



# FREE WHEELING

April 2021



Official Newsletter of the  
Victorian Four Wheel  
Drive Club Inc

Registration No  
A0002184F

Photo provided by Matt Marino -  
Trip to Mt Terrible





## 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 held at a selected location watch the calendar.

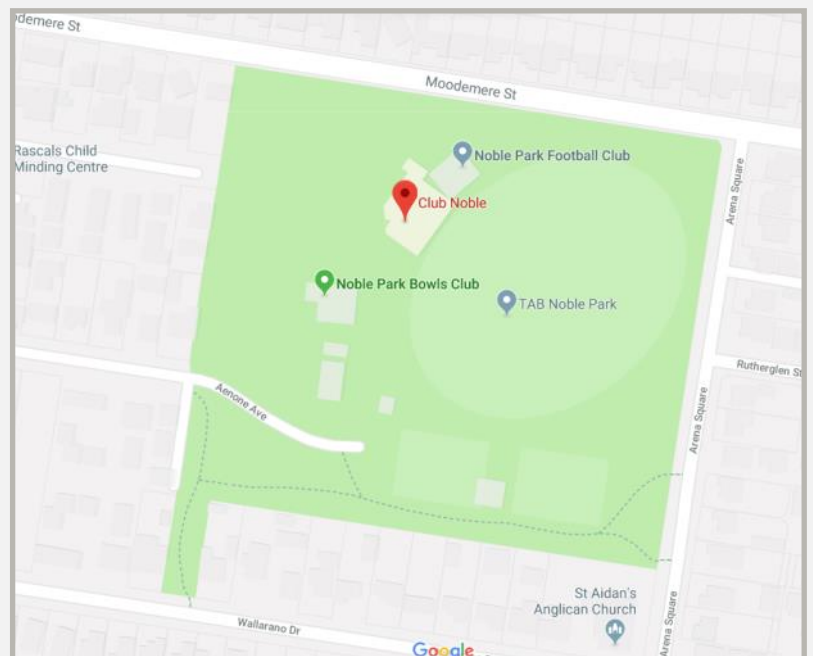
**Next Club Meeting April 7, 2021**

**Held at:**

**Blue and Gold Room**  
Club Noble  
46-56 Moodemere Street  
Noble Park  
Melways ref: 89 D4

**Members and guests are welcome to dine at the bistro before attending the meeting from 6.30pm.**

**For bookings call 03 9546 0653.**



## 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.

# CLUB NOBLE FORM

Would like to become a member of Club Noble and enjoy the benefits the club has to offer  
[Click here to download the form](#) and hand it to reception desk.



## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL

Membership Application (Tick Box) New ☐ Renewal ☐ Existing Member No: .....

Mr ☐ Mrs ☐ Ms ☐ Other ☐

Given Name/s: ..... Male ☐ Female ☐ D.O.B: ...../...../.....

Last Name: .....

Address: ..... Suburb: .....

State: ..... Postcode: .....

Mobile Phone Number: ..... Home Phone Number: .....

Email Address: .....

I hereby apply to become a member of the **Noble Park Football Social Club Ltd** and agree to observe the rules and by-laws. I verify that I am over the age of 18 and understand the Loyalty Membership Terms as published on the **clubnoble.com.au** website. I agree to strictly abide by these Loyalty Membership Terms as amended from time to time and declare that the details in the application are true and correct.

I wish to receive all communications including promotional material and third party offers that include alcohol or gaming related advertising.

Yes ☐ No ☐

I also agree to receive and accept the annual reports and financial statements from Club Noble by either:

Email ☐ Website ☐

I agree to receive my Player Activity Statement in accordance with government legislation.

SMS ☐ Email ☐ In-House ☐

I am a Member of one or more of Club Noble's affiliated clubs:

Anglers ☐ Bowls ☐ Cricket ☐ Football - Seniors / Juniors ☐ Golf ☐ Soccer ☐ Tennis ☐

Signature: ..... Date: ...../...../.....

### FEES

Membership Fee (Tick Box) Year \$10 ☐ 2 years \$20 ☐ 3 Years \$30 ☐ Gaming \$0 ☐

Payment Details (Tick Box) Cash ☐ Cheque ☐ Credit Card ☐

Card Holders Name: ..... Card Type: Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐

Signature: .....

Card No: ..... Expiry Date: .....

### INTERNAL USE ONLY

Membership Number: ..... Customer ID Sighted: .....

Staff Member's Name: ..... Confirm Customer's over 18: .....

Receipt Issued (date): ..... Receipt Number: .....

# 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 [Four Wheel Drive Victoria](http://www.fwdvictoria.org.au) - [www.fwdvictoria.org.au](http://www.fwdvictoria.org.au)



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Hi All

As the Summer blends into Autumn and we head toward Easter we only have a couple of more long weekends before we all go into hibernation for Winter. We have not yet heard about whether there will be permits issued for Mt Skene this year but I can say that as soon as we know we will be arranging some snow trips as soon as we are able to. A list of proposed track closures has been issued for comment which have been distributed to the club. Please take these into consideration if you are planning a trip.

We have a small number of trips coming up with David's Aberfeldy trip at Easter, Callum's Tallarook trip later in April. More trips are being set up but we still need some more so please put your hand up to run a trip.

We had a great beginners trip over Mt Terrible at Labour Weekend with a huge turnout of 11 Vehicles so there is plenty of appetite for trips. We just need some people to lead them. Any one of your committee members will be more than happy to help you plan your trip and even support you in leading it. The key to a good trip is a great leader and a supportive tail-end-charlie as well as a sense of adventure, oh and also not being afraid of a u-turn or two!

And to get the creative thoughts flowing on where we might head we have a special guest for our meeting with George from Uncaged Expeditions coming along to talk to us all about his four wheel driving adventures.

Check out his YouTube Channel here. <https://www.youtube.com/c/UncagedExpeditions/videos>

Have a great Easter whatever you may be doing and I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting.

Take care and see you out on the tracks.

Sally

## CLUB MERCHANDISE



New top for summer season.  
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

### April

2–5th	Fri-Mon	Easter Weekend Aberfeldy / Working Bee	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
7th	Wed	General Meeting	Guest Speaker George from Uncaged Expeditions	
10-11th	Sat-Sun	St. Anne's Winery— Working Bee	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860
17th	Sat	Tallarook Day Trip	Callum Brown	
19th	Mon	Committee Meeting		

### May

5th	Wed	General Meeting		
17th	Mon	Committee Meeting		
14-16th	Fri-Sun	Mansfield Huts Weekend	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860

### June

2nd	Wed	General Meeting		
4-6th	Fri-Sun	Millers Hut/Lake Tali Karng	Steve Pitcher	0421 205 529
12-14th	Fri-Mon	Queen's Birthday Weekend		
21st	Mon	Committee Meeting		
26th	Sat	Christmas in July	St Anne's Winery	

### July

7th	Wed	General Meeting		
19th	Mon	Committee Meeting		
23-25th	Fri-Sun	Mt Skene Snow Trip	David Bruinsma	0417 747 860

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

General Meeting will be held at Club Noble on Wednesday 7th April 2021 at 8.00pm.  
This month's Guest Speaker — George from Uncaged Expeditions.

Sign in at reception and head upstairs to the club room.  
Sanitise your hands. Don't forget to bring a facemask.

Would you like to join the committee?

If you can help out please contact the President, Sally Higgs via email [president@vfwdc.com](mailto:president@vfwdc.com)



# MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING

3rd March, 2021

Held at Club Noble Opened 8.07 pm

## Attendees:

- Sally Higgs, Ly Ho, Des Whall, David Bruinsma, Jeff and Mary Griffiths, Ann Crockett and Allan Leighton, Michael Scopel, Steve Ignatidis, Andre Van Der Walt, Joe Yammouni, Andrew Hooper, Bruce Cremonesi, Tony and Lisa Barbera, Ian Berryman, Sam Ayoubie, Ian and Audrey Rhodes, Phil Griffith

## Apologies:

- Brett Buchanan, Stuart and Maree, Callum Brown, Tristan Higgs, Stephen Pitcher, Ben Whitworth

## Guests:

- Daisey, Dennis and Mick

## Review January Minutes

### Minutes of previous meeting

Matters Arising: Nil

## Acceptance of Minutes

Accepted by: Joe Yammouni

Seconded by: Ann Crockett

## Association News / Update

- FWDV AGM has been rescheduled for March 4, 2021, David is attending on our behalf.

## Treasurer's Report

- As per magazine.

Accepted by: Andre Van Der Walt

Seconded by: David Bruinsma

## Membership Update

### New Members

- Facebook application requests this month - Nil
- Other new member enquiries - Nil
- Current financial members stand at - 43

## Driver Training Instruction

- Nothing to report

## Past Trips Held:

### Trips update

- Last weekend's trip to Avon River was cancelled due to Covid-19 circuit-breaker lockdown.

## Upcoming Trips:

### Trip Platform

- 14 March David - St Anns Winery
- 19 March (long weekend) Sally - Mt Terrible
- 19 March Andre - Mt Matlock
- 19 March (long weekend) Brett - Pinch River camping for 3 days
- 2 April (Easter) Des - Border Track needs to be re-scheduled or a new trip leader to take over.
- 2 April (Easter) David - Aberfeldy

## Merchandise:

- No updates/changes



**Web Manager:**

- No updates/changes

**Club Magazine:**

- No updates/changes

**Any other/new items:**

- Nil.

**Raffle**

Des - Car floor mats

David - Ratchet Straps

Bruce - Ratchet strap

Sally - Windscreen cleaning kit

Andre - Bullbar mounts

Ian - Spotties

**Meeting closed at 21.18**

**Next Meeting  
07/04/2021.**



## Treasurer's Report February 2021

<u>Cheque A/C</u>	Opening Balance as at 01/02/2021	\$5,753.52
	Add: Membership Fees	\$200.00
	Raffle	\$118.00
	Total Monies In:	\$318.00
	Less: P.O Box Fees	\$205.00
	Transfer to Petty Cash	\$18.00
	Total Monies Out:	\$223.00
	Closing Balance as at 28/02/2021	\$5,848.52
<u>Term Deposit</u>	Opening Balance as at 01/02/2021	\$6,796.40
	Add: Interest Income	\$35.96
	Closing Balance as at 28/02/2021	\$6,832.36
<u>Petty Cash</u>	Opening Balance as at 01/02/2021	\$49.85
	Add: Transfer from Cheque A/C	\$18.00
	Less: Catering Costs	\$27.80
	Raffle ticket booklets	\$3.50
	Total Monies Out:	\$31.30
	Closing Balance as at 28/02/2021	\$36.55
	<b>Consolidated Closing Cash Position</b>	<b><u>\$12,717.43</u></b>

## UPCOMING TRIPS

DESTINATION	Aberfeldy— Includes a working bee for tracking clearing
LEADER/CONTACT NO.	NAME: David Bruinsma MOBILE: 0417 747 860
DATE	02 April (Fri) to 05 April 2021 (Mon)
MEETING PLACE / TIME	BP at Officer outbound. 7.30 am (Fri 02 April 2021)
GRADE	WET: Easy DRY: Easy
TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS	<p>Leave on Easter Friday and head into O'tooles Campground and set up our camp. I'd like us to meet at 7.00 am for a 7.30 am get away if possible—before the roads get busy.</p> <p>Every night will be a possible ROAST night. Happy hour will be at 4pm every day as well, so there will be plenty of time to relax before the dinner hour.</p> <p>I'll be trying to have a relaxing weekend—it will not be TOO busy with 4wd'ing but there will be opportunity to explore the local tracks and attractions. Depending on who is on the trip I'll arrange tracks to suit experience levels. I'd also like to incorporate some track maintenance on the walking tracks we look after.</p>
VEHICLE LIMITS	MINIMUM: 1 MAXIMUM:
APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION	Approx.
LAST AVAILABLE FUEL	PETROL: Moe DIESEL: Moe LPG: Moe
DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES	
EQUIPMENT REQUIRED	Recovery Gear
MAPS REQUIRED	
RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF	
GOOGLE MAPS	



<b>DESTINATION</b>	Tallarook Day Trip
<b>LEADER/CONTACT NO.</b>	NAME: Callum Brown
<b>DATE</b>	(Saturday) 17th April, 2021
<b>MEETING PLACE / TIME</b>	Cockatoo Bakery, 2/7 McBride St, Cockatoo VIC 3781 Time: 8.00 am
<b>GRADE</b>	WET: Easy / Medium DRY: Easy / Medium
<b>TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS</b>	<p>I'm planning a fun and fairly easy to medium grade trip out to Tallarook. This trip will be suitable for all members especially new / beginner members that wish to stretch their skills just a little. I haven't been out that way and I have been advised it's a stunning area to do a bit of 4X4.</p> <p>The plan is to meet up at Cockatoo Bakery for a coffee and breakfast and then head out to Tallarook State Forest.</p>
<b>VEHICLE LIMITS</b>	MINIMUM: MAXIMUM:
<b>APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION</b>	Approx. 200–300 Klms round trip
<b>LAST AVAILABLE FUEL</b>	PETROL: DIESEL: LPG:
<b>DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES</b>	Max
<b>EQUIPMENT REQUIRED</b>	4WD recovery gear and AT tyres at a minimum. Food, snacks and drinks for the day.
<b>MAPS REQUIRED</b>	MAPS I'll have some Hema maps and Explorer Traveller on the PAD.
<b>RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF</b>	
<b>GOOGLE MAPS</b>	

<b>DESTINATION</b>	Mansfield Huts Weekend
<b>LEADER/CONTACT NO.</b>	NAME: David Bruinsma MOBILE: 0417 747 860
<b>DATE</b>	14 May (Fri) to 16 May, 2021 (Sun)
<b>MEETING PLACE / TIME</b>	To be advised 7.00 pm (Fri 14 May 2021) for 7.30pm getaway
<b>GRADE</b>	WET: DRY:
<b>TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS</b>	Head out on Friday Night, meeting at Lilydale McDonalds at 7.00pm for a 7.30pm getaway.  Camping in different spots each night, I recommend trip not suitable for trailers, I'll just be in a swag. Try to visit as many huts during the Saturday (all day) and the Sunday morning, aiming to be back at Mansfield for a late lunch, then people can head home at their leisure. Not sure if we will have much time for a "pot roast" dinner on Saturday night, only because I don't know when we will rock up at a camp site on Saturday.
<b>VEHICLE LIMITS</b>	MINIMUM: 1 MAXIMUM:
<b>APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION</b>	
<b>LAST AVAILABLE FUEL</b>	PETROL: Mansfield DIESEL: Mansfield LPG: Mansfield
<b>DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES</b>	
<b>EQUIPMENT REQUIRED</b>	Recovery Gear
<b>MAPS REQUIRED</b>	
<b>RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF</b>	
<b>GOOGLE MAPS</b>	

<b>DESTINATION</b>	St Anne's Winery—Working Bee
<b>LEADER/CONTACT NO.</b>	NAME: David Bruinsma MOBILE: 0417 747 860
<b>DATE</b>	10th April, 2021 (Saturday)
<b>MEETING PLACE / TIME</b>	St Anne's Winery—64 Garrards Ln, Myrniong VIC 3341 7.00 am
<b>TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS</b>	<p>I will be going out (probably on the Friday night) and camping at the winery, and volunteering my time to help pick grapes on the Saturday.</p> <p>St Anne's is a family owned Victorian winery, and have been hit hard with the COVID lockdown and loss of sales to China. Alan is happy to put some food on for us (not sure if that is lunch or dinner) but I'm sure he will look after us if we show up and work :)</p> <p>I can stay around for the Sunday but if people can volunteer</p>
<b>VEHICLE LIMITS</b>	MINIMUM: MAXIMUM:
<b>APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION</b>	
<b>LAST AVAILABLE FUEL</b>	PETROL: DIESEL: LPG:
<b>DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES</b>	
<b>EQUIPMENT REQUIRED</b>	
<b>MAPS REQUIRED</b>	
<b>RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF</b>	
<b>GOOGLE MAPS</b>	



<b>DESTINATION</b>	Christmas In July—St Anne's Winery
<b>LEADER/CONTACT NO.</b>	NAME: David Bruinsma MOBILE: 0417 747 860
<b>DATE</b>	26 June (Sat) to 27 June, 2021 (Sun)
<b>MEETING PLACE / TIME</b>	St Anne's Winery—64 Garrards Ln, Myrniong VIC 3341 Saturday 26th June 2021 12.00 pm
<b>GRADE</b>	WET: Easy DRY: Easy
<b>TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS</b>	<p>This is our annual Xmas in July, one of the two big events on our club calendar. St Anne's have been kind enough to allow us to camp there for free for the past few years.</p> <p>More information will be updated here closer to the event, or come along to the club night as the committee plans this event.</p>
<b>VEHICLE LIMITS</b>	MINIMUM: 1 MAXIMUM:
<b>APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION</b>	Approx.
<b>LAST AVAILABLE FUEL</b>	PETROL: DIESEL: LPG:
<b>DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES</b>	Max
<b>EQUIPMENT REQUIRED</b>	
<b>MAPS REQUIRED</b>	
<b>RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF</b>	
<b>GOOGLE MAPS</b>	

<b>DESTINATION</b>	Mt Skene Snow Trip
<b>LEADER/CONTACT NO.</b>	NAME: David Bruinsma MOBILE: 0417 747 860
<b>DATE</b>	23 July (Fri) to 25 July 2021 (Sun)
<b>MEETING PLACE / TIME</b>	Jamieson 8.00 pm
<b>GRADE</b>	WET: Medium / Hard DRY: Medium / Hard
<b>TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS</b>	<p>This trip is subject to the MOU being obtained by FWDV from the Mansfield shire. Head up on the Friday night and find accommodation in or near Jamieson on the Friday night (pub or caravan park).</p> <p>Saturday morning, we will meet in front of the main coffee shop at 9am, for a 9.30am departure to head up to Mt Skene, and have lunch at the top of the mountain. Hopefully there will be plenty of snow—kids (big and small) can make snow men and snow angels etc. Once I know numbers, I'll also book for a combined dinner at the PUB for 6pm on the Saturday night.</p> <p>Sunday, feel free to head home at your leisure. If there is a lot of snow, expect conditions can get very hard—if there is little snow, then conditions will be very easy—that's the beauty of this annual trip, its like a box of</p>
<b>VEHICLE LIMITS</b>	MINIMUM: 1 MAXIMUM:
<b>APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION</b>	Approx.
<b>LAST AVAILABLE FUEL</b>	PETROL: DIESEL: LPG:
<b>DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES</b>	Max
<b>EQUIPMENT REQUIRED</b>	Recovery Gear
<b>MAPS REQUIRED</b>	
<b>RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF</b>	
<b>GOOGLE MAPS</b>	

<b>DESTINATION</b>	Millers Hut—Lake Tali Karng
<b>LEADER/CONTACT NO.</b>	NAME: Steve Pitcher MOBILE: 0421 205 529
<b>DATE</b>	4 June (Fri) to 6 June 2021 (Sun)
<b>MEETING PLACE / TIME</b>	BP Service Station - Princes Freeway (Pakenham Bypass) Officer 9.00 am (Fri, 4 June 2021)
<b>GRADE</b>	WET: Medium / Hard DRY: Medium / Hard
<b>TRIP ACTIVITY DETAILS</b>	<p>Base Camping at Millers Hut (GPS Coordinates: - 37° 54'15" Long: 146° 78'11"). From there, we can head over on the Saturday to the Sentinels lookout to view Lake Tali Karng from above (no vehicular access down to the lake itself—those that are interested can hike down to the water's edge from the camp, and get back in a day, but it takes the whole day and the walking trail is really only suited to experienced hikers). Time permitting, we could also head over to Moroka Hut and/or Horseyard Hut. Either way, a packed or easy to prepare lunch is recommended for the Saturday. Camper trailers are welcome but getting into or out of Millers Hut can be quite challenging if it should rain or snow (which is possible that time of year).</p> <p>Participants are asked to bring all equipment and supplies required to be self-sufficient for 3+ days / 2+ nights. Be prepared in case it snows. Basic tools, spares and recovery gear (vehicles to be fitted with rated recovery points but winches are not essential). Quality A/T tyres (min) or M/Ts recommended due to rough/rocky terrain.</p>
<b>VEHICLE LIMITS</b>	MINIMUM: 1 MAXIMUM:
<b>APPROX KMS MEETING PLACE TO DESTINATION</b>	Approx.
<b>LAST AVAILABLE FUEL</b>	PETROL: Licola (Heyfield is the 2nd nearest); and DIESEL: Licola (Heyfield is the 2nd nearest) - no Alpine diesel available (BYO additive such as IceBreaker if conditions are really cold.
<b>DISTANCE BETWEEN SUPPLIES</b>	Max
<b>EQUIPMENT REQUIRED</b>	Recovery Gear
<b>MAPS REQUIRED</b>	While not essential, quality maps covering the area include: Rooftop's Dargo—Wonnangatta Adventure Map; and Hema Maps's High Country Victoria
<b>RADIO CHANNEL CB / UHF</b>	Channel 12 UHF
<b>GOOGLE MAPS</b>	





## Trip to Mount Terrible

6-8 March, 2021

Written by  
Andre Van Der Walt

We all gathered at the BP servo on the Pakenham bypass on Saturday morning. As there was 11 vehicles on the two trips, we just combined into one big group and headed out to the Noojee Trestle Bridge where we stopped and took some photos.

We then continued on towards Woods Point with a lot of chatter coming from Tail-end-Charlie. As we drove along, it became clear that one member of our convoy will need to be nominated for the Good-on-Ya award for.... Forgetting their tent... and chairs... After most of the joking died down there were many offers of accommodation and alternatives made. The type of comradery that makes this club such a good thing to be part of.



But this was only the start of our troubles, little did we know how difficult it would turn out to be to find a campground to stay at. As we made our way toward 12 Mile reserve, it became evident that every Tom, Dick and Harry with a tent was out camping on the long weekend. We decided to have a stop and think about our options, we needed somewhere where you could not go without a 4x4. After some thinking and map pointing, we decided to head toward Jamieson and Mount Skene where we discovered a hidden gem of a campsite along Mt Sunday rd.

Saturday was a much longer day than first planned. An evening around the fire was much needed.

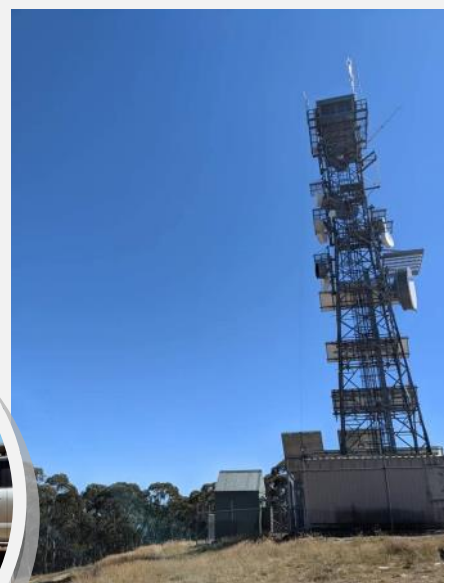




On Sunday we had a slow start and got out of camp by late morning. With the sun shining, some of the kids and moms stayed at camp to enjoy the peace and quiet. We headed out via Mt Sunday rd toward the Licola-Jamieson road and on toward Jamieson. We then took the Eildon-Jamieson road to head toward Mt Terrible track. The views from Mt Terrible were amazing. So were the tracks heading up and back down the other side. We ventured through Moonlight spur back towards Mansfield-Woods Point road, then on through Jamieson and back to our campsite. Being a larger group, everything took just a little longer than expected. Another evening around the fire, with some decent flames and great company was just the right medicine. On Monday we all packed up and headed home via two different routes. Myself and two others headed home via Mansfield, which turned out to be a very slow drive due to the heavy traffic. The remainder of the vehicles all took the scenic road home. They followed the Jamieson-Licola road over Mt Skene and into Licola. From here they headed home via Heyfield and made it home safe and sound.



Just a special shout out to new member Dennis who lent me his gazebo tent, you are a legend.





# Walhalla

## Trip Report

Friday 19 March to Sunday 21 March 2021

Written by Maree Bowker



### Participants

Stuart	79 Ute
Mary and Jeff	BT 50
Ann and Alan	Prado
Audrey and Ian	Patrol

The plan the to take the Walhalla train on Saturday morning. Stuart, Ian, and Audrey enjoyed the hospitality of the Rawson Stockyard pub for dinner on Friday night. Well, that was after they had driven the total township of Rawson, population is listed as only 296 so it is not all that big looking for the pub. Now how hard can it be, well it turns out it is a hidden gem in the grounds of the caravan park. For general knowledge, the meal was substantial and yummy.



Then it is a short drive on Old Depot road to the new Thompson bridge campground, lovely long drop toilets, and a few other campers to share the fire with.

### Saturday

Walhalla gold fields railway adventure. The history goes like this, Gold was discovered in the area in 1862. It was a rich mining community so the state government at the time built a railway which opened on 3 May 1910. This operated till 1941 when it closed. Then in 1993 a band of enthusiastic volunteers raised money and formed the Walhalla Goldfields Railway Inc. and started to restore the railway the first section was opened in 1994 and it has been a labour of love since then, it goes to Thompson and back.

Lunch who can go past the café with the claim to fame “best steak sandwiches in Walhalla”, seven were ordered and quickly consumed. Now for the fun off to find a track or two before dinner.







We headed out of town and along to Mormon town track, Britannia spur track, Gladstone track, Deep creek no 2, Fulton's creek track, to find a hill that just kept on going. This country is really steep and its hard to anticipate which is the best line to take. Do you straddle the ruts or go as a passenger in the center and hope for the best? Well as we all know the best one is the one that gets you to where you want to go. So, what happened Mary? Well, that is only halfway up! Is that the halfway parking spot? So, you need a hand? Well good thing we have a load of recovery gear to get muddy. Everyone pitched in and the mighty BT with

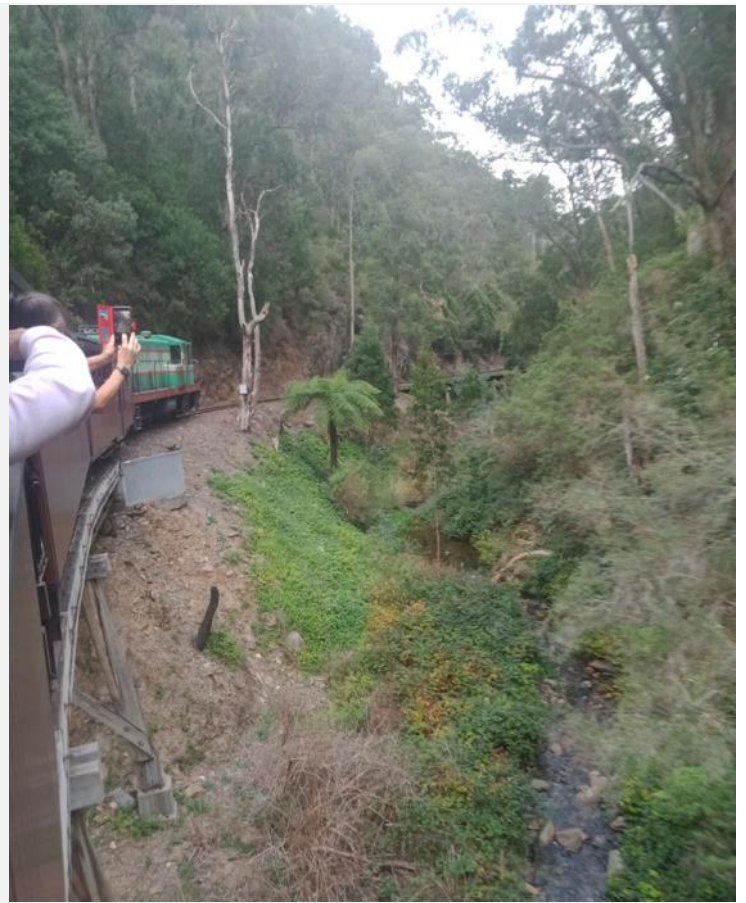
its twin lockers (with only one turned on, OOPS), finally found the top of the hill. Well done everyone. This was the challenge where to camp overnight. A river bed? Well, there is rain forecast so maybe not, there is a Heli pad, a bit on the windy side, so the side of the track was chosen, and the weather prediction proved true. It rained all night. So, the soggy bunch packed up and headed to Trafalgar for a dry lunch spot at the pub.

It was agreed a great weekend and that there are still more tracks to explore.

Please enjoy the photos we stole these from Ann.







Exciting shots of going over the restored bridges



Camping at the Shangrila!

It's not pleasant packing up in the rain on Sunday morning.



# PINCH RIVER—NSW Trip Report

Brett & Niki Buchanan

7—15th March, 2021



After an horrendous year being locked in and locked down it was with much anticipation, we turned our minds to taking our 'Ulti' further than the back paddock for an outdoor adventure. What would transpire however is that everything that could go wrong did indeed try to go wrong, which saw us leaving 24 hours after the agreed departure time.

In the preceding weeks we were travelling along Eastlink when a pebble flicked up and left its calling card on the windscreen - too big to ignore and smack bang in the middle of the driver's line of vision. Praise the Lord for insurance and Brett had it repaired on the Tuesday prior to leaving - finally managed to use some insurance, one 'gratis' windscreen replacement per year. Having had the Cruiser over 10 years and never having had any issues - at least we were getting something back. Three days later driving in Pakenham, a piddly little car passed opposite me - 'Phwack' - another calling card left on the windscreen !!!!!!!!!!!

Packing up that night ready for leaving the following morning - I went to my very tidy linen cupboard (having cleared it all out a couple of months prior) to retrieve the ultimate bedding (all being King size we require the full gamut as we have a Queen size bed in the house) - pulling out the bedding ready for use, I took a peak inside the \$2 stripey bag - hmmm some manky blankets and an old bedcover. Seems in my haste to clear out - the wrong stripey bag had been chucked in the bin and all my King size bedding was gone! Still determined to leave we thought we would just grab some en-route.

Packing up the toiletries and meds (yes - old age sucks), I counted out the required pills to keep me upright and breathing for the duration - hmm not enough better grab another strip from drawer.... Nope run out. These I couldn't grab on the way, so would now need to hang around to 9:00 am when the chemist opened up... things were beginning to look grim.

Still determined to press on Brett is packing up the car fridge when a bottle slips out of his hand and smashes into fully packed fridge. After cleaning it all up and preparing to finalise the job - the latch breaks off the lid.. nothing that a ratchet strap can't fix!!!

It was at this point thoughts of leaving the next day had now evaporated and we re-set our sights on leaving Sunday morning rather than arriving somewhere late afternoon trying to find a camp. 4:00 am Sunday morning we arose ready for - Take Two and were on the road at 4:45 am - making Bairnsdale for petrol and Maccas coffee for 8:00 am - Buchan for 9:00 am and Pinch River for 12:30 pm.

We did look at a few camp sites around the area - but none of them fulfilled my romantic vision of a quiet, secluded, solitary camp near a babbling brook. We ended up on a site very near the road and just down from the 'bog-a-trons' - they were at least not the 'Sheepyard Flat' variety where the contents come out to greet you!! We did overlook the river, if you had your glasses on!! Being the long weekend there were 3 or 4 cars in the campsite. On the Monday when folk were beginning to leave, we took a stroll around to see where we might actually like to camp for the following 4 nights. We bumped into a young girl who told us of a beautiful spot up around the corner - a quiet, secluded, solitary camp near a babbling brook. After a super quick pack up we were established in our new home in under 30 mins with the chairs out and a drink in our hands.



The four days passed far too quickly - but we enjoyed reading, sleeping, playing countless games of Uno, enjoying the time to create delicious dinners, happy hour that extended into a number of hours. Water was on hand for bathing - however being very secluded - we did away with the idea of a shower tent and just to get that 'Norsca' feeling we just used water straight out of the river - they were bracing showers but invigorating!! Brett decided to take a 'dip' in the river - I did mention secluded didn't I, so he went in the raw - being a river there is a rocky, pebbly foundation - walking very gingerly he fumbled his way into the river. However, upon meeting uneven ground in a few places he kept bending over to place his hands in the water to balance himself. Sitting downstream and him facing upstream - there was no alternative - my eyes can never unsee what they saw - they remain blemished and scarred and in very poor visual health.

As we packed up after our very relaxing and restoring break, we will return to Pinch River a beautiful, quiet and well positioned camp to further explore NSW. We made our way up the Barry Highway a very well-maintained route with breathtaking views down the valleys of the Snowy River. Snaking our way to Jindabyne it never fails to amaze me the conditions the early pioneers endured, their foresight and tenacity to open up the country for the colonisation of Australia.

We made our way into the ACT to catch up with family and then down through Braidwood to the coast. This area was one of the hardest hit with the fires - nature is awe inspiring, to see the regeneration and hope showing in the fresh green shoots, leaves and branches and the miles of miles of burnt land screaming out - we are still alive! Patches of forest were so badly burnt in some areas life is still to return, but in the main - the roads and infrastructure have been repaired. Life in the small towns has resumed and the resilience of local people with their new homes, some still under construction - making it a privilege to be able to invest into their communities. I wrote this prior to devastation of the floods, many of the areas we drove through are now underwater - we only imagine what these poor people are going through.

We enjoyed the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Muster with the Ultimate community with over 330 people attending - whilst it had not been announced that weekend, we came home to learn that Ultimate had won the title of Camper Trailer of the Year - 2021.

It was a wonderful trip - we did not air down (nor up ☐) once, we did not engage low range once - we did however appreciate the fact we have the freedom, capabilities, opportunities and desire to enjoy and explore the great outdoors with our vehicles.



# Campfire Chicken Nachos

*Get your campfire ready!  
You will need hot coals for this one.*

SERVES 6

### INGREDIENTS

3 ½ Cups Chicken Pieces and fry (Or buy a cooked chicken)  
1 x Cup Enchilada Sauce  
½ Onion (chopped finely)  
1 x Can tin corn kernals  
1 x Can black beans (rinsed)  
3 x Cups Mozzarella Cheese  
Salt  
Tortilla chips  
Coriander  
1 x Lime - cut in to wedges for serving

1 x disposable aluminium tray (*You don't want to clean it—I'm telling ya—It's a shocker!*)

### DIRECTIONS

- Cut up and fry up chicken pieces  
(*or buy a cooked chicken and break up into small pieces*)
- Add enchilada sauce, onion, corn, black beans, salt and paper and 2 cups of cheese in a bowl and mix.
- Get your aluminium tray ready, place tortillia chips in and spread chicken mixture over tortillas, and remaining cheese on top. Cover with aluminium foil (make sure you seal it).
- Place over the campfire. (Not directly on hot coals but above them)
- When cheese is melted and chicken is warmed through, (Approx. 15 minutes)
- Top with coriander and serve with lime wedges.  
Also if you want optional extras— Mash Advacado & Jelapenos for the finishing touch.

Yummy!





## WHAT HAVE YOU GOT TO SELL

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 information:

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

### GOOD-ONYA TROPHY



The Good-Onya Trophy is a great way to recognize members for their unique contributions.

Once a month club members have the opportunity to vote for their most worthy nominee.

The winner will be presented with this most prestigious club trophy at the monthly general meetings.

Send a quick summary to [trips@vfwdc.com](mailto:trips@vfwdc.com)  
Have fun on the tracks!



### Editor's Note

I do hope you enjoy the up coming trips, don't forget to send a trip report to the editor.

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.