PH. 704-9535	SOC. Michelle Heard 16 Hardy St. Selby 3159 PH. 754-8406
ASSOCIATE DELEGATES		
COMMITTEE MEMBER	James Lee 16 Quirk Crt Endeavour Hills PH. 700-5375	Barry Ellis PH. 25-8308

### TRIP CLASSIFICATIONS

"A" GRADE; Extensive use of 4 WD Tracks may be difficult to negotiate chain should be carried along with towing slings and anchor points, good winter tread pattern tyres are a must. Trip leader has the right to refuse a vehicle if above points are not met. Types of conditions likely to be met include steep climbs and descents on all surfaces - rocky, muddy, deep river crossings and overgrown tracks MAX. 6 VEHICLES.

"B" GRADE; Virtually same conditions as "A" Grade but track conditions is more favourable. Good tyres are a must as well as necessary recovery gear MAX. 10 VEHICLES.

"C" GRADE; Very limited use of 4 WD. These trips include car rallies ect. Types of tyres does not matter and recovery gear still essential NO MAX. VEHICLES.

In all above cases vehicles should be in sound mechanical condition and carry the basic spares, parts as listed in previous Newsletters.

The Committee would like to express the fact that if in the opinion of the trip leader a vehicle is not suitable for a trip, then that vehicle may be refused permission to partake. Also all drivers must be licensed and shall remain below 0.05 while on club trips.

MEETINGS FIRST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH  
AT THE DANDENONG LIBRARY TIME 8-00pm

ALL CORRESPONDENCE  
P.O. BOX 778  
DANDENONG VIC. 3175

PLEASE TRY AND SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS AS THEY ARE SUPPORTING USE !!!!

MAGAZINE EDITOR

Steve Alder. Phone: 798-2432





## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

APRIL 1989

So far I think our requests for photos to adorn the new front cover for our magazine have fallen on deaf ears so I'll ask for the last time, it's in your own interest if you want it to look the way you would like, otherwise, just leave it to the committee as always. That's enough whinging this month or I'll end up sounding like Derryn Hinch.

This years A.G.M. Special Effort has the committee sitting back feeling very proud of themselves. First prize is a weekend stay for two at the Hyatt on Collins in a suite on one of the top four floors, accessable only by your private elevator key. Here you can enjoy continental breakfast, afternoon tea, evening cocktails and hors d'oeuvres. A bottle of champagne awaits your arrival and the health and fitness centre and monsoons night club are included in your stay. You will dine at Max's Seafood Restaurant and to top off all this indulgence we have you picked up and returned home by limousine. Second Prize is an Adelaide Casino weekend for two: This includes coach travel to Adelaide, accommodation and meals (excluding Saturday Evening). Casino vouchers, city and Hahndorf tour. Value approx \$250. Third prize is dinner for two at Max's Seafood Restaurant at the Hyatt on Collins to the value of \$150. This year for the first time we will include a ticket sellers prize of \$50 for the seller of the winning ticket. With prizes like these the tickets should sell themselves but we thought a little more incentive may help sales. By the way first prize is valued at approximately \$600.

Bowling Day!! V.F.W.D.C. V NISSAN PATROL CLUB VIC. at Dandenong bowl, May 17th be there. No bodyline. The Shopping Spree Tour on June 17th needs support. As well as saving you heaps it'll raise funds for the Club.

See you at the Meeting

Dave Heard

## TRIP COMMITTEE

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Below is a list of equipment recommended for vehicles going on 'A' grade trips.

This equipment would also be handy for vehicles on 'B' grade trips, or for that matter, any trip into the bush.

IT IS STRESSED THAT ANY TRIP LEADER OF ANY TRIP HAS THE POWER TO REFUSE A VEHICLE TO PARTICIPATE ON A CLUB OUTING. IF HE THINKS THAT THE VEHICLE IS NOT ADEQUATELY EQUIPPED.

'A' BAR OR FITTING LUGS ON BUMPER BAR

TOWING CABLE OR CHAIN AT LEAST 20' IN LENGTH

TOWING POINTS = FRONT AND BACK

SHACKLES TO SUIT CABLES AND TOWING POINTS

WHEEL CHAINS

SPADE AND AXE OR CHAIN SAW

SNATCH BLOCK

JACK AND GROUND PLATE

AIR PUMP

TUBE TO SUIT TYRES OR PATCHES

50mm OR 2" TOW BALL

TYRE GAUGE

C.R.C. OR SIMILAR WATER REPELLANT

DECENT TOOL KIT

BRAKE FLUID

GLOVES AND HAND CLEANER

GOOD FIRST AID KIT

JUMPER LEADS

It is also handy to carry a supply of appropriate oil for use in your engine, gear box and diffs.



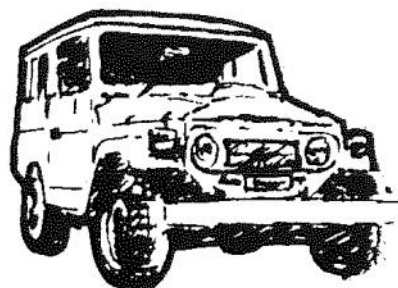
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- Most modifications allowable.
- Camping equipment cover available.



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## G O N E   F I S H I N '

### CAN TROUT SMELL

Recently whilst fishing a small stream near Lake Eildon I walked downstream and then fished back upstream to my camp. Due to the rugged terrain, we were forced to cross the stream frequently.

These crossings were made at the tail end of the pools and mostly in the shallow riffles to avoid any undue noise and disturbance of the water. I was very careful to keep well back from the water and well out of sight when walking around the pools.

During the downstream walk I sighted many fish in station and others visibly feeding. Due to our care to stay out of sight the fish appeared quite undisturbed and I was looking forward to a great day, fishing on the return trip.

After stopping for a brief snack I commenced the upstream fishing, some 2 hours after I started out. During the next 4 or 5 hours I fished upstream spotting as I went. Due to the high banks and vegetation and the clarity of the day we had a good view of the pools and fish were easy to spot using my 'Polaroids'. After an hour or so it became apparent that there were only a fraction of the fish visible that I had seen earlier in the day.

### WHY IS IT SO??

Perhaps we were not careful enough when I walked past these fish on the way downstream. Unlikely, as I was well aware of their presence and went out of my way to tread carefully and use all available cover. Perhaps the weather had changed slightly and the fish had gone down. Maybe, although I could see no change. Perhaps another angler had fished the river unknown to me. Impossible, as access is only helicopter or a very long walk and I would have seen his footprints.

Perhaps, and most likely, the trout had scented my body odour as I crossed the stream so many times. I was wearing shorts and sandals so let's look at some facts.

2.

The ol' factory powers of salmon are well documented. They travel hundreds of miles to return to their original spawning grounds, and they detect those original streams by smell.

Salmon are in the same family as trout and many of their habits are similar. Numerous other fish are known to have a sense of smell, including eels which have an acute sense that enables them to detect food even in very muddy waters.

Trout have a nostril that allows a continual passage of water to pass into an olfactory organ where chemical signals are detected by odour sensing cells. If we accept that trout can detect various colours, what does this mean to the fisherperson??

In a river situation, it is better to stay out of the water downstream. It is not so important, from a smell point of view when fishing upstream, although we would have to be careful where there is a back eddy and the water flows in the opposite direction to the current.

We should be careful when placing insect repellent on the palm of our hands which in turn could come in contact with our line, fly, bait and of course the water.

Perhaps it would be better to spray the repellent on the backs of our hands, very few insects land on our palms anyway!!

Perhaps we should think twice before we put foreign substances on our flies. We should use odourless substances where possible. Have you noticed that you seldom get a strike on a wet fly soon after you spit on it to make it sink??

Perhaps it would be better to rub it in some mud instead of spitting on it.

Nobody, including the scientists knows the full extent of the trouts ability to detect odour, but it is better to be safe than sorry.

When on the water, observe the trouts habits and perhaps you will learn the truth.

See You On The Bank!

F. SMELL



TRIP DATA

DESTINATION:

TRIP LEADER:

PHONE NUMBER:

DEPARTURE DATE:

DEPARTURE TIME:

DEPARTURE POINT:

FUEL REQUIRED:

LAST FUEL AVAILABLE:

MAPS REQUIRED:

GRADE:            A    B    C

DURATION:

BASE CAMP:

NATIONAL PARKS:    YES    NO

ROUTE VIA:

ACTIVITIES:

SPECIAL CONDITIONS:



STOP .

STOP PRESS

STOP PRESS

STOP PRESS

STOP PRESS

STOP PRESS

## SHOPPING SPREE TOUR.

Don't forget the shopping spree tour on June 17<sup>th</sup>,  
at 8-00am - Ring Michelle Heard 754-8406 for details.

## 1989 AGM RAFFLE

1ST PRIZE: HYATT ON COLLINS WEEKEND FOR TWO

including - Limousine Service, Dinner at Max's Seafood Restaurant,  
Champagne on arrival, Pre-dinner cocktails + hors d'oeuvres, + more  
Valued at approx. \$600-00

2ND PRIZE: ADELAIDE CASINO WEEKEND FOR TWO

including - coach travel to Adelaide from Melb., accomodation,  
meals (excluding Sat. evening), Vouchers for casino, city tour + mc  
Valued at approx. \$250-00

3RD PRIZE: MAX'S SEAFOOD RESTAURANT DINNER FOR TWO

at Hyatt on Collins

Valued at approx \$150-00

TICKET SELLERS PRIZE: \$50-00 CASH

to the seller of the winning ticket.

C L U B   C A L E N D A R   1 9 8 9

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APR	22-25	ANZAC WEEKEND MITCHELL HOMESTEAD STEVE ALDER
MAY	21	BOWLING AFTERNOON 2PM TO 5 PM AT DANDENONG BOWLS, PRINCES HIGHWAY
MAY	27	WINE TRIP TOM BRACHNA
JUNE	17	SHOPPING TOUR \$23 PER HEAD MICHELLE HEARD
JULY	4	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
JULY	29	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING DINNER DRACULAS THEATRE RESTAURANT \$37 PER HEAD FULLY LICENSED
NOV	11	BUSH DANCE

UPCOMING TRIPS - DATES TO BE FINALISED

=====

CAR RALLY - PETER PINK

OTWAYS WEEKEND

GEMBROOK DAY TRIP - ROD LEE (DETAILS MAY MEETING)

V I C T O R I A N   F O U R   W H E E L   D R I V E  
M E E T I N G   H E L D   4 T H   A P R I L   1 9 8 9

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Meeting opened 8.15 p.m.

Apologies: John Lake, Steven Lee, Bill Mc Kinnon  
Pat Casey

Minutes of previous meeting read and accepted by  
Vin Handley      seconded by Peter Rowe.

Incoming mail: Other Club magazines,  
letters from advertisers.

Treasurer's report: \$1,532.54.

accepted by: Mary Wade  
seconded by: Glenn Smith

Outgoing Mail: Club magazine.

Tea duty: Ray Brown & Ken Beith

Social Report: A.G.M. dinner to be held at Dracula's  
Restaurant, 4 course dinner, fully licenced, on the  
29th July to be seated by 7.30 p.m.

Michelle has organized a shopping spree tour of 8  
factories for Saturday 17th June.

A bowling day held against the Nissan Club at the  
Dandenong Bowl to be held on the 21st May.

Association Report

A motion was passed to support any group who supports  
the four wheel drive movement.

Coming trip: John Lake to lead a trip to Mitchell's  
Hut on the Anzac weekend.

Meeting closed at 10.45 p.m.

Members attending: 22  
Visitors : 3



## PARKS AND PERMITS

Four-wheel drive visitors to remote South Australian desert parks and reserves have been hit with a \$40 permit fee. The 'Desert Parks Pass' came into effect on January 1.

The annual pass gives access and camping rights to Witjira National Park, Lake Eyre National Park, Simpson Desert Conservation Park, Elliot Price Conservation Park and Innamincka Regional Reserve.

Despite paying the fee, visitors will receive little in compensation. Chairman of the Flinders Ranges and Outback Areas of SA Tourist Association, Mr Modris Ozolins, said the 120 members of his organisation believed the pass would be detrimental to Outback tourism. "There are no facilities there for people to use. They will resent having to pay money for things that aren't there. We believe they might bypass the parks and keep heading north", Mr Ozolins said.

About 2000 vehicles visited Witjira National Park, Lake Eyre and the Simpson Desert last year and 30,000 people were estimated to have visited the Innamincka and Coopers Creek region during 1988.

Introduced by the National Parks and Wildlife Service, the passes will be sold by local stores, garages, roadhouses and government offices in the South Australian Outback and adjacent interstate areas. Maps and literature will be provided with each pass. Track markers and sign posts will help tourists learn about the areas they visit.

The Desert Pass system will effectively destroy much of the joy of outback travel, with travellers being forced to use designated routes, access corridors and designated bush camping sites, and to traverse a landscape populated with sign posts and 'Road Closed' signs. Travel will be limited to designated routes with overuse, overcrowding and the accompanying effects of concentrated use likely to be a result of the National Parks Service plan. Penalties for straying from the designated routes have yet to be announced although local Aborigines will be employed as on-site wardens.

The Outback will never be the same again.

### NEW PARKS FOR OUTBACK

Over four million hectares have been included in two arid-land reserves established in the Far North of South Australia.

The Innamincka Regional Reserve covers 1.4 million hectares and the Simpson Desert Regional Reserve more than 2.9 million hectares. Combined with four nearby conservation and national parks, over seven million hectares is protected in the arid-land reserve system.

The Environment and Planning Minister, Dr Hopgood, said 11.28 per cent of the State was now reserved under the National Parks and Wildlife Act. The Innamincka Reserve contains the Cooper Creek frontage and the associated Coongie Lakes Wetland System. Tourists visiting the area require a \$40-a-vehicle camping permit to enter the reserves.

Under the Draft Innamincka Regional Reserve Management Plan, freedom that four-wheel-drive visitors to the area have traditionally enjoyed will be a thing of the past. As well as the initial \$40 access fee, traditional access will be curtailed with specific tracks designated for use. Others will be closed. Bush camping sites will also be designated with facilities to be developed, including a possible camp booking system and a 'high-use' camping ground to be established at Innamincka.

A designated road and access corridor system will be developed, with additional permits required to access areas other than designated public access routes. All designated routes will be subject to closure or modification as a result of 'management requirements' and seasonal conditions.

Access routes to be developed and retained for public use which will require a Desert Park Pass are :

1. Main route to the Coongie Lake System from Innamincka on the north side of Cooper Creek via Kudriemitchie to Coongie Lake
2. Vehicle access routes for day use to the east side of Coongie Lake and to Lake Marrooculcannie
3. Circle route (4WD) in the sand dune habitat south-south east of lake system (exit in vicinity of Kudriemitchie)
4. Circle route (4WD) in approximate area of the Mitchie turnoff from the main Coongie Road easterly to Cattapirie Well area, then westerly back to main lake road
5. The track from the airstrip to the area of Innamincka Number One Bore in the Merninie land system; and
6. Routes to areas in the Della and Strzelecki land systems.

Access routes to be closed or modified for public use include :

1. Upper section of the Coongie Lake Road approximately one kilometre south of the point where the North West Branch enters Coongie Lake, closed with parking sites and walking access provided to the area
2. All channel crossings on the North West Branch of Cooper Creek designated as controlled access routes and not open for public use
3. The west side of the North West Branch and Coongie Lakes system closed to general access
4. All petroleum or mineral wells, production facilities, seismic operations and pastoral station improvements closed to general access

5. Where practicable, re-route existing public access roads away from pastoral improvements (yards, bores, waterholes and buildings) and disallow public use of major improvement sites
6. All other areas: access available by special permit and guided tours.

It is proposed to issue a limited number of permits annually to allow access to the east side of the Coongie Lake system and this will include the area from Lake Marroocutchanie to the southern arm of Lake Goyder. The route will be defined by a marker system and camping will be restricted to designated sites. It is initially proposed to issue 25 permits, each of which is valid for parties of up to four vehicles and a maximum of 16 people. Permits will be made available on a draw basis to applicants holding a Desert Parks Pass and all users will be required to hold a pass at time of use.

Access to locations and routes on the Reserve other than designated public roads, public access routes, limited access sites and public use areas will be by special permit and through guided tours. Individuals or groups wishing to access restricted areas will be able to apply to the District Ranger who will direct the issue of these permits and the use of a NPWS guide on a fee basis. It is also proposed to operate guided tours to enable public visitation of these areas.

Camping will be provided in developed campgrounds and at designated bush camping areas adjacent to public access routes. Camping permits will be required for camping at developed campgrounds within the Reserve. These may provide facilities such as toilets, ablutions and prepared surfaces. They will be single numbered sites located apart from each other (discreet sites), or group sites with multiple numbered sites located adjacent to each other to provide for group camping.

Bush camping areas are designated camping areas where no facilities are provided except for rubbish pits and signs.

Public comment may be made on the Draft Management Plan for the Innamincka Regional Reserve until March 17th.

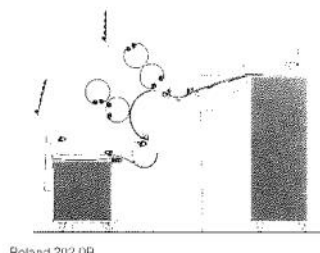
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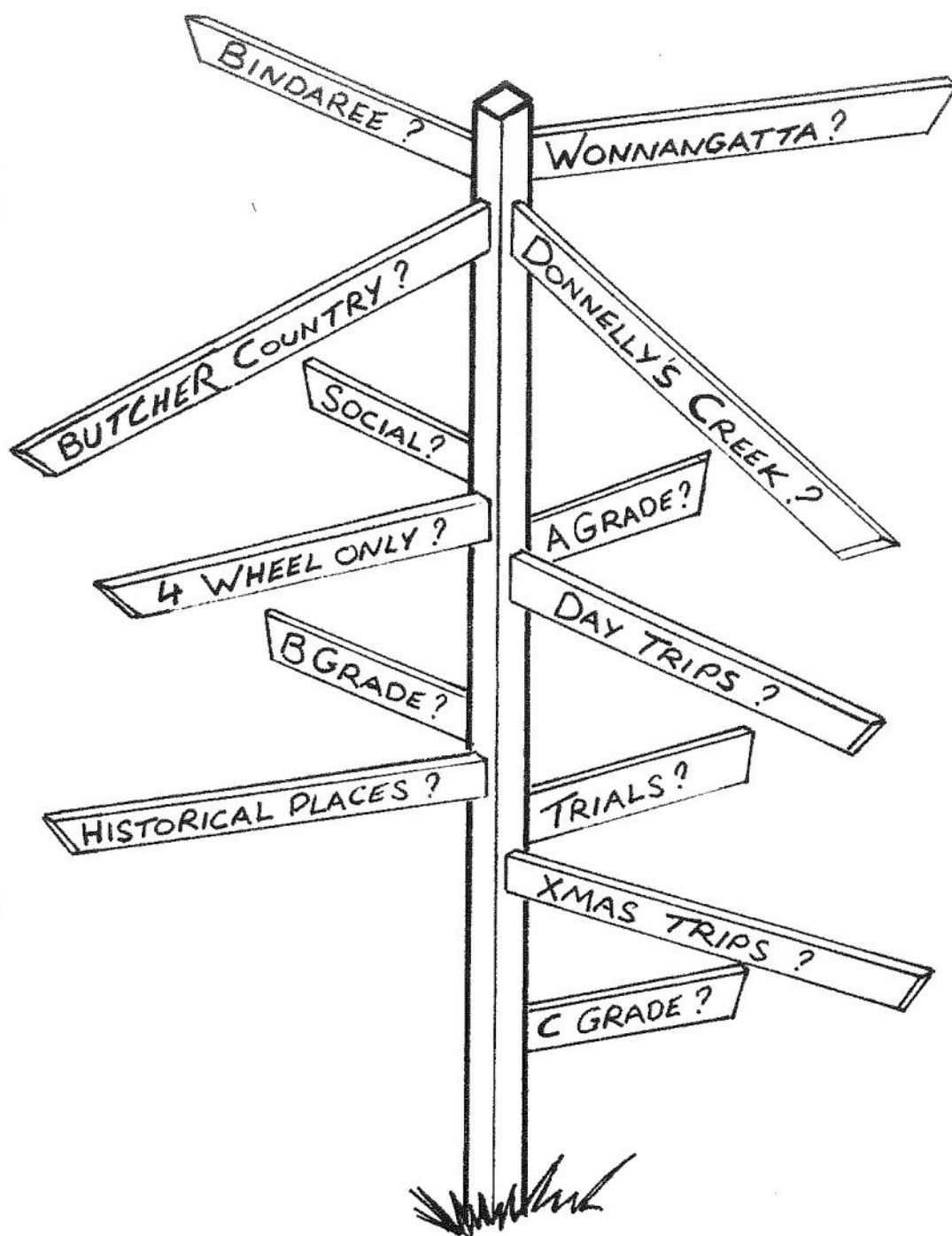
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Contact: ANDREW MERLO  
Bus: 698-0216 AH: 704-8091

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SEE STEVE FOR DETAILS





# WHERE?

TELL YOUR COMMITTEE



TRIP DATA

DESTINATION: GOLDEN POINT HUT

TRIP LEADER: STEVE ALDER

PHONE NUMBER: 798-2432

DEPARTURE DATE: JUNE 10th

DEPARTURE TIME: 6.00 a.m.

DEPARTURE POINT: HALLAM HOTEL

FUEL REQUIRED: FULL TANK EX. HEYFIELD

LAST FUEL AVAILABLE: HEYFIELD

MAPS REQUIRED: WELLINGTON & GLENMAGGIE

GRADE: (A) (B) C

DURATION: JUNE 10-11-12

BASE CAMP: YES

NATIONAL PARKS: YES NO

ROUTE VIA: HALLAM HEYFIELD VALENCIA CREEK

MT. ANGUS AVON TRACK GOLDEN POINT HUT BEN CRUACHAN.

ACTIVITIES: DRIVING, CAMPING, RELAXING, ETC.

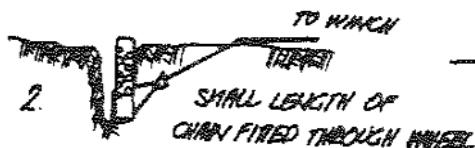
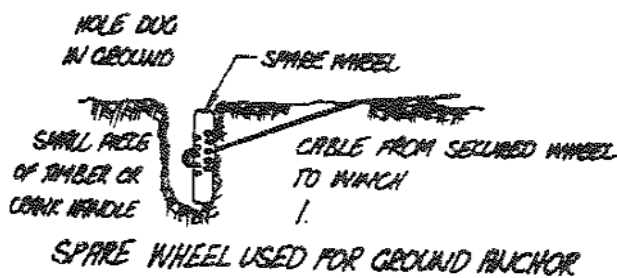
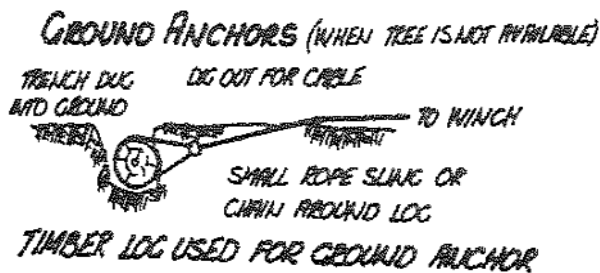
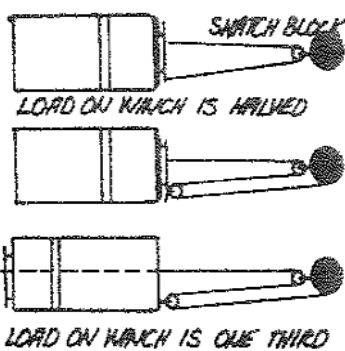
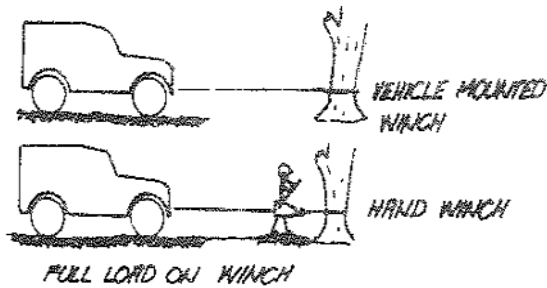
SPECIAL CONDITIONS: FULL RECOVERY GEAR

LIMIT 5 VEHICLES

CONFIDENTIAL		Date(s) of Trip .....
Club Name .....		
Club contact for more information about this Report.		
Name .....	Phone .....	

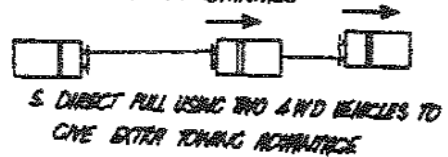
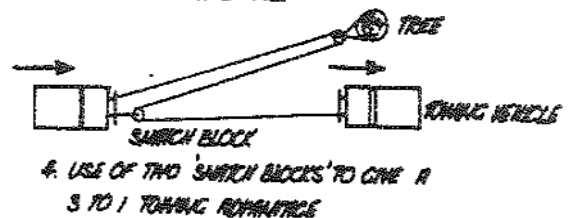
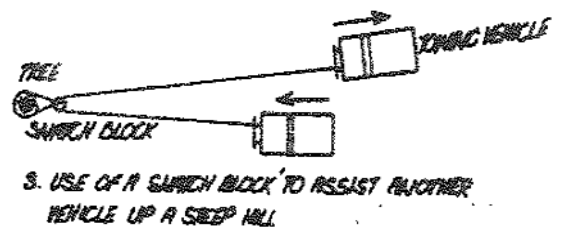
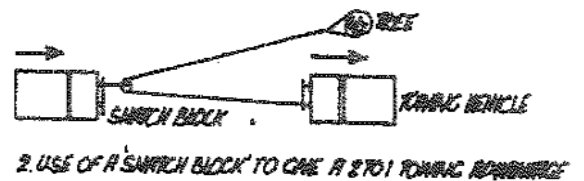
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# WINCHING TECHNIQUES



STAKES USED AS GROUND ANCHORS

## WITH TWO OR MORE VEHICLES





## ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

One of the first jobs that needs to be done after a 4WD trip is to clean and inspect your 4WD. It is usually a good idea to clean your vehicle straight away, as the mud etc. will be easier to wash off. Mud around the wheel arches and underneath the vehicle will cause corrosion (i.e. rust) if not removed thoroughly.

To clean well, use plenty of water with good pressure, your local garages pressure wash or for all you rich people buy a gerni home cleaning unit.

Now your 4WD is clean all over, it is easy to check that everything is OK.

## UNDER THE BONNETT

- Check engine oil and brake fluid levels. Top up if necessary. Any signs of leaks?
- Radiator. Check level and clean any bugs, etc. from core.
- Battery. Check level and add distilled water if necessary. Clean and retighten terminals if corroded.
- Air Cleaner. Remove and clean. Replace element if necessary.
- Look for any loose wiring, bolts, etc.
- Check oil filter and fuel filter are still connected properly. Tighten if loose.

## UNDER THE VEHICLE

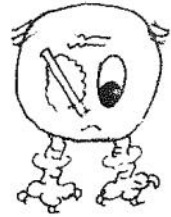
- Check engine, gear box, transfer case and diffs for any signs of oil leaks. Check oil levels as per vehicle manual and top up if required. Note:- If oil in these units are milky in colour, then water has contaminated the oil. You must drain and replace oil.
- Check brake hoses and lines to make sure there is no damage.
- Check condition of rubber brushes on spring hangers.
- While your under the vehicle, give it a quick grease.
- Look underneath for any sticks that may be jammed under the vehicle.

## GENERAL

- Are all lights working?
- Inspect tyres (including spares) for any cuts and cracks. Wheel nuts OK? Check pressure.
- Check accessories on vehicle e.g. CB aerial still mounted OK.
- Check any other item you wish that I have forgotten to list.
- Any recovery equipment used is cleaned and checked for damage.

If you discover any problem with your 4WD then fix it straight away, so your vehicle is prepared for its next adventure.

# M. CASEY'S CORNER



C A S E Y ' S    C O R N E R

## EYE INJURIES

Eye injury is an important and extensive topic. One very common and troublesome form of eye problem is when a foreign body (e.g. dirt or grit) becomes lodged in the eye. You may be able to remove the offending particle by using an eye wash or getting a friend to spot and try and remove it with a cotton bud or cotton wool. There is an instrument in the First Aid Kits (that were recently purchased at the Club) for removing foreign bodies.

Sometimes the foreign body is under the upper lid. If you instruct the patient to look down and then place a match (unlighted) parallel and approximately .5 cm above the edge of the eye lid, you can then roll back the lid over the match and thus expose the under side of the lid when the dirt should be accessible.

Medical attention should be sought for:-

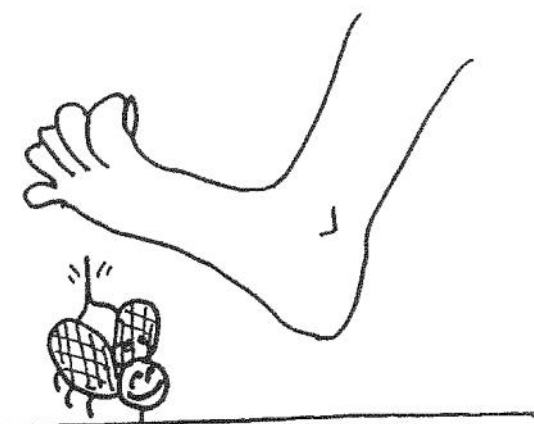
1. Penetrating eye injuries e.g. steel splinters.
2. Visual disturbances e.g. blurred vision.
3. Inability to remove any foreign body.
4. Pain persists after foreign body removed.
5. If you are concerned at all with your eye.

## Note

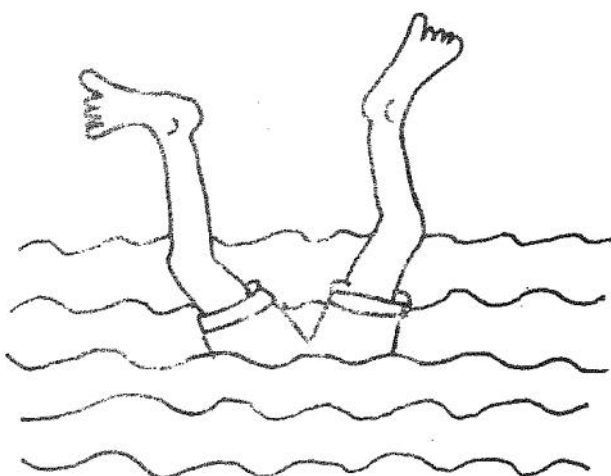
To pad eye for pain relief, it is necessary to pad both eyes- thus temporarily blinding the patient, which may be distressing. If one eye is left unpadded it will naturally look around and the other will follow it causing more discomfort.



NEAR THE FIRE



SAFETY FOOTWEAR



NEAR WATER .



AROUND CAMP.



# Trip Report

KIMBERLEYS      SEPTEMBER      1988

---

ROLL CALL:    Tom Brachna and family  
                 John & Margaret Smith  
                 Andy Moore and family  
                 Ken Beith and family  
                 Jim Lee and family

Sunday - left 1.20 a.m. Had a great run. Contacted the convoy in Adelaide on Club radio. They were leaving as we were arriving. Run between Adelaide and Port Augusta was fairly tough due to headwinds. We finally met up with the rest, had lunch and off again.

Camped same spot (exactly) as we had last year.

Monday - Had an early start (8 a.m.) heading for Coober Pedy (friendly folk ha ha). We all refuelled cars and ourselves and drove off into the sunset.

Soon found our camp for the night where we spent most of the night fixing Ken's flat (tyre). After the evening meal there was the usual session around the fire and a reasonably early night.

Morning greeted us all bright and early with beautiful warm sunshine and twitterring Budgies. Breakfast was soon over and we were left to face the dreaded packing. Two bright sparks (Josie & Liala) decided to be helpful and pack the tents, but alas someone foiled the effort. The old tent bag had disappeared nowhere to be found. There it was gone, rolled up neatly inside the tent.

Finally we were all ready and eager to set off. Not more than 200 yards down the track John decided to do some freewheeling, with only 2 wheels on the dirt, balanced over the shoulder of the track. At the same time Ken's flat tyre re-appeared. We snatched John off the mound and Andy lent a spare to Ken and we were once again on our way.

cont ...



We took the back road by Mount Connor and stopped at Curtain Springs for lunch, then on to 'the Rock'. Made camp at Yalara, then set off to the Rock for a bit of a climb. Those who preferred remained at the base watching the smaller children climb their own little mound, while the other braver and stronger folks raced to the top. Two of the little folk, Steven and Dustin made the trek all the way.

After the climb we all had well earned refreshments then on to Maggie Springs to look at the permanent water hole. The water was crystal clear, ice cold and yummy to drink.

We then drove round the base of the rock back to camp where we had a barbi tea, much needed shower and kip.

Had a fairly early start after a cold night. Off to the Olgas on that dusty, corrugated road. Ken and John were having trouble with the dual battery.

We finally arrived at the Olga gorge, equipped ourselves with our touristy bits and headed up the gorge. The budgies dominated the birdlife, however two young men in our party spotted a perfect hole to roost in, half way up the rock face. Bald Eagles I presume!

Returned to the vehicles, had lunch and headed off to Alice where we arrived by 6 p.m. Made our homes at the Caravan Park and began to fix Ken's Flat. (Yes, yes, Ken did leave the screwdriver inside when he fixed it last time!) Another evening of joke telling around the non existent camp fire, just a few drinks and then 'good night'.

Next day, 'fo par' Margaret went to the showers WITH NO TOWEL. Drip!

After packing the vehicles once more we proceeded to fill up at the depot (60¢ per ltr) and replaced Ken's battery and restocked our pantries.

Back on the road again, but not for long. Yep. Ken had another flat tyre, so while he fixed it, we fixed the growl in our stomachs.

Off again and onto the Tanamai Track. 200 Kms later made camp with our friendly bindi eyes.

A reasonable start at 8 a.m. Guess what. Yes another blow out at 8.20 a.m. All fixed and on again to Rabbit Flat where fuel was up to 92¢ per litre so we gave it a miss. Instead we all had lunch and a freshen up in the shower then headed for Wolf Crater. About 60 kms out of Wolf Creek, Jim noticed something hanging down under Tom's vehicle. He had done a shocker.

cont....

The Tanamai had taken it's toll on vehicles and people that day.

It was a general overhaul for all that night at Wolf Creek. Even had showers.

Ken found his spare tyre was not repairable so borrowed John's.

An early start the next morning, some fuelled up then on to the Crater.

Arrived at the car park where we rudely interrupted someone's morning sleep in. Donned the camera gear and walked to the edge of the crater. Magnificent sight.

We headed for Billiluna Community where Andy tried without success to find a friend working on the station. Hall's Creek was the next stop where we shopped for spare parts. Ken wasn't impressed with their Rip Off attitudes - new tyre \$276 - but managed to find a second hand one for \$100. Tom had no luck with his shocker as it had to be flown in from Perth or Darwin and would have taken a day or two. We weren't interested in staying.

After a quick lunch we left Hall's Creek for the Bungle Bungles. The road meandered for many miles through beautiful terrain, bull dust patches, and little oasis. We came to the 'T' intersection near the base of the Bungles and turned right towards Belburne Camp, where half of Victoria had arrived before us.

Teas were organised, the trusty blag shower bag was hung and chores completed. Had the usual round chair discussions that night graced with the presence of the Ranger who had come to collect his \$20 per vehicle.

Next morning we were up early and had a leisurely morning around camp. Morning lunch at around 10.30 and then on for a look at the Bungles about 1 hour's drive from camp, and an hour or so up the Cathedral Gorge. (The battery was still playing up and Ken had no radio, John had a flat battery and Tom's indicator was still not working)

We walked up the gorge in at least 40° heat but the views were breathtaking. The sheer cliffs provided some welcome shade and we were rewarded with a small pool at the end of the gorge. Here we propped for several hours enjoying the beauty and peacefulness of this wonder.

cont....

The children enjoyed a swim and so did Ken when Steven decided to test the depth in the middle.

Spent some film in our cameras and headed back to our vehicles and camp at about 4.30 p.m. where some arranged dinner and others attempted repairs to vehicles. We enjoyed the usual problem solving around the circle that night after which Tom decided to become primitive and slept in his little white tree house.

Headed out of Bungles. No, not Ken this time - Tom had the flat this time. A quick tyre change then Jim took the lead so as to position himself with the video for some action shots through the bulldust. He got more than he bargained for cause he was right in the way of the breeze!

Made our way to the bitumen then on to Kununurra where we propped at the Caravan Park (with no shade) Some partook of the pool where they stayed till sunset, others did their stocktaking and chores, while still others buried their heads in and under their cars.

Next morning we drove to Ivanhoe Crossing and of course the boys (Big) played back and forth across the causeway. The water was crystal clear and the Pelicans and other water fowl hovered in their feeding ground. The river was inviting, but the crocs weren't! So we didn't! Some were seen pruning long, tall, decorative weeds.

Fresh food had been scarce in the past week, so we all stopped at the market garden stalls on the way back to Kununurra where we restocked with fruit and vegie delights.

We then headed to Zebra Rock Gallery and Wildlife Park, where the birds welcomed us with open wings, the Crow said "hello" and Ken shared his ice-cream with his favourite galahs "Peter and Rambo" (when we left we checked Ken's car to make sure he hadn't hi-jacked them). Margaret found a small joey and became quite fond of him. We wandered around the park for a few hours, had lunch under the Mango trees and fed the Cat Fish in the lake. Some of us collected specimens of Zebra Rock as souvenirs.

Returned to the Park and some to town to do some shopping. Had a leisurely tea then converged to the pool till dusk. All had a wonderful night's sleep.

to be continued....



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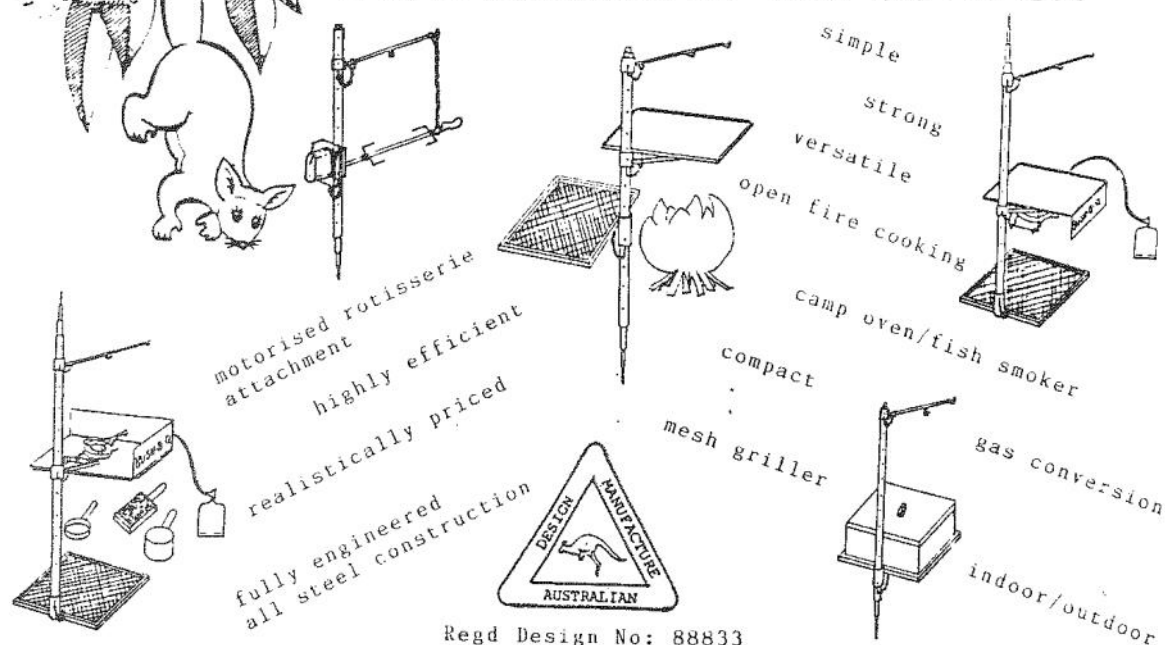




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