



# FREE WHEELING

October 2020



Official Newsletter of the  
Victorian Four Wheel  
Drive Club Inc

Registration No  
A0002184F

Brett Buchanan going for a  
drive. Facebook VFWDC

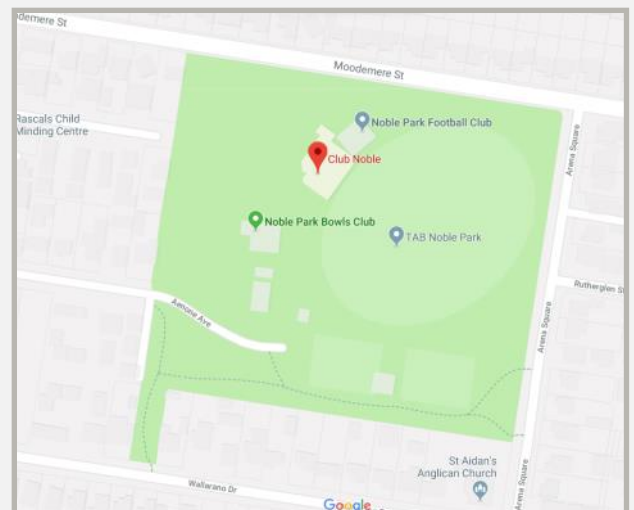


### VFWDC General Meeting Venue

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 7th October 2020 at 8.00pm due to the current restrictions in place.**

**Log in via the app Zoom or dial in using your phone. Please check your emails for further information to log into the meeting.**

### 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

## 2020-2021

President	Sally Higgs	<a href="mailto:president@vfwdc.com">president@vfwdc.com</a>
Vice President	Callum Brown	<a href="mailto:vicepres@vfwdc.com">vicepres@vfwdc.com</a>
Secretary	TBA	<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

We are now well on our way into Spring and the time when we would be coming out of our winter hibernation and starting to plan the long weekend trips away. 2020 has us instead hanging onto the Premier's updates to see if our lockdown will be eased. It is great to see the number of COVID-19 cases reducing so hopefully we can get out four wheel driving soon.

I am grateful to the number of members that are renewing their memberships with us and encourage you to take the final opportunity to get the discounted membership for the year. The committee has been doing a lot of thinking about how we can add value to our members over this time when we cannot meet. We are in the process of organising some presenters for our club meetings. If you have someone that you would like to hear from or topics you want to discuss please let us know.

We are seeing a great uptake of members joining our new trips platform on 4WD Trip.com. If you have yet to join please send Des a message at [trips@vfwdc.com](mailto:trips@vfwdc.com) and he will help you get onboard.

It has been a crazy year but we have a lot of trips that are being planned and it looks like things are easing so start planning, get the fourby all ready to go and before we know it we will be back out on the tracks. We will be keeping an eye on what we can do and the club will no doubt be required to have a COVID safe plan in place. We will keep you up to date with what requirements we will need to comply with to get us out on the tracks as soon as we can.

I want to thank Mary and Jeff for pulling the magazine together each month. It has been challenging each month with no trips but they are doing a great job.

Take care everyone and will see you all soon out on the tracks!

Sally

CLUB MERCHANDISE



Spring has sprung!  
T-Shirts, Vests, Light jackets—plenty of stock available. Order now ready for your next trip.

PRICES

Club SS Polo Shirt	\$30.00	Club Wide-Brim Hat	\$5.00
Club SS Shirt 40th Anniversary	\$10.00	Club Sandwich Peak Hat	\$5.00
Club Polar Fleece Jacket (Full Zip)	\$30.00	Club Woollen Pom Pom Beanie	\$20.00
Club Fleece Hoodie	\$30.00	Club Cable Knit Scarf	\$20.00
Club SS Reversible Vest—double embroidery	\$50.00	Club Neoprene Stubby Holder	10.00
Club Drivers Jacket	\$60.00	Club Coth Badges 120mm	\$8.00
Club Trekka Jacket	\$85.00	VFWDC Windscreen Sticker Sml	\$6.00
Club Bucket Hat	\$5.00	VFWDC Windscreen Sticker Lge	\$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

## October

7th	Wed	General Meeting	Online	Log in	Via Zoom or Phone 8.00pm
17th-18th	Sat-Sun	Aberfeldy Working Bee	David Bruinsma		0417 747 860
21st	Mon	Committee Meeting			
30th - 3rd Nov	Fri-Tues	Melbourne Cup Weekend Beachport SA—Tony Barbera	CANCELLED		CANCELLED
30th - 3rd Nov	Fri -Tues	Melbourne Cup Weekend Dartmouth Dam	Jeff Griffiths		0425 705 224

## November

30 Oct- 3rd Nov	Fri-Tues	Melbourne Cup Weekend Beachport SA	Sally Higgs		0435 782 207
4th	Wed	Special Meeting Off Site — Meeting now held on zoom—due to Government restrictions	Online		Via Zoom or Phone 8.00pm
13th—15th	Fri—Sun	Night Drive—Howqua Track	Des Whall		0412 170 139
16th	Mon	Committee Meeting			

## December

2nd	Wed	General Meeting			Via Zoom or Phone 8.00pm
5th-16th	Sat-Wed	Davies Plains	Des Whall		0412 170 139

## January 2021

7th	Wed	No General Meeting			
18th	Mon	Committee Meeting			
23rd—26th		Australia Day Weekend Nunniong Plains	Des Whall		0412 170 139

## February

12th—14th	Fri-Sun	Mitchell and Avon Rivers	Des Whall		0412 170 139
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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 7th October 2020 at 8.00pm. Log in via the app Zoom or dial in using your phone.**

# CLUB MEMBERSHIPS

Members previous FY - 57

Renewals 20/21 - 35

Registered for 4WDTRIP - 28

## To All Members

### **Has your club membership lapsed?**

Don't worry you can find a Membership Application and Renewal Form on the next page of this month's edition of the magazine.

All you need to do is arrange payment and present it to the Treasurer at any general meeting or send your completed Membership and Renewal Application Form to the [treasurer@vfwdc.com](mailto:treasurer@vfwdc.com) as per the instructions attached.

## Temporary Members / Visitors

For visitors who wish to attend a club trip, a Temporary Membership Form must be completed. You will need to arrange payment and complete the Temporary Membership Form and present this to the Treasurer at any general meeting or send the form to [Visitor@vfwdc.com](mailto:Visitor@vfwdc.com) as per the instructions attached.

*\*Note: Due to the current restrictions in place, all general meetings are held online via the App Zoom until further notice. All forms will need to be submitted via email or sent by post.*



# Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc.

ARBN A002184F

PO Box 778 Dandenong, Vic 3175

vfwdc.com

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND RENEWAL FORM

**NOTE:** This form can be completed electronically and this is our preference.

**TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP**

(Please select as appropriate)

☐ New Application - \$30 (one-off) ☐ Renewal of Membership

**MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY** ☐ Single - \$80 ☐ Dual/Family - \$90 ☐ Silver (25+ Yrs) - \$50

**MEMBER DETAILS**

FIRST NAME	Member:	Spouse:
SURNAME	Member:	Spouse:
EMAIL		
ADDRESS		
CHILDREN	Name	Age
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
PHONE	Mobile:	Home:
		Work:

**VEHICLE DETAILS**

Make:	Model:	Year:
Reg'n No.:	Colour:	Fuel Type:

**COMPETENCIES**

CURRENT FIRST AID CERTIFICATE	CHAINSAW ACCREDITED	COMPLETED DRIVER TRAINING
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

**NEWSLETTER**

The Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Newsletter *Free Wheeling* will be available from the club website.

**I/WE** hereby apply to the Committee of Management for new/renewed membership of the Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc. and consent to and agree to follow the Rules, policies (including the Privacy Policy) and conditions of membership as set out by the Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc.

**I/WE** acknowledge that fees are as set by the Committee from time to time and are due and payable by 30 June annually.

Signed ..... Signed .....

Dated: .....

**PAYMENT DETAILS**

Joining Fee (new applicants only)  
Membership Fee (as per above)  
**Total**

\$ 0  
\$ 0  
\$ 0

DATE PAID ..... / ..... / .....

RECEIPT No. ....

PAID BY: Cash / Cheque / EFT

If paying by EFT, what account name / reference .....





## **Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc.**

ARBN A002184F

PO Box 778 Dandenong, Vic 3175

[vfwdc.com](http://vfwdc.com)

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Payment can be made via Bank Transfer. The details are as follows;

**Account Name:** Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc.  
**BSB:** 633108  
**Account No.:** 111761979

Please ensure your transfer includes your name as provided on the membership application and renewal form in the reference.

Once you have made your payment/transfer please send your completed membership application and renewal form to the following email address or you can present it to the Treasurer at any general meeting.

Email your completed form to: [treasurer@vfwdc.com](mailto:treasurer@vfwdc.com)

Thank you for choosing the Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc.



# Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc.

ARBN A002184F

PO Box 778 Dandenong, Vic 3175

[vfwdc.com](http://vfwdc.com)

## TEMPORARY MEMBERSHIP FORM \$13

<b>TRIP DETAILS</b>	
TRIP/DESTINATION	
DATE	
LEADER	

<b>TEMPORARY MEMBER DETAILS</b>			
FIRST NAME		SURNAME	
EMAIL			
ADDRESS			
PASSENGERS	NAME	AGE	
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
PHONE	MOBILE:	HOME:	WORK:

<b>VEHICLE DETAILS</b>		
MAKE:	MODEL:	YEAR:
REG'N No.:	COLOUR:	FUEL TYPE:

- Complete and sign separate Personal Information Form and hand it to the trip leader.
- As a temporary member/visitor you are representing the Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc. and are expected to abide by our Rules and By-laws. If you are not familiar with our Rules or By-laws please ask the Trip Leader to explain them or give you a copy to read.
- If you are not confident or do not wish to attempt any part of an event, it is your responsibility to inform the Trip Leader.
- In the event of vehicle recovery, it is the vehicle owner's responsibility to approve recovery attachment points, and where safe, to perform the attachment.
- Safe driving practices must be adhered to at all times.
- Please check your vehicle insurance to ensure it has the appropriate level of cover.
- Whilst on a Club trip you are covered by the club's public liability insurance.
- Visitors may attend no more than 3 trips/events as a Temporary Member/Visitor prior to joining the Club.

### Acknowledgement

I agree to abide by the Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc. Rules & Bylaws and the directions of the Trip Leader.

SIGNED: .....

DATE: .....

### PAYMENT DETAILS

Temporary Membership Fee \$13



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**Account Name:** Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc.

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**Account No.:** 111761979

Please ensure your transfer includes your name as provided on the temporary membership form in the reference.

Once you have made your payment/transfer please send your completed temporary membership form to the following email address or you can present it to the Treasurer at any general meeting.

Email your completed form to: [visitor@vfwdc.com](mailto:visitor@vfwdc.com)

Thank you for choosing the Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc.



## TRADING POST

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)

## WHAT HAVE YOU GOT TO SELL?

# MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING

2nd September 2020

Online Virtual Meeting via Zoom Meeting Opened 20.06

## Attendees:

Sally, Ann Crockett, Allan Leighton, Ben Whitworth, Daryl Lynch, David Bruinsma, Callum Brown, Graham & Maree Dickson, Max Mena, Steve Pitcher, Jeff & Mary Griffiths, Joe Yammouni, Brett & Niki Buchannan, Caroline Jones, Andrew White, Stuart & Maree Bowker, Ly Ho, Stephen Dickson, Banny & Arlene Serrano, Des Whall

## Apologies

Andre Van Der Walt, Shane Bullmore, Jenni Grant

## Minutes from previous Month

No matters arising from previous minutes

Accepted by David Bruinsma

Seconded by Joe Yammouni

## Correspondence

### Incoming:

- Jackeroo Club magazine

### Outgoing:

- Des sent out trip cancellation email

## Treasurer's Report

- As per magazine
- Membership renewals 29
- New Members

Accepted by

Seconded by

## Association Delegate News/ Updates

- No news

## COVID-19

- Stage 4 Lockdown until 13/09, Road map to easing restrictions will be deliver on Sunday

## Trips

- Trip Platform—4WDTRIP up and running
- Presentation and demonstration
- No club trips run last month due to COVID-19 restrictions

## Upcoming trips:

- Grand Final Long weekend—Mitchell & Avon Rivers (Des) 25-27/09/2020
- Aberfeldy Working Bee (David) 17-18/10/2020
- Melbourne Cup Weekend—Beachport (Tony) 30/10/2020—03/11/2020
- Melbourne Cup Weekend—Dartmouth Dam (Jeff) 30/10/2020—03/11/2020)
- Davies Plains area (Des) 5-16/12/2020

## General Business

- No items raised

Meeting closed 21:12 Hours

Next meeting 7/10/2020

# TREASURER'S REPORT

Bringing Four Wheel Drivers Together



Victorian Four Wheel Drive Club Inc  
www.vfwdc.com



## Treasurer's Report August 2020

<u>Cheque A/C</u>	Opening Balance as at 01/08/2020	\$5,552.72
	Add: Membership Renewals	\$520.00
	Total Monies In:	\$520.00
	Closing Balance as at 31/08/2020	\$6,072.72
<u>Term Deposit</u>	Opening Balance as at 01/08/2020	\$6,796.40
	Closing Balance as at 31/08/2020	\$6,796.40
<u>Petty Cash</u>	Opening Balance as at 01/08/2020	\$49.85
	Closing Balance as at 31/08/2020	\$49.85
	<b>Consolidated Closing Cash Position</b>	<b><u>\$12,918.97</u></b>



## UPCOMING TRIPS

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

**Aberfeldy Working Bee**

NAME: David Bruinsma

MOBILE: 0417 717 860

**DATE**

Saturday October 17 to Sunday October 18

**MEETING PLACE / TIME**

Yarragon Country Bakery - 7:30am (8am departure)  
121 Princes Hwy, Yarragon VIC 3823

**GRADE**

WET: Medium

DRY: Easy

**TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS**

The idea is to head up past Aberfeldy to start cleaning and clearing some of the winter undergrowth from the base of the signs together with any fallen trees over the walking tracks our club is looking after.

We generally try to break into 2 groups of at least 3 vehicles each so we can cover our entire area in a single morning, so I'm putting down a minimum of 6 vehicles.

Then to camp at Little O'Tools for the night and do some four wheel driving Sunday before heading home Sunday afternoon.

Bring packed lunch and munchies for roadside stops both days.

**VEHICLE LIMITS**

MINIMUM: 6

MAXIMUM: TBA

People limits might apply (currently 10 due to COVID-19)

**APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE  
TO DESTINATION**

Approx. 300 to 400 Kms round trip

**LAST AVAILABLE FUEL**

PETROL: Moe

DIESEL: Moe

**DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES**

72 Kms

**EQUIPMENT REQUIRED**

Own basic recovery gear, tools and any spares you may require. Self-sufficient camping and food for the weekend. If you have one please bring a chainsaw, chain oil and fuel.

Note: Personal Protective Equipment is mandatory for chain saw operators eg; earmuffs, safety visor, Chaps, work gloves and sturdy boots.

**MAPS REQUIRED**

Rooftop maps Walhalla-Licola

**RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF**

UHF 12, or call me on mobile

**GOOGLE MAPS**

[See here](#)

<b>DESTINATION</b>	<b>Explore Lake Dartmouth</b>
<b>LEADER/CONTACT NO.</b>	NAME: Jeff Griffiths MOBILE: 0425 705 224
<b>DATE</b>	Friday October 30 to Tuesday November 3, 2020 Melbourne Cup Weekend
<b>MEETING PLACE / TIME</b>	Friday Morning 30th BP McDonalds on the Pakenham Bypass (on the freeway) Meet at 8.30 am for 9.00 am departure
<b>GRADE</b>	WET: Medium DRY: Medium
<b>TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS</b>	<p><b>Friday</b> we will be heading up to Ah Syes Campground.</p> <p><b>Saturday</b> we head up to Glen Dart (Old Town Site ) and check out some tracks and head down to Dart Arm Camp Area to camp the night.</p> <p><b>Sunday</b> We are off exploring more tracks around the area checking out around the lake going to try find a camp site on the lake.</p> <p><b>Monday</b> We will be checking out a few huts doing a few more tracks. Planning on Camping at Taylors Crossing if not too busy.</p> <p><b>Tuesday</b> Lazy morning late breakfast then head back to Melbourne.</p> <p><b>Note</b> Trip will have a lot of back tracking as we will be checking out the lake they are dead end tracks.</p> <p>Please note as this is the first weekend the tracks will be open please bring a chainsaw if you have one.</p>
<b>VEHICLE LIMITS</b>	<p>MINIMUM: 3</p> <p>MAXIMUM: 8</p> <p>Numbers will depend on COVID 19 regulations at time of trip</p>
<b>APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION</b>	Approx. Officer return—about 1100kms total.
<b>LAST AVAILABLE FUEL</b>	PETROL: Omeo DIESEL: Omeo
<b>DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES</b>	100 kms
<b>EQUIPMENT REQUIRED</b>	Full recovery gear, AT or MT tyres. High Clearance Must have a snorkel fitted ( River Crossings) UHF radio in vehicle or hand held , tools and any spares you may require. All your own camping gear and food for 5 days as well as nibbles for happy hour. Sorry no camper trailers—must love u turns.
<b>MAPS REQUIRED</b>	Leader will have maps and GPS
<b>RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF</b>	12
<b>GOOGLE MAPS</b>	

<b>DESTINATION</b>	<b>Beachport South Australia</b>
<b>LEADER/CONTACT NO.</b>	<b>NAME:</b> Sally Higgs <b>MOBILE:</b> 0435 782 207
<b>DATE</b>	Friday October 30 to Tuesday November 3, 2020 Melbourne Cup Weekend
<b>MEETING PLACE / TIME</b>	The finer details need to be confirmed closer to the date depending on if the border opens and COVID-19 restrictions ease.
<b>GRADE</b>	<b>WET:</b> Easy <b>DRY:</b> Medium to Hard—expect beach recoveries
<b>TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS</b>	Head to Beachport either Friday afternoon and stopping overnight along the way or an early start on Saturday morning. Head to Southern Ocean Tourist Park in Beachport. Might head through Mt Gambier and check out the Blue Lake. Cruisy evening and afternoon at camp checking out Beachport. Happy to meet you at Beachport if you can't travel with us . Sunday: Head South to Carpenters Rocks Beach/ inland dune tracks and then back to camp. Monday: Head North to Robe via the beach/ inland dune tracks and then back to camp Tuesday: Head home to Melbourne. Expect lots of beach recoveries and sand driving.
<b>VEHICLE LIMITS</b>	<b>MINIMUM:</b> <b>MAXIMUM:</b> TBA
<b>APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION</b>	Approx. 550kms from Eastlink to Beachport
<b>LAST AVAILABLE FUEL</b>	<b>PETROL:</b> Everywhere <b>DIESEL:</b> Everywhere
<b>DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES</b>	Every town on the way and Beachport
<b>EQUIPMENT REQUIRED</b>	Full rated recovery points front and rear are an absolute must for beach recovery.  Full Recovery gear (Snatch, 2x Shackles, winch blanket.) Every vehicle must be self-sufficient with its own recovery gear and you shouldn't rely on the other members to provide equipment.  Other basic equipment that is advisable to carry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- First Aid Kit (and knowledge of how to use it)</li> <li>• Tyre deflator, inflator and tyre pressure gauge</li> <li>• UHF Radio - Recommended 5W output</li> <li>• Basic Tool Kit and spare fuses</li> <li>• Suitable Jack &amp; Jacking base plate</li> <li>• Fire extinguisher</li> <li>• Torch</li> <li>• Shovel</li> <li>- Max Tracks</li> </ul>
<b>MAPS REQUIRED</b>	Nil—pick up from Visitors Center at Beachport
<b>RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF</b>	In car UHF is recommended Channel 12
<b>GOOGLE MAPS</b>	<a href="#">See map</a>



<b>DESTINATION</b>	<b>Howqua Track Night Drive</b>
<b>LEADER/CONTACT NO.</b>	NAME: Des Whall MOBILE: 0412 170 139
<b>DATE</b>	Friday November 13 to Sunday October 15, 2020
<b>MEETING PLACE / TIME</b>	5.00—5.30 pm
<b>GRADE</b>	WET: Medium / Hard  DRY: Medium
<b>TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS</b>	Plans are to meet up Friday night at McDonalds Lilydale at 5.00—5.30 departure. Drive up to Mansfield, then down to Howqua Track where we can explore a couple tracks before heading to around Tobacco Flat or Mitchell Flats to camp for the night. Saturday a late start will see us explore a couple more tracks toward Jamieson and home for those who wish to. Those who wish to camp out another night can continue to explore the area before camping somewhere around Silverwater Hut. Sunday will see a couple of tracks heading toward Knockwood and home.
<b>VEHICLE LIMITS</b>	MINIMUM: 2 MAXIMUM: 6
<b>APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION</b>	Approx.
<b>LAST AVAILABLE FUEL</b>	PETROL: Mansfield—in and out DIESEL: Mansfield- in and out
<b>DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES</b>	
<b>EQUIPMENT REQUIRED</b>	No Trailers Minimum AT tyres Rated Recovery points First Aid Kit and Fire Extinguisher Camping and food supplies  Electric Winch Recovery Gear
<b>MAPS REQUIRED</b>	
<b>RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF</b>	UHF Channel 12
<b>GOOGLE MAPS</b>	

<b>DESTINATION</b>	<b>Davies Plains</b>
<b>LEADER/CONTACT NO.</b>	NAME: Des Whall MOBILE: 0412 170 139
<b>DATE</b>	Sunday December 6, 2020 Friday December 18, 2020
<b>MEETING PLACE / TIME</b>	Officer outbound 8.00 am for 8.30 Departure
<b>GRADE</b>	WET: Medium – Double Diamond DRY: Medium – Double Diamond
<b>TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS</b>	Sunday - head to Dr Searls Gibbo Hut to camp for the night. Monday - rest day Tuesday - Mt Gibbo, Mt Pinnibar, camp near Tom Groggin Wednesday - Davies Plain, camp at Davies Plain Hut Thursday - Explore Davies Plain and surrounds, camp at Kings Plain camp Friday - Mount Murphy Historic Area, camp at Buckwong Huts Saturday - Explore and camp at The Poplars Sunday - Limestone Track, Cobberas Track, McFarlane Flat Track, camp at Ingeegoodbee River camp Monday - Rest day Tuesday - Ingeegoodbee Track, Snowy River Rd camp at Native Dog Flat Camp Wednesday - Native Cat Track, Nunniong Rd exploring Nunniong Plains, Murphy's Hut, Green Hills Hut, camp at Bentleigh Plains Reserve Hut. Thursday - rest day Friday - explore whilst heading out and home
<b>VEHICLE LIMITS</b>	MINIMUM: Me MAXIMUM: 6 Vehicles
<b>APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION</b>	1000 Kms return trip
<b>LAST AVAILABLE FUEL</b>	PETROL: Omeo/Benambra DIESEL: Omeo/Benambra
<b>DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES</b>	60 Kms
<b>EQUIPMENT REQUIRED</b>	The right attitude and port Rated recovery points - full recovery gear Winch, lift, AT or mud tyres Vehicle specific tools/spares/fuses Self-sufficient camping/food/supplies for 14 days Chainsaw optional (will have mine) PPE gear is mandatory if bringing and intend using chainsaw. Fuel/oil if bringing chainsaw
<b>MAPS REQUIRED</b>	Corryong-Omeo-Thredbo Adventure Map
<b>RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF</b>	Channel 12
<b>GOOGLE MAPS</b>	

<b>DESTINATION</b>	<b>Nunniong Plains</b>
<b>LEADER/CONTACT NO.</b>	NAME: Des Whall MOBILE: 0412 170 139
<b>DATE</b>	Weekend of Australia Day Friday January 22, to Tuesday January 26, 2021
<b>MEETING PLACE / TIME</b>	BP Officer outbound, Princes Freeway 5.00 pm am Departure—Friday 22 January 2021
<b>GRADE</b>	WET: Medium — Hard DRY: Medium—Hard
<b>TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS</b>	Plan is to head up to either Swifts Creek or Bentleigh Plains depending on time and camp for the night. Saturday heading north through and exploring Nunniong Plains and surrounds camping at Murphys Hut for the night. Sunday exploring further north to Nunniong Plains Reservice and camping on the plains. Monday is a lazy start and easy drive home.  Sorry no campers due to some track ratings.
<b>VEHICLE LIMITS</b>	MINIMUM: MAXIMUM: 4 Vehicles
<b>APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION</b>	
<b>LAST AVAILABLE FUEL</b>	PETROL: DIESEL:
<b>DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES</b>	
<b>EQUIPMENT REQUIRED</b>	AT Tyres a minimum Rated recovery points and own recovery gear First Aid Kit and Fire extinguisher Self sufficient camp and food supplies  Electric Winch Recovery Gear
<b>MAPS REQUIRED</b>	
<b>RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF</b>	Channel 12
<b>GOOGLE MAPS</b>	



<b>DESTINATION</b>	<b>Mitchell and Avon Rivers</b>
<b>LEADER/CONTACT NO.</b>	NAME: Des Whall MOBILE: 0412 170 139
<b>DATE</b>	Friday February 12 to Sunday February 14, 2021
<b>MEETING PLACE / TIME</b>	BP Officer outbound Departure 5.30pm
<b>GRADE</b>	WET: Hard DRY: Medium to Hard
<b>TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS</b>	Friday evening drive to Johnston's Flat Camping Area on the banks of Freestone Creek. Saturday explore north and west along Avon River and camp for the evening. Sunday is a lazy start meandering along Avon River Track to Coongulla—Heyfield and home. Fuel availability—Outbound—Stratford, homeward bound — Heyfield some tracks are double black diamond so no campers/trailers please.
<b>VEHICLE LIMITS</b>	MINIMUM: Minimum (me) MAXIMUM: 6 Vehicles
<b>APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION</b>	Approx. 400 kilometers round trip
<b>LAST AVAILABLE FUEL</b>	PETROL: Outbound—Stratford—Homeward bound Heyfield DIESEL: Outbound—Stratford—Homeward bound Heyfield
<b>DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES</b>	400 Kilometers round trip
<b>EQUIPMENT REQUIRED</b>	First Aid Kit Fire Extinguisher Rated recovery points and own recovery gear AT Tyres minimum Vehicle specific spares Self-sufficient food and supplies  Recovery Gear Electric Winch
<b>MAPS REQUIRED</b>	Rooftops - Bairnsdale to Licola
<b>RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF</b>	UHF Radio Channel 12
<b>GOOGLE MAPS</b>	

# TONY'S TIPS FOR PLANNING A TRIP



By Tony Barbera

Hi All

In these trying times I hope lock down isn't too stressful.

I have been asked to write a short piece on how to plan a trip not sure I'm the best person for the job but here goes anyway figure out a destination and then ask Stuart and Maree Job Done any way jokes aside the first part of planning a trip is your vehicle and the bigger the trip the more important it is to make sure your 4wd is in top condition to get you there and back in one piece here are my rules.

1. I have RACV total care for that off chance that you break down in my view it's the cheapest breakdown insurance on the market about [\\$250.00](#) per year.
2. I have a well-stocked first aid kit and I have a current first aid certificate no use having a first aid kit and no idea how to use it.
3. I have a PLB (Personal Location Beacon) that is for emergencies only its small about the size of a packet of cigarettes and can be hooked on your belt for hiking not that I do any of that and again it is the cheapest emergency insurance my one cost about \$350.00 and has a battery life of 7 years that equates to \$50.00 per year.
4. Before embarking on a big trip I get my mechanic to do an inspection on my 4wd and I let him know the trip I am doing, again the bigger the trip the more in depth the inspection will be.

So now that your 4wd is in top condition and all your safety products are taken care of its time for the trip I have a few rules that I use that help make my trip enjoyable and they are as follows:

1. When planning a longer trip work out how many hrs driving you are prepared to do each day. I find that 5 to 6 hrs driving in any day is more than enough for me so on my trips I plan to leave camp no later than 9am and try to get to the next camp at 3 to 4pm this allows me time to pack up and setup camp each day.
2. I always make time for a decent lunch break to break about 1 hr this gives me time to rest and freshen up for the rest of the day's drive.
3. Fuel is also a consideration when planning more remote trips, I like to have a range of at least 1000km.
4. Water is the next item and again the more remote you go the more water you will need. I have 50 litres of water in water cans and this give me 5 days 5 litres per day per person.

5. Food I have found the best way to plan food for a trip is to use simple foods like can vegies and vacuum pack fresh food as it lasts longer without the need to freeze it and then there are the pubs and bakeries I generally end up with leftover food from big trips because I end up at pubs and bakeries for meals that I could cook up but a nice pub meal with a cold beer and no dishes just does it for me.

Now that you have some guide line its easy to plan a trip the first thing to do is pick a destination lets say Flinders Ranges as an example the first thing I do next is, How long do I need to tour the area, I treat big trips as a once in a lifetime experience so I try to take my time and enjoy trips rather than rush it so for the Finders Ranges with much research I worked out I needed 3 weeks, oh and by the way don't be afraid to ask the more experienced club members about the trip you are planning as they are a wealth of information, I then broke it down into sections southern middle and north sections you also need to allow for travel time to and from the destination as the Flinders Ranges are 1200km from Melbourne it's a day and a half to get there and home but the reality is you lose 2 days so I now have 21 days so here is how I did it. 2 day to get there 5 days at the southern end 4 days in the middle and 5 days at the top and then we decided to travel home via Broken hill 2days.

Once I had a break down of how long in each area I then researched what to do in each area. Ask club members, tourist information centres, maps are a wealth of information also do not be afraid to wing it for a couple of days and find things to do from locals. Last but not least my most important part of a trip is attitude I can't control the weather, but I can control my attitude so make the most of it.

I think this is enough for now and hope this helps and it's a great time to plan a trip.

Tony.



## New Age HF Radio Communications

Many people have heard of High Frequency (HF) radio and the benefits it offers for long distance communications from anywhere in Australia. Exams and qualifications to use this type of radio are not required nor is the technology old fashioned.

Anybody can have a HF radio and become licensed to transmit simply by becoming a member of Austravel SafetyNet.

The HF radio band is a major part of the shortwave band of frequencies, so communication at these frequencies is often called shortwave radio. Because radio waves in this band can be reflected back to Earth by the ionosphere layer in the atmosphere, a method known as "skip" or "skywave" propagation. With Austravel's range of frequencies, the network is suitable for communications over long and short distances.

You can communicate over long distances directly from your vehicle.



This is very different to UHF CB radio.

## HF Radio Emergency Call

**Emergency Call** is possibly the single most important benefit of the Austravel SafetyNet Telcall+ system, and as importantly, its simplified:

By depressing a single button on the HF Radio, or a Telcall/GPS call to a single number any user can call for emergency help response easily.

Emergency Call can be used for general help or life threatening emergencies.

Extensive knowledge of operating the radio is not required to make an emergency call. (A partner can make a call) with the single button press on certain radios.

The team of Austravel emergency responders across Australia are notified by SMS automatically from your successful radio emergency call. They will talk to you on the radio to help shortly after your emergency call is completed.

Austravel SafetyNets' H.E.L.P. (4357) emergency response system is unparalleled for its simplicity and depth of response, no other HF network has this type of capability.

Some people believe that a mobile phone will make an emergency 000 call from anywhere and therefore a HF radio is not necessary. Triple zero will not work within that 75% of the Australian

## How Much is Your Safety Worth?

Annual membership fees are less than \$2/week which includes your license, SMS, Phone Calls, GPS logging etc.....that's right, all the additional services are included in your annual membership fees.

HF radios are readily available new and second hand from a number of different suppliers through Australia wide dealerships.



Some travellers already have HF radios and can achieve these extra features just by adding the Austravel network to their existing radio. This does not interfere with any pre-existing HF network.

For further information or to join the Austravel SafetyNet, contact the membership officer:-

**Geoff Ph: 0403 309 020**

E: [membership@austravelsafetynet.org.au](mailto:membership@austravelsafetynet.org.au)

For any technical or operational queries on Telcall+ or the Out-n-About™ app please contact:

**Kim Ph: 0427983329**

E: [telcallplus@austravelsafetynet.org.au](mailto:telcallplus@austravelsafetynet.org.au)

**Austravel SafetyNet Inc.**

Registered Office:

33/54 Macalister St.  
Park Avenue Qld. 4701



## Austravel SafetyNet Inc.

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A not for profit Australian organisation

## For Your Safety when Travelling in Remote Australia

### Long Range (HF) Radio with an Advanced Safety Edge



The only Australian  
HF Network with the  
**Out-n-About™ App**

- Send an **emergency call** for assistance.
- Direct dial phone calls over the Austravel HF radio network.
- Mark with GPS, travel locations on the map.
- Friends and family can follow your travels and send text messages to your vehicle radio anywhere.

## The Value Added Proposition

High Frequency (HF) long-range radios on the Austravel SafetyNet are capable of accessing an extensive Australia-wide base network, enabling communications and tele-inter connect, from rural and outback locations where a mobile phone will not work. (That's a fact).



Austravel recently introduced state-of-the-art technology, known as **Telcall+**

along with the **Out-n-About** phone app. Its "where HF meets 4G in the bush", providing a technical link with HF radios and the mobile phone networks.

This revolutionary system connects your HF radio with satellite navigation and cross-pollinates with services such as map position marking, text messaging, direct SMS to any mobile phone and telephone direct dial interconnection. Telcall+ and Out-n-About™ provides a map display (if you choose) for family and friends of your camping locations, no matter where you are in Australia. No need to contact them every day to say you are OK but you can if you wish to, via radio telephone or radio SMS.



## Why Do You Need HF Communications?



A recent Australian Government report stated that 75% of the landmass of Australia has no mobile phone coverage; therefore most of any recreational traveller's time is spent out of direct contact with family, friends and emergency services.

Today's HF radio user can make an emergency call for help, mark their GPS positions on a map, send text messages to the radio mailbox system, SMS any mobile phone or make a phone call from anywhere in Australia.

Family and friends with the app on their mobile phone or tablet can view GPS locations of partnered Austravel members and communicate to those radios by text. They do not need Austravel SafetyNet membership to run the Out-n-About™ mobile phone app. Members the app can log position radio in Australia and it works all over the world where you have access.





# TRAVEL BUDDY

By Maree Bowker



12 Volt oven, We love ours, great for heating pies, but what else do they do?

Lets just start a list

Dim Sims, Scratching your head wondering how? In an oven bag in an oven tray put the required number of Dim sims add approx.  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup water and soy sauce heat for 1 hour and allow to sit for 20 mins (so someone doesn't burn his tongue)

Jam Donuts approx. 30 mins but beware the jam gets really hot.

Scones, premade or purchased heated and serve with Jam and Cream like the proper English (ask Brett and Nicky)

Chicken Tenders 40 mins and they make great chilli chicken wraps,

So far it's just heat and eat, but what else does this little oven do, ours is the small one, We have a cake tin that fits snugly in it and we cook from scratch, so examples are pre marinade meat like Beef, pork or lamb about 1 kg with 2 potatoes 1 onion 2 carrots into an oven bag for the 2 of us. Fold the oven bag under itself, to seal, Do NOT put holes in the bag. (Ask Des why) Put into the oven for 4 Hours while you drive, at the halfway mark, rotate the tray end to end, as the oven is hotter in the back than the door section.

We have cooked up to 3 kg of boned lamb in 4 hours with nothing else just the meat, and it was so tender it fell apart. We don't put in meat on the bone because ours is small and it wouldn't fit, Great family dinner when you get home from 4x4 days adventure. A pulled pork roast and a bag of coleslaw so easy.

We use the precut meat in sauce and add microwave rice packets 30 min before serving, takes approx. 2-3 hours to cook but if you let it sit in oven it will stay warm.

My advice is to use the oven as a slow cooker, we have made curry using a jar of curry sauce and meat, cooking this for 3.5 hours adding a packet of microwave rice for the last half hour, to make the meal. Don't forget to turn it end to end halfway through and give the bag a shake.



When we are on long trips we often pre make meals and put them into trays that we heat for dinner, this saves on washing up time, and water.

The travel buddy Facebook page has listed people's successes.

The things to be aware of is that it's a slow cooker, your often in the outdoors so be aware of fly strike so throw a tea towel over the door it has little vents in it. The travel buddy takes a large amount of power so use it when you are driving is the best option

Some of the roads we use have bumps and the food will be bumped around so make it leak proof, by using a high side tray A picture tells a 1000 tales, (not ours pinched from the internet)



We have had a funny experience I put in a lump of beef, and Potato, pumpkin, carrot sweet potato into the travel buddy set the timer and went on a 4x4 track, it was really rough, and bumpy, so that night we had a lump of meat and soup, as the vegetables had all mushed together it was really tasty but not what I expected,

Have fun with your travel Buddy, but understand the food is along for the ride and you need to pack it in such a way that it will survive your 4x4 adventure.

# THE TWO PURPOSE CHALLENGE FOR CAMPING & TOURING

OK so we have had a few responses to the two purpose challenge— keep them coming. Our aim is to save space and lighten the load as much as possible— this is so we can store more stuff in the 4x4 :)

We have four recommendations this month.

## The Tablet – Joe Yammouni

- GPS (when you're lost and need to find a way out)
- Watch a movie
- Youtube (for when your car breaks down in the middle of no where and you need to find out how to fix it)



## Collapsible Container - Sally Higgs

- Can be used as a serving tray
- A washing up bucket.



## Silicone Cup - Sally Higgs

- Drink wine
  - Use for hot drinks as well.
- They also fold up, takes up less space.*



## Tommahawk / Hammer / Spider Killer - Mary Griffiths



*What's your go to multipurpose tool?*

# MODIFICATIONS COMPLETED IN LOCKDOWN

## LY'S 4WD PROJECTS IN LEX470

By Ly Ho

### Install LED lighting.

Installed an LED light strip at the back.

Followed this video, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fO3RoMj2P9w&t=75s> but my switch and 12v source was from the battery box that I have in the back.

Pro tip: easier if you get someone to help you to tape while you silicone.

Photo below of waiting the silicone to dry. Darna may have went overboard with the gaffa tape.



### Install rear storage

I have been using my storage box from my previous 80 series Landcruiser up to this point. Only problem was it wasn't bolted to the floor which is a safety hazard. And secondly it was covering up the child anchor points that I'll need access to in the future. I was umhing and erring whether or not to buy second hand drawers that were child anchor point compatible or build my own setup for many weeks.

1. I took out the box.
2. Installed a piece of plywood on the floor so I can mount whatever I put on top. That took surprisingly longer than I anticipated (aligning holes was tricky).
3. Planned to cut one of the corners out of the existing box to access the child anchor point, and just mount the box on the plywood floor...



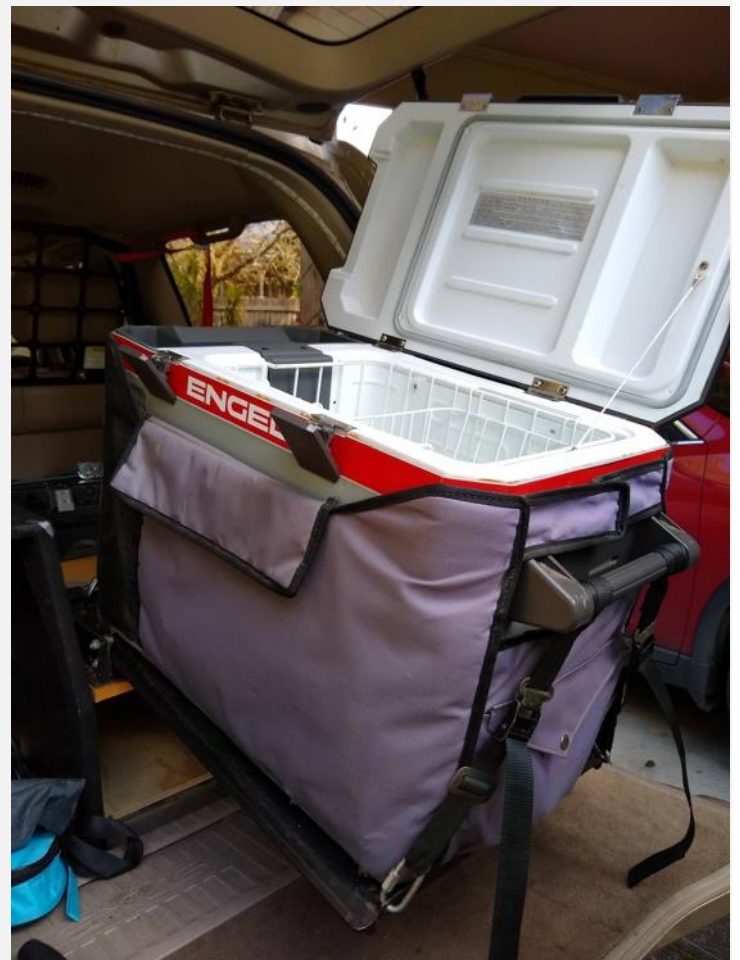
4. Until I picked up two shelves that came out of a vehicle setup - it was in the neighbour's hard rubbish pile - score!
5. Installed the shelves, battery box and fridge slide.
6. The fridge lid didn't fully open because the lid couldn't clear the roof.
7. Remembered a neat trick on Facebook to convert a fridge slide to a tilt fridge slide
8. Removed two bearings, one on each side, and wallah - instant tilt slide! Fridge lid fully opens!







Happy with the thrifty setup and everything is secured down. One day I'll make some drawers in the slots so the contents aren't so exposed.

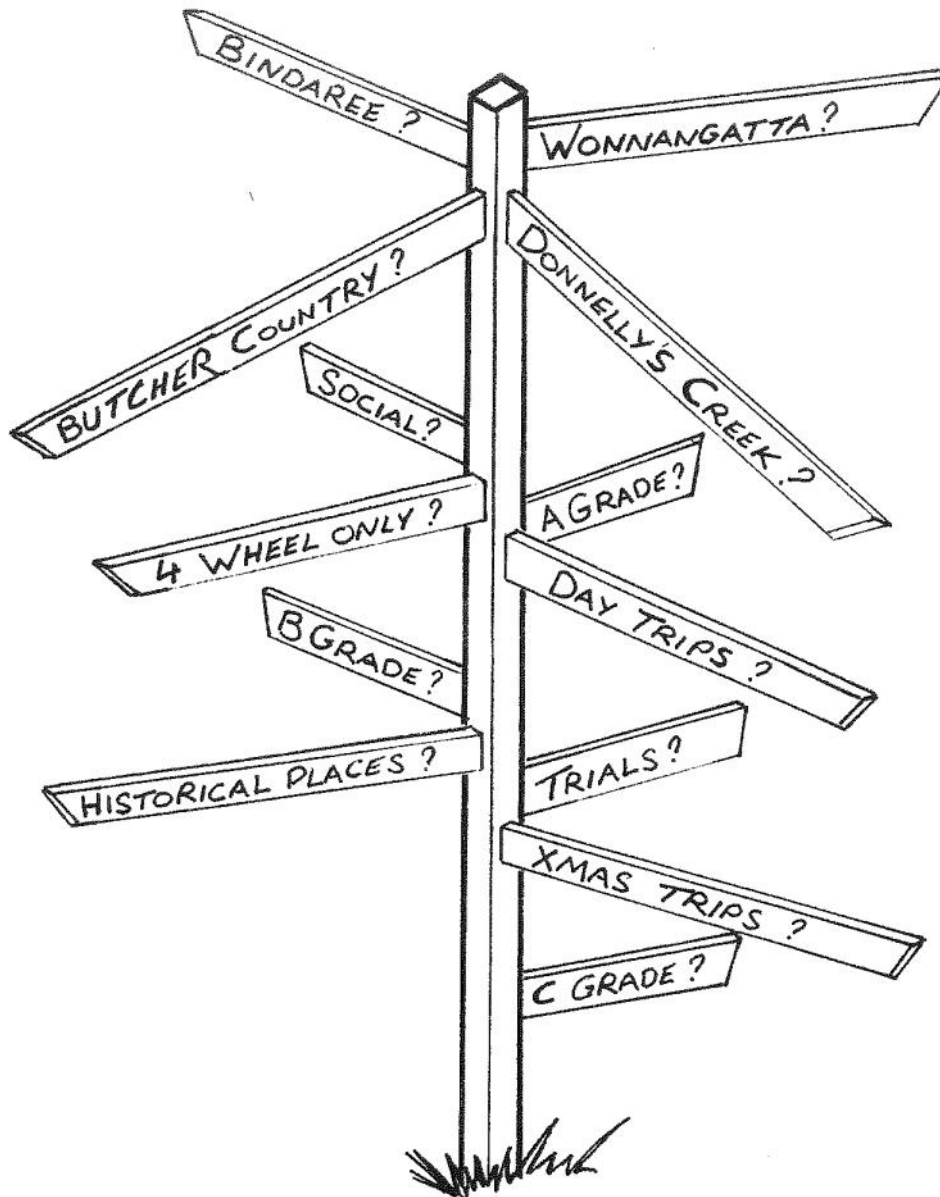


## Editor's Note

Thank you to the Committee and to all the members who have contributed to the magazine. Without your contributions we wouldn't have a publication. If you have an interest in something you have heard or want to learn more about whether camping or 4WDing get in touch with the committee. They are more than happy to help where they can.

Hopefully we will be back on the tracks soon.  
Keep planning your trips, that's half the fun, we will have put them into action later.

Stay safe everyone.



# WHERE?

TELL YOUR COMMITTEE